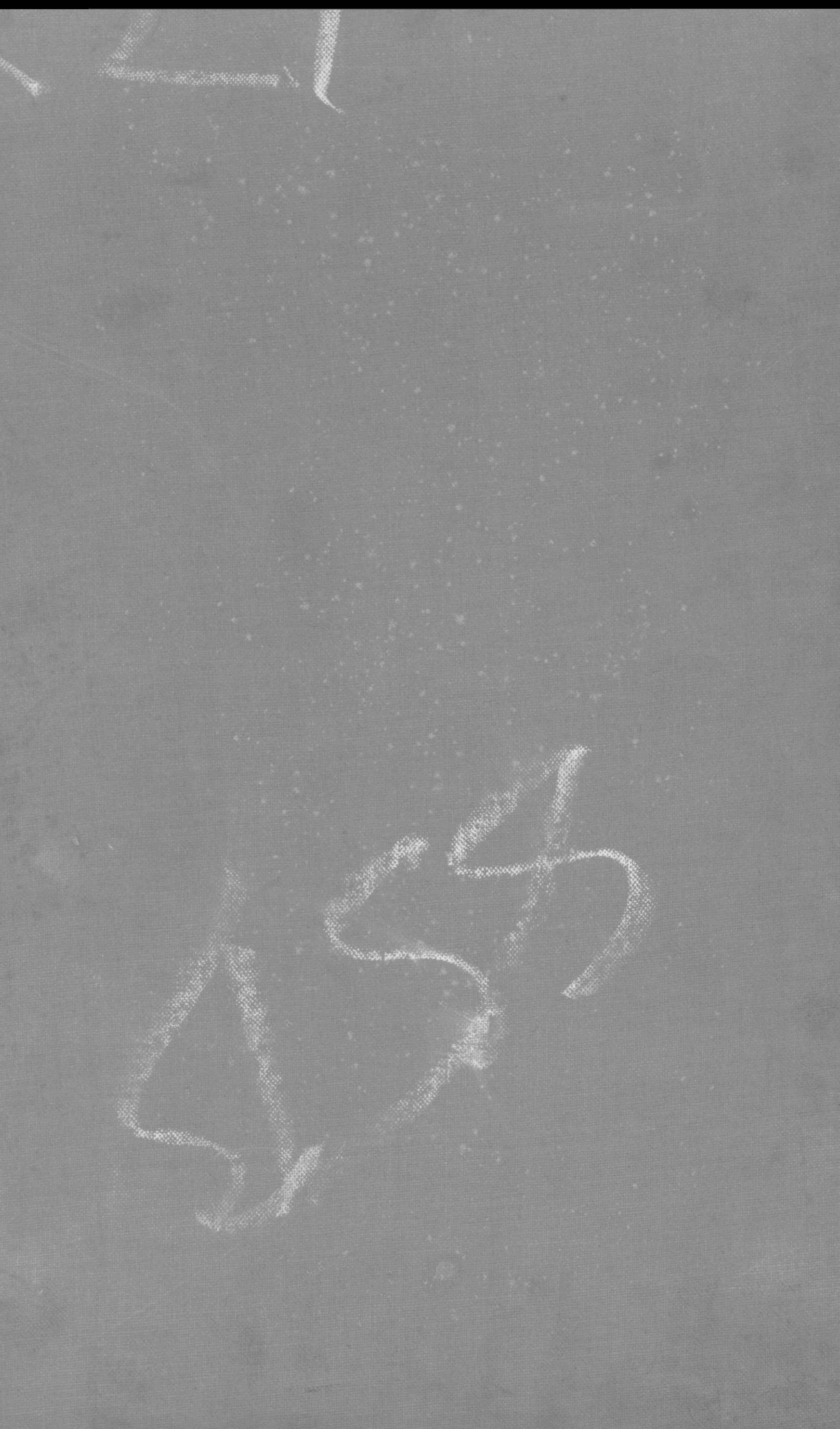

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289 : Fort St George 12th January 1783.

General Stuarts Minute complaining of the bad Condition of the Bullocks sent to Camp. —

It was entered upon the Minutes of the Committee 12th January — that 600 Bullocks had arrived from the Northward for the use of the Army. — In regard to the Bullocks upon their being reported to me as arrived at Camp on the 16th Instant, and that only 100 of them had brought loads of Rice from Madras; I was so much surprized at this, that I desired the Commissary and deputy Agent to inspect and Muster them — The Signed reports of these two Gentlemen I now deliver in to the Committee, from which it will appear that of 647, 226 are returned unserviceable, and of 336 Saddles 236 are returned unfit; The 421 Bullocks remaining are without ropes or drivers, and with only 100 Saddles — These Cattle I find are not of the number provided by Mr Wood-cott under the last Regulations, and I mention these particulars chiefly to shew, that the providing of Bullocks as have been reported, even to the prodigious number of 16000 for the use of the Army, for these last 12, or 14 Months, if done in the same way as has been the case with this drove first regularly reported to me since I have had the Honor of Commanding the Army, will not prove to have been of any great Service to the publick, whatever the expence may prove to be — I think my self likewise called upon to state the above circumstances in justice to the frequent complaints which I have heard His Excellency Sir Eyre Coot make of the want of Bullocks, and the miserable condition in general of the Bullocks provided for the use of the Army under his Command; I likewise mention it to shew to the Committee that the

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the present deficiency of Carriage in the Army is not remedied by the addition of these Cattle in written Reports until they are made usefull. —

J Stuart

General Stuart delivers in the following Paper. —

Extract of a Letter from the Select Committee of Fort St. George to Captain Eidingtoun Commanding Pallamcottah. —

Mr. Jarvis omitted in the Appointment of Ensign & an Error in the Date of Captn. Younge's Rank —

"The Nabob has also consented to a[illegible] "inlisting another Battn. from among his Sibindi[illegible] "you will accordingly make choice of a sufficien[illegible] "for that purpose and discipline them we[illegible] "possible expedition. — On this particular Oc[illegible] "we shall allow you to Nominate the [illegible]

In consequence of the [illegible] Jarvis an Officer in the Nabob's Service [illegible] Adjutant to the new Battn. but in April [illegible] when the new Corps raised to the Southward were regularly admitted on the Strength of the Establish=ment Mr. Jarvis does not appear to be taken [illegible] of either as an Officer or even an Adjutant in the Company's Service — this arose from the letter being mislaid in which Captain Eidingtoun had reported his being named to act as Adjutant to [illegible] Battn. another Officer was accordingly appointed.

The Case of Mr. Jarvis has [illegible] re=presented by Captain Ei[illegible]toun who [illegible] him the Character of a very Des[illegible] Officer and requests that [illegible] have rank in the Company's Service as Ensign from the date of his Appointment as Adjutant viz. 15th Novr. 1780 as permitted by the Select Committee in the extract of their letter above quoted, and as some compensation for the

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the loss of a post in which he had acted with capacity in the formation and discipline of a new or raised Corps. —

Captain Young of the Cavalry — his Commission as Captain should be dated on the same day with that of Captain Vigors of the Infantry — as mentioned in General Coote's letter when Captain Young was recommended to be promoted to the rank of Captain. —

J Stuart

In consideration of the circumstances above related in favor of Mr Lamie agreed that he be appointed an Ensign to rank from the 15th January 1783. —

The Secretary is desired to search the Records and if there has been any mistake in the date of Captain Young's Commission to cause it to be rectified. —

General Stuart delivers in an Account of Vacancies in the native Corps (as lodged in the office with Recommendations for filling them which are accordingly agreed to. —

General Stuart requests the Committee to come to a determination respecting the Chief Engineering with the Army. —

As the Commander in Chief has represented that it is necessary a Battering Train should go with the Army and that the Chief Engineer should also attend it the Committee do and it is accordingly resolved that Lieutenant Colonel Ross be ordered to join the Army. —

Comm

292 Fort St. George 18th January 17

Genl. Stuart's opinion respecting the propriety of a Battering Train being sent with the Army, thinks the Chief Engineer ought to accompany the Army

General Stuart — I think a Battering Train should move with the Army and that the operations of the Army will thereby become uncertain to the Enemy, whether intended against a place of Strength or in the field, and the supposition of the former precisely at this crisis will I am assured have a direct tendency to keep the whole of the Enemy's force opposite to this Army — this of itself I look on as a very principal advantage to the public cause since thereby the Northern provinces and General Mathews will be disengaged, and if it is agreeable to the Committee that a Battering Train should go with the Army it follows in my humble opinion that the Chief Engineer should be with the Army in whom alone I can repose confidence for the direction of that Battering Train at the same time in answer to one part of the Right Honble President's minute I can assure the Committee that neither a Siege nor any common movement of the Army shall take place without their being if possible warned and upon the former their opinion taken

Davidson's opinion to the Chief being ordered the Army

Mr. Davidson desires it may be minuted that he agrees to Colonel Ross's joining the Army because if Fort St. George be in any danger from the Enemy the Army must fall back for its protection in such case the chief Engineers Services will be obtained for the defence of the Presidency

Read the following Report from the Medical Committee

293 Fort St. George 12th January 1783.

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney KB.
President &c. Members of the
Select Committee

My Lord & Gentlemen,

Agreeably to your Orders of the 1st. December, we have assembled and taken into consideration the method we thought most eligible to form a System for conducting in future the business and Accounts of the Surgeons Department as well in the Garrison and which we hope will meet with your approbation.

By a Calculate made during Mr. Wynch's Government of three years expenses of the Hospitals all over the Coast in two of which years there was field Service going forward it appears that the Surgeons Receipts from the Company for each European in the Service Officers included amounted — In the year 1770 to ... £2. 12. —. 0. —

In ... 1771 to ... 13. 26. — 0

In ... 1772 to ... 15. —. —

The Expence for three years ... 40. 26. —

The medium of which for one year ... 13. 22. 53/4

That is for each man in the Service p. Month ... 1. 5. 3 1/4 —

The cause of the increase of expence in the two last years is attributed to the exorbitant charges of the Field Hospitals for which no check could be devised —

From the above estimate however the Calculator concludes that one Pagoda for each European in the Service would be a reasonable monthly allowance to the Surgeons in

Contracts

294 Fort St. George the 18th January 1783.

Contract and field Hospitals for their care and attendance of the Sick. —

That in an Estimate of 4000 Men in the Service a Pagoda pr Month each would be annexed by Pay. — 4000.

The Stoppages from the Sick was allowed to be ..... 1400.

So that the annual Expence to the Company would be ..... 33[illegible]

Which on a medium of the three years above specified would have been a saving of 7031 Pagodas to the Company. —

If we calculate from the annual Stoppages on a medium of the above three years we find that the Sick out of 4000 Men would not amount to more than 620, which gives a proportion of 15 p cent from every hundred Men. —

From all which calculations as well as from the most minute inspection of the Pay charges and sick lists compared with the monthly Returns of the Army the following Systems are suggested for the Field Surgeons. —

1st — That for every hundred European Officers included which take the Field whether Troops or Companys Troops the Field Surgeons be allowed an equal number of Fanams pr day, calculated at 42 Pagodas or ₹. 18. ₹ Month which at an Average of 25 Sick and wounded out of 100 Men will be 4½ Fanams ₹ Day for every Man under the care of the Surgeons. —

2dly — That for every hundred Natives entitled by Government to the Surgeons attendance

(which should be particularly specified to prevent all mistakes) they be allowed 28 Fanams ₱ day, which at an average of 7 Sick and Wounded out of every 100 Men, and the same allowance for each as for the Europeans will amount to 20 Pags ₱ Month.

3dly The Surgeons in consideration of the above allowance of 4 Fanams ₱ day, are to supply the Sick and Wounded with Country Medicines, Cloth for Lint and Bandages, Wine, Arrack, Oil, Vinegar, Spirits, Syrup, Tamarinds, limes, and all other Articles which may be thought necessary for their relief, such as Fomentations injection Drinks &c.

4thly The Surgeons are each to keep a Dubash to assist in the preparation of Medicines, and to make up dressings with Coolies and Tatties to attend the Sick, such as are usual in contract hospitals.

5thly Althe' Europe Medicines are supplied by the Company — the Surgeons shall not make any charge for carriage of them or any chirurgical apparatus. — The above allowance being in lieu of all contingent charges whatever.

6thly When the Surgeon Mayor or Senior Surgeon in the Field sends Sick or Wounded men into any Contract Hospital (which should never be without orders from the Commanding Officer in the Spot) he is to produce this order to — and obtain a receipt from the Senior Surgeon in charge of such Hospital from the date of which receipt the one charge ceases and the other commences — The Command- -ing Officers order must be a voucher for

The

296 Fort St. George 15th January 1783.

the Field Surgeons; wherefore the Contract Surgeon must notify on the back of the Order, the day he received the Men and the Number which came to hand, so as to agree with his Receipt to the Field Surgeon.

4th — These Regulations not to extend to the Bengal Troops doing Duty with those of the Coast as the Bengal Surgeons have a Contract on their own Establishment — therefore whenever any of them are put under the Kings or Company's Surgeons on this Establishment they are to be paid for by the Surgeons of the Corps to whom they belong —

Your Lordship &c. will observe that the number of 25 Europeans sick and Wounded we have allowed for may at particular times be less than the actual Sick on the returns, yet as a great proportion of them are sent to the Contract hospital whenever opportunity offers, the allowance of 4 Fanams for each man we deem an adequate encouragement to the Surgeons for their care when it is considered they mustfind supply them with Cots, Beds, or Cloathing —

altho' it has not hitherto been usual to allow any particular sum for the care of Wounded and Sick Sepoys; yet as the Commander in Chief thought it absolutely necessary during the present devastated State of this Country, when it is impossible for them to obtain that relief which on former Services they could procure in every village we hope that your Lordship &c. will think our estimate of 4 to 100, moderate, as it is out of all contingent Charges, & occurs to the unfortunate Sepoys the equal treatment with the Europeans in the same situation

297 Fort St. George 13th January 1783

Situations The smallness of the Number of Sick and Wounded Natives we have allowed for is not in proportion to the Europeans but it must be observed that very few Natives apply to our Surgeons for the cure of any but the most obstinate disorders they having simple remedies among themselves for all common maladies, and putting them on a footing with the Wounded Europeans (in respect to the Sum allowed to the Surgeons for their care) will attach them more strongly to the Service —

These regulations not to extend to the Native Troops serving where the situation of the Country can afford them relief, but to be confined to the Grand Army only (or to where your Lordship &c. may think it necessary) and not to be considered as a Precedent —

If it be supposed our grand Army to consist of 2000 Europeans and 8000 Natives entitled to the cares of the Surgeons the Monthly expence for the Europeans will be Pagodas ..... 1428.

for the Natives ..... 1600.

Total for King's & Company's Troops } ... 3028.
& Month Pagodas .....

By comparing this Estimate with Mr Davis's proposal of 3000 Pagodas ℔ Month, your Lordship &c. will perceive that in our proposed system provision is made for the three King's Regiments now in Camp, which Mr Davis does not include in his offer — that the Natives or Troops will be attended to and all contingent Charges whatever entirely abolished — it will also be the interest of the Surgeons to have as few men sick as possible.

We have thus far endeavoured to suggest a System for the Field Service which we imagine will be of benefit to the public,

as

Fort St. George 13th January 1783.—

as well as a sufficient encouragement to the Surgeons.—

With respect to the Contract Hospitals they are so essentially necessary and useful to the Sick and Wounded in affording them the means of a final cure, by an ample supply of the best Medicines, Cots, bedding, Cloathing, warm, or any rooms, with every other convenience and comfort which their several situations may require — far superior to any thing that can be furnished either in the Field or any temporary Cantonments that we think it incumbent on us to recommend the support of them (particularly the general Hospital at the Presidency) without the alteration in their original institution, excepting in extraordinary Cases like these which could not have been foreseen or provided for at that Period, and when it could not be supposed but that every article contracted to be furnished by the Surgeons could always be procured for Money.—

Out of humanity to the Sick and Wounded as well as in Justice to the contracting Surgeons in all parts of the Country affected by the present calamities we take the liberty to recommend that when Scarcity of Provisions renders it necessary in Government to allow an advanced price to the Contractor of the Army for Victualling the Troops, the contracting Surgeons shall be made acquainted with it and allowed to avail themselves of that indulgence conformable to the 3d Article in the Book of Regulations respecting Hospitals — and that during the present War, in case of an impossibility of their procuring any of the Articles specified

in

in their Contract, they be allowed (having previously applied to Government for permission) to make use of the best possible Substitute.

In regard to Kings Surgeons holding Contract Hospitals either here or in any other part of the Coast on the footing of those at present established under the care of the Company's Surgeons, we beg leave to observe that as their Service here is only casual and temporary, and they not having proper buildings and other conveniencies suited to such an undertaking, we imagine it would be more for the health of the Troops that only one General contract Hospital should be established at each place where European Troops may be serving - The men to be sent from the Field to the Contract Hospital as directed in the 6th Article of the Field Regulations.

Should your Lordship &c.a be of this opinion, a difficulty will occur which we think it our duty to inform you of - When the Army marches from the Mount a great number of sick will be thrown into the Company's Hospital here, as well as all those men of the Kings Regiments at St. Thomé and the Cuz, and our Surgeons have declared to us that it is utterly out of their power to provide for their accommodation not having adequate Stores and necessaries owing to the great Arrears that have accumulated during all last year.

Should the Kings Surgeons be allowed Hospitals on the same footing as the Company's, We recommend that it should be one general Contract Hospital for all his Majesty's Regiments, now doing duty there, subject to the

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the inspection of the two Senior Surgeons of this Establish-
-ment, or to the Company's Senior Surgeon, in any
other part of the Coast where his Majesty's Troops may
be serving — The Regulations mentioned before to take
place with all Troops in the Field notwithstanding such
Contract. —

Surgeons and Assistants sent on Det-
-achment to be entitled to the same daily allowance
for the Sick and Wounded under their care as ment-
-ioned in the foregoing Regulations. —

We have the honor to be,
My Lord and Gentlemen,
Your Most Obedient
humble Servants

Fort St. George
12th January 1783.

(Signed) Robt. Kelly
Hugh Maxwell
Wm. Michell
Jas. Anderson
Colley Lucas

The Committee approve of the Regulations
recommended for the Troops in the field but it is agreed
that that part which relates to the native Troops
shall be confined to the grand Army only and be
considered merely as a War Establishment, and that
the same be expressly declared in General Orders —
the consideration of the other parts of the Medical
Report deferred. —

Minute thereon

Read the following Letter from Captain
Edmonds. —

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

I have the honor to inform you

301 Fort St. George 18th January 1783. —

From Capt. Edmonds — so much distressed for Men to Work the Guns received from Masulipatam intends detaining the Bullocks arrived from thence as no others can be immediately procured. —

that this Morning arrived here from Masulipatam a Brigade of 12 Hrs and a Brigade of 6 Hrs agreeable to the Indent I sent for that purpose accompanied by 2 Tindals and 40 Lascars which is ten short of the number required, and I am sorry to observe not above five or Six of that number have the least knowledge of their Duty with the Artillery so that I am as yet totally at a lost for people to work the Guns, without which it will be very unsafe nay needless for me to attempt any thing, convinced by experience how much depends in the Artillery being well served. — The Gentlemen at Masulipatam have also required that I return the Bullocks that came with the Guns observing that they have directed Mr. Gardiner to endeavour to procure Draft & Carriage Bullocks for this Detachment, well knowing that it will be impossible for Mr. Gardiner to procure Bullocks fit for immediate Service, and in consequence of the letter I had the honor to receive from you dated the 12th December directing to apply to Masulipatam for Bullocks I shall detain them till I am honored with your further instruction, and do myself the honor to advise the Gentlemen at Masulipatam of this my intention. — The only people in this Garrison also knew any thing of the Gun exercise are a few Sepoys that have been practised to it but a short time so that the full compliment of Men will be wanting to Man and work these Guns. — The preparations already much has given fresh

Spirits

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Spirits to our Friends in this neighbourhood and greatly alarmed our Enemies — I have the Honor to be with the greatest Respect —

My Lord & Gentlemen,

Your Most Obedient
Humble Servant
Signed, Edw.d Edmonds.

Ongole
10th January 1783. —

Minute thereon. —

Agreed that an Havildar Naique and 12 Native Artillery Men be ordered to Ongole from Nellore and that Captain Campbell be directed to engage others in their room — Agreed also that Captain Edmonds be empowered to detain the Bullocks sent with the Guns from Masulipatam and that those which Mr. Gardiner has provided be sent to replace them. —

General Stuart reports to the Committee that the Adjutant General have been constantly employed in making out a General Returns of the whole Army Kings and Company's Troops wherever stationed which he doubts not will give every possible satisfaction and Information. —

Gen.l Stuart requests a Supply of Cash may be sent to the Army. —

General Stuart has the Honor to acquaint the Committee that the Service will require his returning immediately to the Army until the convoy is safe at Tripassore which he hopes will be in 4 Days at furthest — and he requests Money may be sent expeditiously to the Army there being at present none in the Cash Chests. —

The President acquaints the Committee with the Sum remaining in the Cash Chests

The President observes to the Committee that he has already informed them of the State of the Cash and he now repeats that the Sum remaining is. —

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In consequence of the Advertisement for proposals for supplying Arrack or Bengal Rum several proposals are now read of which the follow=ing is an Abstract. —

Abstracts of Proposals for supplying the Company with Arrack & Bengal Rum —

Proposals for Supplying Bengal Rum, delivered in, in consequence of the Advertisement issued by The Select Committee the 6th Instant. —

Names of the Proposers	Quantity	Price	When to be delivered.
Mr. Cuthbert —	400 Leagers 140 Galls. each.	155 Ps. ℘ Leg.r —	The whole by October Vizt. Immediately 100 Leagrs. April 100 Do. July 100 Do. + October 100 Do. 400.
Mr. Wm. Mitchell —	300 Leagers — no mention of the Number of Galls. in each Leager. —	155 Ps. ℘ Leag.r	The whole by the 1st May. Vizt. Immediately 30 Leagrs. By May 270 Do. 300.

N. B. Mr. Mitchell states in his Proposal, that a Vessel, with a considerable Quantity of Rum on board, is on its way from Bengal, and that if it should be in his power to supply any Quantity of Arrack he will be willing to do it at 160 Pagodas ℘ Leag.r

Mr. Wm. Ross —	100 Leagers.	135 Galls. ea —	200 Pags. —	Immediately —
Mr. A. Ross & Mr. J. Menzies —	100 Do. —	135 Do. —	180 Do.	The whole by February 1784 —

Genl. Stuart's opinion of the several Proposals. —

General Stuart — I do not know why this only Business is brought before me, it being a Civil Business of Contract — I have no other opinion

to

Fort St. George 18th January 1783

to give them that the Army should be kept in good Spirits as Cheaply as possible and the great advanced price of the present year seems to argue a want of foresight somewhere —

The President in Answer to General Stuarts Observations laye before the Committee the following Extract from the Consultations in the Civil department dated the 19th January last relative to a Contract which was then entered into with Mr Botham for a Supply of Arrack from Bencoolen, and the President adds that Rums could not be procured from Bengal of late as all the Tonnage was taken up that could be procured for the immediate Importation of Rice on the appearance of the famine —

The President laye before the Committee Extract from the Consultations relative to the Contract with Mr Botham for a supply of Arrack

Extract from the Consultations of the Council Fort St. George — July 19th 1782. —

Mr Botham having informed the Board that he has authority from the Government at Fort Marlbro' to propose to Supplying this Presidency with Arrack of the Manufactory established there, and as our Supplies of that necessary Article must be very uncertain during the present War. — Resolved to enter into an agreement with Mr Botham for the delivery of a certain quantity of Arrack at this place, and the following terms are at length settled with him. — He engages that from three hundred to five hundred Leaguers of 160 Gallons each shall be landed at this

place

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place ℔ Annm for three years at Star Pagodas 50 ℔
Leaguer whilst the Dutch War continues, and at
Star Pagodas 40 ℔ Leaguer after Peace with the
States General shall be concluded. —

A true Extract
(Signed) Chas. Freeman
Secty

Agreed that a fresh Advertisement be
immediately issued for receiving Sealed proposals ℔
until Tuesday the 22d Instant at 10 A.M. for
supplying the Company with any quantity of
Bengal Rum not exceeding 200 Leaguers to be
delivered into the Garrison Store on or before
the 29th Instant, and to be paid for on delivery
by Bills on Bengal at the rate of 385 Arcot
Rupees ℔ 100. Pagodas —

Fresh Advertisements to be issued for receiving Proposals for supplying Bengal Rum —

Read Letters from Mr John Sulivan
containing Intelligence from England Copy of a
Letter from Colonel Macleod, and Copies of circular
Letters to the Polygars and the Correspondence
of Kimoely and Colonel Lang with Captain
Bilcliffe and Mr Proctor on the subject,
deposited in the Office. —

There the

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18. Dispatched the following Letter to Bengal.

To the Honble Warren Hastings Esqr.
Governor General & Council at
Bengal,

Honble Sir & Sirs,

To Bengal requesting a Supply of 200 Leaguers of Bengal Rum.

There being a great Scarcity of Arrack here, and the absence of the Fleet rendering our supply from Bencoolen where we had contracted for a Quantity at a reasonable price, very precarious We request that you will order 200 Leaguers of the best Bengal Rum to be sent to us by the earliest opportunity.

We have the honor to be,
Honble Sir & Sirs,
Your Most Obedient
Humble Servants
(Signed) Macartney
&c. &c. Select Committee

Fort St. George
January 18. 1783.

19. Issued Advertisement for proposals to furnish the Company with a quantity not exceeding 200 Leaguers of Bengal Rum agreeably to Resolution in the Minutes of the 18th Instant.

The Right Honble The President and the following Letter to the Agent.

To Mr. William Ross
Agent.
Sir,

To the Agent desiring him to account for the Cause of some Complaints made by Genl. Stuart.

General Stuart having complained of the condition of the 647 Bullocks lately sent to Camp, and of their equipment with Saddles &c. I desire you will inform me of the state of them when received by you from the Northward, and such other particulars relative to them, as may enable this Government

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19 Government to remedy the matters complained of. I desire also to know whether since your being employed in the Office of Agent any considerable Number of Bullocks supplied to the Army have been reported as unserviceable, and if any such had been sent to Camp, to assign the causes, in order that measures may be taken to obviate such disappointments in future.

I am,
Sir,
Your Most Obedient
Humble Servant
(Signed) Macartney

Fort St. George
th
19. January 1783

Sent Letter to the Paymaster directing him to forward the Pooles he have ready to Camp completed as recommended in the Letter from the Commissary of the Army.

th
20. Recived the following Letter from the Agent —

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

My Lord,

From the Agent in answer to the above

I have had the honor to receive your Lordships Letter of the 19th Instant and beg in consequence to inform you that the Bullocks which arrived from the Northward on the 12th having been allowed two Days rest were dispatched to Camp the 15th Instant — No more than 100 were properly trained, many of them had sore Backs and were otherwise in bad condition and the greatest number of the Saddles which accompanied them were through length of Service unfit for use; I thought it my Duty however to send the whole to Camp that the Deputy Agent might have it in his option to chuse such as he thought fit for Service — of 647 Bullocks offered to him he has

rejected

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to
20.

Fort St. George January 1783 —

rejected 226 and of 386 Saddles he has rejected 286 — Some of the Bullocks rejected are since dead but many will I think recover and be fit for Service — the 100 trained Bullocks were sent loaded to Camp, the others remained here such a short time that it was impossible for one to find Drivers for them — I have to day sent 300 Bullocks Saddles to Camp for the goodness of which I shall be answerable to supply the place of those that have been returned —

In answer to the Second Paragraph of your Lordship's Letter respecting the number of Bullocks returned, I have to inform your Lordship that of about 15,273 Bullocks issued to Mr Hennerthy from the 26th of January 1782 to the 16th of January 1783 — about 1012 were returned by him as unserviceable some of these Died, some recovered and some were sent to Calastri and other places in hopes they might recover there. —

All the Bullocks sent by me to Camp after deducting the number of 1012 above mentioned as having undergone the inspection of the Deputy Agent and being received by him ought I presume to be considered effective Bullocks supplied by Government for the use of the Army.

A reference to the Letters I have had the honor to address to the Board will shew the Stated condition in which I received a number of Bullocks from Mr Binfield, and your Lordship will recollect that in consequence of the great Demand for Bullocks to supply the place of those which accompanied the Detachment commanded by Major Bevan and were lost, many Bullocks were sent from the Northward which were not fit for Service, to these circumstances it ought principally to be attributed that so many of the Bullocks sent to Camp were returned unserviceable, and I beg leave to suggest

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20th

that if Captain Smith at Pullicat was made the judge of all the Bullocks which passed that place and was ordered to forward such only as were Serviceable, none would arrive here but such as were in condition to accompany the Army, and the rest instead of being a dead expence to the Company, might be fed at Pullicat or some of the places adjoining to it until they recovered flesh and were in condition to proceed hither; for many Bullocks might have been in perfect good order at the time they left Ellore and from hard driving, want of Provender &c. be totally out of condition when they arrived at Pullicat.

I beg to suggest likewise from the circumstance of many Bullocks having arrived here with Sore Backs that unless they can be completely trained in a Situation where they are at the same time well fed it will be better not to make any attempt at training them — when an untrained Bullock arrives here he is delivered to a Mastry whose property he becomes and who consequently is more careful in training him than one who has no Interest in the event — in further confirmation of this opinion a reference to the first part of this Letter will shew Your Lordship, that of upwards of 600 Bullocks lately arrived which were said to be in training and which no doubt suffered from the Severity of the exercise only 100 when tried these would carry, and many had sore Backs.

I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect

My Lord,

Your Lordships Most Obedient
& Most Faithful Servant
(Signed) William Ross
Agent

Fort St. George
20th January 1783.

Recvd

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Received the following Letter from General Stuart

The Right Honble Geo: Lord Macartney &c &c &c
President &c. Select Committee

Fort St. George,

My Lord &c.

From General Stuart on drawing Provisions &c. into Tripassore.

I should have been happy to have had it in my power to have informed you that a sufficient quantity of Rice had been collected for the first Escort to Tripassore, but I found on my coming to Camp that upwards of 1100 Coolies which I looked for to have delivered their loads on the 18th had failed and dispersed, as reported to me by Captain Harvey; they were the Coolies from the Fort which were to have brought the Rice from the Mount; this obliges to send the Cattle again from hence, and consequently the Convoy cannot proceed until the 21st in the Morning. Your Lordship &c. must excuse me, if I am particular in such matters, my view is to shew how the public Service is retarded. I must request that directions be given to load the Cattle daily expected from Nellore and forward them to Camp under the same people that Mr Call to have appointed to take charge of them; I shall nevertheless take care that they are inspected and mustered on their arrival in Camp in the same way as the last were, and then I can venture to answer for the Carriage being sufficient according to their numbers. I have a letter from Captain Scoles at Tripassore of the 17th who has every thing ready, He mentions 17 Tents of Arrack being there, but not their quarters full; I have ordered 40 more by the next Convoy; and as there seemed to be a doubt in conversation yesterday

when

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when I last had the honor of meeting your Lordship &c. in Committee about the quantity of Arrack Daily consumed by the Europeans of this Army according to the Company's Regulations, I find that if what is called a Leaguer is full, it will more than answer the daily Consumption. This I think material to know considering the high price it now bears. —

I have the honor to be Most Respectfully

My Lord &c.

Your Most Obedient and

Most Humble Servant

(Signed) James Stuart

Camp near Vellaut

19 January 1783.

2. P. M.

P. S. I cannot help acquainting your Lordship &c. that I wait with some impatience for the Copy of the Right Honble President's Minute read yesterday in Committee while I have any leisure time to do myself justice, in what is so pointedly directed to me in that performance, and I trust that it will not go unanswered. —

(Signed) J. S.

&c.

Recieved the following Letter from Mr. Battger at Tranquebar. —

To John Hudleston Esqr.

Madras

Sir!

I am favord with your Letter of 20th inst. & will the day shall according to your Request advance the Prisoners, who are here on their Parole. the Monthly Pay, which is due to them, or as much of it, as they stand in need of. and send you

From Mr Battger with supply the Prisoners at Tranquebar with money —

their

Fort S.t George January 1783

the 20.

their Receipt for the same. of which you will be pleased to acquaint the President and Select Committee you will at same time very much oblige me, if you will mention in future, whether their Receipts are come duly to hand —

I am with Esteem

Sir.

Your Most Humble Servant

(Signed) Peter Batteger

Tranquebar 6.th June 1783.

At a Select Committee Present

Monday — 20.th January 1783 } The Right Honble Geo. Lord Macartney } Pr.t

Anthony Sadleir Esqr.

Alexander Davidson Esqr.

Major General James Stuart } Comp.a

Read the following Letters —

Ittchapour the 8 January 1783.

My Lord,

I have the honor to inform your Lordship that this Morning about 8 o'Clock, eight or Nine large Ships appeared off this place, one of them came to an Anchor under English Blue Colours, the others came to in the Offing — I have no doubt but they are Enemy's Ships, the one that came to an Anchor having begun to set fire to the Craft in the Road — We are taking every possible precaution to prevent their landing, should they attempt it, for which purpose

From Mr Stone the French Fleet have appeared off Ganjam

Fort St. George 20th January 1783 —

purpose orders have been sent to the Seaports to secure all the Boats — The Inhabitants have been directed to drive their Cattle up the Country — I shall be at Ganjam by day Break in the Morning, from whence I shall give your Lordship such further Information as I may be able to obtain —

I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect —

My Lord

Your Lordship's Most Obedient & Most Humble Servant

(Signed) J. Hilton

My Lord,

From Lieut. Bridges on the same — is taking measures to prevent their landing any Troops.

This Morning a Fleet of Nine large Ships appeared off the Port of Sanapour / about three Miles from this place / and about 1 P.M. a Vessel which seems to be a Frigate, or Sloop of War under blue Colours came to Anchor and began to burn the small Crafts that were loading with grain. — The Fleet stood to the Eastward, and are out of Sight. — The Frigate is still at Anchor — before she came too three Guns were fired from a Vessel in the Fleet, and when she anchored she fired four Guns —

I had a Serjeant and a small party of Sepoys at that place, with orders to protect the Grain &c. by securing the Boats, and thereby preventing the Enemy from

Landing

Fort St. George 20th January 1783 —

landing, but I did not lose a moment in sending an Officer with a Detachment of Two hundred Sepoys; and from the future Manoeuvres of the Enemy, for I have not a doubt but they are so, and from the intelligence I may receive I shall dispose of my very small force in such a manner as may appear the best for the Service. —

I have the honor to be —

Ytchapour
In
January 8th 1783. —

My Lord,

Your Lordships Most Obedient
& Devoted Humble Servant
(Signed) Thomas Bridges

My Lord

From the same, with march with his whole force to Ganjam the French fleet being at Anchor there. —

I did myself the honor of writing your Lordship yesterday — This Morning the Frigate arrived from Tanapour and I have this moment a Letter from the Chief of Ganjam telling me that at 6 o'Clock Nine line of Battle French Ships and a Frigate were in the Road and about it. —

I shall immediately march with my whole force for that place. —

I have the honor to be

Ytchapour
9th
January 1783
2. PM

My Lord

Your Lordship's very Obedt
& Most Devoted Humble Servant
(Signed) Thos Bridges

My

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Fort St. George 20th January 1783.

The Right Honble Lord Macartney

11th January 1783. at Night.

My Lord,

My Eagerness to lose no time in forward-
ing the Express of this Morning would not permit
me to give a Cover to Mr. Stone's Letter which came
under a flying Seal to me, Your Lordship would
therefore receive it sealed down with a different
Wax which I think right to apprize you of.

From Mr. Russell on the same.

No further Accounts since the
Morning and as Captain Bridges Letter mentions
the Fleet having disappeared to the Eastward
in the Evening of the 8th off Pettapoly, leaving
a Frigate to take the Rice (as supposed) out of a vessel
in the Road, it is probable they are gone for the
Southward. We have taken every Measure in our
Power with the advice of the Senior Officer of the
District, and if they should appear and make
an attempt I dare say the Commanding Officer will
will acquit himself with Honor & Credit.

I have the Honor to be with
Respect

Your Lordship's Most
Obedient Humble &
faithful Servant
(Signed) Claud Russell.

P.S. I tremble for two Vessels we dispatched to you
yesterday from Bemblepatam & Condymarka.

Saturday Night.

My Lord,

From the same with
Intelligence of the
French Fleet

Since closing my Letter I have
this Instant received advice from Captain Bridges
of

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Fort St. George 20 January 1783.

of 9 Ships of the Line and a Frigate being in and about the Road of Ganjam.—

I am,
My Lord,
Your Most Obedient Servant
(Signed) Eland Russell

The Right Honble Lord Macartney K.B.
Governor &c. &c. &c.
Madras.—

From Masulipatam enclosing Copy of Mr Stone's Letter to Mr Hamilton

My Lord,

Without detaining the Tappal a moment this serves only to enclose Copy of a Letter from Mr Stone to Mr Hamilton.—

I have the honor to be
very Respectfully
Your Lordships Most
Obedient Humble Servt
(Signed) Jas Dorrett

Masulipatam
the
14 January.—

To Mr William Hamilton
Dear Sir!

About 8 o'Clock this Morning a Fleet of Nine large Ships appeared in the Offing about 1 o'Clock one of them anchored in the Road of Sonapoor under a Blue English Ensign at 5 P.M. she began to plunder & burn the small Craft in the Road which continued so they were the Enemy — she remained at an Anchor when it was Dark the other Ships stood off and on — What may be their intentions I cannot say but I thought it necessary to give you this information that you may take the best

methods

Fort St. George 20th January 1783.

methods in your power to secure the Trade and that you may send advices to Masulipatam.—

(Signed) J. M. Stone —

Ichapour 8th January 1783.
8 P.M

It appearing from the above Letters that there can be no reason to doubt of a French Fleet's being to the Northward it is therefore agreed in consequence that a Letter be written to General Stuart enclosing the Letters from Mr. Stone & Captn. Bridges and to Bombay Sir Edward Hughes to Colonel Lang to Captain Smith Commanding at Pulicat and to the Bengal and Masulipatam.—

Lieutenant Colonel Ross and Lieut. Colonel Kennedy to be ordered to get every thing in readiness in their respective Departments & to report the State of things.— and that Mr. Cuthbert do get all the loaded Doneys down before the Fort under the Cover of the Guns to land all the Rice possible without delay, and to offer extra pay to encourage the people to work Day and Night.—

Ordered that bills on Vizagapatam be granted in favor of Lieut. Colonel Eccles Nixon to the Amount of 3195 Pagodas being for his Arrears of Pay and Batta to 1st July 1782.—

Fort St. George 21st January 1783 —

At a Select Committee Present
The Right Honble Geo. Lord Macartney K.B. President
Anthony Sadleir Esqr.
Alexander Davidson Esqr.
& Major General James Stuart in Compt.

Tuesday 21st January 1783.

In consequence of yesterdays proceedings the following Letters were dispatched.

To Major General James Stuart

Sir.

To Genl. Stuart inclosing advices of the French Fleet being to the Northward and of Signals of Communication being established at the Mount.

I am directed by the Right Honble the President and Select Committee to send you a Letter from Mr. Stone and two from Captains Bridges advices of a French Fleet being to the Northward — This is the only Intelligence which have been yet received — Major Sydenham have been directed to establish Signals with the Mount to be communicated to Camps without delay to announce the appearance of an Enemy's fleet & other circumstances that may be necessary for you immediately being informed of.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Most Obedient
Humble Servant
(Signed) John Huddleston
Secy

Fort St. George
20th January 1783 —

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

To Bengal. Communicating Intelligence of the French Fleet being to the Northward. —

Gentlemen

We have the honor to acquaint you, that from the intelligence we have just received

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Fort St. George 21st January 1783. —

Received from Mr. Stone dated the 8th Instant our Chief at Ganjam and from other Communications we have no reason to doubt of the Enemy's Fleet appearing there on the 8th Instant. — We have no account of their appearing on any part of the Coast since, Every thing is fully prepared for giving them proper reception here. —

We have the honor to be,

Gentlemen,

Your Most Obedient
Humble Servants

(Signed) Macartney
&c. Select Committee

Fort St. George
20 January 1783

To the Honble William Hornby Esqr
President &c. Select Committee
of Bombay,

Gentlemen,

We have the honor to enclose you Copy of a Letter from Mr. Stone our Chief at Ganjam and of two from Captain Bridges who Commands on that District, advising of the Enemy's Fleet being to the Northward, it is the only intelligence we have as yet received. —

Sir Edwd Hughes
on the same. —

We have the honor to be. —

Gentlemen,

Your Most Obedient
Humble Servants

(Signed) Macartney
&c. Select Committee

Fort St. George
20 January 1783. —

P.S. We have no account of their appearing many part of the Coast since. —

The same to Sir Edward Hughes. —
Mr Sulivan
Col. Lang. —

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Fort St. George 21st January 1783.

To Captain Smith,
Commanding at
Pulicat,

Sir!

To Capt.n Smith &c. on the same & desiring them to take every Precaution in case of an attack

I am directed by the Right Honble the President & Select Committee to acquaint you, that they have reason to believe the Enemy's Fleet are to the Northward, & that they rely on your taken every precaution you may think necessary for the safety of your Garrison

Mr. Bang the Engineer has Directions to proceed to Pulicat, in order to prepare the Mines without delay in case it should be necessary to destroy the Place.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Most Obedient
Humble Servant
(Signed) P. Huddleston
Secry

Fort St. George
21st
20 January 1783.

To James Daniell Esqr
Chief.
Masulipatam,

Sir,

To the Northern Gentlemen acknowledging the Receipt of their Letters on the appearance of the French Fleet.

I am directed by the Right Honble the President and Select Committee to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter to their Lordships & advising of the Enemy's Fleet being to the Northward

they

Fort St. George 21st January 1783.—

they have no Account of their appearing on any part of the Coast since.—

I have the Honor to be.—

Sir,

Your Most Obedient

Humble Servant

(Signed) John Huddleston

Secry

Fort St. George
21st January 1783.—

The same to Claud Russell Esqr.
to John Maxwell Stone Esqr.
& Captain Bridges.—

I Recived the following Letter from Mr Close, in answer to the Letter to General Stuart.—

Thomas Kingscote Esqr.
Deputy Secretary

Sir,

I am directed by the Commander in Chief to acquaint you that he has just now recived your Letter of this days Date enclosing one from Mr Stone to the President of the 8th January and two from Captain Bridges of the 8 & 9th January acquainting of the Enemys Fleet appearing off the Port of Sinapore three Miles from Ithchapour upon the 8th Instant and that Major Hyden-ham had established Signals with the Mount to be Communicated to Camp without delay to announce the appearance of the Enemys Fleet &c.

From Mr Close on the same.—

The General desires me to acknowledge the receipt of these Letters for the information of the Right Honble the President & Select Committee, and that if the Ships and small Craft are brought under cover of the Sea Line as much as possible this Army is ready to answer every other purpose.—

I

Fort St. George 21st January 1783.

at Masulipatam, but it is very uncertain how soon that Sum can be realized at Madras.— The Bills from Bengal are usually at a long sight, and when the Money is paid at Masulipatam; It is to be remitted here to Government, which is attended with very considerable delay.—

Account of Funds and Money in the Treasury.—

Balance in the Cash & Treasury in Fanams & Rupees & Current Pagodas } 30,600.—

In the Mint Estimated ..... 16,666.—

a Bill on Coja Aratoon Sarguis due 13th Inst. for ..... 2750.

Do. on Mr. Rowley due 21st Do. 2750.

Do. on Mr. Ewing due 20th Do. 4400.

Do. on Govindaramaddoo 22d Do. 1100.

Do. on Gopaul Dofs due 22d Do.

A Rupee 24000.

Cash Received 10000.

14000 or 3730.

Do. on Chocapah Chitty due 19th Inst. 1366.24. 16596.24.

19th January 1783.— Pagodas. 63862.24.

NB. 2000 Pags are deducted in this Acct. paid this Morning to the Civil Paymaster.—

Read Letter from the Adjutant General with two Certificates recommending the Promotion of Native Officers;—which is agreed to—(as entered in Miscellany Book) and Letter from Captain Mein to the General; which is to be referd to Messrs. Holland and Maubray.—

Read Letter from Mr. Jewell (as entered in Miscellany Book) representing that Lieut. Innes the Commandant of Poonamalee

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Fort St. George 21st January 1783.

has taken upon himself the charge of Victualling the Troops in Garrison & the Sick sent from Camp; —

The Committee seeing the impropriety of Lieut.t Innis's Conduct, it is agreed that he be directed not interfere with Mr. Call in the Victualling or any other part of Mr. Calls duty. —

Read the following Letter from Colonel Kennedy —

My Lord,

I have the honor to acquaint your Lordship that Doctor Anderson of the Navy Hospital reports that he will be able to turn out one Hundred and forty, about 30 of that Number wants Legs and Arms. — A Present State of the Artillery in Fort St. George will quickly follow this report in the mean time I am giving the necessary order in Black Town. —

I have the honor to be,

Your Lordship's Obedient
Humble Servant
(Signed) John Kennedy.

From Lt. Kennedy accompanying Return of Effective Artillery, Natives, Europeans &c.a on the Fort & Black Town. Navy Hospital can Supply 140 Men on an Emergency —

R
20 January
1/2 Past 12

Effective

Effective Artillery in the Garrison of Fort St. George January 20th 1783.

Rank and File &c.	Hospital	Total Effective	Invalids	Total
22.	11.	33.	22.	55.

Present State of the Effective Europeans, Invalids, Pensioners, Native & Malay Artillery, doing Duty on the Works of the Black Town and ready to turn out at a Moments Notice if Service should require them January 20th 1783.

	Effective Invalids & Pensioners									Native						Malays									
																Officers									
	Serjeants	Corporals	Serjeans	Corporals	Gunners	Drum.rs & Fifers	Matrosses	Pensioners	Total	Jemidars	Havildars	Naigues	Drum.rs & Fifers	Sepoys	Total	Captains	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Total	Serjeants	Corporals	Drum.rs & Fifers	Private	Puckallys	Total
Total	1.	1.	5.	1.	12.	"	7.	"	27.	3.	3.	4.	2.	44.	56.	2.	1.	1.	4.	4.	4.	2.	65.	1.	76.

NB. Only the N. fit for Duty & [illegible] for Service at a Moments Notice are Included

Total Strength ready to turn out

	No.
Effectives	2.
Invalids & Pensioners	27.
Natives	56.
Malays	80.
Total	165.

(Signed) John Kennedy
Lieut. Col.

Fort St. George 21st January 1783.

Read the following Letter from Mr Brodie the Agent on the part of the Captors for Pulicat with the Returns of Stores &c. therein mentioned, as lodged in the Office —

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

My Lord & Gentlemen,

From Mr Brodie accompanying Account Sales of Grain & other Property captured at Pulicat and desiring to be put in Funds to make a Distribution among the Captors —

I have the honor to lay before you an Account Sales of Grain, and other Articles received from Pulicat on account of the Captors and disposed of by me as the Agent. The Account Current annexed to the Sales No. 1. will shew your Lordship &c. that the proceeds realized by me have been chiefly advanced on account of the Honorable Company. —

The Bales except the Munga Doalies & included in the Account Sales, were by order of the Right Honble the Governor deposited in the Honble Company's Ware houses, and have been frequently exposed to sale; when no Bidders appeared — the Brass Weights and Church Plate still remain unsold."

The particular Account Sales and other Vouchers have been laid before a meeting of the Officers employed on the Expedition against Pulicat, who have directed me to apply to your Lordship &c. for the means to enable me to make a distribution among the Captors of the Sums already realized."

They have likewise directed me to send to your Lordship &c. the accompanying Papers Viz.t
No. 2. A general Return of the Troops employed on that Service under the Command of Lieut Colonel Egerton

No

Fort St. George 21st January 1783

The President delivers in an application of Mr. Scottney the Military Storekeeper, that his Accounts be discharged by bills on Bengal, — Agreed that his Accounts be referred to the Auditor

Mr. Scottney's Accounts referred to the Auditor —

Presented Captain Eddingtons bills — Ordered that an Account be delivered in by Mr. Maubray of all the Acceptances he has under —

Read the following Proposal from Mr. William Rose, for supplying the Company with not less than 100 or exceeding 120 Leaguers of Bengal Rum of 135 Gallons each at 200 Star Pagodas P Leaguer.

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

My Lord & Gentlemen,

Mr. Rose's Proposal to supply Bengal Rum —

In consequence of the Advertisement circulated by your Lordship &c. under Date 19th Instant I beg leave to continue my proposal dated the 9th Instant for the immediate Delivery of a quantity not less than 100 or exceeding 120 Leaguers of Bengal Rum, of 135 Gallons each, at 200 Star Pagodas P Leaguer, to be paid for in the manner Specified in the Advertisement. —

I have the honor to be
My Lord & Gentlemen
Your Most Obedient & Most
Faithful Servant
(Signed) William Rose.

Fort St. George
21 January 1783

The President intercedes with Mr. Rose to lower his Terms. —

The President requested to endeavour to [illegible] Mr. Rose's terms. ——

331 Fort St. George January 1783.

21st His Majesty's Ship Medea arrived here with the Chaser Frigate which she fell in with on her way from the Northward and Captured. —

The following Intelligence was obtained by Captain Gower from the Prisoners on board. —

Intelligence. —

At Ganjam 10th January, Nine Sail of the Line and Two Frigates. —

Report of the Prisoners taken in the Chaser which their Logbook corresponds with. — that the Chaser left the Mauritius the 4th November and arrived at Acheen the 29th December, Admiral Suffrein had left Acheen eight days before the arrival of the Chaser — this Sloop stayed there Six days and sailed on the 4th January in company with the Fortune Sloop, which Sloop parted company with them the 7th and went to the Nicobar Islands, I believe that is to be a place of Rendezvous, One of the Prisoners declared to me that all our Settlements to the Northward of Pulicat was to be attacked, and that he believed Mons.r Bussy's Troops were to be Landed at Maunlipatam. There is One French 74 Cruizing in the Straights of Malacca. —

Intelligence collected on board the Chaser

Intelligence Collected from Letters. —

Mons.r Deskamp who seems to be Surgeon General at Porto Novo, in a letter to Mr Warnet Surgeon of the Hos.l at Trincomallee dated 3d November, says that he has at that time 1500 Sick and 200 of the small Pox, that the Surgeons from the Alexander have been obliged to come on shore for their attendance the same Gent.n in a Letter to the Surgeon of the Illustre says that he is so very busy that altho 2/3 of his Sick are now convalescents, he can hardly find

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Fort S.t George January 1783.

21

find time to Write that they have lost so many Surgeons that they do not know what to do for them in the Expedition of 30 Sail of Transports, that they are about to send them; and that if they had Surgeons they were at a greater Loss for a Medicines.

In a Letter to the Surgeon of the Hero, that it had been a very Sickly Season that they have had 2300 Sick in Six Months and that they had at that time 1500 Sick, most of them attended with very Putrid Symtoms, you may judge (he says) of the want you are of here, when besides 25 Surgeons from the Fleet, there were employed 35. Superintendants of Hospitals, we have lost 350 Men of these are 150 Sailors, the rest Soldiers particularly of Lamare.

here

In a Month or thereabouts there will Sail from hence 3 Sail of Men of War, and a large Frigate with a Convoy of 30 Sail to join you, the Reinforcement will arrive sooner than last year, and put your Squadron far above want, e Marquis Pegnier comes with this Convoy, e Mons.r Suffrein whom every body here adores, will not then Fight as he every body here is afraid of his life least he fall a sacrifice to the fatigue he undergoes.

e Mons.r Le Marquis de Bussy will go with e M.r Pegnier, at least his health promises so e Madame de Duzan, in a letter to her Husband e Surgeon of the Hero says that the Nayade Sailed from the Mauritius some time before, and that the Chaser announces the departure of the Convoy 1.st December. This Lady likewise mentions her coming in the Fleet which is to be Convoyed by 3 Sail of the Line and one Large Frigate.

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Fort St. George January 1783.

21. Received the following Letter.

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

My Lord & Gentlemen,

In the letter I had the honor of addressing to you yesterday, I informed the Committee of the inefficacy of the endeavours which I had used in conjunction with Colonel Lang for bringing the Southern Polygars heartily into our interest

The Revenue of the Tinnevally Country, somewhich great resources might have been expected for the disbursements of the Army, is represented by Mr Proctor and by the Renter to be so much reduced by the depredations of those Polygars that all the aids I have been able to draw from thence do not amount to One Lack of Rupees. The Receipts from Tanjore have been confined to the terms of the Agreement I almost extorted from the Rajah in October last amounting only to 30,000 Collums of Paddy & 23,000 Pagadas and the Visits from this Country have produced little more than One Lack and a half of Rupees.—

With these small means and an Arrear of ten Months to the Officers of the Trichinopoly & Tanjore Garrisons and a debt of near half a Lack of Rupees for the hire of Bullocks employed in the Service, your Lordship &c. may well conceive the difficulties we have had to struggle with since the Army has been assembled, more especially as the necessities of the Sepoys & the exorbitant price of Grain compelled Colonel Lang to order that they might be served from the public Stores at the rate established in the grand Army the inevitable consequence of which has been the consumption of our little Stock of Grain, and an increase of our Arrears from inability to compel the Monthly Payments.—

With

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Fort St. George January 21st 1783

21st

With this additional weight which cannot be diminished from any resources within my reach, both our Army and our Garrisons are left depending for their Support upon the harvest that may be collected from the middle of January to the middle of March, and upon the largest Calculation this will barely serve for the Consumption of ten thousand Men for twelve Months, even the [illegible] exempts from Hunger and this Country must to the [illegible] to grain, and tho' it were possible to satisfy the [illegible] a more Subsistence of Rice and to disregard all the other demands for money in the Army and in the various Departments for supplying it — Circumstances totally intolerable, and which will require under the [illegible] economy the produce of one half at least of the following Harvest

Upon this view of our Resources, [illegible] that the Consumption and Disbursements of our Army, if confined to mere defence, will exhaust our means in less than Six Months, and reduce us to a State from which no exertions hereafter could relieve us from [illegible]

To avoid a predicament so replete with danger, it is absolutely necessary that the Army should seize such Resources in those districts of the Enemy which adjoin to this Country and the loss of which will deprive them of the means of Subsistance in our Neighbourhood

That this may be done without exposing our own Harvest to any other interruptions than it may meet with from the rapid irruptions of irregular horse. I need but inform your Lordship &c. that the Cultivated districts of this Country

21st

now in our possession lie within twelve Miles of the fort and that the greater part of the Cultivation in Tanjore is between Trivalore, Nicramungalum, & Manarcoil, within a triangle little, more than 15 English Miles in its greatest length and protected by near two battalions of Sepoys which are Stationed at those places and in posts which are tenable against every thing but heavy Cannon —

In the fullest Conviction that the presence of the Army cannot be necessary for the Security of those Districts, and that the most important advantages must attend our Carrying the War into the Enemy's Country on this side the Hills. I have endeavoured to procure the best information of the Resources we may hope to meet with near Caroor independently of the Magazines laid up in the fort. and I rely so much on the Intelligence I have received, that I will venture to lay it before your Lordship &ca —

"Report of the harvest to be gathered in the "following Villages between the 15th January & the 15th March.

"East Side of the Covery

"Pollion	4 Miles from Caroor		3000.	Collums —
"Sunnape Reddy	2. Do.	Do.	1500.	Do.
"Trima Coo.l	4 Do.	Do.	1000.	Do.
"Cosam Poolly	3. Do.	Do.	1500.	Do.
"Punjama Navy	3. Do.	Do.	1500.	Do.
"Mole Polliem	2. Do.	Do.	1500.	Do.
"Nargery	4 Do.	Do.	8000.	Do.
			18000.	Collums —

"North Side of the Covery —

Vangal	4 Miles from Caroor		5000.	Do.
Mogenoor	6. Do.	Do.	20,000.	Do.
Villages of Trichy lying East of Moganoor & now in possession of the Enemy — Cautpatoor & Ayaloor the Cirarshare			10000.	Do.
			53000	Collums.

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Fort St. George January 1783.

21 or

With such a prospect in our position the most favorable for supplying the Army before Carroor and at a moment when the operations of General Mathews Army on the Coast of Malabar, and of the grand Army in the Carnatic promise full employment to the Enemy, your Lordship &c. will I am persuaded be of opinion that the attack of Carroor should be undertaken without delay and that the most active measures should be pursued after the Reduction of that place, which cannot hold out many days against Colonel Langs Army & on which I have every reason to believe there is a well stored Magazine —

we

letter

Colonel Lang to whom I send this letter open will no doubt explain to your Lordship &c. the plan of operations he means to pursue, I will therefore only add that if he should think it advisable to cross the Coleroon at Trimallwaddy & proceed from thence to Ataloor & Terriore, Money and provisions may be Collected in those Countries and from the District of Lalguddy, which may be then Secured from hence, and if Circumstances should enable me to give protection to the Polygars of Ariaalore and Warriorpalam I am satisfied from the Communications I have had with those Polygars that they will declare for me in every event I have reason to believe they will be as little active as they dare to be against me —

But these are objects of inferior importance to Carroor, and therefore I am persuaded Colonel Lang will attend to them only as they may facilitate his views against that place —

have

Within these few days Deputies Vackeels from Six of the Dindigul Polygars have

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Fort St. George January 1783.

at 21

Come to Tremulrow, who arrived here on the ~ Ultimo — In consequence of his Communication with these Vakuls, he has proposed to send his Brother lately returned from the Presidency to Sholavendum (a post on the borders of the Madura Country) at which Place he wishes to assemble the Troops of the Polygars, as well to satisfy as by this instance of Confidence of their Disposition to cooperate, as to convince them that we have entered into those engagements in favor of the Rana, that his Letter have made them expects. I have Communicated this proposition to Colonel Lang and if he should think it advisable to encourage a Diversion on the side of ~ Dindigul Narrain Row will immediately proceed to Sholavandum. —

I have the honor to be with the ~ greatest Respect —

My Lord & Gentlemen,

Your Most faithful
Humble Servant
(Signed) John Sulivan —

Trichinopoly
4th January 1783. —

To the Right Honble Geo. Lord Macartney K.B.
President & Governor &ca. Members of the
Select Committee. —

Fort St. George,

My Lord & Gentlemen,

By our Chiefs Letter to the Right Honble President, your Lordship &ca. would be informed of the French Fleet consisting of ten Line of Battle Ships, having anchored in this Road, with a Design as we imagine, to invest the Place, in consequence whereof, Orders were immediately sent to the different Detachments to repair with all possible Expedition to Ganjam. — We have now the Honor to acquaint your Lordship &ca. that

Ganjam. Intelligence
operations of the
h Fleet are
ered to resist their
ts to land —

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Fort St. George January 1783

21st

that Captain Bridges with the Detachment from Chingleput marched in this Morning, and that from Mohurry is just arrived, thus reinforced, we hope to be able to prevent their effecting a Landing which is our only Dependance, for should they once accomplish that, destitute as we are of Guns, Military Stores, and Artillery, we fear it would be impossible for the Place to hold out long.

This Morning at Days Break a Ship was discovered at Anchor near the Fleet which we suppose must have been the Coventry Frigate, that anchored in the Night as soon as she perceived her Mistake she immediately got under Way; two Line of Battle Ships were ordered to pursue her, but we were happy to see there was a little Chance of their being able to overtake her, all the Day they have been busily employed in destroying the Enemies Vessels in the Road, three were scuttled and two which they could not destroy in that manner, were burned Three Vessels yet remain, which we imagine as soon as they have unloaded will share the same Fate — a Maldive Vessel in the Road remains untouched

Intelligence has been received this Evening that a Firing for a considerable time was heard Last Night off Tenapore.

We have the Honor to be with Respect

My Lord & Gentlemen

Your Most Obedient

Humble Servants

J. & M. Stone

R. D. & Munro

Dan.l Russell

Ganjam

the 1st

10. January 1783

9. P.M.

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Fort St. George January 1783.

or
21.

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

My Lord, & Gentlemen

By an express that passed from
Ganjam yesterday you will have learnt of the Enemy's Fleet
being off that place and by Accounts now received so late as the
9. at Night it would seem by their sending Boats to sound
the Bar that they meditated an attempt to effect a Landing
It is hence probable that they are come in force for Land
Operations, and with a View to establish themselves in the
Circars. In this Situation of affairs We have taken
every precautionary Step that we can devise, but the
open and defenceless state of this Fort from situation as well
as the inefficiency of the Works, leave very little hope that
the Military Officer when he takes Charge of the
Place, will be able to make a stand - and in case of his
Retreating it will require a more respectable Force than
we can command to preserve our Conquests in the
Dictrict and keep the Zemindars steady to the Company
under all the apprehension of suffering for continuing
their Attachment to a declining Power - To enable therefore
the Military Officer more effectually to act according to
the Exigency of Circumstances whether in the defence
of the Place or in keeping the Field, We have thought
it our indispensible Duty to apply to the Chief and
Council of Masulipatam that they would assist us as
expeditiously as possible with a Detachment from
Samulcotah

from Vizagapatam re-
garding the defenceless state
of the Fort & the Consequences
in case of an attack by
the French. have written
to Masulipatam for a
Reinforcement of Troops
from Samulcotah -

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Fort St. George January 1783

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Samulacotah (the nearest post) of four Companies of Sepoys with a Subaltern Officer which we hope will meet with your Lordships &ca approbation — But after all, tho' We can place Confidence in the Fidelity of the Sepoys We have but little reliance on their steadiness as Soldiers, being little accustomed to Service and wanting the Support of Europeans to give them Confidence — It is therefore much to be regretted that the Exigency of your own Situation has not admitted of a Detachment of Europeans in this Quarter, but as the Enemy evidently mean to establish themselves to the Northward — We beg leave to offer it as our opinion that a Body of Circar Sepoys alone will never effectually check their Progress or keep the disaffected Zemindars, who are many, in any sort of Awe after the Enemy have effected a Landing. —

In this District, We have the satisfaction to think the Vizianagrum Family at present well effected and the Chief with our Sanctions has written them to collect all their Troops together and march hither with them — The Kemmedy Zemindar and his Brother are luckily now here, otherwise We should have been very doubtful of them. —

The Balance of our Treasury Rupees (76,365 Ans 7 Pcs 1) We keep packed up in readiness to dispatch inland upon a moments warning — reserving only enough for present Contingencies and as the Cloth on hand does not exceed 1500 pieces, the Enemy should we be obliged to abandon the Place, will

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found but little public Property that can be valuable to them —

We are very respectfully

My Lord & Gentlemen,

Your Most Faithful and

Obedient Servants

Vizagapatam
the 13 January 1783.

(Signed) Claud Russell
W.m Crawford
Chas. Maxtone
F.W. Drake

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

My Lord,

From Mr. Grant advising the Success of the Nizam's Army in the acquisition of the Fortress of Dactyal. —

I have just received intelligence that His Highness the Nizam on the 3d of this Month got possession of the important Fortress of Dactyal by the treachery of the Commandant Seiddee Almass, who suffered himself to be corrupted by a present of a Lack of Rupees & a Jaghire of twenty thousand more for life annually. This conquest will give great eclat to the Arms of his Highness, and much facilitate his further designs & Operations in reducing the Nabob of Nirmul. Still however a great deal remains to be done. The Fort of Zuffer Ghur in Worangal depends on Seven different Killahdars who are all checks on each other; and Commamet I believe to be in very trusty hands. At the same time independent of the Capital of Nirmul, its strong defences, & Garrison, an Army of five thousand Infantry & three thousand Horse with a very respectable train of Artillery under the entire Command of Mr. Grimes, are to be opposed

Fort St. George January 15th 1783.

21st

on the other side of the Godaveire. After the action of the 26th November at Dood-ghaut when the Nizam's Army was defeated and obliged to retreat to Balconda, the Commanders received positive injunctions not to risque another general engagement, and in the mean time his Highness's emissaries have been tampering with Gaimes, but hitherto apparently without Success. On this subject the Minister has been insolent enough indirectly to solicit my interference, and on the 19th of December, sent by an express from Yemelwarrah the Nizam's passport, accompanied with the most earnest request that I would proceed to Court without a moments delay. When the News of Hyder's death reaches his Highness, it is probable I shall have a more condescending and less equivocal mark of attention shewn to me, than a private application for the interposition of that authority which is supposed to be annexed to my public Station; unless the unexpected appearance of the French fleet so far to the Northward, may through the presumed greatness of our own alarms, occasion a temporary suspension of Courtly politeness.

I have the honor to be with the
greatest Respect. —

My Lord,

Your Lordships Most Obedient
& Most Humble Servant
(Signed) James Grant

Masulipatam
15th
January 1783. —

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

My Lord & Gentlemen, Fort St. George

I have the honor to receive a
letter

Fort St. George January 1783.

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From Capt. Edmonds, will march his Detachment to the Frontiers of the Enemy's Country, so soon as the Reinforcement of Artillery men from this join him expects to be joined by the Polygars.—

letter from the Right Honble Lord Macartney informing me that you have been pleased to direct Two Non Commissioned and twelve Private from the Artillery Corps to join the Detachment assembled at this place under my Command, as soon as they arrive I shall proceed to the Frontiers of the Enemies Country for the purpose mentioned in the letter I did myself the honor to write you the 25th of December last, this Moment is also necessary to set the Polygars in motion, without which it will be impossible for me to ascertain their real Strength many of them having thro distress sent off a great number of their followers which they assure me will return to them on the first appearance of any assistance granted in their favor, from the whole of their Correspondence with me since their Revolt and the conduct they have observed toward the People belonging to Hyder is sufficient to convince me they are sincere, and that the little shew of assistance will be the means of effectually securing their friendship as well as an inducement for them to exert every power to recover their respective Talooks & drive out their Enemies, and should it be in the power of Tippoo Saib to send a Reinforcement sufficient to oppose their measures I flatter myself the good effects will be felt by having compelled him to make a division of his Army for that purpose— At the same time I am affording these people every assistance in my power I shall take care to do it in such a manner as to convince them our only intention is to see them happily reinstated in their

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their former posessions — I have the honor to inform you that 1100 Bullocks will arrive here tomorrow from the Circars on their way to Madras — and have the honor to be with great Respect. —

My Lord & Gentlemen,

Your Most Obedient
Humble Servant
(Signed) Edwd Edmonds —
Capt Commandt

Engole
27th January 1783

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

My Lord,

I have the honor to reply to your Lordship's Letter of the 3d Instant, informing me that the Select Committee have been pleased to send some Artillery Men to join the Detachment assembling at this place under my Command — I beg leave to assure your Lordship I shall strictly adhere to what you mentioned in your Letter of the 22d of November and to every other Advice your Lordship may be pleased to honor me with — This Detachment is not calculated for more than to create an alarm among our Enemies & to give confidence to such as may be inclined to exert themselves to recover their former possessions, In the doing of which I flatter myself there is not the least risk of giving the Nizam the least offence as we are not to pass through any part of his Country nor can we have any sort of connection with his people, unless he chooses to take offence at these people who he formerly considered as his Subjects for having

From the same — is confident of effecting the object pointed out to them without giving offence to the Nizam.

applied

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21st

applied, and obtained assistance from the Honble Company against their Enemies, in preference to making an applica=tion to them — I shall soon proceed to the skirts of the Vinketagherry Rajahs Country and place myself in a Situation to protect the Inhabitants of it against the incursions It has been subject to for some years past, and be ready at the same time to take every advantage that may offer to favor the intentions of the Revolted Polygar both in the Carnatum and Cuddapah Countries. —

I am this moment informed by a Mr. Daniell that the French Fleet consisting of Nine large Ships have made their appearance off Ganjam, and as it is likely the mean to scour the Coast as they proceed to the Southward I shall defer my March till honored with further instructions. —

I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect —

My Lord,

Your Lordships Most
Obed.t Humble Servant
(Signed) Edw.d Edmonds.
Capt.n Com.r

Ongole
18 January 1783.

Dispatched the following Letters with Copies of Captain Gower's Intelligence. —

To the Honble Warren Hastings Esq.r
Governor General &.c.a Council
Fort William,

Gentlemen,

This moment Captain Gower of the Medea Frigate arrived here the 15th Instant nine Ships

To Bengal transmitting Capt.n Gower's Intelligence, and a Letter from Tranquebar with one from Capt.n Christie

Fort St. George January 1783

21st

Ships of War of the Enemy in Ganjam Roads and was chaced by some of them. On the 16th he fell in with the Chacer Frigate which had been taken last year by the French and took her after an Engagement of about 15 Minutes, in which the Captain and several other of the French Officers were wounded.—

Enclosed is the intelligence brought by Captain Gower, which I have to transmit to you, and shall Communicate to you without delay whatever Steps may be in our power here to take in the present critical Junctures.—

I have the honor to be,

Gentlemen,

Your Most Obedient and
Faithfull Humble Servant
(Signed) Macartney.

Fort St. George
January 21st 1783.—

P.S. Since writing the Original the inclosed letter has been recieved from Mr. Mackintosh at Tranquebar with one from Captain Christie from the Cape of Good Hope.—

Vice Admiral Sir Edward Hughes K.B.

Dear Sir.—

To Bombay transmitting Captain Gower's Intelligence

This moment arrived here the Medea Captain Gower from Balasore Roads.—
On the 10th Inst. she fell in with the French Fleet off Ganjam, but had the good fortune to escape.—In her way down she fell in with the Chacer and took her the enclosed paper delivered to me by Captain Gower contains the principal intelligence which could be gathered from the people on board.—It seems the intention of Mons. Suffrein is to make a descent on the Coast, I need not describe to you the situation of

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of
21.

of this part of India during the absence of the Squadron? —

I have the honor to be with great Regard

Dear Sir,

Your Most Obedient

Humble Servant

(Signed) Macartney.

Fort St. George
21st January 1783 —

The same to Mr Hornby —

To Major General James Stuart,

Sir,

To Genl Stuart transmitting Capt. Gower's Intelligence & desiring to have his sentiments on sending Troops from Angole to Manulipatam —

Captain Gower is this moment arrived in the Media accompanied by the Chaser whom he took about Five Days ago — Enclosed is a Copy of the written Intelligence he have delivered to me. —

You will probably concur in the propriety of sending the two Battalions lately arrived at Angole to Manulipatam for the purpose of being in readiness to defend that Chief Port of the Circars. The Committee wish to have your Sentiments upon it

I have the honor to be. —

Sir,

Your Most Humble Servant

(Signed) Macartney

Fort St. George
January 21st 1783 —

Sent Letter also to the General with Copies of the Letters from Ganjam, & Col. Kennedy's Return of Troops in the Black Town —

Dispatched the following Letters

To Captain Edwd. Edmonds Angole.

To Capt. Edmonds desiring him to have the Troops lately arrived from Nellore in readiness to march to Manulipatam.

Sir,

You will please to have without the least

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at
21.

least delay the whole force lately arrived from Nellore at Ongole in readiness to march at the shortest notice to-wards Masulipatam together with the Guns &c. received from thence, and the Artillery also sent from this Garrison — you will receive further Instructions by the next Tappal —

Sam,
Sir,
Your Most Humble Servant

Fort St. George
21. January 1783.

To Captain Cuppage
Vellore,

Sir,

To Capt. Cuppage. As the Army may not march so soon to Vellore as expected it is hoped he will be careful in applying the Money sent him to the Purchase of Provisions.

I have by every different opportunity that has offered, sent you from time to time, whatever Money we could spare from the immediate & pressing Demands of the Army — I shall continue to do so, and rely upon your prudence & activity in employing it to the best advantage for the purchasing and storing Provisions for your Garrison & I am the more particular in my Injunctions to you on that head as it is very possible that Circumstances may prevent the Army from proceeding to Vellore as quickly as you may expect it — I am to inform you that a French Fleet of considerable force has appeared within these ten days off Ganjam —

I am with great truth & Regard,
Sir,
Your Most Obedient & Most Humble Servant
(Signed) Macarthey

Fort St. George
21st January 1783.

Sen.

Fort St. George January 1783 —

21. Sent Letters as entered in Miscellany Book to Lieut. Innis Commanding at Poonamallée desiring him not to interfere in the duty of the Paymaster of that Garrison and to the Paymaster advising him of having written the said Letter. —

22. — The Chaser sailed this day for Bombay with the following Letter to Sir Edward Hughes and Copies of all the Letters addressed to him since his departure from the Coast —

To Vice Admiral Sir Edw.d Hughes KB
&c.a &c.a &c.a —

Sir,

We now have the honor, by the Chaser, to enclose to you, Duplicates of all the Letters, which have been addressed to you, on the part of this Government, since your departure from hence, together with our latest Intelligence. —

We trust, that the early appearance of the Enemy on this Coast, will determine you to lose no time, in bringing, or sending round the Coppered Ships of the Squadron, agreeably to our former requests, of which many days experience, confirms the Necessity —

We have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Most Obedient &
Most Humble Servants

(Signed) Macartney
&c.a Select Committee

To Sir Edw.d Hughes
sending him Duplicates
of all the Letters
written him since
his Departure
from this Coast

Fort St. George
22. January 1783.

Received the following Letter from General Stuart. —

The

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Fort St. George January 1783.

22d

The Right Honble Lord Macartney &c.

My Lord,

I have the honor of your Lordship's letter of the 21st and the Accounts of the Medea's arrival with her prize the Chacer, also the written Intelligence there inclosed From all which I have not the least difficulty in giving my opinion that the two Battalions at Ongole which lately made part of this Army, should be without delay, ordered to Masulipatam, and I add also the Detachment of his Majesty's Troops under Lieut Colonel Jones from Ellore On other particulars, I hope to have the honor of meeting your Lordship tomorrow in Committee, I wait only for the return of the Detachment from Tripasore which I hear has safely delivered all the Rice there, and returns with some Slaughter Cattle for the Army.

I have the honor to be

Your Lordship's Most Obedient Humble Servant

(Signed) James Stuart

Three Letters from Genl Stuart the Detachment is returned from Tripasore after deliver=ing the Rice with Slaughter Cattle

Camp Vellout
22d January ½ past 8 A M.

Thomas Kingscote Esqr
Deputy Secretary

Sir,

I am directed by the Commander in chief to acquaint you that he has just now received the 21st with the Copies of the Letters from Stone, with further Accounts of the Northward, and a Return of Colonel Kennedy's of the Artillery belonging

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Fort St. George January 1783.

22.

belonging to the Fort and Black Town — The General has wrote to Lord Macartney that he intends to be in the Fort this night, and that he waited only for the return of the Convoy from Tripassore, it is now in sight

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Most Obedient
Humble Servant

(Signed) C. Smart
Aid de Camp

Camp at Vellout
22d. January
Nine in the Morning

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

My Lord &c.

From General Stuart
the Convoy under Col
Elphinston returns to
Camp.

I have the pleasure to acquaint you, that the Convoy under Lieut. Colonel Elphinstone returned to the Camp about half an hour ago, after having delivered at Tripassore, by receipt from the Garrison Store keeper there, the whole of the Rice, consisting of 3,735 Bags, with only two bags deficient — As likewise the Provisions &c. sent from the Agent in Camp, the particulars of which I do not yet know —

I sent 200 Europeans with Colonel Elphinstone, mostly of His Majesty's Troops and 100 with the Pickets under Lieut. Colonel Kelly, and not one man fell out of his Rank, or made use of a Dooly —

Some few of the Enemy's Horse were seen hovering about, and I have information of a Body, reported to be 4000, having been sent from Tippoo's Camp, and arrived at Perimbacum, with the view of intercepting the Convoy. —

I did myself the honor of acquainting

Lord

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Fort St. George January 22d 1783

Lord Macartney this Morning, that I intended to be in the Fort this Night, in expectation of attending a Committee to-morrow upon the present most important Crisis, in consequence of the latest Intelligence from Ganjam, and by the Chaser Prize. —

I take occasion to inform your Lordship &c.a that I have ordered one Company from the Park of Artillery to be in readiness to March to Madras at an hours Notice, in case of necessity. —

I have the honor to be,
My Lord &c.a
Your Most Obedient & most
Humble Servant
(Signed) James Stuart

Camp at Vellout
January 22. 1783
½ past 11. A.M.

P.S. The Slaughter Cattle for the Army brought from Tripassore, have not as yet been regularly Reported to me, but I believe they do not exceed 500, with about 2 or 300 Sheep and about 200 Carriage Bullocks which I have ordered to be inspected & Mustered by the Agent and Commissary — J. S.

Dispatched the following Letters —

To Captain Edmonds,
Commanding at Ongole,

To Captain Edmonds
Desiring him to order
the two Battalions
lately arrived from
Nellore to proceed
immediately to
Masulipatam —

Sir,

You are directed by the President's Letter of yesterday to hold the two Battalions lately sent to you from Nellore in readiness to proceed towards Masulipatam at a moments warning. —

I am now directed by the Right Hon.ble

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Fort St. George January 1783.

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Honble the President and Select Committee to desire that you will order them to march thither, without the least delay, together with the Guns received from Masulipatam and Artillery Men lately sent from hence. —

I have the honor to be,

Sir

Your Most Obedient

Humble Servant

(Signed) J. Hudleston
Secty

Fort St. George
22. January 1783. —

Mr. James Daniell
Chief & Council at
Masulipatam,

Gentlemen,

To Masulipatam
transmitting Capt.
Lawrie's Intelligence
& as Masulipatam
appears from that
to be the object of
the French desiring
them to be prepared

I inclose send to you a paper of Intelligence which we received yesterday from Captain Lawrie of the Medea collected by him from Papers and other information found on board the Chaser captured by him in his way down from Ganjam, where he fell in with the French Fleet, and from which he was so fortunate as to escape. — This intelligence points out Masulipatam as the principal object of the French Armament which may be very soon expected from Mauritius — You will therefore without the least delay take every step that may be necessary to put your Fort in readiness to give the Enemy a proper reception — You will no doubt consult on this occasion with the Commanding Officer of the Forces in your district as well as with the Chief Engineer. —

We

Fort St. George January 1783.

22.

We are,

Gentlemen,

Your Most Obedient

Humble Servants

(Signed) Macartney

&c.a Select Committee

Fort St. George
22d. January 1783

23. Recieved the following Letter from the Governor General and Council with the Papers therein mentioned as entered in a Miscellany Book

To the Right Honble Geo. Lord Macartney
President &c.a Council
of Fort St. George

My Lord & Gentlemen,

From Bengal enclosing a List of Officers to whom Passages to England are to be granted & desiring this Presidency to answer the demands of Commanding Officers of Kings Regts. for the Subsistance of their respective Corps.—

We enclose Copy of a Letter which we have recieved from the Commander in Chief of the Forces in India and request that upon application being made to you by any of His Majesty's Officers whose Names are mentioned in the List which is herewith transmitted to you or any others properly Authorized thereunto, you grant them passages with suitable Accommodations to England upon any of the Company's homeward bound Ships which may be dispatched from your Presidency.

We likewise enclose for your information Copy of a Letter written by the Adjutant General of his Majesty's Forces to the several Officers in Command of his Regiment and request that you will answer their demands in consequence for the Subsistance of the effective Strength of their respective Corps at the Stipulated periods and at the

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Fort St. George January 1783

23

the rate of Exchange ℔ Pound Sterling which has been settled by the Honble the Court of Directors, whose orders appear to be full upon this Subject

We are,

My Lord & Gentlemen,

Your Most Obedient
Humble Servants

(Signed) { Warren Hastings
" John Macpherson

Fort William
the 2nd January 1783.

Recd the following Letter from the Chief of Ganjam.—

My Lord,

The two Ships which went out yester-
-day are not yet returned.— This Morning a Ship
appeared to the Northward, on her approach several
Signals were made— At Noon we could perceive she
was a Frigate; about 1 P.M. She joined this the
Fleet, when one of the Line of Battle Ships got
under way, and they both stood to the Northward—
I should imagine their View is to lie under Point
Palmiras, from whence they will have an opportunity
of seizing every Vessel coming from Bengal;
and of some of which they had probably Informa-
-tion from the two Vessels they captured the day
before yesterday.—

This day they set Fire to two Vessels,
having first taken out their Masts Yards &c.a

By

from Mr Stone with
Intelligence of the
Motions of the French
Fleet.—

Fort St. George January 1783.

23.

By Intelligence from Burva about 52 Miles to the Southward I learn that yesterday at ½ past 3 P.M. there was a large Ship at an Anchor about 4 Leagues to the Northward of that place.

I have the honor to be very respectfully

My Lord,

Your Lordship's Most Obedient & Most Humble Servant

(Signed) J. M. Stone

Ganjam
11th January 1783.
9 P.M.

At a Select Committee Present

The Right Honble Geo: Lord Macartney K.B. President
Anthony Sadleir Esqr Major General Jas. Stuart
Alexander Davidson Esqr
John Holland Esqr Absent

Thursday 23. January 1783

The Minutes of last Committee read and approved.

Read Letters and Intelligence received since the last Meeting as entered or Noted in the Diary.

Read also the following Letter and Intelligence just received from Tranquebar.

My Lord,

From Colonel Nixon

As the speedy Communication of the accompanying Intelligence may be of Importance, I have engaged to obtain a reward of 20 Pag^s from your Lordship for the Bearer in case he delivers the Letters in ten days after that time he is only to get half, I hope to have the honor of paying you my personal respects shortly it would be

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Fortunate for me should a Man of War touch here soon — as there are several Officers expecting passages to Madras — I have the Honor to be —

Your Lordships
Most faithful and
Obedient Servant
(Signed) E. Nixon

Tranquebar
14th January 1783.

General Stuart lays before the Committee the following Letter —

To Major General Stuart,

Sir,

The day before yesterday two Frenchmen came here, they deserted from the French Army the day before when on its march to join Tippoo; They say it was generally believed that when forty days had expired from Hyder's death their operations were to Commence with the attack of this place; Their accounts of the Distress both of Officers and men exceed belief; they seem confident the whole of the Europeans (about 600) would without any hesitation come over was there a prospect of doing it with any degree of Security. Lally had joined them — with his party at Arnee; they know nothing of their fleet — Five horsemen came over yesterday from Tippoo's Camp, they bring no other News than that a report had long prevailed of their intention of coming against this place; they say that the whole Army is very much attached to Tippoo, that they have plenty of grain and every thing else. The Officer on the Hill to day reports the French Camp to have made a short

March

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march towards Viapundel —

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Most Obedient
Humble Servant
(Signed) Wm Petrie

Wandewash
13th January 1783. —

Sir,

From Col. Jones — the Detachment under his Command is arrived within 7 Miles of Maculi-patam —

In consequence of two Letters which I have the honor to enclose to you the Detachment of the 102d Regiment with two Battalions of Grenadier Sepoys under my Command at Ellore, arrived this Morning at Gundoor within seven Miles of Maculipatam. should any thing extraordinary happen will take the earliest opportunity of acquainting you. —

I have the honor to be with the Esp
Sir,
Your Most Obedient &
very Humble Servant
(Signed) Chas Jones —
Lieut Col.

Gundoor
14th January 1783. —

The President recommends to the Committee the taking into immediate Consideration what measures it may be proper to pursue in the present posture of affairs; and desires their attention to what has been already done. It appears from the Letter received from Mr Daniel that Colonel Jones had been desired by the Chief and Council of Maculipatam to come with the Troops under his Com-mand from Ellore to Gundoor which is confirmed by the

Fort St. George 23d January 1783.—

the Letter now delivered in by General Stuart from Colonel Jones who informs the General of his being already arrived there—

The President's Letter to Captain Edmonds at Ongole of the 21st Instant directs that Officer to have the 2d Battalion from Nellore with the Guns Artillery Men &c. to be in readiness to march at a moments Notice towards Masulipatam and the Secretary's Letter of yesterday directs them to proceed thither immediately.— The President requests the Commander in Chief will deliver his Sentiments on the State of things and the steps in his opinion most proper to be followed at this moment.—

President requests Sentiments of the Commander in Chief The steps proper to be taken in the present Posture of Affairs.—

General Stuart intimates his Intention of shortly delivering in a Minute with his Sentiments at large— in the mean while on the Points that immediately occur to him he offers his opinion as follows— That Ganjam and Masulipatam being the only places of Strength in the Circars should be secured as far as possible— that all the Europeans, Guns and Stores at Vizagapatam be removed to Ganjam and the Cash, Bales and other valuable Property to Masulipatam— that endeavors be used to make Ganjam as strong as to resist any attack from the Sea— that the Chief & Council be directed to cause the Works to be repaired with the utmost expedition particularly the Bastion that was damaged in the Monsoon with Fascines, Sod Batteries and Gabions.—

Measures recommended by the Commander in Chief—

That the Troops in the Masulipatam District with the 2 Battalions from Ongole be assembled near Masulipatam under the Command of Colonel Jones who the General hopes will be sufficiently in Force to march and attack the Enemy immediately on their Landing—

That

Fort St. George 23d January 1783.

that a strong Detachment be stationed at Conjeveram — that the Company's property at Ingeram, and Madapollam be removed to Masulipatam — and the General recommends that Captain Lyvaght be appointed a Major by Brevet and second in Command in the Circars during the present Service, and that Major Maule be sent as Engineer to Masulipatam. —

The President objects to the sending Major Maule to Masulipatam as he sees no reason for it — Captain Prescott was appointed to that Station at the recommendation of the Chief Engineer, as an Officer who has served long, and well in his Majesty's Army — and the President suggests that if the Service requires it the Chief Engineer may recommend proper Assistants to be sent to Masulipatam under Captain Prescott. — The whole of the above ordered to lie for consideration and the President desires the attendance of the Committee tomorrow. —

Consideration of the above deferred till tomorrow. —

Read the following Letter from the Adjutant General inclosing General Return of the whole Army of His Majesty and Company's Forces included. —

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

From the Adjutant General with Return of His Majesty's and Company's Forces serving on the Coast —

My Lord & Gentlemen,

Agreeably to your orders signified to me through your Secretary I have the honor herewith to present you with a general Return and disposition of His Majesty's and the Honble Company's Forces serving

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Serving on the Coast of Coromandel —

I have the honor to be
Most Respectfully
My Lord & Gentlemen,
Your Most Obedient and
very Humble Servant
(Signed) Henry Malcolm
Adjt. Genl.

Head Quarters
near Fort St. George
23d January 1783. —

Agreed that a Copy of the Return be
prepared to be sent to the Governor General and Council
with the other papers required in their Letter of the

Copy of the Return to be sent to Bengal

General Stuart informs the Committee that
the Adjutant General was employed on the Return a
Fortnight before the Letter of the was sent
to him. —

The President observes that the Adjutant
General was directed in September last to send in a
General Return of the Army and in consequence of the
late orders from Bengal a similar direction was
sent to him. —

The General declares that the moment
he came to the Command of the Army, or as soon after-
-wards as was possible, he gave in a General Return
of the Army such as he could answer for, it being
on the December which was before he received
any order for that purpose. —

General Stuart lays before the Committee
a Letter to him from the Commissary of the
Army with his (the Commissary's) and the Deputy
Agents Returns of Bullocks and Sheep received

from

Fort St. George 23d January 1783.

from Tripasore (as entered in a Miscellany Book) stating that of the 634 Bullocks 150 are fit for Service but without Ropes, Saddles or Drivers —

General Stuart informs the Committee there is now Rice in Tripasore sufficient for any Exigency considering the present Intelligence — That the next movement of the Army if the Committee approve will be in two marches to Tomareem, in order to be at hand to watch the movements of the Enemy and to withdraw if necessary the Garrisons of Wandewash, and Carangooly, and blow up the Fortifications. — That Letters have been written to the Commanding Officers in those Forts to know Sir Eyre Coote's last Orders and if they did not combat the above they were to have every thing in readiness to destroy the Works and the Army would make a movement to secure the Garrisons. —

Measures recommended by Genl. Stuart —

Regarding Nellore and the Country between Pulicat and the Pennar, the General observes that after the detachment of the beforementioned Garrisons the Army may move to the Northward towards Nellore and in case of its being necessary to proceed that way, to destroy Nellore also and move towards Ongole. This disposition of the Army North the General mentions on a supposition that Tippoo Saib moves to cooperate with Mr. de Bussy — in the mean while the General advises the sending orders to Nellore, and Ongole to lay in as large a proportion of the Grain and Cattle as can possibly be collected — and the General expresses his opinion that with the 3 Armies now in the field, — General Matthews, Colonel Lang, and the

Fort St. George 23d January 1783 —

the Grand Army, the Company's possessions will be very Secure — with respect to the Security of this Garrison, if open (should the Army move to the Northward) the General proposes leaving the Hannoverian Regiment, 30. European Artillery Men, 40 Golandosses, and 800 more Sipays — this Garrison will then have 600 Effective Europeans and 2,000 Sipays — exclusive of 300 Sick at St. Thomé, of whom it may be expected 200 or 300 will soon be fit for duty —

The Committee entirely approve and concur in the measure of destroying Carangooly and Wandewash —

The Committee concur in the measure of destroying Wandewash & Carangooly.

The General strongly recommends the sending Money to Vellore, observing that by the latest Intelligence it is became more and more necessary, and that the Money received at Vellore since the Army left it is as follows —

General Stuart recommends the sending Money to Vellore. —

November 4th	Pags.	1500
16		397
December 16		1733
Do		1000
	Pagodas	4,630

The President assures the Committee that the General must have been misinformed — that much more has been sent and the Account will be laid forthwith before them by which the great attention of this Government to Vellore will fully appear —

President's Reply

The President lays before the Committee the following Account of Cash now in the Treasury —

Ballance

Fort St. George 23d January 1783.

Account of Cash & Funds in the Treasury.

Balance in the Cash & Treasury in Fanams Current Pagodas & A Rs.		42,000
In the Mint Estimated		16,666
A Bill on Chockapah Chitty due the 19th Instant	1,866. 24.	
Do. on Govendaramoodoo due the 22d Instant	1100. —	
Do. on Gopaul Dost due 22d Do. for A Rs. 24000.		
Cash received	10,000	
A Rs. 14000. or	3730. —	6,696. 24. —
	Pagodas	65,362. 24. —

22d January 1783.

Promotion in the Army.

The following promotions are made at the recommendation of the Commander in Chief —

Messrs. Richard Darke and — — Copeland acting Lieutenant Fireworkers of Artillery to be full Lieutenant Fireworkers in the room of Lieut. Fireworker Taner promoted, & Do. Orr deceased. —

Ensign Andrew Shepherd removed to the Corps of Artillery to be promoted on the first vacancy after the Acting Lieutenant Fireworkers already appointed. —

Mr. Jervais of the Nabob's Service who has long served as Adjutant to the 22d Carnatic Battalion appointed an Ensign to rank as such from the 15th January 1783. —

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Fort St. George 23d January 1783

In consequence of a Resolution of the last Committee The Secretary lays before them the following List of Bills accepted by the Superintendant —

The following Bills of Exchange drawn upon & accepted by the Superintendant remain undischarged this 21st January 1783 —

1. Draft by Mr. Barclay in favor of Mr. Bird due 10th Decr. 1780 for Pags. .... 1500 — paid in part 1000 —	500 —	"
1. Ditto by Mr. Light in favor of Jr. Dott due 15th Febry. 1781 —	1000 —	"
1. Ditto by Mr. Barclay in favor of Lieut. Mackennon 20th do. —	1500 —	"
1. Ditto by Mr. Light do. Captn. Eidingtoun 28th May 1781 —	9000 —	"
1. Ditto by Mr. Ogilvie do. Mr. Dussin — 9th Augt. 1781 —	199 —	"
1. Ditto ..... do. do. Mr. C. Lucas 10th do. —	199 —	"
1. Ditto by Mr. Light do. Capt. Eidingtoun 7th Octr. 1781 —	6600 —	"
1. Ditto by Mr. Barclay do. do. 22d do. —	10,000 —	"
1. Ditto do. do. Mr. A. Blackadar drawn 1st July 1781 a 3 Months sight for P.N.Ps. 1506	1300 —	"
1. Ditto do. do. Mr. J. Bowden drawn 24th July 1781 a 2 Months sight for P.N.Ps. 500 —	440 —	"
1. Ditto by Mr. Ogilvie do. Mr. Dussin due 31st Jany. 1782	1,867 —	"
1. Ditto by Capt. Gibbings at Madura do. Mr. Butler — 22d Febry. 1782 P.N.Ps. 2200 —	2000 —	"
1. Ditto do. do. Lieut. Mackinnon 23d Febry. 1782 —	500 —	"
1. Ditto by Mr. Ogilvie in favor of Mr. Dobbyn 23d March 1782 —	109.15.22	
1. Ditto do. do. do.	28.27.4	
1. Ditto by Captn. Gibbings do. Mr. Alexr. Brodie 14th Augt. 1782	315 —	"
1. Ditto do. do. do. 10th Novr. 1782	4000 —	"
Pagodas	39,558 —	"

Fort St. George
21st January 1783 —

E.E. (signed) Geo. Moubray
Superintendant

Fort St. George January 23d 1783

23d Dispatched the following Letter to Vizagapatam —

To Claud Russell Esqr.
Chief & Council
of Vizagapatam

Gentlemen,

To Vizagapatam directing all the Invalids with 10 Battering Guns &c complete to be sent to Ganjam. —

I am directed by the Right Honble the President and Select Committee to desire that you will cause 10 of your Battering Guns with their Stores &c complete, and a proper Escort, also all your European Invalids to be held in readiness to proceed to Ganjam at a moments warning — Further Instructions will be sent to you tomorrow. —

I have the honor to be

Gentlemen,

Your Most Obedient
Humble Servant
(Signed) J. Huddleston
Secry

Fort St. George
23d January 1783.

Received the following Letters —

From Vizagapatam the Ceres & Earl of Talbot being chased by the French Frigates came to an anchor in the Roads —

My Lord,

Yesterday Evening the Ceres & Earl Talbot anchored in this Road and Sailed again before Day break this Morning for Madras — They had been chased by one of the French Frigates off the Coast in Lat. 19, answering exactly to the Spot where the Firing was heard and which they saw at a Distance —

The Latham is the Ship that engaged and so taken but they were too late to give assistance. —

J

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d
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Jam,
My Lord,
Your Most Obedient
Humble Servant
(Signed) Claud Russell

15th January 1783.
4 P.M.

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

My Lord,

From Capt. Edmonds the French Ships in great distress; an Engagement off Itchapore.

I do myself the honor to inform your Lordship that I have just received Acct. that the French fleet were on the 11th at Ganjam, and that they had sent boats to sound on the Bar; Lascars that were taken and sent by them on shore again say they are in great distress from Sickness bad Bisquit &ca and that they are very inquisitive about the Bengal Ships.

It is suppose one of our Cruizers has fallen into their hands as there has an action happened at Sea off & in sight of Itchapore.

I have the honor to be with much Respect

My Lord,
Your Lordships Most Obedt.
Humble Servant
(Signed) Edwd. Edmonds

Ongole
20th January 1783.

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

My Lord & Gentlemen,

From Capt. Edmonds desiring that an Officer may be sent to relieve Lieut. Boisdaune

I had the honor by this days Tappal to receive your letter of the 8th informing me that

fresh

Fort St. George January 1783.

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Fresh Complaints have been made by the Palinad Amildar against Lieut. Boisdaune and directing him to be relieved from his Command, but wishing it to be done in such a manner as may appear rather in the Cour of Service than the consequence of Complaint — I did myself the honor to inform you in a former Letter in the same subject that there was only an Officer belonging to the Corps in Garrison, with it, and that he could not possibly be spared Mr. Boisdaune being also removed from it — Therefore it will be necessary another Officer be ordered hither for that purpose, or if you think proper that Mr. Boisdaune be recalled leaving the Command of the Troops with a Serjeant. —

I have the honor to be
My Lord & Gentlemen
Your Most Obedient
Humble Servant
(Signed) Edw. Edmonds
Capt. Com.

Ongole
Pr. Dispatches
20 January 1783 —

Dispatched Letter to the Coleotry Rajah (and entered in Country Correspondence N.° 4) approving of the assistance he has afforded to Captain Edmonds, and expressing a hope that the Enemy will soon be obliged to surrender themselves. —

At a Select Committee Summoned on Military Affairs Present

Friday the 24 January

The Right Honble George Lord Macartney President
Anthony Sadleir Esqr Major General Stuart
Alexander Davidson Esqr
John Holland Esqr Absent

The

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Fort St. George 24th January 1783.

The Minutes of last Committee read and approved. —

Read Letters received yesterday from the Chief & Council of Vizagapatam, and from Captain Edmonds. —

Read also the following Letters from Ganjam. —

My Lord,

At ½ past 11 last Night several Shot were fired from the Ships, and at 12 a Nauguée Guard, which was posted over the River to the Southward of the Fort came in, & reported that they saw two Boats with 25 or 30 Men land on the Beach — The Garrison was thereupon immediately put under Arms, and a Serjeant was sent across the River, to see whether any People had landed; he returned at ½ past 2 and informed us that it was a false Alarm; that there was neither Boats or People to be seen that he thought that the Sepoys had been frightened at the Firing from the Ships, and had quitted their Post. when the Firing was heard last Night we plainly perceived a Ship under Sail, which was this Morning at our Anchor, and is thought to be the Chaiser; at ½ past ten this Morning, one of the Line of Battle Ships got under Way, & at 11. the Ship which came in last Night, did the same, and they both stood to the Southward — There are now only Six Ships in the Road, at ½ past 11 a Boat was seen towing a Sloop with

From Ganjam — containing Intelligence received from some Coscars who had been sent on shore respecting the French Fleet —

Fort St. George 24th January 1783

with a Number of People on board towards the Bar; at ½ past 12 we could perceive the Sloop as well as the Boat, had only Black People on board, some of whom landed to the Northward, of the Bar — two of them were brought to the Fort, from whom we learnt that they were the Crews of the two Vessels from Bengal which were taken the 9th Instant that they were only loaded with Grain, and had no Stores on board for this Garrison; that they were kept on board the Admirals Ship till last Night, when they were put on Board the Sloop, with their own Boat, with Orders to run the Sloop on Shore to the Northward, that they saw no Troops on board the Ships, that the Crews were sickly, that there were many Coffries, and that the Ships appeared much shattered That they did not see any Preparations for landing, that the Firing last Night was they believed at one of their own Ships coming into the Fleet and which they did not know — The French Admiral who from the Discription they give of his Person, must be Bouffrein was very particular in his Enquiry regarding the Ships in Bengal River, that two of Hyders People were on board his Ship — after we had examined the two Lascars, the others to the Number of 45 or 50 came in and agreed in the Accounts above mentioned

The French have this Day set Fire to two other Vessels, having first taken out their Masts &c &c —

We have now three Officers Piquets to and the Bar, with Guards posted over the

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Fort St. George 24th January 1783.

River to the Southward of the Fort and running Sentinels from thence to the Ferry towards Monsuncotah, if we had but a few Artillery Men, I am perswaded the French would find it a very difficult matter to effect a Landing should they attempt it —

I have the Honor to be very Respectfully

My Lord,

Your Lordships Most Obedient

Humble Servant

(Signed) J. Stone

Ganjam
12th January 1783.

P.S. Since writing the foregoing, I have received a Letter from the Mahratta Manager at Manickapatam, about 50 Miles to the Northward, to whom I had wrote on the first appearance of the French Fleet, requesting he would send off Catamarans to any Vessels coming from Bengal to apprize them of their Danger — he acquaints me that yesterday a Vessel appeared to which he sent off a Catamaran, as I had directed; but the Commander of her a Portuguese said he must come on to this Place, having Guns & Stores on board and notwithstanding the Persuasions of the Tyrany to remain there, till they could get further Intelligence, the Man persisted in coming on, so that I am apprehensive he must have fallen into the Hands of the two French Ships which sailed yesterday to the Northward —

To the Right Honble G. Lord Macartney

My Lord,

I did myself the Honor to address your Lordship from Ishapoor, and then proceeded with all the

From Capt. Brodie, inclosing Copy of a Letter addressed by him to the Council of Ganjam, communicating his Preparations for preventing the Enemy from effecting a Landing —

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Fort St. George 24th January 1783.

the Force I could collect, and with the utmost expedition for this place, at which I arrived the 15th in the Morning, and found the French Fleet in the Road.

I immediately took every precaution to hinder the Enemy from effecting a landing, if that was their design, and I hope in a very short time shall render the attempt a very hazardous one, tho' my Force is not only small (about 600 Sepoys fit for Duty) but many of them very young Soldiers, however I expect daily Succour from the out Commands, & then with the Coffrees and Sibundies will consist the whole strength of the Garrison. —

I have the honor to enclose you a Copy of the Letter I wrote to the Board here on my arrival, and can only add that no assiduity or exertions of mine shall be wanting to repel every attempt the Enemy may make on this Settlement.

I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect

My Lord,

Your Lordship's Very Obedient & Most Humble Servant

(Signed) Thos. Bowdler

Ganjam
9th
January 12. 1783. —

To John Maxwell Stone Esq.r
Chief & Vice Council of Ganjam,

Gentlemen,

In consequence of your Letter of the 9th Ultimo, informing me that the French Fleet were

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Fort St. George 24th January 1783 —

were in and about the Roads, and requiring me to collect what Troops I could, and proceed here with all possible expeditions; I have the pleasure to tell you that I immediately collected all the force I could, and arrived here this Morning) —

I withdrew the Guard at Sanapore except a Naigue & Six Sepoys to whom I gave strict orders to keep the Boats collected, and in case they were not able to oppose any attempts the Enemy might make to land, to burn them and retreat to Itchapour I left the same Number of Sepoys at Mansacottah with the same directions — The Serjeants party I continued at Berawa — as it appears to me of the utmost consequence to prevent the Enemy from landing, I do think that too much precautions with respect to Vessels, Boats & Catamarans cannot be taken. —

On my arrival here I immediately recon=noitred the Beach Bar, River &ca with the Engineer, and I have secured every place (as far as my force will allow) that appears possible to land, by placing Guns, posting Guards &ca — and I shall use every exertions in my power to hinder the Enemy from coming before the place. —

As I am unacquainted with the State of the Stores, Provisions, Fortifications &ca I can be no judge, but undoubtedly every thing has been done by you to endeavour to put the Fort in a state of defence. —

I am
With respect
Gentlemen,
Your very Obedient
Humble Servant
(Signed) Thomas Bridges

Ganjam
January 10th 1783 —

Th

Fort St. George 24th January 1783.

The Intelligence obtained by Captain Gower affording reason to believe that the Enemy meditate an attack upon the Northern Circars the Committee proceed to consider what plan it will be most advisable to pursue for their general defence and Security —

Deliberations of the Committee on the measures to be pursued should the Enemy make an attack upon the Circars. —

General Stuart repeats the Sentiments delivered by him yesterday and reads the draft of a Minute which he informs the Committee shall be written fair and sent in before the next meeting

The Committee after fully discussing the subject are agreed in the following general plan —

That the strength of the Troops in the Masulipatam District including the two Battalions from Ongole be assembled near Masulipatam under the Command of Lieutenant Colonel Jones and equipped with the best field Train that can be provided, and with every thing necessary for field Service so as to be ready on the shortest Notice to oppose the Enemy's landing or to attack them before they shall have had time to establish themselves. —

Two Battns from Ongole to be assembled near Masulipatam under Lieut. Col: Jones —

That the Chief and Council of Masulipatam be invested with authority to send Instructions to the other Factories in any matters that relate to the general Defence of the Circars, and to require the assistance of their Troops, and also of those at Ongole in case of necessity; but they are to consult on all occasions with Colonel Jones and adopt no Military measure without his advice and Concurrence. —

The Chief & Council at Masulipatam to send Instructions to the other Factories but to adopt no Military measures without the advice of Col: Jones —

That

Fort St. George 24th January 1783

Lt Col. Jones appointed to the Command of all the Troops in the Circars.

That Lieutenant Colonel Jones be appointed to the Command of all the Troops in the Circars.—

Resolutions respecting Vizagapatam

That the European Invalids, Artillery, Stores, and all the Company's valuable property at Vizagapatam be removed from thence — the Invalids and such of the Artillery and Stores as are wanted at Ganjam (according to a List made out from the last Indent) to be sent thither under a strong Escort of which a sufficient part is to be left to complete the Force under Captain Bridges to 1200 Effective Sepoys — the remainder of the Artillery & Stores the Cash and other valuable property to be sent to Masulipatam.—

Resolutions respecting Ganjam

That the Chief and Council of Ganjam be directed to use every possible exertion to put the Fortifications in a proper State of defence.—

That orders be sent to Nellore and Ongole to lay up as large a quantity as possible of Grain, Cattle and other provisions.—

The Committee having determined on the foregoing Arrangements.—

Agreed that the following Letter be sent to the Chief and Council of Vizagapatam.

To Claud Russell Esqr.
Chief & Council
of Vizagapatam,

Gentlemen,

To Vizagapatam containing the Resolutions taken with respect to the Defence of that District.

The Intelligence obtained by Captain Gower from the French Letters found in the Shower a Copy of which has been transmitted to you, affording great reason to believe that the Enemy meditate

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an Attack upon the Northern Circars, We have after mature deliberation resolved upon a plan for their general Security and defence, of which we shall now Communicate to you such parts as relate to the Factory and Districts under your charge, and to which We desire your strict, and immediate attentions. —

The only places of any strength in the Circars are Masulipatam, and Ganjam, The former as the Capital of the Circars and on account of its situation, and Importance in every respect, claims our first care, and Ganjam as our frontier Garrison to the North, situated on the borders of the Maratta Territory and the only tenable post between Masulipatam, and Calcutta, is the next object —

Vizagapatam is known to be untenable and the leaving Stores, and valuable property thereunder the present circumstances would be to invite the Enemy to land and take possession of them instead of employing them where they might be really useful —

We have therefore resolved that the whole of the Company's property at Vizagapatam shall be removed — the Artillery and Stores mentioned in the enclosed List are to be sent to Ganjam by land, or as many of them as you can possibly procure the means of carriage for — you will settle with the Gentlemen at Ganjam for mutual assistance in conveying them, and as you must be acquainted with the present situation of that Settlement We are perswaded you will not suffer a moment to be lost in executing this part of our orders — all your Europeans both effectives and

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Invalids, and the Lascars attached to the Artillery and Stores are also to proceed to Ganjam. The most infirm of the Invalids, or all of them if necessary, may be accommodated with or Bullocks for the Journey, you will require the Commanding Officer to collect all the Troops of the district at Vizagapatam and to form a strong Escort to proceed with the Artillery and Stores to Ganjam, or to be relieved at any place in that district that shall be pointed out by the Chief and Council — The Commanding Officer will proceed himself with the Escort and we desire you will require him to leave in the Ishapoor District as many of his best Men as will complete the number already under the Command of Captain Bridges to 1200 Effective Sepoys —

Your Cash, and all the Company's valuable property, likewise the remainder of your Artillery and Stores must be sent to Masulipatam by such mode of conveyance as you and the Chief and Council of that Settlement shall think most eligible —

In the event of being obliged to retreat before you shall have had time to execute these Orders relative to the disposal of your Stores we rely on your taking care that none of them fall into the Enemies hands —

We leave it to yourselves to continue at Vizagapatam as long as you shall think it prudent to do so together with the Troops that may remain after a part shall have been left at Ganjam as above Directed, but as the Army for the general defence of the Circars will be assembled near Masulipatam and as a great deal must necessarily

Fort St. George 24th June 1783.

necessarily be left to the discretion of the Gentlemen there they will have authority from us to call for the assistance of your Troops, or any part of them whenever they may judge it necessary, and you will not fail to comply with their requisitions. —

It may be of consequence to the Revenue, and to the Company's Influence in the Chicacole Circar that you should remain at Vizagapatam as long as you can with safety, and where you think it necessary to retreat We recommend that you proceed to Masulipatam without precluding you however from making choice of any other place wherever you may reside will of course be the Seat of the Vizagapatam Chiefship as far as relates to the Business of that District. —

We have just received your Letter of the 15th Instant, and shall answer it tomorrow. —

We are

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servants

(Signed) Macartney &c.a Select Committee

Fort St. George
25th January 1783

The President desires the opinion of the General whether considering the present State of Ganjam it would not be proper to order a small Reinforcement of Europeans from Colonel Jones to proceed thither and to be replaced from the Main Army, and in all events whether it would not be proper to send a Reinforcement of Europeans to Colonel Jones. —

The President submits the propriety of a Reinforcement of Europeans being sent to Ganjam from Colo Jones Detachment

General

Fort St. George 24th January 1783

General Stuart does not think any Reinforcement requisite at Ganjam.

General Stuart answers that with the Invalids from Vizagapatam he thinks they will have a sufficient number at Ganjam, and that no Europeans can be spared to reinforce Colonel Jones.

Capt.n Lyraght appd a Brevet Major without prejudice to the Senior Captains

Agreed that Captain Arthur Lyraght be appointed a Major by Brevet for the present Service only without prejudice to Captains Burrington, Keating and Rumley who are above him on the List of the Army.

The Committee proceed to consider the recommendation of General Stuart to send a Major to Masulipatam.

Lieutenant Colonel Ross attends the Committee at the desire of General Stuart.

Col: Ross's opinion requested relative to the Engrs to be employed at Ganjam & Masulipatam.

The President desires the opinion of Colonel Ross as to the Gentlemen of his Line employed at Ganjam and Masulipatam.

Col: Ross thinks Captn Gent equal to the Charge of the Works of Ganjam.

Colonel Ross answers that Captain Gent who is the Engineer at Ganjam he thinks equal to his charge, that Captain Prescott's abilities are entirely unknown to him.

General Stuart asks Colonel Ross whether professionally he is of opinion that Captain Prescott can be entrusted with the defence of Masulipatam.

Col: Ross is of opinion that Major Maule should be sent to Masulipatam being unacquainted with Capt.n Prescott's Abilities

Colonel Ross in answer repeats that he is unacquainted with Captain Prescott's abilities as an Engineer, and offers his own Services at Masulipatam if the Committee chuse to entrust him with the Command he will answer for maintaining it till the Fleet returns – a Promise that if the Arrangement be

Fort St. George 24th January 1793.

be left to him he would undoubtedly send Major Maule as second of the Corps of Engineers, having always considered Masulipatam as the Station for the second.—

The President wishes to know of Colonel Ross whether he is to understand from his answer that he thinks it necessary that Major Maule should proceed as Chief Engineer to Masulipatam it being probable that Masulipatam will be an object of attack from the Enemy.—

Colonel Ross answers that he clearly of opinion that Major Maule should proceed to Masulipatam.—

Colonel Ross withdraws.—

The President observes that Captain Prescott being sent out by the Court of Directors as a Captain of Engineers he concurs him fit for his situation and from his knowledge of him he thinks him an active spirited Officer.—That he appears of a strong constitution and has been many years at Masulipatam and the President doubts not but he has endeavoured to make himself acquainted with every part of his Duty.—

President's opinion relative to Capt. Prescott's remaining at Masulipatam

The President puts the question whether or not Major Maule shall be sent to Masulipatam.

24 January 1793.

Mr. Davidson?—

That Major Maule proceed to Masulipatam, and remain there while it appears the operations of the Enemy are intended against the Circars. But should the Circars be free from danger

Mr. Davidson is of opinion Major Maule should be sent to remain at Masulipatam so long as any attack shall be apprehended from the Enemy upon the Circars.—

Fort St. George 24th January 1783.

danger in such case Major Maule to be ordered to return to Madras in case of any accident to succeed Colonel Ross about to take the Field.

Mr Davidson understands Captain Prescott never was in the Corps of Engineer till he came to India but that he an active experienced Infantry Officer.

(Signed) AD

General Stuart — I think the Company sent out Captain Prescott with a very good Intention, but not that he should be Chief Engineer at Masulipatam as his first Employment upon Service in the Country, and I am entirely of opinion with the Chief Engineer that it is the situation of the 2d of that Corps, and that Major Maule as such should proceed to Masulipatam without delay before there be any Interruption on the Road — Major Maule how practicably been employed as an Engineer upon Service — I personally know Captain Prescott to be an active Spirited Officer both from serving with them and from Character.

Gen.l Stuart is of opinion that Major Maule should proceed to Masulipatam

Mr Sadleir — In a Station of such Importance, and having had reference to the Chief of that Corps, and not thinking myself competent to decide on the professional abilities of Gentlemen in that line, I cannot but adopt what the Chief Engineer has recommended.

Mr. Sadleir concurs in the propriety of Major Maule being ordered to Masulipatam

President — I do not think there is sufficient ground to supersede Captain Prescott in his station at Masulipatam.

The President thinks Capt.n Prescott should not be superseded

Question carried for the appointment of Major Maule to Masulipatam as Engineer.

Major Maule to be directed to proceed to Masulipatam.

Fort St. George 24 January 1783.

The President lays before the Committee an Abstract of the Troops composing the Garrison of Fort St. George and the Black Town (as entered in Miscellany Book) by which it appears that whole amounts to only 293 Europeans and 1350 Sepoys fit for duty, and the President wishes General Stuart would consider whether any Force can be spared from the Army to strengthen it.—

The President lays before the Committee an Abstract of the Troops in Fort St. George & the Black Town and submits the of a Reinforcement from the Grand Army.—

General Stuart answers that no part of the present Army can be spared because there is a chance of an Action after the Army moves from the Presidency for the particular purposes mentioned yesterday to the Committee, and the General is of opinion that the present Garrison is sufficient till the Return of the Army.

Gen.l Stuart observes that no Reinforcement can be spared & thinks the present Garrison sufficient.—

The President lays before the Committee a particular Account Signed by the Vellore Paymaster of the Money sent to Vellore since his Lordships Accession to the Government amounting to Pagodas 73,900 as appears by the following Abstract—

Account of the Money sent to Vellore at sundry times since the 22d June 1781 the Day of Lord Macartney's accession to the Government of Fort St. George.—

Abstract of Cash sent to Vellore since the Presidents accession to this Government.

1781		Pags.
July	1st	1000
	15th	2000
August	1st	1000
	31st	1000
Carr.d forward Pag.s		5000.—

October

Fort St. George 24th January 1783.

		Brought forwd Pags	5000
1781			
October	10th		1000
	15		200
	21		1000
	22		500
	26		1000
Novr	3		500
	4		7000
	5		1000
	20		1000
Decr	14		1000
1782			
Jany	1		20000
	12		2000
March	20		1000
April	18		1000
May	4		1000
	21		1000
June	2d		1000
	6		200
	7th		1000
	24		1000
July	16		3500
	19		1000
	23		2000
Augt	5th		4000
	14		5000
		Carried forward Pags	63900

Thro General Coote when near Arnee —

Paid by Capt. Cuppage at Vellore & Receipt

Thro Gen.l Coote at Vellore

Thro Gen.l Coote at Vellore —

Fort St. George 24th. January 1783.

Brought forward Pagodas		63900
1782		
October	17	2000
Novr.	9	2000
Decr.	6	1000
1783		
January	4	2000
	14	1000
	22	2000
		73,900 Pagodas

Fort St. George
24th. January 1783.

(signed) Tho.s E. Ogilvie
Paym.r to the
Garrison of Vellore

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Fort St. George January 1783

Rd 24 Received the following Letter & enclosures from Mr. Mc. Intosh at Tranquebar — —

To the Right Honble Geo: Lord Macartney K.B.

President & Governor of Fort St. George —

My Lord,

Arrived here the 10th. Instant, a Danish Ship of 64 Guns left Copenhagen the last June, and the Cape of Good Hope the 9th. of Novr. She brought a Letter directed on his Majesty's Service to Sir Edward Hughes & in case of his absence to the Governor of Madras, seeing no prospect of forwarding this Letter immediately with safety to your Lordship, or to Sir Edward Hughes, it being large Colonel Nixon (who is here at present) and I judged it for the good of the Service, to open the Letter and take a Copy of it which I have the honor of sending your Lordship with this, The original is sent to Col. Lang to be forwarded to Sir Edward Hughes with all possible speed. No French Ships of War are at present on the Coast to the South of Madras that I can learn nor is there any other news here at present worthy of your Lordship's Notice. — On our taking possession of Negapatam Sir Edward Hughes & Sir Hector

Munro

From Capt. Mc Kinlock enclosing a Copy of a Letter from Capt. Christie late of the Hannibal, with accounts of the French Force now in India & of their expected Reinforcements with other Intelligence on the Subject.

Fort St. George January 1783.

24th Munro requested of me to act as Master Attendant at that Place, in which office, I have acted until this time, and as the Fort is mostly now destroyed and the Troops ordered to hold themselves in readiness to march, I have retired again to this place where I shall be ready to do every Service in my Power for the good of my Nation and the Honble Company. —

I have the Honor to be with the

greatest Respect, & Esteem

My Lord,

Your Lordships most

Obedient Servant

(Signed) Edwd. M.c Intosh

Tranquebar
12th January 1783 —

Cape of Good Hope 12th October 1783

Sir

Having obtained my Parole to return to Europe and being so far on my Passage, I embrace this opportunity by a Danish Ship to give you the most perfect account I can procure of the Enemy's Force, which I send you with this, Mons.r Bussy Genl. General of France Commander in Chief of all the enemys forces both by Sea and Land, except Batavia, left Cadiz in Co.y the 15th Janry in the St. michel accompany'd by the St. Illustre and a Cutter, the St. Michel had on Board Ten millions of Dollars; from Report and Letters I have seen the French minister has promis'd Mons.r Bussy Twenty Million of Dollars, that is Credit

Fort St. George January 1783

24th. Credit for ten, Twelve Thousand Troops, and Twenty Sail of the line — Mons.r Peynier's Convoy left France the 12th. of February arrived here the 19th. May they consisted of Two Ships of 64 Guns, and Five of that late armed en Flute, four Frigates, and Twenty seven Transports, who had on board when they left France four Thousand Troops from which time until they left this they lost eight Hundred by Sickness, as a Proof of their being very ill Mons.r Bussy who was himself very Ill when I left the Island of Bourbon left Orders for Mons.r Peynier not to anchor at this place but to proceed directly to the Isle of France — I do not think Mr. Bussey can arrive in India before the latter end of December and the greatest number of Troops he can carry with him is 3000, and those he will leave the Island with the same number that he did when the St. Michel Sailed he twice sent to the Island of Bourbon for men and all he got was twenty — It is with pleasure I acquaint you they are very much distressed for Cables and masts, the latter they have but two, and they at the Island of Bourbon, and the Produce of that Island, and the Dutch have none — There was burnt at Batavia a Ship loaded with Cables for the French Fleet, they afterwards sent all they had which arrived in time to go with the St. Michel — A fortnight ago there arrived here a Vessel who left Cadiz the 22d. July by her they learn that Admiral Barrington had intercepted and taken their convoy for this place.

one

Fort St. George January 1783

24th one Ship of the line with Money for the Troops here, a Frigate and 19 Transports in one of which were masts she also brings advice that their Convoy would sail in July for this with 7000 Troops the numbers by all accounts they intended and from Letters I have seen were in the Convoy that was intercepted, I believe the French Fleet will go to some Port on the East Coast of the Bay of Bengal during the N.E. Monsoon, I think it will be Merguie Chaul-bay; Bombay was first intended but I have reason to think they have dropt the intention of going there — After they Sailed in December there arrived Orders at the Isle of France for the Fleet not to go to India that Season but wait for Mons.r Bussy — The small Vessel that was chased ashore by our Fleet in March, carried orders for the Ships to return, and the Troops not to land — without Hyder Ally had possession of all the Country, and Surrounded Madras, It was proposed in the Council at the Isle of France to attack Bombay with 4000, and the Morattas to assist them — The French were in great want of Medicines when I left the Island, the major part they had being taken in the Hospital Ship off Negapatam the French have made Use of Seven Batteries here they have towards the sea eight, and redoubts with walls and dry ditch, towards the low Beach and neck of land as it appears to me — they were also making a Battery on the East side of the Hill, which commands the Castle and all that part

Fort St. George January 1783

24th part of the Bay - at False Bay they have two Batteries one of twenty one of Sixteen. The French and Dutch disagree very much here the latter are afraid that the French will keep Possession of the place, most all the provisions they have for their Fleet and Army is carried from here and mostly without a Convoy. They have none but Paper money, here which they had long before, they knew of their Money being taken, the Vessel that was chased ashore by our Fleet, chased the Vessel Iwent to the Isle of France in and made their private Signals which is I believe continued as the Vessel that arrived here about a fortnight ago made the same, but from their firing three Shot and not acquainted here, having gone to the opposite Shore she was lost. some say the dispatches were saved but from private Sailors I am informed they were lost. The Signal the Ship made to the one I was in was three lights along the Bowsprit and three Guns, I am sorry we had not the answer that I might give it to you the French have upwards of 400. in the Hospital here, eight or nine die every day and a vast many more fall down, they lost forty three last month, the Troops with us are part of those that were left to defend this place, their Fleet has suffered a good deal in their masts, and they say at the Island of Bourbon that if you oblige them to return to the Isle of France that they will never go to Sea during the war, but they will avoid going

From Mr. Woolf – containing the result of his Enquiries into the Complaint exhibited against Captn. Scouler –

24th had the Honor to receive, and without loss of time have done my utmost to investigate the Truth of the complaints exhibited against Captain Scouler. I have had some of the Inhabitants of the District with me who have recapitulated the contents of the Petition – What has come to my knowledge through other Channels, I fear will not give your Lordship &c. sufficient information. The circumstance of taking by force the Cattle from the Country People, I have always understood Captain Scouler to have had your authority for – his not sending them to Madras is an accusation against him which I am unable to vouch for the truth of, or find any grounds for, but the declaration of the abovementioned inhabitants –

The Petitioners assert that Captain Scouler took possession of their Paddy fields by force; In Answer to which I can assure your Lordship &c. that about Six Months ago the Country round the Fort even to the Walls, lay entirely waste (except a small Garden or two, of insignificant small Grain) Captain Scouler repeatedly assured me he had enquired after the owners of the land, and used every means in his power to induce them to cultivate, but in vain. When, wishing to give them further encouragement by shewing them an example; he ordered his Servants to plough some fields, tho' from the general distress of the Country it could not be done without incurring considerable expence – and it was not 'till the Ground was ploughed and the Grain coming up that they ever thought of making a complaint.

With respect to the other articles of the Petition, I believe that, of his not permitting them to live in the neighbourhood of the Fort to be a falsehood – several sm

hou

Fort St. George January 1783

24 Houses were built much too near the Fort, and I know that Captain Scouler repeatedly desired they would move them further off some complied, others he at length ordered their Houses to be pulled down; and this I conclude occasioned their making the abovementioned assertion. and as to his receiving 25 Pagodas Monthly from the Bazar, I have always understood there was an emolument of this kind to the Commandants of all Garrisons.

This is all the information I am able to give to your Lordship &c on this subject, but I beg leave to add that since Captain Scouler came to the Command, both the Fort and Village and a small tract of Country adjacent have been much improved, chiefly owing, I am of opinion to his exertions.

I shall at all times be happy to be favored with your Lordship &c Commands, having the honor to be with the greatest respect

My Lord and Gentlemen

Your most Obedient

humble Servant

(Signed) Robert Woolf

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney
Knight of the Bath President and Govenor &c
Members of the Select Committee of Fort St George

Received Letters / as entered in Miscellany Book /

from

Fort St. George January 1783

24th from Mr. Oram 25th. January advising that he had dispatched to the Presidency fifteen thousand Madras Pagodas, requesting to know what Quantity of new Paddy, should be taken from the Government share, for the use of the Garrison, & whether the old Paddy should be disposed of on the receipt of the new Corps, desiring also permission to sell off some old Rice & Provisions which are decaying in the Stores —

From Lieut. Innes 22d. January requesting to be furnished with a Copy of any Complaint that many have been preferred against him for interfering with Mr. Call in points of his Duty, desiring from Doctor Davis 23d. do. to know what manner he is to be reimbursed for the Expences of the Hospital dependent on the Army, & requesting to be made acquainted with the Determination of Government respecting the future Arrangement of Field Surgeon charges; In consequence of the Resolution in the Committee on the respecting the mode in future of paying and cloathing the Light Infantry Corps in the Tinnivelly Country — the following Letters are now written.

To Mr. William Light
Paymaster at Palamcotah —

Sir/

I have the honor to enclose you a Duplicate of a Letter to you of the 13th December and copy of one to Lieut. Hugh Wheler of this date.

You will observe, from the contents of the Latter, that the Select Committee have thought proper to

Capt. Light — informing him that the Corps of Light Infantry in the Tinnivelly Country are in future to be paid & cloathed in the same manner with the other Battalions —

Fort St. George January 1783

24th. to discontinue the mode which has been adopted for paying & Cloathing the Corps of Light Infantry in the Tennevelly Country & have resolved, that in future it shall be in every respect on the same footing as the other Battalions.

I have the Honor to be
Sir.
Your most Obedient Servant
(signed) John Huddleston
Secretary

Fort St. George
24th. Janry 1783–

To Lieutenant Hugh Wheeler

To Lieut.t Wheeler – on the same subject

Sir/ It appearing by a Letter from Captain — Edingtown to the Select Committee, and an Indent for Cloth made out by your Attorney here, that you have for some time paid & cloathed the Corps of Light Infantry under your command; I am directed to inform you, the Select Committee have resolved that the said Corps shall be in future in every respect on the same footing with the other Battalions & of course paid and cloathed exactly in the same manner, that is to say paid by the Paymaster and cloathed by the agent for Sepoy Cloathing–

I have the Honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient
Humble Servant
(signed) John Huddleston
Secretary

Fort St. George
24th. January 1783–

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24.

Fort St. George January. 1783

Agreeably to the Minutes of the 11th Instant the following Letter is now written to the Committee of Assigned Revenue —

To Charles Oakeley Esq.r —

&c. Members of the Committee of Assigned Revenue —

Gentlemen /

I am directed by the Right Honble the President and Select Committee to acknowledge the receipt of your Letters of the 12th 22d and 26th November the 24th and 31st december and the 8th Instant with the several extracts from your Minutes therein referred to, the Account of the Collections from the Assigned Countries, and other enclosures.

To Committee of Assigned Revenue confirming the Resolutions of the Select Committee in their Minutes of the 7th & 20th November 30th Dec.r 1782 & 6th January —

The Select Committee observe with great satisfaction the attention you have paid in your minutes of the 7th and 20th November to the situation of the assigned Countries to the Southward, and the able manner in which you have treated the subject.

They approved, and still concur in your Ideas of excluding all European Influence or Interference except by the Company's Authority in the last resort, and think with you that this System would have answered as well in the Tinnivelly Country as it has in that of Nellour but for the causes you have mentioned, and the consequent disorders in that Country

which

Fort St George January 6. 1783

24th. which the Select Committee are sensible require the immediate Interposition of Government, but in the actual situation of things however necessary the permanent authority of a Resident may be found to investigate, and remedy those disorders, and to guard against them in future, the establishing such an authority would be liable to objections that induce the Select Committee to prefer for the present at least a deputation from your Committee, and they have accordingly appointed Mr. Irwin to proceed to the Tinnevelly Country under that denomination. Powers and Instructions corresponding with those recommended in your minutes of the 7th November will be prepared for Mr. Irwin, and communicated to you.

They will it is hoped under the direction of his abilities & Integrity, enable him to effect the immediate objects of his appointment, and upon his opinion, and reports, a permanent System may be established at some future period when the Select Committee, their conduct, and Intentions being fully known to their Employers, shall have received that approbation, and support which alone can free them from the various embarrassments and difficulties, which at present impede, and countract all their efforts for rendering the assignment as effectual as they are desirous of making it.

Respecting the Letter and account from Bourrauze enclosed in your Letter of the 26th November the Select Committee are much concerned at the distress which he has suffered from his attachment to the Company and would willingly do any thing in their Power to alleviate it

The

Fort St George January 1783

24th — The Commanding officer at Trepassore has been written to in the strongest terms on the subject of the Rajah's Complaints, and the Committee trust there will be no just cause for any in future. The Renter at Angelo they desire may be ordered to shew all possible attention to his family, and that a Letter may be written to the Rajah to desire him to send the receipts for the Cattle, and provisions, supplied the Army, or in default of receipts to specify to whom they were delivered. —

Your Statement of the Collections from the Assigned Countries received with your Letter of the 24th Decem=ber was sent to the Nabob. — The Select Committee are satisfied that considering the state of the Carnatic, the secret opposition and various artifices that were employd to defeat the objects of the Assignment, and the delay which from delicacy to His highness they suffered to take place before they adapted the measures which the public safety required, the Collections that have been made, and the benefit already derived from the assigned Countries exceed what could reasonably have been expected under so many circumstances of complicated difficulty and embarrassment. By the continuance of your care and exertions aided by their firm support the Select Committee hope the Revenue will be increased the ensuing year, and that the Nabob will at length see his own essential Intrest in the conduct which he has been prevailed on to load with censure, and abuse.

The petition enclosed with your Minutes of the 30th December was agreeably to your Recommendation sent

401.

Fort St. George January 1783

24th sent to the Paymaster at Tripassore with orders to make enquiry into the truth of the Complaints contained in it and I have the Honor to enclose a copy of his answer — regarding the complaints against Lieut. Boisdaume it seems very difficult to ascertain the exact truth — of two Complaints before prefered against him by the same Person on he candidly confessed was true, and the other was found to be malicious — but as no good agreement would be expected between them the Select Committee have directed Captain Edmonds to relieve Lieut. Boisdaume from his command.

In answer to your Letter of the 8th January enclosing copies of Letters from the Sherestadar and of Mellour I am directed to inform you that the Select Committee have not the least reason to think there is any foundation for the reports mentioned in those Letters which they doubt not proceed from the same source with former reports of a similar tendency — The Select Committee therefore desire that you will cause Letters to be written to the Sherestadar & Renter of Mellour to remove the alarms which exist in that Country, and which as you justly observe cannot fail to produce consequences — prejudicial to the Companys Interests.

I have the Honor to be
Gentlemen
your most humble Servt
(Signd) John Hudleston
Secretary

Fort St. George
24th January 1783 —

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Fort St. George January 1783

24th The Secretary by the Desire of the Right Honble President sends the following Letter in Circulation to the Members of the Committee –

To the Members of the Select Committee

Gentlemen

Recommendation of the President that Mr Torin should be appointed Assistant to Mr Irwine on his Deputation to the Southward –

The Right Honble the President directs me to propose to you. That Mr. Benjamin Torin be appointed Assistant to Mr. Irwin on his Deputation to the Southward.

I have the Honor to be.
very respectfully –
Gentlemen
Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
(signed) John Huddleston
Secretary

Fort St. George
25th January 1783

Mr Torin accordingly appointed Assistant to Mr. Irwine –

Messrs Sadleir and Davidson having concurred in the above Recommendation of the Right Honble President Mr. Benjamin Torin is accordingly appointed Assistant to Mr. Irwin on his Deputation to the Southward –

Dispatched the following Letters to Ganjam & Vizagapatam with Copies of Capt. Gowers Intelligence –

To Claud Russell Esq.
Chief & Council of Vizagapatam
Gentlemen

I am directed by the Right Honble the

Fort St. George January 1783

24th

to Ganjam & Vizagapatam enclosing Copies of Capt. Cowers Intelligence —

the President and Select Committee to furnish you with the accompanying Intelligence received by Captain Gore of the Medea collected by him from Papers & other information found an board the Chacer captured by him in his way from Ganjam. a short Letter was dispatched to you last night in consequence of this Intelligence and further Instructions are preparing

Fort St. George
24th January 1783 —

I have the honor to be
Gentlemen
Your Most Obedt. Servt.
(Signed) John Hudleston

The same to Ganjam —

25th Received Letter from his Highness the Nabob (as entered in Country Correspondence) containing Intelligence from Hyders Camp reprobating the Inactivity & illtimed Occonomy of Government in not availing itself of Hyders Death, to disperse the Enemy & put an end to the War.

Received Letter from Rajah of Travancore (as entered in Country Correspondence) advising of the Victory gaind by Col: Mc Lead over the Enemy's Troops at Panium & offering his Congratulations on the Event —

Received the following Letter from the Chief & Council of Ganjam —

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

My Lord & Gentlemen,

Captn. Deare, who came Passenger in the

Fort St. George January 1783

From Gangam enclosing a List of the Stores taken in this Vessel from Bengal —

26th the Vessel from Bengal, laden with Stores for this Garrison, arrived last Night, he, with the Lascars escaped on shore, as the Chief acquainted the Right Honble the President in his Letter of yesterday — This Morning the Syrang & Lascars arrived, & we are much concerned that the Stores which have fallen into the Enemy's Hands are of such Importance, particularly in the present critical Juncture, accompanying is a List of them according to the Bill of Lading, which is the only Paper we have Received, what other Letters & Papers were on board the Syrang acquaints us were put into an Escritoire & fell into the Sea in handing it into the Boat —

This Morning five french Men were brought into the Fort, the account they give of themselves in general is, that they deserted from the French at Cuddalore some Months ago & went to Madras; that they were sent from thence for Bengall on board an Indiaman, which by the Description they give of her, we suppose to be the Blandford Captain Pigou — which Ship, with another Indiamen, whose Name they know not, & a Frigate; which we fear is the Coventry, have been captured by the Enemy within these few Days — That the Captain of the Indiaman, in which they were informed the French Captain that they were Prisoners, sent to Bengal; upon which they were allowed to be upon Deck & to assist in working the Ship & that last Night they took the opportunity of escaping on shore in one of the Ships Boats.

We

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Fort St George January 1783

25th

We have the Honor to be with great Respect
My Lord & Gentlemen
Your most obedient
Humble Servants -
J. M. Stone
R. Dr. Munro
Dan." Rufsell

(Signed)

Ganjam
14th Jany 1783

P.S. Since writing the above, we learn from the French Men. that only one Indiaman with the Frigate were taken, what they called an Indiaman, was only a Snow -

A List of Stores on board the Vessell from Bengal for Ganjam - taken by the Enemy -

Iron Guns	16
Carriages for Di	18
Small Arms	25 Chests
Paper	2 Bales
Rifes	1 Box
Flints	10 Bags
Tin Sheets	5 Pieces
Slings & Scabbards	1 Bale
Tools	1 Box
Salt Petre	43 Bags
Sulphur	13 Bags
Gun Match	16 Bales
Quick Match	1 Box
Fuzes	1 Box
Empty Barrels	100
Shells	200
Brass Mortar & Bed	1

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26th

Copper Ladles with Worms - - - 12
Spunges - - - - - - - - - - - - - 2
Quoins for the Guns & Mortar. - - 42

a true List taken from the Bill of Lading
(signed) Dan.l Russell
Jun.r

The Committee having reason to believe from Captain Govers Intelligence that the Enemy meditate an Attack upon the Northern Circars, it is resolved to dispatch the following Letters to the Paymasters at Ongole & Nellore. & to the Officers Commanding those Garrisons -

Mr. Robert Gardiner
Paymaster at Ongole (-

Sir/

To Mr. Gardiner - acquainting him with the probability of the Enemy's making an attack in the Northern Circar & directing him to apply to the Renter for ample Supplies of Rice &c -

I am directed by the Right Honble the President and Select Committee to inform you that having reason to believe that the Enemy meditate an attack upon the Northern Circars they desire you will signify to the Renter their orders that as large a quantity as possible of Rice, and all other Provisions, also of Cattle, and Straw, be collected with the utmost expedition at Ongole.

Whatsoever old Grain and Provisions you have in Store must be made use of before the new is touched, as too much Occonomy cannot be observed in the expenditure of Provisions at

this

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25th this cretical Juncture.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedt. Servant
(signed) John Hudleston

Fort St. George
25th January 1783 -

To Mr. William Oram
Acting Paymaster
at Nellour -

Sir/

I am directed by the Right Honble the President and Select Committee to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter to the Right Honble President of the 21st Instant and to inform you that having reason to believe that the Enemy meditate an attack upon the northern Circars they desire you will signify their orders to the Renter that as large a quantity as possible of rice and all other provisions, also of Cattle and straw be collected with the utmost expedition at Nellour

To Mr. Oram to the above purport -

The old rice, Ghee &c. provisions which you mention to have been received from Ellour near two years ago should have been sold or delivered out to the Troops long since — the Select Committee desire it may now be made use of by the Garrison before any of the new Grain is touched as too much Oeconomy cannot be observed in the management of the provisions at this cretical Juncture.

The above will also apply to your request of orders whether upon receipt of the new you should sell the old

Fort St George January 1783.

25th old Grain &c Stores supposing that by Stores you mean provisions.

I have the Honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant
(signed) John Hudleston
Secretary

Fort St George
25th January 1783.

To Captain George Campbell
Commanding at Mellour –

Sir /

I am directed by the Right Honble the President and Select Committee to inform you that having reason to believe that the Enemy meditate an attack upon the northern Circars they have sent orders to the Renter of Mellour to collect at that place with the utmost expedition as large a quantity as possible of Rice and all other provisions also of Cattle and Straw and the Select Committee desire that you will give the Renter all the Assistance in your power in effecting this very important object –

To the Commanding Officers at Ongole & Nellore; – desiring them of the probability of an Attack being made by the Enemy on the Northern Circars &c – directing them to assist the Renter in providing Supplies of Provisions &c &c

Fort St George
25th January 1783

I have the Honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant
(signed) John Hudleston
Secretary

The same to Captain Edmonds for Ongole –

26th Received the following Letters

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

My Lord & Gentlemen

I had the Honor of transmitting on the 15th instant

From Mr. Secr. Sullivan enclosing Letters from Colonels Mc. Leod & Humberston with an account of the Returns of Tippoo's Army; — receives urgent Solicitations from the Northward & Westward to take advantage of Hyders Death —

Fort St George January 1783

26. instant the Copies of Letters which I had received from Colonels Mc. Leod & Humberston & of one from the Resident at Anjengo I have now the honor to send your Lordship &c. the Duplicates of that Dispatch with Copy of a Letter received this day from Col. Mc. Leod & of one from the Resident of Anjengo to the Right Honble the President —

Intelligence from every Quarter confirms the Account Col. Mc. Leod had received of the return of Tippoo Saibs army - a part has already passed Erode and it is said orders have been sent for the whole to march towards Chittoor, where Tippoo Saib arrived some time since, the death of Hyder is now generally Credited, and the most urgent Solicitations are made to us from the Westward & the Northward to take advantage of the moment, I will do myself the honor of writing more at large on this Subject tomorrow, when I hope to hear of the arrival of General Matthews at Paniany —

I have the honor to be with the greatest respect —

Porchinopoly
27th December 1782

My Lord & Gentlemen
Your most faithful
humble Servant
(signed) John Sullivan

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

My Lord & Gentlemen

From Ganjam the Enemy's Ships sail to the Southward with a Captured Ship supposed to be the Blandford —

This Morning at Sunrise Nine of the Enemies Line of Battle Ships & a Forigate, with a Ship which

Fort St. George January 1783

26th which we suppose to be the Blandford, got under way, leaving a Ship of the Line & a Frigate at Anchor, both of which shortly after followed them — They all stood to the Southward, of which we sent immediate advice to the Chief & Council at Vizagapatam, & requesting of them to forward the Intelligence — The whole this Evening were in sight about 10 Leagues to the Southward the wind having all Day been chiefly in that Quarter, which prevented their getting further

We have never been able to discover more than ten Line of Battle Ships & two Frigates, & as neither of the latter appeared to be captured Ships, we are induced to hope that the Account we got from the French Minr. of one of our Frigates having been taken, is erroneous.

We have the Honor to be with the greatest Respect —

My Lord & Gentlemen

your most Obedient & Most humble Servants

(signed) J. M. Stone
R. Dr. Munro
Danl. Russell —

Ganjam 16th January 1783

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

My Lord!

An Express is this moment arrived with a Letter from Ganjam of which the enclosed is a Copy — as two days had elapsed without their appearing off Chicacole, it is probable their Intention may be to land at one of the Ganjam Ports which is not impracticable, with a View of getting Cattle & Provisions —

From Vizagapatam — enclosing Copy of the above Letter from Ganjam; — No Ships have appeared in sight; — the Rajahs Troops encamped between Bimlipatam & Cowarow, & Vizaram Rajahs Army encamped at Vizagapatam —

The

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Fort St. George January 1783

26th The Body of the Rajahs Troops will be encamped between Bimblepatam & Conaro, and Vizeram rauze will himself be there to day.

I am with Real Esteem
My Lord
Your most faithful &
Obedient Humble Servt.
(signed) Claude Russell.

Vizagapatam
18th January
8 A.M.

To Claud Russell Esqr
Chief &c. Council

Gentlemen

The Enemys fleet consisting of Nine Ships of the Line & a frigate with their Prize the Blandford Indiaman and a Snow got under way this Morning at Sunrise & are now standing to the Southward one Line of Battle Ship and a Frigate continue at Anchor in the Road - We request you will send Intelligence to the Southward with all Expedition.

We are &c
L. M. Stone
(signed) D: Munro
D: Russell

Tanjam
15th January 83
8/2 A.M.

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

My Lord &c.

From General Stuart - enclosing a Paper of Intelligence from Hyder's Camp. —

Soon after I received the Letter Intercepted by Captain Flint from Trangacbar in date the 18th Decr and Communicated to the Select Committee the 24th December

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Fort St. George January. 1783.

26th I desired the Honble M. D: Cochrane (my Nephew) The Senior Servant of the Company, next to Mr. Johnson Sullivan, in the Districts of Tanjore or Trichinopoly, to get by all means at the Source of the Enemy's intelligence in that Quarter, as to Hyders Durbar plans — I have had answers to my letter from Mr. Cochrane, who says he has, for a Valuable consideration, found means to give that Intelligence to Government, & I do myself the Honor to acquaint your Lordship &c. That in what regards the Hyders last Will or Words, it is drawn from this source, and deserves Credit accordingly ——

I have the Honor to be
My Lord &c
Your most Obed.t & most
humble Servant
(signed) Sam.l Stuart

Camp at Tamaram
26th January 1783

P.S. I have the Honor to inclose to your Lordship &c some late intelligence from the Enemy's Camp —

With a Paper of Intelligence (as entered in M. D.) stating in substance that the Enemy are encamped at Perambauk with the View of preventing our Army from throwing Provisions into Vellore; — that Tippoo had been joined by the French immediately after his arrival in his Camp & that he had paid up his Army which consists of nearly the same number as it did before Hyders Death —

26th Jany 1783 —

President's Motion respecting the Disposal of the Horses Lately purchased —

In consequence of Col. Floyd's letter of the Instant mentioning his desire that some horses then there for sale should be purchased for the

25.

Fort St George January 1783

26, 23d Dragoons, which were supposed to be the horses brought from the Northward by Captain M.c Cuen, as none others were then understood to be here for sale — so low as the Companys Price, The President desirous of mounting the 23d Dragoons as soon as possible — directed that the Horses should be valued as usual by Doctor Story & purchased by bills on Bengal at 385 which was done & the Horses ordered to be delivered either the whole or such part as Col: Floyd should approve. Col: Floyd has this Moment sent Mr Lefferge to the President to inform him that he should not want any of those horses, the President therefore proposes that such part of them as may be wanted to complete Lieut.t Orrs Corps at the Mount be sent thither & the Remainder forwarded to Camp without delay —

(signed) M

Ordered that Bills on Bengal be granted for the (P.) M
amount of the Horses abovementioned being Pagodas 1960.
at 385 arcot Rupees ₹100 Pagodas —

The President wrote the following Letter to General Stuart enclosing Copy of the Letter received last night from the Nabob —

To General Stuart

Sir — I received the inclosed late last night from His Highness the Nabob — & I now send it to you for your perusal, but I do not pretend to judge of its authenticity

I have the Honor to be
Sir your most obed.t Servant
(P.D.) M

Fort St George
25.th January 1783 —

414 Fort St George January 1783

26th

Dispatched the following Letter, enclosing the Intelligence received from Captain Gower –

To John Sullivan Esqr.
Resident at Tanjore

Sir/

I am directed by the Right Honble the President and Select Committee to furnish you with the accompanying intelligence collected by Captain Gower of the Medea from Papers and information on board the Chaser which he took on his passage from Ganjam, –

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedient Servant
(signed) John Huddleston
Secretary

To Mr. Sullivan & Col. Lang – enclosing Intelligence received from Capt. Gower –

Fort St George
26th January 1783 –

The same to Colonel Lang –

Dispatched the following Letter to Ganjam with Copy of our Letter to Vizagapatam of the

John Maxwell Stone Esqr.
Chief & Council
at Ganjam –

Gentlemen/

Enclosed you will receive Copy of a Letter dispatched last night to the Chief and Council of Vizagapatam, by which you will be informed of the measures we have taken for the Security and

To Ganjam – directing them to strengthen the Fortifications as much as possible & to use every other Exertion to oppose the Enemy should they make an attack on the Circars. ——

Fort St George January 1783

26th

and defence of your Settlement.

You will not fail to do every thing on your part to accelerate the safe conveyance of the Artillery and Stores and We hope that by your exertions in conjunction with those of the Chief and Council at Vizagapatam the whole will be arrived at Ganjam before the Enemy make any attempt against you.

The Stores ordered to be sent to you from Vizagapatam are for the most part taken from your own Indent as you will procure by the enclosed List of them - any other stores that you may want you will apply for to the Gentlemen at Vizagapatam who will supply them if in their power.

We desire you will use every possible exertion to strengthen your works and repair the Bastion that was so much damaged the last Monsoon which we hope may be done by fascines and Sod Batteries.

We have the utmost confidence in the vigilance and activity of Captain Broadges and We trust that your united Zeal and exertions will preserve to the Company the Possessions committed to your charge.

You have doubtless apprized the Govern General & Council of the arrival of the French fleet and of your situation and we think it probable that they will in consequence order a Body of Troops to march towards the Circars —

We

Fort St George January 1783

26th

We are

Gentlemen

Your most obedient Servants

(signed) Macartney

&c Select Committee

Fort St George
25th January 1783

27th Received the following Letters from Ganjam with the several enclosures therein mentioned

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B.,

President & Governor &c Members of the Select Committee

at Fort St George —

My Lord & Gentlemen,

We have the Honor to transmit your Lordship &c Copies of Letters from Captain Bridges to us accompanying Copies of his Letters to the Engineer Conductor &c to Captain Deare of the Bengall Artillery with their Answers respecting the State & Condition of the Works of this Place & of the Artillery & Stores in the Garrison — Your Lordship &c will thereby perceive our real Situation & to what Danger a Place so capable of Defence would have been exposed, merely for want of Ordnance & other Stores & some Europeans to assist in working the Guns, had the Enemy effected a Landing.

We shall give Orders for Materials to be collected necessary for putting the Flagstaff Bastion in a proper state of Defence & so soon as it can be done with Prudence we propose setting about a Work so very essential to the Safety of the Place should your Lordship &c

From Ganjam enclosing Copies of Captain Bridges Letters to the Engr Commandg Officer of Artillery &c relative to the State of the Works; — will use every exertion to repair them & request that the Grenadier Companies of the District may be ordered back

457.

Fort St George January 1783.

27th Lordship &c not signify your Disapprobation. —

As from the Appearance of an Enemy on the Coast we apprehend the Zemindars may be induced to raise Disturbances &c thereby impede the Collection of the Revenues, unless they are kept in Awe by a Force capable of compelling them to fulfil their Engagements — We cannot avoid again repeating our Request that the Grenadier Companies belonging to this District may be returned — as we before observed to your Lordship &c that the Battalion is at present chiefly composed of Recruits —

We acquainted your Lordship in our Letter of the 14th that Five French Men who said they were sent on board the Blandford at Madras for Bengal, had found Means to make their Escape on shore accompanying is a List of their Names should they prove to be what they alledge — Viz.t Deserters from the French we request your Orders regarding them —

We have the Honor to be with the greatest Respect

My Lord & Gentlemen
Your most Obedient &
most Humble Servants —
I. M. Stone
R.t D.r Munro
Dan.l Rufsell

(signed)

Ganjam
16.th January 1783 —

In the Letters from Captain Brodyes referred to in the foregoing Letter (entered in Miscellany Book) he represents the steps taken by him to oppose the Enemy

Fort St George January 1783

27th Enemy should they effect a landing, & states the opinions of the Engr & Artillery Officer respecting the State of the Fortifications of the Ordnance &c &c -

Received the following Letters from Vizagapatam -

The Right Honble Lord Macartney

My Lord

I congratulate your Lordship on the Enemy's fleet leaving Gungam and I shall be happy to have an Opp.y of renewing my Congratulations on their leaving the Circars where at least hereabouts we are very vulnerable.

From Vizagapatam - Letteram Rauze sets off to join his Troops at Canara - Both the Brothers favorably disposed towards the Company -

Our Letter from the Board here of the 15th would inform you of Letteram rauzes arrival here & of the satisfactory Disposition in which we find both him & his Brother on the present Occasion which makes us a little more at Ease for their Conduct will certainly give the Tone to the other Zemindars however disaffected, and the Some of the Hill People may likely seize the Opportunity of being troublesome, I have no apprehension of the Enemy forming any Connexions in our neighbourhood while the Vizianagrum Family are our friends

The Nizams Politics I am unacquainted with, but it is devoutly to be wished that he may remain quiet at this Juncture

It would now seem there are not

any

Fort St George January 1783

27th

any Land troops on board as are suspected which is a happy Circumstance for the unprovided State of Ganjam and the defenceless Situation of this place at present must be a regular force render them an easy prey & in such Event the grand Object I should suppose would be to take the Field with the respective Garrisons to preserve our Influence & to harass the Enemy, but I hope we shall not now be driven to that Necessity and that the Enemys appearing to the Northward merely on a depredatory Expedition without attempting to Land, will lessen their Consequence in the Eyes of the Zemr. and be of Service to ourselves in making us sensible of our Wants — An Alert now & then would do us no Sort of Harm —

In consequence of the Accounts Received this day of the Enemy having left Ganjam, Setteram Nauze sets out this Evening to join the Troops posted between Bamblepatam & Onara, & as we have a Chain of Signals of Various Import all the way to Bamblepatam our Intelligence from thence will be instantaneous & the Troops at Walteir are in Readiness with Captain Lane at their head to move North or South as may be necessary — Setteram appears to be very happy in this Opportunity of stepping forth. He is a Man of great foresight & no doubt sees it may be the means of gaining the good Opinions of the Company Before this happened long. He had often times expressed

to

Fort St. George January 1783

27th

to me a strong Desire of signalizing himself in behalf of the Company, hinting at the same time that he could be of use in transacting Business with the Nizam as there are means of Application & Conference in the Power of a Native that the Character of a European tied down by Forms and official Communications cannot consistently stoop to &c &c &c. I mention this to give your Lordship an Idea of the Man. He is in fact studious from a Motive of Policy to find out Opportunities of establishing his Credit with the Company & now he has got a Hobby Horse which I was happy to see him mount with so much Readiness and God will

Vizeram Rauze I expect here tomorrow with another Body of Irregulars, and indeed both the Brothers have shewn so much Zeal & alacrity on the present Occasion that I dare say your Lordship will in good Policy think it right to honour them with Letters of Acknowledgement which might be delivered to them in form.

I have the Honor to be &
Remain with Respect & Esteem.

Your Lordships Most
Obedient & faithful Humble
Servant

Vizagapatam
18th January 83

Signed Claude Russell

The

Fort St George January 1783

27th

The Right Honble Lord Macartney

My Lord,

From Vizagapatam the French Fleet not in sight

We have seen or heard nothing of the Enemy's fleet since them being off Sunapore the 15th at Sun Sett- so that it is probable they must have gone on to the Southward — This forenoon we indeed were heard some Guns to the Eastward off this Place which may have been from them but we could not discern any Ships -

I am
My Lord
your most Obedient Humble
Servant
(signed) Claude Russell

Vizagapatam
19th January 1783
4 P.M.

Received from the Town Mayor an Account of the Shoes received from Masulipatam as entered in Miscellany Book A°)

Received the following Letter from General Stuart with Intelligence from Captain Springle (as entered in M B) stating in substance that the French are encamped near Pippoe, who was joined a few Days ago by 6000 Murratta Horse, & intends meeting our Army if they march towards him. —

To

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Fort St. George January 1783

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

My Lord &c.-

From General Stuart the Army move from Vellout to Saumaram - enclosing Copy of the General orders with the Sentences of the General Court Martial;

I do myself the Honor to acquaint you that the Army took up their ground here yesterday in two Short marches of the 25th & 26th Instant from Vellouttee - The Six Iron Battering Guns did not in any great degree impede the March tho the Ground was very rough this which they passed Yesterday; on the Common roads they kept full pace with the Line and without any extra charges at present to the Company for Draft Bullocks -

I have the Honor to enclose six copies of the General Orders this day published to the Army with the Sentences of the General Court Martial as approved of by me relative to the Conduct of Captain Boneweaux, Captain Mc. Duall Captain Banks, and Captain Lieutenant Saxon in their respective stations at Trinchomalle before its surrender to the Enemy - The Right Honble President as Governor will be pleased to give the Sanction of his Name to the General orders being published in the Garrison of Fort St. George; The Original of the whole Proceedings of this General Court Martial as delivered to me by Lieutenant Colonel Gordon the President I shall in Duty present to His Excellency Sir Eyre Coote Commander in Chief of His Majesty's & of the Company's Troops in India,

Fort St. George January 1783

27th India, but I have directed the Deputy Judge Advocate General to make out an attested Copy & to deliver the same to your Lordship & S. Committee as matter of Record for the Honble Company —

During the Three Days which it must necessarily require to compleat this Army with Rice from the Fort as in General orders to the 28th of next Month I hope to find time to attend any Meetings in Committee which may be judge necessary to be summon during that space of time & I propose being in the Fort tomorrow night & on Wednesday the 29th will be ready at any hour appointed —

I have the Honor to be
My Lord &c
Your Most obedient &
Most Humble Servant
(Signd) Jam.s Stuart

Camp at
Daumarium
27th January 1783
Monday Noon —

My latest Information of the position of the Enemy is in the Inclosed note which I forgot to forward to your Lordship &c yesterday —

(Signd) J. S.

Received the following Letter from Captain Alexander Paterson, Commanding at Chinglepat

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney K. B.
Governor of Fort St. George

My Lord /

The Roads being clear and free from interruption of Horse I have thought Proper to send down

Fort St. George January 1783

From Capt. Paterson, — Sends an Escort for the remaining Stores wanted to complete his Indents — requests some Non Commissioned Officers may be sent to Chingleput to replace those who have lately died —

27

down an Escort under the Command of an Officer for the remaining Stores wanting to Compleat our Indents from hence of the 5th June and 14th of August last, and request your Lordship will direct them to be Complied with as most of the Articles are in immediate Want of —

Having lost several of my Non Commissions officers by a severe Distemper which has of late effected this Place — I have further to request your Lordship will be so good as to Order four or five Men to fill that Station in this Garrison being absolutely in want of them for the Duty of the Place —

I have the Honor to be with Respect —

My Lord

Your very obedient humble Servant

(signed) Alex.r Paterson
Capt.

Chingleput
26th January 1783 —

Received the following Letter from Mr. Cockrane

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

My Lord,

From Mr. B. Cockrane — I hope your Lordship will excuse my not having wrote you lately, as I have been much indisposed & recommended by the Doctor not to write I am happy to find Mr. Hippisley forwards

alt

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27th

all news coming from the other coast &c direct to your Lordship — Mr. Sulivan having delegated powers to me to act in the best manner for the Honble Company's interest, I in consequence ordered the Peace to be landed at Tranquebar, and at the particular request of Mr. Abestee for the saving of the lives of the distressed laboring people of this place ordered it to be disposed of agreeable to his wishes and for the benefit of the Honble Company, money being now much wanted for the paying up arrears due to the troops — The Snow I ordered here to land the remainder of the cargo for the use of the troops and the Coolys employed in demolishing the works here, & transporting the stores — 700 Bags has already been landed, and the remainder would have been brought ashore, had the weather permitted — Captain Robenson has no Letters for your Lordship or Select Committee or bills of lading, but informs me that the cargo consists of 1000 Bags of Purnea Peas, 200 of rice, 300 of Doll, and 700 bags of Doll with the husk on. I have now the honor to inform you that yesterday came into these roads in distress the snow Ishamanarsimloo commanded by Boorgaloo Nagalo Syrang from Bengal with rice consigned to your Lordship and Council — I opened the Letter for Mr. Secretary Freeman, and find by the bill of lading & invoice that the Cargo consists of 2250 Bags — but it is with concern I inform you that part of her cargo was thrown over board owing to the badness of the weather — The remainder is now landing. As soon as it is all brought ashore your Lordship

shall

27th

shall be informed of it – It is with concern I acquaint Your Lordship that the Sonny that left Madras the 30 Ultimo with Stores for this Garrison agreable to the list sent me by Mr. Deputy Secretary Hingscote, by his letter of the 26th. December and which arrived here the 5th. Instant, and dispatched to Capt.n Johnston to Adriampatam was captured by two Dutch Boats on the 6th. Instant Supposed from Jaffnapatam, Mr. Andrews writes me that they came in sight that morning, and advises the not sending off any more Guns or Stores, as the boats are still laying off that place. Fortunately the medicines for the Southern Garrisons were landed here – The badness of the weather added to the fears of so little prospect of conveying the stores from hence was what induced Capt.n Johnston & Captain Lanner the Commissary to dispatch the Sonny to adriampatam – Enclosed I have the honor to transmit you a paper of news from a certain quarter at Trangueber –

December 12th. The French Camp marched from Cuddalore, consisting of 900 Europeans – 150 Cofferies 100 Topasses and about 2000 Sepoys – two 24 Pounders four 18 Pounders, six 12 Pounders, six 6 Pounders – four Howitzers, leaving behind them as a Garrison 60 Europeans 50 Topasses & Cofferies. 50 Artillery Men, about 500 Sepoys Dutch & French and 2000 Hyders Sepoys encamped within the Bounds – this step they took with the permission of Hyder after three repeated requests for that purpose

C.

Fort St. George January 1783

27th On their arrival at Vellamot Petty the 16th December, they received accounts of Hyder Ali Cawn having died the 7th of December - they remained here, and on the 18th they received a letter from Cairon Sahib desiring them not to proceed any further, but to return to Cuddalore immediately - the English were preparing to retake that Place - after two days they proceeded and arrived at Tetty Petty - On the 22d two Cofs from Gingee on the road to Chillepett - here they were in the greatest distress for Provisions, and in order to procure Rice & Money, they gave out that they had received a letter from Mons.r Suffrein, giving an account of his arrival at Cuddalore, after having taken two and sunk two Ships of the English Fleet - that he only waited the arrival of Mr. Bussy, when he would immediately return on the Coast, in the mean time. Mr. Bussy desired that large Magazines of Provisions, might be laid up, before his arrival - A few days before Hyder Ali Cawn died, he sent for Poorna and Kistenrow, his two principal Treasurers, and dictated to them a letter, which they were to deliver to Sippoo Sahib on his arrival, the following is a translation of which - "I marched out of my Country to attack and drive the English out of their possessions in the Carnatic, in which attempt I have expended a vast treasure - I invited the French, but since their arrival have never received any assistance from them, however should I recover I think I could finish what I have begun - I have raised myself to the Nabobship of Syringapatam, established a great

Nam

Fort St George January 1783

27th Name and conquere many Countries, I therefore desire you will not bring disgrace upon my Name — you will make peace with the English, and return with your Army to Syringapatam and establish yourself in the Government — I think there is no reliance to be put upon any assistance from the French, but should their Ships arrive in a Month or forty five days you may join them — but weigh all matters well, do nothing rashly, and consider, whether or not you can effect my plans — When you make Peace, give large bribes to the English Officers, and procure the Fort and Distrect of Coondicottah belonging to the Trichinopoly Country, and the Hill & Districts of Haly pady belonging to the Vellore Country, you must have it stipulated in the Treaty with the English, that they are to grant you assistance whenever you require it — you will also take possession of the Fort of Mahé and deliver it over to the French" — Hyder Ali Cawn had three Brothers in Law, Meer Saheb — Muctum Saheb & Ameen Saheb — The first was killed at the Battle of Mootapollam, the second at Calicut about ten days after the Death of Hyder — Ameen Saheb who had the Command of 7 or 8000 Horse wrote a Letter to the Commanding Officer at Vellore promising to plunder the Treasury and to come off with His force, which being intercepted by the out guards, he was immediately made prisoner by order of Cairm Saheb — Tippoo Saheb arrived in Camp the 25th December who immediately gave orders for Ameen

Sahibs

429. Fort St. George 27th January 1783

Sahib's Head to be struck off which was done —

At a Select Committee present.

Monday 27th January 1783. The Right Honble George Lord Macartney President
Anthony Sadleir Esq.r Alexander Davidson Esq.r

Major General Stuart absent upon Service

Minutes of last Committee read and Approved —

Read the following Letter from General Stuart

To the Right Honble G: Lord Macartney K.B.
President & Governor &c. Select Committee
Fort St. George —

My Lord &c.

From General Stuart — Recommending a plan of Operations should the French Fleet make an attack the Northern Coast.

On the 22d Instant I received when in Camp the official Accounts of the French fleet being off Ganjam the 8th; also the intercepted correspondence taken in the Chaser french Sloop of War Prize to the Medea as entered on Record. —

On the 23d when in Committee. it seeming the wish of the Right Honble President &c that I should deliver my sentiments of what was expedient to be done in the present state of Affairs, I had no difficulty in offering verbally my own opinion on several principal Heads which the Right Honble President was so good at my desire to make notes of —

The time as I thought much prest then for decision and I myself was not a little hurried

about

Fort St. George 27th January 1783.

about many matters connected with the immediate next move of the Army.

I have now found some little leisure to state the different points I mentioned either in the course of that days meeting in Committee or of the 28th Morning following with such additions as may in one view bring forward all that may occur to me to observe on such important subjects at this present hour —

I give credit to the intelligence by the Chaser of a Descent intended to be made in the Circars by Mons.r Bussy and the Reinforcement expected from the Mauritius Islands and in this Belief I give my opinion first as to the Circars —

1 That Masulipatam & Ganjam should be considered as the only places there to be strengthened & supplied with stores and provisions to stand against the Enemy, and for this purpose the Guns & Military Stores to be sent from Vizagapatam with all expedition in due Proportion to Ganjam and the remainder to Masulipatam under proper escorts —

2 That the Treasure and Effects of the Honble Company should be sent from thence and from all the Outsettlements to Masulipatam in like manner & that it be recommended to the Chief & Council also to remove thither leaving some Gentlemen in the Civil Line so long as a Garrison remains —

3d That a body of Troops fitted for field service, consisting of His Majesty's and the Company's Europeans

in

Fort St. George 27th January 1783

in the Masulipatam District, together with the best of the Sepoy Corps, and the two Carnatic Battations from Ongole (late of this Army) should be incamped at Gondore, or if necessary near to the Pettah of Masuli=patam ready at the Shortest Notice to oppose the landing of the Enemy and even after landing to attack them whenever it can be done with Effect, before they can be joined by any Country Power. —

4 That this body of Troops be commanded by Lieut.t Colonel Jones and next to him Captain Lysaght with a Brevet of Major for the occasion — That these two officers should be as first & second in Command of all the Troops in the Circars untill further Orders, or at least of those in the Masulipatam & Vizagapatam Districts & that the best field Train which the places can afford be got in readiness for this body of Troops —

5 That 600 Sepoys under a determined Officer be left at Ellore (and a small Detached party from thence at Samelcottah) with orders to prevent the Enemy's landing and to protect the Vessels as long as possible and in the last extremity only to retire the safest road towards Masulipatam —

6 That one field piece be given for this party, taken from Samelcottah, and another left for the Garrison that is to remain at Vizagapatam — All the Artillery and Military Stores should be removed to Masulipatam & Ganjam with the exception only of the upper Fort of Cundapilly to which the Guns and Stores of the lower

Fort

Fort St. George 27th January 1783

Fort should be brought, and a steady officer put into it, to be defended to the last extremely as very necessary in the Eyes of the Country Powers and of the Nizam in particular —

7 All Guns and Stores that can not be carried off in proper time from Vizagapatam, to be destroyed rather than be left to the Vizanagoram family —

8 Captain Lane with a very strong Detachment should escort the Vizagapatam Guns and Stores to Ganjam and a number not under 1200 Sepoys of the best sort should form the Garrison of Ganjam —

And I am of opinion that no force will be landed from the french fleet now off Ganjam untill the Transports and reinforcement arrive from the Islands —

9 After providing for the Troops at Masulipatam; for Coringa, and Ganjam; & for Candapilly. the rest of the Circar Sepoys should be distributed in all the other usual places and Garrisons in certain proportions, and small Parties left in every Inlett of the Sea to give intelligence & prevent the boats being carried off — The Zebundy not to be withdrawn from their present stations in Collecting the Revenue —

10 That the Fort of Ganjam be forthwith put in the best posture of defence by wooden Work & fascines and that both there and at Masulipatam Magazines be formed of every Material (in the opinion of the Engineer) wanted for the Service, Coarse cloth for sandbags, and all sorts of Cloth fit for tents or Soldiers use —

11 Immediate attention to be had to collect & form Magazines

Fort St George 27th January 1783

Magazines of all sorts of Grain that can be procured, of Horse Gram Straw and firewood, upon Receipts on account of Revenue —

12 That Major Maule be sent as Chief Engineer to Masulipatam —

13 That the Zemendars who are the most likely to disturb the peace when occasion offers should be kept out, or brought to Masulipatam, and that Setheramraz in particular be desired to give a convincing proof of his attachment to the Company's Interest by sending his Son Narsama Gassepetty Rauze to that place to remain untill the Troubles are over — This is what occurs to me relative to the Circars —

And as to the future plans & Operations of the Army I have the honor to Command, I beg leave to say.

14 That in the belief of 2500 french, to be expected to land to the Northward with Mons.r Bussy under cover of Mons.r Suffrein's Squadron already there, and which I think will continue yet for two Months to have the sole dominion of these Seas, and from the Confirmed Reports of the state of Tippoos Army now joined to the French from Cuddalore, in strength as one. Received, I am of opinion that our chief attention should be given to keep this Army (together in as great force as possible) without the necessity of detaching, or deviding our attention for what may now be called secondary objects. —

15 In this view and belief, I mean with the leave of the Committee, now that I have thrown in a supplement of Rice into Trepassore in the present state of things, to move towards Carangooley & Wandewash to effect the demolition of these places, and of such stores as can not be brought off, and to retire the Garrisons; — the Moment indeed that I heard

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heard the intelligence by the Chaser I took on myself to write to the Officers Commanding in those places to prepare every thing for the purpose —

16 There will be no need to move at any great distance from the Presidency untill within a few days of the time when Captain Flint will let me know that he is ready. as to the other place it is now almost ready for blowing up from the Native Ingave —

17 For the mean while that this is doing the Army with a battering train as now in the field, has opposite to it, and at only the distance of three days march, the full united force of the Enemy: Who doubtful of our designs will not therefore, make Detachment to affect the Revenues or disturb the present quiet of the Southern Provences where Colonel Lang has nearly as large a body of Native Troops as I have after he is joined by the late Garrison of Negapatam —

18th Tippoo or the French can not now, make any Detachment in time to interrupt the only operations which can gain any Territory or real advantageous Ground upon the Enemy I mean the Army on the other side of India under G. Matthews, which I hope and trust will be directed, with the assistance of the Fleet against Mangalore the Conquest of which will in my humble opinion best operate towards an honorable and advantageous peace with Hyders Successor, or detach him from the French. —

19 If on the contrary the emprefion by General Matthews is from Calicut as reported I am humbly of opinion

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opinion that the fortunate opening by the diversion of the whole force of the Enemy on this side will be lost and perhaps irrecoverably so —

20 If in the movement of this Army towards Wandewash or in returning from thence after the Demolition; the Enemy offer us Battle or if I find a good occasion to attack them with the leave of the Committee, I will neither decline the one, nor lose the other opportunity —

21st Still I think that the great object for this Army is, to Keep entire, and not to risk any thing decisively untill circumstances warrant it, which is not the case by any means at present in the general re-compleation of our affairs all over India; in the expectation too of an undoubted superiority by Sea, and most probably every where in a Month or two — —

22 The difficulty of reaping real <u>firmanent</u> advantage from Victory at any distance from the Coast, for want of Cavalry in number sufficient, and in the present state of the Carriage of this Army, will make me try every way to tempt and induce the Enemy to engage nearer to the Coast, and perhaps the French now with Tippoo will lead him to this step.

23 If nothing of this sort happens, I propose returning to a situation where I can be supplied with Rice from the Mount & the Fort. and be in readiness to move towards <u>Vellore</u> with a Convoy, if there should be occasion; I shall in that case Return the Hanoverians now with the Army to the Garrison of Fort St. George

besides

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besides 7 or 800 Sepoys from the Army —

24 If happily thro' money or other means, Captain Cuppage shall have got a supply in addition to the Crop on the ground, it will be a matter to be well weighed whether this Army at that precise moment, should not wait for the event of Bussy's Landing which in ten or twelve days will most probably take place somewhere on this Coast: because I shall think that there will be the time to risk a general battle I mean before this reinforcement, supposing it landed and unprovided, shall have effected a junction with Tippoo and the other french now with him. —

25 But supposing Bussy lands to the North or South of Masulipatam there is scarce a doubt but that Tippoo's Army will move in that direction and this Army must be in readiness to move at the same time, along the Coast Northward. for which purpose I beg leave to recommend the selling of every place on the March with grain of all sorts, to be stored or buried above and under ground, particularly at Nellore where and in the District, there is by every Account great abundance and immense Herds of Cattle known to the Amuldar, and Captain Campbell should be wrote to to know particularly where the Grain and the Cattle can be had in case of concealment— the same to be observed at Ongole & in every Village & District. —

26 On the March to the Northward, according to intelligence and circumstances which will be made known to the

Committee,

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Committee I shou[illegible] with to be guided in the Demolition of the Places & retiring of the Garrisons from the Forts where we have at present Troops & Artillery. —

There are many considerations which may lead even to preserve a Weak place when the Enemy does not point at the Possession of it. particularly the Collection of Revenue and protection of the Inhabitants and their grain & property and a temporary Magazine for Grain; in this View I now see Nellore and some inland Forts in that District. —

27 As to Pollicate I should not be of opinion to blow it up, unless the Enemy land at or near Nellore it is a very convenient halting Place for parties and Conveys and of some security in communication from the Northward and there is by my Information aquantity of Horse Gram & Rice at present there sufficient to serve the Army — a few days in case it should be needed on the march —

28 Some centrical place capable of defence against Horse and where the Cattle can be fed & guarded should be fixed upon near to the Presidency and to Pollicate, where forrage and Draft Bullocks, and particularly slaughter Cattle & Sheep both for the Army and Garrison may be Kept in large numbers; because after the demolition of Wandewash and Carangooley the North is the only resource for such supplies, the landing of an Enemy or Devastation of the Districts may deprive us of the supplies which may now be secured — Chickeracottah Seems a proper Place for the purpose —

29 The utmost attention and despatch seems necessary

to

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to forward the Carriage Bullocks provided at Ellore under Mr. Cotts Inspection, towards the Presidency, because the Carriage of this army has not as I believe, been encreased 400 Bullocks for several months past, tho' the demand on account of additional Europeans. tents &c has taken double that number; & consequently lessened the Carriage of the Rice in other Departments that used to carry it. This is a very unfortunate Circumstance & much to be regretted.—

30 From this present day that the Army has incamped on this Ground, every hours will be employed by the Carriage of the Army to carry Rice from the Fort and from the Mount to which place (the Mount Magazine) I hope the Agent for the Army will with all deligence contrive to send the Coolies (daily if possible) as already recommended.—

31 The public and private Followers will receive in the Fort as soon as can be, three Weeks Rice; which they carry as usual. and in this manner when the next Movement takes place (suppose in not many days hence) this Army will be provided in these respects adequate to the objects in view, or which I have, thus, with deference offered my opinion to the Right Honble President & Committee to the best of my recollection of What I did deliver verbally at the two last meetings of the 23.d and 24.th Instant of what in addition or amendment at present occurs to me on the

Subject—

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Subject — I have honor to be most respectfully
My Lord &c
Your most obedient &
Most Humble Servant

Jan. 26th
Camp
January 1783.

(Signed) Sam.l Stuart Jr.

3. C. MM.

The Measures recommended in the foregoing Letter to be adopted in the Circars are in substance nearly the same that were verbally recommended by General Stuart at the meeting of the Committee the 23d. Instant and are comprized in the general plan resolved on the 24th. Instant, the 9th. and 13th. Articles excepted which require further consideration. —

Agreed that the following Letters be now dispatched with the Enclosures therein Mentioned —

James Daniell Esq.r
Chief & Council of Masulipatam —

Gentlemen /

To Masulipatam — Communicating the Resolutions taken for the Defence of that District. —

The Intelligence obtained by Captain Gower from private Letters found on board the Chacer, affording great reason to believe that the Enemy are meditate an attack upon the Northern Circars, we have after mature deliberation resolved upon the following general plan for their security, as the best to be adopted under our circumstances, and with the

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the limited means we possess —

We think it most probable independently of the Intelligence above mentioned, that the Enemy will attempt to land at one of the Ports in your District, or in its neighbourhood, and that Masulipatam will be their first, and grand object — From this consideration as well as the superior Importance of Masulipatam in every respect, We make it the principal object of our attention.

Our distance from the Seine of Action, makes it necessary that we should not only confide to you the execution of the measures We may suggest, but leave you, also a discretional latitude to act upon your own Judgment, whenever you shall be of opinion that the Public Service would be injured by your waiting for orders from hence —

Upon the same Principle, and in order that there may be a connected System of Operations throughout the Circars We authorize you to send Instructions to the other Factories in any matters that relate to their general defence, and to call for the Assistance of their Troops, or any part of them, as also the Troops at Ongole, in case of necessity to reinforce those in the field or to strengthen your Garrison —

A Body of Troops consisting of his Majesty's and the Company's Europeans in your District, together with the best of the Sepoy Corps, and the two Carnatic Battalions, lately ordered from Ongole is to be assembled, and encamped

Fort St George 27th January 1783

encamped near Masulipatam; and we desire you will furnish them with the best field train in your power, and equip them for field service with the utmost possible expedition, so that they may be in readiness on the shortest Notice to oppose the Enemy's landing or attack them before they shall have had time to establish themselves, or to be joined by any Country power.

The Body of Troops, and all the rest of the forces in the Circars, are to be under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Jones, and next to him Captain Arthur Lysaght, whom we have appointed a Major by Brevet for the present Service.

We have appointed Major George Maule as second of the Corps of Engineers, to be Chief Engineer of your Garrison -

We desire you will consult with Colonel Jones on every occasion, and determine on no Military measure without his advice and Concurrence - We are sensible we need not recommend to you our wishes that you cultivate the most perfect good understanding with Colonel Jones, or point out to you how essential it must be to the success of your respective exertions. Coringa we think is the Port where it is most likely the Enemy will attempt to effect a Landing, and we therefore desire that a detachment of 600 Sepoys with our field Piece from Samulcotah may be

Stationed

stationed there, under a vigilant officer, with orders to use his utmost endeavors to prevent the Enemy's landing, to protect the Port, and the Vessels, as long as possible, and in the last extremity only to retire by the safest road towards Masulipatam.

From the Troops at Coringa, a small party must be detached to Samulcotah, and called back to Coringa, whenever the Commanding officer shall think it necessary.

Small parties must be stationed at all the other Ports under careful native officers, with orders to send Intelligence upon the approach of an Enemy, to prevent Boats from being carried off, and to destroy them in case of any certain appearance of an Intention to land Troops.

The Guns & Stores in the lower Fort of Cundapilly, must be removed to the upper Fort and a steady Officer placed in it with orders to maintain the Garrison to the last extremity.

The Sibbandy stationed in different parts for the Collection of the Revenue need not be withdrawn, until the Enemy shall have actually landed.

We transmit you Copies of our Instructions to Vizagapatam and Ganjam, by which you will perceive that we consider Masulipatam and Ganjam, as the only Places in the Circars, capable of making any stand against a European Enemy, and

Fort St George 27th January 1783

that we have in consequence ordered a great part of the artillery and Military Stores at Vizagapatam, to be sent to Ganjam, and the remainder with the Company's Cash, and valuable property to Masulipatam—

You will accordingly concert measures with the Chief & Council of Vizagapatam, to facilitate their safe conveyance—

You will also be informed by these papers of our Intentions with regard to the Troops of those Districts.

We send you under flying Seals for your Information, Letters to the Residents at Ingeram and Madapollam, regarding the Company's property at those places.

Understanding that much time is lost by the detention of the Letters, until a stated time of dispatching the Sappalls, We desire that in future they may be dispatched immediately on their arrival—

You will of course cause as large a quantity of Grain & other provisions as you can possibly collect to be laid up at Masulipatam, with the utmost Expedition, and order the Cattle to be drawn from the Sea Coast—

We are,
Gentlemen,
Your most Obedient Servants—
(Signed) Macartney
&c. Select Committee

Fort St George
27th January 1783—

To Mr William Hamilton
Resident at Ingeram—

Sir,

Having reason to believe that the Enemy

intend

Fort St. George 27th. January 1783

To Ingaram & Maddepollam directing them to follow any Instructions they may receive from Masulipatam —

intend to attempt to land in the Circars, We desire that you will send the Company's Cash & Bales, and all other Property, that cannot easily, and suddenly be removed, to Masulipatam, and follow such other Instruc=tions as you may receive from the Chief and Council of that Settlement —

We are,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servants

(signed) Macartney

&c. Select Committee

Fort St. George
27th. January 1783

To the same to Mr. Duff at Maddepollam —

Read the following Letter from the Chief and Council of Vizagapatam —

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B

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

at Fort St. George

My Lord & Gentlemen,

From Vizagapatam — the Vizianagrum Family put themselves at the head of a Body of Troops & give great proof of their attach=ment to the Company; advising of the several Dispositions taken to oppose the Enemy should they land

In consequence of the Letters we informed you that our Chief had written to Rajah Vizeram Rauze, and his Brother Sitteram Rauze the latter arrived here this Morning Post from Chicacole, from Whence of his own accord, he had before gone to Calingapatam, with two Companys of Sepoys, and 2 Guns, on an Alarm which proved a false one, of the Enemy being there — From this Circumstance, and the Readiness both the Brothers have shewn

to

Fort St. George 27th January 1783

to exert themselves on the present Occasion, in whatever is pointed out by us, We have every Reason to think them steady in their Attachment to the Company, and that they will prove useful friends — Lieutenant Range is decidedly of Opinion, that the Enemy never will attempt to land without Encouragement from the Zemindars, and these we hope, (if any of them are disaffected) will be afraid of acting, when the Vizianagarum Family are our Friends — In this point of View, the Appearance of the Rajah at the head of a Body of Men, tho' irregulars, will have a good Effect, and We have therefore availed ourselves of the Proposal made by them of taking the Field, with about 5000 Men, to be disposed of as we may find necessary — The other half of the Force he has collected, he proposes shall be posted on the eastern boundaries, to keep the Wild Rajahs in Awe, while our Attention is taken up on the Sea Coast — By this Disposition, and strong Guards he has posted at the different Ports, but particularly at Pentacotah which on account of its Vicinity to the Rajamundry District, where some of the Zemindars are thought to be not well affected, requires particular Attention; We hope the Enemy will at least find it as difficult a Matter to accomplish anything in this District; But with a few Europeans to give Spirit and Confidence to our Sepoys, who have never seen Service — it perhaps would be almost a thing impracticable —

In

Fort St. George 27th. January 1783

In Justice to the Rajah, we think it incumbent on us to mention to your Lordship &c, that he has offered to march immediately to the Relief of Ganjam if desired - but at this time when we may hourly expect an Enemy at our own door, it would in our Opinion be imprudent, consistently with our duty to send any part of our Force to so great a distance - On this principle, We should have found ourselves under the Necessity of not complying with a Requisition from the Gentlemen at Ganjam, for some of our Europeans, had not their infirm and crippled Condition (being only Invalids) rendered them incapable of Marching 130 Miles —

The great fatigue to which the little body of infirm Invalids that compose our Garrison are exposed by being on constant Duty, have induced us to allow them Batta, during the present Alert, which we flatter ourselves your Lordship &c will not disapprove —

Yesterday late in the Evening the Honble Company's Ships Ceres and Earl Talbot anchored in our Road, and on being apprized of the Enemy's Fleet being on the Coast, they sailed in the Night for Madras. They had been chased by a Frigate off the Coast, in Lat. 19, and have reasons to think the Latham has fallen into the Enemy's hands as

Fort St. George 27th. January 1783

as they saw her on the 8th, and afterwards a Ship like her in the Possession of the Frigate, but not without having before heard a good deal of Firing on the 9th. —

We are, very Respectfully,
My Lord & Gentlemen,
Your most obedient, and
most Humble Servants

Vizagapatam
15th. January 1783 —

(signed) Claud Russell
H.V. Crawford
Chas. Maxtone —
F. H. Drake

Extract of the Minutes of the Select Committee
the 27th January 1783 —

The President has the honor to observe to the Committee, that it appears by the Letters from the Chief and Council of Vizagapatam, that the Rajah of Vizianagrum has put himself at the head of 5000 Men, for the purpose, as he alledges, of defending that Country from the threatened attack of the French, and with an offer of marching to the defence of Ganjam —

President's Minute on the above.

Little dependance can be placed on the discipline or valor of those troops, and it is not absolutely certain that entire reliance ought to be placed on the attachment of their leader, to the Company — To disband such a number of Men, might be attended at present with

Continued

confusion — To suffer them to act without the Control of the Kings or Companys Troops or Officers might be dangerous — Their Junction to the Corps ordered to be assembled under Col. Jones, might add to it some real strength, and might appear to add to it a great deal more — So joined, it will be less in the power of the Enemy to practise upon their allegiance to the Company, and lessen their power to shew any marks of disaffection —

It is therefore proposed, since the Vizianagarum Troops are already assembled, that the Rajah be desired to put them under the orders of Col. Jones, and that the President do write to the Vizianagrum family for that purpose ——

With respect to Sitteram Rauzes putting his Son, Narsima Guzzy putty Rauze, into the Bands of the Company; it is a delicate point: those who are on the spot, who know him, & his disposition, how far he is to be soothed and gained by confidence; or affected and domineered by apprehension, must be the best Judges, in what manner to accomplish such an object. I therefore think it will be best to mention it to Mr. Russel, leaving him, a discretionary power how to press it, or even hint at it — At the same time I confess my opinion, that unless our System was despotic & Tyrannick throughout, which (however it may have been in some particular instances) the Zemindars know is not universal, — Some measure of this

Fort St. George 27th. January 1783

this Kind, is so tender a point, would be of little or no effect — The Zemindars know our manners and Government, they know that we should not, in any extremity, put the Hostage to death, and they in probably, would adopt a similar mode of security on their part, by contriving to seize on some Considerable Company's Servant, and we should then be obliged to submit to the Disgrace of an Exchange, without effecting any purpose, but that of alienating those affections, which it might have been in our power to engage. —

(signed) Macartney

The President also lays before the Committee draft of a Letter to Vizeram Rauze and Sitteram Rauze as entered in Country Correspondences No.os) corresponding with the opinion expressed in the Minutes —

The Committee concur in the opinion of the President as expressed in the foregoing Minute, and approved of the Letters prepared to be written to Vizeram Rauze & Sitteram Rauze. and it is agreed that a Letter corresponding with it be written to the Rajah Vizeram Rauze —

Agreed that the Letter be sent open to the Chief and Council of Vizagapatam together with a Copy of these minutes. —

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Fort St. George January 1783.

27th

Sent the following letter to Mr William Rose

To Mr William Rose,

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honble the President and Select Committee, to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of the 21st Instant and to inform you that they accept of the proposal therein contained for the delivery of a quantity, not less than 100, nor exceeding 120 Leaguers of good Bengal Rum of 135 Gallons each, at 200 Star Pagodas P. Leaguer, and they desire that the same may be immediately delivered into the Garrison Stores

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most Obedient,
humble Servant
John Huddleston
Sec.y

Fort St George
27th January 1783.

To Mr Rose, accepting his Proposal for supplying Bengal Rum

Received the following Letter from Captain Cuppage

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

My Lord.

The 25th Received 1000 Pagodas from Mr Ogilvie for the use of this Garrison, and now send back the same people - The day following I had a letter from Colonel Lang, dated Sanjore the 17th Instant - all was quiet

From Capt.n Cuppage, receives 1000 Pag.s with intelligence from Col.l Lang regarding the operations of Hyder, Gen.l Mathews, and Col.l Maxfield the troops will be ready to act by the 1st need unmount, requesting a supply of money

27th Fort St. George January 1783.

guest near him. Hyder had called in all the Troops in his Neighbourhood General Matthews was within 20 Miles of Mangalore & Colonel Macleod [illegible] the 29th Ultimo from Canonore to join him, the Siege of which place he intended undertaking immediately He Entrenched Camp, he is bravely in expectation of hearing of the arrival of the French fleet on the Coast in which case I expect a greater force than is generally supposed - I suppose Camp remains to the Eastward of Caveripauk Within these few Days past I have got a very seasonable supply of Cattle, and our Crop is coming on very well But it will not be ready for reaping before the 1st Week in March, and by that time we must have near Ten Days Grain in Garrison, I hope your Lordship will send more supply of Money least the Army should not move the way -

I have the honor to be,

Vellore
20th Jany 1783.

My Lord,

Your most Obt
humble Servant.
(Signed) John Cuppage

22d

Sent the following Letter to Lieutenant Colonel Jones, with Copy of the Letter of the Instant to the Chief and Council of Masulipatam

452

28th

Fort St George January 1783.

To Lieutenant Colonel Jones
Commanding His Majesty's and the Honble Company's
Troops in the Northern Circars

Sir,

The Prospect of an Invasion of the
Circars by the Enemy, having made it necessary to assem-
ble a Body of Troops near Masulipatam for their Defence,
We have sent Instructions to the Chief and Council for
that purpose, and for such other measures and precautions
as appear to us necessary to be taken in the present Junctures,

We transmit you Copy of those Instruc-
tions, by which you will perceive that we have entrust-
ed You, not only with the Command of the Troops acting on
the Masulipatam District, but of all the rest of the
Forces employed in the Circars.

We have adopted this measure from our
knowledge of your Character, and in the fullest confidence
that you will Co-operate with our Chief and Council, in the
execution of our Orders, and in the use of those discretional
powers with which We have invested them, and on every
Occasion cordially unite Your exertions with theirs, for the
advancement of the public Service.

We request you will Correspond with us
on all matters that Relate to the Service now entrusted to
you, and sincerely wishing you Success - We remain -

Sir,

Your most Obt & Hble Servants
Macartney &c.
Select Committee

Fort St George
the 23d July 1783

[illegible]

To Lieut Colo Jones
Appointing him to the
Command of all the Troops
in the Circars and
enclosing instructions to
Masulipatam on that
subject.

Fort St. George January 1789.

Wm 41.42.43 Sent Letters as entered in Miscellany Book,

To Mr Benjamin Swain advising him of his being appointed Assistant to Mr Swain on his Deputation to the Southward

To Captain Taylor desiring he will receive on board His Ship His Majesty Swain and Swain and land them at Calicut or Anjingo, as Mr Swain shall think most expedient

To the Chief and Council of Vizagapatam with Extract of our Minutes of the 7th on their Letter of the 15th Instant, and a Letter to Vizeram Raw and his Brother, as entered in Country Correspondence; with Copy of it for their information

X The following Instructions having been prepared for Mr Swain in Consequence of his late appointment on a Deputation to the Southward are now Read and approved and Ordered to be sent him

To Mr Swain with Instructions for his late appointment on a Deputation to the Southward

For

The State of the Commercial Concerns, as represented by the Committee of Assigned Revenues, has determined us to send a Person in whom we can confide to enquire into and remove as far as may be practicable, the misunderstandings and Differences which have arisen thereto to the Prejudice of the Revenues; and we have appointed you for the Service, not only from the Trust we place in your Zeal and Capacity, but in compliance also with an early recommendation preferred to us by the Committee for employing its Members occasionally

Fort St George January 1783.

occasionally in making Circuits thro the different Districts of the Carnatic agreeably to the Original Institution of the Committee.

We need not enter here into a Detail of the Complaints which have come here from Tinnivelly, since you are already so fully acquainted with them, You will nevertheless be furnished with Extracts of such Parts of the Advices from thence, as it may be necessary to take with you, and we shall in this place explain to you the particular objects of your Appointment. You will have observed in the Correspondence, that various Representations were made by the late Renter against Mr. Proctor, and by Mr. Proctor against the Renter, and that Disagreements Likewise have taken place between Mr. Proctor and the Commanding Officer; amidst such a Mass of Complaint and Recrimination we know not what particular facts to select as most worthy of Attention, were any Proofs Exhibited we should be at no Loss, but the whole standing barely upon Assertion and Denial we can only recommend as the best mode which occurs to us that upon your Arrival at Tinnivelly you proceed to investigate such of the Complaints as may appear to have any probable foundation, some we evidently dictated by Prejudice and Resentment, and some we think too unimportant for any Enquiry, but those which relate to unauthorized Transactions with the Renter, since the Assignment of the Country was Subjected, or which may have had any direct Influence upon the Revenue merit diligent Examination. We allude here particularly to the Insinuations thrown out by the late Renter against Mr. Proctor concerning undue advantages made by

Fort St. George January 1793

by the Measurement of Grain and exchange of Money
To the misconduct charged by Mr Proctor to the Renter,
and the unwarrantable interference said to have been
exerted by the Outstanding Concerns of Mr Light

In those enquiries you must be care-
ful that no interruption be given to the Business of
the present Renter, nor any steps taken which may
affect his necessary Influence in the Districts
On the contrary the independent and Refractory Spirit
of the Polygars - their Superior Strength - and the predatory
Incursions which they are daily making in Contempt
of all Government and Authority, are Irresistible Argu-
ments with us for giving to the Renter at this Juncture
an Extraordinary Degree of Support - Most of the
Misconduct of the Polygars has however been attribu-
ted to the Oppressions of Government or of its Depend-
atives, often exacting from those People without reference
to their Abilities or to Precedent, but in proportion
to their Disposition of submitting to such exactions, or to
the Power of enforcing them - The Tranquility of the
Country, & the attachment of the Polygars are therefore
most likely to be effected by ascertaining a fixed Jumbah
not subject to future Alterations, and bearing a reasonable
Proportion to the Dispositions of the Inhabitants as the pro-
ximate measure of their Value to them of the Protection of Govern-
ment - It is a Duty we lye incumbent upon us to
extend our Protection to the peaceable and industrious
Ryots, but in doing this however we must pay attention
to long established Customs and Practice - The Under-
tenants and even the lowest Ryots are ever ready to

Dispute

Fort St. George January 1783

dispute the lawfull claims of Government, and in-
Acts of Deceit and Chicanary are often too cunning
for the most experienced Renters - In examining their
Complaints therefore some caution is necessary, lest
in the evident Desire of protecting them against
Oppression, we lose sight of the Justice due to the Renter,
and of that support without which he never can perform
any of his Engagements. But in cases where manifest
wrong or invasion of property is attempted, the Party aggrieved
will be assisted in the most ample manner, and we shall
always be happy upon proper Representations to interpose
our Authority for such purposes -

You are sensible of our Desire as well
as of the Propriety of your acquiring every knowledge which
may be conducive to the future Welfare and Improvement
of the Country, and this is an Object which we particularly
recommend to your Diligent Enquiry - We wish likewise
to know not only the Sources from whence the present
Revenue of the Turnevelly Provinces arises, but whether
there be any other natural Potentions which may be
improved and by what means - This important Business
of the Pearl fishery will not escape your Attention - You
will forward the President with every light you can
obtain upon that Subject, as well as upon the Commerce
and Manufactories at Tatecorin and the Settlements on
the Gulph of Manar - We understand that the Soil is
favorable for Spices, and that the Manufactures might
be considerably extended - Any Information that you
can obtain upon these Points will be acceptable to the
Company - -

WE

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Fort St. George January 1789

Mr Proctor will be desired to deliver to you Copies of all Letters, Papers, and Accounts that have any Relation to the Revenue. Whatever Orders are necessarily must be executed by you during your Stay at Tinnevelly, and we shall add to our future Instructions to you alone — Mr Light has our Orders for inspecting the Repairs of Tanks, but as we do not mean that any Gentleman now there should have the least Pretence for interfering in the Country Affairs We shall direct him to deliver a Copy of these Orders to you that you may perform what is necessary on the Subject of them — And you will for the future receive from the Renter the Monies he shall have to pay to Government

We wish you to hasten and complete by means of the Schoolmaster the Accounts of the late Renters Assistance Management for 1190 — The Proctors Accounts of Receipts and Disbursements drawn out in the form which was some time ago — transmitted to him, must be kept complete to the present time, and in future the account current forwarded every Month

As there is no Person at present in the Madura Country to watch the Conduct of the Renter, or keep the Account of the Receipts and Disbursements in that District, we must desire your Attention to those Objects, and to the Commanding Officer there on the Subject

We now Desire and our hope that your Reports to Government will be founded as much

Fort St. George January 1783

much as possible upon Your own Observation and Inspec-
tion, Orders will be sent to the Renters of Tinnevelly &
Malabar, as well as to the Commanding Officers —
Paymasters or other Persons who may be in Office in
those Districts to comply with your Desire at all times
to submit to your Inspection all Magazines, Stores, —
Books of Accounts, Registers, or other Places or Things for
whence you may think necessary to inspect and also to
give you every information in their Powers which you
may want to receive from them — The Commanding Officers
will also receive Directions to give you such Escorts
as you may think necessary for your Safety in
making your Circuit thro the several Parts of the
Districts. For it is not our Intention that you should fix
your Residence in any one Part of the District except
when and where the Execution of your Office or the neces-
sity of Protection may require it, We expect that you
will be enabled to give us from your own Knowledge —
such accounts of the State of the Provinces under your
Inspection as will lead to the fittest measures for attain-
ing all the objects of the Arrangement from the Nabob —
His Highness having delegated his Authority to the —
President only, no Part of it can be substituted to you, but
on receiving your Report and Opinion the respective —
Determinations on the subject of them will be taken and
Instructions sent to you to see them carried into Execution.
We wish you to correspond with Mr. John Sullivan, —
Resident in Tanjore, whose judgment and Experience —
cannot fail to be of Service —

We allow you Seven Pagodas P Day
for your Expences being the same which was allowed —

Mr.

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Fort St. George January 1783.

Mr. Porter, the Receiver of the Revenue in the Carnatic Country, Ans we allow your Assistant Captains Pay and Batta

Fort St. George
28th Jany 1783

We are
Sir,
Your most Obedt
humble Servants
[signed] Macartney &c
Select Committee

Received the following Letter from Masulipatam inclosing one from Mr Westcott on the Subject of his Contract Bullocks and their Arrival at Bengal driving a supply of Arrack

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

From Masulipatam inclosing Letter from Mr Westcott on the Subject of his Contract Bullocks, and Letter at Bengal regarding supply of Arrack

My Lord and Gentlemen

Herewith we have the honor to inclose Copy of a Letter which we have received from Mr Westcott

When we hired Mr Westcott to send some of his Contract Bullocks to Ongole with the two Pingaties of Guns which Captain Edmonds had intended for, we expected they would have been returned immediately. Mr Goodwin having informed us that he had some Bullocks in Training, and expected in a short time to be able to procure as many as the Detachment would require, Captain Edmonds however has since informed us that no Bullocks fit for immediate Service could be procured at Ongole, and because we now

Fort St. George January - 1783

were unwilling to detain any of those which had
been purchased for the Army to the Southward, we
desired Captain Edmonds to retain the Bullocks —
which were sent to Angola with the Guns: this Case
was a matter of necessity, because when the —
Bullocks which Mr. Westcott is obliged by his Contract
to keep in Readiness for whatever Service may be
required, are sent out of the District, it is not in our
power to fit out a Detachment for the field on any
sudden emergency which may happen, as has been —
exemplified on the present occasion, when it was thought
necessary to desire Colonel Jones with a Detachment of —
Europeans and Sepoys to proceed from Ellore to Gundoor, he was
obliged to leave one of the two Companies of 6th Sepoys which are
attached to the Grenadier Sepoys and all the Tumbrils —
belong for want of draft Bullocks — With Respect to what
Mr. Westcott has desired us to Represent to your Lordship
&c. regarding the Loss which he sustained on not being —
repaid the Money which he advanced for the Pay of the
Drivers and maintenance of the Cattle which he sent to
Colonel Baillie's Detachment, we have no doubt you will
consider it unreasonable that Mr. Westcott should receive
whatever he is entitled to by the Military Regulations,
as he not only lost the money which he advanced to encour-
age the Drivers to proceed with Colonel Baillie, but also
his Cattle, by the Detachment being unfortunately cut off
and we therefore entreat your Lordship &c. will be
pleased to permit us to assure Mr. Westcott he will
receive the Money due to him when the exigencies of
Government will admit of it.

We Have

Fort St. George January - 1783

When Colonel Jones's Detachment was Ordered to Ellore, the Paymaster applied to us for a Supply of Arrack for the use of the Soldiers which we accordingly furnished him with, altho' we had not at that time half the quantity in Store which has usually been considered as necessary for a Garrison Stock, since the arrival of that Detachment at Gundoor, another application has been made to us for Arrack which has induced us to write to Bengal for 100 Leaguers of Arrack or Rum to be sent us immediately, as we are unable either to complete our Garrison Stock or to procure any wholesome Spirit for present use in these Districts and we herewith forward Copy of the Letter which we have taken the Liberty of writing to the Governor General & Council to save time, which we hope your Lordship &c. will approve -

We have the Honor to be, very Respectfully,

My Lord & Gentlemen,

Your most Obedient,
Humble Servants

[Signed] { I. Daniell
Thos. Barnard
Jas. Hodges -
Jno. Peter Boileau -
Alex. Pringle -

Masulipatam
22. January 1783.

To
James Daniell Esqr.
Chief and Council of Masulipatam
Gentlemen

Your Letter of the 13th and one from your Secretary of the 14th I am to acknowledge, the reason that

Fort St. George January 1783.

that the Drivers that went with the Bullocks to Ongole, were not so good as usual was, I had not time to provide proper ones, your Letter, mentioned the Bullocks were only to draw the Guns, and Tumbrils to Ongole, but to return immediately to me: and as I conceived it required some haste, I hired such as I could pick up, the Drivers that Generally attend Detachment had been hired by Mr. Pattle to attend the Bullocks going to the Southward — My Contract is Simply for the Peticars — and I have only one hundred and fifty Bullocks, and hundred and twenty [120] of these are now at Ongole, of course your Order that your Secretary to remove the Guns & Tumbrils from Ellore, I cannot without proper Bullocks execute, & I must now take the Opportunity of saying, I cannot be answerable for any Deficiency, should any Detachment be Ordered out, or for the Bullocks there hired, I will do all my endeavours to get the best I can, but hope, should it so happen, that there may be any immediate want of them, You will assist me with your authority in those Pettahs — The Bullocks that are now at Ongole, and the Pick of all my Bullocks — and I now most sincerely wish could be returned to me for the use of the Peticars I have Ordered my Servant now at Ellore to send all the Bullocks, I have left, and to press them to bring the Guns and Tumbrils left in Store there, down to join the Detachment here, Two Six Pounders with " out three Tumbrils have attended the Detachment to this Place —

I must Request of you to inform me to whom I am to apply for the Monthly Pay of the

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Fort St. George January - 1783.

the Bullock at Ongole, and from whom I am to expect the Payment of any Loss I may sustain, you must allow there is a wide difference, in People having out Bullocks to the Company, that have the attending and Conveying them, from those whose Cattle are taken & Separated from their immediate care; I am induced to mention this Circumstance, & to beg your Answer on this Subject, from a Loss I have already sustained on a similar occasion to this before me, and to beg of you to represent the hardship I have long labored under - I wrote the Select Committee more on some future Day regarding the Advance I made, and pray the Loss I experienced - not that I expect any immediate Payment, being sensible that the Situation of affairs will not admit of it - but to Request of you to procure for me - some acknowledgment as a Security - which in some future Day I can receive - When Colonel Baillie left Ellore for Tumcondah - The Select Committee Ordered him to apply to me, for any assistance he might require in any Line - The want of Draft Cattle to draw his Guns to Tumcondah prevented his moving, he applied to me, I attached one hundred and ten Bullock to his Artillery to attend him as far as Tumcondah, soon after his arrival at Tumcondah, he received Orders to march with all expedition to the Southward, my Bullock had then left him, and returned as far back as Gunsoor, Colonel Baillie instantly wrote me, to send back the Bullocks to him and that without them he could not execute the Orders he had received, I not only complied, but advanced to a Driver, Pay until the 31st August, and many for the purchase of Grain for the Bullocks, I was not unmindful the unhappy Catastrophe of that unfortunate Detachment

Fort St. George January 1783

last from the 20th June the Day Colonel Baillie
marched from Ellore unto 31st August I never received
a single fanam, altho as I said before I advanced the
full Pay to the Drivers I hope, Gentlemen, you will
not take the opportunity of Representing the above
circumstances, to the Select Committee, to procure for
me some acknowledgement, that hereafter I may
recover my loss - I have my Correspondence with Colonel
Baillie on the Subject - These circumstances induce
me to wish you to procure me the monthly Pay of my
Bullocks now to Pugole with Captain Clements, but
could these Bullocks possibly be returned, I should
be much pleased, as they are such as I can depend upon
for Service I am to inform you I cannot procure a
Single Driver to go to Pugole, or the three Hundred
(300) Carriage Bullocks required for that Service -

I am, most Respectfully,

Gentlemen,

Your most Obedient
humble Servant
(Signed)..... Geo: Westcott

Gundoor
17th Jany 1783

(A true Copy)
Alex Scott Secy

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

Honble Sir and Sirs,

Our Garrison Stock of Arrack being
reduced

Fort St. Georg January 1783

Doubt to be less than half the quantity which it has usually been thought necessary to lay up in Store, and the impossibility of procuring any Batavia Arrack, or other wholesome Spirit in these times, induces us to entreat your Honor &c. will be pleased to Order 1500 Leaguers of Arrack, or if that Spirit cannot be procured, the same quantity of Old Rum for any sort of new Spirits will endanger the Health of the People, to be sent us immediately the small quantity which remains in Store is daily diminishing and must soon be exhausted as tho' both the Kings and Company's Troops in this District are reduced to one Dram a Day and the Health of those People particularly the Kings Troops just arrived from Europe, may materially suffer without it.

We have the Honor to be,

Very Respectfully —

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Your most Obed^t
humble Servants
. James Daniell
. James Hodges
. John P. Bollen
. Thos Barnard
. Alex^r Pringle

Masulipatam
21st January 1783

(Signed)

(Attest Copy)
A. Scott
Sec^y

Receives Letter from Captains Price and Taylor desiring to be remembered for the Rum

Ordered

Fort St. George January 1783

expended on the Troops then carried to Masulipatam,
as entered in Miscellany Book No. 44—

Received the following Letter.

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

My Lord & Gentlemen

From Vizagapatam
the Enemy's Fleet
off Carikal Sitteram
Rauz arrived with a
large body of Troops
& Canandy Vizeram
Rauz arrives at
Vizagapatam with
Troops—

By advices this moment received from Conara the Enemy's Fleet were off that place the Day at noon, and the Serjeant at Ulcondah between Masulipatam and this, writes in the Evening that three Ships are in sight from thence, so that it is probable they may be all off this place tomorrow

Sitteram Rauz with a Body of Troops is encamped near Conara where he has planted two 18 Pounders for the Protection of that part and is himself in Readiness to move to the Support of the Officer Commanding at Masulipatam if necessary, as is a Picket of the Company's Troops advanced half way from the Cantonments at Walter—

Rajah Vizeram Rauz who has been extremely hearty in the Cause as well as the Brother arrived here this Morning at the head another large Body of his Troops. This Signal mark of Attachment to the Company on the part of the Vizeram Rauz's Family, as we have already had the Honour of remarking to you, will we hope keep the Petty Zemindary in Awe and Remove all apprehension of the

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Fort St. George January - 1783.

The Enemy forbearing any Commotions, at Least in this Quarter.

We are, very Respectfully,
My Lord and Gentlemen,
Your most Obd.t &
humble Servants
Claud Russell
Hen.y Crawford
" ---------
" Chas. Maxton
" W.m Drake

Vizagapatam
20.th July - 1783.
10 P.M.

Signed

John Huddleston Esq.r
Military Secretary
&c.

Sir,

From Mr. B. Sullivan, on his ajointing Mr. Wasey and Mr. Garrow as Judge Advocates in the late Court Martial,

I am to request you will inform the Right Honble the President and Select Committee, that agreeable to their desire, communicated to me by your letter of the 17.th November last, that I should as a Barister at Law, assist the Deputy Judge Advocate with any advice during the Court Martial then about to be held, I have to the best of my Ability given the Deputy Judge Advocate on the several trials before that Court all the legal information and assistance he thought proper to require.

As His Lordship &c.a may wish to be made acquainted with the circumstances in which such assistance was given, you will likewise please to inform them - that on the trial of Captain Bonnevaux I attended during the Sittings of the Court on the 18.th 19.th 20.th 25.th

such

Fort St. George January 1783.

26. 27. & 28th of November, That at the Request of Mr. Macrey the Judge Advocate, I delivered him my Opinion on some points of law to lay before the Court on the 1st December - that I assisted Mr. Greene who succeeded him, in arranging the evidence against Captain M.. Dowal, & giving him all the necessary instructions for that trial on the 22d.. December - that I gave him the like assistance and instruction for the trials of Capt.. Banks & Deacon on the 29th - And at his desire delivered him my Opinion for the satisfaction of the Court on some point of law on the 10th. of January -

I have the Honor to be

Sir

Fort St. George
29th. Jany. 1783.

Your most Obed.t
Servant
(Signed) Ben. Sullivan

Received Letters from Vizagapatam the 20th. and 21st Instant advising of the French Fleet approaching that part -

Gen.l Letter to England sent by Mr. Brodie

The General Letter of this Date written Yesterday to be sent by Mr. Alexander Brodie in Consequence of his having suddenly determined to embark for Bombay, on One of the Indiamen under Dispatch, and proceed Overland to Europe, being sent in Consultation, the following Minute upon it is Received from Genl Stuart -

Gen.l Stuart's minute on the letter to England & Mr. Brodie

I have no Objection to the General information of this Letter, but I believe there is a mistake in stating the Strength of the Army I have

the

Fort St. George January 1783

the honor to Command because the Deduction is not made according to the General Calculation of Sick, as mentioned in the Returns of the Army.

This paper came to me when not at my own House, I can not therefore precisely say more than as above, and Reserve for further Observation, regretting the irregularity of not calling a Committee this day on the important Subjects contained in this Letter.

Fort St. George 29th July 1783. 5 P.M.

/signed/ James Stuart

The following Note is received from the General on his signing the Duplicate General Letter of the 31st October, sent by Mr Brodie.

Official for Bom on signing three — Duplicate Letter 31st October 1783.

From Genl Stuart on signing the Duplicate to Bombay.

I remember to have added a Minute or Observation, which I have not now with me, in signing the Original of this Letter, by Regular Post; I request it may be sent here that I may sign the Duplicate.

Fort St. George 29th July 1783.

/signed/ James Stuart

Dispatched the following letter to Bombay by the Ship Fame under the Charge of Mr Brodie.

To the Honble William Hornby Esqr President &c. Select Committee at Bombay

Honble Sir and Sirs

We have the honor to inclose you Copy

P. Bombay

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Fort St. George January 1783

29th Copy of a Letter from Mr. McIntosh at Tranquebar, enclosing one from Captain Christie, and likewise Triplicates of our letters of the 20th and 21st Instant.

The Intelligence obtained by Captain Gower from private letters found in the Chaser, affords great reason to believe, that Mr. Bussy's plan is to invade the Circars, and we think it most probable that Mr. Suffren is now waiting for him; accounts received last night from Vizagapatam mention that he is still to the Northward of this place, and that he anchored the 19th Instant near Mauphus Bunder the port of Chicacole with ten large Ships, as he left Ganjam with the same number of line of Battle Ships and two Frigates it is probable the latter are detached on a cruize, or to meet Mr. De Bussy —

Mr. Alexander Brodie embarks on the Talbot for Bombay, in the Intention of proceeding over land to Europe, He is charged with Dispatches from us to the Hon'ble Court of Directors and we therefore request you will accommodate him with a conveyance to Bussorah, as soon as possible, and that you will desire the Resident at that place to render him every assistance that can accelerate his Journey from thence —

We have the Honor to be
Honble Sir & Sirs,

Your most Obedt.
humble Servants
Macartney
&c.
Select Committee

Fort St. George
29th Jany 1783 —

Bombay, with
...y of a Letter from
...tain Christie, supposed
...r Bussy intends invading
Circars; Mr. Suffren
...iting his arrival to
Northward — Mr. Brodie
...rged with a Packet to
land

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29th January 1783

Fort St. George

To Sir Edward Hughes K.B.

&c. &c. &c.

Sir

We have the Honor to enclose you Copy of a Letter from Mr. M.c Kintosh at Tranquebar enclosing one from Captain Christie to your address or in your absence to the Governor Madras, likewise Triplicates of our Letters of the 20th and 21st Instant—

By accounts just received, the Coromandel Fleet arrived at an Anchor On the 19th Instant about 10 Leagues to the Southward of Manapatam Bunder, the Port of Chicacole, it mentions ten large Ships, from which it is probable the Frigates are Detached—

The Intelligence obtained by Captain Graves from French Letters found on the Chaser affords great Reason to believe that Mr Bussy's plan is to Land in and invade the Circars, and we think it most probable that Mr Suffren is now waiting for him

you will excuse us therefore if we think it our Duty to omit no Opportunity of representing to you of what infinite consequence it is that you should come or send the Copper bottomed Ships immediately to the Coast, to attack the Enemy, before they shall have had time to effect their intended purpose—

We have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obed.t

Servants

Macartney

Select Committee

Fort St. George
29th January 1783

To Sir Edw.d Hughes with Letter from Captain Christie;—supposed that M.r Bussy intends invading the Circars; M.r Suffrein waiting his Arrival & the Bathurst with 10 Sail of the Line;—representing the great importance of his coming round to attack the Enemy.

472.

29th

Fort St. George January 1788.

Mr Irwin is furnished with the following Letters on the Subject of his Appointment.

To Mr Proctor On Mr Irwin's Deputation to the Southward.

To George Proctor Esqr.

Sir,

Mr Irwin having been appointed to proceed on a Deputation from the Committee of Inquiry Revenue, to the Tinnevelly and Madura Districts, with authority and Instructions to enquire into the complaints that have been preferred from that Quarter, to receive the Rents as they become due, and to Negociate with and conciliate the dependant Poligars, the Right Honble the President and Select Committee desire you will deliver over to Mr Irwin your Accounts of Receipts and Disbursements during the time you have had the Management and the Ballance of Cash in your hands.

As you are well acquainted with the Affairs of the Tinnevelly and Madura Districts the Select Committee desire you will give Mr Irwin every Assistance in your power, that will be useful to him in effecting the important objects of his Commission

I have the Honor to be,

Sir,

Your Most Obed.t

humble Servant

John Hudleston

Fort St. George

29th January 1788

Sec.y

To Mr Sullivan the same Subject.

To John Sullivan Esqr

Resident at Tanjore

Sir

I am directed by the Right Honble the

Pres.t

473

Fort St. George January 1793

29th

President and Select Committee to inform you that they have appointed Mr Lyles Irwin to proceed on a Deputation from the Committee of Revenue to the Tinnevelly and Madura Countries, with Authority and Instructions to enquire into the Complaints that have been preferred from that quarter, to support the Renter in his Rights, to receive the Rents as they become due, and to negotiate with and conciliate the dependent Poligars in those Districts—

The Select Committee desire that you will keep up a correspondence with Mr Irwin and assist him with your Opinion and every Information you may possess, that you think will be useful to him, in effecting the important Objects of his Commission

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedt

humble Servant

signed Jon Mackenzie

Fort St George
29th January 1793

To Captain Joseph Bebeliffe

Commanding at Pallamcottah—

Sir

I am directed by the Right Honble the President and Select Committee to inform you Mr Irwin having been appointed to proceed on a Deputation from the Committee of Revenue to the Districts of Tinnevelly and Madura, with full powers and Instructions to enquire into the Complaints that have been preferred from that Quarter to support the Renter in his Rights, and to receive the Rents as

To Captains Bebeliffe and Gibbons on the same Subject

474.

Fort St. George January 1783.

they shall become due, also to negotiate with and conciliate the dependent Poligars, the Select Committee desire that you will give him every assistance he may require for effecting the Objects of his Commission that you will comply with any requisitions that he may make to you for Troops at the Instance of the Renter for the Collection, or Security of the Revenue, and permit him without escorts as he may think necessary to take with him in his circuits through the Districts.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedient

humble Servant

(signed) John Hudleston

Sec.

Fort St. George
29th January 1783.

The same to Captain Gibbings.

To William Light Esq.

Paymaster at Pallamcottah

Sir

To Mr Light, on the same Subject.

Mr Irwin having been appointed to proceed on a Deputation from the Committee of Assigned Revenue to the Districts of Madura and Timevelly with authority and Instructions to enquire into the complaints that have been preferred from that quarter; to receive the Rents as they become due; and to negociate with and conciliate the dependant Poligars, the Right Honble the President and Select Committee desire you will comply with any Requisitions he may make to you, to inspect the Magazines, and Accounts, or any thing under your care that may assist him in effecting the Objects of his Commission. As the Select Committee do not intend that there should be any other controlling

authority

Fort St. George January 1783

29th

Authority in the districts, but that which is entrusted to Mr. Irwin, they desire you will deliver to him a Copy of the Orders you were furnished with respecting the Repairs of the Tanks which the Renter will carry into execution under his Inspection.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedt.
humble Servant
(signed) John Hudleston
Secy.

Fort St. George
29th Jany 1783

30th

Received two Letters from Nizagapatam with intelligence of the French Fleet being between Fort and Bimilipatam.

Received the following Letter from Captain Edmonds.

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

From Captain Edmonds the 2d & 17th Battalions proceed to Masulipatam and the Artillery Men sent from Madras.

My Lord & Gentlemen,

I have the honor to acknowledge the Receipt of your letter of the 21st Instant informing me, you have reason to believe the Enemy's fleet are to the Northward, & desiring I will take every precaution for the Safety of this Garrison. I have also the honor to receive your letter of the 22d ordering the 2d & 17th Battns to proceed to Masulipatam with the Guns sent hither from that place, & the Artillery Men sent here from Madras, every necessary preparation having been made for them to march at the shortest Notice, they accordingly set out this

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Fort St. George January 1783.

30th

moving under the Command of Lieutenant Arthur Stewart in good Order, and high Spirits —

I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect

My Lord & Gentlemen

Your most Obs.

humble Servt.

Edwd. Edmonds

Capt. Comdg

Angole

27th Jany 1783.

31st

I inclosed the following Letter to Captain Edmonds —

To Captain Edmonds —

Commanding at Angole —

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honble. the President and Select Committee to inform you, that they have thought proper to appoint Colonel Jones to the Command of all the Troops in the Sircars, and they have authorised the Chief and Council of Masulipatam in case of necessity to call for the assistance of the Troops stationed in the Sircars, or those under your Command, and you are to comply implicitly with their requisitions

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most

Obed. Servant

John Huddleston

Sec.y

To Captain Edmonds, advising of Lt. Colonel Jones being appointed to command the Circars, and to comply with my Requisitions for Troops, from Masulipatam —

Fort St. George —

31st. Jany 1783 —

Fort St. George January 31. 1793

Received the following Letter from Captain Edmonds.

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

From Captain Edmonds -
The detachment marched to Masulipatam had had an effect on the minds of the Poligars, will use every Argument in his Power to quiet them.

My Lord.

I have the honor to acknowledge the Receipt of your Lordship's letter of the 21st and to inform your Lordship, that the Detachment marched from hence toward Masulipatam Yesterday morning - Your Lordship will easily conceive the effect the Sudden and unexpected movement has made on the minds of the Poligars and People, for whose assistance the Detachment was assembled; and many of whom had already exerted themselves so far as to take possession of several Villages in their respective Districts, and hold them uninterrupted, the Enemy being awed by the appearance of the assistance they were about to receive, seemed to give up all hopes of Opposing them with Success, but now I conceive they will soon be deprived of the little advantage they had gained, and that the Vankatagerry Rajahs Country will suffer, by reason of the few preparations he was making, putting Grain into his Forts &c. - However Your Lordship may be assured I shall make use of every argument in my power to quiet their minds, and continue to give them every little Assistance in my power, and only wish this may have the desired effect, of continuing them on the same footing they have been for some time past, & by that means insure the peace and Preservation of this Country to a favorable

Fort St. George January 1783.

31st favorable Opportunity offers to carry this plan into execution, convinced of the good consequences that must attend it, I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect &c

My Lord

Your Lordships
most Obedient
humble Servant
Edw.d Edmonds

Ongole
27th January 1783.

Received intelligence from ——
Vizagapatam of the French Fleet being in sight, and standing to the Southward as entered in Miscellany ——
Book No. 24/

Dispatched the following Letter ——
to Ganjam &c

To John Maxwell Stone Esq.r
Chief &c.a Council at Ganjam &c

Gentlemen.

To Ganjam advising of Lt.Col. Jones being appointed to command the Troops in the Circars, Desiring they will comply with any requisitions they may receive from Masulipatam for Troops,

I am directed by the Right Honble the President and Select Committee to inform You that they have thought proper to appoint Lieutenant Colonel Jones to the Command of all the Troops in the Circars, and they have authorized the Chief and Council of Masulipatam in case of necessity to call for the whole or any part of them, you will therefore comply with any ——
Requisition

Port St. George 31st January 1783

Requisition they may make to You on that Subject

I have the Honor to be

Gentlemen

Your most Obedt

Humble Servant

/Signed/ John Hudleston

Port St. George
31st January 1783

Received the following Letter
from General Stuart.

To Mr. Secretary Hudleston.

Sir

I wrote to you after my returning to the Fort the day before Yesterday early in the morning, Requesting to know if there was to be any Meeting of the Select Committee that day, and if any had been held in my absence to have the perusal of the Consultations; In Returns you sent me the Papers that had passed in Consultations at the last Committee, while I was with the Army. I now request that you will inform the Right Honble President &c. that there is much business to settle besides what relates to these papers, & that I have been these two Days here in the Fort chiefly to attend my Duty as a Member of Government, in Select Committee.

But as the President by a Message received in Answer to one I just now sent to him, to know when there was to be a Committee, desired that I would acquaint him in writing for what purpose; I shall now in general, State that besides the current business,

From Genl Stuart desiring to know when he is to be summoned in Committee, & mentioning the Business he has to lay before them.

I

at Fort St. George January 1783.

31. I Desire to have a discussion together with the sentiments of the Committee upon many parts of the Letter I had the honor to address to them on the 26th Instant, There are also several Articles of intelligence of material consequence all which most naturally and according to the intentions of our Honble Employers should be read and settled in Committee, all the Members present at such acession as this, I took the Liberty to make the same observation the Day before yesterday, when you sent me the Official Letters with Letters of importance to the Honble the Court of Directors and elsewhere, I shall remain in the Fort for this purpose to the last moment, I can without prejudice to the Service Lie in expectation of being Summoned to Committee as soon as may be.—

I have the honor to be—

Sir

Your most Obt.

Humble Servant

James Stuart

Fort St. George
Janry. 31st 1783. at noon—

Official and for Consultation—

/Signed/

The Right Honble the President sends to the Secretary the following answer to the foregoing Letter

To John Hudleston Esqr.

Secretary

From Lord Macartney in Answer

From what passed in Committee on Friday last, where I conceived the general plan of Operations was mostly adopted, I confess I did not expect to see him so soon again in the fort, imagining that his presence would be more necessary in the field—since that time a Council has been held and also a Committee—

The

Fort St. George January 1783

The Assembly of the latter was anticipated one day on account of the Letters from the Northward, and the Gent had seen the proceedings — Yesterday there was a Court of Appeal, so that there has been full occupation for the Members of Government for some time past — As the General however is so desirous of a Committee — there may be one tomorrow at Eleven o'Clock, if it be agreeable to the other Members —

Fort House
Friday 1783.

/Signed/ Macartney

From Genl. Stuart and reply

Received the following Note from Genl Stuart in Reply to the foregoing

To John Hudleston Esqr.

My presence is full as necessary in the fort as in the field where the Army is at present, whatever the President may imagine and knowing as I do what the carriage of the Army is now about — I shall attend tomorrow at Eleven, unless something unforeseen happens —

Fort St. George
Friday 31st Jany 1783.

(Signed) Jamed Stuart

Capt. Gower arrives from Cuddalore with a Truce

Captain Gower with the Medea returned this Day from Cuddalore bringing with him a Dutch 50 Gun Ship which has attacked and captured in Cuddalore Road under a heavy fire from the Fort — Received Intelligence from Captain Gower as entered in Miscellany Book —

February 1st

Received the following Letter from Wm Jotten Sullivan and Lieutenant Colonel Nixon

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1st Fort St. George February 1783.

My Dear Lord

From Mr Sullivan
Genl. Matthews arrives
to the North of Onore
Col. Macleod to join him,
Callicut destroyed
Colonel Langs Army
still remain
inactive

I have the pleasure to inform your Lordship that General Mathews has landed to the Northward of Onore at a place called Rajamooudroog, the day of his arrival there is not mentioned, but on the 27th Ultimo. Colonel Mc Leod received Orders to proceed with all his force to join him, and he embarked the next day, Calicut is destroyed — we may now hope that the Enemy will be warmly attacked — in the most vulnerable quarter — I am to see Colonel Lang tomorrow, & hope to hear from him that our inactivity is soon to Close — We hear various Accounts from Tippoos Camp, but all rather encouraging — I hope your Lordship's Child in the North is gathering strength, a very little Nursing — will make it Stout, and promising — The Danish man of War arrived at Tranquebar left the Cape 9th Novr. we hear from the Captain that Monsr. Peynier with 4 — 64s. 2 — 40s. and 2 Frigates had sailed the 6th of August from the Cape for the Isle of France, with 4000 land forces — but your Lordship will hear more current Accounts —

I am with respect

Most faithfully
your Lordship's
obliged
(signed) John Sulivan

Panjore 16th Janr 1783

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney K. B.
&ca. Select Committee at Madras
My Lord and Gentlemen

1.

Fort St. George February 1783

From Colonel Nixon arrives at Tranquebar will not be able to proceed to Madras unless a Frigate is sent to keep the Coast clear. 2 Snow from Madras bound to Masulipatam arrives.

A few days after I had the honor of addressing a Letter to you of the 31st December last from Negapatam, I arrived here in expectation of a safe passage to the Presidency of which there is little hope unless it should appear proper to you to detach a Frigate to Clear the Coast of some armed boats of the Enemy and a Dutch Snow, which I hear the Enemy are fitting out at Cuddalore to Cruize against the Ships and Boats expected from the Southward, she is nearly fit for Sea and will certainly annoy the Country Trade, the Frigate sent on this Service might take on board the Officers now waiting here, and ordered to the Northward, A Snow bound from Madras to Masulipatam having Arms on Board has been Driven into this port in distress of Weather, I have forwarded all the particular Intelligence I could collect to Colonel Lang who remains encamped near Amapet, in the Tanjore Country, I am My Lord and Gentlemen with great Respect your most faithful and obedient Servant

Tranquebar January 20th 1783.

Signed Lecles Nixon

Received Letter from Negapatam advising of the Enemy Fleet passing that Port.

Ordered that Bills on Bengal be granted in favor of Captain Robert Taylor, Commanding the Sultan to the Amount of £76.-9s. being for victualling a Detachment of His Majestys 102 Regiment from Madras to Masulipatam.

Peace

Fort St. George February 1783.

Ordered that bills on Bengal be granted in favor of Captain Price Commanding the Cores, to the amount of 1617. 98 being for victualling a Detachment of His Majesty's 102d. Regiment from Madras to Masulipatam.

At a Select Committee summoned on Military Affairs, present

The Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B. Pres.t
Anthony Sadlier Esq.r
Major General Stuart.
Alexander Davidson Esq.r

The Greyhound Brig arrived last night from Europe with dispatches from the Court of Directors, of which those addressed to this Committee are now read and found to agree with the List of the packet.

Letter from Comm.ee of Secrecy 30. April

4. Paragraph

The Orders of our employers that measures be forthwith adopted for the Reestablishment of Peace, are entirely consonant to the wishes, and Ideas of this Committee, and as far as our limited powers

entered

Port St. George 1st February 1793

extend we shall avail ourselves of every Occasion
that may offer for promoting so desireable an event,

b. Paragraph " Our Success in the Carnatic affords us the highest
" Satisfaction, we are happy in embracing this opportunity
" of declaring that we attribute our Success, in an especial
" manner to the Skill, Firmness, Bravery, and good conduct
" of Lieutenant General Sir Eyre Coote, and to the Gallantry
" of the Officers and Troops under his Command "

Agreed that the approbation expressed
in this paragraph of the Conduct of Sir Eyre Coote and
the Army be published in General Orders

2. Paragraph

The Committee have great satisfaction
in observing that they have anticipated the Orders
contained in this Paragraph by making Mr Bourke
was charged with the important Dispatches sent by
the Rodney packet, acquainted with the contents of those
Dispatches, and with as much of the Correspondence and
proceedings previous to the date of them, as he had time to
peruse, and it is agreed that the same caution be always
observed in future, except where it may be judged unsafe
to communicate the Dispatches to the person, to whom it
may be necessary to commit the care of them, in which
case a Copy to be made in Cypher so small as to enable
him if taken to conceal it from the Enemy -

It will be proper to communicate the
contents of the last paragraph of this Letter, to his —
Highness the Nabob, and to the Governor General and Council

Fort St. George 1st February 1783.

In Order to guard against Accidents it is agreed that the Dispatches for Bombay be opened, and Copies taken of them to be forwarded on Cypher over Land to Bombay.

General Stuart desires his Letter of Yesterday to the Secretary, the Presidents Answer, and his Reply, may be now read, and they are read accordingly.

The General with the leave of the Committee proceeds to the Current Business of the Army, and lays before the Committee the Quarter Master Generals Returns of Camp equipage, Draught, and Carriage Bullock, and all the other various attendants of the Army. Ordered that it be sent together with the other Returns of the same Nature to the Auditor, to assist him in examining and checking the Army Accounts.

The General lays before the Committee a Return of Slaughter Cattle with the Army, as entered in Miscellany Book, by which it appears that there now only remain sufficient for 15 Days consumption, and the General informs the Committee that observing the difficulty of providing Slaughter Cattle, he sent for Mr Smith the Butcher, who made him the following proposal.

To Brigadier General Stuart

Sir

In consequence of what you was pleased to propose to me this Morning, I have consulted with my Contractors on the Subject, who are as happy

and

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and as Ready as myself to render every Assistance that Lays in our Powers to the Army, and to give them as Cheap as Possible, I have now at hand, 1000 Northward Cows, and after this shall be able to supply you with any Number you may want, giving me Due Notice, at the under Mentioned prices ℔ Head, Northward Cows at three, and a Quarter ℔ Head, Southward at two and a half ℔ Head, and we do agree to serve the Army for a twelve Month at that Price, and I have now in hand ready to send off 2000 Pagodas in Order to keep up Stock for a further Supply for the Army; should this Letter meet with your Approbation by the Proposals may be drawn out, Certifying how and in what manner I am to Receive payments as you will consider, I shall want Cash to keep up Stock before the Years out, as I have not Cash enough by me to give the Company Credit for a Twelve Month, and you will be pleased to observe that I am obliged to keep up a Stock for the Fleet also by agreement, and there is no certainty of the times when they come in, I have now mentioned every thing on the Subject that I possibly can.

And I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedient

humble Servant to

Command

John Smith

Butcher

Fort St. George

29th January 1783.

General Stuart recommends that the above proposal be accepted or that some other mode be immediately

Fort St. George 1st February 1783.

immediately adopted to procure Slaughter Cattle for the Army.

The Committee agree to send for the Agent who attending accordingly is desired to endeavor to settle with Mr. Smith for the Bullocks he has now in Stock, his proposal to supply the Army for a Twelve Month ordered to lie for consideration.

General Stuart lays before the Committee the following Letters from the Senior Surgeon with the Army, with the Letter mentioned thereon from the Apothecary, and an Account of some Europe Medicines for sale amounting to Pagodas 2781.

Major General Stuart.

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

Sir

It is a duty incumbent upon me to Represent that as the last Indent for Medicines for the use of the Army, was complyed with only in Part, and that part, not half what was indented for, and as all the Sick of the Army are taken care of by the Army Surgeons, and not sent into the General Hospitals at Madras; the Expenditure of Medicines, such as the Stores were used to Supply, is very great, and one occasion for what is called Europe Medicines is equally pressing. I am therefore in Justice to the Army you Command, to lay before you a Letter I received last Night from the Apothecary at Madras, and which, knowing the Importance of Medicine, I cannot but look upon as very alarming, insomuch as to merit the attention of the Right Honble President and Select

From the Surgeon Major of the Army wishes to be authorized to purchase some Europe Medicines for the use of the Army

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Fort St. George 1st February 1783.

Select Committee, to the end that if there is such
Medical Articles for Sale, as the Stores do not afford
they may be purchased without loss of time.

I have the honor to be with the
greatest Respect.

Sir

Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
(Signed) Thos Davis.

Camp.
30th Jany 1783.

Thomas Davis Esqr.

Sir.

Mr Anderson gave me your
Indent for Poonamallee Yesterday Noon, but the Store
is so low, I really cannot comply with a quarter part
of it. I have been busy all this forenoon in taking an
inventory of what Remains in the Store, two Articles
much wanted are totally expended, — Barly & Salt
If you'll please to Order your Man to Call at the
Stores tomorrow forenoon, I shall forward such more
Articles as the Store affords —

With Regard to the Medicines you
wrote, for to leave with Mrs Davis, I have not yet
procured, as I was ill of a Fever at the time your servant
brought your Note, and he went away without calling,
as I desired him that I might acquaint you with the
inability of the Store furnishing you, I will however
procure for You such of the Articles you want by
tomorrow and send them with those for Poonamallee

Madras
29th Jany 1783.

I am Sir
Your most Obedient Servant
Chs Lawrence

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To Captain Close

Aid Du Camp General Stuart

Dear Sir

I beg you will inform the General that the Man I had (as I thought) engaged the Medicins from, has sold them to Doctor Gordon, — but that there is another Merchant has got a Chosen few, that will amount to 281 Pagodas. that I should be very glad to have for the use of the Army. He will take a Bengal Bill for them — The List is here enclosed and which I beg you will shew the General in hopes of obtaining an Order for them.

I am Dr. Sir

1st February 1783.

Your most Obedient
humble servant
(signed) Thos. Davis

P.S. The Merchants name is Jago in the Black Town Bazar

	₶	Pagd	
Manna	25	37	1/2
Bark	50	75	"
Sennee	25	12	1/2
Glober Salts	50	25	
Cremer Tartor	20	10	
Semtur Electuay	26	15	
Chomomal Flowers	X	7	1/2
Canthandes	4	12	
Camamel	6	18	
Quick Silver	X	30	
Mercurial Diacylon and Gum Plaster	20	17	1/2
Ol Mentha	1/2	12	
Sweet Spirit Niter	X	9	
		281	

Fort St. George 1. February 1783

Agreed that the Medicines be purchased, and paid for, by Bills on Bengal.

The Committee upon further consideration of the late Report of the Medical Committee find it liable to the following difficulties.-

Remarks of the Committee on the Report of the Medical Committee

First..... It is said for every hundred Europeans that take the field, the field Surgeons shall be allowed &c.ª - To whom is this allowance to be paid, or how distributed? is it to be equally divided among all the Surgeons, or is each Surgeon to draw for the men of the Corps to which he belongs, and in that case what is the Senior Surgeon with the Army who may be attached to any particular Corps, to be allowed?

answered by M.. Comm.ª each to draw for the Corps he belongs to - the Senior Surgeon to take his choice

Secondly..... There seems no provision made for the Casualties of the Army. The Medical Committee say, for every hundred Europeans that take the field the field Surgeons are to be allowed &c.ª it is obvious that the number of Europeans which take the field may gradually diminish at different periods of the month, until by the end of it, there are hundreds fewer than at the beginning. By what Standard then are the Surgeons to charge, and how is the Justness of the Charge to be ascertained, several months after whom the monies are delivered in?

Third..... In the 6.th Article the Committee say "when the Senior Surgeon sends sick, or wounded into any contract Hospital, he is to produce his Order, &, and obtain a Receipt from the Senior Surgeon in charge of such Hospital, from the date of which receipt

Fort St. George 1st February 1783.

"the one charge ceases, and the other Commences"

The Charge which commences is easily understood but what is the Charge which ceases — The Army surgeon delivers over all his Sick to the Contract Surgeon, whose charge of 6/ p. Diem each, immediately commences so that the sick of the whole Army are then charged in the accounts of the contract Hospital — the field surgeon charge is on the number of men (not the number of sick) with the Army, and he receives by the 1st Article of the regulations, an equal number of fanams, or a fanam — each P Day, if the charge which ceases on his part is only the fanam P Day, on the Number of Sick delivered over, there is obvious the Company will pay nearly — double, that is they will pay for the same Sick, to the Contract Surgeon, and to the field Surgeon, with the — deduction only of 1 fanam P Day each and the field — Surgeon will be charging a fanam P Day for all the — Europeans in the Army, while all his Sick are in the Contract Hospital, on the other hand were 4 fanams P Day each for the Sick delivered over to the contract Hospital to cease, or to be deducted from the field — Surgeons Charges, there might be nothing left for him to receive for those of the remainder that might fall Sick —

It would at the first view appear — equitable upon the medical Committees estimate that for every 25 Sick delivered over the Charge of a fanam P Day for 100 should cease, but this may perhaps be also liable to objections, and is indeed — virtually the same thing, besides it would be attended with this ill consequence, that the field Surgeons would

turn'd

Fort St. George 1st February 1783.

keep the Sick men in Camp too long, perhaps endanger their lives.

Two of the Gentlemen of the Medical Committee being absent — Agreed that a letter be written to Messrs. Anderson, Lucas, and Davis, stating the above difficulties and directing them to reconsider the Subject and suggest how they may be obviated

To be laid before Messrs Anderson, Lucas and Davis —

General Stuart recommends that the vacant Palankeen, by the Death of Khan Naig Commandt. be given to Shakeje Commandant, on producing his Credentials of Service — The Secretary is desired to search the Records, and Report to the Committee the established System in this Respect, and how many Palankeens are allowed.

Read the following Letter from the Deputy Agent with the Army with the Account therein mentioned. —

To John Hudleston Esqr.

Secretary

Sir

I herewith inclose an exact account of Arrears due to my Employ from 1st February to 30th Novr. 1782, amounting to Pagodas 323 ‰ 29. 8. also an account stating what part of the above sum is due to the Bullock people, they have at different times, received from the Number of Bullocks from the Company, but I cannot ascertain to what Amount, as no Valuation has hitherto been settled, The particulars of the above account are

From the Deputy Agent inclosing Acct. of arrears due to his Employ

Fort St. George 1st February 1783.

are now completed, and when copied fair, shall be forwarded together with my Monthly Accounts up to the 31st Jany 1782, the Period to which my Employ has been cleared off.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedt
humble Servant
/Signed/ ... S. Kenworthey
Dy Agt

Camp
30th January 1783

Orders thereon

The Committee observe that of the Ballance stated in the Account the Sum of 287054 appears to be due to the Bullock people with the Army, but no mention is made of the amount of the Rice issued to them, and to the Mastries and Drivers — Agreed that the Deputy Agent be desired to explain this circumstance, and to inform the Committee why his accounts have been suffered to fall so much in Arrear, and have not been sent monthly to the Agent, as the regulations prescribe, Agreed also that he be ordered to make up his Accounts to the latest period without further Delay, and informed that his neglecting to send his Accounts regularly to the Agent in future, will subject him to our severest displeasure.

General Stuart delivers in the following Minute —

Gen.l Stuarts Minute on a mistake in a return of the army sent to the Court of Directors

Observing on perusal of the Letter to the Court of Directors sent round Yesterday, that the effective Europeans Non Commissioned Rank, and File, in the Army in the Field, now near the Presidency is stated at 2745 and that the Effective Natives Officers and Sepoys

Fort St. George 1st February 1783

are stated 11545

I am now to take notice of what is also stated in the General Return, from which the above numbers were taken and to avoid Mistake, I do it in the very words as there mentioned Viz, "NB. In His Majesty's "73d. Regiment are included 54 Rank and File, Invalids "and gone to Europe and 115 Prisoners with the Enemy. "Total 169 Rank and File, to be deducted from the strength "of the Army near the Presidency, and in order to judge "with the nearest possible exactness of the Efficient "strength for Duty as inserted in the Disposition, "Observe that the Maximum proportion of sick Europeans "is about one third, and of Natives about one fourth".

Thus far the observation mentioned in the General Return from which the real Efficient Strength of this Army is to be judged and is as to Europeans Non Comm.d Rank and File, is in Numbers under ..2,000.

And of Native Officers, and Sepoys Cavalry, Artillery, and Infantry, under ..... 8,600.

(Signed) James Stuart

+

The General informs the Committee that as much Rice as can be carried with the Army, will be in Camp tomorrow and that with the leave of the Committee he proposes to march the next Day, in the mean while he lays before the Committee the latest Intelligence from Carangoly, Wambewash, and Vellore, and desires the Intelligence obtained from the Officers taken in the Dutch Ship be again read, and it is read accordingly.

Genl Stuart proposes to move the army the next Day

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Fort S.t George 1.st February 1783.

To Major General James Stuart

Sir

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 29.th Ultimo, the 26.th and 29.th I acquainted you with the exact state of the Garrison, and the dependance that could be put on the Crop, but as you seem in your late letter, to expect more than it is in my power to perform, I will again beg leave to state my Situation, and what may be expected, — provided I am not molested, For 15 or 20 Miles round this, there is not a handful of grain cultivated, sometimes Rice is pretty plenty, which is bought from the Enemy, & brought in here by Stealth, and at others for a month together there does not any come in, just now it is as cheap as at any time since I have had the Honor to command, Tipt. 3 measures the Rupee, and was there money, I could save our Stock a little by putting the Sepoys &c.a on dry Batta, 9 or 10 Days in the Month, but it is the case just now, and has been always when I have had an Opportunity, that the Paymaster has not a Rupee in his hands, The grain now in Garrison will only supply us to the first of March, and our Crop will not be fit for reaping, before that time owing to a Remarkable Dry Season; Should any accident happen to it by the time it is near Ripe, we will be very much distressed before the Army could come to our Relief, and I should be happy to have a little — money above the pay of the Troops, to put the Sepoys on batta to save our Stock untill the Crop is in, which I am pretty certain will serve for 3 Months from the 1.st of March, but as to find grain for the Garrison longer, "or beyond a Certain period" is not in my power or the

Power

Papers of Intelligence delivered in by Genl Stuart & a letter from Capt.n Crawford is reading the mines for the blowing up of Paravangoly. —

Fort St. George 1st February 1783

power of Man to do. The Season has been remarkable unfavorable, and will prevent us having a Crop of Dry grain, which ought now to be sown and for these two Months past we have not had a Drop of Rain, since the Enemy left Tiruvallum there has not one of their Convoys come within 25 or 30 Miles of this, until this Day, and that was escorted by a Body of 2000 foot, but even if they came within 6 or 8 Miles of us, it would be impossible to intercept them, with the few Horse I have, they are too well guarded, beside they have a Camp 6 Miles to the east of us, and another the same distance to the west, that would be too much for any force I could spare out of this, and the Shoe Hill foot, had it not been for them, I should have been much distressed in providing meat for the Europeans. Tippoo's Camp remains to the Eastward of Arcot, the Shoe accounts to day, that his Army which was on the Malabar Coast joined his Camp at Chuckamalow two Days ago.

I have the honor to be with great Respect

Sir

Your most Obedient

& Humble Servant

(Signed) John Cuppage

Vellore

12th 9th January - 1783.

To Major General James Stuart

Sir

I had the honor to address you the 19th and now send a Duplicate, Tippoos Camp remains to the Eastward of Arcot, and I have accounts from it that the

Fort St. George 1st February 1783

the French joined him some days from Pettipett, three
days ago the Camp with at Colgherie, was relieved by a much
stronger force than usual, I saw the old one March off
towards the Pollams, it is said they are gone to Sipptaly,
ever since their Convoys have come down, the Valley with
a vast number of Loar Horses I believed belonging to
Merchants. The Weather continues dry, which I am
afraid will be prejudicial to our Crops, but am pretty
certain if not molested, it will be sufficient to fulfile
what I told you, and must beg leave once more to
mention the great Risk there is in depending on it
as the Enimy may cut the Tanks, or destroy it when
near Ripe, without my being able to prevent them &
it will not be ready to cut before the beginning of
March by which time there will not be 5 Days Grain
from Madras, and the Gelat pion which was missing is not
yet arrived; I therefore hope there is Money on the Road &
should be happy if there was a little extraordinary sent,
least we should be hard Run, that I might put the Sepoys
&c. on dry Batta to spin out the time untill the Crop
is in, The Sepoys are now 7 Months in Arrears which
is 2 months since the Army was here, and the Europeans
1. A few days ago I had Letters from Bangalore, the
Officers were all well, but the Soldiers very Sickly
upwards of 50 of them have died, and but of 86 left, above
50 were Sick; Doctor Bain writes that in his visits
among the Black People, he was informed that Colonel
Baillie is dead. The Officers and Seamen taken by the
French, are put in Irons, and a Lieutenant of Marines
has been severely flogd for having a Dispute with the

Sepoys

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Fort St. George 1st February 1783

Sepoys. For these many Years past, there has not been so sickly a season as the present with the Fever and Ague.

I have now 900 Firelocks sick. I have the honor to be with great Respect

Sir

Your most Obedt
humble Servant
Signed John Cuppage

Vellore
17th January 1783

To Major General Stuart

Sir

I had the honor to address you the 17th and now send duplicates, the 18th I had the happiness to receive Your Pagoda Letter, the 10th I had the happiness to receive Your Pagoda from Lord Macartney, it is upwards of a Month from the Sepoys received a Pagoda in part of their pay, for since the same day a large body of Horse encamped at Caliyaree from the westward I should have immediately informed you that wanted entitled I could have certain Accounts, who they were, I late last night I had a Letter from the Sepoys, He says that some time ago Hyder sent money into the Mahratta Country to purchase Horse, that those are the horses going to join the Army that there are 10000 of them but for my own part I don't think there is above Ten Coss, they encamped this Morning towards Arcot. Tippoo Army remains in the same situation For these 10 Days past there has not been a handful of Grain brought into the Pettah. The weather continues fair.

9

500

Fort St. George 1st February 1783

I have the honor to be with great Respect

Sir

Your most Obedient

humble Servant

(Signed) John Cappage

Vellore

20th January 1783.

To Major General James Stuart

Sir

I was honored with Yours of the 20th The Contents of which I immediately sent to Captain Flint, but as yet I have not heard from him & have this day been honored with yours of the 22d, to which the strictest attention shall be paid, I am now going on in loading the Ammies, but I am sorry to inform you that in placing the boxes on the largest (that in the N.W. Bastion) fell in, however I shall lose no time in repairing it as well as possible; There is now about 650 bags of Rice for the use of the Army, besides about 8 Days for the use of the Garrison, of course I shall not buy any more until I have your further Orders.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedient

humble Servant

(Signed) A. Crawford

Cavangooley

25th Jany 1783

The General acquaints the Committee that he constantly corresponds with Captain Cappage, and that in his last written the Day before Yesterday he advised

Fort St. George 1st February 1783

desired him of what money the President has sent & desired him to purchase Grain on the Terms he mentions

The General informs the Committee he has written 5 Different Letters to Captain Flint, and has received no Answer to the Orders for being ready to blow up Wandewash, but the following answer to his Letter Directing him to inform him, what were Sir Eyre Coote's last Orders to him.

The Messenger who brought the inclosed note has Orders from Captain Flint to tell me that Nepal has arrived at Cuddalore with Dispatches, and had sailed immediately after

I. Stuart

To Major General Stuart

Sir

From Capt. Flint transmitting Sir Eyre Coote's last orders to him

Information was brought me this morning that Lippon and the Forrest were yesterday Ready to march to Punapauk with an intention to engage the English Army, from the Hill this morning, their Camp appears near the above mentioned place, Sir Eyre Coote's last Orders to me were to do every thing in my power, for the Defence of Wandewash

I have the Honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedient

humble Servant

Willm Flint

Wandewash

22d Jany 1783

Fort St. George 1st February 1783.

The General lays before the Committee the following Extract of a letter to him from Colonel MacLeod.

Extract of a Letter from Lieutenant Colonel Mc. Leod, to Major General Stuart, Dated Purniah December 27th. 1782 — Received January 31st. 1783.

Extract from Colonel Mc. Leod's letter, motions of the army on the Malabar Coast

Sir.

I have now the honor to acquaint you that your wishes with Regard to the War on this Coast are likely to be fulfilled, Brigadier General Mathews is arrived at Raja Mroondroog, to the North of Onore and has Ordered me to join him — I sail with my whole force tomorrow — I have no doubt of our obliging the Enemy to look at Home, Tippoo left us in a Great hurry on his Father's Death, & is by this time at, or near his Camp in the Carnatick, &c.a — (Signed) Norman MacLeod

The General also lays before the Committee Letters to him from Captain Deare of the Bengal Artillery, and from Lieutenant Arthur Stewart (as entered in Miscellany Book 4.39) the former Dated the 22d Ultimo at Vizagapatam, advising of his having proceeded thither from Ganjam, upon learning that an Artillery Officer was wanted there, that the French Fleet is in sight, and if their Intention should not be to attack Vizagapatam, he shall immediately proceed to Masulipatam, and Remain there till the Appearance of Danger is over — the Latter Dated 24th Ultimo advising the General of his (Lieut. Stewart's) having

Fort St. George 1st February 1783.

having marched that morning from Dingdy, for Masulipatam, with a Detachment of the 2d and 17th Battalions of Sepoys, and a Brigade of 12, and one of 9 Pounds

The General desires his Letter of the 26th Ultimo may be now Read, and it being accordingly he Requests the Committee will Resolve upon it Article by Article, and informs the Committee that this was the Chief Reason for his wishing that a Committee might be called to day, The Committee having at their Meeting the 27th Ultimo given such consideration to the Letter alluded to, as they judged necessary; refer the General to their proceedings of that date.

General Stuart wishes to have the opinion of the Committee as to his right to a seat at the opening of the Company's Packets

The General begs leave to Ask the Committee whether in their opinion, to a meeting of the Committee to open a Packet from the Honble Court of Directors, directed to the President and Council of this Settlement, he has a Right to be summoned, and the General Observes that he was not summoned last night, at the Opening of the Packet. Ordered to lie for consideration.

to lie for Consideration

The General informs the Committee that another Reason for his wishing to be present at this meeting, of the Committee, was to deliver in the following minute relative to the Right Honble the President's Minute of the 18th Ultimo.

P3

General Stuart

Minute in answer to the President's assuming him of inaction

On the 24th Ultimo I was first

ceding

professor of the Right Honble President's minute read in Committee the preceding 18th since which time I

Fort St. George 1.st February - 1783.

I beg leave to appeal to my Employment with the Army, and to the Correspondence from thence, upon immediate Business with the Committee, to shew the Reason why I could not attend to that Minute sooner than at present, In fact I never looked into it untill I came to the Fort from Camp the 29.th January -

In so far as that Minute has any retrospect to my Conduct, I cannot help considering it, as bordering upon general Invective, which I hope without taking up much of the time of the Committee, to prove from facts and dates to be devoid of foundation.

It is indeed a sort of Commentary on [illegible] not Singularly applied to me, from a Certain quarter, It appears from Record, that I go in very good Company, his Excellency Sir Eyre Coote and vice Admiral Sir Edward Hughes the Commanders in [illegible] by Land and Sea, have had their shares too, in [illegible] mentioning the Governor General and Council [illegible] -

I shall therefore neither in my own Opinion, nor as I hope, in the Opinion of my Sovereign, nor in that of my Honble Employers the East India Company, neither with the candid Public in general, suffer in the smallest degree by this or any other - a performance of the Right Honble President -

With the utmost tranquility - a therefore on that head, and to take Notice only here of that part where there is an imputation of Inaction or Counteraction to what the Right Honble Presidt would wish to make believe was public Service, and which upon a more Minute canvas will be found to be little

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little else than his own Ideal, and as I take leave to say, impracticable Plans of service, I shall for that and promise, with the following General position to be established by reasonable proof Namely — that as to the Application or Employment of any Force of this Army capable to make an impression even upon the Minds, of the Enemy in their weakest condition, considering the Actual State of this Army at the time alluded to, the Season of the Year, the then — distance of the Enemy from us: I make bold to say, that no man of practical knowledge or experience — could have entertained the idea of a movement of this Army, such as to have expected any Salutary purpose from it; But on the contrary from practical professional knowledge there is every Reason to believe that a — Movement by Detachment / as it must have been / of Europeans and Native Cavalry & Sipoys to the greatest extent possible at the time, on any March or expedition that the Right Honble President could have planned in his Closet, fitted out to the utmost power of the Presidency at the time, would have been liable to insult, and independent of that, could not in the first instance, possibly have reached within five days March of Hyder's Army then near Chittoor, without necessarily returning to the Presidency for Rice

And if the Allusion is, to any movement immediately after Hyder's Death was known and believed in this Settlement, the Detachment / for such it still would have been / must have marched with half the number of European Artillery men, & Infantry, and

with

Port St. George 1st February 1783.

with not half the proportion of Artillery and Native Cavalry with about 3000 Sepoys, This too at the precise time when the French in Nearly equal Numbers as to Europeans, with a very considerable train of Artillery were Actually on their March from Cuddalore with the view of Effecting a junction with the Army then under Coote. Said — I say that our Detachment of all the Europeans fit for Duty not half provided in any Respect, could not have proceeded five days without meeting the French Regulars in their fullest Force, joined to the other Army.

Note in the Margin
Following Sheet 4th

I venture to maintain that in the State of the Sick & Convalescent, particularly of the European Artillery Men, and Native Troopers from the peculiar inclemency of the Monsoon, with the Epidemical Distempers which did then affect nearly one half of this Army, and which is not yet worn out, I say that had any Detachment of Force been made at the time alluded to, the Public Real Service in all its train and Consequences must have been deeply affected, and this Army could not have encamped in force as at present, so soon by one month at least. I am even doubtful if we could have formed an Army at all, such as now, to bid Defiance to the present combined force of the Enemy.

At the time the Right Honble President brought forward his Minute of the 24th November, in general, proposing Expeditions and Diversions, the face of the Country was covered with water, the Army was in a manner totally unprovided with Tents, there were upwards of 3000 Carriage and Draught

Fort St. George 1st February 1783

Draught Bullock from necessity and want of Subsistence to the Cattle and Drivers, at above 120 Miles distance, the Artillery Carriage and Tumbrils were in the Act of Repairing, and supposing we had Carriage there was no Rice to send forward in the Direction of my March towards the Enemy, The followers of the Army were dying by hundreds daily owing to the narrowed Delivery of Rice at the Presidency I say that at this time when the President was urging some Movements of the Army, tho' he could not tell wherein, I did myself the honor to present a minute in answer date November 17th I beg leave to Refer to that Minute Entire without troubling the Committee with any partial extract, such as the Right Honble President has thought proper to insert in his Minute of the 18th Instant

What I therein Stated to the Committee, besides what appears thus marked by the President, was the most comprehensive view in my Power to give of the real position of our Affairs, and the Proper practical and practicable Application of our Force. I have since that time more than once recurred to what, I then said, particularly since the last news from Lieutenant Colonel Macleod, from Colonel Lang, and from the Northward concerning the French Squadron, and the expectation of Bussy landing in that quarter; and if I had at the time been certain of the events that have since happened, I do not see any alteration necessary, I Repeat and request therefore that when the imputations concerning me or my

Fort St. George 1st February 1783

conduct, contained in several parts of the Right Honble President's Minute of the 18th Instant, or any where else, are read by those who have the best right to judge of my Conduct, they will not do it by extracts or citations, but on the contrary do me the justice at the same time to review the whole scope and tendency of what I said on the 07th of November, and on the 16th of Dect. and also what I now say upon the present occasion

I shall now proceed to establish what I have said, by facts and dates, Upon the 15th Day of October the Army Shifted ground, and they had scarce time to pitch their Tents/them in very bad condition/when they had the misfortune to be assailed by the same Storm that did so much Damage to the Shipping in the Roads here; By the Report made to me the Cover of the Army was almost entirely lost or torn to pieces. On the 19th following they were from necessity Cantoned in the Neighbourhood of the Presidency

The Consultations in Select Committee held on the 07th October and subsequent meetings to which I beg leave to Refer, will evince at this period, and for weeks thereafter, the constant Struggle I had in combating with my own private Opinion, the Arguments of the Right Honble President &c. which went to the removing of this Army, at a Distance from Madras, a step, which at that time I took Occasion to say, would in effect be equal to disbanding it.

The prevailing notion with the

Right

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Fort St. George 1st February 1783.

Right Honble President, was, if I rightly recollect, to consider the Army as good for little more than the Garrisons of this place, and that no field Army was needed.

The impression was then, and still is so strong on my mind, that unless this Army can be kept together, to oppose the Enemy in the field, every Province, and every Garrison, and place of strength remaining, would most undoubtedly in a short time, be attacked and carried, and seeing that the keeping together the fighting part of the Army at least with the followers absolutely necessary, turned upon the management of Rice, I therefore thought it a Duty incumbent to give up almost the whole of my attention during the Cantonment, with the most minute exactness, and Controul, and Regulate, the Distribution of a certain quantity of Rice which I was in express terms told in Committee, was all that would be given for the use of the Army, and if more were kept together than could be fed on that quantity, or that any Discontents or mutinous behaviour followed, I must be answerable for the consequence. The Records I am sorry to say, are but too full on such Subjects, it is no fault of mine, I was on the Defence in my profession, and in my place.

On the 24th. October two Battalions from this Army, together with more than 3,000 Draught and Carriage Bullocks, with all the public and private followers that could not get subsistance here, left the Cantonments on their way to Nellore

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Fort St. George 1. February 1783.

the Cattle were in general in very low condition, and the country and rivers so full of Water, that the Batt.ns did not reach Pollicat in less than Six Days, They had upon the whole, with their escort to march above 120 miles to Nellore Savapily.

About nine days after this — principal part of the whole Carriage of the Army, had got there, the Right Honble President's minute of the 14th. November, for action and enterprize was produced, but whether for Cuddapa or some where else, I do not know.

He wished, as I recollect, at one time that some more Batt.ns should go from hence to the North, and that point not being carried, the two Carnatick Battalions before mentioned, were ordered from Nellore to Ongole, upon some general plan of Diversion, There they have remained until of late, when on the belief of Mons.r De Bussy, being expected to make a descent to the Northward, chiefly with a view to Masulipatam, I was clearly of Opinion, that the Service, required their moving immediately towards that important place.

I repeat again that it would, in effect have retarded any real Operation of this Army, had the small number of Troops fit for Duty, — unprovided as they must have been, with sufficient cover, during the most inclement Monsoon in the memory of Man, with the few Guns that we then could have drawn, without Dies, followers or Carriage cattle sufficient for any march of seven days, it

would

Fort St. George 1st February 1783

Demonstration is that not a man or Horse, any knowledge has come in from the time of Hyder's death to the present hours - Hyder's death as before, said was not believed here till the 15th December the same intelligence had come to the Nabob on the 11th -

Besides the body of French troops above mentioned to have joined from Cuddalore in Decr. there are with the Enemy the Pickets of 200 sent by Mr. Duchemin soon after his arrival, also - Lalle's old corps - The Train of Artillery which by the exact intelligence of is known to be with the body of French last joined consists of two 24 Prs four 18 four 6. four Howitzers -

See intelligence from the Honble Cochrane communicated January 19th 1783.

I.S.

See also Capt. Gowers intelligence was in committee 1st July

I.S.

The French regular Troops from Cuddalore to the Number at least of 900 with 150 Artillery men of all Casts and 9000 Sepoys disciplined by the French, with a Train and Ordnance as on the Margin, had advanced on the 16th December and were at Tattat just near Gingee a few days after, the body of Troops which in Communication with the Enemy's main Army, both of them could have joined in two Days in any Centrical Situation applicable to our movements, if it has been made at the time & under the Circumstances alluded to -

I shall now leave it to speculatists on General Reasoning, of supposed disaffection, or treachery, or the love of Change, or the hope of gain, or of any other motive whatever probably actuating the leaders in the Enemy's Army, after Hyders death, let them draw consequences from such suppositions, as from the Reasoning of the President Minute of the 14th of November of the 14th December because I was not of Opinion and saw no Reason to move the Army into the Field circumstanced as above; They may give what Epithet they please to my Conduct, whether calling it, criminal Inaction or Counteraction, or even Disaffection, it gives me little concern when I am at Liberty as at present to appeal to

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to a Candid unprejudiced Judgement of the most
Respectable Authority as before mentioned, whether
according to every Rule which in prudence or propriety
ought to guide the Plans and movements of this main
Army on which so much depends, their health, ~~that~~ their
Reputation and their future consequence were to be
risked and Suported with at the periods alluded to &
on plans of Speculative Reasoning to give them the
mildest Epithat now occurs to me.

Sirjee Saheb returned from the
Southward and joined his Army in the last week of
December, Dif from his own experience or the advice
of the French now incamped at a few Miles distance
from him, he has made some new arrangements in
his Army, such Reforms could not have been
prevented by any movement on our part at the times
alluded to, but even with all their improvements I
maintain that this Army has nothing to apprehend
from their united Efforts; this however might not
have been the case, if Detachments had been sent
for purposes of Speculation as above Stated -

Situated as at present and incamped
in full force it becomes in my humble Opinion,
the most fortunate position that we possibly could
have expected, To find the Enemy in their full force
Europeans and Natives Opposed to this Army, the
Southern Provinces are freed thereby, & Colonel Lang
will avail himself doubtless of his Situation; - The
Operations on the other Side of India where Hyder's
Successor is chiefly vulnerable are also unembarrassed,

&

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Port St. George 1st February 1783

If the Enemy Land as reported under Bufay there is force I hope in the Lines assembled sufficiently to Keep him down, even if they should Land and if the Enemy's united force moves to the Northward, we shall likewise, move with the Army to impede the junction, and we are equal to it, As to all these points now immediately touched upon, I have had the honor to lay before the Committee my sentiments at some length in a minute sent from Camp the 26th Instant, I will not therefore trouble the Committee with going over the same ground again.

What I have had the honor now to offer to the Committee on the Subject of the Right Honble President's minute where my conduct is pointedly attacked, will as I hope suffice for my vindication, judging as I trust they will from a plain narrative of Facts.

As to the Events and intelligence that have come to the knowledge of Government since the 18th Instant I Communicated to you, I trust likewise that the Committee will do me the justice to observe that I have not lost a moment either in the Operations immediately necessary nor have I been backward in giving my Opinion in writing concerning the Plans and measures suited to the Events and the Intelligence before to my Letter in Correspondence with the Committee the 26th Instant & to other Letters since the Army moved from the Mount.

I

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Fort St. George 1st February 1783.

I will not detain the Committee with any Observations upon the Right Honble Presidents — Geographical, Political, and Revenue History of this unfortunate Country since the beginning of the troubles, as to the latter part intitled, the Revenue or the management of it, I have no Date to go by, It has pleased the Right Honble President &c.a to give an Opinion for the present, that I am only to be consulted or have a view upon Military and Political Affairs, & I see in consequence they judge the Article of Revenue to be unconnected with — either in

The management of the Revenues of such part of the Carnatick as belongs to the Nabob, is not as I am informed under the Council at large — neither is any Counsellor of the Committee (called) of Assigned Revenue, that Committee is composed of Junior Servants to Council, & it is not as before observed considered either as Military or Political Otherwise by inference I should be of it, and yet neither is it fair, otherwise the Gentlemen of Council would be of it. In short I can not see on what ground, the Sole Direction & management of the Revenues of the Company's former possessions, and of the Assigned Revenues from the Nabob are continued to be exclusively in the train they now are —

I could not help making this digression in justice to my own Situation, and what I conceive to be the Honble Company's intentions Relative to it, that every Resource to give energy to Military or

Institution

Fort St. George 1st February: 1783

political Operations, and every possible Intelligence
Regarding the Real Situation of their affairs, should
be officially known to me.

I conclude all that I have
said by assuring the Right Honble President and
Committee, that notwithstanding any Reason I have
had, or yet may have, to offer my Opinion Differing
from the Majority, yet whatever any particular
members, may seperately State or insinuate regard
inaction or Counteraction on my part, they as govern
Shall find from a prompt positive, any most hearty
ready assistance, and Cooperation, in carrying them
Orders into Execution, to the utmost of my powers
Abilities, upon every occasion, and most particularly
upon the present most critical situation of Public
Affairs — The papers in consultation or Communication
with the Select Committee on my part alluded or referred
to in the Preceding Minute are,

October 1st	1782		Letter
Nov.r	4th	Do.	Minute
Do.	17th	Do.	No 2 Minute
Dec.r	16	Do.	Minute
Dec.r	15	Do.	No 1
Do.	22d	Do.	No 2 & Return of the Dist
Dec.r	24	No.	
Jan.y	2	1783	No 3 & 4 Letters
Jan.y	18		Minute
Jan.y	26		Letters

to lie for Consideration. Ordered to lie for consideration at a future meeting &
in the mean while to be on the Consultations.

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1st The Ceres and Talbot Indiamen having returned into the Roads on the appearance of the Medea Frigate and her Prize to the Southward, the following Letter is now dispatched by them to the President and Select Committee at Bombay, together with the Dispatches for that Presidency, received by the Greyhound Packet from the Honble Court of Directors. —

To the Honble William Hornby Esqr
President &c. Members of the Select Committee
at
Bombay.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Since closing our Letters to you by the Ship Talbot, the Greyhound packet is arrived here with dispatches from the Honble Court of Directors to the three Presidencies — to guard against accidents, We have opened, and taken Transcripts of those addressed to your Committee, and to your President, and We send you the Originals enclosed and shall immediately forward copies over land.

Bombay — advising of the arrival of the Greyhound from England, & that she had been taken in tow to pick for transmitting the Originals

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

Fort St George
1st February 1783. —

(Signed) Macartney
&c
Select Committee

A Letter is also written to the Secretary at the India house acquainting him for the Information of the Honble Court of Directors of the arrival of the Greyhound

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Fort St. George February 1783.

1st Greyhound packet and the receipt of her Dispatches.—

Sent Letter to Majr. Anderson, Lucas and Davis communicating to them the objections that have occurred against the System lately recommended by the medical Committee as stated in the Minutes of this day—

2d Received the following Letter from the Resident at Tanjore enclosing one from the Rajah of Travancore as entered in Country Correspondence

"Resolved to forthwith to afford Col. Forbes every possible assistance, knowing that Tippoo had been recalled from the Southward by his Father—

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

My Lord,

I have the honor to forward to your Lordship by this express Letter just received from the Rajah of Travancore

I have the honor to be with great respect
My Lord
Your Lordship's most
obdt Humble Servant
(Signed) John Sullivan

Tanjore 15th
January 1783.—

Received the following Letter from Capt. Ross

To the Right Honble the President & Select Committee
My Lord & Gentlemen.

The

Fort St George February 1783.

From Capt. Flint — Arddapatah arrives at Chittapet with 4000 Horse & Tippoo reinforced by 5000 Horse from his Country —

2d The letters of two tappals intercepted, I take the liberty of sending herewith, the language in which they are wrote not being well understood here, I am not capable of judging whether they are of any consequence or not; I have at the same time to inform you, that Ardassapah was at Chittepet the day before yesterday, with about 4000 Troops and 11 Guns, on his way from the Southward, to join Tippoo Saib; My Hercars likewise inform me, that 5000 horse joined him three days ago from his Country, and that more are expected.

I have the honor to be,

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Wandewash 25th Jany 1783. —

Your most obedt.

Humble Servant

(Signed) Wm Flint

Received also from General Stuart a Letter to him from Captain Flint to the same purport as the above. —

3d Received from Captain Smith, Commandant of Pulicat, a Return of the Troops in that Garrison for the month of January. —

Received the following Letter from Captain Edmonds. —

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

My

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Fort St George February 1783

3d

My Lord & Gentlemen,

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 25th informing me that you have reason to believe that the Enemy meditate an attack upon the Northern Circars, and that you have sent Orders to the Renter of Ellore to collect with all expedition a large Quantity of Provisions, and directing me to give him all the assistance in my power — this Gentlemen you may depend on being granted immediately on his or Captain Campbell's application: and I flatter myself that the Renter of this Country will also be ordered to exchange the provisions in this Garrison / if not to add to the Quantity / the greatest part of what we now have being rotten & useless —

I have the honor to be with great respect —

My Lord & Gentlemen

Your most obedient Humble

Servt

(Signed) Edward Edmonds

Capt Comdt

Engole 30th Jany 1783

Dispatched by a Pattamar the following Letter to President & Select Committee at Bombay with copies in expectation of the Honble Companys Dispatches to them by the Greyhound Packet. —

To

522.

Fort St. George February 1783.

3d To the Honble William Hornby Esqr
President &c. Select Committee
at
Bombay

Honble Sir & Sirs

To Bombay — transmitting Copies of the last Dispatches to that Settlement from the Court of Directors —

We have now the honor to transmit your copies in cypher of Dispatches we received by the Greyhound Packet from the Honble Court of Directors addressed to your Committee and to your President. The Originals we forwarded to you with our Letter of the 1st Instant by the Talbot Indiaman —

We have the Honor to be,
Honble Sir & Sirs,
Your most Obedient
Humble Servants.
Signed/ Macartney
&c
Select Committee

Fort St. George
3d Feby 1783 —

At a Select Committee present
The Right Honorable Geo. Lord Macartney K.B. Presidt
Anthony Sadleir Esqr
Alexander Davidson Esqr

Tuesday 4th February 1783

Major General Stuart absent upon Service
John Holland Esqr absent at Bengal

The Minutes of last Committee read & approved.

Read the following Letter and enclosures from General Stuart. —

To

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Fort St George 4th February 1783

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

From Genl Stuart
was forwarded from
Marching by Cotes
on arriving from
Wallajanagar. Recommend
that General Burgoyne
superintend the
Military during his
absence. — enclosing
Letters from Capt
Flint & Scouler, &
Returns from the
Depy Agent —

My Lord &c

Having had no report of the Cotiel arriving upon the ground this day, as expected to be sent by the Agent with Rice from Wallajanagar to attend the Army for three days, I did not march as I meant to have done this day, I look for them to arrive this night, and whether they do, or do not, come to the ground, I shall move from hence to Tomorrow Morning, and on the day following shall be on the South side of the Pallar River — I have wrote to Captain Flint expressing my extreme concern to have had no answer to my orders in consequence of your Lordship's determination to have every thing ready for the demolition of Wandewash. — Nothing as your Lordship knows, has come to my knowledge from thence, further than his Excellency's last letter to Captain Flint, this however will not prevent my prosecuting the plan of Operations, which has met with your approbation —

I cannot at this moment precisely ascertain what quantity of rice has been left at the Mount Magazine, in passing I saw the Engineer who repaired the Mount & spoke with Lieut Orr, left in Command there, who will have a particular attention to the guard of the Magazine

prosecuting

Fort St. George 4th. February 1782.

Magazine — We likewise will establish a Post in Communication with St Thome, so as no Sudden assault of the Enemys horse, can offer insult to his Majestys troops Sick in Hospital, or Convalescent, I have left with Lt. Col. Adams Instructions on that Subject.

In passing to Camp I was happy to find (at this precise time) that Major General Burgoyne, tho' not able to take the field, was capable & willing to give his attention to whatever regarded the Military, during my absence from the Presidency — I therefore told him to represent to the Governor, and to Government, that he was the Officer executively to carry on the public Military Service.

I have the honor to inclose to your Lordship &c. some Intelligence from Captain Scouler received lately, also, the Deputy Agents state of the Slaughter Cattle with the Army, and I give it as my opinion to your Lordship &c. that the public will be better, & cheaper served by Smith the Butcher, than in any other way I know of, and I request you will enter into some equitable agreement with this man, so as he may, without any loss, be induced to collect, and have in readiness, a Sufficient quantity of Slaughter Cattle for the Army, for many months to come, & Calculating at forty head a day from the middle of March — this will Simplify all accounts, and prevent Complaints Civil or Military, and the Company will Ultimately be gainer, & the Supplies more certain. —

I have

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Fort St. George 4th February 1783

is

Every Pauk is an Encampment of French Europeans & Sepoys with about four thousand of Tippoo's Horse, who constantly Patrole round them — Tippoo Saib is still near Arcot. Horse are Posted in every Direction for to bring him Intelligence, so that he hears of the smallest motion of ours — Letters of Yours which I gave in charge to Hircarrahs to carry to Vellore are lost — the Hircarrahs were caught by the Enemy & used very ill; but just before they caught them they contrived to fling away the Letters & when they wanted to find them again, they could not, & were obliged to return unsuccessful — but with strong marks of the truth of what they said, on their Body

I have the Honor to be
Sir
With the greatest Respect
Your very Obdt &
most Humble Servant
(Signed) Robert Sewell

Tripassore 24th Jany 1783

Major General James Stuart

Sir

Your Letters of the 20th & 22d Instant did not reach me before yesterday, on receipt of the Letter all the people that I have been able to collect are employed in Draining the place — We are entirely without Lascars & Draught Bullocks, which will prevent our carrying away the Guns here Viz. one 32 — one 24, one 12 and five 9's; the rest are either Honeycombed or otherwise damaged.

Yrs

Fort St. George 4th February 1783

My Marcarahs inform me, that 200 French men, 100 Coffries 300 Sepoys and 50 horse came yesterday to Permacoil, they have with them 5 Guns, 2 Mortars & 110 Bandies with Stores — It is reported with them, that they are to attack Vellore after joining Tippoo — Most parties going to camp pass by Gingee & Chettopett, this party is to halt a day or two at Permacoil

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obd.t &
most Humble Servant

(Signd) W.m Flint

Wandewash
28.th Jany 1783

The President lays before the Committee the following Letters from Sir John Burgoyne and informs them that the one of this date, is an answer to a Message he sent Sir John requesting to see the Order in writing which he supposed General Stuart had left with him.

From Sir John Burgoyne to the Presidt. — acquaining him that General Stuart had directed him to superintend all the out Posts & requesting to be furnished with every information respecting their Strength &c.

My Lord,

I think it proper to inform Your Lordship, that General Stuart called upon me yesterday afternoon, to inform me, that as he was informed that I was so far recovered as to be able to judge and give orders, that he held me responsible in his absence, for the care of all the Troops and out posts which he left

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left behind him out of the Garrison — God knows I am almost as little able to judge, as to act, but will do all in my power for the good of the Service and shall hope Your Lordship will favor me with any information you may receive; and beg to assure you, I shall with the greatest pleasure Co operate with your Lordship, should any occasion make any disposition or exertion necessary —

I shall desire Lieut Col. Ross to examine the Post at St. Thomé, and report to me whether Lieut. Col. Adams has made the best disposition of the place will admit of against a surprize — The Line where the Hospital of my own Regiment is, I look upon to be too open, and shall therefore order the men to be removed to a place of more security — General Stuart not having left me a scrap of paper, I have to beg your Lordship to desire Major Sydenham / whom I believe is the only man that knows / to send me word what number of men are left from the Mount to the Garrison — and where the different Posts / if any / are established I am not clear I am safe myself, where I am, but I feel myself too weak to be removed, shall therefore order a night Piquet, consisting of a Subaltern & 30 men to come hither every night & wait till Morning — for which purpose I beg the favor of your Lordship to order me an Officer's tent and a large one for the Sepoys — the Batt. quarters in the Barracks opposite the Governor's House

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Yours can furnish this Piquet without difficulty, — any hint from your Lordship, on any point whatever will be received with pleasure by him who has the honor to be

Your Lordship's

Most Obedient & most Humble Servant

Signed J. Burgoyne

Madras Febry 4th 1783. —

My Lord,

From Sir Jno.e Burgoyne, enclosing Letter from Genl. Stuart, & requesting to be favored with an explicit answer on the subject of his own indemnification &c.

I had the honor to receive your Lordship's message last night by Mr. Grieve, in consequence of which I immediately dispatched an express to General Stuart, the answer to which I now enclose for your Lordship's perusal, and beg it may be returned — the task imposed upon me by the General, I am far from wishing to undertake, but his orders to me verbally were still more positive, & direct than his Letter — I have only now to beg of your Lordship that I may have a clear and explicit answer from you on this subject; — and if you have any objection to my taking the command of the Troops, in the manner General Stuart orders, that you will state them in such a manner, as to indemnify me for giving up the point. —

I am

My Lord

Your most Obed.t & most Humble Sv.t

[Signed] J. Burgoyne

Major Genl.

February 4th 1783.

Gardens

Fort St. George 4th February 1783.

by the Company's Orders to the Governor, and that the Military Officer acting under the Governor in the Command of the Troops here, can only be appointed by the Authority of Government being the Authority by which you were appointed to the same Station the 11th January 1781.

We shall be glad to avail ourselves of the Assistance of General Sir John Burgoyne, as soon as his health will admit of it.

We have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most Obdt Hble Servts

Signed/ Macartney

for Select Committee

Fort St George
4th Feby 1783.

To Major General Sir John Burgoyne.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Letters of the 3d and 4th Inst. to which I have judged it necessary to communicate to the Select Committee as we are surprized at the Instructions which you therein mention to have received from Major General Stuart. It seems to have escaped the General's attention, that the Troops stationed at the Out Posts in these Environs belong to this Garrison and of course form a part of the Command entrusted to the Governor, and that the Military Officer acting under the Governor in the Command of the Troops here, can only be appointed by the Authority

of

Fort St. George 4th February 1783.

of Government.

The Select Committee think it right that the above should be made known to you, but they at the same time join with me in desiring you to be assured, that we shall be happy to avail ourselves of your assistance, the moment your health will admit of it. —

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedt. Hble. Sr.
(Signed) Macartney

Fort St. George
4th Feby 1783.

Read the following Letter from the Chief & Council of Vizagapatam

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

My Lord & Gentlemen,

Since writing your Lordship &ca. on the 28th the Progress of the Enemy's fleet has been very slow, owing to light Winds and Northerly Currents. — They did not appear off this Place till yesterday Morning, and have been in sight all this day, 14 in number besides a little Sloop, but at a considerable Distance from the Land, continuing their Course to the Southward & until 3 in the afternoon, when they Stood to the

From Vizagapatam, — the French fleet entirely disappear; — respecty the assistance afforded Vizianagram Family & the Tickally Chajah; dispatch a Boat to apprise the San Carlos of the arrival of the french Fleet.

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the Eastward without a View probably to be
more out of the way of the Northerly Currents
which prevail near the Shore — all apprehension
therefore of any attack, for the present at least,
is removed which we have no Reason to lament,
for altho' every Step possible has been taken
by the Disposition of the Troops and Temporary
works both for the Security of the Place, and to
prevent their making a Descent in the Neighbourhood,
still the Issue of an Attempt would have been
at least doubtful, as without the support of
Europeans little Steadiness is to be expected
from Sepoys, & few of the Invalids we have
in Garrison are equal to the Management
of Guns. —

Captain Deare of the Bengal
Establishment Opportunely arriving here on
his way to join the Army in the Carnatic
We availed ourselves of a Tender he made of his
Services having no Artillery Officer here, and
to this Zealous assistance We are much indebted
in many Instances, but particularly some
Improvements in the Temporary Batteries
had endeavored to put in some Sort of Repair
well as the Time would permit —

In justice also to Captain
of the private Ship Friendship, which
imported here only 6 days before, We
mention the great Readiness with which he

had

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had at our desire moored his Ships across the River within the Bar, as a floating Battery, which was manned with an additional Numbers of Lascars & a Party of Sepoys would have been of Signal Service, had an attempt been made to Land —

We already acquainted your Lordship viz^a that Rajah Vizianarauze and his Brother Sittenarauze, had from the first stepped forth to prove themselves the firm friends of the Company, on this Occasion, when the whole Country were alarmed — Their Conduct since, during the appearance of the Enemy, has corresponded with their professions — nor has Tuggadeo the Rajah of Tuckally Rajahs been inactive — The Port of Coondy in the Arrangements we had made, was left to his particular Charge, and he himself marched thither at the head of his People with two Guns — to reinforce the small Detachment of our Sepoys that were before posted there. —

Such Instances of Zeal and attachment in these times deserve to be recorded, and with great Pleasure we discharge our Duty in making your Lordship &c acquainted with them —

While the French fleet were at anchor off Bimlipatam, they captured five Snows laden with Rice &c — One of them by accounts just received, we fear, is that which we advised you on the 20th in the Civil Department, we had pushed away on the 16th from Canara without

Compleating

Fort St. George 4th February 1783

Completeing their Lading on the Company's Acct
in order to avoid falling into the Enemy's hand
but our Intentions, it would seem, have been
frustrated — We hope we shall be more
Successful in the precautions we have taken in
sending some Days since a pinnace with a European
in it, to look out for his Majesty's Frigate the
San Carlos, which we understand is on her way from
Madras, and will run great risk if she is not
apprised of the Enemy's Fleet being on the Coast.

We are respectfully
My Lord & Gentlemen
Your most faithful &
Obedient Servants
(Signed) Edward Ruffell

Vizagapatam
24th Jany 1783.

Fdk. Drake
Chas. Maxtone

Orders & Observations of the Committee on the late Genl Letters from England

The Committee are pleased to find by the
foregoing Letter that the French Squadron has
passed Cuyaux and Vizagapatam without attempting
any thing against those Settlements —

Letters have been already written
to the Rajah Sitteram Rauze and his Brother
to express our sense of their late exertions

The Committee now read those parts
of the late General Letters from the Honble.
Court of Directors addressed to the President and
Council that relate to this department as noted

in

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in the Margin, and to make such observations and orders upon them as may be necessary for the Information or satisfaction of our Employers.—

Genl Letter 30.th June 1782.—

Paragraph 4.th It is true that no public dispatches were sent to Europe from this Presidency, from February to October 1781. when the Committee purchased a Vessel solely for that purpose, which they hope will have convinced the Court of Directors, that it was only for want of opportunities of sending them Intelligence that they were so long without receiving any from us.

Genl Letter 15.th June 1782.

Paragraph 2.d Duplicates of the Dispatches sent by the Admiral Hughes were forwarded by the Swallow packet, and Triplicates by the Grosvenor.

Genl Letter the 12.th July 1782.— 3.d To lie for Consideration

Paragraph — 19.th The Committee apprehend that a Literal compliance with the order contained in this paragraph as far as it relates to this department, may be the occasion of prejudicial delays in dispatching packets to Europe, owing to the very great want of Assistants. Agreed that this be represented in the next General Letter to the Court of Directors.

20.th The Contents of this paragraph to be communicated to Mr William Burke, and Copy of it to be sent to the Military Paymaster General for his Guidance — The Commander in Chief to be desired to cause regular Returns

to

Fort S.t George 4.th February 1783.

Committee, that he yesterday directed the Civil Secretary to acquaint the Nabob, that if agreeable to his Highness, a Copy of the Company's Letter would be sent to him.

4th Received Letter from His Highness the Nabob (as entered in Country Correspondence No. /

Dispatched the following Letter to the Governor General & Council, with the Several papers mentioned therein. —

To the Honble Warren Hastings Esqr
Governor General &c^a Council
of Bengal

Honble Sir & Sirs,

To Bengal communicating the Measures taken to frustrate the views of the French on the Circars. —

Agreable to your desire, signified in your letter of the 12th December, We have now the honor to transmit you a General Return of the Number and disposition of all the forces acting under this Establishment, together with a Statement of our Collections in the Circars from the 1st June 1781 to the latest periods, to which the Accounts from the Subordinate Settlements have been received.

The great variety of Business that has lately occurred in this department, and the Illness of several of the Assistants, have occasioned an unavoidable delay in sending you our proceedings; Copies of them from the 1st December are now preparing and We hope will be Completed in a few days. —

When your letter of the 12th December was written, We conclude you had not received ours of the 30th October, advising of our having sent to you by the Ships Kent & Hastings the Battalion

of

Fort St. George 6th February 1783.—

4th of European Infantry, belonging to your establishment—

We shall gladly send you a further part of our European Force, as soon as it can with safety be spared. The Intelligence transmitted to you the 20th and 21st ultimo will have shewn you, that the situations of our affairs would not warrant it at this Juncture. — We shall now briefly state to you the measures which we conceive of that Intelligence, We have resolved on, for the security of the Circars, requesting you to be referred to our proceedings for a more particular detail.

We consider Masulipatam and Ganjam as the only places in the Circars, capable of making any stand against a European Enemy — the former, as the capital of the Circars, and on account of its situation and Importance in many respects, We make the principal object of our attention — and Ganjam We esteem the next in Importance as our frontier Garrison to the North, situated on the borders of the Maratta Territory, and the only tenable post between Masulipatam and Calcutta — upon these Ideas the following Orders have been issued —

A Body of Troops consisting of his Majesty's, and the Company's Europeans in the Masulipatam district together with the best of the Sepoy Corps, and two Carnatic Battalions, that were at Cuyelo from the Army, to be assembled near Masulipatam and equipped for field Service with the utmost expedition, so that they may be in readiness to oppose the Enemy's Landing or attack

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We attack them before they shall have had time to establish themselves, or to be joined by any Country power. —

Vizagapatam being untenable, a great part of the Artillery and Military Stores are to be sent to Ganjam, with all the European Invalids, and as many of the Sepoys as will complete the Force there to 1200 effective men — The Company's Cash and Valuable property & the remainder of the Military Stores are to be sent to Masulipatam. —

We have authorized the Chief and Council of Masulipatam to send Instructions to the other Factories in any matters that relate to the general defence of the Circars, and to call for the Assistance of the Troops, or any part of them to reinforce those in the Field, or to strengthen their Garrison. We have also given them a discretional Latitude, to act upon their Judgement, whenever they shall be of opinion that the public Service would be injured by their waiting for Orders from hence, enjoining them at the same time to consult on every occasion with Lieutenant Colonel Jones, whom We have appointed to the Command of all the Troops in the Circars —

The Chief of Masulipatam has intimated to our President, that Colonel Jones is extremely desirous of being joined by the two Companys of his Regiment now in Bengal — in the event of Mr Bussy's landing in the Circars We apprehend Colonel Jones will be deficient in European force, and the Commander in Chief is of opinion that —

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4th that no more can with prudence be detached from the main Army — but whether it be practicable or expedient to comply with the Colonel's desire, it remains with you to judge, and decide.

letter

We were much concerned to learn by a Letter from the Chief & Council of Ganjam, that a Vessel which you had been so good as to send to them with some valuable Military Stores had fallen into the Enemy's hands — The Stores ordered to Ganjam from Vizagapatam will we hope be fully adequate to their wants in that respect; and we have desired them to use every possible exertion to repair and strengthen the fortifications — We have also intimated to them that we think it probable you will order a Body of Troops to march towards the Circars with the knowledge you possess of the danger which now threatens those districts; We are sensible it is quite unnecessary for us to suggest any measure that it may be in your power to take for their Security. —

With regard to any general plan of Operations, We must beg leave to refer you to our late proceedings, in which you will find a Minute of the Commander in Chief under date the 26th Ultimo containing his Sentiments which we have for the most part adopted in the measures already ordered to be taken in the Circars.

The main Army marched the 25th Ultimo from Velloor to Tamarcum and is now proceeding towards Wandewash — The present

Intention

Fort St George February 1783.

Sent Provisions to Vellore.

4th Intention is to blow up that Fort and Carangoolay and withdraw the Garrisons to watch the motions of the Enemy's Army now strengthened by the Junction of the French forces — not to risk an action unless a very favorable occasion offers for attacking them, but to keep them ignorant of our Intentions and so to hope to prevent their detaching to intercept, or oppose the Operations of General Matthews on the Malabar Coast, or of Colonel Lang to the Southward —

Our latest Intelligence from Captain Flint mentions that Tippoo Saib has been lately joined by 15000 Infantry from the Southward, that 5000 horse which he had sent for to purchase had arrived in his Camp, and that he seemed to be preparing for some grand effort. — A general Idea has prevailed for some time that he intends to risk an Action —

The Cruz and Talbot which had been dispatched to Bombay, returned in a few hours in consequence of mistaking the Medea & then coming from the Southward for an Enemy. — The Greyhound Brig arriving from England the same day We detained those Ships a short time to send by them the Company's dispatches to the Bombay Presidency with which they accordingly sailed the 20th Instant, and We took the same opportunity of forwarding to Sir Edward Hughes, duplicate Copies of the Letters and Intelligence We had received, with a Letter repeating the representations before made to him of the infinite consequence of his coming, or

sending

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Fort St George February 1783.

Wth Sending the Despatches between Sheps to the Coast, to attack the Enemy before they should have had time to effect their intended purpose.

We have had the honor to receive your Letters of the 28th November and 2d January with their several enclosures.

We wish to pay the utmost Attention to all your orders and Instructions, but with respect to granting Passages, and suitable accomodations to England on the Companys homeward bound Ships to the Magistrates Officers mentioned in the List enclosed in your Letter of the 2d Instant, if it be thereby meant that the Company should be charged with the expence of such passages and Accomodations, it is not in our power to comply with your desire on that head, without contravening their express orders, as you will perceive by the enclosed Extract of the Companys General Letter to this Government, dated the 25th January 1782.

We have the honor to be,

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Your most Obedt &

Humble Servants.

Signed at Secretary

per

Select Committee

Fort St George
4th February
1783.

To

We judge it prudent for the present to defer sending you the General Returns of the Troops — it is ready, & shall be forwarded the moment it can be done with entire safety — Our Presidency

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Fort St George February 1783.

The President has already sent you an Abstract of it in cypher
& sent the following Letter.

To Mr. John Henneworthy,

Deputy Agent,

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honble
the President and Select Committee, to acknowledge the
receipt of your Letter of the 30th. Ultimo, enclosing an
Account of the Arrears due to your Employ, from the 1st. November
1781 to the 30th. November 1782, amounting to Pagodas
323907. 24. 7c

The Select Committee observe that of the
above Ballance the Sum of 28705 H. 28. 48. is stated
to be due to the Bullock people with the Army, and
they desire to know whether in your Accounts with
them, you have credited the Company for the Amount
of the Rice issued to them and to the Hostries & Drivers —
They desire also to know why your Accounts have been
suffered to fall somuch in Arrear, and have not been sent
Monthly to the Agent, as the Regulations prescribe.

I am further desired to signify to you
the positive Orders of the Right Honble the President
& Select Committee, that you make up your Accounts
without further delay, to the latest period, and to
inform you, that your neglecting in future to send
in your Account regularly to the Agent, will subject
you to their severest displeasure.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedt. &c
Signed John Hudleston
Secretary

Fort St George
4th. Feby. 1783.

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Fort St George February 1783.

4th

To Mr Edward Sebor Holland,

Auditor of Accounts,

Sir,

To the Auditor, ordering him summary Returns or Estimates to examine & check the Accounts of the Army.

The Right Honble the President and Select Committee have directed me to furnish you with the accompanying Returns of Camp Equipage, Carts, Draught & Carriage Cattle, Drivers, Keepers, Lascars, Artificers, Coolies &c. in order that they may be of use to you in examining and checking the Accounts of the Army.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant

(Signed) John Hudleston

Sec.y

Fort St George

4th Feby 1783.

5th

Received the following Letters

To Right Honble Sir Eyre Coote K.B.

President & Governor &c.

at

Fort St George

My Lord

received this — From Capt.n Kuppage has arrived twenty leven this Presidency Rs sent Rs 50: to Bangalore for the use the Prisoners

The came they going

The 18th Instant &c.

by the Bearer 2000 Pagodas for the use of

Garrison: & on same day a large body of Horse

5 or 6000 horse & foot Westward encamped

at Coleporee & marched this Morning. I have

certain Accounts last night that they are in

reinforcement & are to join Tippoo Saib