

Smith, and Wyld retire; thus the Committees for the ensuing year are: Sir Jacob Garrad, Alderman Reynardson, Rowland Wilson, Thomas Jennings, Thomas Burnell, Gilbert Keate, Thomas Kerridge, Robert Abdy, Thomas and Daniel Andrews, Thomas Rich, Thomas Hodges, John Langly, John Oldfeild, Nicholas Gould, James Mann, William Williams, William Meggs, Anthony Bateman, Thomas Bludworth, James Edwards, Henry Spurstow, Richard Davies and Thomas Cokayne. (1½ pp.)

A GENERAL COURT OF THE ADVENTURERS IN THE THIRD JOINT STOCK, JULY 6, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxi, p. 237).

The Governor recalls how at a general court held July 5, 1650, Messrs. Cokayne, Methwold, Massingberd, and Jennings were appointed a committee to make an agreement with some private persons who undertook to procure by legal means restitution from the Dutch for the great losses sustained by the Company through them, he now declares that the time limited for the said agreement to be concluded has expired, and therefore this meeting is called to decide how to proceed. After consideration the matter is recommended to the care of the following Committees Messrs. Cokayne, Riccard, Massingberd, Wilson, Jennings, Keate, Kerridge, Thomson, Langly, Williams, Bateman, Edwards, Bludworth, Thomas and Daniel Andrews, they or any five of them to form a committee and meet every Wednesday and Friday afternoon, or as occasion shall require. They are to endeavour to obtain satisfaction from the Dutch for the said losses, but not to relinquish the Company's right to the Island of Pulo Run. To defray any charges or expenses that may arise, each Committee appointed is to deposit 10*l*, or more if required, with whoever is appointed treasurer, and when satisfaction is obtained each man is to be paid double what he so advances; but if satisfaction is not procured, then each man must bear the loss of whatever money he has advanced. From the money recovered from the Dutch, the said Committees are to have a gratuity of three per cent. divided among them, according to each man's service and attendance. It is also resolved that the said Committees shall appoint a solicitor to help look after this business. (1½ pp.)

A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE FOR PROSECUTION OF THE DUTCH BUSINESS, JULY 8, 1653 (*Factory Records, Java*, vol. ii, part iv, p. 219).

Michael Dunckine is appointed to receive from each of the fifteen Committees nominated to manage this business 10*l.* yearly, and to pay it out on warrants signed by three of the said Committees. He is also to keep a separate account of this money. If any Committee does not think fit to pay the 10*l.*, any other Committee may do so for him according to the order of the general court of the 6th instant. All are desired to think of someone suitable to act as solicitor for this business, and it is resolved that they shall meet at three o'clock every Wednesday and Friday afternoon, or as order shall direct, of which Mr. Holloway is to give written notice on the Exchange. ($\frac{3}{4}$ p.)

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE, JULY 8, 1653 (*Public Record Office: S. P. Dom.: Interregnum*, I. 70, pp. 26-30).

. . . The Admiralty Committee to consider of a fit ship to ply at Land's End to guard the *Love*, and to bring into the port of London the *Smyrna Merchant* and other ships arriving from the East Indies. . . . To write to Captain Marten to ply with the ships with him as far as the Lizard Point, and beat up and down for a short time, for the safeguarding of ships expected from the East Indies, and then to convoy the *Smyrna Merchant*, lately come from thence, to Portsmouth . . . also to supply the *Bristol* frigate with some of the *Sovereign's* company, for its speedy dispatch to Land's End for the guarding of the East India ships. . . .

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, JULY 9, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 249).

Ordered that a letter be written to Captain Hurleston, in answer to one received from him on the 4th instant, to congratulate him upon his safe arrival, to thank him for his care in preserving the goods committed to his custody, and to desire him to remain at Falmouth until sufficient convoy shall be sent by the State to bring him into the Channel. The captain is also to be requested to 'breake noe bulke' nor allow any goods whatsoever to be delivered

out of the *Smyrna Merchant* before her arrival at the place of discharge. This letter is to be posted and a copy to be sent by the convoy appointed by the State. ($\frac{1}{2}$ p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, JULY 13, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 250).

The cashier at Drury House refusing to pay any money unless he is given the warrant from the Council of State, the Treasurer is instructed to give up the said warrant, which is made out for 10,000*l.*, if it is demanded, although the whole sum shall not be paid. Benzoin sold to Mr. Reeves. Prosecution of Mr. Ferrara to be forborne for a time on his giving bail. Mr. Gold to be excused payment of the 30*l.* still due from him for the ordnance he bought. The powdermakers refuse to accept the terms offered by the Company for refraction of saltpetre. Ordered that no more of the wages of William West be paid to any one. ($1\frac{1}{2}$ pp.)

A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEES FOR THE DUTCH BUSINESS, JULY 13, 1653 (*Factory Records, Java*, vol. ii, part iv, p. 420).

Upon examination of the Dutch papers with the inventory delivered to Messrs. Methwold and Thomson, copies are found wanting of the following: A Relation of the taking of the islands of Lantore and Pulo Run, Randall Jesson's Relation concerning Pulo Run, the Order of Parliament about the Dutch, 1643, and the Remonstrance about the Dutch. Mr. Thomson declaring that these were laid before the Council of State, directions are given for all means to be used to obtain them and the rest of the papers delivered to the Council. The Secretary is desired to buy fifty of the printed books concerning the business of Amboyna from Mr. Woofe and to give him 3*l.* for them. It is thought that the Fourth Joint Stock and the United Stock should each contribute 10*l.* towards obtaining satisfaction from the Dutch, which if successfully accomplished will benefit both, and each Stock will be given 20*l.*, but if not then they will lose their 10*l.* ($\frac{3}{4}$ p.)

the said assessment, the Court thinking it will be better to do so 'then to stirr in it'. William Gostwick re-assigns to the Worshipful William Ashwell 500*l.* adventure and profits in the United Joint Stock; Joseph Prickeman transfers to the Worshipful Edmund Sleigh 300*l.* adventure and profits in the same Stock, and George Clarke transfers to Geoffrey Howland 500*l.* adventure and profits in the same Stock. (1 *p.*)

A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEES FOR THE DUTCH BUSINESS, JULY 20, 1653 (*Factory Records, Java*, vol. ii, part iv, p. 420).

The Secretary is commanded to reprint 500 of the old Amboyna books forthwith. ($\frac{1}{2}$ *p.*)

CAPTAIN ROGER MARTEN IN THE *BRISTOL*, NEAR FALMOUTH, TO THE ADMIRALTY COMMITTEE, JULY 21, 1653 (*Public Record Office: S. P. Dom.: Interregnum*, vol. lvi, no. 110).

Has been cruising off the Lizard, and meeting the *Dolphin* of London, with wool and iron from Bilboa, convoyed her to Falmouth. Has received the pressed men from Captain Mills and will carry them to Portsmouth. Asks how long to wait for the East India ships.

PAPERS CONCERNING THE LOSSES OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY IN THE INDIES, DELIVERED TO RICHARD SWINGLEHURST, JULY 21, 1653 (*Public Record Office: C. O.* 77, vol. vii, no. 61).

1. Copies of voluntary confessions of divers Netherlanders lately come from the East Indies concerning the murder of the English at Amboyna. 2. Complaints concerning the Islands of Pulo Run, Lantore, the Moluccas, Banda and Amboyna, Jakatra, Bantam, Jambi, Surat and Persia. Complaints against John Peter Van Coen, and Peter de Carpentee, General for the Dutch in the East Indies. 3. Examination of Thomas Violet by Secretary Coke touching the butchery at Amboyna, March, 1631. 4. Relation of the Proceedings of the Netherlands Agents at Amboyna against the English, by an eye-witness. 5. Protests fait à Tichfeild par S.M. de la Grande Bretagne le 9^m Septembre, 1625, touchant l'affaire d'Amboyna. 6. Letter from Henry Hawley to Thomas Keightly,

January 7, 1623. 7. Abstract of the trade to the East Indies from 1620 to 1623 inclusive, according to an order from the Lower House of Parliament, March, 1623. 8. Accounts of money and goods taken by the Dutch in India and not restored, amounting to 250,000*l.* 9. Reasons to prove the decay of trade and want of money in the realm. 10. Estate of the East India trade. 11. Book containing an abstract. 12. Declaration of the losses sustained by the English in the East Indies, March. 1620. 13. Sir Dudley Carleton, Agent to the States, concerning the delivery of the King's letters, October 9, 1629. 14. Translation of a letter from the Dutch Company to the English Company, April 19, 1621, received in London April 28. 15. Petition to the Duke [of Buckingham], March 8, 1626, in Dutch. 16. Abstract of a letter from the Duke of Buckingham to Lord Conway, November 14, 1625. 17. Abstract of Sir Dudley Carleton's memorial presented to the States touching Pieterse Coen, October 19, 1625. 18. Commissioners appointed by the King for the Amboyna business, 1624. 19. Speeches by Forbes since his coming to London, October 25, 1627. 20. Letter from Sir Dudley Carleton from the Hague. November $\frac{1}{2}$, 1624. 21. 'Above 700,000*l.* damage by the Dutch.' 22. Mr. Misselden's answer to the States concerning the money given for release of the three Dutch ships at Portsmouth. 23. Protest of King Charles against Dutch injustice in the Indies. 24. Warrant of the Lords of the Council, October, 1631, concerning divulging of the Amboyna books, read in Court, November 16, 1631. 25. Remonstrance of wrongs sustained by the English East India Company from the Dutch East India Company. 26. Abstract of Sir Thomas Roe's letter of January $\frac{3}{3}$, 1626. 27. Petition to Parliament with the order of reference thereupon. 28. Demonstration of the riches of the East India trade now unhappily in the hands of the Dutch, which might and ought to have been ours, collected in Holland by Edward Misselden, September 22, 1625. 29. Collection of charges from the accounts of garrison and fortification delivered to the Dutch General in 36 Articles, 1622. 30. Complaints concerning the Island of Pulo Run. 31. Mr. Gonnings's protest against being denied one-third of cloves at Maquian, Taffasha, June 20, 1622. 32. The injustice of the Dutch against the English at Amboyna. 33. Translation of the denial of the Dutch General and Council to

deliver up the Island of Pulo Run. 34. Yearly estimate of spice upon Pulo Run. 35. Wrongs and losses committed by the Dutch. 36. Relation of the taking of the Islands of Pulo Run and Lantore. 37. Abstract of the real losses sustained by the Dutch. 38. Declaration of the proceedings of the Netherlands East India Company against the English since the treaty of 1619. 39. Reasons why the Dutch at Amboyna had no sovereignty over the English. 40. Letter from the States to the King about Amboyna, August 12, 1624. 41. The States' letter into the Indies concerning the business of Amboyna, December 31, 1624. 42. Declaration by the Lords States to His Majesty about the Amboyna business, August 23, 1624. 43. The Dutch Project, delivered by Mr. Secretary Coke. 44. Copy from Secretary Coke of what is required by His Majesty from the States concerning the business of Amboyna, delivered by the Lords to Mr. Joachimi and Mr. Catz, April 24, 1627. French. 45. An Abstract of the abuses of the Dutch. 46. John Cartwright's relation of the Amboyna business written in 1636. 47. Answer of the States to the business of Amboyna, December 31, 1629. French, with English translation. 48. Letter from Sir William Boswell, October 14, 1642. 49. Copy of the 1619 treaty with the Dutch and explanation thereof. 50. Advice left by General Coen with his successor, General Peter Carpenter. 51. Coen's commission. 52. Damages in the *Endymion*, 1649. 53. Henry Whitaker's speech at Amsterdam touching the composition money due by the Dutch Company, 1643. 54. Protest against Bartholomew Kuns delivered to him January 14, 1624-5, received by Giles Waterman February 9, 1624-5. ($2\frac{3}{4}$ pp)

A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEES FOR THE DUTCH BUSINESS, JULY 22, 1653 (*Factory Records, Java*, vol. ii, part iv, p. 421).

The Secretary is directed to take only 200 books of the last edition concerning Amboyna. Resolved that when Mr. Moyer¹ shall have advised the Company how to proceed, a petition shall

¹ Samuel Moyer had just been appointed one of the representatives of London in the Nominated Parliament, and a member of the Council of State (*Commons' Journals*, vol. vii, p. 283). He was already one of the Commissioners for Compounding (*ibid.*, p. 248). Like Maurice Thomson, Moyer was a strong supporter of Cromwell's administration. At the Restoration he was imprisoned, but managed to secure his release on payment of 500*l*.

be presented to Parliament to desire that care may be taken that reparation be made to the Company by the Dutch. (1 p.)

PETITION FROM THE EAST INDIA COMPANY TO PARLIAMENT, JULY 26, 1653 (*Factory Records, Java*, vol. ii, part iv, p. 403).

Having for many years past been humble suitors for redress and reparation for many insupportable wrongs, injuries, damages, losses and indignities inflicted upon them by the Dutch Company, more especially for the murder of the English Agent and factors at Amboyna, and of their people at Pulo Run, for all which during the reign of the late King they could never obtain any relief, and since the change of government and the continuance of war more important affairs have hindered their solicitation, the petitioners humbly pray that in the impending transactions with the ambassadors from the United Provinces effectual care may be taken for vindication of the honour of the English nation, and that they may receive such satisfaction for their said wrongs (particulars whereof they are ready to produce and justify), as is agreeable to justice and equity; and that the islands of Pulo Run and Pulo Ai may be restored to the Company, the rightful owners. This petition was delivered to and approved by Mr. Moyer, but not presented because of the departure of the Dutch Ambassadors.¹ It was presented to the Council of State on December 5, 1653, and to the Lord Protector on December 29, 1653, and the latter gave 'a gracious answer' to it. (1 p.)

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE, JULY 27, 1653 (*Public Record Office: S. P. Dom.: Interregnum*, I. 70, pp. 125-35).

. . . To write to Captain Martin to bring to the port of London the ship *Smyrna Merchant* from the East Indies; and that the ship's company are to come into Lee Road free from being impressed. . . .

WARRANT FROM THE COUNCIL OF STATE TO COMMANDERS OF SHIPS AND PRESS-MASTERS, JULY 28, 1653 (*Public Record Office: S. P. Dom.: Interregnum*, I. 70, p. 137).

To permit the *Smyrna Merchant*, lately come from the East Indies, to keep her company on board till she comes into Lee Road.

¹ Two of the Dutch commissioners departed on August 3 to report their proceedings.

THE COMPANY TO WILLIAM WATSON AND RICHARD BRIDGMAN [AT AMSTERDAM], JULY 29, 1653 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 216).

Not having heard from them for some time, they request that they will write by the first opportunity and meanwhile ascertain everything possible concerning the estate of the Dutch East India Company's affairs in the East in relation to the Amboyna business, and at other places, and whether the difference between the Dutch and the English has broken out in any act of hostility at Bantam or elsewhere. They hear it reported that fifteen Dutch ships, some from the Straits and some from the Indies, have arrived at Bergen in Norway, and desire to be advised concerning the same. Their ship the *East India Merchant* expected this year from Bantam has not arrived, and the season being so advanced this causes some anxiety; therefore they desire them to make diligent inquiry about her and to gather what they can concerning the Company's estate in India, also to report how the [Dutch] Company 'value their action at present', what ships they expect home and intend to send out, and to be told the price of all sorts of East India commodities that they may be better able to dispose of those they may obtain. As the times are 'soe full of mutabilitities that hardly any day passeth but produceth something new', they request them to write once a fortnight or at the furthest once a month, to advise of all that can be communicated with safety and to address themselves to the whole Company and not to any single member. ($\frac{3}{4}$ p.)

WARRANT FROM THE COUNCIL OF STATE TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF CUSTOMS, AUGUST 3, 1653 (*Public Record Office: S.P. Dom.: Interregnum*, I. 70, p. 169).

To allow the East India Company the customs due for saltpetre delivered by them for the use of the State.

A GENERAL COURT OF ELECTION FOR THE UNITED JOINT STOCK, AUGUST 5, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 255).

Mr. Cokayne announces that they have met to elect Committees to manage the business of the United Joint Stock for the ensuing year. The preamble, to which they all subscribed, is first read, also the minutes of a general court held on the 1st February, 1650,

wherein it was resolved that this Stock should not send out anything after Midsummer, 1653, but this being their own resolve they can revoke it at pleasure, for 'the adventurers in this Stock are the East India Company and they were of opinion not to lett the trade fall'. Hereupon one of the adventurers desires to know what the Company's debts are, and what there is to pay the same with, also what would remain for division among the adventurers. He is told that this cannot be known until it is ascertained what has been returned in the *Smyrna Merchant*, the *East India Merchant* and the *Love*, but then he or any other adventurer may see the Company's books, which have never been denied to them. It is next debated whether to have fifteen or twenty Committees, but the smaller number is decided upon; and the Court then proceeds to make a choice accordingly. The names of all holders of 1,000*l.* stock are read, and the following men are elected: Sir Jacob Garrad, Captain William Ryder, Messrs. Cokayne, Riccard, Massingberd, Moyer, Abdy, Thomson, Andrews, Kerridge, Smith, Wiche, Bateman, Wood, and Norris, and John Massingberd is elected Treasurer for the ensuing year. ($1\frac{1}{2}$ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, AUGUST 9, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 257).

Dust of pepper sold to Henry Whitaker. The Husband is ordered to enter the *Smyrna Merchant* in the Customhouse and to unlade her forthwith. ($\frac{1}{4}$ p.)

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE, AUGUST 10, 1653 (*Public Record Office: S.P. Dom.: Interregnum*, I. 70, pp. 206-10).

... The Admiralty Committee to appoint a convoy for bringing the East India, Barbadoes, and other merchant ships at Plymouth, to London. . . .

THE COMPANY TO EDWARD AND STEPHEN WRIGHT AND ROGER HOWE [AT GENOA], AUGUST 11, 1653 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 216).

Acknowledge receipt of their letter of the 23rd ultimo with the first bill of exchange on Thomas Jennings for dollars 2015.5.8

in 487*l.* *vs.* 6*d.*, and note that it is the advance of what was in cash for the Company's account. They entreat them, as soon as the courts of justice are open, to try to recover the outstanding debts and to settle Damigho's business. They state various queries made by the Auditor concerning the account current and desire to be satisfied about the same. ($\frac{1}{2}$ *p.*)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES FOR THE FOURTH JOINT STOCK, AUGUST 11, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxi, p. 239).

The Governor relates that the Committees appointed to look after the pepper debt have met the late Farmers of the Customs several times, and a writing has been drawn up stating how both parties agree to get in part of the debt, this agreement between the Company and some of the creditors of the late Farmers on the one part, and Sir John Jacobs, Sir Job Harby, Sir Nicholas Crispe, and Sir John Harrison on the other part, is now brought for the approval or disallowance of the Court; hereupon the said agreement is read twice and unanimously approved, and the Governor and the said Committees are desired to sign it. ($\frac{3}{4}$ *p.*)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, AUGUST 12, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 258)

Henry Hampson having bought a parcel of Agra indigo, containing as he thought ten barrels, and finding in it twenty-three, the Court agrees that he need only keep the ten. The usual monthly payment is ordered to be made to the wives of the men who were taken in the four ships by the Dutch in India. Colonel Gower and Messrs. Ashhurst and Cullyn desiring to be released from their contract for sugar, which is found to be damaged, the Court offers to have the matter settled by arbitration, but the buyers desire time to consider. Certain Committees are desired to read the letters and accounts returned from India and to compose a suitable letter to be sent in return. There being usually a good quantity of money in the Company's house, and Spiller being often away in the country, Bartholomew Holloway is ordered to lodge there in Spiller's absence and to see that the three or four porters who watch do their duty. Certain Committees are

appointed to find a suitable warehouse for the saltpetre returned this year, and to decide which warehouses shall be retained and which given up. (2 pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, AUGUST 17, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 260).

The State wishing to buy the saltpetre returned in the *Smyrna Merchant*, the Court announces that though the price is high in Holland yet it only intends to ask 10s. the cwt. more than was charged for the last sold; certain Committees are appointed to treat with the State about the same. Captain Hurleston desiring permission to hire a warehouse for his private trade brought home in the *Smyrna Merchant* and offering to let the Husband have one key, the Customhouse officer another, and to keep a third himself, he is told that he can do as he likes in the matter, the Company only expecting that he will act in accordance with his charter-party. Captain Ryder is given permission to dispose of the private trade sent home in the *Smyrna Merchant* by Captain Blackman, President at Surat, on promising to give satisfaction for freight and to pay whatever fine shall be imposed. Duties allotted to the Committees for the United Joint Stock, and the officers appointed last year confirmed in their several posts at the same salaries. Richard Swinglehurst is given 25*l* for services performed this last year for the Fourth Joint Stock. (3½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, AUGUST 19, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 263).

The Court having already freighted the *Eagle* for India, paid 750*l*. of her imprest and sent advice overland to Surat of her coming, now debates if it would be better to dispatch the said ship or two smaller vessels. Some are of opinion that the Council of State would afford the Company some assistance to fetch home their estate, while others think it would be well to open a book of subscription for the dispatch of some men-of-war, and that the Portuguese would join with the Company in India against the Dutch, and 'thereby they doubt not but to right themselves and offend the Hollanders much'; resolution herein is deferred. Colonel Gower agreeing to submit to the decision of arbitrators

with regard to the sugar he bought, this is ordered to be examined and some allowance made for it. (1 p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, AUGUST 26, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 264).

On information that the *Eagle* cannot be ready until the end of November or later, the owners not knowing for certain when she will be free from the State's service, it is decided to freight two ships of about three hundred tons apiece to send in her stead. The Court orders that notice of this decision be sent overland to Surat, and requests certain Committees to look out for two vessels fit for this purpose and dispatch them on the best terms obtainable. The Committees then take into consideration the proposal made at the last court to open a book of subscription 'to sett forth ships of warr against the Dutch by way of reprizall to India etc. and they, thinking it would be a worke very acceptable to the State and for the honor of this nation, as well as benefitall to the undertakers', resolve unanimously to do so, not doubting but that the State will 'aford them all the assistance that may bee'; therefore the Secretary is directed to draw up a preamble for this purpose. The brothers of the late Francis Bretton desiring that his account may be made up, certain Committees are requested to examine and perfect it. John Christian and John Joseph, two poor Armenians, are given 40s. from the poor-box (1¼ pp.)

A GENERAL COURT OF SALES, AUGUST 26, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 266).

Sale of sugar, cotton yarn, musk new and old, Persian silk, quilts and pintadoes, with prices and names of purchasers. (1½ pp.)

GEORGE STRELLY AT PLYMOUTH TO ROBERT BLACKBORNE, SECRETARY TO THE ADMIRALTY COMMITTEE, AUGUST 26, 1653 (*Public Record Office: S. P. Dom.: Interregnum*, vol. xxxix, no. 79).

. . . The coast is much infested with rogues; three men-of-war lie in Mount's Bay for the East India ship, daily expected from Newfoundland, and other ships from the southward. They chased in a Virginia ship to St. Ives, and as she and others cannot stir for

want of a convoy, I beg you will hasten one down, and some ships to clear the coast of those rogues, who are taking English ships daily. . . . (1½ pp.)

CAPTAIN JOHN HUMPHREY, ABOARD THE *NIGHTINGALE* AT PLYMOUTH, TO THE COUNCIL OF STATE, SEPTEMBER 1, 1653 (*Public Record Office: S. P. Dom.: Interregnum*, vol. xl, no. 5).

. . . Seven or eight Brest men-of-war lately chased an English merchantman into St. Ives, and I hear they are gone to waylay our East Indiamen and other merchants. (1 p.)

THE COMPANY TO WILLIAM WATSON AND RICHARD BRIDGMAN [AT AMSTERDAM], SEPTEMBER 2, 1653 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 217).

Thank them for their letters of the 15th, 22nd, and 27th ultimo and express ample satisfaction with the particulars given in answer to theirs of the 29th July. Desire to be kept fully advised of all that is fitting their knowledge as occasion shall present. (1 p.)

THE COMPANY TO PAOLO DEL SERA AND COMPANY [AT VENICE], SEPTEMBER 2, 1653 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 217).

Acknowledge the receipt of theirs of the 8th ultimo, containing congratulations on the arrival of the *Smyrna Merchant* and good wishes for the safety of the other two ships expected. In answer to their desire to be employed in selling any commodities the Company may send to their parts, the latter promise to give them the 'preheminance'; but not having any considerable quantity of pepper, the commodity usually sent, and thinking that what they have will sell at a better price at home than abroad, they cannot at present comply with their request, but will bear it in mind in the future. (½ p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, SEPTEMBER 2, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 268).

The preamble concerning the subscription to be opened for sending ships of war to the East Indies is read, and the Court thinking that it should be presented to Parliament and the Council of State, certain Committees are requested to perfect it. Thomas

Hanson being still indebted to the Company, and the Court understanding that by a decree in the Prerogative Court he is to receive a good part of the estate of the late Thomas Geoffrey (which is now in the Company's hands), it is ordered that nothing from the said estate be paid out. John Chivall, Messrs. Sattillion and Perryment to be prosecuted for non-payment for calicoes bought and delivered. Jeremy Baxter, Thomas Langham and Peter Smith accepted as security for silk; but as the two latter are unknown to the Company, inquiries are to be made concerning them. Silk bought by Mr. Roper to be examined. Michael Davison and Maurice Thomson accepted as security for sugar. Mr. Collyer acquaints the Court that he bought and paid for seventy-six bales of sugar, but finds that there are only twenty-six in the warehouse; reference is made to the book of contracts, where it is seen that Collyer bargained for the remainder of the sugar unsold, which being twenty-six bales he is told that he can have this quantity, and any money he has paid in excess shall be returned. Captain Hurleston to be paid 3,200*l.* upon account of freight for the *Smyrna Merchant*. On report that some quilts brought home in the *Smyrna Merchant* are damaged, order is given for the bales to be opened and the good quilts brought to Leadenhall. The petition of Mr. Chambers for satisfaction for seven years' service is referred for consideration. Stephen Ballowes' bill of 34*l.* 14*s.* for 48 dozen leather skins used by the late Mr. Calcott in packing quicksilver is ordered to be paid. (2 *pp.*)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, SEPTEMBER 7, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 270¹).

Messrs. Langham, Baxter, and Smith are accepted as security for silk. Allowance is made to Mr. Roper for damaged silk. The Court refuses to accept George Hunt and Henry Newton as security for silk bought by Mr. Pennoyer, as in accordance with a former order no security is to be accepted unless the buyer tenders himself as well. The offer of Messrs. Dycer and Foster to buy the Lahore indigo at 6*s.* the lb. at five six months is refused. Order is given for all damaged goods returned in the *Smyrna Merchant* to be brought to Leadenhall. Calicoes to be examined and priced

¹ See also a duplicate at f. 28 of *Home Miscellaneous*, vol. xi. * 8

for the coming court of sales. Mr. Collyer complaining again about his bargain for sugar, he is granted 6*l*. 'for quietness sake and to avoid sewits in law'. At the request of Messrs. Steventon and Deiwy, powdermakers, Mr. Berisford is appointed to determine what refraction shall be made on the remainder of the Rājāpur saltpetre. Mr. Bretton, a minister, brother to the late Francis Bretton, and two other of his brothers applying about his estate, they are told that this business concerns the Fourth Joint Stock ; therefore they must wait until a court is summoned for that Stock. Sambrooke presenting for signature a warrant for payment of 1,800*l*. by the United Joint Stock to the Fourth Joint Stock, the Court refuses to sign it until the accounts between the two Stocks shall be adjusted ; and hereupon they nominate Messrs. Moyer, Thomson, Andrews, Wyche, Ryder, Smith and Norris to act as a committee for this Stock, and resolve to call a Court of Committees for the Fourth Joint Stock and entreat them to nominate seven of their number to act in conjunction with the seven already named and adjust the accounts between the two Stocks. The Court accepts two bills of exchange signed by Mr. Baker and his Council at Fort St. George, the one made payable at sight to William Cokayne, the other to William Ashwell. (2½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, SEPTEMBER 9, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 272).

Morees sold to William Cokayne. Signor Ferdinando wishing to buy calicoes, certain Committees are requested to settle with him about the price and impost. Silk bought by Richard Utbar and Thomas Langham to be examined and some allowance to be made for what is damaged. A petition from the officers, mates and seamen in the *Smyrna Merchant* is read, praying for remission of freight on their goods in the Company's custody and that the said goods may be delivered ; 'the Court returned them thanks for their care in bringing home the shipp by the blessing of God in safety, and in their managing the fight against the Dutch shippes who encountred them at the Lands End', but adds that their goods are not in the Company's custody, neither has the Company anything to do with the freight of the same, but the owners of the ship are expected to act according to their charterparty. All

damaged goods returned in the said ship to be examined. The porters at the Exchange Cellar complain that they cannot live on 20d. a day, that sifting pepper is very tedious and their other labour very hard; therefore they desire to be allowed 2s. per day; to this the Court consents so long as they are at work, but orders that when they are idle nothing is to be paid to them. (1½ pp.)

PETITION OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY TO THE COUNCIL OF STATE [SEPTEMBER], 1653 (*Public Record Office: C.O. 77, vol. vii, no. 62*).

Setting forth that the Commonwealth has suffered in honour and reputation, and the petitioners in their estates lately and for many years have received numerous wrongs, prejudices, and damages from the Dutch Company, to the great dishonour of the State in those remote eastern parts and loss to the petitioners of some hundred thousands of pounds. That notwithstanding frequent solicitations during the last twenty-nine years, they see no likelihood as yet of the honour of the nation being vindicated, or satisfaction for their own losses procured, therefore they have resolved (if Parliament and the Council approve) to send forth some ships of war by way of reprisal into the East Indies against the Dutch, and have caused a preamble, hereunto annexed, to be entered in a book of subscription, to invite all who please to adventure in this expedition. They pray the Council to lend them five or six of the Commonwealth's frigates, and to give order for all ships and men employed in this expedition to be permitted to proceed without molestation or pressing, which will encourage the adventurers to subscribe considerable sums towards prosecution of this work. *Signed, William Cokayne. (In the margin is written 'Monday next to be considered.' (¾ p.))*

PREAMBLE TO A BOOK OF SUBSCRIPTION TO BE OPENED BY THE COMPANY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1653 (*Public Record Office: C. O. 77, vol. vii, no. 63*).

The Company taking into consideration the many insupportable wrongs, damages and losses inflicted upon them by the Dutch Company, especially the murder of their factors and servants at Amboyna, the seizure and detaining to this day of their estate

there and of the spice islands of Pulo Run and Lantore, the taking, in 1649 upon the coast of Sumatra, of the ship *Endymion*, detaining her goods and debarring the English from trading there ever since, the surprising and taking of four of the English Company's ships in the Gulf of Persia, seizing all the goods in them and keeping in irons the servants and factors aboard, besides many other indignities and affronts, all tending to the great dishonour of the English nation and to the loss and damage of the English Company, the said Company have resolved, with the consent and approval of Parliament and the Council of State, to dispeed some ships of war to the East Indies by way of reprisal against the Dutch Company by sea and land, and to divide the profit or loss of this intended expedition equally among the subscribers in proportion to their stock, hoping by this means to vindicate the honour of the English nation and provide satisfaction for those of the English Company and others who shall adventure in this design. To this purpose they have provided a book of subscription, in which all who are willing may underwrite what they conceive fitting for the carrying out of this design and the dispatch of such ships as shall be thought needful, according to the sum subscribed. Here follows the form of an undertaking to be signed by all subscribers to pay in their several sums to the appointed treasurer or his deputy in two equal parts at a time to be named, the book to remain open until the 1st of November next for all who live within ten miles of London to underwrite in, and until the 1st of December for those living at a farther distance. (1 p.)

THE COMPANY TO HENRY RYLEY [AT ALEPPO], SEPTEMBER 12, 1653 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 227).

Acknowledge the receipt of his letters of the 2nd February, received the 16th May, and of the 27th May, received the 8th August, with the advices from Persia, and thank him for his continued care. They request him to forward the packet enclosed by some trusty messenger to the factors at Basra and Ispahān, or in their absence to Padre Ignatius, to be sent on to Gombroon, and to entreat that great care be taken in this that the letters may not be intercepted by the Dutch, who will 'lay out for them'. ($\frac{1}{2}$ p.)

THE COMPANY TO THOMAS DETHICK, RICHARD BROWNE AND COMPANY [AT LEGHORN], SEPTEMBER 12, 1653 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 227).

Acknowledge their letter of the 25th July, which arrived the 8th August, with the packet from the factors in India. Thank them for sending on letters to and from Aleppo. The news received from India of the taking of four of the Company's ships by the Dutch is 'very displeasing', yet they wait patiently in expectation of restitution before long. They forward a packet for Consul Ryley containing advices for India, and beg that it may be sent on by the first safe conveyance. ($\frac{1}{2}$ p.)

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE, SEPTEMBER 12, 1653 (*Public Record Office: S. P. Dom.: Interregnum*, I. 70, pp. 363-366).

. . . The Admiralty Committee . . . to inquire whether the yard and dock belonging to the East India Company be fit for the use of the navy, and if so, to treat concerning its value, and report. . . .

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE, SEPTEMBER 13, 1653 (*Public Record Office: S. P. Dom.: Interregnum*, I. 70, pp. 367-370).

. . . The Admiralty Committee to contract with the East India Company for as much of their saltpetre as is necessary for the service. . . .

A COURT OF COMMITTEES FOR THE FOURTH JOINT STOCK, SEPTEMBER 14, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxi, p. 240).

A letter is read from James Cocks desiring the Company to let him have 50*l.* for three months, either on account of his estate in their hands or by way of a loan; the Court, remembering his often repeated promise not to ask for any more until his accounts are perfected, instructs Mr. Bagwell, who presented the letter, to tell Cocks that no more money will be given to him until he has made up his accounts. Thomas Bretton, one of the administrators of the late Francis Bretton, formerly President at Surat, desiring an account of the latter's estate, he is told that when satisfaction is made for freight of the goods Francis Bretton caused to be carried from port to port in the Company's ships, for the customs at Gombroon, and for breach of his bond, an account of his estate shall be given, but

not before. The Governor, the Deputy, the Treasurer, Messrs. Andrews, Burnell, Meggs, and Wylde are appointed Committees for the Fourth Joint Stock and desired to meet an equal number of Committees appointed for the United Joint Stock and to adjust the accounts between the said Stocks. (1½ pp.)

THE COMPANY TO JOHN HOLWORTHY AT MARSEILLES, SEPTEMBER 15, 1653 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 228).

Forward advices for India under cover to Consul Ryley and request that they may be sent on by the first safe conveyance. Thank him for this and former services and promise to reimburse all charges when he pleases and to requite him for his favours. (¼ p.)

THE COMPANY TO SIGNOR PAOLO DEL SERA AND COMPANY [AT VENICE], SEPTEMBER 16, 1653 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 228).

Forward a packet of letters directed to Consul Ryley at Aleppo containing advices to India, which they beg may be sent on by some speedy and safe conveyance. Promise to reimburse all charges and to make use of them in 'a more beneficial employment' if opportunity shall present. (¼ p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, SEPTEMBER 16, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 273).

Allowance is made to Messrs. Utbar, Langham and Mann for damaged silk. John Day is released from his bargain for calicoes. At the request of John Leigh, a factor at Fort St. George, the Court consents to allow his wife two-thirds of his salary yearly. Messrs. Davies and Carter, who by order of the late Committee of the Ordnance received saltpetre from the Company to make into powder, now complain that the same is 'gruff peeter' and demand some allowance on it; they are referred to certain Committees, who are directed to act as they see fit in the matter. In view of the approach of the winter season, a letter is ordered to be written to Mr. Madock and another to Captain Brookhaven to desire them to send the silk from aboard the *Love* by land to London. Upon Mr. Thomson's report of what passed concerning the price of the saltpetre returned in the *Smyrna Merchant* between Major-General Deborow¹ and Mr. Moyer on behalf of the State, and himself and other Com-

¹ The well-known John Desborough, brother-in-law of Cromwell.

mittees on behalf of the Company, the Court entreats those who are to go tomorrow to Whitehall to see that the saltpetre is sold to the State at 4*l.* 18*s.* per cwt. at two six months, payment to be made from the customs. Robert Turbridge transfers to Robert Blackborne 200*l.* adventure and profits in the United Joint Stock. Order is given for the freight of the *Smyrna Merchant* to be made up, and certain Committees are requested to remit to the officers and men in that ship what they see fit of the fine imposed for private trade returned in hei. (2 *pp*)

A GENERAL COURT OF SALES, SEPTEMBER 16, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 280).

Sale of indigo shirts and skins, nutmegs, and nutmeg skins, dust and scummings of pepper, Jambi and Malabar pepper, Sarkhej indigo, calicoes, packing wool. 'narrow Suratts', Guinea stuffs, broad and narrow tapseils, nicanees, dimities, salampores, 'sannoos Adatay', white gingham, morees, and fine longcloth, with prices and names of purchasers (2½ *pp*.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, SEPTEMBER 21, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 275).

The wife of John Leigh to be allowed 30*l.* per annum from her husband's salary from the time she received her last allowance. Lahore indigo sold to Messrs. Dycer and Foster at 6*s.* 9*d.* per lb. at three six months from Michaelmas. The account of the freight of the *Smyrna Merchant* to be examined and reported on by certain of the Committees, also the charterparty of the *Roebuck*, with the certificates received from India and presented by her owners, and the freight demanded by them. Alderman Riccard reports that the Committee of the Ordnance offers 4*l.* 15*s.* per cwt. for the saltpetre returned in the *Smyrna Merchant*; hereupon the Court, being desirous to meet the State, gives direction for the saltpetre to be offered at 4*l.* 17*s.* Resolved that a division of 10*s.* per cent. in money shall be made to every adventurer in this United Stock at 'Allholand tyde next'. Mr. Bathurst offers to buy the Lahore indigo at 5*s.* per lb., and another offer is made for it at 5*s.* 6*d.* per lb.; but both are refused, as the indigo has not yet been put to the candle. (1½ *pp*.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES FOR THE ACCOUNTS, SEPTEMBER 22, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 312).

At a meeting of the Committees appointed to adjust accounts between the Fourth Joint Stock and the United Joint Stock the ledger of the latter Stock, kept at Fort St. George and ending the last of August, 1651, with an account, is presented. Some dispute arises as to whether the powder and ammunition (entered in the ledger as general stores) belonging to the Fort were bought with the Fort by the agreement made in England for 6,000*l.*, and it is resolved that an abatement of 1,310 pagodas, 3 fanams, and 3 cash shall be made from the total, which is 23,237 pagodas, being the account of all general stores, except some boards, etc. which it is not thought fit to abate. An account is also presented with the books from Bantam, in which the United Joint Stock is charged with 6,868 rials, amounting to 1,888*l.* 14*s.*, out of which Mr. Thomson declares allowance must be made for the ships 'not reigning'¹ when the United Stocke comenced in India'. Hereupon the letters and books are examined and it is found that the *Michael*, *Advice* and *Seaflower* were not accepted by the United Stock; therefore it is resolved that repayment shall be made for them, according to the agreement in England, and a warrant is ordered to be made out for 1,888*l.* 14*s.* due to the Fourth Joint Stock, and one for 426*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* to the United Joint Stock in payment for the said three ships. The Surat accounts are presented, but it being late the Committees adjourn. ($\frac{1}{2}$ p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, SEPTEMBER 23, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 277).

A bill of exchange signed by the President and Council of Fort St. George and drawn upon the adventurers in the United Joint Stock for payment of 60*l.* 10*s.* at sight to Captain Brookhaven, is ordered to be met. Alderman Chambers desiring that some satisfaction may be given for the services of his son, John, he is told that this matter must be settled by the Fourth Joint Stock. An account presented of the estate of the late Isaiah Joyce, who died in India, is ordered to be paid if approved by Messrs. Andrews and Wyche. Anthony Penniston requests the bond for 1,000 marks

¹ In existence. The term is now obsolete.

entered into by his late brother, Thomas, on being entertained by the Company, also another bond for 2,000*l.* entered into 'to performe the award with the Company', in regard the said award has been fulfilled and the executors have allowed the 1,000*l.* allotted by the arbitrators to the Company; the Court consents to the firstnamed bond being given up, but not the other until everything in this matter is settled; a copy of the account of the deceased is also ordered to be given to the executors. Fabian Hopkins, a sick almsman, is given 20*s.* from the poor-box. Henry Dacres presents a bill of exchange drawn upon the United Joint Stock by their Agent at Bantam, for payment of 831*l.* 18*s.* 1*d.* at two months sight; hereupon Dacres' account is read and the Court, not believing that the sum of 2,300 rials, therein stated to have been paid to the Queen of Jambi for custom for pepper, has really been paid, suggests that this matter together with several delinquencies attributed to Dacres be submitted to arbitration; the latter agreeing, four arbitrators are chosen and Dacres promises to enter into a bond of 1,000*l.* to abide by their decision. The proposal of the arbitrators acting for the Company and the executors of the late Thomas Penniston that 50*l.* out of the fine imposed by them on his estate should be given towards building the chapel at Blackwall, the United Joint Stock to allow one-fourth of this sum and the Fourth Joint Stock the remainder, is referred to the decision of the court to be summoned next Wednesday for that Stock. The following transfers of adventures in the United Joint Stock with all profits are approved and ordered to be entered: John Kendrick transfers to John Dethick 1,000*l.*, Joseph Prickman transfers to Gifford Bayle 300*l.*, Gualter Frost transfers to Abraham Babbington 500*l.*, William Wildy transfers to Abraham Babbington 600*l.*, Abraham Babbington transfers to William Pennoyer 600*l.* and to Richard Hill 2,000*l.* (2 *pp.*)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES FOR THE FOURTH JOINT STOCK, SEPTEMBER 28, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxi, p. 241).

James Cocks renews his request for 50*l.* but is again refused; to his demand for allowance for pepper and calicoes put to his account and, according to his assertion, never delivered, it is answered that the warehouse books can prove that the said goods were delivered

and by Cocks's order; and as regards his further demand for his account which he left with Sambrooke, the Court orders a copy of the same to be given to him. Alderman Chambers and his son John come into court, and the former desires that the seven years' good service of his son may be considered; after reading all former orders concerning this matter the Court, wishing to show their appreciation of the many friendly acts performed by the Alderman when he was at the Customhouse, agrees that he shall only pay 10*l.* for his son's passage and that all he has disbursed for his diet, etc. shall be refunded to him. Mr. Thomson, one of the arbitrators appointed to settle the difference between the Company and the executors of the late Thomas Penniston, relates how the said arbitrators imposed a fine of 1,000*l.* upon Penniston's estate, three-fourths of which (as of all other fines in the like case) belong to the Fourth Joint Stock, the remaining one-fourth to the United Joint Stock; that when the said fine was imposed the arbitrators, at Thomson's request, agreed that their three-fourths of 50*l.* out of this should go towards building the church at Poplar; and this their resolution, at Thomson's desire, the Court now confirms. Sir John Jacob, Sir Job Harby, and Sir Nicholas Crispe state that at last they have obtained the consent of Parliament for sale of forests, lands, and chases for payment of the late King's debts for which they stand engaged¹; and so there is no doubt now but that the Company and all other creditors will be paid, with interest to June 24, 1645; but in order to obtain this payment their debts must be doubled, when each creditor shall receive land equal in value to the amount owing to him. At the request of Sir John Jacob and his colleagues, seven Committees are nominated, and they, or any four of them, desired to meet the Farmers to-morrow afternoon and go with them to Westminster to attend the Committee of Parliament about drawing up the Act for this purpose; and also to confer with the Farmers from time to time until the whole business shall be settled. (2 $\frac{1}{4}$ pp.)

¹ A petition from the late Farmers was read in the House on September 20 and referred to a Committee, which reported on the 23rd in favour of their proposals. These were that their claim of 276,146*l.* should be recognized; that they and their creditors should pay in an equal amount in cash; and that then the amount thus doubled should be discharged from the proceeds of the crown lands (*Commons' Journals*, vol. vii, pp. 321, 323).

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, SEPTEMBER 30, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 283).

One-fourth part of the 50*l.* which is to be deducted from the fine of 1,000*l.* imposed upon the estate of the late Thomas Penniston, and to be put towards building the chapel at Blackwall, is ordered to be paid by the United Joint Stock. John Chambers is given 40*l.* in satisfaction of his services for the United Joint Stock and in consideration of former offices of courtesy performed by his father. Calicoes to be delivered to Henry Hampson. Captain Ryder reporting that the *Eagle* is discharged from the State's service, the Court desires him to prepare and fit her for India by the 1st of November next, and orders, at the request of the captain, that a petition be drawn up and presented to the Council of State for a warrant to prevent the workmen to be employed in the said ship from being pressed, and to give liberty to 80 seamen and 20 landmen to sail her to India and back. Alderman Merry desires that his account may be made up and that he may receive what is his due. He also presents a paper containing other demands, these are read and he is told that the Company also has some demands to make of him; finally it is agreed to refer his affairs to arbitration and four Committees are appointed, two to act for the Company and two for Merry, and the latter is promised that he shall have notice of the allegations made against him after the meeting of the arbitrators. 'Sannoos Addatoy' sold to Thomas Trotter. Order is given for letters to be written to Captain Brookhaven and Captain Newport at Plymouth to desire them to bring their ships, the *Love* and the *East India Merchant*, into the Thames and to take the first opportunity to come from thence, 'noe enemy appearing', to the Isle of Wight and remain there until further notice; but if they shall meet with the convoy, then to come directly to the Downs. (2 pp)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES FOR THE ACCOUNTS, SEPTEMBER 30, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 313).

It is agreed to suspend the Surat accounts until they are perfected next year, for by the books there appears due to the Fourth Joint Stock not less than 30,000*l.*, yet Captain Blackman writes in a gen-

eral letter that on paying the bill of exchange for 15,000*l.* there will be enough to clear the Fourth Joint Stock in the country. Therefore it is resolved to forbear payment of this account till next year, on condition that if the United Stock owes the Fourth Joint Stock more than the 20,000*l.* already received, interest shall be allowed for the same from December 22, 1652, and if the Fourth Joint Stock shall receive too much, this shall be repaid with interest from the time of its receipt at the rate of five per cent. per annum. It is also agreed that if the books returned in the *Love* do not contradict the accounts already received, then the total shall be paid. Meanwhile any of the Committees are at liberty to examine the accounts for their further satisfaction. ($\frac{1}{2}$ *p.*)

PETITION OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY TO THE COUNCIL OF STATE, OCTOBER 3, 1653 (*Public Record Office · C. O. 77*, vol. vii, no. 64).

The *Eagle* having served the State for six months in the last expedition against the Dutch, and sustained great loss and damage to her cables, anchors, masts and rigging, and being now discharged from that employment, the Company has resolved to repair and send her to the East Indies with eighty seamen and twenty landmen to procure saltpetre for the State, and to bring home the Company's estate, factors and servants, who otherwise may find themselves in a very sad condition by reason of 'our powerfull insulting enemy there'. They pray therefore for a warrant to exempt from pressing the men to be employed in repair of the said ship and those entertained for the voyage, which it is conceived will conduce to the service of the State. *Signed*, William Cokayne, Governor. (1 *p.*)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, OCTOBER 7, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 285).

A bill of exchange from M^r. Madocke for 260*l.* odd is ordered to be paid to the Commissioners of Customs, for silk landed at Plymouth. Mr. Ashurst demands an allowance of 20*s.* per cwt. for sugar he bought and alleges to be damaged; he is offered 10*s.* per cwt. but refuses to take it. A letter is ordered to be written to the commanders of the Company's ships at Plymouth, requiring them

to sail from thence with the convoy which is expected from the westward, but if the said convoy does not arrive and there is a fair wind and 'noe news of any enemy', then to come to the Isle of Wight and there await further orders. (1 p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, OCTOBER 14, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 286).

Alderman Riccard reports a contract made with the Committee of the Ordnance for the saltpetre returned in the *Smyrna Merchant*, at 4*l.* 17*s.* per cwt. at six and six months from June next. Mr. Edwards desiring to be paid the money he lent to the late Samuel Calcott, he is promised that speedy steps shall be taken for its recovery. John Langly applies on behalf of himself and the rest of the owners of the *Smyrna Merchant* for payment of the remainder of her freight, and Captain Hurleston presents a paper containing some demands, they are both referred to the Committee appointed to settle concerning the freight etc. of the said ship. In accordance with a warrant received from the Committee of the Ordnance, order is given for saltpetre to be delivered to Messrs. Dewey, Molins and Judd, powdermakers. Mr. Ashurst accepts the 10*s.* per cwt. formerly offered to him in allowance for damaged sugar, on being granted a further allowance for tare. Consul Riley to be paid 90*l.* 15*s.*, disbursed at Aleppo for conveyance of the Company's letters to and from their factors in India, and to be given a gratuity of 20*l.* for his care in so doing. On reading a letter from the Coast, in which the President complains that he cannot get the factors' accounts from the Bay, the Court questions James Bridgeman, who lately returned from thence. He asserts that before leaving he gave in his account, of which he has a copy but it is with his other papers in the *Love*; he promises to show this and also to give what information shall be required concerning his building a ship in the Bay and sending her to Surat. Mr. Lewis applying for his account, he is promised that it shall be examined and perfected; and certain Committees are hereupon desired to examine the accounts of all factors lately returned from India. A letter to be written to the commanders of the Company's ships at Plymouth to desire them to await the order of the State and come with the convoy appointed. (2½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES FOR THE FOURTH JOINT STOCK, OCTOBER 19, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxi, p. 244).

Mr. Bagwell presents the account of James Cocks and again requests a loan of 50*l.* for him ; this is refused, and certain Committees are entreated to examine the account and settle this business, or report their opinions. Acton reports a trial between the Commissioners of Bankruptcy and the Company before the Commissioners of the Great Seal about the gold and guns belonging to Mr. Courteen ; the Commissioners ' doe censure very faire for the Company ' and think that no more than the value of the gold and guns should be paid ; this the Company has always been ready to give on receipt of a safe discharge, though Courteen's creditors demand the produce or interest of the gold or its value in money in those parts where it was delivered. The Committees think it better to refer the matter to the Commissioners of the Great Seal than to treat with the Court of Bankruptcy on such conditions. Mr. Andrews reports that the Committees appointed have met the Farmers several times, but the latter still put them off with speech of an Act, which if long delayed one of their estates will soon be out of the Company's reach. The Committees still hold the Farmers to their agreement of ' a noble in the pound and the remainder in land ', which they pretend if they consent to will hinder them from performing anything by doubling so much for themselves. The power given to the appointed Committees to act herein as they think best is again confirmed, and they are desired to meet the Farmers again. Dr. Pullyn, executor to Thomas Cooke, claims what is due to the latter ; and on his agreeing to submit to whatever fine shall be imposed on the estate for private trade, certain Committees are desired to examine into the matter and settle with Pullyn. (2 pp.)

THE COMPANY TO HENRY RYLEY [AT ALEPPO], OCTOBER 20, 1653 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 229).

In their last of the 12th September they sent packets for India by way of Leghorn, Marseilles, and Venice ; since then they have received (on the 21st September) his letter of the 25th May sent on by Mr. Holworthy from Marseilles, with another of the 4th August, which arrived the 10th instant, and with these several letters from

their factors in the Indies. They have received his account for transmission of letters amounting to 90*l.* 15*s.* and, according to his desire, have ordered the same to be paid to Mr. William Williams, with an additional 20*l.* as a gratuity for his trouble and care. ($\frac{1}{2}$ *p.*)

THE COMPANY TO EDWARD AND STEPHEN WRIGHT AND ROGER HOWE [AT GENOA], OCTOBER 20, 1653 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 229).

Acknowledge the receipt of their letters of the 24th September and 8th October, containing answers to the exceptions made to their account current. Beg them to press Mr. Cape to 'a conclusion'. With regard to Damigho, they observe that the Secretary of State has promised to make his reference to the Senate within ten days at the furthest, if he keeps his word and an end is put to this long protracted business the Company will be glad. Thank them for the prices given of several commodities. ($\frac{1}{2}$ *p.*)

A COURT OF COMMITTELS, OCTOBER 21, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 288).

Mary Bence transfers to Maurice Thomson 500*l.* adventure and profits in the United Joint Stock. Calicoes sold to Peter Delavere. Mr. Davidge agreeing to give his bond of 2,000*l.* penalty to submit to whatever fine shall be imposed upon him for all delinquencies, he nominates two Committees and the Court two, and these four are desired to settle his business by the end of November. Mr. Lewis being told that the Court's usual method of settling with their factors is for the factor whose affairs are in question to choose two Committees and the Court to choose two and both sides to agree to submit to what these four shall decide, he requests time for consideration. Colonel Beale desiring on behalf of the State to hire part of Blackwall Yard, he is referred to the Committees appointed to deal with this matter. Three Committees are appointed by the Company and three by the owners of the *Smyrna Merchant* to settle concerning the freight etc. of the said vessel, and Mr. Moyer is desired to act as 'umpire'. On the recommendation of Mr. Berrisford, Mary Thorne, who has lost two husbands in the Company's service, is admitted to the Company's almshouse; but order is given that her admittance 'shalbe noe president for women for the future'. (2 $\frac{1}{2}$ *pp.*)

CAPTAIN HENRY HATSELL AT PLYMOUTH TO THE ADMIRALTY COMMITTEE, OCTOBER 21, 1653 (*Public Record Office: S. P. Dom.: Interregnum*, vol. lx, no. 62).

Has stayed all ships bound eastward until further order. Here are (besides the East India ships) several vessels of great value brought from St. Malo by Captain Sparling, and many others bound east with the first convoy and wind. . . .

CAPTAIN HENRY HATSELL AT PLYMOUTH TO THE GENERALS AT SEA, OCTOBER 24, 1653 (*Public Record Office: S. P. Dom.: Interregnum*, vol. lx, no. 82).

. . . A ship of London lately arrived saw four great Dutch ships at the mouth of the Channel who chased him, and are supposed to be those from Rochelle. The *Providence* is taking in fourteen days' provisions, being appointed one of the convoys for the East India and other ships bound eastward. . . .

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, OCTOBER 26, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 291).

Thomas Andrews buys 200 bags of Malabar pepper at 19½*d.* per lb. at three six months from the 1st of December. A certificate is read from Mr. Berrisford, showing that 1,005 lb. of unrefined Rājāpur saltpetre produces only 444 lb. when refined; hereupon Tomblings is ordered to make up the account between the State and the Company for the last year's parcel. Twenty-one tons of saltpetre to be delivered to John Semaine and John Freeman, in accordance with an order from the Committee of the Ordnance. Robert Dycer and Isaac Foster are accepted as security for indigo. Mr. Lewis agreeing to submit his affairs to arbitration, four Committees are chosen; but he wishing to be cleared in a month and being told that nothing can be done until further advice is received from Persia, he leaves without concluding anything. Acton is directed to prosecute Mr. Toomes and Sir John Merrick. Mr. Davidge intimates his fear that if he seals a bond with the United Stock he has no assurance from the Fourth Joint Stock that when the said bond is cancelled he shall be cleared from both Stocks; he is assured that he is bound to the East India Company, which includes both

Stocks; he then desires the bond he gave on going out not to indulge in private trade, but this is refused until his affairs are settled. A Court for the Fourth Joint Stock is ordered to be held the first Wednesday in every month. (1½ pp.)

A GENERAL COURT OF SALES, OCTOBER 26, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 293).

Sale of pintado quilts, derebauds, merculees, 'Sinda nassapores¹', Guinea stuffs, dimities, longcloth, morees, silk, sugar, dust of Lahore indigo, Malabar pepper, and light pepper, with prices and names of purchasers. (1½ pp.)

CAPTAIN HENRY HATSELL AT PLYMOUTH TO ROBERT BLACKBORNE. OCTOBER 28, 1653 (*Public Record Office: S. P. Dom.: Interregnum*, vol. lx, no. 116).

The East India ships and others set sail this day towards the East, in number upwards of forty. A great Dutch flyboat taken by the *Pearl*, and a small pink laden with lemons taken by the *Ruby*, have come in. There are several Brest and other men-of-war towards the Land's End and mouth of the Channel; hopes our ships have cleared them. . . .

A COURT OF COMMITTEES FOR THE FOURTH JOINT STOCK, NOVEMBER 2, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxi, p. 246).

Messrs. Burnell, Keate, and Bateman are desired to be present on Saturday morning at eight o'clock to hear the trial between the Company and Mr. Courteen about gold belonging to the latter. Dr. Pulline renewing his request for payment of the late Thomas Cooke's estate, he is told that a fine of 40*l.* has been imposed on it for private trade, freight and custom; the Doctor submitting to this, the Court orders the remainder of the said estate to be paid to him. (½ p.)

VALENTINE MARKHAM TO THE EAST INDIA COMPANY, NOVEMBER 2, 1653 (*Home Miscellaneous*, vol. xl, f. 31).

Recounting his services 'as one of their auditors during the past thirty-two years, and praying for some assistance in his present sad condition, 'being thereunto enforced by God's visitation and sickness'. (1 p.)

¹ Piece-goods from Nasarpur, in Sind.

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, NOVEMBER 4, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 295).

Valentine Markham, 'who lyeth at present very weake and sicke', is given a gratuity of 30*l*. Silk sold to Henry Newton. All who bought silk from the Company are to be allowed 16 lb. per bale for tare. Some rings left by Christopher Parrott, a factor who died at Bantam, to be given to his father, Abraham Parrott, and at the latter's request his son's account is ordered to be examined and made up. The request of Thomas Fenn to be paid his salary during his return voyage is refused, but he is promised payment of all else due to him. Damaged cotton yarn bought by Mr. Tutchin to be examined and allowance to be made for it, both for damage and for tare. Messrs. Steeventon, Diewy, Semaine, Davies, and Carter, powdermakers, request that the refraction and charge for refining the Rājāpur saltpetre may be settled; they are shown Mr. Berrisford's report, but are unwilling to agree to it, as he only charges two per cent. for refining and they demand five per cent. Order is given for so much saltpetre to be delivered to the powdermakers as will complete the first contract for 300 tons made with the State. (1¼ pp.)

A GENERAL COURT OF THE ADVENTURERS IN THE UNITED JOINT STOCK, NOVEMBER 11, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 297).

Mr. Cokayne announces that he received a paper from several adventurers in this Stock, desiring that a general court might be summoned and that until then no more money should be paid to the owners of the *Smyrna Merchant*, which is the cause of this meeting. Alderman Chiverton declares he has been given to understand that there has been some indirect dealing about the *Smyrna Merchant* in the breach of her charterparty; at his desire this is read and Alderman Sleight asks if the covenants inserted in it have been performed. He is told that they have not been performed, and therefore, after many debates and to avoid going to law, certain of the Committees were appointed, some to act for the Company and some for the owners of the *Smyrna Merchant*, to settle the differences between the Company and the owners of the said ship,

and Mr. Moyer was desired to act as umpire in the event of their not agreeing. These Committees met two or three times, and those chosen by the Company drew up a charge showing where, in their opinion, the charterparty had been violated; but the Committees chosen by the owners of the ship not agreeing to it, Mr. Moyer was applied to, and his 'umpirage' he now delivers in writing, signed and sealed, to the Court. Hereupon Moyer is asked by Sleigh if this writing was drawn up, signed and sealed before he knew that a general court was to be called, but this Moyer refuses to answer. The charge drawn up by the Committees is read, and after some dispute it is resolved to defer questioning Captain Hurleston, who was commander in the *Smyrna Merchant*, until the next court; it is also resolved that Mr. Moyer's paper shall not be read yet, and so he takes it back. One of the generality then declares it is reported that some of the Committees are concerned in the private trade which is of so much prejudice to the Company; many, disliking this aspersion and knowing their own innocence, desire to clear themselves by oath and that the names of those suspected should be made known; but as the name of the late Mr. Methwold is the only one mentioned (as having private trade to the value of 8,000*l.*), this matter is dropped. Six more Committees are now chosen to join with those already appointed to help investigate matters concerning the *Smyrna Merchant*, and when they shall have done so it is resolved that another general meeting shall be called and the evidence of Captain Hurleston taken. A motion is made to divide the pepper, benzoin, and cardamoms, and to pay off all debts and dispeed no more ships 'untill there bee an agreement betweene us and the Dutch'; but in reply it is urged that a ship is already freighted and her imprest money paid to fetch home the Company's servants and estate from India, by which the Company will run no risk. Resolution as to the division of goods is deferred until those in the *Love* and *East India Merchant* shall be warehoused. Anthony and Robert Penniston petition again for payment of the two bills of exchange, each for 5,500*l.*, drawn by Aaron Baker on this Stock, but the Court refuses to pay them or to alter the former order made concerning them. (3½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, NOVEMBER 16, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 301).

Captain Ryder applies on behalf of the owners of the *Roebeck* (which ship was taken lately in India by the Dutch), for freight due for her service; after a large debate the Court agrees to consult Dr. Turner, and the owners to consult Dr. Walker, and these two are to be desired to read the ship's charterparty and deliver their opinions in writing, and then the owners agree to submit to what the Court shall please to do in the matter. Order is given for the saltpetre wanting to make up the remainder of the 300 tons of the first contract made with the State to be delivered to the powder-makers from what came in the *Love*, but before delivery the powder-makers are to agree upon the refraction to be made for it. Captain Ryder desiring to know whether he shall proceed in preparing the *Eagle* for India, he is requested to do so, and certain Committees are entreated to attend the Council of State and endeavour to procure a warrant to prevent her men from being pressed. Resolution as to whether the other 750*l.* formerly agreed upon shall be paid to the owners of the *Eagle* towards her fitting is deferred. Tare of the silk lately bought by Mr. Newton to be examined. William Gostwick, administrator to Thomas Godfry, demands payment of 1,200*l.* due to the latter's estate from the Company; but the Court, finding that Thomas Hanson is to have a great part of the said estate, informs Gostwick of Hanson's debt and of his promise to pay the same from the money he hoped to receive from the late Mr. Godfry's estate, and adds that, when the Company receives this promised payment, the remainder of Godfry's estate shall be given to the administrator, but not before. ($1\frac{1}{2}$ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, NOVEMBER 18, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 303).

The powdermakers not to be allowed above three per cent. refraction for the saltpetre out of the *Love*. The second sum of 750*l.* formerly ordered to be advanced to the owners of the *Eagle* is to be paid, and any dispute arising in the event of her not going to India is to be settled by arbitration. The offer of Mr. Baker, the broker, to buy pepper is refused, this commodity not having been put to

the candle. The difference between the Company and Mr. Dacres to be settled by Michaelmas, and when the bond of arbitration is sealed, then his bill of exchange is to be accepted, and he is to be allowed five per cent. upon what is due to him upon the said bill. Abraham Parrott to receive, as executor, what is and hereafter shall appear to be due to his late son Christopher. Captain Hurleston applying for payment of the remainder of the freight of the *Smyrna Merchant*, he is told that the matter has been taken out of the hands of the Court of Committees and the general court has forbidden any more money to be paid on this account. Abraham Chamberlaine complaining that the falling of one of the Company's chimneys has stopped his gutter and caused the water to overflow into his warehouse, he is allowed 15*l.* in satisfaction for all damage. He further reports that a statute of bankruptcy has been issued against Edward Abbott, who has 1,500*l.* or 2,000*l.* in the Company's custody, which has been stopped for some pepper; he is referred for this matter to the Fourth Joint Stock. (1½ *pp.*)

THE COMPANY TO WILLIAM WATSON AND RICHARD BRIDGMAN [AT AMSTERDAM], DECEMBER 2, 1653 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 230).

Acknowledge the receipt of various letters and the enclosure in the last of the list of the cargoes of all the ships the Dutch Company expects to arrive this year from India. Thank them for the list of prices given of several commodities and for stating the time appointed by the Dutch Company for sale of their Indian goods, in which the writers hope to precede rather than be behind them. Desire to be kept well informed of all occurrences, as occasion shall present. (½ *p.*)

A GENERAL COURT OF THE ADVENTURERS IN THE UNITED JOINT STOCK, DECEMBER 2, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 305).

The minutes of the last general court are read and Alderman Chiverton reports that he and the rest of the Committees appointed have met several times, perused the charterparty of the *Smyrna Merchant*, and drawn up and signed a particular charge of the breach of the covenants inserted therein. This charge is read, and Alderman Estwicke asserts that confirmation has been received from several parts of England of the particulars of the said charge.

One of the generality then asks for the captain of the ship to be called upon to answer these particulars, but he not being in the house a Committee, who helped to draw up the charge, declares that the captain was at one of their meetings but would give no information about the breach of the covenants and only insisted on the good service he had done the Company. After some dispute it is decided to have several copies made of the charge and one of the same delivered to each of the men who signed the charterparty, and to require satisfaction from them for the particular sums demanded, and that they shall be informed that an answer will be expected from them this day sennight, when another general court is to be summoned. It is also decided that no more shall be paid for freight to the owners of the *Smyrna Merchant* until this difference between them and the Company is settled. On a motion being made to ascertain if any stock is to be sent in the *Eagle* for India, it is stated that there is a large quantity of cloth on hand which must go, but resolution as to whether anything else shall be sent is deferred. A question arising concerning the office of garbling, the Court not being able to sell 'garbleable' goods until it is known by whom they are to be garbled, it is decided to sell such goods with a caution; but at the same time it is hoped that this office will be settled before the day of sale. It is next resolved to divide the benzoin and cardamoms, and a dispute arising as to the division of the pepper, a motion is made for 'the house' to divide to ascertain the resolution of the court, but many of the generality leaving, no resolution can be taken; so the business is deferred. (1 $\frac{3}{4}$ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, DECEMBER 6, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 307).

Certain of the Committees are desired to attend the Committee for City Lands and inform them that the Company is not in a position to renew the lease at Leadenhall, but is willing to pay the rent for another year. At the request of Mr. Davidge, his bonds are ordered to be given up, but mitigation of the fine imposed on him is refused, also his demand for salary during his homeward voyage; his account is ordered to be made up and, on his giving a release to the Company, all that is due to him to be paid. Henry Newton and Richard Hunt are accepted as security for silk. The owners of

the *Love* to be paid 4,000*l.* upon account of freight. Half the fine upon calicoes sent to Margaret, wife of John Leigh, a factor at the Coast, is taken off, they being damaged; the other half is to be put to her husband's account. Certain Committees are entreated to use their discretion in ordering the delivery or detention of private trade and prohibited goods brought home in the *Love* and the *East India Merchant*. The bond of the late John [*sic*] Sandford, purser in the *Supply*, to be given up. The owners of the *Eagle* are desired to prepare her for departure as speedily as possible, and certain Committees are requested to join with those already appointed to see about the shipping for India and agree upon her charterparty. Other Committees are desired to procure a letter from the Portuguese ambassador to the Viceroy of Goa for her reception. It is thought that a present should be sent to the Viceroy, but nothing is decided in the matter. (1¼ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES FOR THE FOURTH JOINT STOCK, DECEMBER 7, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxi, p. 247).

The Court again refuses to advance any money to James Cox until his account has been made up and settled. John Massingberd, the Treasurer, having lately died, the Court does not think it necessary to appoint another to his place, 'because this Stocke hath noe more trade'. It therefore resolves to ask one or two of the United Stock to oversee and inspect the Treasury and to direct Dunckine, and orders that all warrants for payment of money from the Treasury be directed to the latter. Elizabeth Ward, who left 300*l.* at interest with the Company in September, 1652, and has not renewed her bill since, now desiring to be paid interest up to date, the Court, 'in regard she was a woman', agrees to allow her interest up to last September, but no longer. At the request of Mr. Chamberlaine at a court for the United Stock, this Court desires certain Committees to examine and settle the account of Edward Abbott, against whom a statute of bankruptcy was formerly issued. Alderman Riccard reports that the Farmers have promised to make good the agreement of 6*s.* 8*d.* in the pound, and to pay at nine and nine months, and give security for the rest upon the second 100,000*l.* when it is paid in; and until this is done they are content the statute of bankruptcy shall remain against them as it now stands, and then

they will assign to every man his portion in land for the other two-thirds; this business is again referred to the appointed Committees, who are desired to make such a final settlement with the Farmers as by the advice of counsel and in their own discretions they shall see fit. (1½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES FOR THE ACCOUNTS, DECEMBER 7, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 313).

The Coast account is taken into consideration, and the Committees agree that, as on the 22nd September last it was resolved to allow 1,310 pagodas for the general stores in the Fort, so now the remainder, 210 pagodas, shall also be allowed. The accounts received by the *Love* showing that the United Joint Stock is charged with 282*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* more than was in account last year, Mr. Wiche asserts that this is for 'Pegu remaines', which are always sold at a loss, and he desires that payment of this, which amounts to 1,395 pagodas, be forborne until next year. But the Committees, considering that the account has been due since August, 1652, resolve that if the said goods shall be sold hereafter at a loss this shall be put to the account of the Fourth Joint Stock, but if otherwise then the former valuation shall stand good, they being at present taken as rated in the invoice 'without appraizement', making the total of the account 10,433*l.* 12*s.* 11*d.* Hereupon it is agreed that twelve months' interest, that is 521*l.* 12*s.*, shall be allowed, but no more, as the United Joint Stock has for the last two months made use of the cash belonging to the Fourth Joint Stock to 'pay downe' their debt at interest. Thereupon the total, 10,954*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.* [*sic*], is signed by Thomas Andrews and Nathaniel Wiche for the United Joint Stock, and by Alderman Riccard and Alderman Andrews for the Fourth Joint Stock, the rest of the Committees having withdrawn (according to the order of the Court) to leave an equal number on both sides. (1 p.)

A GENERAL COURT OF THE ADVENTURERS IN THE UNITED JOINT STOCK, DECEMBER 9, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 309).

The Secretary reports that he delivered to George Smith, Thomas Pearle, and Captain Hurleston, the three men who signed the charterparty of the *Smyrna Merchant*, copies of the charge of the

breach of the covenants contained in it presented by the Committees at the last court. Captain Hurleston now gives in their answer to the same. This is read, and in it the 'umpirage' of Mr. Moyer is strictly adhered to, and the owners of the said vessel expect their freight accordingly. A long dispute ensues, and finally ten Committees from the adventurers present are nominated and desired to settle this matter in an amicable way if possible, but if not, then to take such course in law as in their own discretions and with the advice of counsel they shall think best. The money needed for the prosecution or defence of this business is to be provided from the cash belonging to the United Joint Stock. A general court is ordered to be summoned to settle the business of the Treasury. The goods to be put to sale by the candle are decided upon, those that are 'garbleable' are to be sold for transportation or, if sold in town, the purchasers are to garble them at their own expense. Question arising as to the disposal of the pepper, it is resolved to divide it to every adventurer in proportion at the rate of twenty-five per cent. at 18*d.* per lb.; it is also resolved to divide the benzoin and cardamoms as far as they will go, and to desire the Court of Committees to price the same when their goodness is known. (2 pp)

A GENERAL COURT OF ADVENTURERS IN THE FOURTH JOINT STOCK, DECEMBER 10, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxi, p. 249).

The Committees to whom the affairs of James Cox were referred report that they have met several times, but Cox would not appear, though he was at liberty; therefore they have settled the business, as they think fit, and now present a paper containing details of his account and demands, and of their decision concerning the same; this paper is read and approved by the Court, the Committees are desired to sign it, and it is ordered to be registered in the court book. By the decision of the Committees, Cox is to be paid 391*l.* 3*s.* in full of all demands, and if this does not content him then in their opinion he should not be given anything until the matter is decided by law. Sir John Jacob, Sir Job Harby, and Sir Nicholas Crispe relate that they have conferred several times with the appointed Committees and now come to inform the Court that at last they have procured the desired Act of Deforestation.¹

¹ The bill was introduced on October 22, and passed exactly a month later (*Commons*).

They remind the Court how in December last the Company underwrote 25,000*l.* in their preamble, but the amount required not being subscribed in the time limited all became void; and they now desire the Company to underwrite a like sum in a Joint Stock. They are told that this is impossible, as the Joint Stock is drawing to a close, and to grant their request 'would bee a meanes to prolong it'; besides, the Company does not know where or how to raise so much money. The Farmers withdrawing, this proposition is put to the question; and after much dispute all refuse to underwrite in a Joint Stock, but are willing to 'divide every adventurers parte of the debt' and give a list of their names and proportions to the Farmers; the latter are recalled and told of this decision, and they request that none engaged in the debt may be excluded, when satisfaction shall be made for the same, they having agreed that what advantage or damage one shall sustain shall be borne proportionably by all. This causes further debate; but nothing is concluded, and the business is again referred to the appointed Committees, what they have already done is approved and confirmed, and it is resolved to allow and approve of their future proceedings in the matter. (3 $\frac{1}{4}$ pp)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, DECEMBER 14, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 311).

Elizabeth Ward renewing her request for additional interest, order is given for her 300*l.* principal to be returned with 15*l.* interest for the year, and Dunckin is directed to make her some allowance for the surplus time the Company has had the money, but not as interest, because of precedent. The owners of the *East India Merchant* to be paid 2,000*l.* on account of freight. The sum of 12*l.* to be distributed to the widows of poor East India men. A fine upon calicoes is remitted to Dorothy Mordin, and one upon benzoin to Margaret Keene. All the spice in the Company's possession to be distributed to the Committees and officers. A warrant is ordered to be signed for payment of 10,954*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.* by this Stock to the Fourth Joint Stock, in accordance with the Coast account settled and signed by the Committees appointed. Certain

Journals, vol. vii, pp. 338, 354). It is printed at p. 783 of *Acts and Ordinances of the Interregnum* (vol. ii).

Committees are desired to examine Mr. Bridgeman's affairs, as order has been given that no goods are to be delivered or money paid to him without special order. ($\frac{3}{4}$ p.)

A GENERAL COURT OF SALES, DECEMBER 14, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 314).

Sale of Sarkhej indigo, small and large black jars, cloves and dust of cloves, nutmegs, white pepper, Bengala silk, 'sannoos Adatayes', white gingham, sallampores, longcloth, and percallaes, with prices and names of purchasers. (2 pp.)

A GENERAL COURT OF THE ADVENTURERS IN THE UNITED JOINT STOCK, DECEMBER 16, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 316).

Certain Committees are desired to request the Commissioners of Customs to direct their officers at the Customhouse to attend better to their work, as now they are not there above three hours a day, which hinders the landing of the Company's goods and causes great expense. Resolved that the cardamoms that are exportable shall be divided at the rate of 3s. 4d. per lb., those that are not at 3s. per lb., each adventurer to have his proportion of both kinds. There being three sorts of benzoin, the best is priced at 14*l.*, the second at 12*l.*, and the third at 10*l.* per cwt.; these three sorts are also to be divided proportionately to the adventurers, but if any man's adventure is too small to admit of his receiving a chest of each sort, then he is to join with another or other adventurers, to prevent loss in dividing the chests. Mr. Cokayne desires that someone may be put in charge of the Treasury and asserts that this Stock has been at no charge for the same, only 300*l.* drawn by the late Mr. Massingberd towards his salary, and that the two cashiers, Dunckin and Harris, have received no satisfaction. The Court allows the 300*l.* and inquires who pays the cashiers their salaries; reply is made that Dunckin has been employed in the Treasury many years as cashier and been paid 100 marks per annum by the Company, while Harris has been employed a long time as Dunckin's assistant and paid 40*l.* per annum by the Treasurer. The Court hereupon appoints Messrs. Riccard, Andrew, and Bateman, or any two of them, to be a committee to overlook and take care of the Treasury and the Company's seal with the same power as the

Treasurer had formerly, they to have two keys of the chest between them and Dunckin a third, the latter and Harris to perform the daily business of the Treasury and the appointed Committees to give Dunckin such moneys as he shall have occasion to disburse, and to receive any surplus from him ; they are also to decide which Stock is to bear the charge of the Treasury in the past. A salary of 150*l.* per annum is settled for one year upon Dunckin, to begin from the time of Mr. Massingberd's death, he to be paid his former salary of 100 marks up to that time. Harris is allotted a salary of 80*l.* per annum for one year as assistant to Dunckin, to be paid at the rate of 40*l.* per annum from the time he was last paid to the death of Mr. Massingberd, this to be deducted from the latter's salary when that shall be settled. Resolution concerning the stock to be sent in the *Eagle* is deferred. One of the generality wishing to know whether the adventurers may not have the same liberty to send ships to India as private interlopers, if the Company decides to dispeed no more, answer to this question is deferred ; but it is resolved that, if any private men do send to India, they shall give some satisfaction to the Company first for their privileges and immunities there. (2½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, DECEMBER 20, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 319).

The Committees appointed to examine Mr. Bridgeman's affairs report that he has delivered no account of his employment at the Coast, that he built an unserviceable pinnace there, and also that he had a share in sending two junks from the Bay to Persia. Here-upon Bridgeman attempts to justify himself, but the Court not being satisfied makes certain propositions and desires him to deposit 1,000*l.* with the Company ; Bridgeman refusing to do this, resolution concerning him is deferred. William and Thomas Cokayne are accepted as security for indigo, and Richard and Thomas Allen and Nicholas Alvey for cloves. The friends of Captain Blackman and Mr. Baker are given permission to send wine and beer in the *Eagle* for their homeward voyage, and the Court orders a division to be made in the great cabin of the said vessel for their better accommodation on their homeward voyage. (1 p.)

A GENERAL COURT OF ADVENTURERS IN THE FOURTH JOINT STOCK AND THE UNITED JOINT STOCK, DECEMBER 23, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 320).

The Governor announces that the Committees chosen to settle with the Farmers of the Customs have done so. The agreement is now presented, read, and approved. The adventurers are to have warrants for their proportion of the debt and to deliver the same to the Farmers, who will then give them 'ticketts to make it publicke faith'. The adventurers present are desired to send for their warrants to-morrow, and order is given for warrants to be sent to all adventurers who are now absent. Messrs. Riccard, Andrew, and Bateman are requested to receive each adventurer's money, which is to be sealed up and signed with his name and left with the said Committees to await the first payment according to the Act, and if this is not made then the adventurers will know from whom to get back their money. The Committees of the Treasury are desired to take up money at interest, or pay off, to use the Company's seal, and act in all respects as formerly Treasurers have done. The Court resolves to send in the *Eagle* the cloths provided for last year with stock to the value of 6,000*l.*, but leaves it to the discretion of the Committees what commodities to provide. It is also resolved that if any interlopers send out any ships without the consent of the Company and the Company's factors do them any service, the said factors shall be discharged. The executors of the late Thomas Penniston again petition for payment of one or both of the bills of exchange charged on the Company; but the Court resolves to stand to its former order concerning the same. Certain Committees to attend the Committee of the Ordnance, the latter wishing to make a contract for the saltpetre now in the Company's hands. (1¼ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, DECEMBER 28, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 322).

Mr. Madocke to be paid the balance of his account, and in consideration of his great care with regard to the three ships arrived this year from India he is to be given a piece of plate to the value of 10*l.* or 12*l.* Mr. Taylor, a solicitor, desiring that Thomas

Hanson may be granted an abatement of 10s. in the pound on his debt, he is told that the Company expects to receive 13s. 6d. in the pound, according to a former agreement. Lead, quicksilver, and vermillion to be sent in the *Eagle* to India. 'A Doctors opinion' to be taken on the charterparty of the *Roebuck*, concerning the payment for freight demanded by her owners. Allowance to Major Jeremy Hartly for fresh provisions passed, and his account ordered to be cleared. It is resolved that a salary of 250*l.* per annum shall be accorded to the late Mr. Massingberd as Treasurer for both Stocks from the time he was last paid up to his death, the 23rd November last, and that from this date Mr. Harris shall be paid as before agreed; also that Mr. Dunckin shall be paid by the Company at the rate of 100 marks per annum from the time he was last paid to the day of Mr. Massingberd's death. (1½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES FOR THE FOURTH JOINT STOCK, DECEMBER 29, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxi, p. 253).

The Court resolves to advance 3,450*l.* upon 5,000*l.*, part of John Holloway's adventure made over by deed to the Company in part satisfaction of his debt, according to the Act for Deforestation, being part of the debt and the proportion of the said adventure; and the executors are to be allowed no more than the 5,000*l.* adventure is worth, which is at 4s. per pound, as Mr. Norris hath lately bought it. (¼ p.)

A GENERAL COURT OF THE ADVENTURERS IN THE UNITED JOINT STOCK, DECEMBER 30, 1653 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 323).

The Committee of the Ordnance wishing to contract for the remainder of the Company's saltpetre, eight Committees are nominated to make the desired contract; they are to obtain, if possible, a higher price than the last saltpetre was sold at, but 'not to contend with the State'. They are also to endeavour to procure payment quickly, this parcel being much better than the last and more than half of it being already refined to such an extent that it will not require above two or three per cent. refraction at the most, and the rough only five or six per cent. refraction. The Committees are to try to sell it as it stands, and to obtain an order for the powdermakers to settle for the two last parcels, and an act to

the Commissioners of Customs for payment of the last parcel sold to the State. Debate ensues as to the best way of getting home the Company's estate from the East and of lessening the charge there. It is agreed that, 'if the peace be suddainly concluded', two ships shall be sent to the northward, two to the southward, and one to the Coast, but not to trust to any India shipping. Mr. Thomson desires that fifty or sixty tons of saltpetre may be laden in the ships from the northward, as part of the *Ruth's* stock has been recovered, but further resolution is referred to the general court to be summoned for this day sennight, by which time it is hoped it will be known whether there is to be peace or not. Meanwhile Sambrooke is directed to make up an account of the Company's estate, shipping and other remains in India, where it is and in what it consists. (1 p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, JANUARY 4, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii. p. 325).

A letter is read from Thomas Allen and Richard Quiney, stating that they are owners of the *Loyalty*, lately broken up at Balasore, and that her commander, Captain John Durson, has written for another ship to fetch home their estate, or for some tonnage to be taken in the Company's shipping, they desire to comply with this request, but wish first to notify the Company; they are told to apply to the next general court. All cloth brought home as private trade to be sent to the Company's warehouse at Leaden-hall. Bartholomew Holloway, who was ordered to lodge in the Company's house during Spiller's absence, complains that he was obliged either to leave the house or to sit up all night, as Spiller's son-in-law brought his family and they occupied all the beds. Spiller asserts that this was 'an accident onely', and order is given for Holloway to have a bed in the Treasurer's room, but not to bring any of his children; while Spiller is to be allowed, at his own charge, to leave Lazarus Weeden in his room. Spiller and Holloway are directed 'to live lovingly together and lett there bee noe heartburning betweene them'. Captain Brookehaven, commander of the *Love*, reports that five bales of sugar and four bales of saltpetre are missing according to invoice; he attributes this to the haste with which the boats have to be unladen at the Bay 'for feare of foule weather, which many times is soe violent as

that the boates while they are unlading are ready to sincke'. He begs that this may be allowed for and the freight paid, or if not, to be told what abatement to make in paying off his men; he is instructed to pay off his men and to present in writing any demands he has to make. The sum of 50*l.* to be given to the widow of the late Mr. Hartly. Sugars in the warehouse to be sorted and priced, and two chests of benzoin 'of an extraordinary sort' to be kept for sale and not divided. (1½ pp.)

▲ GENERAL COURT OF THE ADVENTURERS IN THE UNITED JOINT STOCK, JANUARY 6, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 327).

The Governor being absent, Alderman Riccard is desired to take the chair. Mr. Norris announces that he and some other Committees attended the Committee of the Ordnance about the saltpetre returned in the *Love*, and desired some security for payment of the last parcel; this the Committee promised to give and also gave order for the powdermakers to settle the refraction on the two last parcels, until this is done no price can be given to the State, as they declare positively they will have the saltpetre refined. Certain Committees are entreated to settle this business. The letter from Messrs. Allen and Quiny concerning the dispatch of a ship to India to fetch home their remains there or for tonnage to be taken in the Company's shipping is read, but the Court refuses 'to meddle with their busines'. Some dispute ensues as to what shipping to send to India, some thinking that sufficient has been supplied 'unlesse there bee peace', but on examination of an abstract of the Company's estate there, others think that a ship of about 100 tons should be dispeeded to the Coast; resolution herein is deferred to the next general court. (1½ pp.)

THE LEVANT COMPANY TO MR. RILEY, CONSUL AT ALEPPO, JANUARY 9, 1654 (*Public Record Office: S. P. Dom.: Interregnum, Levant Papers*, vol. iv, p. 220).

. . . We beg you to assist the East India Company, who are obliged to bring their silk overland from Persia by way of Aleppo.

PAPERS RELATING TO THE NAVY, JANUARY 13, 1654 (*Public Record Office: S. P. Dom.: Interregnum*, vol. lxxviii, no. 80).

Protection for the *Allan* [*Alum?*] frigate, going to Balasore in the East Indies, to give intelligence, preserve trade, and bring home saltpetre, with twelve seamen and eight landmen.

A GENERAL COURT OF THE ADVENTURERS IN THE UNITED JOINT STOCK, JANUARY 13, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 329).

Mr. Norris reports that the Commissioners of the Ordnance have promised to settle the payment for the 310 tons of saltpetre, the last parcel sold to the State, within a week. On being told that the powdermakers had not yet decided on the refraction to be made for the last two parcels, the Commissioners offer to do it, if both parties will refer themselves to them; this offer the Committees refused, not having the consent of the generality. They then offered the saltpetre to the Commissioners at 4*l.* 13*s.* per cwt. to be taken as it is at three and three months, but they want it at 4*l.* 11*s.* per cwt. as it is. Hereupon the Court desires the Committees to insist on their own price and make the best terms possible for payment, and to stand to Mr. Berrisford's award and get him to go with them to the Commissioners about the refraction. After some debate certain Committees are entreated to examine what estate and shipping the Company has in India and where it is, and if they see cause to send a ship of about 100 tons to the Coast to fetch part of it and some of their servants home. Cinnamon sold to Mr. Baker, the broker. (1½ *pp.*)

PETITION OF JOHN FOWKE TO THE LORD PROTECTOR AND HIS COUNCIL, JANUARY 16, 1654 (*Public Record Office: C. O.* 77, vol. vii, no. 65).

For the service of Parliament and the Commonwealth of England the petitioner and his numerous family have languished twenty-five years under unparalleled oppressions. He was the first merchant who, in obedience to the vote of Parliament, refused to pay tonnage and poundage (which the India Company paid, and in other ways supplied the late King); for this his goods were seized and detained by the patentees and undersharers of the customs, some of whom

were principal members of the said Company. The petitioner complaining in Parliament, the Company took advantage of the same, intending his utter ruin, as appears by the report (annexed) of the Committee of the Navy, dated August 22, 1649, read in Parliament February 27, 1652, and September 9, 1652. The Company then procured two decrees in Chancery against him, but these being adjudged unjust were reversed and cancelled, and his adventure ordered to be restored with damages at eight per cent. per annum and 100*l.* costs awarded him by the final order made the 6th and 18th May, 1647, by the Lords in Parliament, and the Company (not performing the same before October 28, 1647) ordered to pay him 7,000*l.* for the proceed of his adventure, with damages and costs since his appeal was read in Parliament July 8, 1646, or stand committed by the order (annexed) of October 7, 1647. When the petitioner should have obtained execution of the decree of May 6, 1647, he was sent with others from the City to the army and ordered to continue there in June, July, and August, 1647, to prevent 'a desperate design then in agitation'. The Company, taking advantage of his absence, obstructed the execution of the said final judgement, contrary to the known rules of justice, the cause of the obstruction being the unlawful disposing of a great part of the money and goods belonging to the petitioner and other adventurers in bribes and gratuities, etc., the usual practice of the Court of Committees, especially when suits are depending concerning the same. Since the petitioner's complaint in Parliament many members of the late House of Commons have become members of the Company and, being bribed or gratified by direction of the Court of Committees, have become parties with them. Thus the Company petitioned to some of themselves and the rest of the House of Commons to be absolved from paying the money according to the order of October 7, 1647, and their petition was referred and proceedings stayed for nearly three years, when the order was again referred to a committee to report how the decree of the Lords might be put in execution and the petitioner have reparation for his wrongs. This second committee delayed the matter for nearly two years more and, after hearing the Company, reported in Parliament on February 27, 1652, an Act for the petitioner's relief against the said Company. This Act was read twice and referred

with the second petition of the Company to a third committee, who declared that they did not think fit to hear the Company concerning that part of the Lords' decree already executed, and ordered the Act to be proceeded upon in part. Hereupon the Company pretended that the Lords were not proper judges and endeavoured to obtain another hearing, but the petitioner alleged that the rolls and journals of Parliament, etc., show the Lords to be proper judges, as was set forth in his last petition read in Parliament on the 15th July and 7th September, 1652. On the 9th September, 1652, the sufferings of the petitioner were referred to the consideration of the Council of State, who on the 25th October, 1652, voted to him and his heirs lands to the value of 500*l.* per annum in the forest of Waltham, and in March last were considering the awarding to him of a further sum, but the great change in April¹ prevented this. By the Act passed for sale of forest lands it appears that the patentees and undersharers and their assigns (the members of the Company being the chief) by whom the petitioner suffered as aforesaid, are to have great quantities of forest lands in Essex and elsewhere; and that Mathias Valentine is allowed in forest lands 100*l.* per annum for ever because the former Parliament granted or intended to grant it unto him. By order of Parliament of June 30, 1645, by the report of February 27, 1652, and by the vote of the Council of State, it appears that the same Parliament intended to grant the petitioner his reparation out of delinquents' estates and in particular out of forest lands in Essex, and that the said 500*l.* per annum was voted to the petitioner long before the said Act passed. He therefore prays that the said Act may be amended and passed, according to the draft annexed, and the 500*l.* per annum, with such addition as shall be thought fit, confirmed, or that at least the first of his propositions may be granted, because if the value of the lands, etc., therein expressed be more than his reparation, he is to pay for it, and if less (as he humbly conceives it will be) he is capable of such further satisfaction as His Highness shall think fit. *Signed*, John Fowke. Referred to the Committee of the Council for Forest Lands. (1 *p.*)

Cromwell's expulsion of the members of the Long Parliament (April 20).

ORDER OF COUNCIL, JANUARY 16, 1654 (*Public Record Office : C. O. 77, vol. vii, no. 65 1*).

That the petition of John Fowke, Alderman of the city of London, directed to His Highness, be referred to the Committee of the Council for settling the Act for Forest Lands¹, who are to consider and report the whole state of the matter with their opinions of the same to His Highness and Council. *Examined by* W. Jessop, Clerk of the Council. ($\frac{1}{2}$ p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, JANUARY 18, 1654 (*Court Book, vol. xxiii, p. 331*).

Mr. Kerridge, one of the Committees appointed to perfect the charterparty of the *Eagle* and dispeed her to India, being often out of town, Mr. Wood is appointed in his stead. Robert Dycer and Isaac Foster are accepted as security for indigo. Sallampores sold to Mr. Satillyon. Mrs. Lumly submitting to the Court's decision as to the fine to be imposed upon her late husband's estate for private trade, etc., and sealing a general release to the Company, she is given 240*l.* of the 260*l.* 8*s.* which appears due to his account. The freight of the *Love* and of the *East India Merchant* to be settled, and the owners of the latter vessel to be given an additional 1,000*l.* on account of freight. James Bridgeman desiring that his goods may be delivered, he is told that many objections have been received from India against him, but if he will deposit 700*l.* with the Company and enter into a bond of 1,300*l.* penalty to stand to the award to be decided by arbitration in the usual manner, his request shall be complied with ; to this he consents, and the four arbitrators are named and desired to finish this business by the 25th December next, and the Court orders that on as much of the said 700*l.* as upon determination of the award shall appear due to Bridgeman interest shall be allowed at the rate of five per cent. from this day. ($1\frac{1}{2}$ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, JANUARY 25, 1654 (*Court Book, vol. xxiii, p. 332*).

James Bridgeman applying for his salary to be settled, it having been denied during his homeward voyage, and he having sealed

¹ The document is endorsed : 'Col. Montagu, Sir A. A. Cooper, Col. Sydenham, or any two of them.'

a bond of arbitration for 1,300*l.*, the Court orders his goods to be delivered on his paying 100*l.* and leaving all money due to him in the Company's hands, and that if when his salary shall be settled there shall appear due to him above 700*l.* he shall receive the surplus, but if not then he is to make up that sum. Mr. Juxon, an adventurer in this United Stock, announces that 'the State doth resent it as an ill omen that the money was not paid in which was brought by severall adventurers for doubling about the debt due from the late Farmours of the Customes, and desired that there might bee a right understanding betweene the State and the Company, that they might not have the States ill opinion and soe loose their freindshippe'; he is told that this does not concern the United Stock but the Fourth Joint Stock only, and that the adventurers in the latter shall be informed of the same at their next meeting. The Court is, however, of opinion that a narrative of this business should be drawn up and presented to the Secretary of State to show why the adventurers recalled their money. The collector of the ward who paid 40*s.* for the last six months' assessment of the rent of the Company's house (then over assessed) is to be repaid, as now the assessment is not above 16*d.* more than it should be. Mr. Thomson reports that saltpetre has been again offered to the State at 4*l.* 13*s.* per cwt. but the Commissioners refuse it at that price. (1 *p.*)

A GENERAL COURT OF SALES, JANUARY 25, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 334).

Sale of rough, small and brown diamonds, one table diamond, 'one carcanett with eight crosse diamons and eight rose diamons', cross diamond rings, rock ruby, sapphires and sapphire rings, seal rings, daggers, sugar, benzoin, dust of pepper, 'sannoos Adataes', sallampores, longcloth, striped stuffs, and fine cossaes, with prices and names of purchasers. (1½ *pp.*)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, JANUARY 27, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 336).

Alderman Riccard takes the chair, in the absence of the Governor. Messrs. Andrew, Thomson, and Bateman are entreated to join with the Committees to be appointed by the Fourth Joint Stock and

draw up a narrative concerning 'the late Farmours busines of doubling mony for deafforestation of forrest lands'. Order is given for the *Eagle* to be dispeeded to the Downs. Mr. Merry informs the Court that Mr. Lewis acknowledges having received the musk with which Merry is charged, and has left 1,700 odd rupees with the President and Council in satisfaction for it; Merry asks to be released from the charge and that reparation be demanded from Lewis; he is told that the Court has finished with the matter and has written to India about it, but that at his desire the President and Council shall be directed to send the money deposited by Lewis to Merry, or return it to him in anything but prohibited commodities. Captain William East, William Trevis, Robert and Francis Archer are accepted as security for sugar. At the instance of the Court, the powdermakers agree to accept eight per cent. refraction for the saltpetre returned in the *Smyrna Merchant*. The Committees report that they have examined several ships but found none suitable for freighting under 200 tons; it is thought better to freight than to buy one of 100 tons, as the natives will protect any ship that comes for trading purposes; but no resolution is come to. Arthur Squibb to be paid 60*l.*, part of the estate of the late Colonel Robert Hunt, on sealing a bond to protect the Company from any claims that may hereafter be made. (1½ pp.)

WARRANT FROM THE COUNCIL OF STATE, JANUARY 27, 1654
(*Public Record Office: S. P. Dom.: Interregnum*, I. 72, p. 74).

For payment by the Commissioners of Customs to the East India Company of 10,670*l.* for saltpetre.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE, JANUARY 28, 1654
(*Public Record Office: S. P. Dom.: Interregnum*, I. 75, pp. 76-78).

. . . On presentation to the Protector by the President of an ordinance empowering the Commissioners of Customs to pay 10,670*l.* to the treasurers of the East India Company, and on his consent thereunto, the ordinance was passed for law. . . .

AN ORDINANCE FOR PAYMENT OF 10,670*l.* TO THE EAST INDIA COMPANY FOR SALTPETRE, JANUARY 28, 1654 (*Public Record Office* : C. O. 77, vol. vii, no. 66).

The Committee of the Ordnance having contracted, on the 13th October, 1653, with the Company for 110 tons of refined saltpetre at the rate of 4*l.* 17*s.* the cwt., the whole amounting to 10,670*l.*, payable out of the receipts of the customs, one-half thereof to be paid on the 20th of June next, the other half on the 20th of December next, it is now ordained by His Highness with the advice and consent of his Council that the Commissioners of Customs make the said payments at the times stated to the Treasurer of the Company, whose receipt for the same is to be accounted a sufficient discharge. *Signed*, Henry Scobell, Clerk of the Council. Certified by Edmund Hurrig and Martin Hildesley to be a true copy. (1 *p.*)

ORDERS IN COUNCIL, FEBRUARY, 1654 (*Public Record Office* : C. O. 77, vol. vii, no. 67).

1st *February*. That the matter in dispute between Alderman Fowke and the East India Company be heard next Friday afternoon, of which notice is to be given to the Company, that they, or some on their behalf, may attend. 3rd *February*. Ordered that a copy of Alderman Fowke's petition be delivered to the East India Company, who are to return their answer in writing, and both parties to be heard this day fortnight.¹ 4th *February*. Alderman Fowke moving Sir Ashley Cooper for liberty to state his case, it was granted, and the delivery of a copy of his petition directed to be forborne. 10th *February*. A copy of Alderman Fowke's case, delivered this day to the Council, is ordered to be given to the East India Company, who are to prepare a written answer to the same and present it on Tuesday week, on which day the matter is appointed to be heard by the Council. (1 *p.*)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES FOR THE FOURTH JOINT STOCK, FEBRUARY 1, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxi, p. 254).

The executor of John Holloway requests that the account between the Company and his uncle may be settled and anything remaining

¹ For another copy see no. 72 of the same series.

EAST INDIA COMPANY

given to him; this is ordered to be done. Messrs. Riccard, Andrews, and Edwards are entreated to join with the three Committees appointed by the United Stock and draw up and present to the Secretary of State a narrative of the Farmers' business, 'whereby they hope to clear themselves from the imputation cast upon them upon that occasion'. All the cellars under Alderman Langham's house 'coming out of St. Hellens¹', are let to Thomas Andrew for a year from Candlemas next at 6s. 8d. per week. The Exchange Cellar to be examined, and the pepper there sifted and weighed, in order to ascertain what will be wanting for the division of that commodity due to the Fourth Joint Stock from the United Joint Stock. Spiller is directed to inquire concerning the statute of bankruptcy taken out against Captain Carleton, whether there is any hope of the Company receiving part of their debt, and if so he is to pay the money to the treasurer appointed by the commissioners. Messrs. Hanson and Thetcher to be approached concerning their debt. Richard Blundell, who has served the Company in India, to be admitted to the Almshouse at Poplar. (1 $\frac{3}{4}$ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, FEBRUARY 3, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 338).

Tapsciles sold to Mr. Bathurst. Mrs. Massingberd to be freed from the debt for cotton yarn bought by her late husband, she having sold it to Mr. Tutchin, who is to pay the Company. Mr. Baker, the broker, to be given a gratuity of 10*l.* for his service in selling cinnamon. Albertus Skinner petitions for the delivery of several parcels of goods (some prohibited) sent by his brother Frederick; the Court resolves that these shall be examined first and, being informed of many misdemeanours committed by the said Frederick Skinner at Bantam, orders the particulars to be inserted in the Black Book and that Skinner must answer the same before he is cleared. Mr. Thomson offers to send a ship to the Coast in which the Company may lade what goods they please, not exceeding 200 tons, and pay 25*l.* per ton for the coarse and 28*l.* for the fine goods, but neither impost, demurrage or freight; this offer is approved, and certain Committees are desired to examine the said ship and report their opinion to the next general

¹ Evidently part of the Crosby Hall premises.

court, when Mr. Thomson shall be given an answer. The State still persisting in its offer of 4*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. for saltpetre, the Court directs the Committees to treat and use their discretions in this matter. Margaret, widow of George Brewin, is given 20*s.* from the poor-box. Mr. Rushworth is permitted to send a case and a barrel of Canary to John Lampton in the *Eagle*. Mr. Thomson announces that the *Alum* frigate is going to Balasore and that the Company can lade two or three tons of fine goods in her for Europe. (1 $\frac{3}{4}$ pp.)

A GENERAL COURT OF THE ADVENTURERS IN THE UNITED JOINT STOCK, FEBRUARY 10, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 340).

The Committees are again desired to use their discretion with regard to the price of saltpetre to be sold to the State. Mr. Thomson waives his offer concerning the ship he proposed to send to the Coast, the year being far advanced and because a great deal of time would be necessary to fetch goods from the Bay. After much debate, the Court resolves that a ship, not exceeding 220 tons in burden, shall be freighted to the Coast to fetch home part of the Company's estate and so lessen the charge in those parts, and that stock to the value of 1,000*l.* shall be sent in her. Hereupon Thomas Andrew declares that, though he is not against the dispatch of such a ship, yet he utterly refuses to send any part of his adventure, or if this is done he will expect satisfaction for the same if any loss is incurred; James Edwards also declares the same. They are told that the stock to be sent out is for the good of the voyage and to prevent any loss which might accrue to the Company if there should not be lading for the said vessel. Certain Committees are entreated to freight such a ship and dispatch her to the Coast with stock to the value of 1,000*l.* (1 $\frac{1}{2}$ pp.)

ALDERMAN FOWKE'S STATEMENT OF HIS CASE, FEBRUARY 10, 1654 (*Public Record Office: C. O.* 77, vol. vii, no. 68).

On July 8, 1646, he petitioned the Lords assembled in Parliament against the injustice of the East India Company and against two decrees obtained by them in Chancery against his person and estate to the value of 7,000*l.*, and prayed that the Company might answer his petition and show cause why the said decrees should not

be reversed and his estate (being adventures with profits accruing) restored, and damages and costs allowed him for the wrong sustained. On August 21, 1646, the Company answered his petition, justified the two decrees, and were heard by the Lords, who on May 6, 1647, by a final judgement adjudged the decrees unjust, reversed them and ordered the petitioner's adventures with profits accruing to be restored and paid with damages at 8 per cent. per annum and 100*l.* costs. On May 18, 1647, the Commissioners of the Great Seal (the speakers of the two Houses of Parliament) were required by the Lords to cancel and make void the two decrees; this was done and thus the first part of the judgement executed. On July 17, 1647, the Company petitioned the Lords to stay all further proceedings; whereupon Their Lordships ordered that the petitioner should see and answer their petition, which was done and on October 7, 1647, the Lords ordered the Company to pay the petitioner 7,000*l.* with damages and costs or else to stand committed for contempt. On October 22, 1647, the Company petitioned the House of Commons for relief and stay of all further proceedings, this petition and the order of October 7, 1647, were referred to a committee and proceedings stayed for nearly three years. On June 22, 1650, the petitioner's petition and the final judgement, decree, and order of May 6 and October 7, 1647, were read in Parliament and the order of October 22, 1647, was taken off, and it was referred to a second committee to report on the Thursday following how the Lords' decree might be put in execution (the second part not executed, being contained in the order of October 7, 1647), and the judgement, decree, and order formerly made in Parliament were now ratified and confirmed by Parliament for the first time. Nevertheless in July, 1650, the Company again petitioned Parliament to be allowed to 'rest quiet' under the two Chancery decrees, or that their former petition might be referred to the same committee and they heard upon the merits of the cause before they were concluded, but their petition was rejected and the judgement, decree, and order of the Lords confirmed by Parliament a second time. On February 27, 1652, the second committee, having fully heard the Company and their counsel, reported in Parliament an Act, how that second part of the judgement and order of May 6 and Octo-