

ber 7, 1647, for the petitioner's relief might be put in execution ; this Act was read the first time and then another petition from the Company ; yet the Act, being voted for, was read a second time and referred to a third committee with the Company's petition ; and thus the Lords' judgement, decree, and order were confirmed by Parliament a third time. On July 15, 1652, the Company (after the third committee had voted and declared on three several days that they did not think fit to hear them to that part of the Lords' decree already executed, and ordered the Act to be proceeded upon in part) again petitioned Parliament to hear the merits of their cause, against which the petitioner made a counter petition to be enabled to receive the 7,000*l.*, damages and costs. Debate hereon was adjourned and the third committee ordered to report their proceedings therein to Parliament. On September 7, 1652, the debate was resumed and the third committee ordered to consider that part of the Lords' judgement and decree not yet executed, and thus the said decree and judgement was confirmed by Parliament a fourth time ; and since then nothing has been done. The premises being fully considered, the petitioner humbly prays that the Company may not be suffered to worry him any longer by staying execution of the Lords' judgement and decree upon any pretence whatsoever, and that the Act twice read may be amended and passed according to the draft (annexed to his petition to His Highness), being in pursuance of the final judgement, decree, and order of the 6th May and 7th October, 1647, made by the Lords in Parliament and confirmed June 22, 1650, and three several times since. *Signed*, John Fowke. (1 *p.*)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, FEBRUARY 15, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 347).

Order is given for some calicoes sent to William Gurney by his son at the Coast to be delivered, the fine to be charged to the son's account ; for the fine to be remitted on certain damaged calicoes and stuffs belonging to Mr. Gardner, chirurgion in the *Love* ; and for the goods sent by Frederick Skinner to be delivered to their owners, they to pay half the fine according to the penalty of the charterparty. George Gawton, who went out and returned in the *Love*, to be cleared. The owners of the *Love* and the *East India*

*Merchant* to be paid all freight due to them. Sugar sold to Mr. Tomblings. (1 p.)

PETITION OF THOMAS ALLEN AND WILLIAM PENNOYER, FEBRUARY 20, 1654 (*Public Record Office: C. O. 77, vol. vii, no. 69*).

The Petitioners, being engaged in the Indian trade, and having prepared the *Alum* frigate and other ships to fetch home their returns, supply factors, bring back saltpetre and other goods, and to preserve that trade for the good of the Commonwealth, pray that order may be given to the Commissioners of the Customs to pass for India (as usually by order of Parliament they have freely done) the sum of 7,000*l.* in bullion of gold and silver or in rials of eight. *Signed*, Thomas Allen. Referred to the consideration of the Council. *Endorsed*. Received April 3, 1654. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  p.)

THE COMPANY'S ANSWER TO THE STATEMENT OF ALDERMAN FOWKE, FEBRUARY, 1654 (*Public Record Office: C. O. 77, vol. vii, no. 71*<sup>1</sup>).

They assert that the Alderman has not stated his case truly, either with regard to the matter or manner of the proceedings, and that he has not dealt clearly with His Highness or his Council. They conceive that, as the matter in dispute is concerning a bargain of saltpetre made about twenty-five years ago, for which they have obtained two decrees in Chancery against the said Alderman, one made in the seventh, the other in the eleventh year of the late King, for the sum of 1,997*l.* 17*s.*, if Fowke is properly 'relieveable' it should be by a Bill of Revenue in the High Court of Chancery, or by trial at the common law, and not in Parliament or before His Highness or the Council, it being ever held that no man should appeal to the supreme authority in any cause where he may have relief either in law, or in Chancery, or in the ordinary course of justice; and the rather because the said two decrees were made so long ago upon a full and judicial hearing and no question was then raised of any injustice or irregularity. They further assert that above sixteen years after the two decrees had been obtained by them in Chancery and when the principal witnesses upon whose

<sup>1</sup> There is a duplicate under no. 74.

depositions the said decrees were grounded were dead, the Alderman obtained the order from the Lords mentioned by him in the relation of his case, which order was unjust and illegal, being made against the Company without the latter being fully heard or the proofs read upon which the decrees had been made; besides which they demur to the jurisdiction of the Lords, it being held erroneous for them to proceed in any cause which has not first been submitted to the House of Commons, who have resolved in many former cases of this nature between parties, commoners of England, that the House of Lords has no power to adjudicate in such cases upon petition, before the House of Commons has been first applied to, for the latter can always transmit the same to the House of Lords if they see cause. Therefore the Company maintains that, although the decrees made in Chancery have been cancelled by order of the Lords, the said order is invalid and illegal, which can be manifested by many judgements, precedents, and examples in the last Parliament but one, and in former Parliaments, and that, notwithstanding the said cancelling, the decrees do yet by law stand in force. They further declare that after some agitation Parliament ordered, on February 27, 1652, the whole matter to be examined by a committee empowered to hear both sides upon oath and to examine papers, persons, and witnesses. After some debate before this committee it was agreed that the two decrees made in Chancery should be read, although the Lords had ordered them to be cancelled. Since this the Alderman has ceased his prosecution upon the Lords' order until now, when he presents a petition to His Highness and his Council. In regard the Lords assumed an irregular jurisdiction in cancelling the two decrees obtained in Chancery for a just debt due by the said Alderman, concerning which the Company is ready to answer in any course either at common law or in Chancery, they do not consider the same proper for the consideration of the Council, and therefore they pray that no more trouble may be taken in the matter and that they may be dismissed from further attendance. *Signed*, William Cokayne, Governor. *Endorsed*. Delivered February 21, 1654. (1 p.)

NOTES OF PROCEEDINGS BEFORE COLONELS SYDENHAM AND MONTAGUE ON ALDERMAN FOWKE'S CASE (*Public Record Office: C. O. 77, vol. vii, no. 70*).

*February 21.* The East India Company's answer presented and read, a copy ordered to be given to Alderman Fowke, and both parties desired to attend to-morrow at four o'clock in the afternoon.  
*February 22.* Both sides fully heard. The case submitted to the Council. ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, FEBRUARY 22, 1654 (*Court Book, vol. xxiii, p. 343*).

In accordance with warrants received from the Commissioners of the Ordnance, saltpetre is ordered to be delivered to Messrs. Dewey, Molins, Jarvis and Freeman, powdermakers, after tare for the same has been settled. Tare of cotton yarn to be examined and reported on. Upon petition Captain Brookehaven is given the promised gratuity of 100*l.* for having performed his duty faithfully, with 100 marks in addition as a token of the Company's favour. (1 p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, FEBRUARY 24, 1654 (*Court Book, vol. xxiii, p. 344*).

The Committees report that they have settled the tare of saltpetre with the powdermakers, and of cotton yarn with Mr. Tutchin. Calicoes sold to Mr. Satillion. ( $\frac{1}{4}$  p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES FOR THE FOURTH JOINT STOCK, MARCH 1, 1654 (*Court Book, vol. xxi, p. 256*).

Mr. Blackerby is requested to pay the 500*l.* owing by the late Mr. Methwold for a legacy left by Mr. Fremlin to the Hospital at Blackwall; he agrees to do so on receiving 15*l.* discount; this the Court consents to pay, and the Secretary is directed to give Blackerby an 'assumsett'<sup>1</sup> of 12*l.* to deliver the said 500*l.* within fourteen days upon penalty of 800*l.* Mr. Blackburne, secretary to the Commissioners of the Navy, is given a gratuity of 4*l.*, and Mr. Hooker, clerk to the Commissioners of the Ordnance, a gratuity of 40*s.* for civility in dispatching the Company's business. Salt-

<sup>1</sup> An *assumpsit*, or undertaking (either verbal or in writing, not sealed) founded upon a consideration.



petre to be delivered to Daniel Judd and Samuel Davies, in obedience to an order from the Commissioners of the Ordnance. Jeremy Sambrooke requesting that his former salary of 253*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* may be confirmed, or that he may be given a gratuity for his expenses in keeping two servants, he is granted 50*l.* from this Stock until the next meeting of the United Joint Stock. (1*p.*)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, MARCH 3, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 345).

The request of Mr. Edwards for allowance of tare on ginger is referred to certain Committees. Order is given for the owners of the *Love* to be paid for the passages of all who came from Surat except Mr. Scividdall<sup>1</sup>, for whom Mr. Cokayne is to pay, and Mr. Noake, who is to pay for his own. The sum of 150*l.* to be imprested to Captain Jarvis Russell for the ship *Katherine*, lately freighted for the Coast. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  *p.*)

THE COMPANY TO HENRY RYLEY AT ALEPPO, MARCH 6, 1654 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 242).

On the 12th of last September they sent him a packet directed to Basra, with letters to Surat and Persia enclosed, giving order for a considerable quantity of Persia silk to be provided in Ghilān, etc., half whereof to be sent overland to Aleppo, the rest to Spencer Bretton at Smyrna. Ryley is desired to dispeed the silk sent to him by the first safe English ship, and to give those who accompany it from Persia such good accommodation 'as may stand with the qualitie of their persons'; to forward the silk in the same condition in which it arrives at Aleppo, but if any of the hair clothes or wrappers are defective to have them repaired. ( $\frac{1}{4}$  *p.*)

THE COMPANY TO SPENCER BRETTON [AT SMYRNA], MARCH 6, 1654 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 243).

Requesting him to forward the Persia silk sent to him by the first 'good and defencible' English ship returning home. He is not to undo or repack the bales unless the cases are defective, and then to have them repaired. ( $\frac{3}{4}$  *p.*)

<sup>1</sup> Henry Sivedall, who was allowed in January, 1649, to go to India as a private individual (see the previous volume, pp. 313, 317). §

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, MARCH 8, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 346).

Saltpetre to be delivered to John Semaine. Richard Battson, part-owner of the *Little William*, to be paid 750*l.* according to a Chancery decree made in the last Hilary term. Captain Ryder announces that the *Katherine*, burden about 200 tons, and commanded by Jarvis Russell, has been freighted at 20*l.* per ton for coarse goods and 23*l.* per ton for fine goods; that 'if there bee noe peace' she is not to proceed, but to keep the 150*l.* already imprested, and if she does go, then that sum is to be made up to 700*l.* imprest; all other conditions to be according to the charter-party of other vessels. Jeremy Sambrooke desiring that his former salary may be confirmed, he is given 50*l.* as a gratuity in full of all demands up to the present, the Fourth Joint Stock having gratified him in a similar manner. The Court orders a division of 16*l.* 5*s.* in money to be made to every adventurer in the United Joint Stock within a month. (1 *p.*)

A GENERAL COURT OF SALES, MARCH 8, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 347).

Sale of Jambi pepper, cardamoms, benzoin, silk, sugar, and long-cloth, with prices and names of purchasers. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  *p.*)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, MARCH 10, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 348).

The owners of the *Smyrna Merchant* present an award made by Messrs. Avery, Jolliffe, Mico, and Cranley, arbitrators, whereby the Company is to pay 3,800*l.* in full of all freight; the matter is referred to the general court to be held to-morrow. The business of one Stock being sometimes enacted in a court for the other Stock, order is given that any order for the one Stock shall be added to the last court for that Stock, confirmed at the next court, and entered into the proper books. The sum of 1,000*l.* to be sent to the Coast is ordered to be invested in commodities suitable for that part. Saltpetre to be delivered to Daniel Judd and Samuel Davies. (1 *p.*)

A GENERAL COURT OF THE ADVENTURERS IN THE UNITED JOINT STOCK, MARCH 11, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 349).

Alderman Chiverton reports that the owners of the *Smyrna Merchant* have presented an award decided upon by arbitration, whereby the Company is to pay 3,800*l.* in full of freight to the owners of the said ship, but he adds this award was made in the absence of the Committees chosen by the Company and before they were fully heard, and was granted upon an abstract of freight not examined by any Committees and not even signed by the auditor; notwithstanding this, the sum is ordered to be paid in accordance with the Company's bond to stand by the arbitrament; but it is resolved that, when the account is examined, and if any error is found, deduction shall be made for the same, the Court being very sensible of the partiality shown in this matter. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, MARCH 15, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 350).

A warrant is ordered to be signed for payment of 3,790*l.* to the owners of the *Smyrna Merchant* in full of freight and all other demands. Sarah Kennett, whose husband died in the *Love*, is granted remission of freight on cloth. The owners of the *Roebuck* to be paid 600*l.* for services performed up to the time she was taken by the Dutch. A court of Committees to be held for this Stock every Friday morning only. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  p.)

A GENERAL COURT OF THE ADVENTURERS IN THE UNITED JOINT STOCK, MARCH 22, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 351).

The Governor announces that they have met together to decide upon an answer to a bill presented in Chancery by the executors of the late Thomas Penniston against himself and other Committees for non-payment of two bills of exchange each for 5,500*l.*; the Court, on being informed that money and cloves have been received for the one bill, but only pepper for the other, requests certain of the Committees to treat with the executors and use their own discretion in settling this matter. Some desiring to know if the freemen of the Company may not have the same liberty as private men, who are not free, to send ships to India, they are told that

this court has no power to give permission to any private persons to trade to India, and that those doing so act at their own peril. The votes of Parliament are read concerning carrying on the trade by a Joint Stock, and a motion is made for all to consider by the next meeting how best to carry it on for the good of the nation, 'that it may not bee lost to the Dutch, this Stocke being expired.' (1½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, MARCH 31, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 352).

The owners of the *Katherine* apply concerning their charterparty; they are referred until the return to town of Captain Ryder, who treated with them in the first case. The waterside porters employed in taking up the Company's goods at the Customhouse petition for the Company's favour, they having 'lett fall out of their sling one bale of saltpeeter worth 5*l.*', they are ordered to pay 3*l.* towards this loss and then to be paid all money due to them. (¾ p.)

THE COMPANY TO WILLIAM WATSON AND RICHARD BRIDGMAN [AT AMSTERDAM], MARCH 31, 1654 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 244).

Acknowledge the receipt of three letters, telling of the sale of the Dutch Company's East India commodities and their value. Thank them for these and other particulars given, and desire to be kept informed of all that concerns the East India trade. (¼ p.)

ORDER IN COUNCIL, APRIL 6, 1654 (*Public Record Office. C. O. 77*, vol. vii, no. 69 II).

The petition of Thomas Allen and William Pennoyer, etc., concerning the exportation of bullion to India, directed to the Lord Protector and by him referred to the Council, is ordered to be referred to the Commissioners of the Admiralty and Navy, who are to consider the same and report their opinion to the Council. *Examined by* William Jessop, Clerk of the Council. (¾ p.)

THE COMPANY TO WILLIAM WATSON AND RICHARD BRIDGMAN [AT AMSTERDAM], APRIL 7, 1654 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 244).

Inform them that a peace has been concluded between England and Holland ; also that the Company are fitting out some ships for India and desire Messrs. Watson and Bridgman to procure and remit two certificates from the Lords of the Admiralty or from the Bewinthebbers of the Dutch East India Company directed to their General and Council in the East Indies, or to any of them, and to all commanders and officers of ships, ordering them, because of the said peace, not to act in any hostile manner against the persons, estates, or ships in the service of and belonging to the English Company, but to afford them 'all friendly and amiable respects' ; and the English Company will give the same directions to all under their charge or command. These certificates the Company intend to send in their ships now to be dispeeded to India, so that if they meet with any Dutch vessels on the way they may be treated in a friendly and courteous manner. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  p.)

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE ADMIRALTY TOUCHING THE EXPORTATION OF BULLION, APRIL 8, 1654 (*Public Record Office: C. O.* 77, vol. vii, no. 69 I).

On consideration of the reference of the Council touching the petition of Thomas Allen and William Pennoyer, the Commissioners report they find by two orders of Parliament of February 5, 1651, and January 14, 1652, that the East India Company were permitted to transport foreign coin and bullion, in the one the sum of 50,000*l.* and in the other of 25,000*l.* ; that they know nothing to hinder the request of the petitioners being granted to the value of 7,000*l.* *Examined by Robert Blackborne, Secretary. Endorsed. Received and read September 11, 1654.* ( $\frac{1}{4}$  p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, APRIL 12, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 353).

Elizabeth Cartwright petitioning to be allowed 7*l.* 10*s.* for six months' interest on 300*l.*, the Court orders that she be given 3*l.* 15*s.* in full of all interest. William Cuttler is appointed garbler to the Company, he to give a bond to protect it from Alderman

Fowke and others. Pepper being wanted for the division for the Fourth Joint Stock, the said Stock is to be allowed for the same at the rate of  $17\frac{1}{4}d.$  per lb. at six and six months from the 1st of this present month. ( $\frac{1}{2}p.$ )

A GENERAL COURT OF THE ADVENTURERS IN THE FOURTH JOINT STOCK, APRIL 19, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxi, p. 257).

Calicoes sold to Mr. Bathurst. Mr. Acton reports that Mr. Northy, steward of the manor of Stepney, tells him that the present lords of that manor are willing to enfranchise the Company's estate there for a reasonable consideration. Acton is directed not to move in the matter yet, but when next Mr. Northy broaches the subject to inquire who are the present lords of the manor. Mr. Andrews acquaints the Court that some of the storehouses at Blackwall are let to the State at 50*l.* per annum, the docks and part of the yard to Mr. Johnson at 188*l.* per annum, and a little slip of ground behind the smith's forge to Mr. Tomlings for 3*l.* per annum, at the Court's desire he promises to dispose of the rest as speedily as possible. A messenger comes from the Commissioners of Bankruptcy with a decree of Chancery under the broad seal, ordering the Company to pay 4,547*l.* for the gold and guns received at the Coast belonging to Mr. Courteen; but out of this Mr. Bateson is to be paid 750*l.* and the Company 214*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.* for money disbursed for Mr. Courteen's account, so that the sum to be paid to the Commissioners is 3,582*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.*; Mr. Acton desiring that payment may be stayed until it is known what Mr. Kenniston is going to do, the messenger is told that he shall receive an answer at the end of term. There being 500*l.* due from the State to the Company for Alger duty, the offer of a friend of the Governor to get this paid on receipt of a commission of 2*s.* in the pound is willingly accepted. ( $1\frac{1}{4}pp.$ )

A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEES FOR THE DUTCH BUSINESS, APRIL 20, 1654 (*Factory Records, Java*, vol. ii, part iv, p. 421).

Resolved to consider of an able solicitor to follow the Dutch business, and of some fit and able merchants to treat with the Dutch, but only four Committees being present, it is agreed to meet next Wednesday afternoon. ( $\frac{1}{4}p.$ )

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, APRIL 21, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 354).

Payment ordered to be made for a bale of silk sold by the Company, it being part of the *Ruth's* stock consigned to Mr. Thomson in the *Smyrna Merchant*. Robert Doughty applying for his salary, a general letter from Bantam is read in which he is accused of some delinquency; therefore certain Committees are desired to examine and report on his affairs, and the sannes he asked to have delivered are ordered to be taken to the Company's warehouse, there to remain until further notice. The owners of the *Katherine* asking for an additional 200*l.* upon account of imprest, and that this sum, if the ship is not employed by the Company, may be allowed, because 'they lye at great charge and it being past the time they agreed for', they are advised to seal their charterparty and hasten the ship to the Downs, and promised that if she is detained there, allowance shall be made to them for all charges during the time; nothing is concluded. Lancelot Johnson requests that his son, who is a factor in India, may be continued in that employment; he is told that if the Company's trade still goes on there, his son shall be considered as soon as any other. (1 *p.*)

A GENERAL COURT OF THE ADVENTURERS IN THE UNITED JOINT STOCK, APRIL 24, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 355).

An order is presented from Lisle Long, secretary to the Lord Protector, requiring the Company to pay the two bills of exchange, each for 5,500*l.*, to the executors of the late Thomas Penniston, or to give reason for not doing so; hereupon the Committees formerly appointed to attend to this matter are desired to treat with the executors and to draw up an answer to their case for presentation to His Highness. The owners of the *Katherine* awaiting the Court's decision as to the dispatch of their vessel, the Court, opining that 'there would bee a publication of peace on Wednesday next'<sup>1</sup>, defers its resolution. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  *p.*)

<sup>1</sup> The peace was proclaimed in London on April 26

A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEES FOR THE DUTCH BUSINESS, APRIL 26, 1654 (*Factory Records, Java*, vol. ii, part iv, p. 422).

A petition is drawn up to the Lord Protector praying for direction concerning the men the Company shall choose to treat about their losses with the Dutch; and each Committee is desired to write down the names of able men he knows, not interested in the Company, out of whom four can be chosen. ( $\frac{1}{4}$  p.)

PETITION OF THE COMPANY TO THE LORD PROTECTOR, APRIL, 1654 (*Factory Records, Java*, vol. ii, part iv, p. 404).

They humbly acknowledge the pious care shown by His Highness in the conclusion of the late treaty of peace with the Dutch with regard to satisfaction to be obtained for the many wrongs and great damages sustained by this Company in India. Being generally informed (but not having seen the articles they cannot vouch for the truth hereof) that they are limited to a short time to formulate their demands, and that the Dutch have already deputed commissioners to join with others of this nation, they pray that His Highness will signify his pleasure as to the course they shall take for accommodation of this business, they being ready to follow his directions herein. *Delivered to Mr. Lisle Long, April 27, 1654.* ( $\frac{1}{4}$  p.)

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ALDERMAN FOWKE'S CASE, APRIL 26, 1654 (*Public Record Office · C. O. 77*, vol. vii, no. 73).

They find that the Alderman's petition consists of two parts. The first concerns the bargain [for saltpetre] between him and the East India Company, touching which several decrees have passed in Chancery on behalf of the said Company, which were afterwards reversed in the late House of Peers in 1647 and the Company ordered to pay the petitioner 7,000*l.* (the principal in question with the profits accruing), besides damages and costs. The Company petitioned the House of Commons several times to annul this judgement, and several proceedings took place in Parliament touching the same, although part of the judgement of the Lords was executed. In 1651 an Act was prepared and twice read for settling the residue, yet as the Act stood committed and the part not executed stood referred when Parliament dissolved in 1653, the



committee opines that that part of the petition should not be proceeded with by the Council, but reserved for the judgement of Parliament on the petitioner making application. The second part of the petition concerns reparation for sufferings sustained in the third year of the late King when the petitioner's goods were seized and detained for his refusal to pay tonnage and poundage in obedience to a vote or declaration of Parliament. This was referred by an order of Parliament of January 18, 1647, to the consideration of the Commissioners of the Navy, who estimated the petitioner's damages and losses at 27,615*l.*, viz. 5,827*l.* for goods seized, 9,788*l.* for interest on the same for twenty-one years, and 12,000*l.* for loss of his trade at six per cent. for twelve years. This was referred by Parliament to the Council of State, who by an order of October 25, 1652, declared their opinion that 500*l.* per annum should be settled upon the petitioner and his heirs in the Forest of Waltham in Essex. This the Committee conceives fit to be made good and offers the same as their opinion with submission to the wisdom of the Council. The petitioner's demand for a further allowance, the committee leaves to the consideration of the Council. *Endorsed.* Read and agreed May 9, 1654. (1½ pp.)

A GENERAL COURT OF THE ADVENTURERS IN THE UNITED JOINT STOCK, APRIL 28, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 356).

The owners of the *Katherine* being desired to seal their charter-party and to let the ship proceed on her voyage, they declare that it is late in the year and therefore doubtful if the voyage can be made, and that as the Company refuses to employ the said ship for six months, or to suffer the owners to do so if she should not be able to gain the Coast in due time, and the date agreed upon having passed, they consider themselves released from their former agreement. Several captains and able seamen giving it as their opinion that the voyage is feasible and might be made even a month later, the Court, after much dispute, resolves to hold the owners to their agreement. Captain Russell desires time to confer with his co-owners, and certain Committees are entreated to receive their answer this afternoon and to keep them to their agreement, which if they refuse to stand to, then to use their discretions what course to take to recover any loss that may be sustained by the ship not

going. Special notice is ordered to be given of a general court to be held to consider how to carry on the East India trade. (1¼ pp.)

A GENERAL COURT OF THE ADVENTURERS IN THE UNITED JOINT STOCK, MAY 2, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 357).

The Committees appointed to confer with the owners of the *Katherine* report that the latter refuse to allow their ship to proceed on the former conditions, as she has no 'salvo conducto' and the time of year is so far spent; the Committees protested against the loss that might accrue to the Company by this decision. Hereupon some declare that there is a further agreement between the Lord Protector and the Dutch ambassadors for all hostilities to cease from the 4th instant, and that the desired port 'is on this side the line'. Captain Russell announces that, if he is given a salvo conducto under the ambassadors' hands, and allowed 5*l.* per day for the time he has to wait for the same, he will seal his charterparty and proceed on the voyage, but that none of the other owners will seal with him. He is requested to do this forthwith and to go to the Downs, the Court agreeing to allow him 5*l.* per day and desiring the Committees to meet him, see the charterparty sealed, and do all possible to further his dispatch. Decision as to what shipping to send to Bantam to fetch home the Company's estate remaining in those parts is referred to the Court of Committees to resolve upon, after assurance has been received that all hostilities between the English and Dutch shall cease from the 4th instant. (1 p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES FOR THE FOURTH JOINT STOCK, MAY 3, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxi, p. 258).

Cuttler, the late garbler, offers to refer the difference concerning 700*l.* between himself and the Company to indifferent arbitration, but the Court advises him to deposit the said sum and refer himself to the Company; he agrees to give them security for 400*l.*, his bond for payment of the remaining 300*l.*, and to submit to the decision of the Committees as to what part of the latter sum he shall pay; hereupon certain Committees are desired to approve and receive the said security. Jean, widow of the late Thomas Prowd, requests to be paid the 125*l.* detained from her late husband's wages by the Company to save them harmless from any demands for 500

rials belonging to the Malayans and charged by Mr. Baker on Mr. Prowd, who on his death-bed utterly denied having received any part of it; this matter is referred to the next court. ( $\frac{3}{4}$  p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, MAY 5, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 358).

Thomas Bretton, who returned lately from Surat, applying for wages and debts due to him, certain Committees are desired to examine and report upon his affairs. The Court resolving that a ship shall be sent at once to Bantam, the following vessels are named: the *Love*, master, Captain Jurden, the *Merchants' Delight*, master, Captain Harman, each of these 400 tons burden and to be freighted at 18*l.* per ton: the *William*, master, Captain Curtis, burden 450 tons, the *Aleppo Merchant*, master, Captain Millet, Junior, burden 360 tons, the *East India Merchant*, master, Captain Newport, burden 350 tons, the three last to be freighted at 17*l.* per ton. Captain Bayly is questioned as to the sufficiency of the *William*; he declares that she is a sound ship and could be ready by the end of the month. The Court then desires Captain Prowd, Messrs. Gee, Steevens, Johnson and Roach to examine and report on the said vessels. Sarah Stannard is granted remission of the fine on some calicoes returned in the *Love*. (1 p.)

THE COMPANY TO WILLIAM WATSON AND RICHARD BRIDGMAN [AT AMSTERDAM], MAY 5, 1654 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 245).

Acknowledge the receipt of their letters of the 24th April and 1st and 8th of May, telling of their unsuccessful endeavours to obtain the two certificates desired from the Dutch East India Company, the Court of Admiralty, or the States of the Hague. They do not attribute any lack of service to Messrs. Watson and Bridgman for this want of success, but desire them to discontinue their endeavours, as a peace has been concluded between the two nations and was proclaimed in England on the 26th ultimo, whereby all acts of hostility are to cease and all reprisals made after the 4th instant are to be restored with damages. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  p.)

A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEES FOR THE DUTCH BUSINESS, MAY 6, 1654<sup>1</sup> (*Factory Records, Java*, vol. ii, part iv, p. 422).

Resolved that six-ninths of what shall be recovered from the Dutch shall be assigned to the Third Joint Stock, two-ninths to the Fourth Joint Stock, and one-ninth to the adventurers in the United Joint Stock, to whom also the islands are to be assigned. Those men who are to act as arbitrators to be nominated at a meeting to be held next Monday morning. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  p.)

THE COMPANY TO THOMAS DETHICK, RICHARD BROWNE, AND COMPANY [AT LEGHORN], MAY 8, 1654 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 250).

Enclose a packet directed to Consul Ryley at Aleppo, containing advices to India with news of the good tidings of the conclusion of peace between England and Holland, and request that they may be forwarded to him by the first opportunity. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  p.)

THE COMPANY TO HENRY RYLEY [AT ALEPPO], MAY 8, 1654 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 250).

Desire him to forward by an express messenger their letters to India, containing information of the peace concluded between England and Holland. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  p.)

THE COMPANY TO JOHN HOLWORTHY [AT MARSEILLES], MAY 8, 1654 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 251).

Request him to forward their letters for India, which contain, amongst other things, tidings of the peace concluded between England and Holland, to Consul Ryley at Aleppo by the first safe conveyance that shall offer. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  p.)

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE, MAY 9, 1654 (*Public Record Office: S. P. Dom.: Interregnum*, I. 75, pp. 281-86).

... The report from the Committee on the petition of Alderman John Fowke agreed with, and land to be set out in Waltham Forest, Essex, belonging to the State, of 500*l.* yearly value, and settled

<sup>1</sup> Meetings were also held on the 8th and 9th (twice), but only the names of those present are recorded, the proceedings being evidently kept secret.

on him and his heirs for ever. The Council leaves him to seek satisfaction from Parliament for his sufferings mentioned, and for the matter in difference between him and the East India Company. . . .

A GENERAL COURT OF THE FREEMEN AND ADVENTURERS TO CONSIDER HOW TO CARRY ON THE EAST INDIA TRADE, MAY 10, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 362).

The Governor, observing that so few are present, inquires if they shall proceed in a business of 'soe publique a concernment'. In reply it is stated that, if nothing is resolved upon, yet it is necessary to debate this matter and to appoint a committee to draw up some form or model of the most advantageous way in which to carry on the trade, whether by a joint stock, or 'in a regliment according to the Turkey Company', or in some other way, as this business will depend upon the success of the restitution from the Dutch and the delivery of the Spice Islands. Debate ensues, and some advocate the formation of another joint stock, while others are against it; yet all agree in their desire to proceed with the trade and keep it from falling into the hands of the Dutch, which cannot be done without 'the countenance and assistance of our superiours, the which hath bine the foundation of the Hollanders trade'. Finally twenty-two Committees, or any eleven of them, with as many of the generality as please, are entreated to meet every Thursday morning at eight o'clock to consult and draw up a form how to carry on this trade in safety and with the best hope of profit to the nation, which form is to be presented to the general court within a month. The Governor then announces that according to their former resolution a ship is now to be freighted to Bantam; he names the five that have been offered, and the court decides upon the *East India Merchant* as the fittest for the purpose, she to be at Gravesend by the 20th June, and to be paid imprest, demurrage, primage and average according to her last charterparty. Captain Newport accepts these conditions, and the court further resolves to send in her 1,000*l.* in money or in such commodities as shall be thought best. (1½ pp.)

A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEES FOR THE DUTCH BUSINESS, MAY 10, 1654 (*Factory Records, Java*, vol. ii, part iv, p. 423).

Mr. Thomas Kendall and Alderman William Thomson are thought fit men to treat as merchants with the Dutch, and Dr. Exton and Dr. Turner as civilians.<sup>1</sup> ( $\frac{3}{4}$  p.)

A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEES FOR THE DUTCH BUSINESS, MAY 11, 1654<sup>2</sup> (*Factory Records, Java*, vol. ii, part iv, p. 423).

The above mentioned names are to be presented in these terms: The East India, Muscovia, and Greenland Companies, together with the Traders to Brazil, humbly nominate to His Highness and his honourable Council Drs. Exton and Turner, civilians, and Messrs. Thomson and Kendall, merchants, as commissioners to meet the Dutch commissioners upon the 18th instant, according to the 30th article of the peace. ( $\frac{1}{4}$  p.)

THE COMPANY TO SIGNOR PAOLO DEL SERA AND COMPANY [AT VENICE], MAY 12, 1654 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 251).

Desire them to transmit the enclosed letters for India to Consul Ryley at Aleppo by the first safe conveyance. ( $\frac{1}{4}$  p.)

THE COMPANY TO JARVAIES RUSSELL, MAY 13, 1654 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 252).

The Dutch ambassadors have been applied to for their pass: they profess themselves willing to do anything to preserve the peace and union of both nations according to the articles of peace (a copy of which Russell has with him), and these are of more value than any certificate and must be made good by both nations. If what Russell desires were permitted, the Dutch say it would dishonour their masters; it has never been granted to any man.<sup>3</sup> The printed proclamation will be more effectual than any certificate. Send a certificate from the public notary, signed by several Dutch merchants, which will be a sure notice of the peace.

<sup>1</sup> Used in the old sense of a practitioner or student of civil law.

<sup>2</sup> Another meeting was held the same afternoon, followed by others on the 12th and 17th, but only the names of those present are given.

<sup>3</sup> See a letter from the Dutch ambassador to the States-General of this date, printed in Thurloe's *State Papers* (vol. ii, p. 282).

They hope Russell will avail himself of the first fair wind to set out on his voyage. *Signed by Maurice Thomson only.* ( $\frac{1}{2}$  p.)

AN ACCOUNT OF THE PARTICULAR LOSSES SUSTAINED BY THE ENGLISH IN THE EAST INDIES THROUGH THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE NETHERLANDS COMPANY SINCE THE TREATY OF 1622, MAY, 1654 (*Factory Records, Java*, vol. ii, part iv, p. 405).

1. March 20, 1622. The Dutch put wrongly to the English account one-third part of the charges of the first year in the Moluccas, Banda and Amboyna when the English were partners with the Dutch in the trade there, viz. one-third of the charge of 'the gallihorne, tingans<sup>1</sup>, schooles, hospitalls, guifts', and other exorbitancies to which the English ought not to have contributed; also one-third part of the wages of soldiers and others, paid in cloth and apparel at excessive rates, viz. 40,000 rials. 2. March 20, 1622. The English paid 24,650 rials, or one-third part, towards the building and repair of the forts in the Moluccas, Banda and Amboyna, where they have enjoyed trade for one year only, whereas these reparations will last for many years; therefore three-quarters at least of this sum they claim should be restored, viz. 18,488 rials. 3. March 20, 1622. For customs of cloves and other exactions taken by the Dutch in the Moluccas and Amboyna contrary to the treaty, 1,106 rials. 4. June 20, 1622. For repayment of money disbursed on account of charges and spices in the second year, when the English hoped to have continued partners with the Dutch in the trade of the aforesaid islands, but the latter by their oppression and exorbitancies 'brought us to a demurre', until the cruelties perpetrated at Pulo Run and Amboyna caused 'our utter extirpation' from the spice trade, 36,965 rials. 5. The English paid in the first year in the Moluccas, Banda and Amboyna in household expenscs, house rents, general charges, gifts, and merchandise, 23,507 rials, two-thirds of which they claim from the Dutch Company, viz. 15,671 rials. 6. August 25, 1622. The Dutch by depopulating and wasting the island of Pulo Run caused the English to lose all the money owing to

<sup>1</sup> In the Award this word is explained as equivalent to the Latin *scapha*, a skiff or sailing-boat. It is perhaps the Malay *tambang*, now used to denote a ferry-boat. 'Gallihorne' seems to be the Dutch *galjoen*, meaning a large vessel.

them by the 'orankaies' and other natives, for which they claim 5,725 rials. 7. For twenty-one slaves belonging to the English but violently taken by the Dutch from the Fort Nelacca on Pulo Run, 2,100 rials. 8. For detaining 'our one-third part of 400 slaves and other goods', and all prize goods taken by the tingans, for which the English had formerly been compelled to pay their usual share, 10,975 rials. 9. September, 1622. For goods forcibly taken out of the English houses at Jakatra, in execution of an unjust sentence on behalf of some Chinese, 16,182 rials. 10. February 20, 1623. Money seized by the Dutch on the occasion of the 'cruell murther' at Amboyna, 30,058 rials. 11. February 20, 1623. For payment for sundry houses, warehouses, etc., which the English built at the Moluccas and Banda and from whence they are expelled, 4,266 rials. 12. For customs and other exactions paid at Jakatra contrary to the treaty, 4,775 rials. 13. April, 1627. For Japan silver forcibly taken out of the English warehouses at Jakatra in execution of an unjust sentence in the case of Gio Maria Moretti, an Italian, 7,242 rials. 14. Paid by Richard Welden, the English Agent at Bantam, for the release from prison of Dawkes, who had been almost starved, 50 rials. 15. For payment for powder taken from the said Agent and used at feasts held by the Governor, 2,000 rials. *Total*, 195,603 rials, or 48,900*l.* sterling. *Delivered to the Commissioners May 17, 1654, and again on May 29, 1654. (2½ pp.)*

A FURTHER DEMAND OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY, MAY 17, 1654 (*Factory Records, Java*, vol. ii, part iv, p. 412).

The present adventurers in the United Joint Stock demand satisfaction for four ships illegally taken from them in the Gulf of Persia about February, 1653; and though this happened after the time limited in the Articles for restitution, yet it is thought that satisfaction should be made, as the said ships were taken by private persons without lawful authority or commission and the damage amounts to at least 100,000*l.* *Signed*, R.S., Secretary to the East India Company. *Delivered to the Commissioners May 17, 1654. (½ p.)*



ANSWER OF THE DUTCH COMPANY TO THE DEMANDS OF THE ENGLISH COMPANY PRESENTED TO THE AMBASSADORS OF THE STATES-GENERAL OF THE UNITED PROVINCES IN ENGLAND (*Factory Records, Java*, vol. ii, part iv, p. 395).

1. By the treaty of 1619 the English were bound to contribute towards the maintenance of the places, forts and garrisons in the Moluccas, Amboyna and Banda, and therefore to 'the gallies, tingans, schooles and hospitalles' there, and this was also decreed by the Council of Defence in 1620; so that their demands concerning the same are without any reason. 2. By the same treaty it was agreed that the English should pay one-third towards the repair and maintenance of the forts in the Moluccas, Banda and Amboyna; this can also be proved by the resolution of the Council of Defence of December 21, 1620. 3. The Dutch as well as the English were bound to pay customs in the Moluccas and Banda to the King of Ternate; therefore the English have no claim upon them for these. 4. The English themselves desired to remove their people and goods from the Moluccas, Banda and Amboyna (as appears by a resolution of the Council of Defence of January 20, 1620) and to transport them in the Dutch ships, alleging that they could not continue to trade in such places without greater assistance. By 'manifest reckonings' it is also shown that their 'ministers' have received from the Dutch Company their 'contingent portion' of the fruits grown there, as appears by the original quittances of the English themselves, and therefore it cannot be proved that the Dutch have either oppressed or wronged them. 5. The English have far less ground for this demand, for each Company was bound to bear the private charges of the household, and house rents of merchants and other servants belonging to the trade, also the charge of their own particular merchandise; which charges the Dutch have always separated from the general charges and borne themselves, according to the resolve of the Council of Defence in the 18th article. 6. The Dutch cannot conceive any reason why they should be charged with other people's debts, the equity of the said debts not even appearing or that the Dutch have received any profit from them. 7. The English took the said twenty-one slaves from the Dutch, who had previously captured the barge in which

they came; and being informed of this, the Dutch Governor in Banda commanded that the said slaves should be fetched from the English house; therefore the English have no reason to lay the faults of their own people upon the Dutch or to claim as a legal prize what has been unlawfully seized. 8. To this claim the Dutch reply that after the great expedition in Banda in 1621, sustained by the Dutch Company alone, 'noe new conquest of such a notable party of people' can be accomplished by the ordinary methods of war. 9. In this the English unreasonably charge the Dutch Company with what they brought upon themselves 'by their unjust dealings with their own ministers by way of justice'. The Dutch did not receive a penny of the money claimed, but justice was administered 'in the name of the High and Mighty Lords, the States Generall of the United Provinces' as it is to all who live under their jurisdiction. 10. The Dutch openly deny having taken or kept anything belonging to the English, but on the contrary they had an inventory made for their benefit and sent it to Batavia to the English President there, and it was delivered by the magistrate at Batavia to the English lodging. 11. The Dutch assert that they never meddled with or took any profit from the English, neither did they expel them from their houses. 12. Batavia has as good a right to take customs as other 'kingdomes or free States'; besides it is little enough for the English to pay for the nine years they remained at Batavia, the Dutch Company having spent some millions to maintain and defend that place as well for the English as for other inhabitants, and the English enjoying their trade and commerce as freely as the Dutch. 13. If goods were taken from the English by the justices of Batavia for satisfaction of some inhabitants, who in body and goods were grievously injured by the English, this does not concern the Dutch Company, who did not profit by it; and it is only reasonable that whosoever commits a fault should pay for it, and that he who has been wronged should receive justice, which cannot be denied to those who live where it is administered. 14. Concerning the imprisonment of Dawkes, he called the Lieutenant of the Fort of Nassau a rogue, and for this he was arrested, detained seven days, ordered to acknowledge his fault and to pay twenty-five rials, but he refusing and speaking scornfully of the Governor and Council he

was detained another ten days, again ordered to confess, and fined another twenty-five rials, and 'after satisfaction of his condemnation' he was released. 15. The English being bound to pay one-third of all charges, they should do so for this powder, which was used by the officers entrusted by the Dutch with the defence of those parts; these officers are fully trusted by the Dutch, who therefore stand to lose more than the English. ( $4\frac{1}{4}$  pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, MAY 19, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 360).

Thomas Bretton renewing his request for payment of what is due to him, he is told that he must give a bond of 500*l.* to stand by the decision to be arrived at by arbitration in the usual manner, concerning his private trade and other delinquencies; he offers to engage his wages to abide by the judgement of the whole Court, but will give no bond. The Court, having heard of some misdemeanours committed by Frederick Skinner, their Agent at Bantam, gives order for him to return in the *East India Merchant*. John, son of Alderman Fowke, the late Garbler, demands payment for the garbling of spices done by his father last October; but the Court, on information of an order from the Court of Aldermen to the contrary, defers answering him until the next meeting. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, MAY 26, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 361).

Order is given for payment to be made to Alderman Fowke for all garbling done, on he and his son signing a paper to protect the Company from any others who shall demand payment for the same. Mr. Chaworth on paying his debt is to be allowed interest and charges thereon and to be given a receipt and his bill, but if he desires a general discharge, then he and Mr. Anfosse must give one also. The petition of Bartholomew Holloway for an increase of salary is referred until Mr. Spiller returns to town. Thomas Bretton offering to engage his wages and all that is due to him to stand to the award of the whole court, in witness hereof he is given an *assumpsit* of 6*d.* by the Governor, and certain Committees are requested to examine and report on his business. (1 p.)

A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEES FOR THE DUTCH BUSINESS, MAY 27, 1654<sup>1</sup> (*Factory Records, Java*, vol. ii, part iv, p. 424).

Messrs. Keate and Kerridge are requested to desire the Commissioners to appoint their hour of meeting on Tuesday next at the Guildhall, and the Secretary to write to the Dutch Commissioners and inform them of the hour appointed. ( $\frac{1}{4}$  p.)

THE CLAIMS OF THE ENGLISH COMPANY FOR LOSSES SUSTAINED IN THE EAST INDIES AND SOUTH SEAS BY THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE DUTCH COMPANY, MAY, 1654<sup>2</sup> (*Factory Records, Java*, vol. ii, part iv, p. 408).

1. The English Company demands satisfaction for the losses set forth in fifteen articles hereunto annexed [see p. 317], viz. 48,900*l.* 15*s.* 2. For the fruits of the island of Pulo Run, this island producing yearly about 238,000*lb.* of nutmegs, and about 60,000*lb.* of mace, of which the English ought to have one-third part, which, reckoning the nutmegs at 12*d.* per *lb.* and the mace at 2*s.* per *lb.* amounts to 5,966*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* yearly, and for eighteen years, up to 1639, the time agreed upon in the treaty, to 107,390*l.* 3. For all the fruits of Pulo Run from 1639 to 1654 at the same rate, after which time they are to belong wholly to the English, viz. for nutmegs 238,000*lb.* and mace 60,000*lb.*, which amounts to 17,900*l.* per annum, and for fifteen years to 268,500*l.* 4. Restitution of the island of Pulo Run, which clearly belongs to the English, as was acknowledged by the treaty of 1619, the same to be delivered up in as good a condition as when it was taken away. 5. For the fruits of the island of Lantore, which, according to several depositions, produces annually 500,000*lb.* of nutmegs and 200,000*lb.* of mace, one-third of which belongs to the English, and reckoning the nutmegs at 12*d.* per *lb.* and the mace at 2*s.* per *lb.* is 15,000*l.* per annum, and for eighteen years, 270,000*l.* 6. For the whole produce of the fruits of the said island of Lantore, as belonging to the English, which at the same rates amounts to 45,000*l.* per annum, and for fifteen years, from 1639 to 1654, to 675,000*l.* 7. Restitution of the said island of Lantore, which clearly

<sup>1</sup> Another meeting was held on the 29th, but no particulars are recorded beyond the names of those who attended.

<sup>2</sup> This agrees with the claim set forth in the Award (see Introduction).

belongs to the English, they being in actual possession of it in 1620, when the articles of peace came to the Indies, though afterwards it was forcibly taken from them. 8. One-third of the profits of the other spice islands in the possession of the Dutch from 1621 until 1639, according to the treaty, estimated at 25,000*l.* per annum; the one-third is therefore 450,000*l.* 9. For all wares and provisions delivered to the Agents of the Dutch Company in the Indies, or to any of their shipping going to or returning from thence, amounting to 12,000 rials, or 3,000*l.* 10. For the customs of Persia on the Netherlanders' goods, the one-half belonging to the English by virtue of an agreement made with the King of Persia in 1624, which half is worth more than 4,000*l.* per annum, and for thirty years (that is, up to 1654) is 120,000*l.* 11. For the malicious burning of the English dwelling-houses, warehouses, stores, and provisions in Jakatra by the order of the Dutch Governor-General in 1628, the loss amounting to 200,000 pieces of eight or 50,000*l.* 12. For loss of trade, owing to the Dutch blockading Bantam for six years, 600,000*l.* 13. For 102,959 rials of eight taken from the English at Surat by the Mogul's officials; the Dutch prevented the English from retaliating upon the native junks and so caused the loss of the money, which at three for one would have yielded in Europe 77,200*l.* 14. For pepper taken out of the *Endymion* at Padang on the coast of Sumatra in 1649, 6,000*l.* 15. For loss sustained since 1649 for pepper bought at other places at a much dearer rate than would have been paid for it at Sumatra, from whence the Dutch drove away the English ships and so deprived them of that trade, 20,000*l.* Satisfaction for these demands, with the islands of Pulo Run and Lantore, amount to 2,695,990*l.* 15*s.* Interest from the time since due will amount to a far greater sum. *Signed*, Richard Swinglehurst. Delivered to the Commissioners May 29, 1654. *Annexed*: The English further demand and desire that, as they often touched at the Cape of Good Hope to refresh, and took possession of the land in the reign of King James, and cast up a mount called 'James his mount' and placed on it the English colours<sup>1</sup>, that the inheritance of this land may continue to them, and that they may be 'free to plant,

<sup>1</sup> This was in July, 1627 (see Herbert's *Travels*, 1638, p. 16). The Dutch had in April, 1652, established a settlement at the Cape.

fortify, and refresh and trade there and in all places of India, the South Seas and the parts more eastwardly, as freely as ever they have done from the beginning of the trade; and bee as free as the Dutch are in all places'. Signed, R[ichard] S[winglehurst], secretary to the East India Company. ( $2\frac{3}{4}$  pp. in all.)

A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEES FOR THE DUTCH BUSINESS, MAY 31, 1654<sup>1</sup> (*Factory Records, Java*, vol. ii, part iv, p. 425).

Mr. William Garway is entreated to assist the Company in the prosecution of the business with the Dutch. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  p.)

THE COMPANY TO DANIEL SKYNNER [AT DOVER], JUNE 2, 1654 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 253).

Enclose a letter to their Agent and factors at Bantam, and desire Skynner to give it to the master or some principal man in the *Jonathan* and entreat its careful delivery, according to the request not only of the Company in general but of Maurice Thomson in particular. The *Jonathan* is, or shortly will be, in the Downs. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, JUNE 2, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 364).

Two sets of weights to be provided for the *East India Merchant* to enable Captain Newport to weigh all goods received and delivered from his ship, there having been much discrepancy lately between goods and invoice. The Court resolves that the 1,000*l.* intended for Bantam shall all be sent in rials of eight. John May, who went to the Coast in the *Lioness* as master's mate and lately returned overland from Persia, applies for his wages while in India; upon examination of his affairs it is resolved that he shall be allowed full pay for the ten months he was in the *Lioness* and for the seven months he was engaged in fetching goods from Hugli, and half-pay for his second voyage, when he was for five months in the service of 'the Prince of Bengall'; while for his last voyage in the junk for Persia he is advised to apply to Mr. Bridgeman, who employed him. Order is given for the trial with Cuttler the

<sup>1</sup> Another meeting was held on June 8 (*Ibid.*, p. 425), but only the names of those present are recorded.

Garbler to be deferred, and for all goods sent to Albertus Skinner from Frederick Skinner to be delivered on payment of a fine of 40*l.* Remission of fines on certain calicoes granted to Jasper Clayton, on behalf of William Taylor's child, and to Anne Howcraft. (1 *p.*)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES FOR THE FOURTH JOINT STOCK, JUNE 7, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxi, p. 259).

The Court orders payment to be made to Jean Prowd of the 125*l.* she claims, with interest at the rate of 4*l.* per cent. per annum from the time the said sum was detained, she to give a general discharge to the Company. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  *p.*)

A GENERAL COURT OF FREEMEN AND ADVENTURERS, JUNE 8, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 365).

The Governor reports that the Committees appointed to consider concerning the carrying on of the trade have met several times and debated the question, and have finally by eleven votes to five decided that the trade would be most advantageously and securely continued by a joint stock. Some gentlemen present declare that the first thing to be done is to have a regulation drawn up, showing how to continue the trade and relieve it from the abuses formerly suffered when it was carried on by a joint stock, and to obtain power from those in authority for the remedy of these abuses, and for these purposes a committee should be chosen. But first those who are against the formation of another joint stock are desired to give their reasons and state what security they will give to the State that the trade shall be carried on equally well in another way. None attempting to answer, the Governor again puts it to the question, and it is unanimously agreed that the trade would be carried on most advantageously and safely by a joint stock, and the Committees formerly appointed are requested to draw up a regulation how to continue it in this way, and how to expose and remedy the abuses formerly sustained, and to solicit the Lord Protector, etc., for their power and assistance when needed. ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  *pp.*)

THE COMMITTEES FOR THE DUTCH BUSINESS TO THOMAS GEE, JUNE 8, 1654 (*Factory Records, Java*, vol. ii, part iv, p. 411).

Desire Gee to be in London 'on Munday night next', as the commissioners appointed by the Lord Protector and the State



have determined to examine him concerning Pulo Run, which island, in 1639, Gee was sent (as master's mate with Randall Jesson in the *Pearl*) with several others to view. He and Jesson, who is *non compos mentis*, are the only survivors of those thus sent. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  p.)

THE COMMITTEES FOR THE DUTCH BUSINESS TO CAPTAIN HUNTER, JUNE 8, 1654 (*Factory Records, Java*, vol. ii, part iv, p. 412).

Desire him to be in London on Monday night next, so that he can be examined on the following morning by the eight Commissioners (four Englishmen and four Dutchmen) appointed to settle the differences in question. It is thought that Hunter in his long service in several factories in the Indies must remember 'severall passages of difference' between the English and the Dutch. He is asked to bring with him any papers he may have bearing on the subject, especially any concerning Pulo Run. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  p.)

GROUND'S UPON WHICH THE DEMANDS OF THE ENGLISH COMPANY ARE BASED, JUNE 8, 1654 (*Factory Records, Java*, vol. ii, part iv, p. 413).

The demand for 107,390*l* set forth in the second article is grounded upon the eighth article of the treaty of 1619. As to the quantity of spice, a calculation made by John Cartwright is adduced. John Hunter, Thomas Gee, and Abraham Woofst, all formerly employed by the English Company, were sent to demand and take possession of the island of Pulo Run, and they will appear, according to order, to be examined in the High Court of Admiralty, or elsewhere as shall be directed, to answer such questions as may be thought proper. There can be no objection to the price at which the spices have been rated, for the English Company has been much more prejudiced by the want of the spices than the sum demanded imports. The demand made in the third article for 268,500*l*. is grounded upon the twenty-third article of the treaty of 1619 and upon the ninth article of the agreement between the English and Dutch in 1623. The English having possession of Pulo Run at the time of the treaty of 1619, and that treaty lasting until 1639, it is evident that the Dutch have no claim to any of the fruits or profits of the said island. The demand made in the fourth article for the island



of Pulo Run to be restored to the English in as good a condition as when it was taken from them is also grounded on the twenty-third article of the treaty of 1619 and the ninth article of the treaty of 1623. The Governor of Nero [Neira] and the islands of Banda in 1636 did not think that the Dutch Company had any right or title to Pulo Run, for he sent three persons to offer to deliver the said island to the English Company, as appears by the attestations of sundry people sent at the time by the President and Council of Bantam to view the said island, one of whom is still living and can be examined. Yet in 1638 when John Hunter, the servant of the English Company, was sent to demand the said island, its delivery was refused upon some vain pretence by Anthony Van Dieman, etc., as appears by a certificate signed by them. Delivered June 8, 1654. (1½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, JUNE 14, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 366).

The Court is informed that the Secretary, Richard Swinglehurst, is lately dead<sup>1</sup>, and that the business of his office is at a standstill, the keys of his office and the warehouses having been given up to Mr. Thomas Andrew, Messrs. Cokayne and Riccard being then out of town; also that John Stanyan, who has been servant to the late Secretary for six years, now petitions to be employed by the Company. The Committees give him one of the keys of the said office, and direct him to perform the business connected with it, and to deliver to Mr. Cokayne what papers concerning the Dutch business he shall require, taking a receipt for them. Stanyan is also given the keys of the Exchange Cellar and told to 'performe the daily busines there', to make a full abstract of all that is in the cellar and present it with his security next Friday, and to apply to the proper Committees for directions concerning that warehouse. John Langham and John Savage are accepted as security for sugar. (1 p.)

<sup>1</sup> According to Smyth's *Obituary* (Camden Society's publications, vol. 44), Swinglehurst died in St. Mary Axe on June 13.

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, JUNE 16, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 367).

Mr. Andrew reports that Thomas Bretton was shipped in 1640, at 10s. per month, and continued at that remuneration for eighteen months; then the President gave him a salary of 25*l.* per annum for three years, and after that he was given 50*l.* per annum for the rest of his stay in India, two years of which were spent in the service of the United Joint Stock; this salary was never confirmed by the Court and, though Bretton bore a good character, yet he could not have amassed his estate without private trade, for which he made use of the Company's shipping and customs. After some debate the Court confirms his salary granted in India, and resolves that a fine of 100*l.* shall be imposed for his private trade: this is to be deducted from what is due to him, and the remainder given to him. Certain Committees are desired to direct Samuel Sambrooke in the drawing up of a letter for Bantam. Permission is given to the owners of the *East India Merchant* to send in her fifty pigs of lead to Bantam on their own account. (1*p.*)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, JUNE 21, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 368).

The petitions of Mr. Roane and of Joseph Avery to be employed as secretary to the Company are read, and they are told that the business is not so great but that it can be performed by the Company's own servants, who are best acquainted with the same, and that at present the Company is not in a capacity to entertain more men, as it is uncertain how long there will be employment for those already serving. John Stanyan presents the desired abstract of the goods remaining in the Exchange Cellar, and nominates as his security his father Abraham Stanyan and Randall Isaackson; they are accepted and directed to seal two bonds of 1,000*l.* each. Messrs. Andrew and Riccard are requested to assist Mr. Acton with Mr. Penniston's business. Bartholomew Holloyay's petition for an increase of salary is again read and referred until after the court of election. (1*p.*)

A GENERAL COURT OF ELECTION FOR THE FOURTH JOINT STOCK, JULY 5, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxi, p. 261).

Mr. Cokaine desires the generality to be 'free in their choice and not continue him seven or eight yeares together when hee is soe indisposed to health'; nevertheless he is nominated with Sir Jacob Garrad, Messrs. Riccard, Reynardson, and Andrew and unanimously re-elected Governor. Alderman Riccard and Thomas and Daniel Andrew are then nominated for the post of Deputy, and Riccard, by a general erection of hands, is re-elected. The following twenty-four Committees are chosen to manage the business for the ensuing year: Sir Jacob Garrad, Thomas and Daniel Andrew, William Ashwell, John Langly, William Garway, Thomas Burnell, Thomas Hodges, John Oldfeild, Thomas Kerridge, Gilbert Keate, Ozias Churchman, James Mann, William Williams, Anthony and William Bateman, Thomas Bludworth, George Smith, William Ryder, James Edwards, William Meggs, John Dickons, Henry Spurstow and Thomas Cokayne. (1½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES FOR THE FOURTH JOINT STOCK, JULY 12, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxi, p. 262).

Cuttler's business considered. He having charged the Company for sifting 1,700 bags of pepper at 12d per bag when there were only 1,600 bags, which 'might well be afforded at 6d. per bagge', the Court agrees to allow him 70l. in full, he having referred himself wholly to their decision. (½ p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, JULY 14, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 369).

Ten tons of saltpetre to be delivered to William Wiche according to the assignment of the order of the Commissioners of the Navy from Colonel Edward Gravenor and Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Worsely. Elizabeth Wildboar is granted remission of the fine on certain calicoes returned in the *Love*. John May having applied for his salary to Mr. Bridgeman and he refusing it, May now petitions for the Company's assistance in the matter; hereupon the Court gives order for the said salary to be charged to Bridgeman's account, the latter to pay it after his affairs with the Company are settled. (½ p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, JULY 21, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 370).

James Clitherow applying for what is due to his late brother, Anthony, he is told that the latter's account has not yet been received and that nothing can be paid until then. ( $\frac{1}{4}$  p.)

A GENERAL COURT OF THE ADVENTURERS IN THE THIRD JOINT STOCK, JULY 22, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxi, p. 263).

The Governor announces that the commission lately given to the Committees to prosecute and settle the business with the Dutch is somewhat deficient. Hereupon Thomas Andrew declares that the Commissioners on both sides think that the Company should nominate some Committees or others to be procurators with full power to make a final end and full determination and to sign and seal what shall be agreed upon between the Company and the Dutch, as the latter have already done; but he adds he is not satisfied as to whether it would be safe for the Company to give so large a commission to any private persons, seeing this is made 'a nationall busines', lest the authority derived from the Lord Protector should be infringed. Finally it is resolved to grant a commission under the Company's seal; but in order that the Company may not 'render themselves obnoxious to the care and provision which His Highnes hath bine pleased to make for the Company, and because they would not willingly give the Comissioners any distast', certain Committees are entreated to attend the latter and desire from them a form of such a commission as they would like to be given to the procurators as proper and safe for the Company, to be approved and confirmed by the generality next Tuesday, when the said procurators are to be chosen. (1 p.)

A GENERAL COURT OF THE ADVENTURERS IN THE THIRD JOINT STOCK, JULY 25, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxi, p. 264).

Thomas Andrew reports that he and the other Committees appointed waited upon Dr. Exton and told him of the Company's fears concerning the Dutch business, and the Doctor agreed that it would be very dangerous for the Company to give such a procuration as the Dutch have given, and directed his clerk to draw up one

which would be proper. This is now read and William and John Garway, Anthony Bateman, Richard Wild, and Thomas Bludworth are nominated procurators in the said commission, they, or any three of them, to prosecute the Dutch business according to the tenor thereof ; and the Court orders that when this procuration is ratified by the Doctors it shall be sealed with the Company's seal and signed by the Governor, Deputy, and the twenty-four Committees. (1 p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, JULY 28, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 371).

Jeremy Sambrooke is directed to give a signed order to Mr. Aungeir to grant to the wives of those seamen whose husbands are in the Company's service in India two months' pay extraordinary per annum where he sees it to be needed, but first to ascertain if the men are in the Company's debt. Some men of the *Supply's* company, who lately returned from Persia overland, apply for their wages ; they are told that they must first be examined in the Admiralty touching the loss of that ship. The Court desires Captain Ryder and Mr. Acton to consult with Mr. Budd about this matter, and Mr. Acton is also directed to take Mr. Budd's advice as to the Company's safest course with regard to the two probates granted for Mr. Head's will. George Gawton, a factor who went out and returned in the *Love*, is granted remission of a fine on certain goods. (1 p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES FOR THE FOURTH JOINT STOCK, AUGUST 2, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxi, p. 265).

James Clitherow to be paid what is due to his brother Anthony's account. Edward Wood to be requested to settle his debt with the Company. Oliver Low, a former labourer in Blackwall Yard, no longer able to work, petitions to be admitted to the Company's Almshouse ; he is told ' that pention was proper to seamen onely ', but that, if none apply between this and Michaelmas, his request shall be considered. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  p.)

DEPOSITIONS IN THE ADMIRALTY COURT (*Factory Records, Java*, vol. ii, part iv, p. 252).

By Thomas Gee, Prian Beddowes, Richard Newland, Jeremy Sambrooke, Richard Day, Roger Mosse, Thomas Rilston, Valentine Markham, Thomas Merry<sup>1</sup>, John Lewis, Thomas Winter, Thomas Adler, and Edmund Seaman. The proceedings are stated to have taken place in the presence of the English and Dutch Commissioners, at various dates between June 15 and August 3, 1654. The deponents were examined on various interrogatories drawn up by the East India Company relating to the surrender of Pulo Run to the English, the value of spices in 1621-22, the affair of the *Endymion*, the non-payment by the Dutch of customs at Gombroon, etc. (*Copies. Latin. 63 pp.*)

NOTES FROM SOME OF THE ABOVE DEPOSITIONS (*Ibid.*, p. 321).

Extracts from the evidence of Sambrooke, Mosse, and Rilston. (*2½ pp.*)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, AUGUST 4, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 372).

Richard and Thomas Allen and Nicholas Allvy are accepted as security for indigo. The executors of the late John Head are, on giving a general release, to be paid what is due to his estate. Henry Dacres to be paid the value of some longcloth of his in the Company's custody, all charges to be deducted. (*½ p.*)

A GENERAL COURT OF ELECTION FOR THE UNITED JOINT STOCK, AUGUST 9, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 375).

The Court resolves to elect fifteen Committees, each of whom must have adventured not less than 500*l.*, to manage the business of this Stock for the year ensuing, and chooses the following men: William Cokayne, Andrew Riccard, Thomas Andrew, Maurice Thomson, Thomas Kerridge, William Vincent, Richard Hill, William Pennoyer, Hugh Wood, Hugh Norris, Nathaniel Wiche, George Smith, Captain William Ryder, Anthony Bateman and James Edwards. (*1 p.*)

<sup>1</sup> Described as of Friern Barnet, and aged 60 or thereabouts.

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, AUGUST 18, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 376).

The Court consents to Mr. Offly's son being instructed by Sambrooke in the Countinghouse, provided he is no charge to the Company. In accordance with several orders received from the Commissioners of the Admiralty and Navy, direction is given for saltpetre to be delivered to Messrs. Samyne, Freeman, Robert Davies and Company, and Daniel Judd. Elizabeth, widow of the late Richard Swinglehurst, applying for seven months' disbursements, which her late husband omitted to enter, and for payment of what appears due to his account, certain Committees are desired to examine and report on the latter. Order is given for the following men of the *Supply's* company to be paid: Robert Bodington, Peter Richards, John Arton, and Walter Forler. (1 p.)

A GENERAL COURT OF THE FREEMEN AND ADVENTURERS IN THE UNITED JOINT STOCK, AUGUST 23, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 377).

Mr. Cokayne announces that the Committees appointed to confer as to the best way to carry on the trade by a joint stock consider that the first thing to be done is to petition 'His Highnes' for a confirmation of the Company's charter, and to prevent private men from sending out ships; therefore they have drawn up such a petition and it is now presented for the generality to ratify and sign. The petition is read, generally approved and signed by all present, and the Court resolves that as many freemen as possible shall also sign it, and the Governor and nine others are desired to present it to His Highness.<sup>1</sup> (1 p.)

THE COMPANY TO HENRY RYLEY AT ALEPPO, AUGUST 24, 1654 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 265).

Acknowledge the receipt of three letters with advices from India. Enclose a packet for Persia, which they desire him to forward by a safe and speedy conveyance. ( $\frac{1}{4}$  p.)

<sup>1</sup> This petition has not been traced; but a printed copy of the Company's argument for a Joint Stock (see p. 6), which probably accompanied it, is now in the Public Record Office (C.O. 77, vol. 21, no. 12), endorsed 'received from His Highness in Council, August 24, 1654'.

THE COMPANY TO THOMAS DETHICK, RICHARD BROWNE AND COMPANY AT LEGHORN, AUGUST 24, 1654 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 265).

Enclose their letters for Persia and request them to forward the same to Consul Ryley at Aleppo. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  p.)

THE COMPANY TO SIGNOR PAOLO DEL SERA AND COMPANY [AT VENICE], AUGUST 25, 1654 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 266).

Send a letter directed to Henry Ryley, in which are enclosed advices to India, and desire that these may be dispeeded at the first opportunity. Thank them for former favours and promise payment of what has been disbursed on notification of the same. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  p.)

THE COMPANY TO JOHN HOLWORTHY [AT MARSEILLES], AUGUST 28, 1654 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 266).

Return him thanks for transmission of letters to and from India, and desire him to send on the small packet enclosed to Consul Ryley, who will forward it to India. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, AUGUST 30, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 378).

Quicksilver and vermilion belonging to Mr. Temms to be delivered. A list of all goods to be sold at the next court of sales is ordered to be drawn up. Payment to be resumed to Mabel Rolfe of two months yearly of her husband's wages, she having cleared herself from the aspersion of having two husbands by a certificate signed by the minister, churchwardens and other parishioners of St. Giles, Cripplegate. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  p.)

THE STATE AND CONSIDERABLENESS OF THE EAST INDIA TRADE AND ITS CONSEQUENCE TO THE INTEREST AND GOOD OF THE NATION, [AUGUST, 1654] (*Public Record Office: C.O. 77*, vol. vii, no. 77).

First, in relation to the several advantages and conveniences accompanying the said trade, if fully prosecuted. The gain and profit it returns to those interested in it, and the encouragement given to many to adventure in it, appear by the struggle between



the Portuguese, the Dutch, and the English, each trying to oust the other from it. The extraordinary wealth, potency and strength of the Portuguese and the Dutch East India Company, who, having made it their concern to follow and improve the said trade, have, in spite of most powerful potentates in those parts, been able to build forts, plant garrisons, and settle factories, colonies and jurisdictions of their own independently of the said princes and in the midst of their dominions. The increase it brings to the strength, power and shipping of the nation, large, strong and warlike ships not being known or ever attempted to be built by any merchants, either in England or Holland, before the initiation of the several East India Companies. The advantage it gives to navigation, the length of its voyages and the remoteness of its ports constituting it the chief of all trades in perfecting mariners in the art, knowledge and skill required of them. The reputation it gives to the nation by the dispatch of so many ships and men with such great power and strength into distant and remote countries. The several privileges, amities, possessions, and other royalties purchased and gained on behalf of the English nation from the potentates and princes of those parts. The increase of stock, trading, bullion and customs, this trade not only importing great store of foreign commodities, but exporting the same again into Italy, Barbary, Guinea, and other parts. Secondly, in reference to the extraordinary disadvantage and inconveniences likely to ensue to the nation if this trade is neglected. Its cessation would mean the loss of those large commodities already enjoyed, and of the many and particular benefits before mentioned, also of the hope of a yet greater advantage in the future, an opportunity being now presented for promoting the said trade to a still greater consideration, partly through the late treaty and capitulation with the Dutch for the restoration of those rights formerly belonging to the English, and partly by the extraordinary repute of the latter in India for having, as it is believed, beaten and subdued the Dutch in the late war against them. It would mean an irreparable loss of what has been obtained with much difficulty, hazard, and expense of the blood of the nation. By loss or neglect of the interest of the English in India a greater opportunity would be given to the Portuguese and Dutch to divide the trade there, for they, coming to an agreement or concluding

a peace, may easily, through the advantage given by this trade, become more powerful adversaries. Lastly, by loss or neglect of the said trade an opportunity would be given to the said two nations to engross and raise the price of all Indian commodities and to increase the expense and lessen the treasure of the English nation. (2 pp.)

PROPOSALS FOR THE BETTER GOVERNING, SETTLING AND SECURING OF THE EAST INDIA TRADE, AUGUST, 1654 (*Public Record Office: C.O. 77, vol. vii, no. 78*).

His Highness and the Lords of the Council to require a stock of not less than 400,000*l.* to be subscribed by the joint traders, as security not only for the continuation of the trade but that the same shall be ordered and managed in a manner suitable to the advantages that now offer for its improvement. Two several days or times to be appointed for subscription of the said stock, within which time the said subscription to be wholly concluded. This subscription to be published throughout the nation and [     ] months' time allowed for any, either gentry, merchants, or tradesmen, to subscribe. For clearer encouragement of the said subscription, the present East India Company, together with the present free traders or regulators, to be directed by His Highness and Their Lordships to meet together at the farthest by the [     ] day of this instant month to tender for the approbation of His Highness such a model of government for disposing, managing, and improving the said joint stock and trade, both in India and in England, as may answer the ends desired, 'as well for preventing those many inconveniences and abuses complained of in the former governments as for settling the trade on such foundations for the future as shall probably be more agreeable to the prosperity and success of it then formerly'. This model or method of government as soon as approved to be printed and published. All forts, islands, customs, stores, and all houses and stock, with whatsoever rights and possessions belonging to the present East India Company to be rented by or transferred at fair rates to the said joint stock. The subscription being ended, new letters patents for the term of [     ] years to be by the favour of His Highness passed to the said Society, according to the tenure and proposals of the said govern-

ment, with such further clauses, covenants, and conditions to be inserted in the said patents as shall be of most advantage to the public and most agreeable to the wisdom of His Highness. All Consuls or Presidents, whether one or more, who shall in future be sent out by the said new government or stock to 'bee alsoe through the favor of His Highness qualified with the authoritye and style of a publicke person, and reside in those parts as an Agent from His Highness on behalfe of the nation'. The advantages of this for settling, securing and improving the said trade will be very great and many. It will add exceedingly to the repute of the said trade in point of power and make its interest among the governors and natives of those places appear less the concern of the private merchant. As it will be more agreeable, so it will be more encouraging to a general subscription of the nation. It will, as is humbly conceived, very much restrain those injuries and affronts usually offered unto the English merchants there by the Portuguese and Dutch, who, it is presumed, will not for the future dare to molest our trade so much, when it shall appear to be under the protection and countenance of His Highness and the Commonwealth, as formerly, when it was conceived to be only under the authority of some few private persons; the want of which protection has, as is believed, been the manifest destruction of those rich and flourishing hopes we once had in India. It will enable the said Society to demand more resolutely and insist more freely upon the performance of those privileges, articles and covenants formerly made with and granted by several of the potentates and princes of those countries, especially in regard that several of the said privileges have lately been very unjustly infringed and taken away from the English by some of the said princes. It will exceedingly further the said Society on all future occasions when they shall have to address themselves to any of the said princes or governors in those countries, either for treating about new proposals or for transaction of any other public business, by all which His Highness and the Commonwealth will have from time to time an account of the state and condition of the trade of those places. It will settle the jurisdiction of the said Society with more union among themselves and more authority over the several traders and factors residing in India and is, as is humbly conceived, the only remedy

that may be expected for regulating or preventing those great abuses that arise from disorderly, loose and private trading. The general benefit, convenience and necessity of such a public person to countenance, protect and assist trading, especially in such remote parts, is not only seen in our own experience by the Turkey Company, but also in the practice and example of the Venetians, the Portuguese, and others, who in countries largely distant and in ports of great traffic generally countenance their merchants by sending a Resident. Lastly, it is humbly propounded that the entertainment of the said Resident be at the charge of the said Society and that the Society have power to confirm or recall him and to elect another at their pleasure once every two years, or sooner in case of death. (3 pp)

SUGGESTIONS CONCERNING THE EAST INDIA TRADE, [undated]  
(*Public Record Office · C. O. 77*, vol. vii, no. 79).

If the State would undertake the management of the trade, 200,000*l.* would carry it on, and this sum might be subscribed in four six months by four equal payments. But if His Highness and the Council would prefer to farm out the said trade for seven, or eleven years or longer, it is most likely that at the expiration of the said four six months, twenty or thirty merchants would give 200,000*l.* yearly for the same, and the nation still be supplied with good spices at moderate rates. 2. If the trade is carried on by a company and a joint stock, these will serve the nation with what they please and at what prices they please; and if they alone be allowed to trade in spices they can make what profit they like. The only way to 'quallifie that feare' will be for all that is brought in to be divided to each man according to his stock and not sold as a joint commodity; for though it is best that 'but one purse goe to market and but one byer abroad', yet it is necessary for the general good of the nation that nothing be sold as a joint commodity, for in this case any price can be asked for the goods, as is daily done, and by this means particular persons acquire great estates, though 'the stock still come loseing home'. 3. If His Highness shall think fit to lay the said trade open under a regulation, there will be a great risk of losing it, and of the Dutch making us pay for the same, which arguments have been already put forward; but without assistance from His

Highness and the State nothing can do any good to the trade; therefore let those who are thought fittest have it, but let the public have a constant and certain revenue. Several proposals will be urged how the State may make a yearly profit from the trade, even if it does not undertake the management. 4. Great frauds have been perpetrated by the Company and others in the spice trade and these increase daily; a wild bark, very like cinnamon, called Trambone<sup>1</sup>, has been sold by the Company for 10*d.* the lb. to the grocer and by him mixed with some that is good and sold for eight shillings the lb.; a sort of mace, 'licke mace and more orrient', is brought over in great quantities and sold for 12*d.* the pound, which mingled with good mace is sold for 18*s.* the lb.; cloves out of which the oil has been extracted are brought from Holland and sold for 4*d.* the lb., but when mixed with good cloves are sold for 10*s.* or 11*s.* the lb.; 'of such licke as these particulers are consists our mistery of trade in London, and all must sware told trew to'. 5. In January next the Dutch are to pay to the English East India Company 45,000*l.* [*sic*] and in March next 45,000*l.* [*sic*] more, for the damages in Amboyna; they have earnestly besought licence to pay the same in spice, but this has been denied. If His Highness and the Council shall think fit to let this spice be brought in, they can get it in Holland at a little above half the value for which it is sold here, sell it here for double, and supply the nation almost as cheaply as at present is done and with far better spices, for all now supplied are 'stollen in' and pay neither custom or excise and are not garbled, but so adulterated 'as not indeed to be permitted'. This 'desine' will require no disbursement of money and can give no discontent to any, and it is fit that the 85,000*l.* should be secured for the 'trew propriators', about which as yet they cannot agree among themselves. 6. If the State does not undertake this, particular men will 'steale it in' and serve the market with false and corrupt spices and get the same benefit. This business requires speedy resolution and secrecy, but that of settling the trade will require a longer time. If the State desires to confer with those best able to give information, though they belong to the Company, yet

<sup>1</sup> Apparently this was the wild cinnamon procured on the Malabar Coast (see *The English Factories*, 1637-41, p. 94). The designation here employed is probably the Portuguese *trampão*, 'false'.

they will be willing to lend their assistance and advice to settle it upon better terms than have as yet been proposed, the trade of the Indies being worth all the trade of Europe. (2 pp.)

A GENERAL COURT OF SALES, SEPTEMBER 15, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 379).

Sale of Jambi and Malabar pepper, dust of pepper, white, defective and stony pepper, dust of cloves, benzoin, packing skins, cotton wool, Hariharpur sannoes, morees, sallampores, betteeles, chillees, and wrappers, with prices and names of purchasers. (1½ pp.)

THE COMPANY TO DANIEL SKYNNER [AT DOVER], SEPTEMBER 18, 1654 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 267).

Acknowledge his letter of the 13th current and the letter enclosed from his son, Frederick Skynner, and Council, dated at Bantam the 10th January last, containing information how the Company's affairs stood in those parts. They commend the care and industry of his son in finding a way to convey his advices in those times of war with the Dutch. (¼ p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES. SEPTEMBER 19, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 381).

Samuel Sambrooke is directed to draw up an abstract from the Company's letters touching Mr. Bearblock and the loss of the *Supply*, and Mr. Acton is desired to consult with Messrs. Budd and Smith concerning the bill to be made out against Bearblock, and the bail for his release. Hereupon Mr. Bearblock desires that the matter in dispute may be settled by arbitration in the usual way; the Court consents and requests him to present his security for 10000l. [*sic*] next Friday to be bound with him in the bond of arbitrament. Certain Committees are desired to settle upon the day on which all pay is to be stopped to the men in the *Blessing*, *Lanneret*, and *Roebuck*. Mr. Pennoyer to be made some allowance on the dust of pepper he bought, as it cannot be exported according to his bargain. (1 p.)

OPINION OF MAURICE THOMSON AND OTHERS AS TO THE BEST WAY OF CARRYING ON THE EAST INDIA TRADE, SEPTEMBER 21, 1654 (*Public Record Office: C.O. 77*, vol. vii, no. 80).

The best way to carry on the East India trade is by a company under a good regulation, with freedom and liberty for every one to supply their own factors, stocks, and ships, which it is conceived will much increase navigation and trade; therefore they desire that the same may be granted accordingly for the honour and benefit of the nation. *Signed*, Maurice Thomson, Samuel Vassall, Samuel Moyer, Michael Davison, Thomas Chambrelane, J. Beresford, Edward Thomson, John Paige, Ellis Crispe, Samuel Crispe, Henry Dacres, Arthur Dacres, William Wildeyr, Edward Edmonds, John Gosnoll, John Harvey, Tobias Crispe, Job Throckmorton, George Thimelbee, William Pennoyer, Richard Crandley, John Wood, Benjamin Gostlin, John Ballows, Moses Goodyear, Richard Booth, Samuel Micott, John Carleton, Clement Egleston, James Russell, Richard Chambers, John Looker, Andrew Middleton, Richard Chandler, William Love, Henry Thornhagh, Henry Davy, Thomas Murthwaite, Andrew Riccard, Thomas Billidge, Martin Noell, George Bowerman, Stephen Bolton, George Gawton, O. Bence, George Clerke, Richard Hutchinson, John Blackwell, Josias Dewye, John Hawes, Richard Guyney, James Heys, Robert Geffery, Nicholas Pennyng, James Davison, Thomas Barnardiston, Thomas Pearle, Nathaniel Brandon. *Endorsed*. Delivered by Mr. Maurice Thompson, November 14, 1654. (1 p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, SEPTEMBER 22, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 382).

A motion is made for a ship of about 200 tons to be sent to the Coast to buy cloth and take it to Macassar, and from thence to lade with cloves for England, and to send in her two able men versed in that trade, who may follow the commission they shall receive without any directions from the Company's servants in those parts; this motion is generally approved and, being a business of great importance that may be of much advantage to the Company and as 'the consequence thereof did chiefly consist in the secrecy', the Court entreats Messrs. Andrew, Thomson, Wiche and Ryder to

freight such a vessel, select two fit men to go in her, and provide all necessaries for the voyage; they are likewise empowered to furnish her with stock to the value of 4,000*l.*, to give directions and a commission how the said voyage is to be performed, and to make conditions as to what shall be paid for freight of any goods that shall be laden in her when she is outward bound. Valentine Markham having lately died, the request of his son-in-law, John Pauls, to be entertained in his place is agreed to, he having been accustomed to that work for the last four years; he is told that he can do the work until the Company is settled, and by then, if there is still employment for him, it will be known who is to pay him, but in the meantime he is promised that his time shall not be lost. Bartholomew Holloway requesting an increase of salary, he is given a gratuity of 10*l.* (1¼ *pp.*)

THE COMPANY TO WILLIAM WATSON AND RICHARD BRIDGMAN [AT AMSTERDAM], SEPTEMBER 22, 1654 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 267).

Thank them for their letter of the 4th instant with the list enclosed of the cargoes of the eight Dutch ships arrived from India; also for the assistance afforded to those of the Company's servants who returned in them. State that the differences so long depending between the English and Dutch East India Companies have been settled by Commissioners specially appointed for the task, who have awarded the English Company 85,000*l.* and restoration of the Island of Pulo Run. Although the said award is not equivalent to the damages sustained nor answerable to the Company's expectations, yet they have accepted it and the island, in order that a good agreement and correspondence may for the future be continued between the English and Dutch and all past discontents and injuries be buried in oblivion. They heartily desire that all future actions may be transacted in a friendly and Christian manner and that both nations may be linked and continue in a firm and lasting peace. They enclose a letter directed to the Bewinthebbers of the East India Company, desiring them in accordance with the agreement made by the Commissioners to give the English Company an order to the Dutch General at Batavia for the surrender of Pulo Run at such a time as the English shall



demand the same; this order the Company wish transmitted to them, that they may send it in the ships to be dispeeded to those parts, to enable the English ~~there~~ to act according to the directions given. They enclose a section of the articles of agreement concluded between the Commissioners, showing that the said island is to be surrendered. (1 p.)

THE COMPANY TO THOMAS DETHICK, RICHARD BROWNE AND COMPANY [AT LEGHORN], SEPTEMBER 25, 1654 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 268).

Have not heard from them since the 19th June. Desire to be informed how their advices to Consul Ryley, enclosed in their letter of the 8th May, were transmitted to Aleppo. ( $\frac{1}{4}$  p.)

THE COMPANY TO JOHN HOLWORTHY [AT MARSEILLES], SEPTEMBER 25, 1654 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 269).

Sent a small packet to him on the 24th ult., in which were enclosed letters to Consul Ryley and to India. On the 8th May last sent a packet directed to Consul Ryley, but have not heard since. The said letters contained the good news of the peace concluded between the English and Dutch; therefore the Company will be glad to hear of their speedy dispatch, also when they were received and by what conveyance they were forwarded. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, SEPTEMBER 27, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 383).

Coloured gingham sold to Laurence Saucer. Matthew Crover, who was taken in the *Blessing* and wounded, is given 40s. from the poor-box. ( $\frac{1}{4}$  p.)

THE COMPANY TO SIGNOR PAOLO DEL SERA [AT VENICE], SEPTEMBER 29, 1654 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 269).

Sent on the 25th ult. a small packet to be forwarded to Aleppo. Have not heard from him since the 12th June, acknowledging the Company's letter of the 12th May and the packet enclosed for Aleppo; desire to be informed of the dispatch of the latter. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES FOR THE FOURTH JOINT STOCK, OCTOBER 4, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxi, p. 266).

Henry Johnson, who took a lease of Blackwall Yard on condition that he should not sublet any part without the consent of the Company, now desires permission to let the warehouses on the west side; to this the Court consents. ( $\frac{1}{4}$  p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, OCTOBER 6, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 384).

The request of Alderman Cuttler for the Company to garble the damaged pepper he bought is refused, there being no precedent for such a proceeding. Messrs. Handson and Thetcher still owing the Company several sums, Spiller is directed to inform them that, unless they pay the same before this day week, an order of bankruptcy will be issued against them. Spiller is also told to inform Major Brett, Robert Smith, John Day and Edward Knipe that, if they do not make satisfaction to the Company for what they owe by this day week, proceedings will be taken against them; but Knipe living in the country is to be allowed an additional week. Nathaniel Wiche and George Smith accepted as security for benzoin. Certain committees are desired to examine and settle the account of Christopher Oxenden, but nothing is to be paid until he shall have signed a bond of 1,000*l.* penalty to give any satisfaction required, if within the next two years information is received from India of any action of his prejudicial to the Company. The Court resolves that a short petition shall be drawn up and presented to His Highness in consequence of an answer to the petition formerly presented, praying for direction as to the carrying on the trade of India. Spiller is granted permission to go into the country to collect his Michaelmas rents after he has got in the Company's debts. Coloured gingham sold to Samuel Sambrooke. Mrs. Elizabeth Swinglehurst to be paid 274*l.* 19*s.* 2*d.*, the amount due to her late husband for disbursements. ( $1\frac{1}{4}$  pp.)

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE, OCTOBER 6, 1654 (*Public Record Office: S. P. Dom.: Interregnum*, I. 75, pp. 578-79).

... The petition of Thomas Barnardiston, Thomas Bludworth, and William Love, merchants, and Company, for leave to ship out

6,000*l.* in rix dollars for enabling an intended voyage to the East Indies, read. . . .

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, OCTOBER 13, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 385).

Alderman Cuttler is allowed 5*l.* for damaged pepper. Christopher Oxenden to be paid what appears due to his account. Prosecution of Messrs. Handson and Thetcher to be stayed. Allowance to be made for damaged calicoes. Samuel Browne, late purser in the *Roebuck*, who was taken prisoner by the Dutch, petitions for some consideration for loss of time and hard usage, also for employment, or to be allowed to take anything that may be offered to him; he is told that the Company has enough losses of its own without bearing those of other men, neither has it any employment to offer, but he is free to accept any he likes. ( $\frac{3}{4}$  *p.*)

THE COMPANY TO WILLIAM WATSON AND RICHARD BRIDGMAN [AT AMSTERDAM], OCTOBER 13, 1654 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 270).

Acknowledge theirs of the 9th instant, giving an account of the delivery of the Company's letter to the Bewinthebbers with a request for a reply and, in particular, for the 'resignation' of the Island of Pulo Run, they having already written to their General and Council ordering them not to alter anything in the said island, 'which we hope and expect they will punctually observe'. Acknowledge the further information that the Bewinthebbers expect some advices from the States-General, and on receipt of the same will give more absolute and full order to their General, etc., concerning this business, and also promise duplicates or treble copies of the said order for the English Company to dispatch to the East in their own ships. Have been notified by letters received this post by a 'worthy friend of ours in London' that the States-General have had a meeting at the Hague and there ratified the proceedings of their Commissioners concerning that and other particulars, with which they have acquainted the Dutch East India Company, requiring their performance according to the true intent and meaning of the Agreement. Desire that their kind salutes

be presented to the Dutch Company, with the request that they, in conformity with the said order, will write fully and effectually to the Indies; so that the said island may, when demanded, be delivered to the English and no abuse or devastation be committed there in the interim. Desire two or three copies of the orders, to send in their shipping designed for those parts. Return thanks for details concerning the Dutch Company's proceedings, as days of sale, etc. ( $\frac{3}{4}$  p.)

PETITION OF HENRY THORNHAGH, WILLIAM LOVE AND COMPANY (*Public Record Office*: C. O. 77, vol. vii, no. 81).

Having received intelligence that nearly all the English ships trading lately in the East Indies have been taken or destroyed by the Dutch, who are therefore likely to monopolize all the saltpetre and other commodities from thence and sell the same at what price they please (as is already shown by the excessive rise in the price of saltpetre), the petitioners pray that, having fitted the ship *Vine* (James Barker, master) for East India, to return with saltpetre and other goods, the Commissioners of Customs may be ordered to allow them to ship in the said vessel to the value of 6,000*l.* in Spanish money, to enable them to sell their cloth and other English commodities, as nothing can be bought in India without ready money; they also pray for an order forbidding all English subjects residing in India to obstruct them in their affairs there. *Signed*, Henry Thornhagh, William Love. Read November<sup>1</sup> 17, 1654, and referred to the Commissioners of the Admiralty. (1 p.)

ORDER OF COUNCIL, OCTOBER 17, 1654 (*Public Record Office*: C. O. 77, vol. vii, no. 81 I).

The petition of Henry Thornhagh and William Love, for liberty to transport to the value of 6,000*l.* in Spanish money in the *Vine* to the East Indies, to be referred to the Commissioners of the Admiralty, who are to report their opinion of the same to the Council. *Signed*, W. Jessop, Clerk of the Council. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  p.)

<sup>1</sup> An error for 'October' (see the next entry).

PETITION OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY TO THE LORD PROTECTOR, [OCTOBER, 1654] (*Public Record Office: C. O. 77, vol. vii, no. 82*<sup>1</sup>).

Stating that for forty years and upwards they have conducted the trade to India at a great charge by several joint stocks to the profit of the commonwealth by the employment of shipping, increase of mariners, and the annual payment of large sums for customs; that the time limited for the present joint stock having expired, they summoned the adventurers and freemen to consider how best to continue the said trade, when it was decided that the only way to do so for the good and honour of the nation would be by a joint stock, the reasons being set forth in six printed Articles presented to the late Parliament<sup>2</sup>, who also concurred in that opinion. The petitioners think that a large subscription may be hoped for if His Highness will remove the present discouragements by confirming their charter, with such additional privileges as are necessary for the management of so large an undertaking, and by prohibiting all private persons from sending out shipping to India, they only aiming at their own profit without respect either to the honour of the nation in those remote parts or to the advance of the trade to posterity. Some few have already dispeeded ships and declare their intention of continuing to do so, which if permitted, no joint stock will be underwritten, the price of all Indian commodities will be much enhanced, and European goods much undervalued, all which will be of very ill consequence both to the commonwealth and to the Company, the latter being liable to make good all abuses and depredations committed by the English in India, which the petitioners know well by former and dear experience. They also pray His Highness to assist them in recovering their Spice Islands, which for many years have been wrongfully detained by the Dutch, as this would give great encouragement for a large subscription and prove a good and sure foundation on which to build an ample trade for the future. *Signed*, William Cokayne, Governor. *Endorsed*, Presented from His Highness by the Lord President and read November 2, 1654. (1 p)

<sup>1</sup> No. 88 is another copy with sixty signatures appended.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 6.

A GENERAL COURT OF THE ADVENTURERS IN THE UNITED JOINT STOCK, OCTOBER 18, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 386).

Mr. Cokayne announces that the petition signed at the last general court has been presented to His Highness, who promised that 'it should bee very suddainely taken into consideration effectually'. The Governor further states that the Court of Committees has empowered a sub-committee to freight a ship of about 200 tons, with stock to the value of 4,000*l.*, to the Coast; that though it would have been better to have kept this design secret until after the ship had gone, yet that being impossible a general court has been called to be told of the same and to give their consent; yet if they do not approve, then there are two or three private men who will undertake it. Hereupon the design is generally approved and the management of it referred to the Committees already appointed, but the Court desires that Captain Thomas shall assist in freighting the ship to be dispeeded. ( $\frac{3}{4}$  p.)

OPINION OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE ADMIRALTY AND NAVY TOUCHING THE PETITION OF HENRY THORNHAGH AND WILLIAM LOVE, OCTOBER 23, 1654 (*Public Record Office: C. O. 77*, vol. vii, no. 81 II).

They think that the petitioners should be allowed to take out in their ship *Vine* to the value of 6,000*l.* in Spanish money according to their desire, as they promise to bring back with the proceeds of the same and of a great part of the said ship's lading saltpetre for the use of the commonwealth, more especially as they understand that most of the English ships trading lately to the East Indies have been either taken or destroyed by the Dutch. General Desborow to report this their opinion. *Examined by* Robert Blackborne, Secretary. Read October 24, 1654. Ordered October 26, 1654. ( $\frac{3}{4}$  p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, OCTOBER 25, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 387).

Christopher Oxenden to be returned the bond he gave to forbear private trade. Certain Committees are desired to meet Mr. Acton at the Temple about Mr. Courteen's business. Anne

Ockford to be paid 10*l.* of her brother Joseph Thomson's salary, on giving bond to save the Company harmless ; Mr. Aungeir to make inquiries concerning the validity of her security. Thomas Trotter is refused allowance on silk he bought of the Company. William Bradbent to be paid all that is due to him up to the day he was taken by the Dutch, on giving bond to answer any accusation that may be made against him from India within the next two years. Simon Gray, who went out as a planter to Assada, is given 20*s.* from the poor-box. (1 *p.*)

ORDER OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE, OCTOBER 26, 1654 (*Public Record Office, S. P. Dom.: Interregnum*, I. 75, p. 589).

Henry Thornhagh and William Love to be permitted to transport in their ship *Vine*, bound for the East Indies, Spanish money to the value of 6,000*l.* at one per cent. for custom to assist them in their trade in that voyage, they having declared their intention to bring back, with the proceeds of the said ship's lading, saltpetre for the use of the commonwealth. All English subjects residing in India to be forbidden to obstruct the said Henry Thornhagh and William Love in their proceedings.

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, OCTOBER 27, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 388).

Edmond Wareing asserts that he feels he is released from his bargain for cloves, as they were not ready when he wanted them ; after much dispute Mr. Edwards, who bargained for some of the cloves, declares that he is very unwilling to contest with the Company and therefore will do his best to settle this matter amicably. John Day paying in 200*l.* on account of his debt, order is given for his prosecution to be deferred. Thomas Tomblings is accepted as security for William Bradbent in a bond of 100*l.* ( $\frac{1}{2}$  *p.*)

THE COMPANY TO WILLIAM WATSON AND RICHARD BRIDGMAN [AT AMSTERDAM], OCTOBER 27, 1654 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 271).

Acknowledge theirs of the 30th instant, telling of their proceedings with the Dutch Company concerning the cession of Pulo Run and of their pretences in occasioning delay in conforming to the order agreed upon and concluded by the respective Commissioners. Can-  
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not but be justly discontented at the same, but hope from their letter that next week better satisfaction may be received ; so will rest content until then. Desire that the Dutch, in case they fail, be informed that the English Company wrote to them on the 22nd ult. concerning this business, desiring their order for the restoration of the said island and to receive full satisfaction by their absolute conformity to the said agreement, and that they will send the English Company the commands and orders given to the Dutch in India to deliver up the said island when the English shall demand the same ; that this business, so long in suspense and now concluded, may be amicably finished without further discontent. Require them to press for a positive answer, as it is a matter of much concern, which will not brook delay ; so that by the compliance or refusal of the Dutch herein the English may know how to proceed. ( $\frac{3}{4}$  p.)

ARGUMENTS OF THE GOVERNOR AND COMPANY OF MERCHANTS TRADING TO EAST INDIA TO INDUCE THE LORD PROTECTOR TO SETTLE THE TRADE IN A JOINT STOCK BY CHARTER, [OCTOBER, 1654] (*Home Miscellaneous*, vol. xl, f. 36).

Showing how the trade will be carried on with more honour, profit and safety to the nation by a Joint Stock than by an open, free and regulated trade. Being united, it will not be subject to the oppressions, injuries and affronts of other nations, to which, having to do with fourteen several Princes, and with the Dutch and Portuguese as competitors, it is very liable. The undertakings of the Company have been great, and they have gained and purchased many privileges, viz.: half customs at Gombroon, which if well managed may bring in 15,000*l.* yearly ; exemption from all customs upon the Coast of Coromandel, which formerly cost 4,000*l.* per annum ; and privileges and immunities at Bantam, denied to all trading apart from the Company. All these may be retained if the Company as one body continues responsible for the actions of the English nation, but may be lost by the ill dealing of any 'licentious persons'. The Company in 1638 sent out the *Discovery*<sup>1</sup> in pursuit of Cobb and Aires, who had committed depredations in

<sup>1</sup> The ship's name should be the *Blessing* and the date 1636. See *English Factories in India*, 1634-36, pp. xxiv, 304, etc.



the Red Sea and upon some Surat junks; in this ship the Governor of Surat put certain Indians, who, seeing the diligence and integrity exercised in pursuit of 'those robbers', gave up all suspicion of the Company's confederacy with them, and that body was reinstated in the Indians' good opinion, which it still retains. Such deeds could not be performed by private men, who would want to look after their own interest rather than that of the nation. The profit of the nation is also greatly concerned, for, while the trade is in the hands of a joint stock, there is but one buyer and one seller, and the rates of English commodities are kept up and those of Indian goods continue moderate; whereas, if the trade is thrown open, there will be many sellers, all anxious to dispose of their merchandise, thereby cheapening the price and raising that of the Indian commodities by the 'confluence of many buyers'. By open trade the value of the rial has been reduced at Masulipatam from 7 fanams to  $5\frac{1}{2}$  fanams, with the result that cloth which was bought for 10s. formerly now costs 16s. 4d. The English nation benefits not by cheap selling but by cheap buying, because the goods bought in India are not all consumed in England but are largely sold to other nations at a profit. Pepper is bought in India at 3d. per lb., but with freight, custom and other charges costs 10d. per lb.; if sold at the latter rate in England, nothing is gained by the nation but the conveniency of having the little pepper used (not 1,400 bags per annum) at more moderate rates; whereas if 7,000 bags (the usual quantity) is imported and sold at 20d. instead of 10d. per lb., there will be 'advanced to this nation upon 5,600 baggs at 10d. per lb. which comes to 70,000*l.* sterling, all which comes to us for profit out of the purses of the Turkes, Italians, French, Germans and Poles, who buy and consume theis 5,600 baggs'. With regard to safety both in India and on the outward and homeward voyages, the united strength of the Company has hitherto not only been a defence against the Portuguese and Malabars. . . . (*Draft, with corrections. Imperfect. 4 pp.*)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES FOR THE FOURTH JOINT STOCK,  
NOVEMBER 1, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxi, p. 266).

The executors of the late Francis Bretton desiring to be paid what is due to him, they are told they must submit to the arbitra-

tion of four committees, two to be chosen by the Company and two by themselves, as to what fine shall be imposed for private trade and all other delinquencies; they agree, but defer the nomination of their arbitrators. Alexander Randall, administrator to the late James Cox, appears to receive what is due to the latter's estate, but there not being a full court this matter is referred to the next meeting. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  p.)

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE, NOVEMBER 2, 1654 (*Public Record Office, S. P. Dom.: Interregnum*, I. 75, pp. 591-93).

.. The petition of the Governor and Company of Merchants of London trading to the East Indies referred to Mulgrave, Lisle, Mackworth, and Strickland, to report. . . .

A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEES FOR THE DUTCH BUSINESS, NOVEMBER 8, 1654 (*Factory Records, Java*, vol. ii, part iv, p. 426).

Consideration of the satisfaction to be accorded to the Commissioners who have taken pains in the Dutch business is deferred. ( $\frac{1}{4}$  p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, NOVEMBER 10, 1654 (*Court Book*, vol. xxiii, p. 389).

Mr. Edwards reports that he cannot induce Major Wareing to receive the cloves he bought; therefore the Court resolves to sue him for the same. Mr. Moyer moves the Court to consider how to get home the remains of this United Stock, to sell its goods, pay its debts and divide what remains; he is informed that already shipping has been dispeeded to fetch home the remains, factors have been recalled by letter, all goods are sold, except some calicoes which were refused lately when offered by the candle, and that the debts are being paid off as they become due. A warrant is presented for signature for payment of 75*l.*, half a year's rent for the warehouse at St. Helen's [the blue warehouse]; this is objected to as being an unnecessary expense, all goods there belonging to this Stock having been sold. Tomblings is ordered to tell all who have goods there to take them away, and if this is not done to remove them to this house at the owners' charge and

risk, and notice is given to the Fourth Joint Stock that this Stock has no longer any use for the said warehouse. Certain committees are entreated to sell all goods remaining in the Custom-house warehouse and to dispose of that building. (1 p.)

THE COMPANY TO WILLIAM WATSON AND RICHARD BRIDGMAN [AT AMSTERDAM], NOVEMBER 10, 1654 (*Letter Book*, vol. i, p. 272).

Acknowledge theirs of the 6th current with the letter from the Bewinthebbers enclosed containing their letters to their General at Batavia and to their Governor of the Islands of Banda concerning the surrender of the Island of Pulo Run. Intended to have answered their letter this week, but being hindered by a more urgent occasion defer doing so until later. Are sensible of their care and pains in these negotiations, and will be mindful to compensate them for the same. (1 p.)

A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEES FOR THE DUTCH BUSINESS, NOVEMBER 14, 1654<sup>1</sup> (*Factory Records, Java*, vol. ii, part iv, p. 426).

It is resolved to consult counsel concerning the legality of the discharge sent to this committee by the Dutch for the Island of Pulo Run, and the money to be paid by the Dutch ( $\frac{1}{2}$  p.).

PETITION OF CERTAIN MERCHANTS TRADING TO EAST INDIA, NOVEMBER, 1654 (*Public Record Office · C. O. 77*, vol. vii, no. 83).

Asserting that the trade to East India when managed by a joint stock has produced neither profit nor encouragement to the adventurers, but that particular voyages have done so; therefore they pray that an East India Company may be established, with large immunities and privileges under good government and regulation and confirmed by a charter from the Lord Protector and the Parliament, which they doubt not will, by the blessing of God, in a very short time very much advance navigation and trade to the honour and profit of the English nation. *Endorsed.* Delivered by Maurice Thompson, November 14, 1654. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  p.)

<sup>1</sup> There was another meeting held on December 22 (*Ibid.*, p. 426), but no particulars are given of the business transacted.