

Mr. Deputy states that, because of the death of one of the Company's servants at Sir Christopher Clitherow's house, the subscriptions have not come up to what was expected, for many who would have underwritten could not tell where to find the book; he thinks therefore that it would be well to call a general court, tell them of this, and extend the time for subscriptions; this being approved, a general court is appointed to be held next Thursday afternoon at Mr. Middleton's house. All the Company's pepper, including what was shipped in the *Margaret Constance* (master, Nicholas Read) and *Hopewell*, is sold to Alderman Clarke and Mr. Richard Middleton, to be disposed of as they please. Sir John Wolstenholme is entreated to wait on the Lord Keeper when he comes to town (which he is expected to do about next Tuesday), concerning the letter he received from the King with regard to the exportation of foreign commodities. (1½ pp.)

A GENERAL COURT, SEPTEMBER 23, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 29).

Mr. Deputy states that this court has been called to consider the Particular Voyage intended this year, as the time allotted for subscriptions has passed, and many affirm that they knew not where to find the book in which to underwrite, it having been removed from Sir Christopher Clitherow's house, and others have underwritten since the said time has expired; therefore the generality are called together to decide whether such subscriptions shall hold good, and the limited time be extended, so that any wishing to adventure in this Voyage may do so. Both these questions are unanimously replied to in the affirmative, and it is agreed that the time shall be extended to the evening of the 4th of October, after which date no one is to be permitted to underwrite; the book for subscriptions to remain until then at Mr. Sambrooke's house in Coleman Street. Mr. Deputy intimates that some exception has been taken to the sale of all the pepper and an offer made to give ½d. per lb. more than was given for 150 bags. The buyers, Alderman Clarke and Mr. Middleton hereupon offer to relinquish their bargain; but by a general erection of hands it is agreed to and confirmed. (1½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, OCTOBER 1, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 31).

Mr. Williams requesting extension of time for the pepper he bought last February, he is told that the purchase having been made at a general court such a court alone can give the desired permission, but that doubtless at their next meeting they will do so; meanwhile a warrant is made out for delivery of the pepper. The Court, observing that the subscriptions for the Particular Voyage are not large enough to perform the work in the manner desired, thinks fit to call the new adventurers together and propose an enlargement of their subscriptions, to which end a Court of Committees is appointed to be held next Wednesday morning, and in the afternoon a court of the new adventurers, both at Sir Christopher Clitherow's house; bills to this effect are ordered to be set up at the Exchange. Mr. Deputy desires liberty to sell to a friend some of the Company's indigo at the same price and time as that he bought at the last court of sales. As many who have underwritten for this Particular Voyage are not free of the Company and so by its charter not allowed to trade to the Indies, and seeing that none will be desirous at this time to pay for this freedom at the accustomed rate, it is resolved that all in this position who have underwritten for 500*l.* and upwards shall be made free on giving some small acknowledgement. Messrs. Markham and Sambrooke are desired to examine the books and what is remaining at Bantam and Surat upon the Joint Stock, and report next Wednesday if possible. All the stony pepper is sold to Mr. Benjamin Charke at 6*d.* per lb. (2½ *pp.*)

SIR WILLIAM BOSWELL AT THE HAGUE TO SIR THOMAS ROE, OCTOBER 11, 1641 (*Public Record Office Dom. Chas. I.*, vol. ccclxxxiv, No. 59).

Nothing is yet done here in the Merchant Adventurers' cause; as little in the East India business, these standing upon our quitting Polorung—thinking perhaps they may have anything if they stand upon it—and I neither having power to relinquish the right thereof, nor holding it fit that we should ever be so mean-hearted as to leave our first footing in those parts, and so entirely

ours by *jure et facto*, delivered to our merchants on His Majesty's behalf by the inhabitants, *secundum mores patrios et majorum*, before the Hollanders had footing thereabouts. Would we were once more upon our right legs at home, as I hope we shall be. (3 pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, OCTOBER 6, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 33).

The Court orders that those mariners belonging to the pinnace *Comfort* ('taken by the Mallabars') who have not already been paid are to receive their wages. Mr. Deputy is granted permission to sell thirty barrels of the Company's indigo to a friend. Consideration had of the renewal of the Company's charter; the Court directs that those privileges already granted, with those desired, shall, with the advice of the Recorder and Serjeant Pheasant, be drawn up in the form of a bill for presentation to Parliament, with a short petition to entreat favour for furtherance of the said bill. An offer having been made for the defective ordnance, certain of the Committees are desired to see that it is sold to the best advantage. Anne, wife of William Pearse, a factor at Jambi, presents a letter of attorney from her husband to Mr. Franklyn, one of the warders of the Tower; the Court orders her to be paid 50*l.* upon account of her husband's wages, on condition that a bond is given for repayment if it shall be found upon return of the accounts that Pearse is in the Company's debt. It is resolved to send the *Hopewell* to the Coast, Steevens promising to have her ready within the month. He is directed to try the experiment of mingling ground or beaten glass with 'the stuffe that brimms the shippe',¹ in order to preserve her from the worm. William Batt to be given 15*l.* for recovering one of the Company's anchors which was lost at 'Gore end'. After some debate it is resolved to abandon the idea of freighting ships for the intended Voyage to the northwards and southwards, notwithstanding the opinion of some that doing so would save about 600*l.* yearly; for it is thought better to use the Company's own ships rather than let them rot or sell them to disadvantage, as although freighted ships

¹ To 'brim' or 'brime' a ship was to burn off an old coating of pitch; but here the term is evidently extended to the subsequent process of re-coating the surface.

receiving their lading on arrival at the several ports would be best and cheapest, yet, on the other hand, should they not do so but have to go from port to port and wait for it, then the charge for demurrage would be as great if not greater than the charge of the Company's own ships. It is also resolved that a factor shall be sent in each ship, who shall return and give account of all particular passages in the voyage. ($2\frac{1}{2}$ pp.)

A GENERAL COURT OF THE NEW ADVENTURERS IN A PARTICULAR VOYAGE FOR THIS PRESENT YEAR, OCTOBER 6, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 37).

Mr. Governor expresses a wish that the assembly were larger, as the business of the day is of very great importance, for the book for subscriptions to raise stock for the Particular Voyage to the East Indies this year has been open a good while but the time for underwriting expired last Monday evening. About 67,500*l.* has been underwritten for by ninety persons; so this meeting has been called to obtain advice in the ordering and management of the business. The preamble to the book of subscriptions having been read, a question is asked whether any sum has been underwritten for not in accordance therewith, whereupon it appears that Mr. Methwold has, with the consent of the Court of Committees, underwritten for 2,000*l.* on behalf of William Fremlyn, President of Surat; this subscription the court will not allow, and so to avoid all dispute Mr. Methwold vacates it. It is also found that Richard Wild has underwritten for 500*l.* with a proviso; the proviso is read and Mr. Wild told that if he will omit it he may adventure, but not unless; this he consents to do, whereupon by general consent it is decided that all subscriptions must be agreeable to the tenor of the preamble. The Governor desires to know who is to be appointed Treasurer, where the money is to be received, and how disposed of. Sir Nicholas Crispe remarks that he does not know whose fault it is, but something has been done to make this trade less profitable than others; he does not wish to lay the blame on the Governor, the Deputy, or the Committees, all of whom he regards as worthy men; he himself has been a Committee for many years and knows that they are not favoured any more than the least adventurer; it may be the number of managers (why should not six do as much

as twenty?) or the charge; if the latter, it should be lessened; in his opinion they have nothing to do with Blackwall, and his advice is 'not to looke after magnificence, but proffitt', and to choose six men to do all things concerning this present business. The Governor is of opinion that the example of the three Persia Voyages may be of use; these were managed by the Governor, the Deputy, and twenty-four Committees at a charge of one and one and a half per cent.; so that if 60,000*l.* can be sent out for 600*l.* (which is but one per cent.) it is so small a matter that none can cavil at it. This proposal of one per cent. causes much dispute, and after a long debate the Governor by desire puts it to the question whether the Old Stock shall be allowed one per cent. upon the quick stock to be sent out for managing this Particular Voyage, instead of all standing charges at home, as gratification to the managers of this business, house-rent, use of the yard at Blackwall, and all officers' wages; and by a general erection of hands the said allowance is consented to. The Court thinks fit to elect eight of the new subscribers to be 'as Comittees at large', to join with the standing committee and to meet every Friday morning, or as often as shall be necessary, to consult concerning this Particular Voyage. From those nominated the following are chosen: Sir Nicholas Crispe, Messrs. George Francklyn, Thomas Burnell, Nathan Wright, Robert Sainthill, Roger Vivian, Robert Gardner, and Robert Abdy. Robert Bateman is appointed Treasurer, and it is ordered that the time for the first payment shall be between to-day and Monday fortnight, the other three according to the preamble, and that no money shall be paid in upon discount for this Voyage without further order. (4 pp)

'A GENERALL COURT OF THE ADVENTURERS IN THE THIRD JOYNT STOCKE,' OCTOBER 7, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 41).

Mr. Governor relates what was decided yesterday at a general court held by the underwriters in the Particular Voyage, including the allowance of one per cent to the Old Stock for home expenses. The Governor puts the acceptance of these terms to the court and they are generally consented to. It is further resolved, in case of any difference arising between the Committees and the eight elected by the subscribers to the Particular Voyage, that eight

more men be chosen who are interested equally in the Third Joint Stock and in this new venture, and to these sixteen 'or to the major part of each side' all such differences shall be referred. The following are nominated :—Sir John Wolstenholme, Aldermen Gayre and Reynardson, Messrs. Wilson, Langham, Ashwell, Methwold, and Massingbird. ($1\frac{1}{2}$ pp.)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES AND OF THE MIXT COMMITTEES FOR THE PERTICULAR VOYAGE,' OCTOBER 8, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 44).

Robert, Nicholas, Roger, and John, sons of the late Alderman Abdy, are admitted by patrimony, to the freedom of the Company; also William Cockayne, son of the Deputy Governor, and Nathaniel, son of Richard Wich. William Corderoy, formerly an apprentice to the Deputy, is admitted by service, and Ozias Churchman, Cordwell Hamond, and Jeffery Howland, having each underwritten 500*l.* in this Particular Voyage, are admitted on payment of 5*l.* apiece. Mr. Methwold being entreated, in respect of his experience, to give his opinion as to the best way of managing the stock newly subscribed, says that upon the resolution of the Company to send out no more stock he had often thought how this East India trade might be upheld and had conceived a model both as to a stock and a voyage, and told Sir Henry Garway, Mr. Langham, and Mr. Kerridge, and they approving he set it forth in a letter and sent it to Surat, knowing the President there to be a man of experience and ability. But as the stock now underwritten for falls far short of his expectation, he proposes that a ship be sent forthwith to the Coast of Coromandel with a stock of 15,000*l.* or 20,000*l.*, and that notice be sent by her to the President of Surat what stock is to be dispatched there next spring; in his opinion a ship of about 400 tons with stock to the value of 30,000*l.* would suffice, and 15,000*l.* worth would be enough for Bantam. This proposal is variously received; some suggest that it would be well, if the stock is too little, to consider how it may be enlarged; while another raises the question of freighting ships; but finally it is agreed to consider the design of the voyage and not to think about freighting ships until the spring, for as a vessel must be dispatched speedily, it will be best to send one of the Company's. Dispute ensues

whether to send the *Hopewell*; and on Andrew Trumball giving a good account of her and offering to serve again as master, and the report of her survey and cost for reparation being approved, it is decided to send her to the Coast for this Voyage, with sixty men and provisions for eighteen months. Thereupon some of the Committees are desired to see to the provision of beer, bread, beef, pork, wine, &c., and to survey the said ship when they are at leisure to go to Blackwall, that she may be prepared with all convenient speed. Andrew Trumball is re-entertained as master at 7*l.* per month, with liberty to carry private trade to the value of 100*l.*, on condition that he does not invest in any of the Company's commodities and gives in an account of what he takes out and the profit he makes on it; and if at the end of the voyage he is found to have behaved well and made the Downs his first port, he shall be remembered; and now as a token of respect he is made a free brother of the Company by service. The Court resuming consideration of the smallness of the recent subscriptions, it is agreed that any subscriber in this Particular Voyage may add up to half as much again to his original sum, and it is resolved that decisions herein be declared by next Thursday evening. A general court of the underwriters in this Particular Voyage to confirm the above is appointed to be held this afternoon. (4½ pp.)

A GENERAL COURT OF THE NEW ADVENTURERS, OCTOBER 8, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 48).

Mr. Governor relates how the Standing and the Mixed Committees met this morning to settle important business concerning this Particular Voyage, when it was debated whether to enlarge the Stock underwritten for (it being only 65,000*l.*), and allow all those free of the Company to subscribe, or only those who have already done so; and it was thought that those who had 'broken the ice' were entitled to enlarge their subscriptions if they pleased, for if there is any hope of benefit they should be the first to reap it. The resolution on this point, arrived at by this morning's court, that every one who has underwritten in this Particular Voyage may enlarge his adventure fifty per cent., but no more, is read and put by the Governor to this court and by general consent agreed to. Sir Nicholas Crispe remarks that as it has been agreed to give to

the Third Joint Stock one per cent. upon the quick stock sent from England, it is necessary to consider what shall be given to the factors in India, for, whether this Voyage proceeds or not, the charge lies on the Third Joint Stock. This causes much debate, some thinking that allowance should be made to the Old Stock in proportion to what is sent out to each place; thus at Surat, where the employment might be equal, the charge should be equal, but at Bantam and Masulipatam, where there will be little to do for the Old Stock, more should be allowed by this Particular Voyage. Finally, this question is referred to the eight Committees chosen to join with the Standing Committees, to be by them considered and reported on as soon as possible. (2 pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, OCTOBER 13, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 50).

Alderman Thomas Atkins is admitted to the freedom of the Company by redemption, paying 5*l*. Sir John Wolstenholme, Alderman Gayre, Captain Stiles, Messrs. Ashwell, Methwold, and Massingbird, with any other of the Committees, are desired to meet and consider the alteration of the Company's charter and prepare the same for presentation to Parliament. Thomas Clarke, late a factor at Masulipatam, to be given 5*l*. on account. Thomas Mooreton and Elizabeth his wife, formerly widow and administratrix of Nicholas Gove, to be paid 114*l*. 1*s* in full of all wages and debts due to the said Gove on giving a general release to the Company, though if anything more from this estate shall come into the Company's hands it shall be paid to the said administratrix. (1 p.)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES AND OF THE MIXT COMMITTEES FOR THIS PERTICULAR VOYAGE,' OCTOBER 15, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 51).

Aldermen Wollaston and Adams, Messrs. Richard Bogan and Richard Glover admitted to the freedom of the Company by redemption, paying 5*l*. each; Edward Lewes and Thomas Corbet, formerly apprentices to the late Matthew Cradocke, admitted by service; and the like freedom bestowed upon Thomas Rilston, the Husband, who has served the Company about sixteen years. The

Court, finding that the addition agreed upon at the last general court does not bring the subscription up to above 80,000*l.*, and thinking this too small a stock with which to prosecute this year's trade, takes into consideration the best way to advance this sum to 100,000*l.* It is suggested that, as many who are free of the Company take exception at not being permitted to underwrite for this Voyage, everyone be allowed to do so, provided he announces his intention by a fixed date, 'for the Parliament they aime at liberty of trade,' and it is but justice to admit every free brother. It is also observed that as the book for subscriptions has remained open so long, and notices to this effect have been set up at the Exchange for many days, naming the date fixed for closing the list, no man has cause of complaint, and the addition wanted should be left to those who have already subscribed, for if all are admitted the stock may exceed 100,000*l.* To this it is answered that it would be better to have 20,000*l.* too much than 5,000*l.* too little; and finally it is agreed that the present subscribers may enlarge their subscriptions as much as they please, and on the result being made known, if the amount does not come up to 100,000*l.* then all who have given in their names shall be permitted to underwrite for the sums they propose, and if the desired total is not reached then, every free brother shall be allowed to underwrite, but the total subscription not to exceed 100,000*l.*; 'hee that comes first to bee first served.' It is decided that the Beadle shall summon a court of the adventurers in this Voyage to meet to morrow morning at 8 o'clock, in order to inform them of the foregoing and to hear their resolution on the same. It is next considered what ships to send out upon this Voyage besides the *Hopewell*, and it is thought fit that two of 400 and 300 tons respectively should be sent to Surat. The *Crispian*, belonging to the Third Joint Stock, is proposed, and as ships suitable to be freighted the *Caesar*, *London*, *Unicorn*, *Endeavour*, *Exchange*, and *Aleppo Merchant* are named. It is agreed to send one of these next spring to Surat; and as this will admit of no delay Mr. Deputy and certain Committees are desired to treat with the masters or owners of the said vessels, or of any others offered for freighting, and make such agreement as they think fit for the dispatch of one ship this year to Surat. Steevens, the Company's shipwright, is to be directed to look out

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for a vessel of 200 or 220 tons which may be fitted for Bantam by the middle of November, and three of the Committees are desired to provide canvas for sails. The mixed committee is desired to meet the standing committee this and Wednesday afternoon to confer about the alteration of the Company's charter; meanwhile Messrs. Bowen and Sambrooke are directed to peruse the letters and accounts in order to see what factors are at each factory and what stock there is remaining in India. (3 pp.)

'A GENERALL COURT OF THE ADVENTURERS IN THIS PARTICULAR VOYAGE,' OCTOBER 16, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 54).

The Governor states that this court has been called in order to be made acquainted with some passages in this Particular Voyage now in agitation. The amount at first subscribed was not above 65,000*l.*; which being thought too little, the time for subscribing was extended, but only to those who had already done so. By this means about 15,000*l.* was added, making a total of 80,450*l.*; but this sum was also considered too small to prosecute this year's trade, and at yesterday's court it was debated how best to raise it to 100,000*l.* The Governor refers this point to the consideration of this present court, adding that if none are willing to subscribe more, there are many free of the Company who have been left out, though they have sent in their names with the sums they are willing to adventure, amounting in all to 12,000*l.*, but the Court of Committees and the Mixed Committees would do nothing without the consent of this court. The Governor adds that yesterday, when this matter was in dispute, there was thought to be too much stock to carry on part of the trade this year, but too little to undertake the whole to the northwards and southwards; therefore it was thought expedient to enlarge it, as the larger the stock the greater will be the profit, and it is better to have too much than too little. For these reasons it was thought fit to extend the time of subscription a few days in order to advance it to 100,000*l.* After much debate it is resolved that liberty shall be given until next Wednesday to the present subscribers to enlarge their subscriptions; and if they do not bring up the amount to 100,000*l.*, then all free of the Company, including those who have already sent in their

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names, shall be allowed to underwrite for what they please, if they give notice of the same by Thursday evening; but the total ~~to~~ not to exceed 100,000*l.*, when the book is to be closed. Any one underwriting for another must make good the sum in case of default. The time for the first payment of the subscriptions shall be Thursday come sennight and the three other payments to be according to the preamble; and if any one fails to make his first payment on the appointed day, his name shall be crossed out and he shall not be admitted to adventure in this Voyage. (2 pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, OCTOBER 20, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 57).

Edward and Thomas Steevens and Andrew Trumball are desired to view the *Ulysses*, or any ship suitable to be sent to Bantam, and report to the court next Friday. Francis Day to be paid all wages and debts due unto him, on sealing a bond, with Mr. Methwold as his security, to save the Company harmless from 1,500 rials of eight, a supposed error in his accounts, which he is to make good if it shall justly appear to be in his accounts since his departure from the Coast. ($\frac{1}{2}$ p.)

A GENERAL COURT OF SALES, OCTOBER 21, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 58).

Sale of stony, long, and light pepper, dust of wet and dry pepper, gum-lac, sugar, 'aloes succatrina', cubebs, dust of cloves, and cotton wool, with prices and names of purchasers. (1 p.)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES AND OF THE MIXT COMMITTEES,' OCTOBER 22, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 59).

Certain of the Committees are desired to hire mariners for this Particular Voyage. Thomas Handson and Thomas Thatcher are accepted as securities for long pepper and dust of cloves. Mr. Man's parcel of coral to be examined with the help of Francis Day, and if found suitable and the price reasonable to be bought for the Company. Robert Smith, John Brett, Thomas Princeps, and Richard Hunt, having underwritten for 500*l.* in this Particular Voyage, are admitted to the freedom of the Company by redemp-

tion, each paying 5*l.*; Henry, son of Robert Bowyer, is admitted by patrimony; Francis Day, who has served the Company as a factor seven years, and Edward Browne, formerly an apprentice to Sir James Cambell, are admitted by service. Certain Committees are desired to endeavour to settle the difference between James Cox and the Company. Francis Day, being well experienced in the trade on the Coast, and having underwritten for 500*l.* in this Voyage, is nominated to go as factor in the *Hopewell*, to take account of the voyage and return in her; he is asked what salary he would expect for this service, and replies 200*l.* a year, with liberty to carry out private trade to the value of 100*l.* Being requested to withdraw, consideration is had of the great wrong done to the Company by this practice of private trade, especially when indulged in by factors, and it is unanimously resolved that henceforth no factor shall be permitted any private trade either in the outward or homeward voyage or when in the Indies. It is further resolved to give Day 400*l.*, should this voyage be concluded in eighteen, nineteen, or twenty months, and in the event of it continuing more than two years, at the expiration of that time to allow him 200*l.* per annum, on condition that if he indulges in private trade either directly or indirectly he shall not only forfeit his wages but his adventure of 500*l.* also. The Governor acquaints Mr. Day with these resolutions, and he willingly accepts the salary and promises faithfully to obey all commands and directions, but requests permission to take out a pipe or two of wine and a butt or two of beer to give to some friends at the Coast, and asks the Company to take some cloths off his hands, which he knows will sell very well there; the Court promises that the cloths shall be viewed and answer given him concerning them, but with regard to the wine and beer no resolution is arrived at. On Day's departure Andrew Trumball is called in and told of the entertainment of the former with the accompanying conditions; he is enjoined to be very circumspect and hinder all attempts at private trade as much as possible, more especially as he is favoured by being allowed to take out some to the value of 100*l.* Trumball declares that, if he does not act up to these injunctions, it will be just for him to forfeit his adventure also. After much debate it is generally agreed that a ship of between 200 tons and 330 tons shall be

bought to be dispeeded to Bantam ; and some of the Committees are entreated to look out for such a vessel, and that no time may be lost others are desired to see that all necessary provisions are speedily prepared for her. (34 pp.)

‘A COURT OF COMMITTEES AND OF THE MIXT COMMITTEES,’
OCTOBER 27, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 62).

At the request of Mr. John Diggs that the differences in question between his father, the late Sir Dudley Diggs, and the Company may be settled, Alderman Reynardson, William Ashwell, and William Garway are directed to do this if possible, and if not to report concerning the matter. Mr. Pinson desiring that his accounts with the Company may be cleared, he is told that when he gives a written answer to the objections made against him this shall be done ; whereupon he promises that the same shall be ready by this day sennight. Stephen Bolton and Thomas Bromfeild, having each underwritten for 500*l* in this Particular Voyage, are admitted to the freedom of the Company on payment of 5*l*. apiece, Benjamin De La Noy, formerly apprentice to Derricke Host, is admitted by service ; and Samuel, son of Francis Manning, by patrimony. Richard and Thomas Allen and William Shower accepted as securities for pepper. A letter is read from Richard Wild, expressing his readiness to end the differences by submitting himself to the judgement of the Court ; the Committees, inclined to favour him as much as possible without waiving the general release already given by him, order a warrant to be made out for his first division according to his subscription ; and as some of the points in dispute can only be settled by a general court, certain Committees are desired to prepare this business by the next general court. Mr. Garway's question, whether the coral bought at Leghorn shall be brought to England as the adventure of the Third Joint Stock or of this Particular Voyage, is referred to the consideration of the Standing and Mixed Committees, who are to meet this afternoon. There being so much business in agitation, it is resolved that courts be held three times a week, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and the Mixed Committees are to attend all until the *Hopewell* is dispeeded. The buying or freighting of a ship to be sent to Bantam is left to the discretion

of the Committees appointed to consider this matter at the last court. (2 pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,
OCTOBER 30, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 65).

The Court considers a motion made on behalf of Lord Say and Seale, who desires to underwrite for 2,000*l.* in this Particular Voyage, he having been out of town and not knowing of the book which had been kept open for subscriptions. The Committees present incline to concede His Lordship's request, as he is always ready to perform any good office for the Company, but there not being a full court decision herein is deferred. A letter is read from Edward Misselden, desiring the favour of the Company with respect to the brokes incurred on his adventure during his absence abroad, and stating his readiness to serve the Company at all times, and that for some such services he has incurred the ill will of great men, both at home and abroad. Mr. Sambrooke reports that the said brokes only amount to 17*l.* or 18*l.*, and Sir John Wolstenholme promises to inform Misselden of this and hear what he has to say. (1 p.)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,'
NOVEMBER 1, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 66).

After much debate it is resolved that the cost of the coral bought at Leghorn shall be borne by this Particular Voyage and not by the Old Stock, the court taking into consideration the good to be reaped by having such a commodity ready bought, which never yields less than eighty per cent. profit, sometimes even a hundred; therefore it is decided to pay the Third Joint Stock for it out of the second payment due next Christmas at the rate of 4*s.* 6*d.* per dollar, all charges included, when the coral is shipped. Certain Committees are desired to provide forty or fifty broadcloths to be sent in the *Hopewell* to the Coast, and to examine and buy those offered by Francis Day, if they are suitable; others are desired to buy quicksilver, vermilion, and elephants' teeth for dispatch in the same vessel; and Mr. Bowen and the Husband, with the advice of Mr. Day, to provide looking-glass, 'ammell' [enamel], amber, and knives. (1½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,
NOVEMBER 3, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 68).

Peter, son of Giles Vandepitt, and Edward Ford, who have underwritten for 500*l.* in this Particular Voyage, are admitted to the freedom of the Company on payment of 5*l.* each. The Court resolves to send 15,000*l.* quick stock in the *Hopewell* to the Coast. Francis Day is permitted to pay in his subscription of 500*l.* to this Particular Voyage upon discount. ($\frac{1}{2}$ *p.*)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,'
NOVEMBER 6, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 69).

Mr. Ashwell reports that he with Messrs. Methwold and Vivian treated this morning with Messrs. Fownes, Yard, and Man about buying the ship *John and Thomas*, now in St. Saviour's dock, agreeing to give for her 2,800*l.*, half to be paid within a week after she has been viewed, the remainder about the middle of next January. The Court approves and orders the said ship to be examined next Monday by Steevens, the shipwright, John Mucknell (whom it is proposed to elect as her master for the voyage to Bantam), and Boatswain Ingram; if she is found fit for the Company's service, they are to sail her down to Blackwall; she shall be allowed sixty-five men and be provisioned for eighteen months. Ordered that the proportion of men for the *Hopewell* be fifty-five. Certain Committees are entreated to read the Company's letters and report on the quantity of cordage and other stores sent for Bantam in the *Reformation*, *William*, and *Mary*, and the number of men remaining after the sailing of the ships; while Messrs. Sambrooke and Markham are requested to give an account of the stock remaining at Surat and Bantam after the departure from thence of the last ships, and of the tonnage at both places to bring away the said stock. Roger Calcott, administrator to Robert Coulson, to be paid 20*l.*, part of the said Coulson's estate, and given the rings in custody of the Company. The accusations from the Black Book against Gerald Pinson, with his written answers to each, are read; and since the Court wishes to settle with him, as he has served the Company sixteen years in India and has now been home seventeen months, Sambrooke is directed to prepare an

account of his salary by next Monday, and Markham to read the account of the expenses at the Coast during his agency there, with the letter from the President and Council at Bantam on his return, that this matter may be determined. Ten tons of lead, at 10*l.* 16*s.* per ton, bought from Gilbert Moorewood to be shipped in the *Hopewell*. (2 pp.)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,'
NOVEMBER 8, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 71).

Upon the minutes of the court at which Lord Say desired to underwrite for 2,000*l.* in this Particular Voyage being read, information is given that Lord Brookes is also desirous of subscribing 1,000*l.* to the same Voyage, he too having been out of town at the time the book for subscriptions was open and not knowing of it; whereupon Sir Nicholas Crispe and Mr. Deputy are requested to wait on Lord Say and ask him to underwrite for the 3,000*l.*, viz., 2,000*l.* for himself and 1,000*l.* for Lord Brookes. Consideration is then had of what ships are fitting to be sent out this year for this Particular Voyage besides the *Hopewell* designed for the Coast and the vessel bought from Mr. Man and intended for Bantam. After much dispute it is resolved to send two ships to Surat, one to be set out by the Company and the other to be freighted, both to be about 400 tons burden. It is proposed that the Company shall send the *Crispian*, as she has been valued and is now in dock being repaired; but the Court, not wishing to prejudice either the Old Stock or this Particular Voyage, desires that the Mixed Committees appointed for the latter and the eight appointed by the adventurers in the Third Joint Stock, or as many of them as can, should go to-morrow to Blackwall, view the said ship, and report their opinions next Wednesday. A debate follows concerning the ship to be freighted, when the *London*, the *Unicorn*, the *Endeavour*, the *Aleppo Merchant*, the *Freeman* and the *Caesar* are named; to avoid loss of time all the Committees are requested to endeavour to arrive at some agreement with the master or owner of one of these ships, or of any vessel of about 400 tons burden, that one may be freighted for Surat. The Court also resolves to have the principal care of whosoever goes as master in this ship, as also the approving of two of his mates, and decides that for every

hundred tons burden twenty men shall be allowed and so in proportion, and that none shall be left in the country ; and that in case it is necessary to freight a ship for Bantam then twenty-two men shall be allowed for every hundred tons ; but this is left for future discussion. The tonnage for Surat is, considered, and in particular the number of calicoes to be reckoned as a ton, and it is decided that 600 pieces, one with another, fine, coarse, broad or narrow, shall be accounted as one ton, and that the rest of the goods shall be reckoned according to the Turkey tonnage. Certain Committees are requested to buy sixty cloths to be sent this year to Surat, of the colours specified in the last advices, and these Mr. Bowen is to write out ; and Gilbert Moorewood is desired to provide 600 pigs of lead. All applicants for the place of purser or steward in the *Hopewell* to attend the court next Wednesday, the day appointed for election. Mr. Holloway moves for a ship of 400 or 500 tons to be prepared for dispatch to Bantam, he supposing that there will be more goods ready at that place than the ships there will be able to bring away, and promising that, if his supposition is wrong, and the ships return with dead freight, he will make good the damage, the Court approves and promises to consider this matter. Mr. Deputy reports that a friend of his has offered 4s. per lb. for the Company's cloves and to pay for them before Christmas ; he is desired to try to induce his friend to raise the price and told that this business shall be concluded at the next court. (3½ pp.)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,'
NOVEMBER 10, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 75).

The Court, understanding that the *Hopewell* is launched, orders that her mariners be paid their imprest money next Monday. Arthur Bulkly, well recommended by Robert and Richard Bateman, is entertained as purser for the *Hopewell*, and Henry Bassano, late steward's mate in the *Crispian*, as steward, on condition that they do all in their power to hinder private trade (which if they indulge in themselves they forfeit their wages), and enter into a bond with security to this effect ; they willingly agree and accept the places. Bulkley is told to take an inventory of all stores and

provisions in the ship ; so that at his return home he may be able to render an account of everything taken from or put into the *Hopewell*, to the end that this Voyage may not wröng the Third Joint Stock or *vice versa*. Messrs. Wright and Vivian are desired to take whom they please of the Committees or shipwrights and go to Blackwall to view the *Crispian*, and report by next Friday as to her suitability for dispatch to Surat upon this Particular Voyage, and if they do not think her fit for this purpose to seek for some other vessel. Upon notice that the *Blessing*, bought from Messrs. Fownes and Yard, is, in the opinion of Steevens and others, fit for the Company's service, John Mucknell is ordered, with the assistance of Boatswain Ingram, to take her at the first opportunity to one of the large docks at Blackwall. The Court considers Mr. Holloway's proposition made at the last court to send a ship to Bantam upon the Third Joint Stock's account, when he promised to make good all loss should she return with a dead freight, which promise he now withdraws unless the Company will agree to send 5,000*l.* stock in the ship towards procuring her lading for Europe ; after some debate Mr. Deputy puts it to the question whether in the opinion of those present there will be stock at Bantam more than sufficient to lade the 1,600 tons of shipping now there, and the majority reply in the negative. Henry Fetherstone, who has underwritten for 500*l.* in this Particular Voyage, is admitted to the freedom of the Company by redemption on paying 5*l.* Francis Day to be refunded 427*l.* 18*s.*, paid by him for cloth. Resolved that the following conditions be agreed upon between the Company and the masters or owners of ships to be freighted, viz., for Surat twenty men to every hundred tons : the ship to sail from Gravesend the first of March and be laden from Surat the last of January, if not sooner : the tonnage to be reckoned after the Turkey tonnage : the ship to be furnished with money for supply of provisions in the country at 5*s.* per dollar : no primage to be given : two mates to be approved by the Company and no private tradè permitted. For Bantam twenty-two men for every hundred tons ; all other conditions to be the same as those for Surat, except as regards the time for departure and return of the ship. (3½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, NOVEMBER 12, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 78).

An application regarding the estate of the late Robert Coulson is referred to Messrs. Ashwell and Middleton, who before examined these accounts. Certain Committees, two to be adventurers in the Old Stock and two in this Particular Voyage, are directed to treat with Captain John Steevens, commander of the *London*, or with any other owner of shipping, about freighting a ship for Surat, and if no agreement is come to, to see about buying a vessel for the purpose. Mr. Blunt, on behalf of one who wishes to remain anonymous, offers to buy all the Company's cloves at 4s. 4½d. per lb. on condition of being made a free brother gratis; but this price is considered too low. As none of the Mixed Committees are present, the Court directs that they be asked to attend next Monday, in order that the allowance to be made to the Old Stock for their factors and other assistance in this Particular Voyage may be resolved on. The motion made to appoint Gerald Pinson to go in this voyage in the *John and Thomas* to Bantam, thence to Surat and back to Bantam and return home in the same ship, is approved but not resolved on. The Court orders the *John and Thomas* [the 'Blessing' in the margin] to be brimmed with broken glass; and certain rumoured misbehaviour of Andrew Coggan to be examined into. (2 pp.)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES AND OF THE MIXT COMMITTEES,' NOVEMBER 15, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 80).

Bread and beer to be allowed to the men employed in the *Hope-well*, to obviate the necessity of their going ashore for dinner. Mr. Wright reports that he and Mr. Vivian with some 'seamen' have viewed the *Crispian* and find that she may be serviceable for a voyage of thirty-three months, but he desires that two adventurers in the Third Joint Stock and two in this Particular Voyage may be nominated to make a new valuation of her hull and of all her provisions. This being approved of, Peter Pett and John Southam are appointed for the Third Joint Stock and Captain Jourden and Captain Crawly for the Particular Voyage; and certain other Committees are requested to go with them to Blackwall when this valuation is to be made. To prevent loss of time ~~in~~

dispatch of this ship, the remaining Committees are desired to see that beef and pork be provided for ninety men for eighteen months. Mr. Vivian is directed to come prepared next Wednesday with his proposition to freight the *Aleppo Merchant* for Surat, and Mr. Bateman, one of the owners of the *Endeavour*, with his for freighting that ship, she being expected hourly from Hamburg. Francis Day is given leave to take with him in the *Hopewell* two butts of beer and one pipe of Canary wine free of freight, to be examined by one of the Committees before being shipped. The Court considers what allowance is to be made by this Particular Voyage to the Third Joint Stock for the assistance of its factors in the Indies, the use of its small shipping, warehouses, and all other helps; and after long debate resolves that for all goods laden for Europe, a certain sum, so much per cent., shall be paid in the Indies at the last port as the goods cost 'first penny', but the exact amount not being agreed upon, Sir John Wolstenholme and the Committees nominated by the general court are entreated to join with Sir Nicholas Crispe and the Committees appointed by the adventurers in this Particular Voyage to consider and resolve on this matter next Wednesday morning. (1½ pp)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES AND OF THE MIXT COMMITTEES,'
NOVEMBER 17, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 82).

Permission is given to a Persian and his servant to go in the *Hopewell* to the Coast of Coromandel, they to provide all their own food. James Woodcot to be paid 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* for salvage of cloves which were cast away in the *Palsgrave* at Plymouth, and for freight of sixteen pieces of linen from 'Rhone' [Rouen?] to London, which were bartered for the said cloves. William Boulton and William Christmas, having each underwritten for 500*l.* in this Particular Voyage, are admitted to the freedom of the Company by redemption on payment of 5*l.* apiece. Debate is resumed as to what allowance shall be made to the Third Joint Stock by this Particular Voyage in return for the use of factors, warehouses, and all other accommodations in the Indies, much diversity of opinion is expressed, and it is proposed that the Mixed Committees, appointed by this Particular Voyage, now present should join with as many

of the eight Standing Committees appointed by the Third Joint Stock as are in court, and withdraw to consider this point amongst themselves. This is done, and after much dispute it is agreed that this Particular Voyage shall allow six per cent. by way of 'provision' to the Third Joint Stock upon all goods laden for Europe as they cost first penny in the Indies, to be paid to the factors at the ports where the goods are laden, in return for the use of factors, warehouses, and all other accommodations belonging to the Third Joint Stock, together with the use of all small shipping, men, stores, and provisions in the ships or on shore, with all ammunition, cables, &c.; but in case the said ships shall be in want of men, ammunition, and stores at the time this Particular Voyage has occasion to use them, these shall be supplied by this Particular Voyage, which when completed may claim all things remaining so provided by it. Mr. Millett, master of the *Aleppo Merchant*, offers his ship upon freight for Surat, but the Court comes to no decision. (2 pp.)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,'
NOVEMBER 19, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 84).

Francis Day is granted permission to take with him in the *Hopewell* as his servant Francis Day, Junior, a good writer and accountant, who is entertained at 20s per month on condition that Mr. Day, Senior, stands security for his not indulging in private trade and for his returning in the same ship. A general court to be summoned for next Friday afternoon for the election of a Governor. Sir John Wolstenholme and Mr. Saynthill are desired to confer with Mr. Whitlocke and Mr. Maynard, members of the House of Commons, about the Privy Seal which is ready drawn concerning the return of impost upon the exportation of East India goods, and other particulars, that the House may be acquainted with the Company's desire and the same passed in the next Act granted to the King for tonnage and poundage. Messrs. Kerridge and Methwold are desired to meet Mr. Millett, a member of the Exchange, at the Exchange this afternoon, to endeavour to settle with him about freighting his ship, the *Aleppo Merchant*, for Surat. (1 p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,
NOVEMBER 22, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 86).

Mr. Methwold desires that Mr. Fremlyn, President at Surat, may be permitted to adventure 2,000*l.* in this Particular Voyage; after consideration the Court consents to this, on condition that Mr. Fremlyn pays into the Company's cash at Surat 8,000 rials of eight 'Civill money', which at the rate of 5*s.* per rial is 2,000*l.* Mr. Methwold undertakes to make good this sum in case of default; but, as the matter cannot be concluded without the consent of the adventurers in this Particular Voyage, who before refused to allow it, Mr. Deputy is requested to put it to the general court next Friday. Sir Nicholas Crispe reporting that he has underwritten for Lord Say in this Voyage 1,000*l.*, this subscription is allowed and confirmed. Andrew Trumball to be given 50*l.* for making the Downs his first port on returning from the last voyage, and to be allowed, as formerly, a quarter cask of canary for this voyage. Mr. Saynthill offers the *Experience* or the *Harry Bonadventure* for freighting to Surat, at 30*l.* per ton for all goods except pepper, for which he asks 20*l.* per ton, 16 cwt. to the ton, and a warrant for sixty tons, or to be paid dead freight for as much as he shall want; the master and mariners to be allowed the same amount of private trade as the *Caesar's* men were in proportion to the tonnage of the ship, and not to be responsible for any damage to the goods; if these conditions are not agreeable then he is willing to sell either of the said ships; hereupon Steevens is ordered to examine the *Experience* and the *Harry Bonadventure* or any other vessel in the river, and report on them as soon as possible, and then Mr. Saynthill's proposals shall be further considered. A sapphire ring given by the late Edward Falkoner, formerly purser in the *Blessing*, to Sir Nicholas Crispe, one seal ring given by the late John Bincks to his brother Thomas, a sheriff's officer, and a ruby ring given by the late John Smith to Thomas Browne, a gentleman living at Thorpewater in Northamptonshire, all three in a 'scrutore' belonging to Thomas Clarke in the custody of the Company, are ordered to be delivered to their several owners. (2½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,
NOVEMBER 26, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 88).

John Mucknell is chosen master of the ship bought from Messrs. Fownes and Yard for dispatch to Bantam [*the 'Blessing' in the margin*] at a salary of 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* per month, with liberty to carry private trade to the value of 50*l.*, provided that none of the Company's special commodities or those laden in the vessel be taken by him. A list of the goods Mucknell intends to take is presented and approved. All endeavours to procure a ship to freight having proved futile, certain Committees are desired either to provide such a ship to freight for Surat or to buy one suitable for that purpose. Thomas Skynner to be paid, according to a former agreement, 100*l.* from the salary due to Thomas Merry, Agent in Persia. (1*p.*)

A GENERAL COURT, NOVEMBER 26, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 89).

Mr. Deputy intimates that the chief cause why this court has been called is to elect a Governor in the place of Sir Christopher Clitherowe, deceased¹; but before doing so there are one or two matters to be settled. The first is concerning the 2,000*l.* subscribed to this Particular Voyage on behalf of Mr. Fremlyn, which was vacated by a former general court but has since been considered by the Standing and Mixed Committees, who are in favour of it, for a great part of this Voyage will be upon the credit of Mr. Fremlyn, who has been in India fifteen years and acquired some estate, and it is thought wiser to favour him by letting him adventure this sum rather than that he should bring home his estate in private trade. On being put to the question, this subscription is agreed to by a general erection of hands. Mr. Deputy further intimates that for many years there has been some dispute between the Company and Richard Wild, the late President at Surat, about a fine imposed on the latter on his return to England, whereupon he gave a general release, but has since petitioned many times for a mitigation of the same; this being referred to six Committees, five of them have given in a report dated the 15th inst. to

¹ Clitherow died on November 11, 1641 (*Smyth's Obituary*). The last meeting he attended was on the 6th of that month.

the following effect: that Richard Wild having underwritten 2,000*l.* in the Third Joint Stock and only paid in 1,250*l.*, because of losses sustained and also on account of some difference depending between himself and the Company, the aforesaid Committees are of opinion that in respect of these losses and of the great charge of the fine imposed, the Company should make good Mr. Wild's former subscription of 2,000*l.*, that he may receive all divisions due upon it, and that his bond for 230*l.* should be delivered up to be cancelled. Thereupon a Committee (not one of the five) remarks that Wild served the Company seven years in India, and received 100*l.* the first year; the second year he was made Accountant and continued so three years, but only received 100*l.* a year, where others had been paid 200*l.* for the same services; afterwards he served as President for three years, and yet was only allowed 100*l.* per annum, while others had been paid at the rate of 500*l.* per annum; that when he was abroad the stock was not worth above 60 [*sic*], but by his industry in dispatching so many ships in one year he raised it to 112. The report is then put to the question and generally confirmed, and Mr. Wild returns his humble thanks for the love shown to him. Mr. Deputy desiring that some able men be nominated for election as Governor, Sir Henry Garway, Sir John Wolstenholme, Alderman Gayre, Sir Nicholas Crispe, and Alderman Reynardson are named. The choice falls between Sir Henry Garway and Alderman Gayre; and the Court resolving to decide by scrutiny it is found that Sir Henry Garway has forty-two hands in his favour to Alderman Gayre's twenty-five; on which Sir John Wolstenholme is desired to go with three or four others and acquaint Sir Henry with his election and desire him to come and take the oath; but on this being done, he desires leave to think over it and give answer next Wednesday.¹ (2½ pp.)

COMMISSION AND INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE EAST INDIA COMPANY TO ANDREW TRUMBALL, MASTER OF THE *HOPEWELL*, [NOVEMBER] 1641 (*Marine Records, Miscellaneous*, vol. iv, No. 19).

Trumball is furnished with authority from the King to rule and govern in the *Hopewell*, which has been completely provisioned and

¹ Evidently he consented, for at the next court (December 1) he took his seat as Governor.

manned for the voyage. He is directed to make with all expedition for Masulipatam, but being 'a profest master' in the art of navigation the course is left to his own discretion, except that on approaching the equator he is ordered 'to passe the circle betweene six and nine degrees to the west of the Lizard meridian', and not to go into Saldania Bay [Table Bay], but to make for the Bay of Augustine, where better accommodation for watering, &c., is to be had. He is given directions for control of the mariners, and concerning the estates of any who shall die during the voyage; concerning stores, provisions, and private trade shipped in his vessel; and concerning the appointment of a commander in case of his own death. He is instructed to keep a true account of each day's navigation and of all material occurrences, and present these to the Company on his return. On the arrival of the *Hopewell* at the Coast as many men as can be spared are to be allowed to assist in manning the ships there; but on her departure for Bantam they are to be recalled to their original posts, together with all provisions remaining over from what has been lent. On arriving at Madraspatam, or wherever the Agent and Council are residing, Trumball and Francis Day are to use all possible diligence in landing at each several factory what the Agent there and Mr. Day shall think fitting, so that if necessary the ship may proceed to the Bay of Bengal to visit and supply the factors there and return with the first of the monsoon to the Coast. From thence to go to Persia, either with the Company's or freight goods, with all possible expedition that Gombroon may be 'timely' reached and the ship return in reasonable time to the Coast. On the return from Persia to the Coast, which will be presumably in May, 1643, Trumball is to demand of the Agent and factors not only the goods designed for England but those also for Bantam and the southern factories, and to have all ready by the end of July, that by the first of August the ship may proceed to Bantam and there arrive through the guidance of God before the end of September, where pepper sufficient to fill up will doubtless be found, and so the voyage from thence to England may be undertaken by the beginning of December at the furthest. No one is to be taken aboard the ship or landed at any of the factories without the knowledge and consent of the Company. (*Signed and sealed. 18 pp.*)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,'
DECEMBER 1, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 92).

Francis Smethwicke transfers to Robert Lant the profits of 100*l.* adventure in the Third Joint Stock, of which the principal is taken out. Robert, son of Robert Fotherby, is chosen purser of the ship designed for Bantam. ($\frac{1}{2}$ *p.*)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,'
DECEMBER 3, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 92).

Edward Abbott's adventure of 5,000*l.* in the Third Joint Stock, [*blank*] being taken out, is ordered to be transferred to his father, Sir Morris Abbott, with all profits, on the latter paying the Company the sum of 2,924*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.* owing by his son Edward. Sir Morris asks that the interest accruing for non-payment of this money may be remitted, but if not he will pay it; the Court, though inclined to grant this request, comes to no decision. George, son of George Chaundler, is admitted to the freedom of the Company by patrimony. Mr. Ashwell reports the result of his consultation with Messrs. Middleton and Massingberd concerning the dispute between Gerald Pinson and Thomas Clarke, whereupon Pinson is directed to prepare his account by the next court, according to the opinion of the referees, and then an absolute conclusion shall be made with him. This day week appointed for election of a master and other officers for the *Crispian*, and for a steward for the ship for Bantam. ($1\frac{1}{2}$ *pp.*)

RICHARD BROWNE, ENGLISH AMBASSADOR IN PARIS, TO
SECRETARY VANE, DECEMBER 13, 1641 (*Public Record Office: Dom. Chas. I.*, vol. cccclxxxvi, No. 18).

Yesterday an advocate in the Admiralty of my acquaintance brought me word that the owners of a French ship worth 40,000 crowns taken by the East India Company came to have him of their counsel in the suit they intended to commence in this Admiralty [Court], which he refused, in regard he was always retained for the English nation. He could not acquaint me with all the particulars, but, by what I heard from him, I fear it will prove an untoward business. ($\frac{1}{2}$ *p.*)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,
DECEMBER 8, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 94).

The ship bought from Messrs. Fownes and Yard, being ready to be launched, is named the *Blessing*. A gentleman appearing on behalf of the administrator of the late William Gibson desires an account of all that belongs to the said Gibson's estate; he is told that he may, with any friend who is an accountant, see Gibson's account, and if he cannot settle this matter satisfactorily with Mr. Sambrooke the Court will endeavour to do so. ($\frac{1}{2}$ p.)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,'
DECEMBER 10, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 95).

James Cox to be paid 500*l.* upon account of his first and second divisions in the Third Joint Stock. Thomas Steevens entertained as master in the *Crispian* at a salary of 8*l.* per month, with liberty to spend 100*l.* in private trade, on condition that before departing he delivers in a note of what goods he is taking and another note to the same effect on his return, and agrees not to trade in any of the Company's goods, or in any that the *Crispian* is laden with. Thomas Thomblins chosen purser for the *Crispian*, with Luke Pynn as his mate, and Thomas Fitch as steward. John, son of the late John Cappur, is entertained as a writer at a salary of 25*s.* per month, to go to Bantam in the *Blessing* under the merchant employed in that ship, and to return in her; and John Mantell, formerly purser's mate in the *Crispian*, is entertained in a like capacity for Surat at the same salary. The owners and master of the *Aleppo Merchant*, hired upon freight for Surat, to be allowed to bring her into the Company's dock at Blackwall, to make use of the slaughter-house, furnace, and all other accommodations, provided that an account be kept by Mr. Fotherby of all damage done, that satisfaction for the same may be had from the said owners. ($1\frac{1}{2}$ pp.)

SIR WILLIAM BOSWELL AT THE HAGUE TO SIR THOMAS ROE,
DECEMBER $\frac{13}{2}$, 1641 (*Public Record Office: Dom. Chas. I*, vol. ccclxxxvi, No. 53).

Monsieur Somerdyck is in great extremity and like to leave the world, which crosses my East India business still more and more.

Ambassador Joachimi is still here, and I believe will be till H. Henvliet's advice comes; whose industry and circumspection never sleepeth.

A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,
DECEMBER 15, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 96).

Henry Kedington, formerly employed as steward to Greenland, is chosen steward for the *Blessing*, and William Cary, who has served the Company eighteen years, is entertained as steward's mate in the *Crispian*. Joseph Cocke transfers to Richard Davies, merchant, the profits of his adventure of 1,000*l.* in the Third Joint Stock. ($\frac{1}{2}$ *p.*)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,
DECEMBER 17, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 97).

Sir John Wolstenholme and Messrs. Ashwell and Methwold are desired to deliver to Sir Edward Nicholas the petition to be exhibited to the King concerning the restitution of imposts and other favours now read, and entreat him to present it to His Majesty. Mr. Holloway is appointed a Committee for Blackwall Yard in the place of Mr. Mun, deceased.¹ Mr. Pinson presenting several written exceptions to the account given him by Sambrooke, these are referred to the Committees before appointed to examine his affairs; they withdraw, but return shortly and report that they have adjusted the account to Pinson's satisfaction, upon which the Court orders that he be paid all that is due to him. Mr. Pinson then represents his various services to the Company, for which he desires some consideration; he is granted 200*l.* and is entertained to go to Bantam in the *Blessing* at a salary of 250*l.* per annum (on condition of abstaining from all private trade), and is granted permission to adventure what he can spare of his salary in this present Voyage. Hawkins, the boatmaker, not to be paid for the long-boat and skiff he made for the *Hopewell* until further order. Ten pounds ordered to be distributed amongst the poor widows in the hamlets of Blackwall, Limehouse, and Ratcliffe, and another 10*l.* amongst the poor widows of East India men, as is customary at 'this blessed time of Christmas'. ($1\frac{3}{4}$ *pp.*)

¹ The date of Mun's death is not known, but he was buried on July 21, 1641.

A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,
DECEMBER 20, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 99).

Two or more Committees are desired to examine and report on the difference between Thomas Clarke and Richard Hudson, Elizabeth, widow of Vincent Ascough, a servant to the Company, is given 20s. from the poor-box. The Court, noting the death of the Secretary, Edward Sherburne,¹ nominates William Burgis, Henry Robinson, and Richard Swinglehurst to supply his place, Swinglehurst is chosen at a salary of 100*l.* per annum for the secretaryship, and to be allowed 40*l.* for keeping the warehouse under the Exchange, and 20*l.* towards the maintenance of a servant, these payments to begin at Christmas. (1 *p.*)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,'
DECEMBER 24, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 100)

Cutler, the garbler, to be paid his bill of 69*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.* Rebecca Watkins given 20s. from the poor-box. At the request of Roger Vivian, one of the owners of the *Aleppo Merchant*, the Court gives permission for the master of the said ship to be supplied with such timber from Blackwall as he shall want for her speedy fitting, Mr. Vivian promises either to pay for it or return an equal amount of the same quality. Mary, widow of George Muschampe, petitions for certain sums of money due unto her late husband; the Court orders that she be paid what salary is due unto him, and advises her to apply to the general court for further satisfaction. (1½ *pp.*)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,'
DECEMBER 29, 1641 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 101).

Davies, the pilot, to be paid 4*l.* for taking the *Hopewell* from Blackwall to Gravesend. Mr. Deputy reports that he went last Monday with Sir John Wolstenholme and Mr. Willson to Sir Edward Nicholas to hear what answer the King had given to the Company's petition concerning the restitution of impost on goods

¹ Richard Smyth in his contemporary *Obituary* (Brit. Mus. *Sloane MS* 886, printed as vol. 44 of the Camden Society's publications) notes under date of December 21, 1641: 'Mr. Edward Sherborn, secretary to the East India Company and clerk of the ordinance at the Tower, a courteous gentleman, died' The text makes it evident that this date is incorrect; but it must be remembered that the Brit. Mus. MS. is only a transcript.

shipped out between the 25th of last May and the 1st of December. Sir Edward told them that the King had referred the petition to the consideration of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury. They then informed Sir Edward that, when Sir Henry Vane was Secretary, there had been many conferences about the injuries and wrongs done to this Company by the Dutch East India Company, which amounted to 600,000*l.* or 700,000*l.*; yet on the promise of 500,000 guilders from the Dutch and of a good 'reglement' for the future, this Company was content to accept the lesser sum, but as yet the Dutch have not fulfilled their promise. They entreated Sir Edward to call for the papers and letter Sir Henry Vane received from Sir William Boswell about this business, and to write to the latter concerning it. Sir Edward desired to be informed how far the matter had gone, that he might see where the stop was and give the Company the best assistance in his power. At the request of Henry Oulton, formerly a factor at Bantam, the Court orders that for all money of his brought into the Company's cash at Bantam he is to be allowed at the rate of 5*s.* the rial, on notice being received from the President and Council there of the receipt of the money. (1*p.*)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,'
JANUARY 5, 1642 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 102).

A contract is made with John Wheldon to supply 400 pigs of Derbyshire lead. Richard Swinglehurst to be given 64*l.* to distribute at court in New Year's gifts according to an agreement made this day. ($\frac{1}{2}$ *p.*)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, JANUARY 7, 1642 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 103).

John Sleeman is entertained as surgeon in the *Blessing*, but Nicholas Welch, who had been chosen as surgeon's mate in that ship, is discharged, Mr. Woodall reporting him to be 'a meere barbor'. The request of Captain Johnson, commander of the *Unicorn*, for permission to mend his ship in one of the Company's docks is refused, and it is ordered that henceforth only vessels 'belonging to the Company shall be repaired at the Blackwall docks. A letter is read from John Hunter, stating what he knows concerning

'Keelings Islands';¹ whereupon the Court orders that directions be given in the general letters to Bantam that a small pinnace be sent to discover these islands upon the arrival of the *Blessing*. Alexander Rose transfers by deed to Thomas Chauncy 266*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* in the Third Joint Stock with all profits. (1 *p.*)

SIR FRANCIS WINDEBANK IN PARIS TO HIS SON THOMAS, JANUARY 17, 1642 (*Public Record Office: Dom. Chas. I*, vol. cccclxxxviii, No. 34).

According to your desire I send you a letter to Sir Henry Vane. The business of the East India merchants Mr. Burlamachi understands best of any, and can best direct you. (1½ *pp.*)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,' JANUARY 12, 1642 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 104).

Mr. Blyth, formerly powdermaker to the Company, offers to buy its saltpetre at 3*l.* 5*s.* per hundred, to sell the Company powder at 4*l.* per hundred, to build three mills at his own charge for making the powder, and desires to have the Company's horse-mill at Blackwall; this is referred to Captain Styles and other Committees. Thomas Stevens, master of the *Crispian*, is allowed a supply of canvas, to make a new set of sails at sea. (½ *p.*)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,' JANUARY 14, 1642 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 105).

Mr. Cordell to be paid 3*d.* per lb. for powder mended and returned to Blackwall. Twenty or thirty barrels of the Company's saltpetre to be delivered to Mr. Methwold, who is to pay for it at the current rate. Hugh Lockett, servant of the late Edward Sherburne, is given 25*l.* for services rendered since November, 1637. Gerald Pinson desires permission to adventure 500*l.* in the Particular Voyage, 400*l.* of this to be placed in the Company's hands before setting out, and the other 100*l.* to be paid from his wages; also that the money he shall pay into the Company's cash at Bantam may be added to his

¹ These islands, now known as the Cocos, lie about 600 miles SW. by W. of Java Head. It is generally accepted that they were discovered in 1609 by Captain William Keeling, on his homeward voyage from Bantam; but I can find no actual account of this. The group was annexed by England in 1857, and is now under the administration of the Straits Government.

adventure at the rate of 5s. the rial ; the Court resolves that, if he lives for six months, 100*l.* from his wages shall make up his adventure to 500*l.*, that the money he shall pay within a year from this day into the cash at Bantam shall be added at the rate he desires, and that the freedom of the Company shall be bestowed upon him. Messrs. Wilson and Bateman are directed to treat with the Earl of Northampton about hiring Crosby Hall. At the request of David Otgar and William de Vischer, part-owners of the *Blessing*, the Court orders the money still unpaid for that ship to be kept in the Company's hands until further order. (1½ pp.)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,'
JANUARY 19, 1642 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 106).

The Court approves the settlement made with Pinson by the Committees to whom the dispute was referred, and allows him interest on a sum of money paid in at Bantam by him. Mr. Mucknell, master of the *Blessing*, to be provided with half a hogshead of canary for the great cabin, as is customary for ships of a like burden. John Young is directed to dispeed the *Blessing* to Gravesend and the Downs as soon as wind and weather will permit. Mr. Cordell contracts for 1,000*l.* worth of saltpetre at 3*l.* 10s. per hundred, at two six months upon rebate. (1½ pp.)

AN ACCOUNT OF THE DISPOSAL OF THE PEPPER BOUGHT
BY LORD COTTINGTON OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY, JANUARY
20, 1642 (*Public Record Office : East Indies*, vol. iv B, No. 81 I).

Giving the price fetched and the names of the purchasers ; the total amount sold being 2,310 bags, containing 607,522 lb., which at 20*d.* per lb. amounted to 50,626*l.* 16s. 9*d.* For the purchase money four bonds of 14,000*l.* each were given, to be paid on the 29th of March and 29th of September, 1641, the 29th of March and 29th of September, 1642, and one bond of 10,000*l.* for payment of the remaining 7,283*l.* on the 29th of December, 1641. (2½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES AND OF THE MIXT COMMITTEES,'
JANUARY 21, 1642 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 108).

Mr. Millett, master of the *Aleppo Merchant*, to be paid 400*l.* in part of the 500*l.* he is to receive for freighting his ship to Surat.

The differences between Mr. Sambrooke and Mrs. Tynes are with their consent referred to Messrs. Methwold, Haggett, and Barker. A report is read from certain Committees concerning the differences in account between Richard Hudson and Thomas Clarke, who for misbehaviour and embezzlement of large sums of the Company's money were sent back to England about seventeen months ago, and imprisoned. It is found that Hudson, when Clarke was ill and deprived of all reason and memory, so that although Agent he was incapable of the least employment, caused him to be put in irons for many days and seized upon the warehouses and all the contents, without making any inventory or taking any one to assist him; that he broke open all the trunks and 'screetores' in Clarke's room and seized all books of accounts and all papers belonging both to Clarke and to the Company, also 1,800 rials of eight in cash (part of a larger sum received from Captain Weddall) without taking an inventory or any one as witness, though admonished to do so by Francis Day. The Committees therefore consider that Hudson should make satisfaction for the 1,800 rials; that he is liable for the 1,047 pagodas, or 2,094 rials of eight, which he affirms he gave as a present to the Governor of Masulipatam in order to obtain release from prison, where he had been unjustly confined for twenty-five days, as he cannot tell of any offence committed by the Company's servants which might have been the cause of this imprisonment or have necessitated any reward for his release, but on the other hand Clark and the Agent and Council at Masulipatam testify that Hudson by his unjust trading in those parts might well have deserved such imprisonment, and that when his account is made up by Sambrooke Hudson will be found much indebted to the Company. Clarke is also much indebted to the Company, but as he appears to have so little the Committees did not examine into anything more concerning him. The Court confirms this report, and directs the said sums to be charged to Hudson's account; and as he is quite unable to pay them is inclined to prosecute him as an example to other delinquents, but nothing is resolved on. At the request of Richard Wild, Mr. Acton is directed to put in suit the bond entered into by Sir Bryan Janson, Messrs. Clobury and Page for calicoes, to enforce payment of the principal (160*l.*) and interest due on the said bond, the charge of the suit to be borne by Wild. Certain Committees are desired to pro-

vide broadcloths to be sent in the *Crispian* for Surat ; also fifty chests of silver and some more lead. (3 pp.)

LORD COTTINGTON AT FONTHILL TO THE KING, JANUARY 24, 1642 (*Public Record Office : Dom. Chas. I.*, vol. cccclxxxviii, No. 86).

I beseech you cast an eye on this enclosed letter, which I have received from those that were the Farmers of the Customs, wherein they call upon me for their indemnity concerning the money for the pepper which was bought of the East India Company. You will remember the great service that was therein done, and how seasonably ; and therefore I am very confident you will command that great care be had that the mischief with such eminent ruin fall not upon me ; and that your Commissioners of the Treasury so take it to heart as the East India Company be either satisfied or at least persuaded not to press the payment with speed and rigour, until they can find means to give them satisfaction. I should advise that you command some of your Commissioners, especially Sir John Bankes, the Lord Chief Justice, and Secretary Nicholas, in the first place to call to them those that have written this enclosed letter and fairly to consider with them what course may be taken with the East India Company, either for time or payment, and then to deal with the Governor and Company accordingly ; and by this means I do not doubt but some way may be found for a happy issue. I beseech you that this business be taken much to heart, as that which may else crush me, more than any enemy I have could wish ; and I am sure it would much trouble you to see me ruined by the doing of so great and opportune a service. (1½ pp.)

ENCLOSURE TO FOREGOING :—THE LATE FARMERS OF THE CUSTOMS TO LORD COTTINGTON, JANUARY 20, 1642 (*Public Record Office : East Indies*, vol. iv B, No. 81).

Reminding His Lordship that they are bound with him and others to the East India Company for 63,000*l.*, whereof by the favour of the Lords Commissioners 13,000*l.* has been paid, having been deducted by the Company from the subsidy and impost on its goods. Informing him that they have this day received the enclosed note from the Company, by which it appears that there is 22,583*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.*

more now due, and that in March next there will be another bond of 14,000*l.* due; for all which satisfaction is urgently desired, the Company expressing its determination to sue the bonds and arrest the writers unless some speedy course is taken for payment of the said money. That as His Lordship is principally bound, the Company alleging that he made a particular engagement in court when buying the commodities to sell all his lands rather than not pay the money, and that their security was brought in by his means, they having no indemnity for this great sum, only several tallies levied upon farms, which are now void by Acts of Parliament and so of no value, they conceive it their duty to acquaint him with the foregoing, that he may advise some way, suitable to the honour and justice which he has always professed, to secure himself and them. Pray for a speedy answer with which to acquaint the Company, it having stopped further proceedings until the return of the messenger with this letter. (*Signed by Paul Pindar, John Jacob, Job Harbie, Nicholas Crispe, John Nulles, and John Harrison. Endorsed: 'Pepper buisines'. Copy. 1½ pp.*)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,'
JANUARY 26, 1642 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 111).

Ordered that, in the event of a ship being freighted for Bantam, the surplus provisions provided for the *Crispian* shall be bought for her supply. John Langley, merchant, executor to his father, John Langley, transfers to Geoffrey Howland the profits of 589*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* adventure in the Third Joint Stock, the principal being taken out. Lady Jane Fenn, widow and executrix of Sir Richard Fenn, transfers to William Clarke, merchant, 888*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* (a third part of her late husband's adventure in the Third Joint Stock) with all profits. The petition of Anthony, youngest son of Sir Christopher Clitherow, to go as an under-factor to Surat is referred for consideration until the departure of the next ships, this being a Particular Voyage when no one is to be allowed to remain in the country. Mr. Acton is directed to take counsel's advice how to obtain satisfaction for the money owing by Edward Abbott to the Company; also to prosecute William Clobury upon his bill for calicoes sold to him, Sir Bryan Janson, and Messrs. Wild and Page. Mrs. Wills, administratrix of Captain Matthew Wills, acquaints

the Court that Charles Hart, nephew of the late Captain, has made stay of 1,000*l.* due to his uncle's estate, claiming part as next of kin, but that she desires it all to be paid to her as administratrix. As she is the only person who can give a discharge to the Company, the Court is willing to order payment of the money, but because of the said stay directs that it be detained until Hart can be communicated with. (1½ pp.)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES
JANUARY 28, 1642 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 112).

Certain Committees are desired to use their best endeavours for the timely dispatch of the ships to Surat. Mrs. Wills to be paid 1,035*l.* due to the late Captain Wills, notwithstanding the stay made by Charles Hart. Adrian Beeton, administratrix of John Blackston, a cook who died at Bantam, to be paid 40*l.* from Blackston's wages to provide necessaries for his daughter Sarah, and to repair some houses belonging to her. A pipe of canary to be sent to the President and factors at Surat. Mr. Saynthill offers either to let the *Caesar* to the Company on freight for Bantam or to sell her; whereupon he is desired to consider his offer and bring a list of the said ship's stores and provisions to the court next Friday. Mr. Bowen is directed to prepare a list of all factors in the Indies by the next court, when it shall be resolved whom to recall. With regard to the trade in general, it is moved that this be referred to four Committees to be privately debated and then reported on, or that a general court be called to ascertain the opinions of the generality in this matter; but, as nothing is resolved, Mr. Deputy desires each Committee to consider this subject before the next meeting. Two iron 'cutts'¹ to be provided for the *Crispian*. Susan, widow and administratrix of James Jones, who died in the *Fewel*, to be paid 50*l.* upon account of her late husband's wages. Henry Wheately, formerly purser in the *Great James* and now imprisoned in the Compter, petitions for remission of a fine of 170*l.* imposed by the Company on two tons of goods, or for as much as will release him from prison; the Court is inclined to favour him, on hearing that he is an able mariner, and carried himself like a 'stout' man in the taking of Ormus Castle and in the fight in the

¹ Short cannons, of various bores.

Persian Gulf against the eight Portugal ships forced into Larack, also that he is considered a fit man, on account of his judgement and experience, to be prime mate in the *Aleppo Merchant*; therefore the Secretary is desired to inquire and report why Wheatley is imprisoned. A letter from Richard Boothby to the Governor and Deputy, dated the 26th instant and enclosing a petition for re-entertainment into the Company's service or for permission to go to India on payment of his own passage, is read, but, both being 'fraught with ill language and full of malice', they are not thought worthy of an answer, and the Court directs that they be put with other papers of Boothby's. (2½ pp.)

LAURENCE SQUIBB TO SECRETARY NICHOLAS, FEBRUARY 3, 1642 (*Public Record Office: Dom. Chas. I*, vol. cccclxxxix, No. 6).

I beseech you to move His Majesty in this business of the pepper, which so deeply concerns Lord Cottington that, for aught I yet see, may prove to be most dangerous if not eminent ruin to His Lordship and his estate. I have been given to understand that the East India Company intend not only to prosecute their bonds with all the rigour and extremity that the law will allow, but will also petition the Parliament against My Lord for his manner of proceeding in obtaining the pepper, and how prejudicial this has been to the whole Company and to the very trade itself; wherein, to my knowledge, having been in most part of the proceedings an eyewitness, His Lordship took a most just and honourable course. Yet when this shall be preferred by a multitude, the matter aggravated or wrested, and, perhaps, not wanting back friends enough that shall affirm for His Lordship's disadvantage, I conceive My Lord must not expect any favour in this business coming there. And I have heard from one of the Farmers, that they, and also Mr. Maxwell, do intend to join with the India Company in petitioning against My Lord, and will allege that it was his work to draw them into it. All I can here learn that is to be done for relief herein is only that His Majesty will be pleased to send for the Governor and some principal [men] of the India Company, and to let them know his good intentions for the satisfying of the debt, with the interest, either by way of defalcation of their own customs, when the bill of tunnage shall be settled, or by some

other more speedy way, out of some other parts of his revenue as soon as it shall be established. *P.S.*—Whatever you may please to do herein, I conceive Mr. Comptroller¹ will assist you in it, being engaged for the debt with my Lord [Cottington] and the Farmers of the [Customs]. (*Draft.* 1½ pp.)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,'
FEBRUARY 4, 1642 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 115).

Kentledge allotted to the *Aleppo Merchant* and *Crispian*. Mr. Massingberd moves that the adventurers in this Particular Voyage be allowed to bring in their third and fourth payments upon discount, as he has not above 600*l.* in cash and is very unwilling to borrow money at interest for this purpose; his request is agreed to, and a general court is ordered to be held next Wednesday morning to acquaint all the adventurers with this motion. The freighting of a ship for Bantam to be deferred until the arrival of the ships from thence, as they are expected about next May. Francis Smithwicke transfers to John Holloway the profits of 100*l.* adventure in the Third Joint Stock, the principal having been taken out. The Court, taking into consideration the lessening of charges at all factories to the southwards, orders a letter to be written to the President and Council at Bantam and sent by express to the Downs to the *Blessing* (still detained there by contrary winds), with directions to take a strict account of all factors, assistants, and dependants within the limits of Bantam and its dependencies, their number and employments, and dispatch to England by the first ship all who can be spared, so that the Third Joint Stock may be relieved of their charge, and only so many factors kept as shall be necessary to provide lading for the last ship for this Particular Voyage. What resolution to take with regard to the remains of the Third Joint Stock, though briefly considered, is not decided. Henry Wheately again petitioning for remission of freight on his private trade, he is lent 50*l.* and permission is given for his entertainment as prime mate to Mr. Millett in the *Aleppo Merchant*. Twenty barrels of powder to be bought for the *Crispian*. (1½ pp.)

¹ Sir Peter Wyche.

A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,
FEBRUARY 7, 1642 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 116).

The Governor proposes that a ship of 3,000 or 4,000 [*sic*] tons be sent to fetch the stock from the southwards, there being about 13,000*l.* quick stock, sufficient to lade her back with pepper; and that 10,000 or 12,000 rials of eight be sent to pay customs and other charges. But it is thought that nothing should be done without consent of the adventurers in the Third Particular Voyage [*sic*. ? Third Joint Stock], and no ship sent until Michaelmas without consent of the adventurers in this Particular Voyage, for until then the dispatch of stock and ships is properly theirs. It is suggested that if a ship like the *Caesar* were dispeeded and the Third Joint Stock consented to take 400 tons by way of freight, the adventurers in this Particular Voyage would supply the rest; this matter is referred for further consideration. Mr. Holloway to be given his warrants for the division of silk, calicoes, and cloves. ($\frac{1}{2}$ p.)

A GENERAL COURT OF THE ADVENTURERS IN THE PARTICULAR VOYAGE, FEBRUARY 9, 1642 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 117).

Mr. Governor intimates that this court is called to be informed of the Treasurer's lack of money for setting out this Particular Voyage. There are fifty chests of money to be provided for the Surat ships, and he has only sixteen, and but 600*l.* in cash for payment of other provisions; this money must either be supplied by the adventurers or taken up at interest, and the Treasurer is loth to adopt the latter course. The Court of Committees is of opinion that all who shall bring in their third and fourth payments upon discount should be allowed eight per cent. on the same for ten days after the quarter-day of payment; and this being put to the question is agreed to by a general erection of hands. Mr. Governor further reports that there is 63,000*l.* quick stock to the southwards, which is sufficient to lade home the *Mary*, the *William*, the *Reformation*, and the *Swan* from Bantam, leaving a surplus of 13,000*l.* (which will lade a ship of about 400 tons), besides the six per cent. of what is gone in the *Hopewell* and *Blessing*, and if there were only 11,000*l.* in stock it would serve; therefore he desires to know if the court will grant permission to the adventurers in the Third Joint Stock to

dispatch such a ship to fetch their remaining stock, sending in her 2,000*l.* to pay customs and other charges. Much dispute ensues, some thinking that if such a ship or stock is despatched it may prejudice this Particular Voyage; or that only 500*l.* should be sent to pay customs, &c.; while another affirms that, as there are no customs there, no stock need be sent. Reply is made that as next Michaelmas the adventurers in the Third Joint Stock may send out what they please, it is but a small thing for them to ask to despatch a ship four months before that time, for if she does not go in May it will be of no use; that if the new adventurers will supply the Third Joint Stock with money in India none need be sent out, but some must be had, as there are customs to be paid at Jambi and other places to the south whence the pepper is to be fetched; that there need be no fear of prejudice, for by God's blessing this ship may return in 1643 with pepper, when this Particular Voyage will have none. It is then moved that if the adventurers in this Particular Voyage wish it, a similar liberty shall be granted to them by the Third Joint Stock; and the Governor putting it to the question, it is agreed to allow the Third Joint Stock to send out a ship of 400 tons with 2,000*l.* stock, on condition that a like favour is permitted the adventurers in this Particular Voyage if they desire it. As some adventurers are behindhand with their second payment, it is moved that some way be considered to enforce payment, as in the event of losses occurring they may refuse to make good their deficit, and so be in a better case than others who have paid up; it is therefore proposed to impose a broke of 12*l.* or 18*l.* on them. As, however, only 2,000*l.* out of 25,000*l.* is unpaid, it is thought that others will advance their payments to make up this sum, and Mr. Massingberd asserting that the gentlemen who have not paid will doubtless do so, after some dispute it is agreed that, if the defaulters do not send in their third payment sooner, they shall be required to pay interest at the rate of eight per cent. The court generally agrees to a policy of assurance being taken out for all the coral (valued at 5,000*l.*) coming to England from Leghorn in the *Mary Rose*, and to another for the one-fifth part of the subscription in this Particular Voyage (valued at 20,000*l.*) now in the *Blessing*, to assure that ship to Bantam; and that the adventurers in this Particular Voyage

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shall be the first to underwrite in these two policies, any one of them to be allowed to underwrite the fifth part of his subscription. John Massingberd, merchant, transfers to Robert Bateman, Esq. the profits of 16,907*l.* adventure in the Third Joint Stock, the principal being taken out. Oliver Laurence, administrator of the late Thomas Smithwicke, transfers to John Holloway the profits of 1,000*l.* adventure in the Third Joint Stock. Ann, wife of Thomas Lening, a factor now in the *Fonas*, to be given 10*l.* on account of her husband's wages. (2½ pp.)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,'
FEBRUARY 16, 1642 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 120).

The Company's sakers to be sold at 12*s.* per hundred, and the brass shivers to be offered to Mr. Garway. The mariners entertained in the *Crispian* to be paid their imprest money. Steevens's bill of 72*l.* 12*s.* 1*d.* for boathire, &c., to be paid. Resolved not to buy any tin for dispatch this year, as no encouragement has been given for it in the advices received. Messrs. Burnell and Middleton to provide forty more cloths, as they can be obtained at a cheap rate. Mr. Methwold desires to know the decision of the Court concerning the factors, as the ships for Surat are shortly to be dispeeded and Messrs. Borneford, Robinson, and Wild will probably be in England this summer, and Mr. Fremlyn the following year, so that very few will be left to manage the Company's business; he advises that some one be appointed in India or sent from England to take charge of the stock belonging to this Voyage. This matter is referred for a week, by which time it is thought that one who has been in India and is capable for this work will offer his services. Mr. Dycer desires to buy some of the Company's indigo; but no agreement is come to, as his offer to take the whole parcel at 7*s.* per lb. at seven six months is considered too mean, and he will not accept the Company's price of 7*s.* per lb. at four six months. Some letters received last Monday from Persia are read, and Mr. Bowen is directed to answer one from the factors there, and to send a copy by way of Leghorn or Venice and another by Marseilles; also to write to Mr. Barnard, Consul at Aleppo, and advise him that he has been awarded 20*l.* as a gratification for his care in delivering the Company's letters. (1½ pp.)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,'
FEBRUARY 18, 1642 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 119).

Mr. Cordwell contracts for all the Company's saltpetre at 3*l.* 10*s.* the hundred, one-third to be paid in ready money, the remainder upon discount at three six months. Upon a petition from the friends of John Brightwell, late master of the pinnace *Hope*, taken in the Persian Gulf by the Malabars, and from Margaret, wife of Thomas¹ Mosse, who was captured in the same ship and is detained with Brightwell and others in Burgaree and adjoining places and very badly treated, Mr. Bowen is directed to advise the President and Council at Surat in the general letters by the *Crispian* to take some speedy course for ransoming all the Company's servants so detained. John Woodall to be paid 150*l.* upon his account. The Court, taking into consideration that the ships are about to be dispatched to Surat and that nothing has been decided concerning the trade in general or the recall of the factors, causes the petitions formerly shown to the King and Parliament to be read, and then orders a petition to be drawn up and sent to the House of Commons to entreat that the Company's grievances may be referred to a committee and something done before the departure of the ships. (1 *p.*)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,'
FEBRUARY 22, 1642 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 122).

The *Crispian* and *Aleppo Merchant* ordered to sail for Gravesend and thence to the Downs as speedily as possible; and as it is thought that the coral may not arrive as soon as expected, Mr. Bowen is directed to give several commissions to Messrs. Steevens and Millett that if the *Mary Rose* arrives before the said ships depart, or if they meet her in the Channel or elsewhere, the coral is to be removed from her into the said vessels. The petition drawn up for presentation to the House of Commons is read, approved, and ordered to be engrossed, and Sir Henry Vane to be desired to get it read in the House. ($\frac{1}{2}$ *p.*)

¹ This should be 'John' (cf. p. 273). The Surat letter of January 27, 1642 (*O.C.* 1787) mentions John Mosse and Richard Husbands as having been captured by the Malabars while making a voyage in a vessel belonging to a Portuguese named Duarte Fernandes Corea.

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,'
FEBRUARY 25, 1642 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 122).

Mr. Boulton desiring to know at what price the Company will sell the indigo, is told the same price and time as Mr. Dycer was at a former court; he requests time to consider, promising to acquaint the Governor and Deputy with his decision to-morrow on the Exchange. Edward Knipe, who formerly served the Company as a factor and has since been employed in a like capacity by Mr. Courteen, is entertained to go as a factor in the *Crispiana* [i.e. the *Crispian*] to Surat for this Particular Voyage, and to return in her or in the *Aleppo Merchant*, whichever shall leave India last, at a salary of 200*l.* per annum, on condition of forbearing all private trade (on pain of forfeiting such salary), and giving bond in the same manner as Pinson and Day have done. On reading a certificate from the Master, Wardens, and Assistants of the Trinity House, the Court orders that John Sydery, master of the *Dolphin*, be paid freight, according to an agreement made with him by charter-party, for 30,000 pipestaves brought from Ireland, on delivery of the same into the Company's yard at Blackwall. The dispute between the Company and Richard Hudson and between the latter and Thomas Clarke is again examined, but, the day being far spent, no resolution is come to. (1*p*)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,'
MARCH 2, 1642 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 123).

The Company's indigo sold to Stephen Boulton and John Biert for 7*s.* per lb. at four six months. Davies to be paid 4*l.* for piloting the *Crispian*. The reference from Parliament on the Company's petition is read, and in it the said petition is referred¹ to the committee for Suffolk cloth and the cloth of the kingdom, of which Sir Henry Vane is chairman. That this business may be better prepared for the said committee, the Governor, the Deputy, Sir John Wolstenholme, Sir Nicholas Crispe, Sir John Gayre, and others are desired to form a committee and meet on Friday morning at 7 o'clock. It is agreed to summon a general court of the

¹ On March 1: see the Journals of the House.

adventurers in the Third Joint Stock to obtain consent for a ship to be freighted to Bantam to fetch what is remaining there, and to tell them of the great quantities of calicoes and silks ready for delivery upon their divisions, and desire them to take these away, as the Company will not be responsible for them. The *Aleppo Merchant* is ordered to sail for Gravesend at the first opportunity; direction as to her keeping company with the *Crispiana* is to be given hereafter. James Mann, who has under-written for 500*l.* in this Particular Voyage, is admitted to the freedom of the Company on paying 5*l.* John Massingbird transfers to James Mann 500*l.* adventure in this Particular Voyage with all profits, and to Benjamin De La Noy 400*l.* adventure in the same with all profits. (1½ pp.)

A MEETING OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER THE PETITION PRESENTED TO PARLIAMENT, MARCH 4, 1642 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 125).

The Company's petition, &c, having been read, the remonstrance formerly presented to the House of Commons and since withdrawn is commanded to be read also, when it appears that in the latter the Company stated that its trade was decaying because of the injuries received from the Dutch, the trading of Sir William Courteene during his lifetime and afterwards of his son and of Mr. Endymion Porter, and the great impost placed upon its exported and imported goods; the remedies to keep the trade from utter ruin were also stated. Thereupon the assembled committee causes the general complaints against the Dutch to be read, and finding these 'too tedious for the Committee of the House of Parlyament', orders an abstract of them to be drawn up and the proofs of each particular to be looked up and set forth. It is then moved that the Amboyna book be reprinted. Much dispute ensues; and finally it is agreed to ask the opinion of the Court of Committees and of the General Court to be held next Wednesday, and if both approve, to have the said book reprinted, with such additions concerning Pollaroone and other wrongs received from the Dutch as shall be thought fitting. (1½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, MARCH 4, 1642 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 126).

The Governor announces the motion made at the meeting of the Committees this morning for the reprinting of the Amboyna book, and desires to know the opinion of this court, in order to be able to inform the general court to be held next Wednesday; whereupon it is unanimously agreed to have the said book reprinted. Abraham Chamberleyne moves, on behalf of the parish of St. Andrew Under-shaft, for some contribution towards relief of the poor distressed Irish who have fled there; he is told that the matter shall be considered. Forty cloths and twenty-five chests of silver ordered to be shipped aboard the *Aleppo Merchant*, and sixty cloths and the rest of the treasure aboard the *Crispiana*. Thomas Russell requests some allowance on defective silk, part of one of the lots bought by William Middleton, but no decision is come to. Mrs. Mary Muschampe petitions the Court to consider that her husband supplied the place of President in his second employment after the expiration of his covenanted time for 150*l.* per annum; the great losses he sustained by the seizure of his estate on returning from that employment; and the long and expensive suit he was forced into on the Company detaining 200*l.* from him by way of fine; and to afford her and her five small children some relief, they being reduced to a miserable and comfortless state. She is told that general releases were exchanged between the Company and her husband, but since then he was employed by it again, and after his death she received all that appeared due to her; therefore this court can do no more; yet, if she likes to petition the general court, her case shall be recommended. On her departure the case is taken into consideration; and though nothing is due to her yet it is conceived that it would be an act of charity for the general court to bestow upon her 200*l.*, if on receipt of her husband's accounts everything appears straight. Mr. Wilson, master of the *Ulysses* (burden 350 tons), offers his ship upon freight for Bantam; he is told that his stay there would be but sixty days, his demurrage 7*l.* per day, the like sum to be deducted daily for so many days as the ship is dispatched within the time before specified; that he must take some beef and pork from the Company at the current price; that he must bring 15 cwt.

net of pepper to a ton, and 10 cwt. net of cloves, and have 21*l.* per ton freight. These conditions he is desired to consider by next Wednesday, when his offer shall be replied to. Stephen Boulton, John Brett, Samuel Crispe, and William Vaughan accepted as securities for indigo bought by Messrs. Boulton and Brett from the Company. Anthony Panton is entertained to go as minister in the *Crispiana* and return in her, or in the *Aleppo Merchant*, whichever leaves last, at a salary of 50*l.* per annum, and 10*l.* to buy books; and should he require another 10*l.* or 20*l.* it shall be imprested to him on account of his wages. Some shirts and quilts, now in Mr. Bowen's custody, to be given to Thomas Clarke. (2 pp.)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,'
MARCH 9, 1642 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 128).

Mr. Sidery, master of the *Dolphin*, who brought the pipestaves from Ireland, to be paid 80*l.* on account. Thomas Steevens's bill of 1*l.* 14*s.* for boathire, &c., to be paid. Sir Thomas Culpepper offering to sell the Company 1,500 load of timber now ready to be felled in Kent, Edward Steevens is directed to view and report on the same. John Millett, master of the *Aleppo Merchant*, is given 30*l.* as a gratuity in lieu of primage and average. Henry Baynebrigge, having underwritten for 2,000*l.* in this Particular Voyage, is admitted to the freedom of the Company on payment of 5*l.* William Peacocke and Rebecca his wife, administratrix of her late husband, George Morgan, who died in the Indies, petition for 200*l.* remaining in the Company's hands for the use of George Morgan, Rebecca's son, she being his guardian; they are told that by an order from Sir Henry Martyn, the late judge of the Prerogative Court, this money has already been detained eleven or twelve years in the Company's hands for the use of the child, and interest allowed to them, and the Company intends to retain it until the said child is twenty-one, and only to pay them the interest for his maintenance. Certain Committees to treat with Mr. Willson, master of the *Ulysses*, or any other master or owner, for the purchase or freighting of a ship for Bantam about the middle of next month; and to effect this more speedily, Steevens is ordered to scan the river for a suitable vessel of about 300 or 400 tons burden. (1½ pp.)

A GENERAL COURT OF THE ADVENTURERS IN THE THIRD JOINT STOCK, MARCH 9, 1642 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 130).

The Governor observes that this meeting has been called because, on review of the accounts from India, it is found that when the *Mary*, *William*, *Reformation*, and *Swan* return laden from Bantam there will still remain there 11,000*l.* or 12,000*l.* of stock, sufficient to lade a ship of 300 or 400 tons burden with 2,000 bags of pepper, which by the blessing of God may yield 40,000*l.*; and as they ought to advance the Third Joint Stock as much as possible, the Court of Committees think it advisable to send a ship of this size with sufficient quick stock to defray customs and other charges, more especially as if this is not done there may be no pepper next year. The Committees have gone so far as to treat with one ship to be freighted and are in quest of another, but it is not proposed that the Company shall pay anything before receiving the goods. One of the Committees remarks that in his opinion it would be better and more profitable for the Third Joint Stock to forbear sending a ship to Bantam until news is received from thence, for if one be dispeeded and no lading found for her, loss would be sustained by her lying so many days at demurrage. To this the Governor replies that the benefit to be gained is far greater than the loss to be feared can be, as the adventurers in this Particular Voyage expect no pepper next year; therefore those in the Third Joint Stock can do no harm by providing for themselves. If a ship be sent in April (the safest and easiest way to save charge), she may be expected back within nineteen months, when there will be no pepper in town, and if the old adventurers want stock this Particular Voyage will supply it. This opinion is seconded by one who thinks that, if 2,000*l.* be paid for demurrage, still a gain of 30,000*l.* or 40,000*l.* may be made. By desire the Governor puts it to the question and by a general erection of hands it is agreed to send a ship to Bantam as proposed; and it is left to the Court of Committees to decide whether to freight or buy a vessel for this purpose. Mr. Governor reports that the Court of Committees has lately presented a petition in the Company's name to the House of Commons for removal of the obstructions and impediments to its trade, notably the great impost placed upon East Indian commodities, the disturbance caused to the said trade by

Sir William Courteene and on his death by his son and Endymion Porter, and the injuries offered by the Dutch, more particularly in the murder of the Company's factors at Amboyna. The Court of Committees thinks of having the Amboyna book reprinted, but before doing so desires to know the opinion of the generality herein. Thereupon it is unanimously agreed to have 1,000 copies forthwith printed, with such additions as the Court of Committees thinks fitting. Mrs. Mary Muschampe again presents her petition for relief, and is granted 250*l*. The Governor observes that the Auditor and Accountant should deliver in a balance of the Company's estate by the end of May, but cannot do so, because six of the adventurers, viz. Robert Bell, John Cooke, Andrew Coggan, Richard Moorer, Isaac Van Paine, and Richard Harris, are in brokes; Harris has underwritten for 300*l*. in the Third Joint Stock and paid in 75*l*., the other five have underwritten for several sums in the same Stock but paid nothing in, therefore the Court of Committees is inclined to sink their adventures, as all the subscriptions do not come to more than 3,500*l*.; by general consent this matter is referred to the decision of the said Court. The Governor reports that there are many parcels of silk, calicoes, and cloves, which the adventurers may receive upon divisions, for which the Company will not be responsible; he also states that any adventurer in this Particular Voyage may underwrite one-twentieth part of his subscription in the policy of assurance for coral from Leghorn. (3¼ pp.)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,'
MARCH 16, 1642 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 133).

The wife of Francis Cotton, minister in the *London*, to be given 3*l*. upon account of her husband's salary, over and above the 5*l*. due unto her quarterly. Upon receipt of a letter from Sir William Russell and the other Commissioners of His Majesty's Navy concerning timber lent to the Company about two years ago, Messrs. Fotherby and Steevens are directed to see that similar timber is returned into the King's yard, or that satisfaction is made for it in money. John Langley, merchant, executor to his father, Richard Langley, transfers to John Holloway, Esq., 1,145*l*. 16*s* 8*d*. adventure and profits in the Third Joint Stock, the principal of which is

divided ; and Francis Smithwicke transfers to the said John Holloway 100*l.* adventure and profits in the same Stock, of which the principal is also divided. ($\frac{3}{4}$ *p.*)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, MARCH 19, 1642¹ (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 134).

The Governor informs Mr. Courteene that, in accordance with an order from Sir Henry Vane and the Committee of Parliament, he has been sent an abstract of some injuries which the East India Company has received from his trading, that these may be avoided in the future ; and he desires Mr. Courteene to propose some method of settling this business. The Company is willing to take all his goods and moneys now provided at cost price, which will be no loss to him, also his shipping for ready money ; for his goods abroad or those expected home, it will be most to his advantage for these to stand upon his own adventure and for him to receive them himself, and not to send out any more, but to adventure what he pleases in the next subscription with the Company. Mr. Courteene desires time to consider these proposals and promises a speedy answer. Henry Robinson is permitted to send two cwt. of coarse 'brutoora'² coral in the *Aleppo Merchant* on his own account, on condition that the proceeds are not returned in any commodity usually traded in by the Company. (1 *p.*)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, MARCH 21, 1642³ (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 135).

The Governor intimates that he presumes Mr. Courteene has come resolved to compose all differences without troubling Parliament any more, and that the Company is willing to accept any reasonable offers ; whereupon Mr. Courteene proposes that he shall bring in all his stock, both abroad and at home, and be allowed to adventure it in this Particular Voyage. The Governor replies that Mr. Courteene can give in an account of his stock in England and that the Company will take it from him, but it will have nothing to do with his stock abroad, which he had much better have home

¹ Mr. Courteene and Mr. Gobert were also present.

² An Italian trade term for a rough variety of coral.

³ Messrs. Courteene and Rushout were also there.

upon his own adventure ; that if after the return of his ships any debts of his are brought into the Company's cash, for these he shall be allowed at a reasonable rate per dollar ; or any goods of his remaining after the return of his ships the Company will bring home upon freight, or allow him to dispatch an empty ship to fetch them, or take them from him at a reasonable value, or in proportion as the next Stock shall allow for the said goods ; but Mr. Courteene cannot be permitted to adventure in this Particular Voyage, as the stock provided for it must not be mixed up with any other venture, but he may put what sum he pleases to the next subscription. The Company will take all the stock he has in England at its prime cost, in order to prevent his three ships interrupting its trade ; but all that returns in his five ships must come upon his own account, and when they arrive Mr. Courteene and the Company can arrange for the sale of the goods returned that no prejudice be done to either party. Mr. Governor represents what a loss it will be to the kingdom if, through Mr. Courteene rejecting these fair proposals, the trade should fall through, and advises him to consider who would have to answer for it, the Company having done its duty. Mr. Courteene and his friend Mr. Rushoult withdrawing, by desire, to consider all this, the Court then conceives some further propositions and delivers a copy of them to Mr. Courteene. They are to the following effect : the Company is content to take all money and merchandise laden in Mr. Courteene's three ships now preparing at the prices they cost and pay him in money for all, or to permit him to adventure all, or such part as he pleases, in this Particular Voyage intended for this year only ; the ships Mr. Courteene has already abroad to be returned according to his directions and upon his own account, the Company to have nothing to do with them ; if Mr. Courteene can show that he has more goods abroad than he has ships to bring them home in, he can send out one or two of the ships now making ready to fetch the said goods, provided no new stock, either in money or goods, is sent in them ; if Mr. Courteene has more remaining, requiring a longer time to be recovered, the Company will allow for the same in England within three months after notice at the rate of 5s. per rial of eight for what shall be delivered into its cash there, or else bring it home on freight at a reasonable rate. An order is received from the House of

Commons commanding the Company to forbear the further printing of the Amboyna books now in the press, and that they be taken to Sir Henry Vane, chairman of the committee for the Company's business; the Court directs the Secretary to see that this order is obeyed, and expressly commands that the books be sealed up this night and taken in the morning to Sir Henry Vane. (2 $\frac{3}{4}$ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, MARCH 22, 1642¹ (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 138).

The Governor desires to know what propositions Mr. Courteene has to make in answer to those he received from the Company, and informs him it is thought right that he should give an account of his three ships, with a copy of his last letters and commissions sent to the Indies, and also a copy of his last advices received from thence. The Governor likewise desires to know what stock Mr. Courteene intends to send in the two freighted ships to fetch home his remains, and which of the three ships is intended for the coast of India and which for Sumatra. Mr. Courteene replies that all are designed for India and all are to return from thence. The Governor inquires whether, on the Company taking the three ships and their stock, Mr. Courteene will surrender his patent and agree never to send out any more, only to receive what is due to him and what shall return in his five ships. Hereupon Mr. Courteene alleges that he has an estate in China. He is again told that the Company will not object to his sending out an empty ship to fetch any remains he has in India, and that if the propositions do not satisfy him it is not the Company's fault, he has certainly interrupted its trade and is still doing so, and for redress and prevention of this the Company has, as in duty bound, acquainted Parliament, to whose regulation this business must be left. After much debate the differences between the Company and Mr. Courteene are stated as follows: the Company is content to take one of Mr. Courteene's ships, but he expects all three to be taken; the Company expects Mr. Courteene to bring his remains to its factors and ships, whereas he expects the Company to fetch them; Mr. Courteene expects the

¹ Mr. Courteene, Sir William Palmer, and Messrs. Rushoult and Gobert attended.

Company to take off his remains in China, but it is resolved not to meddle with them. Hereupon Mr. Governor states his positive opinion that the Company will neither fetch away Mr. Courteene's goods nor take more than one of his ships, though it will not object to the other two being sent out if they go empty; yet for fear of the worst it would consent to Mr. Courteene sending 1,000*l.* or 2,000*l.* in them, and Mr. Governor advises him not to send all the goods he has provided, in order to avoid leaving any remains in the East. As no conclusion is come to, these differences are left to be determined by Parliament. (2½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, MARCH 24, 1642 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 140).

The order drawn up yesterday by Sir Henry Vane and the committee appointed by Parliament concerning the dispute between the Company and Mr. Courteene is read; the Court 'submitt thereunto as their act according as it is amended . . . and desire that the same may bee reported to the Commons house of Parlyament'; whereupon Sir Nicholas Crispe and Mr. Ashwell are entreated to inform Mr. Ash, who has been appointed chairman of the said committee in the absence of Sir Henry Vane. The Court, on hearing of the ability of Francis Breton, who is second at Surat, decrees that he shall succeed William Fremlyn as President at that place, at a salary of 350*l.* per annum. (¾ p.)

PETITION OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, [MARCH, 1642]¹ (*Public Record Office: East Indies*, vol. iv B, No. 82).

Showing that a debt of 63,283*l.* 9*s.* is owing to the Company for pepper bought by Lord Cottington for the King's use. That the new Farmers discounted the customs on goods returned from the East Indies in the *Caesar* in February, 1640 [1641], which amounted to 3,905*l.* 8*s.*, on those returned in the *Crispian* in June, 1641, which amounted to 9,073*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*, and on those returned in the *Hopewell* in August, 1641, which amounted to 3,123*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.*, thus leaving 47,181*l.* 1*s.* 7*d.* still owing, and a further 14,000*l.* due next

¹ This seems to be the petition which was read to the House on March 26.

September. The Company prays that the said discounts may be allowed, in consideration of the great hindrance to its trade should the money be detained, that the House will assist in the speedy recovery of what still is and shall be due, and that some allowance may be made for forbearance, because of the Company's great debt at interest. ($\frac{3}{4}$ p.)

SIR WILLIAM BOSWELL AT THE HAGUE TO SIR THOMAS ROE, MARCH 28, 1642 (*Public Record Office: Dom. Chas. I.*, vol. cccclxxxix, No. 98).

..... The East India Company, I hear, caused the business of Amboina to be reprinted, thereby to acquaint and possess the Parliament with the same; why, I cannot imagine. Sure I am I have given no just cause, the treaty I have in hand being now at a better issue than ever, and myself most faithful to them in the justice of their cause and in accord with the King.

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, APRIL 1, 1642 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 141).

A bill of exchange for 54*l.* presented by Mr. Perryn for money taken up in Ireland by John Sidery, master of the *Dolphin*, to be paid and charged to William Newman's account. A demiculverin or a saker to be delivered to Mr. Bowen. Mr. Willson, master of the *Ulysses*, to pay 400*l.* for beef and pork. ($\frac{3}{4}$ p.)

'A COURT OF COMMITTEES WITH THE MIXT COMMITTEES,' APRIL 6, 1642 (*Court Book*, vol. xviii, p. 142).

William Rolfe, uncle and executor of the late Jasper Rolfe, to be paid all wages and estate due to the latter, detained in regard of the eighty rials of eight paid to redeem him from captivity in India. Mr. Hugh Wood, having adventured 500*l.* in this Particular Voyage, is admitted to the freedom of the Company on payment of 5*l.*; but claiming freedom by service, having been apprenticed to the late Captain Lewis Roberts, he is desired to produce his indenture, when, if it shall appear that such freedom is his due, the 5*l.* shall be remitted. Thomas Russell is allowed twenty marks for damaged silk. On consideration of the accounts of Robert Bell,

John Cooke, Andrew Coggan, Richard Moorer, and Isaac Van Payne, who severally underwrote for certain sums in the Third Joint Stock but have paid in nothing, and of the account of Richard Harris, who underwrote for 300*l.* and paid in 75*l.*, the Court resolves to make a general order for them all and refer the same for confirmation to the next general court, viz., that they shall be adventurers only for so much of their money as is in the Company's hands, the remainder to be sunk, they to pay neither brokes nor interest, and to receive all such divisions as shall appear due on their several accounts. Thomas Clarke petitioning for part of his wages is advised to have his account perfected and then his petition shall be considered. Henry Cowly, an old servant of the Company, is given 40*s.* from the poor-box. John Burridge is granted admission to the Almshouse at Poplar with the usual allowance. (2½ pp.)

SUGGESTIONS FOR PAYMENT OF THE MONEY OWING TO THE COMPANY FOR PEPPER [? MARCH, 1642] (*Public Record Office · East Indies*, vol. iv B, No. 81 II).

Stating that the pepper cost, at four six months payment, 63,283*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.*, but being sold for ready money fetched 50,626*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.* There was thus a loss of 5,753*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.* by interest, and of 6,903*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.* in price. That if the 9,000*l.* detained for custom of its goods be allowed the Company, the debt will then be 54,000*l.*, for satisfaction of which sum it is humbly offered for consideration that there is an entire fee farm rent of 500*l.* per annum for the manors of Bradbury and Hilton in the bishopric of Durham, which if the King would sell outright would yield 9,000*l.* or 10,000*l.*; that other fee farm rents may be made choice of and sold to raise a further considerable sum, and that some assignment may be made upon the Forest of Dean, to be paid after the Earl of Salisbury and Mr. Browne, the gunfounder, are satisfied on their assignments, that when the tonnage and poundage is settled, the Company may be paid the remainder of the debt, with the interest, from the customs on its own commodities. (1 p.)

APPLICATION TO THE KING CONCERNING THE MONEY OWING TO THE COMPANY FOR PEPPER [? MARCH, 1642] (*Public Record Office: East Indies*, vol. iv B, No. 81 III).

Four of the bonds given for payment of this money are already due; and for these the Company has detained the custom on its goods, amounting to about 12,000*l.*, which Parliament, at the instigation of young Sir Henry Vane, has ordered¹ to be paid into the Exchequer for supply of the Navy. Of this sum, 9,000*l.* was due before the assignments on the customs were taken away, and a tally and legal discharge for it has already been passed in the Exchequer; therefore it may not be much insisted upon. On the 5th instant the Committee for Tonnage and Poundage ordered the Company to pay 3,000*l.* to the Exchequer, which it is content to do if it may be quit of the other. If this 9,000*l.* is allowed to the Company, there will then be owing to it about 54,000*l.*, for satisfaction of which it is humbly suggested that the King should sell some of his many parks, which are of little use and very costly, some small rent only to be reserved for the Crown. That the entire fee farm rent of 500*l.* per annum in the manors of Bradbury and Hilton in the bishopric of Durham, if sold, would yield 10,000*l.*; and that 6,000*l.* per annum is offered for six years for wood from the Forest of Dean, not returned as ship timber, and 1,000*l.* per annum for the soil; and that some assignments may be made upon these after the Earl of Salisbury and Mr. Browne, the gunfounder, have been satisfied. (1 p. Note: No. 81 IV is a draft of the above paper.)

LORD COTTINGTON AT FONTHILL TO THE KING, APRIL 1, 1642 (*Public Record Office: East Indies*, vol. iv B, No. 83).

Is informed that Parliament has resolved to force the East India Company to repay the 12,000*l.* it has received from customs on its goods in part payment of the pepper debt, thus making it determine to sue the bonds given for payment, and especially his own, he having bought the said pepper. If this is done, it will sweep away all his estate and expose him to the scorn of his enemies. His life and fortune are of little value to him in comparison with his service

¹ March 26, 1642 (*Commons' Journal*).