

has since fallen in price; resolved to abate the fine by 100 marks, and he is ordered to pay the Company 333*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, with custom and other charges paid by Mr. Mountny for his goods, which shall then be delivered him, with his bond to be cancelled. Mr. Christopher, son of Mr. Alderman Clitherow, admitted to the freedom of the Company by patrimony, paying 10*s.* to the poor-box. (1½ *pp.*)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, JULY 1, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xv, p. 257).

Mr. Acton to be paid 5*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.* for law causes, also a gratuity of 30*l.* in consideration of his extraordinary pains and service in their law business, especially in the causes between the Company and the Earl of Cleveland, and the Company and Mr. John Fowke, which falling in term time took up his whole attention, so hindering him with other clients. Mr. Deputy proposes that the generality be acquainted with the certificate and report made by Sir William Pitt, Sir Robert Pye, and Mr. Nicholas of the valuation of the premises at Blackwall, for, if the Court of Committees be inclined to accept the offer of 372*l.* per annum on a hundred years' lease for the housing, yard, and lands at Blackwall without the docks, these being the inheritance of the Company, no conclusion can be made with the Earl of Cleveland without approbation and order of the General Court. This being generally approved, Mr. Deputy is desired to inform the generality this afternoon, he conceiving it a good thing for the Company to part with Blackwall on good security rather than to retain the premises at their present great charge, for doubtless the Company can be accommodated with docks and all other necessities as the Turkey merchants are, who having no particular yard yet set forth their ships in as ample manner as the Company. Francis Merritt to be paid 10*l.* for piloting the *Dolphin* out of the Downs and 40*s.* for his extraordinary pains therein. (1½ *pp.*)

A GENERAL COURT, JULY 1, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xv, p. 258).

Mr. Deputy relates that, according to the order of the last General Court, the balance of the Company's estate at home and abroad, gathered from accounts returned, has been by the Auditors delivered to the Select Committees appointed to examine it, and

what has been done by them is the cause of this meeting. Mr. Smithwick, one of the Select Committees, reports that since receiving the said balance they (with the exception of Mr. Richard Wild, who refused to act and never appeared) have met the Auditors several times, perused the Company's letters and accounts, compared them with the balance and find little or no difference between them; this report is seconded by Mr. Chamberleyne. None of the others appearing and the writing produced in confirmation of this opinion being signed by Mr. Smithwick only, a Committee objected to its being read or accepted unless first subscribed to by the major part of the Select Committees; whereupon another of the generality saw no reason why the opinion of one man should not be taken apart. During this dispute Mr. Clarke, another of the Select Committees, appears and, on being told of Mr. Smithwick's paper and asked if he would sign it, declares that having differed in many things at the various meetings he had gone his own way, comparing the abstracts made by the Auditors with the Company's books and letters and had found every parcel tally with the said abstracts, and no other estate of the Company than that certified to by the Auditors, who are able and honest men and willing to assist in every way. Mr. Smithwick's paper and the Auditors' abstracts are now read for information of the generality, and a difference of 100,000*l.* appearing, it is found to be caused by Mr. Smithwick having omitted to deduct, as the Auditors had done, for charges and interest on the Company's estate abroad. No fraud or concealment by the Auditors or connivance or abuse in the Court of Committees being discovered, they having honestly and faithfully discharged their trust, the generality profess themselves well satisfied, and it is ordered that the power given the Select Committees to search the Company's books should now cease absolutely. Moved that the Company has been grossly abused by their factors, and the Court of Committees are desired to be careful in their choice of the same. Mr. Deputy answers that this motion might have been spared, the Committees having done their utmost to obtain sufficient and honest men. Confirmation of the order to restrain the generality from viewing the Company's accounts or being present at the first reading of the letters from India, deferred. Mr. Deputy reports on

the suit depending between the Earl of Cleveland and the Company concerning the premises at Blackwall, with particular passages and hearings in Chancery, the report of the true value of the said premises returned by the Commissioners, with the probability of its speedy ending, and proposes that as the generality have 'a propriety' therein and no decision can be made without their consent, they should give the Court full power and authority to settle this cause, either by accepting the offer made, by giving the Earl a sum of money fitting in their opinions to confirm their estates, or by resolving on some other course for the good of the Company; and on being put to the question this business is wholly referred to the wisdom of the Court of Committees. (3 pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, JULY 3, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xv, p. 261).

The officers of the Navy desire to be again supplied with 10,000 pipestaves at 13*l.* 5*s.* per thousand, ordered that these be delivered when wanted, as there are so many lying on hand that six times the number could well be spared. Mr. Sherburne reports the displeasure of Lord Cottington at the Company's refusal to deliver to Mr. Evelyn the forty tons of refined saltpetre until receipt of the King's privy seal, His Majesty's service requiring its present use, and the privy seal having been ready 'theis ten daies'; likewise His Lordship's request for delivery of the same, with promise of payment upon receipt. Mr. Mountny directed to weigh carefully and deliver the saltpetre on Mr. Evelyn sending for it. Mr. Sherburne acquaints the Court with a proposition lately made the King by 'a party' to serve His Majesty with powder 'Tower prooffe' at 7*d.* per lb., on being supplied with refined saltpetre equal to and at the same price as that given Mr. Evelyn; this the King well approves and has ordered trial to be made, the Company being desired to provide three tons of saltpetre and to lend their mills for the purpose. The Committees are willing to lend the mills, but desire to treat personally with the party about the saltpetre. Gratification of 50*l.* conferred on Mr. Sherburne for extraordinary service during the past year. (1½ pp.)

A GENERAL COURT OF ELECTION, JULY 3, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 1).

Mr. Governor, declaring this to be known by all as the day of election, first acknowledges God's great mercy in restoring him to health and enabling him to appear; then resigns his post and leaves the generality to make free choice of his successor. Sir Morris Abbott, Sir James Cambell, Mr. Alderman Fenn and Mr. Alderman Abdy are nominated for election, but before proceeding the Court decides, after some dispute, that the Governor shall be elected not by the balloting-box but by erection of hands; whereupon Sir Morris Abbott is chosen Governor for the ensuing year. On being informed of this, he gives the generality hearty thanks, promising to do the Company honest and faithful service; he then takes the chair and the accustomed oath is administered to him. Mr. Alderman Clitherow, being appointed to succeed the present Lord Mayor, before resigning his post as Deputy remarks that, as 'nothing is more hatefull to God and man then ingratitude', he wishes to thank God for having enabled him to serve the Company, and he desires also to acknowledge the great love shown by the generality in electing him their Deputy and continuing their favour and good opinion; his desires and actions have always been for the Company's good and his prayers shall not be wanting for their future prosperity. Motion is made by one of the generality that there is no need for a Deputy, neither does the patent of the Company warrant the choice. Thereupon the patent is called for and read, whereby it appears that the Company are to choose yearly a Governor, Deputy, and twenty-four Committees. Accordingly Mr. Alderman Garway, Mr. Alderman Abdy, Mr. Thomas Bownest, Mr. Thomas Mun, and Mr. William Cockayne are nominated; and the three latter 'falling off', after much dispute Alderman Abdy is chosen Deputy by the balloting-box, he receiving fifty-four balls and Alderman Garway only forty-two. A letter is read from Mr. Robert Bateman, who has served the Company as Treasurer sixteen years, and now desires to resign; but the Court, liking his integrity and ability, nominates him, with Messrs. Thomas Mun, John Willyams, and William Cockayne, for that post, and by erection of hands the choice falls on the said Mr. Robert Bateman. As six of the former

Committees are to be changed, the following persons are nominated: Sir James Cambell, Sir John Wolstenholme, Mr. Alderman Highlord, Mr. Alderman Cordell, Captain Crispe, Messrs. Simon Laurence, John Holloway, Robert Bell, Richard Langly, Richard Bishopp, Abraham Chamberleyne, George Clark, Rowland Wilson, John Trott, Richard Wild, Thomas Eyans, Thomas Smithwick, Edward Abbott, John Massingberd, Thomas Ferris, and George Francklyn; but since (according to an order made at a General Court¹) only those having 2,000*l.* adventure in the Second Joint Stock are allowed to serve as Committees, twelve of the above alone remain qualified. Alderman Perry being dead, Mr. Job Harby having sold his adventure, and Mr. Alderman Abdy having been chosen Deputy, the following twenty-four men are finally elected Committees for the ensuing year: Sir Hugh Hamersly, Sir James Cambell, Aldermen Fenn, Garway, Andrews, Highlord and Cordell, Messrs. Thomas Bownest, William Garway, John Langham, Thomas Styles, John Milward, Thomas Mun, Thomas Mustard, William Cockayne, William Spurstowe, Samuel Armitage, Richard Davies, Matthew Cradock, Thomas Kerridge, and Simon Laurence, Captain Crispe, Messrs. George Francklyn and Thomas Smithwick. ($3\frac{1}{2}$ pp.)

WARRANT FOR PAYMENT OF SALTPETRE, JULY 4, 1635 (*Public Record Office: Dom. Chas. I*, vol. ccxciii, No. 26).

Warrant to pay the Governor and Committees of the East India Company for forty lasts of double refined saltpetre, after the rate of 4*l.* the hundred, or for so much as shall be delivered to His Majesty's powder-maker. (*Docquet.*)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, JULY 10, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 5).

Mr. Acton's bill of 25*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.* for law causes to be paid. Mr. Governor condemns the motion made at the Court of Election that only those having 2,000*l.* adventure in the Second Joint Stock can be admitted as Committees; this the generality not understanding rightly, many Committees were removed as incapable who were not

¹ July 2, 1628. See the *Calendar of State Papers, E. Indies*, 1625-9, pp. 506, 524.

so, and he therefore purposes at the next General Court to have this order properly interpreted; that so the Company may have a sufficient number to elect from. Letter read from Alderman Abdy, giving hearty thanks to the generality for their love and good opinion in electing him Deputy, but refusing to accept the position for many reasons, entreating them to fall to a new election, and promising to further, as formerly, the good and welfare of the Company. The Court, on consideration of the many troubles and inconveniencies which may happen by this refusal, entreats Alderman Andrews and Mr. Mun to go to Alderman Abdy and desire him to accept the place and come and take the oath; on which he appears but repeats all he has said by letter and begs not to be further pressed, as it would be both inconvenient and prejudicial for him to accept. Notwithstanding further entreaties he persists in his refusal and leaves the court. Mr. Governor proposes the consideration of the disposal of the cloves, and of the lessening of the officers' salaries, both which questions were in agitation before his late sickness. The Court defers resolving about the cloves until next Friday, when a day for their sale is to be appointed; and decides to let the consideration of the officers' salaries stand over also, there not being a full attendance of Committees. As, however, no answer has yet been received regarding the wages already reduced at Blackwall, the officers concerned are called into court to make known their resolutions. Mr. Fotherby appearing, Mr. Governor tells him that his salary is reduced from 120*l.* to 80*l.* per annum, not from any disaffection or ill opinion of him, but because the great charges of the Company must be lowered 'until it shall please God to enlarge the same as formerly'; to this he willingly submits. Mr. Swanly is next summoned and told that for the same reason his salary is reduced from 130*l.* to 60*l.* per annum, to which he replies that this allowance is too small for him to live upon, and desires that either it may be enlarged or he be employed as commander of a ship next year; this to be taken into consideration. Mr. Steevens is called in and acquainted with the reduction of his salary from 120*l.* per annum to 5*s.* per diem when employed in the Company's service, or 60*l.* per annum certain, according to his choice; and he accepting 60*l.* per annum, it is confirmed unto him for so long as his services shall be required. The reduction of

Mr. Lamprier's salary from 30*l.* to 20*l.* per annum is ratified and confirmed; also Mr. Shepherd's, the porter, from 20*l.* to 20 marks per annum. Ordered that three tons of the Company's refined saltpetre be delivered to Mr. Collyns at 4*l.* per hundred, to be, according to his proposition, converted into powder for the King's use, Sir Henry Vane, Comptroller of His Majesty's Household, to pay the Company for the same. Resolved that the repairs to the *Mary* be proceeded with; Mr. Stevens called in and required to hasten the work so as to have it finished by the middle of September. Letter read from Sir William Russell and other Navy Officers desiring possession again of the King's ropeyard at Woolwich, lately let to the Company at 100*l.* per annum,¹ and to this end requesting that the accounts may be cast up and settled. The Court, finding that there will be little occasion to use the said yard, entreats Captain Styles and Mr. Cockayne to confer with the Navy Officers, and, on the accounts being cleared, to deliver them possession of the yard. Lucy Ashmore granted the Company's work at Blackwall as formerly Captain Crispe and Samuel Crispe are tendered and accepted as security for 1,275*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.*, parcel of the bargain of cloves bought from the Company. Mr. Rowland Wilson and his son allowed as good security for 470*l.*, parcel of the same bargain. Upon petition, Margaret, mother of Thomas Isack, Judith, wife of Peter Church, who went out in the *William*, Joan, wife of William Kingman, Joan, wife of Robert Thomas, Thomazine, wife of William Needs in the *Discovery*, Judith, wife of Giles Nudd in the *Blessing*, Thomazine, wife of Ralph Round in the *London*, Margaret, wife of William Bruton in the *Hopewell*, Katherine, wife of Francis Harris in the *Palsgrave*, and Elizabeth, wife of Richard Trippett in the *Pearl*, are ordered to receive a month's pay of their husbands' wages due next Michaelmas. (3½ pp.)

THE LORDS OF THE ADMIRALTY TO THE OFFICERS OF THE NAVY, JULY 14, 1635 (*Public Record Office: Dom. Chas. I.*, vol. ccxciii, No. 109).

Require them to proceed to bargain . . . and also for a sufficient quantity of pipestaves for next year's service, and to take order to

¹ See the *Calendar of State Papers, E. Indies*, 1630-4, pp. 409, 419

receive again the ropehouse at Woolwich, formerly lent to the East India Company. . . .

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, JULY 17, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 8).

Letter read from President Methwold and Council at Surat, dated December, 1634, and sent by the Dutch ships; whereupon it is ordered by erection of hands that letters be written by Mr. Mun to Signor John Philippo Cotanio at Venice to ask him to provide the Company with coral of the finest and middle sorts to the value of 5,000*l.* for their fleet by the end of next January. Freight of 2 cwt. of sugar granted to Andrew Trumball. Letter read from the King, dated from Richmond the 14th inst., to Mr. Governor and the Committees, noting the late proposition to make powder, which if it can be done will be of good service unto His Majesty; a trial is therefore to be made at the Company's mills at Chilworth (the former restraint being taken off), and Edward Collins ordered to set the mills to work and convert into powder as much of the refined saltpetre as shall from time to time be sent him for the King's use. The Company are to keep all their refined saltpetre for His Majesty's use, for which they shall be paid 4*l.* per hundred, as was given for the 40 tons contracted for by Lord Cottington and already delivered to the powder-maker. Letter read from Sir Henry Vaue to Mr. Alderman Garway, noting the above letter from the King, and desiring that Collins, instead of having three lasts of saltpetre delivered unto him as formerly required, may have one only, in order that trial may be more speedily made; Sir Henry promising to pay for the same, and, on the King taking the powder made by Collins, to pay the Company for as much saltpetre as shall remain in their hands. Ordered that one ton of refined saltpetre be delivered to Mr. Collins at 4*l.* per hundred. Captain Styles reports many offers made for the Company's old cordage; that there is a great quantity of useless iron ordnance which might be disposed of and licence obtained from the State to sell or transport it; also that he has been offered 13*l.* per ton for their old iron, 40*l.* to be paid in hand and the rest in nails to be served to the Company at the usual price. Thereupon the Court orders the old cordage and iron to be sold, and the Secretary to draw up a petition to

the King for licence to transport the ordnance. Mr. Governor acquaints the Court that the Lord Keeper has appointed to-morrow afternoon for hearing and ending the difference between the Earl of Cleveland and the Company; and entreats the attendance of Aldermen Garway, 'Abdy, and Clitherow, he being prevented by special business from being present. Payment ordered of a bill from Boatswain Ingram, subscribed by Mr. Swanly as usual, for 7*l.* 8*s.* for boat-hire and other services from the 9th of June, 1634, to the 14th of July, 1635. The quarter's rent, 5*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, for the lands and mills at Chilworth to be paid to Sir Morgan Randoll. Joan, wife of John Cantely in the *Swan*, and Margaret, wife of Thomas Browne in the *Fewel*, to receive a month's pay of their husbands' wages due next August. (2 *pp.*)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, JULY 24, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 10).

Mr. Acton's bill of 6*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.* for law causes to be paid; also a bill of Mr. Wrighton, the Company's clerk in the Chancery, for 20*l.* 2*s.* for copying books, decrees, and other business. Mr. Swanley's bill of 17*l.* 10*s.* for boat-hire and 'other occasions' from August, 1634, to May, 1635, to be paid. Lady Dale transfers her adventure in the First, Second, and Third Joint Stock by deed dated the 9th of June last to Sir Baineham Throgmorton. To this the Court demurs, observing that it is contrary to the Company's custom and orders to pass over adventures by deed; and Sir Baineham is told that it can only be done in the usual way by Lady Dale coming into Court, or transferring the adventure in presence of some of their principal officers. Sir Baineham, however, thinking the transfer correct, has already sold the said adventure to Mr. Thomas Northy, merchant, to whom he desires it may be transferred, or he will be much inconvenienced. On consideration, the Court, wishing to show him favour, decides to admit Lady Dale's deed and transfer, Sir Baineham promising that Her Ladyship (on coming to town next Michaelmas) shall confirm it as the Company shall require. Transfer of the said adventure to Mr. Thomas Northy is also allowed upon his promise to undertake that Lady Dale, before the 20th of October, shall subscribe and approve of her account with the Company as it now stands in their

books. Certificate read, signed by Messrs. Fotherby, Steevens, and Swanley, informing the Court of a parcel of old ironwork, about 13 or 14 tons, in bolts and other pieces, and also of 3 tons of 'percutlis barrs' and round and square hoops, which can well be spared, and that 13*l.* per ton would be a valuable price, making a total of 240*l.*; whereupon Richard Downing offering this price, it is sold unto him, he paying 40*l.* in hand, and 200*l.* at six and six months upon his own and one Mr. Chapman's bills. Cicely Edwards offers 6½*d.* per lb. for the Company's old brass shivers and is allowed to have them at 7*d.* per lb., upon good security. Written offers made by Henry Newchurch, John Southam, Walter Blackborne, and William Jones for the Company's old cordage at Blackwall. William Jones bidding highest, it is sold to him at 13*s.* 6*d.* per hundred, to be paid 200*l.* in hand, or within ten or fourteen days, the rest at three months upon rebate; he to receive all within a month. Mr. Fotherby ordered to sell at the best possible rate the timber from the old ships in the Company's yard at Blackwall. Many offers to buy the Company's old sails at 3½*d.* per yard refused, and sale thereof deferred until next Friday, the Court asking 4*d.* per yard, including the bolt-ropes. Gratuity of 40*s.* bestowed upon Jane, wife of Thomas Homer, a captive at Algiers, towards her husband's redemption. Jane, wife of Edward Russell in the *Discovery*, to receive a month's pay due next September. (2 pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, JULY 31, 1695 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 13).

Pétition of Mr. John Heath, brother and adventurer in the Company, that the stop put upon his adventure, on pretence of a debt due to one Mrs. Wood, whereby he is prevented from transferring or making the best of it, may be removed, Mrs. Wood being willing; the Court, understanding that Alderman Abdy and Mr. Styles caused the said stop to be made, orders Mr. Bowen to speak with Mrs. Wood that Mr. Heath may be enabled to transfer his adventure. The Company's old sails sold to Mr. John Sutham at 6½*d.* per yard single, 100*l.* in hand and the rest at six months, he giving security. Mr. Governor reports what passed last Tuesday in the cause between the Company and the Earl of

Cleveland. The Lord Keeper decided upon the valuation made by the commissioners as to the annual value of the property in question; the six lives were by consent changed to one between 24 and 30 years, and Mr. William Garway named for this life; His Lordship settled the fine the Company are to pay at 500*l.*, and decreed that this fine is not to be a precedent for the future; and the Company is not to present more than three tenants 'upon any alienation', which if they do, the Earl is not to be compelled to admit them. Mr. Acton's bill of 7*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.*, for the last term's charges in the suit between the Earl of Cleveland and the Company, to be paid. Ordered, upon Mr. Governor's motion, that the Committees go 'Thursday come senight' to settle business at Blackwall. Messrs. Franklyn and Smithwick entreated to join (in place of Messrs. Gayre and Willyams) with Messrs. Cockayne and Laurence in superintending the auditing of the Company's accounts. Motion made by Mr. Smithwick that a longer time be allowed Mr. Kipp for the saltpetre, he not being able to receive it when he would, also that the 60*l.* he paid for custom be allowed him, on the ground that the saltpetre was not shipped in time; both requests refused by erection of hands, the Court remembering that Mr. Kipp might have received the saltpetre before any stop was made by the State, and that Mr. Rickholt, who bought at the same time on the same terms, demands no allowance. Mr. Fotherby ordered to sell 60 barrels of mended powder, as new may hereafter be bought at as good price as this can now be sold for. One month's pay allowed to Elizabeth, wife of Joseph Taylor in the *London*; also to Katherine, wife of John Flayle in the *Coaster*, as her neighbour's house being burnt caused the pulling down of hers and the spoiling of her goods. (1½ pp.)

SIR WILLIAM MONSON TO SECRETARY WINDEBANK, AUGUST 1, 1635 (*Public Record Office: Dom. Chas. I.*, vol. ccxcv, No. 3).

. . . In his coming thence [i.e. from Torbay] the last of July, he met with three East India ships, the chief commander, Captain Weddell, a discreet and well experienced seaman, whom he has enjoined immediately upon his arrival to repair to Windebank before he appears to any other of the Council, which he has faithfully promised. By the little speech he had with him, the writer

finds he is able to give information how His Majesty may be honoured and profited by that East India voyage; he has been lately with the Viceroy of Goa, from whom he has a present to His Majesty, who makes such overtures for the benefit of the King and kingdom as are worthy to be embraced; for, to the writer's knowledge, the King of Spain is merchant of all the pepper that comes into Portugal from thence. . . . Wishes him to send to Captain Weddell. . . .

ROBERT, EARL OF LINDSEY, ABOARD THE *MERHONOUR*, TO THE KING, AUGUST 3, 1635 (*Public Record Office: Dom. Chas. I.*, vol. ccxcv, No. 9).

. . . Three English East India ships came to an anchor last night in St. Helen's Road; they are richly laden, but very weak and in distress, as commonly they see them after such long voyages. At their request he has supplied their necessities as best he could, to their great content. They were nobly entertained by the Portugal Viceroy of Goa, where large offers are made to the English if they would be willing to join with them.

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, AUGUST 5, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 14).

Mr. Steevens directed to provide 'compasse timber'¹ for repairing the *Mary*, and for finishing the little dock in the Yard, in order that the *Swan*; when unladen, may be brought in for repairs. The Court confirms the increase made by the President and Council of Surat, in their letter now read, of Benjamin Robinson's wages to 60*l.* per annum. Robinson was purser in the *Swallow*, and after she was burnt was made purser-general in place of Thomas Turner. The increase of John Bradshaw's wages to 20*l.* per annum is also confirmed. Noting from the said letter that the Governor of Surat owes the Company 31,000 'mamoods'², 10,000 of which he deducts as a fine for Mr. Heynes's private trade in quicksilver, and refuses to pay the remainder, the Court directs that order be given concerning this in the next letters. Meanwhile Mr. Heynes's estate is to be charged with the said 10,000 'mamoods'. Gratuity of 40*s.* bestowed upon William Fugill, a soldier who has served the Dutch

¹ Curved timber used in shipbuilding.

² See note on p. 31.

thirteen years, for bringing^a a letter from the factors in Persia ; his request for employment is referred until the next ships leave. Henry Smith appointed purser for the discharge of the *Jonah*, and William Pringle for the unloading of the *Hart*. (1 p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, AUGUST 7, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 15).

Mr. Dixon, steward to the Earl of Cleveland, given 5*l.* in lieu of his fees for two surrenders and admissions of feoffees at two courts to the Company's land and building at Blackwall. On petition, Katherine, wife of Edward Manniston in the *Swallow*, Mary, wife of Richard Latter in the *Expedition*, Margaret, wife of John Healand in the *London*, and Katherine, wife of Priam Peeterson, are granted one month's pay extraordinary. Mr. Bowen, whose honesty and ability are well known, chosen unanimously to succeed Mr. Ellam, under whom he has had long experience ; settlement of his wages deferred. Samuel Sambrooke, educated in the counting-house under Mr. Sambrooke for seven years and much commended for his 'hand writing and civill carriage', is entertained, at Mr. Bowen's desire, to assist him. Mr. Treasurer ordered to accept and pay to Mr. John Chiverhart, a Frenchman, the bills of exchange charged upon the Company by the President and Council at Bantam ; also that his goods be delivered to him freight-free, with his chest of apparel and other necessities. Mr. Governor, Alderman Garway and Mr. Mun desired to move Lord Cottington for licence to buy rials without incurring the danger of buying above the standard rate. Messrs. Bownest, Mustard, Smithwick, and Kerridge entreated to read the letters and consultations from India. Mr. Acton's bill of 9*l.* 9*s.* for law causes to be paid. On petition of Richard Higham, late purser in the *Exchange*, one hundred marks is remitted of the fine of 400*l.* imposed on him for private trade and freight of goods. Robert Phipps given 5*l.* for 'his paines in writing in the compting house'. (1½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, AUGUST 12, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 17).

Ordered that 5*l.* be imprested upon account to Mr. Arthur Hatch, who came home minister in the *Jonah*. Sir William Beecher

transfers his remains in the three Persia Voyages, amounting to 980*l.*, to Mr. John Willyams, who likewise transfers, by writing, attested by Mr. Sambrooke, 1,000*l.* in the Third Joint Stock with all profits to Sir William Beecher. The latter moves that the merging of the three Voyages in the Joint Stock is an injury to those interested in the Voyages, it having been understood at the first underwriting that the proceeds of each Voyage would be divided among the adventurers therein. The Governor and Court, after long debate, acquaint him that this was decided upon at a General Court, it being found impossible to distinguish the returns of one Voyage from another, and these from the returns of the Joint Stock. Sir William, better satisfied, moves that the accounts of each Voyage be examined separately; it is answered that this would be to no purpose, it being impossible to alter what is already done. William Carrick, now imprisoned in the King's Bench for having stood surety for 550*l.* owed by Richard Barnaby to Lewis Rickholt, desires the Court to stop Barnaby's wages; ordered that this be done until it appears how the said Barnaby's account stands with the Company. (1 *p.*)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, AUGUST 19, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 18).

The books being sorted by Mr. Markham and ready for perusal, the four Committees formerly nominated to superintend the auditing of accounts are entreated not to do so singly, but two or more together, that their joint opinions may better satisfy the Court. Mr. Mountry directed to find clothes for and pay 5*s.* per week each to Don John and Baffan, two blacks who came home in the *Hart* and have served the Company respectively thirteen and fifteen years. John Carter, late master's mate in the *Swallow*, petitions for the remainder of his wages, detained because of the burning of the said ship; refused, he being one of the four sent home prisoners, being drunk when the accident occurred. He denies having been drunk or giving order for shooting the ordnance that fired the ship, but is told that it is usual for mariners to lose their pay if their ship perishes, and that he has fared well to be left unquestioned on the return of the Commission from India. Ordered that the *Swan*, when unladen, be viewed and report made as to her sufficiency for

another voyage. The *Hart* being ready to 'breake bulke' next Friday, Mr. Mun is entreated to undertake the beginning of that work, she to be discharged before another is begun. The *Hart*, if found fit, to be sent with men and provisions to Bantam. The *Mary* proposed for Surat. Thomas Moon of Canterbury petitions for 8*l.* on account of Oliver Mansell's wages and 5*l.* on account of George Cooper's, both sailors in the *Hart* and now lying sick at his house; granted, and payment ordered. Messrs. Cockayne, Spurstow, and Cradock desired to buy forty fine cloths ready dyed and dressed, principally stammetts, to be sent out this year. After conference with Mr. Bogan about payment for the coral ordered to be provided at Marseilles, the Court charges the bills of exchange upon Mr. Bogan's son at Rouen, the former promising to order his son to accept them. It is resolved to send as much stock for the Coast this year as last, viz. 20,000*l.*, and 5,000*l.* for Bantam. Freight of 300½ [lb.] of cassia lignum brought home in the *Swan* remitted to Richard Deane and John Pearson, master's mates in the said ship. (1½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, AUGUST 21, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 20).

One month's pay extraordinary granted respectively to Elizabeth, wife of James White in the *Palsgrave*, Elizabeth, wife of Joseph Taylor in the *London*, and Elizabeth, wife of Robert Whittingham, removed from the *Exchange* to the *Pearl*. Mr. Acton's bill of 15*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* for passing the decree against the Earl of Cleveland to be paid. Those appointed to buy cloth ordered to buy the kerseys for this year. Freight of goods remitted to Anthony Rumsy, master's mate in the *Swan*, and to William Brockish and John Pullen, also in the *Swan*. Mr. John Turetine of Geneva transfers, by procuration signed by Odett Chappins, public notary of Geneva, his adventure of 312*l.* 10*s.*, the profit of 2,500*l.* in the Second Joint Stock, to Mr. John Kipp. Mr. Kipp moves for some allowance on the 50*l.* he paid for custom for saltpetre bought of the Company which was detained by order of the Council Board; this being his own fault, as he might have received and shipped the saltpetre before stay was made, the Court refuses his request. Robert Hall,

cook in the *Jonah*, petitions for the three hogsheads of tallow saved by him; this is refused, but he is allowed 4*l.* for the same. (1 *p.*)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, AUGUST 28, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 21).

The men in the *Jonah*, *Hart*, and *Swan* to be paid, but none of the officers except Anthony Rumsy, whose freight has been remitted and therefore his account is to be cleared. Mr. Rickholt having a quantity of rials to sell, Mr. Treasurer is directed to lend him 10,000*l.*, taking rials to that value until the Company obtain licence to buy as they want. Mr. Mountny desired to make out proportions for seventy men at eighteen months' time for the *Swan* on her being ready to go for the Coast, and Mr. Blackborne to oversee the making of fit cordage for her. Mr. Governor acquaints the Court with what passed before the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen concerning the making of indigo, when the certificates made by the Company and Mr. Boulton were presented. The said certificates being now read, Mr. Boulton desires that the mention of the Act of Common Council for suppressing the false making of indigo be omitted, pretending to be willing to give up his patent rather than contend with the Company, insisting that he has made no 'sophisticated indico', and intimating that if his patent continues in force, by the Company's help it would be easy to suppress the false making of indigo. This the Court denies to be possible and declares against indigo being made by Mr. Boulton or any others, as it will disparage the sale of their own, as happened lately when six barrels of Mr. Boulton's indigo were sent to Leghorn. Finally the matter is left to the decision of the Lord Mayor and Aldermen. Mary, wife of William Fall, factor in Persia, petitions for remission of freight on two Persia carpets and forty pieces of Coast linen; the goods are to be viewed before answer is made. A brother of Mr. Kirkham, who died in Persia, applies to receive the estate; but the Court, noting that the deceased had invested 1,800 rials of the Company's money at Port Gombroon for his own account and that the account of the factory has not come home, neither is any will proved nor have letters of administration been taken out, refers the brother a year hence for answer. Two carpets brought home for the account of Alderman Perry, deceased, to be delivered free of

freight. On motion of Mr. Collins, the Court orders that on his bringing fifty barrels of old powder mended, fifty more be delivered him; he is to receive half payment, the other half to go in satisfaction of his debt to the Company. Anne, wife of George Clayford, who went out in the *Charles*, to receive one month's pay extraordinary of her husband's wages. Mr. Gearing requests that, having bought pepper at $17\frac{1}{2}d.$ at four, six months in October last, the time may be extended to five, six months; his request is refused for fear of creating a bad precedent. John Cappur's bill of $6l. 14s. 1d.$ for boat-hire and Mr. Governor's and the Committees' charges at Erith 'to meete Captain Weddall &c.', to be paid. Motion made for extension of time, three weeks or a month, to those who underwrote for 200 bags or more of the Company's pepper; the Court orders that the time for all the pepper shall begin from the 24th of June last. Edmund Chambers' bill of $14s.$ for boat-hire to be paid and $3l.$ given him on account of a cloak lost by him in a storm when on board the *Swan*. ($2\frac{3}{4} pp.$)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, SEPTEMBER 3, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 23).

Mr. Styles reports the sale of the old stores except the brass shivers, iron ordnance, and old powder. Mr. William Garway buys about three tons of the said brass shivers at $6d.$ per lb. at six months' time. Mr. Ducy to be given written notice to leave his house next Christmas. Committees for buying canvas for sails entreated to confer with Mr. Swanly. Committees for buying beef and pork directed to provide for seventy men at eighteen months in the *Swan*. Mr. North to see to the taking down and refitting of defective cabins in the *Swan*. The cabins in the *Hart* to be repaired. Mrs. Methwold to receive freight-free all the tokens sent by her husband in the *Fonah*. Mr. Gregory Clement desires to receive 4,000 rials, brought to the Company's cash at Surat, according to order; the Court, having heard of his private trade, directs that the said order be looked up before a reply is given. A General Court to be called 'this day senight' in the afternoon for consideration of the disposal of goods returned in the three ships. Freight remitted to Richard Cooper, late a factor in Persia, on his Persian chest, drugs, and jars of green ginger, but his bale of

carpets ordered to be viewed. Freight remitted to Thomas Robinson, late a factor at Macassar, on all his goods except the damasks, which are to be viewed before delivery. Freight remitted to Mrs. Norbury on twenty-six pieces of calicoes left her by her late husband. Captain Swanly requested to bring up his 'nest of Japon truncks, his cabinet and greene turtle doves' for inspection. ($1\frac{1}{2}$ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, SEPTEMBER 4, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 24).

Agnes, wife of William Jourden in the *Blessing*, Rebecca, wife of Jeremy Huddle in the *Fonah*, Jane, wife of Thomas Beckensale in the *Speedwell*, and Alice, wife of Thomas Browne in the *Swan*, granted one month's pay extraordinary of their husbands' wages. Captain Swanly to be paid 200*l.* on account, and receive his goods freight-free, with the exception of two cwt. of cloves, which are to be detained till further order. Letter read from the Commissioners of Sewers with copy of the 'presentment of the juratts', representing the damage done by the *Mary* lying on the bank at Greenwich at 40*l.*, besides the 20*l.* already paid; Messrs. Mun and Spurstowe entreated to meet the Commissioners at Greenwich on Monday morning to confer about and settle this business, the Court not understanding how so much damage can have been caused. All goods belonging to Mrs. Kingston, widow of John Kingston, late purser in the *Hart*, to be brought from the Custom-house for further order. No licence having been procured by the Company to buy gold or silver in readiness for the *Swan*, bound for the Coast, it is resolved to obtain some from the Low Countries; ordered, by erection of hands, that a letter be written to Mr. John Quarles and Mr. Francklyn's factor, Robert Gale, directing them to buy 10,000*l.* in gold for the Company, to be delivered within forty days and to charge the Company by exchange 'at single or double usance'. Messrs. John Langham, Thomas Soame, Abraham Beck, and Edward Abbott accepted by the balloting-box as security for indigo bought by Mr. Langham from the Company, and the said indigo ordered to be cleared from the Company's warehouse, room being wanted for their own goods. The Committees for the provision of lead having bought 100 fother, it is ordered to be put in the *Swan*. Mrs. Hopkinson, widow and executrix of Joseph

Hopkinson, late President of Surat, appears in Court and desires to receive her husband's estate or 50*l.* upon account; the Court, seeing there are objections against her husband, that his estate has not yet been examined, and that the widow has already received forty odd pounds for calicoes and 100*l.* upon account, besides many tokens (a note whereof she promises to give the Company), orders that she be paid 50*l.* more on account. Thomas Robinson, late a factor at Macassar, to be paid 100*l.* on account. He utterly denies that his damasks belonged to Christopher Read and entreats the remission of freight on his goods; this is granted, except on his damask and nest of trunks, which are to be brought to Crosby House. Mr. Harman requests that the goods and tokens sent by his son-in-law to his daughter may be delivered; Alderman Garway having seen these and they being small, it is directed that they be delivered free of freight 'in regard Seignor Casteynes hath already and may againe goe comander of the Holland shippes for the Indies'. Captain Swanley, being questioned, acknowledges buying one hundred pieces of damask on leaving Bantam from Christopher Read, and selling them at 55*s.* each, taking a bill for payment to Mr. Read's brother in England; the said brother being called and questioned moves for a warrant to fetch his brother home and complains of one Mr. Willoughby as having done him much injury; the Court promises to consider his request, and on his demand orders that certain goods and tokens be delivered him freight-free. Mr. Mountry to provide 100 butts of cider for the next year's ships. Demand of Mr. Dobbin for allowance on burnt and damaged silk refused, no Committee having been called in at the opening of the bale. Request of Nathaniel Mountry to receive such goods as he brought home free of freight granted. Mr. Mountry directed to weigh and give certificate of all goods belonging to Mr. George Collins, minister, who died on his way home from Bantam, when all or part of the said goods shall be delivered freight-free. (3 *pp.*)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, SEPTEMBER 9, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 27).

Complaint of Mr. Rose, brother and executor of the late Thomas Rose, that Captain Weddall and George Gosnell, purser in the

Jonas, have sold part of his brother's estate and not brought it to the Company's account ; he therefore desires the Court will cause them to do him justice. Being called before the Court, Captain Weddall and George Gosnell deny this accusation, saying that the account they have given is true, as will appear from the inventory taken on board the *Jonas* at Mr. Thomas Rose's death. Mr. Rose next desires certain of his brother's papers which were delivered to Mr. Bowen ; answered that if on examination the papers do not concern the Company they shall be delivered him, but with regard to Captain Weddall and George Gosnell he must do as he thinks fit, as the Company only gives satisfaction for what comes to its hands. Mr. Mun reports that after much discourse and expostulation had with the Commissioners of Sewers at Greenwich, concerning the fine of 40*l* imposed for damage done by the *Mary* to the banks of the marsh, the said fine was reduced to 40 marks, the lowest the Commissioners would consent to ; this he conceives better for the Company to pay than to run the risk of a further survey ; ordered that it be paid accordingly. Thomas Hartnoll and William Baily, master's mates in the *Hart*, and Edward Hall, master's mate in the *Jonas*, to have their debts and wages paid and their accounts cleared. Mr. Governor reminds the Court of the General Court to be held in the afternoon and desires them to consider what is fitting to propose to the generality ; he for his part remembers four things, namely, intimation of the arrival of their three ships, 'with acknowledgement to God for the same', appointment of a day for sale of the goods returned in these ships ; election of a new Deputy ; and revocation of the order whereby only those having an adventure of 2,000*l*. in the old stock are capable of being Committees, as otherwise next year there will not be a sufficient number to elect from. On recommendation of Captain Swanly, Vasterly, a Russian, entertained in the Company's service in Persia as a horsekeeper, who was put into the *Hart* for Bantam and returned to England in the *Swan* without receiving any wages, is ordered to be given 10*l*. and a suit of clothes, to enable him to return to his own country. Mrs. Hopkins, widow of Richard Hopkins, late master of the *Comfort*, to receive 100*l*. on account of her husband's wages. Edmond Beane buys 100 barrels of powder at 4*l*. 10*s*. per barrel at six months' time, and Robert

Russell 100 barrels at the same price and time on good security. Draft of a petition to the King for alteration of the Company's patent for transportation of 100,000*l.* in foreign silver and bullion of silver, read, approved, and ordered to be engrossed. Captain Weddall's account of 1,132*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* for wages and debts, which, on imprest money and other payments being deducted, is reduced to 777*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.*, ordered to be paid towards the supply of his adventure; also a gratification of 100*l.* to be given him for bringing his ship the *Fonas* into the Downs without touching at any port in the west country. Upon Captain Swanly's request, the Court orders the freight to be remitted on some sugar sent his wife from India, his wages and moneys due to him to be paid, and his accounts cleared. Freight on goods remitted to John Proud, John Stallon, master's mate in the *Fonas*, and Mr. Swanly, master of the *Swan*. Henry Collins, executor to George Collins, minister, who died in the *Hart*, petitions for remission of freight on his late brother's goods; one third ordered to be remitted, and the goods delivered on payment of the remainder. (2 pp.)

A GENERAL COURT, SEPTEMBER 9, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 30).

Mr. Governor acquaints the generality that they have all assembled 'to render unto Almighty God their humble and hearty thancks for the safe arrivall of their three shippes, the *Fonas* from Suratt and the *Hart* and *Swanne* from Bantam'; that by God's providence the *Fonas* was enabled at the Cape to relieve the other two ships, who by reason of mortality among their men and scarcity of fresh food fell into great distress; and these ships with their lading being now brought home in safety, a day is to be appointed for sale of the goods. Mr. Alderman Clitherow moves for liberty to merchants trading to Hamborough and those parts to ship as much pepper as they want, and pay for it at the same rate as the whole shall be sold for, as, the ships being now ready to depart for the East Country, the day of sale may be fixed too late for them. Ordered by erection of hands that the day of sale be 'Friday next come fortnight' in the afternoon. Motion for a division absolutely declined, as being neither fit nor in the power of the Court to grant. The Governor acquaints the Court with Mr. Alderman Abdy's per-

sistent refusal to fill the place of Deputy, and desires them to nominate some persons for that post, or their business may suffer in the event of his own sickness or other occasions. Hereupon one of the generality moves, as before, that the Charter not warranting the election of a Deputy, the Company's charge might be lessened by appointing one of the twenty-four Committees to that place; the Charter being called for and read, it appears by express words therein that there must be a Deputy. Thereupon Aldermen Fenn and Garway, Mr. Bownest, and Captain Crispe are nominated for election, and Alderman Garway is chosen by erection of hands to be Deputy for the ensuing year. He not being present to take the oath, Mr. Governor is recommended to see the same performed at a Court of Committees. Alderman Abdy is chosen one of the twenty-four Committees, in place of Alderman Garway, he being ready and willing to give the Company his best service therein. Mr. Governor proposes reconsideration of the order that none be a Committee unless he have 2,000*l.* adventure in the old stock which order has been wrongly understood and should be rectified, or next year there will not be above four or five persons capable of being Committees; he proposes that the sum be reduced from 2,000*l.* to 1,200*l.* or 1,500*l.*; it is agreed to reconsider this business at the General Court before the next Court of Election. Mr. Governor relates passages of the last General Court which he much condemns, especially the pressure brought to bear for disclosure of the Company's accounts at such an unseasonable time; the balance was shown, but all knowledge of the Company's great debt wisely withheld by the Court of Committees. With regard to this debt, which was 'more then they had in the kingdome to pay', all fear is now blown over by reason of the happy arrival of the three ships; he advises the generality to credit himself and the Committees with faithful performance of their duties according to their oaths, and to believe that they understand the estate and affairs of the Company better than any private men can do. The late famine in India has been a great hindrance to the Company, but the generality must not be discouraged, for the truce lately made by President Methwold with the Portugals, which is well approved of by the King and Lords, will much advantage the Company's trade, and His Majesty has given special commission

and direction to his ambassador, Lord Artson [Aston], who is to be dispatched to Spain, to treat on his arrival with the King of Spain and the Council of Portugal for a firm ratification of the said truce. (3 pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, SEPTEMBER 11, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 33).

Mr. Governor acquaints the Court with the election of Alderman Garway at the last General Court as Deputy. Alderman Garway, though at first unwilling on account of press of business, at the earnest solicitation of Mr. Governor and the Committees accepts the said post and takes his chair and the accustomed oath. Request of Mrs. Kingston, widow of John Kingston, late purser in the *Hart*, for remission of freight on goods brought home as private trade, a note of which is now read out by the Governor; ordered that the goods, which are mostly drugs, be delivered free of freight, with exception of a parcel of cloves, which is to be kept for the Company's use and paid for as shall be thought fit. Upon petition of Reynold Parker, administrator of Richard Vawter, late master's mate in the *Swan*, for the estate of the said Vawter remaining in the Company's hands, the Court, on seeing the letters of administration, hearing the cause from Parker's counsel, and on information given by Mr. Sambrooke, orders payment to be made to Mr. Parker. Sir Hugh Hamersly reports the finding of 19 lb. of dust in the barrel of indigo he bought from the Company at 6s. 3d. per lb. and desires some allowance; Mr. Blunt directed to take back the said dust and charge Sir Hugh for the indigo only. Mr. Francklyn having read the papers belonging to the late Thomas Rose, factor in Persia, the same are delivered to his brother with exception of three relating to the Company, namely, two contracts for private trade, one with Sir Arthur Michelborne, the other with Elisha Robbins, and a paper for Sir John Wolstenholme concerning the investing of certain broadcloths for Persia carpets; these the Secretary is ordered to keep till further direction. Isaac Evans, apprentice to the Company, who returned in the *Swan*, to be given 40s., a suit of apparel, and to be released from his apprenticeship in reward for his services. On petition of Thomas Turner, late purser in the *Charles*, for remission of freight on sundry goods, Mr. Mountny

is ordered to weigh the same and report to the Court. Thomas Tison petitions for allowance of wages at the rate of 50s. per month as master's mate in the *Charles*. He presents a note from Captain Weddall attesting his entertainment as master's mate, but the Court, finding he was only entertained as a midshipman, decides to allow him wages at the rate of 34s. per month up to the firing of the *Charles*. Freight of goods remitted to Walter Hamond, surgeon in the *Jonas*. Mrs. Lyng, widow of John Lyng, the Company's late Agent at Bantam, to be paid 282*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*, the remainder of her husband's wages. Mr. William Garway and his son William allowed as security for brass shivers bought from the Company. Freight of goods remitted to William Price, surgeon's mate in the *Charles*, and to Thomas Harrison, late boatswain in the *Swan*. Gratuity of 5*s.* from the poor-box bestowed on Thomasine Grimshaw, a poor widow. Mr. Steevens and the new master to be chosen for the *Swan* next Wednesday are ordered to view and report on the masts of the said ship, which are reported to be very defective. (2½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, SEPTEMBER 16, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 35).

Susan, wife of Andrew Webster in the *Coaster*, to receive one month's pay of her husband's wages. Don John and Buffin, two blacks, to receive 13*s.* for diet, and to have a weekly allowance for work. Freight of 1,500 lb. weight of long pepper remitted to John Arnold, gunner in the *Swan*, Walter Cassell, Mark Bowers, and Edward Jones. Spices brought home in the *Jonas* by Thomas Turner to be delivered him, but consideration as to remission of freight deferred. Mr. Mustard proposes that the Court should change its resolution and forbear sending the *Mary* to Surat this year, considering the small expectation of commodities held out by President Methwold's letter, besides the great charge of her repairs and fitting, and the wages of her men, which cannot be less than 15,000*l.*; moreover there are many great ships abroad and great stock has been already sent to fill and return these home. Mr. Deputy thinks that notwithstanding these reasons it is necessary to send a ship to Surat and so keep up an annual succession of trade, which if left one year may be endangered for ever.

Mr. Governor and divers Committees are of opinion that as the misfortunes in India have not been caused by neglect but by 'the imediate hand of God', and though no great quantity of commodities is advised in the general letters, yet the Company should not be discouraged, but 'like wise and good merchants adventure in hope, as the ploughman sows his corne in expectation of a plentiful harvest'. It is further observed that if the King of Persia keeps his contract with the Company, all their ships and stock must return by Christmas year; that the truce made with Portugal is a further encouragement to increase trade, and only dishonour can be brought to the Company by deserting Surat, which they have hitherto supplied so plentifully. These and other reasons being discussed, it is finally decided by erection of hands to send the *Mary* with a competent stock, and Mr. Steevens is directed to repair and fit her for the voyage with all possible expedition. Petition read of Robert Griffin, Company's apprentice, who came home in the *Fonas*, complaining of barbarous and inhuman whipping by boatswain Cowley on the unjust accusation of John Robinson and Edward Knipe, all these are ordered to appear before the Court next Friday and no wages to be paid them until further examination is had of this complaint. Payment ordered of a bill for 9*l* 2*s*. presented by Edmond Chambers, master of the Company's barge, for carrying Committees to Erith and back. The President of Surat having reported a lack of small ordnance for junks and small vessels on the Coast of Coromandel, as many as the Committees for providing ordnance shall think fit are to be provided and sent by the *Hart*. Mr. Treasurer informs the Court of the desire of many adventurers to take out moneys due to them at 'yeare, yeare and yeare, upon rebate' and that there is now plenty of money in cash; he is desired to act herein as he thinks best for the Company. John Proud, who came home master in the *Fonas*, chosen, on the special recommendation of Captain Weddall, master for the *Swan*, with William Trumbull as chief mate; the latter is referred to Captain Styles for wages. Ordered that Ezekiel Skinner, who came home in the *Fonas*, be paid his wages, and his late master, Michael Young, discharged of the 6*l*. which he agreed by covenant to pay for the said Skinner. (2½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, SEPTEMBER 18, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 38).

Half freight remitted to Mary, wife of John Richardson, late boatswain in the *Hart*, on goods belonging to her husband brought home as private trade in the said ship. Upon petition of William Curtis, a poor boy who went out in the *Speedwell*, served $4\frac{1}{2}$ years without wages, and is now returned in the *Hart*, for some gratification; he being a 'witty boy', willing and ready, entertainment is promised him in the *Swan* and 3*l.* ordered to be given to his master for his use. No freight to be remitted on the sanguis draconis and other goods sent home by Mr. Read to his brother, but further consideration to be had thereof on Mr. Read's return to England. Petition of William Stafford, servant to John Garrett, for payment of his wages, which were stopped on the purser of the *Dolphin* reporting that he had run away at Swally Road with three others to the Portugals; this he denies, but confesses that, having been on shore when the ships left, he went overland as quickly as possible to Surat, where on arrival he was 'whipped, imprisoned, putt in irons, and fedd with rice and water a month' for this offence, but afterwards re-entertained in the Company's service and continued ever since; ordered that he be paid 10*s.* a month from his last entertainment, but nothing for his service before running away. Petition of Ann Read, widow of Ralph Read, sometime master in the *Swan*, for payment of 500 rials of eight deducted from her husband's wages because that by a shot made at the ship's leaving Macassar when saluting the Castle a black was accidentally killed, and for this a fine of 500 rials was imposed upon the Company by the King; the Court being informed by Thomas Robinson, lately returned from Macassar, that Read ordered Thomas Nelson, the gunner, to draw the shot from the gun before saluting the Castle, which he omitted to do and thus caused the accident, orders the 500 rials to be paid Mrs. Read and charged upon the account of gunner Nelson, to be registered in the Black Book and remembered at his return. The wages of Anthony Warren, a black, which were stopped because he absented himself from his ship, ordered to be paid, he having been punished already for this offence. Consideration had of the complaints made in the

general letters of exorbitant private trade carried on by George Gosnell, who took out sixty barrels of quicksilver on his own account, besides great quantities for other men; being called in he confesses to have carried out twenty-five small barrels, each containing 30 lb. weight, valued at 90*l.*, but denies having brought anything home in the *Jonas*; whereupon Thomas Turner being called testifies to Gosnell's having taken out sixty barrels of quicksilver and confesses to have taken out some himself, thirty maunds of which he sold to Virgee Vora, making 25 per cent. profit. Captain Weddall is next called and demanded why he had not, in obedience to the Court's order, on first hearing about Gosnell's private trade, seized the said Gosnell's person, papers, and estate; the Captain replies that at 'Bechee' [Beachy Head] he had demanded the key of his cabin and searched, but found only account books; he further avers that what Gosnell may have brought home in 'short ends' he knows not, neither of any other goods. As Gosnell has before been suspected, and on his last entertainment gave bond not to offend in this manner, which bond he has wilfully broken and not dealt fairly or truly with the Company, the Court resolves that his wages be detained and suit taken against him, unless he submit himself and pay such fine as shall be demanded for his offence. On petition of William Westerne, custom-house waiter, ordered that a bag of pepper be given him and his fellow waiters for attending at the unlading of the *Jonas*. A bill of 15*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*, for provisions for the *Jonas*, to be paid. Freight remitted on a bale of East India tobacco sent as a present to Mr. William Biddulph, and on a carpet sent from Mr. Methwold to Mr. Faireclough. Henry Cowley's bill of 3*l.* 3*s.*, for diet and burial of three blacks, to be paid. Robert Russell, skinner, and Thomas Abraham, tallow-chandler, allowed as security for 100 barrels of gunpowder sold to Russell at 4*l.* 10*s.* the barrel at six months' time. (3*pp.*)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, SEPTEMBER 23, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 41).

Mary, wife of John Russell, who came home in the *Jonas* and has gone to 'the Straights', to receive 9*l.* due to her husband for wages.

Mrs. Hopkins, wife of Richard Hopkins, late master of the *Comfort*, to receive 335*l.* due upon her husband's account. Mr. Hatch, who came home preacher in the *Fonas*, to be paid 140*l.* in full of his wages. On petition of Mrs. Austen, alias Savery, widow and administratrix of Edward Austen, master of the *Swan*, for 307*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.* still due to her late husband, she having only received 107*l.* 6*s.* 1*d.* from his estate, the Court, hearing that the accounts are not sufficiently clear to warrant the whole payment, orders that she be paid 60*l.* for her present wants, on promising not to trouble them again until the accounts be returned. Robert Griffin, the Company's apprentice, to be given 40*s.* to buy a suit of clothes. Michael Young, boatswain in the *Charles*, and after her firing entertained midshipman in the *Fonas*, to be paid all wages due to him. Edward Waterman, who went out quarter-gunner in the *Charles* and came home boatswain's mate in the *Fonas*, petitions for payment of his wages, denied him because he was moved out of the *Charles* into the *Swallow* a fortnight before she was burnt, by which disaster he lost his whole estate; it is resolved to pay his wages, he being sick. The Court reminded by Mr. Governor of Sir Robert Maunsell's frequent motion for clearing the estate of Robert Tottle; also that Henry Tottle, his brother, has now returned in the *Fonas* and that the accounts are sent home from Persia, so that the said estate can be seen; ordered that all moneys found to be justly owing to the said Robert Tottle be paid and his account cleared. Richard Trigg, who served four years in the *Palsgrave* and afterwards in the *Mary*, where a 'tierce of sack' falling on him his legs were broken, he crippled, and so unable to support himself, petitions to be taken into the Company's almshouse at Poplar; the Court, on seeing him and reading his certificate from Trinity House, grants his request. Mrs. Hore, wife of William Hore, Agent in Persia, to be paid 100*l.*, one-third of her husband's wages, which he on being entertained Agent requested she might receive yearly. Mr. Fotherby to be asked to take the place of Mr. Webb (dismissed) to oversee the killing, salting, and packing of beef and pork for provisioning the ships. Gratuity of 40*s.* bestowed on Alice Parsly, whose son went in the *Fonas* and is since dead. John Price's bill of 2*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*, for overplus of work done on the *Fewel*, to be paid. Freight remitted to Andrew Coggan on

two tubs of chinaware sent him as a token from the King of Macassar. Mr. Styles commissioned to sell two great unserviceable anchors from Blackwall to the best advantage. Freight remitted to Thomas Robinson on damasks, and 20*l.* paid him for two Japan trunks, one of which the Company presented to the Queen, the other to the Spanish Agent. Gratuity of 20*s.* from the poor-box bestowed on Alice Winter, a poor widow whose husband died in the Company's service. Thomazine, wife of William Grafton in the *Blessing*, Jane, wife of Matthew Mackellery in the *Blessing*, Alice, wife of George Sisely in the *Fonas*, Thomazine, wife of Ralph Round in the *London*, Anne, wife of William Saunders in the *Exchange*, Elizabeth, wife of Robert Wilkins in the *Exchange*, Joan, wife of Robert Foote in the *Coaster*, Margaret, wife of John Compton in the *Hart*, Dorcas, wife of Vincent Gadbury in the *Swallow*, Mary, wife of Rice Evans in the *Palsgrave*, Elizabeth, wife of Richard Trippett in the *Pearl*, Thomazine, wife of William Needs in the *Discovery*, and Joan, wife of William Spurling in the *Discovery*, to receive one month's pay extraordinary of their husbands' wages. Mr. Richard Boothby, late a factor, to be paid what is justly owing to him, as by the general letters now read his debt in India is shown to have been discharged. (3 pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES SEPTEMBER 25, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 44).

Mr Bogan's son at Rohan [Rouen] to be written to and desired to accept bills of exchange for coral bought for the Company by Signor Philipppo Cotanio at Venice, and to charge the Company with the same to be paid in London. Mr. Treasurer Bateman ordered to accept divers bills of exchange charged on the Company from Rotterdam and to pay them according to advice. Mr. Treasurer being fearful, in regard of the times, of buying rials of eight, bullion of silver, or foreign gold, until renewal of the Company's patent authorizing him to do so, and there being an opportunity offered for providing the Company with this specie, the Court orders and authorizes him and Mr. John Massingberd to buy the same of any brother of the Company, promising that they shall be saved harmless from any danger or loss that may happen to them

thereby. Prices of goods to be sold in the afternoon at the Court of Sales settled. This day fortnight appointed for election of commanders, pursers, and other officers for the next ships. Mrs. Haynes, sister and executrix of the late Edward Haynes, factor in Persia, is called into court, but consideration of her request is deferred till next Friday, by which time Mr. Bowen is to find out the accusations and complaints made against the said Edward Haynes. Consideration had of the inhuman 'whipping, salting, and washing with brine' of Robert Griffin by Hugh Cowley, boatswain in the *Jonas*, on complaint made by John Robinson and Edward Knipe that the boy had stolen a parcel of musk from their cabin, for which Cowley gave him three hundred stripes and alleges that he did so by Captain Weddall's order, although Thomas Turner denies that any such order was given. The Court, observing that Cowley had no warrant for such barbarity and thinking he had been bribed by Robinson or Knipe, or both, orders that the wages of the three be stopped and Sir Henry Martin acquainted with the facts, so that Cowley may be punished in the Admiralty; but on further consideration it is thought better for the boy Griffin that Cowley, Robinson, and Knipe be made to pay him a sum of money for their cruel and unjust treatment, the musk having been found in the ship, stolen by one who, fearing a like punishment, leapt overboard and was drowned. Mr. Cooper, late factor in Persia, being questioned as to the eight chests of the Company's money which had been used for private trade by Mr. Haynes and other factors in Persia, denies all knowledge of the same, remembering only that a quantity of goods was bought for the Company at that time by Mr. Burt, and some small things by Mr. Haynes and others on their own account. On being accused of prodigal living in Persia and spending, as reported, 1,000*l.* a year, he denies it, and replies that had he spent 300*l.* it would be more than he had received from the Company, and further protests his innocence. A suit of apparel and 40*s.* to be given to Francis Champanty, late an apprentice to the Company. Elizabeth, wife of Solomon Payne in the *Palsgrave*, and Joan, wife of Robert Thomas Smith in the *Discovery*, to receive one month's pay extraordinary of their husbands' wages. (2½ pp)

A COURT OF SALES, SEPTEMBER 25, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 46).

No offer made for divers parcels of pearl put up for sale. All the pepper, about 3,500 bags, sold to Mr. Daniel Harvey at 16*d.* per lb. at two years from November next. Question raised as to whether those who buy the Company's goods shall be allowed to discount at their pleasure at the rate of 8*l.* per hundred; resolved, by erection of hands, that only those who buy great parcels of goods be permitted to do so. Alderman Garway buys cloves at 6*s.* per lb. at two years from November next. Mr. Martyn buys long pepper at 3*l.* 2*s.* per hundred at three, six months. Sugar sold to Mr. Henry Baynebrigg at 4*l.* 10*s.* the cwt. at three, six months from November next. Calicoes and Lahore indigo sold to Captain Crispe, dust of cloves to Mr. Abraham Chamberleyne, sanguis draconis to Mr. Box, olibanum to Mr. Thomas Handson, 'tyncall' [i.e. crude borax] to Mr. Allen, rice to Mr. John Cutler, Legee silk to Alderman Garway, and green ginger to Mr. John Blunt. (3 *pp.*)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, OCTOBER 2, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 48).

Upon request of Sir John Wolstenholme, the half freight remaining on certain drugs is remitted to the widow of John Richardson, she only paying 5*l.* Michael Gateward, formerly servant to Alderman Freeman, and William Ballowe, late servant to Mr. Abraham Chamberleyne, admitted and sworn brethren of the Company by service, each paying 10*s.* to the poor-box. Mr. Abraham Chamberleyne transfers 100*l.* of his adventure in the Third Joint Stock with all profits to his late servant, William Ballowe. On petition of Mary Wilson, the Court orders that she be paid 20*s.* remaining due to her son, John Wilson, who died in the Indies. Messrs. Howland and Bainebrigg accepted as security for sugar bought by the latter at the last Court of Sales. Mr. Box and Mr. Handson allowed rebate on sanguis draconis and olibanum. Upon motion of Mr. Proud, commander of the *Swan*, the Court orders that the upper deck of the said ship be raised to man's height and brought forward to the mast for better defence of the

ship's company in case of fighting, Mr. Swanley reporting that this would not cost more than 10*l*. A letter being read from Messrs. Quarles and Gales from Rotterdam, Mr. Treasurer Bateman is directed to deliver 2,000*l*. per exchange at 'halfe usance', in order that the Company may be better supplied with foreign gold from thence. Mr. Nathaniel Mountny moves that his debts may be cleared and his wages paid. Being questioned as to several informations against him sent from India and registered in the Black Book concerning his private trade, he denies most but acknowledges having sent three bales [*sic*] to Persia, by which he made 600*l*. The Court orders a written copy of the accusations to be given him, to which he is to deliver a written answer, when resolution shall be made therein. Mr. Governor acquaints the Court with the desire of Mrs. Haynes, sister and executrix of Edward Haynes, late Agent in Persia, to have an account of her brother's estate and to know how the Company intends to deal with her; there being many accusations against the said Edward Haynes, one especially concerning eight chests of the Company's rials, used by him and others, his contracted partners, for private trade, also other charges, as appears by his own books lately received, and his accounts, being imperfect, requiring time for examination, it is resolved that the Auditors examine his accounts and that none of his estate be parted with (except perhaps a small sum for his sister's present wants) until arrival of the next ships; that patience be enjoined on Mrs. Haynes, with promise that she shall receive all that is due to her when the accounts are cleared. Being told this by the Governor, Mrs. Haynes endeavours to justify her brother, but finally refers herself to the Court, at the same time calling attention to the numerous suits against her for payment of legacies (especially one brought by Mrs. Hungerford), these amounting in all to 800*l*.; the Court answers that she can pay no more than she has received, and that nothing can be given until what is her due is ascertained; as for the plate given Mrs. Hungerford's son by Mr. Haynes, which has been sold and the money brought into the Company's cash, also the rings and jewels in the Company's hands which Mrs. Hungerford asserts belong to her son, these shall be delivered to the Prerogative Court to be adjudged by Sir Henry Martin; but for the legacy of 100*l*. left by Mr. Haynes to the said son, she must

wait until Mrs. Haynes shall receive the estate. Ordered that 100*l.* be paid the administratrix of William Mathews, late a factor in India, on account of his wages. Mr. Chapman to be paid for perfecting the books of accounts in John Mountny's office. (2½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, OCTOBER 7, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 49).

Petition of Giles Shepherd, the Company's porter at Blackwall, that, in regard of his seventeen years' service, his salary, which has lately been reduced to 20 marks, may be continued at 20*l.* per annum; this is refused, other salaries besides his own having been lowered. Contract for 300 oxen and 1,130 hogs for provisioning the Company's ships, made by Captain Styles and Mr. William Garway, read and approved; Mr. Fotherby is directed to receive the said animals and kill them at fit and convenient times. List of presents for the King of Golconda read and approved, and the Committees appointed to buy them are directed to have the said presents ready to send in the *Swan*. Petition of Mr. Southam for allowance on the Company's old sails lately bought by him, the dutty proving only half instead of a whole yard wide; refused, the bargain having been made unconditionally, and he gaining on the canvas sails what he loses on the dutty. Captain Slade accepted as security for the said sails. William Willoughby accepted as security for the Company's old cordage bought by Mr. William Jones.¹ Two chests of coral offered the Company by Matthew Cradock; Messrs. Mun and Kerridge are entreated to view and report on its goodness and worth, after which an offer shall be made to Mr. Cradock accordingly. Alderman Garway acquaints the Court that Sir Henry Vane, Comptroller of the King's Household, has informed him that His Majesty is resolved to have two powder-makers, and, approving of the powder lately made by Mr. Collins, further trial is to be made by him; this cannot be done unless the Company supplies saltpetre, the saltpetre 'in the kingdome' not being sufficient for Mr. Evelyn to accomplish his proportion contracted for; and Sir Henry therefore desired

¹ The rough notes already alluded to (p. 2) add here that Mr. Chamberlaine and his son Abraham are accepted as securities for dust of cloves bought by the candle at the last Court of Sales.

Alderman Garway to move the Court in the King's name for all their refined and unrefined saltpetre, and to inform them that His Majesty wishes to contract for the supply of a good proportion yearly out of India, for which he will pay the Company ready money. The Court, in order to show its willingness to serve the King on all occasions, directs Mr. Mountry to deliver an account of the quantity and quality of saltpetre in the possession of the Company, which being done, Alderman Garway is to offer the same to the Comptroller, the refined at 4*l.* per hundred, the unrefined at 3*l.* 10*s.* and 3*l.*, and to say that the Court does not think it safe or fit to contract for the supply of a certain proportion yearly with the King or State, but will advise the President and factors to send home yearly a reasonable quantity, which shall be at His Majesty's disposal at a price the Company can afford. Upon motion of Captain Swanly, ordered that the beef and pork for the ships be cut as large again as formerly, viz. into pieces weighing 8 lb., that so the salt and brine may not eat out the strength of the meat. Captain Swanly given 100 nobles for bringing the *Hart* into the Downs without touching at any port in the west country. Mr. Sambrooke presents a note of the following transfers: on the 29th of September Mrs. Mary Allanson transferred 400*l.* adventure in the Third Joint Stock to Mr. Hugh Windham, merchant; on the 2nd of October Mrs. Margaret Kirby transferred 1,000*l.* adventure in the Third Joint Stock to Mr. William Bladwell, merchant; and on the 6th of October the said Mr. [*sic*? Mrs.] Kirby transferred 1,700*l.* adventure in the Third Joint Stock to Mr. John Lethulier. (2¼ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, OCTOBER 9, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 52).

Letter read from Genoa advising the price of coral being raised above 30*l.* per hundred, therefore 'the Cottanio' awaits directions before buying any for the Company; Mr. Mun desired to answer this letter and recall the former advice for coral unless it can be had at the accustomed price, which being once raised will be very difficult to lower again; resolved that as the coral cannot arrive in time none be sent to India this year. Payment ordered of a bill of 2*l.* 8*s.* presented by Mr. Woodall, the Company's surgeon, for

attending John Sutcliffe, who was dangerously hurt in the *Fonas*. Mr. Treasurer Bateman is desired to pay the bill of exchange charged upon Mr. Governor by Richard Bogan, Junior, from Rouen. Mr. Markham reports that on perusal of the Company's accounts he finds that gold yields more profit than silver on the Coromandel Coast. Gratuity of 22s. given to Richard Daffron, who dedicated a book on 'Debitor and Creditor' to the Company.¹ John Wilson, who has served in India and is specially recommended by Mr. John Younge, chosen purser for the *Swan*; Robert Heath, who came home purser in the said ship, to be his mate; and Thomas Johnson, who has served the Company thirteen years and was lately steward in the *Fonas*, is now chosen steward for the *Swan*. Dust of indigo sold to Mr. Reynolds and two Suffolk clothiers. Messrs. Laurence, Armitage, and Smithwick desired to consider all petitions for a month's pay and decide thereon, thus saving the Court's time for more important business. Ordered that all cloves brought home as private trade and bought by the Company be paid for at the rate of 3s. 4d. per lb. and their owners to be freed from custom or other charges. Fifty pounds to be imprested to Mr. Woodall to stock the surgeons' chests. Petition of George Sefton, who came home surgeon in the *Swan*, for remission of freight on cloves and China roots; remission allowed on the roots, but the cloves kept and Sefton given 3s. 4d. per lb. for them. Petition of Judith, widow of Thomas Taylor, who died in the *Hart*, for remission of freight on goods; granted, but two hogsheads of soap belonging to Mrs. Kingston's estate, found with the said goods, detained. (2 pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, OCTOBER 14, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 54).

Two 'uncivill and scandalous' letters written by Richard Boothby, lately a factor in India, read, one to Mr. Governor, the other to Alderman Garway; these are ordered to be kept by the Secretary

¹ *The Merchants Mirror, or Directions for the Perfect Ordering and Keeping of his Accounts*, by Richard Dafforne of Northampton, published in 1636, is dedicated to the six principal trading companies of London, including 'the Merchants of London trading into the East Indies.' It has a commendatory note prefixed by Valentine Markham, who was Auditor to the East India Company.

until the Court resolves how to act in vindication of its reputation against such malicious and unjust accusations. Petition of Richard Cooper, late a factor in Persia, for payment of wages and a gratification, in regard of the great expenses incurred by him; divers complaints and objections entered against him in the Black Book being read, he denies them, but desires a copy and promises to give a written answer next Friday. Mr. Mustard, who with other Committees of the counting-house had been appointed to examine the late Arthur Suffeild's accounts, reports that the account arises from augmentation of wages, 40s. per month paid the said Suffeild at his first entertainment having been raised to 50*l.* per annum and again to 80*l.*, and that these augmentations have not been allowed or confirmed by the Court; ordered that his account be cleared and allowance made at the rate of 50*l.* per annum from the time his wages were raised to that sum, and all moneys due unto him paid to his executors, he having served the Company long and well. Petition of Henry Glascock, returned in the *Mary*, for re-employment as factor for the Coast; denied, as few factors are to be employed this year. Rough draft of certain orders for reformation of abuses committed by commanders of ships, factors, and others read: Messrs. Bownest, Cradock, Francklyn, and Smithwick desired to peruse the same and make what alterations or additions they think fit and return the draft to the Court to be ratified and confirmed. Bills of exchange charged upon the Company by Mr. Bogan, Junior, from 'Rohan,' to be paid by Mr. Treasurer. Consideration had of the freight made by the Company's ships by carrying the goods of Moors and Banians from Surat to Persia, it being found by the accounts returned that the four ships sent out last year only made 1,000*l.*, whereas formerly 3,000*l.* or 4,000*l.* had been received from the freight of one or two ships; the Court, conceiving that there has been either great neglect or much abuse and wrong done (the said ships, according to information received, being fully laden with strangers' goods when they went to Persia), calls for Captain Weddall and demands an explanation; he replies that some goods were carried, but he cannot tell the quantity or freight, as the President and Council keep this private and do not tell the commanders. Mr. Nathaniel Mountry, being questioned, replies that the freight made appears by the accounts, and that the

great difference is occasioned by the fineness of the goods transported, the Banians and natives paying double or treble freight for fine goods to what they will for 'gruffe'. Captain Weddall also alleges that the President and Council cannot enforce what freight they please, as the Governor of Surat is a 'deadly enemy' to the English, and will not suffer the Company's goods to be shipped until promise is made that the goods of the Banians and Moors shall be carried. The Court, considering the great charge they are at, in expectation of a like benefit to be made by freight of their ships to Persia, conceives it better to leave a trade which costs so much and returns so little; and not being satisfied with the reasons given, directs Mr. Bowen to take particular notice of this business and in their next general letters to acquaint the President how much they are aggrieved at the freight returned for the four ships, for the smallness of which they expect some better reasons than those already given, and better accounts hereafter; they also decree that neither the Governor or the natives shall use their ships unless they pay a reasonable freight whereby to recompense the Company. Mr. Fotherby directed to deliver to Mr. Proud, master of the *Swan*, as many studding sails as are wanted for the voyage. Two months' pay of the wages of Thomas James to be paid yearly towards the relief of his sister, an 'innocent', who since her mother's death 'has been in the custody of Richard Frey. (2 $\frac{3}{4}$ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, OCTOBER 16, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 57).

Ordered that 20*l.* be paid the executors of the late Arthur Suffeild, but no more until it is seen how his accounts agree with the books now returned. Mr. Craddock reports that he, Messrs. Bownest, Francklyn, and Smithwick, have considered the orders lately drawn up by the Secretary for the reformation of divers abuses and restraint of private trade, and have made some alterations and additions thereto, which he now reads, and the same are approved by the Court. Thereupon Captain Crispe moves that a further clause be added to enjoin that the same course be taken with the commanders and servants as with those employed in the Guinea trade; he is desired to join with the

other referees and put in writing what he thinks material, and the Court will then consider, ratify, and confirm all such of these orders as shall be for the good of the Company and warranted by their charter. Captain Ditchfield renews his suit for the remainder of Mr. Barbor's estate; the books of accounts not having come from India, he is entreated to have patience until the return of the ships from Bantam, when what appears as his due shall be given him. Petition of Giles Waterman, late master in the *Swallow*, for payment of his wages and cessation of the Company's suit against him; he being defendant in the action brought by the Company for the burning of the *Swallow*, has been imprisoned a year, and could only be discharged by a 'juratory caution'; his wages for the voyage have been stopped and he and those belonging to him are thus deprived of all means of livelihood. The Court, understanding that Waterman, to clear himself, has cast aspersions on Captain Weddall, causes both to appear, and on examination finds that Waterman was not only guilty of the burning of the *Swallow*, by causing so many guns to be shot off, contrary to the express orders of Captain Weddall, but is also responsible for the firing of the *Charles*, as was asserted by Captain Swanly, to whom he confessed that when the *Swallow* was on fire, he cut her cables so that she drave upon the *Charles*, firing her, and endangering the rest of the fleet. The Court resolves to proceed with the suit against Waterman, and directs that Mr. Wyan, their proctor, be communicated with to that intent. Letter read from George Gosnell, late purser of the *Fonas*, submitting himself to the censure of the Court and promising to pay whatever fine shall be imposed upon him for his private trade; he is ordered to enter into a bond of 500*l.* to stand to and abide the award of the Court, which he consents to do. Mr. Governor entreats the attendance at Crosby House to-morrow afternoon of as many Committees as can spare time to hear the debate on and conclusion of the cause long since in Chancery between the Company, Gabriel Hawly, and the executors of Mr. Henry Hawly, which has been referred, by order of the Lord Keeper, and consent of all parties, to be finally determined by Mr. Recorder of London, Mr. Governor, Mr. Deputy, and any six or more Committees. Alderman Garway and his brother William accepted as security for 200 barrels of cloves

bought by Alderman Garway at the last Court of Sales. Captain Weddall's bonds ordered to be delivered to him and cancelled. Ordered, by erection of hands, that 40*l.* be paid Robert Griffin, of which twenty marks are to be deducted from the wages of John Robinson and forty marks from the wages of Hugh Cowly, boat-swain in the *Fonas*, in recompense for the inhuman and unjust whipping of Griffin by the said Cowly at the instigation of the said Robinson. (2½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, OCTOBER 21, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 59).

Mr. Governor relates that he and some of the Committees being sent for by the Lord Keeper, the Lord Privy Seal, and Lord Cottington about the petition to the King for renewal of their patent for transportation of gold, they answered them fully, and, Their Lordships raising many objections, demonstrated the necessity of having this patent, without which the Company cannot proceed in their trade; whereupon Their Lordships declared that the petition should be granted, and the King's pleasure signified to Mr. Attorney within four days, thus ending the business. Mr. Governor also acquaints the Court that last Saturday he, Mr. Deputy, and some eight or ten Committees met, according to the Lord Keeper's order, to consider the suit pending between the Company, Gabriel Hawly, and the executors of Mr. Henry Hawly, and, after hearing counsel for both sides, Sir Thomas Moulson's certificate, and various objections, at the instance of Mr. Recorder a conclusion was come to and drawn up by Mr. Acton; this being now read, is, by erection of hands, approved and ordered to be subscribed and presented to the Lord Keeper for his confirmation. Mrs. Ellam asks whether she may be allowed the whole quarter of her late husband's salary or only for the time he lived, which was but half; she is granted the whole quarter in regard of her husband's good service. The following are allowed by the balloting-box as securities for pepper: Messrs. Daniel, Eliab, Michael, and Matthew Harvy, Alderman Andrews, Mr. Richard Miller, Sir Morris Abbott, Messrs. Lewis Roberts and Edward Abbott, Sir Hugh Hamersly, and Mr. Gilbert Havers. Powder being wanted for the ships to be sent out this year, Mr. Governor resolves to wait on Lord

Cottington and ask for a warrant for 100 barrels from the King's stores. Ordered that the *Mary* carry only 34 pieces of ordnance instead of 42 as formerly. Mr. Acton's bill of 8*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.* for law causes to be paid. Robert Phipps, who has been employed two years in the counting-house, is now entertained as an under-factor in the *Swan*, at 10*l.* per annum and 10*l.* rising, to serve seven years. Mr. Styles ordered to sell ten barrels of the old powder, provided he can do so at 5*l.* per barrel. (1½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, OCTOBER 23, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 61).

To avoid possible demands on account of the increased custom to be set upon lead from the 1st of November, the Court entreats Mr. Meyer to take aboard his ship 80 fother of this commodity belonging to the Company, designed for the *Mary*, *Hart* and *Swan*, and to keep it till they have occasion to ship it themselves; this he consents to do, the Court paying all the attendant expenses; Mr. Mountry to make an entry hereof at the Custom-house. Captain Milward and Mr. Kerridge directed to buy 'a compleate armour' for the King of Golconda 'as good cheape' as one fitting and acceptable to the said King can be procured. A bag of pepper to be sold to the Lord Mayor Elect¹ for his house. Mr. Bell desires allowance and remission of freight on 20 tun of white wine sent by Captain Hall in the *Palsgrave*, which wine, or the greater part of it, was taken for the Company's use and afterwards spent at Bantam, as certified by Mr. Hore in the general letters; the wine cost in England 12*l.* per tun and the casks and iron hoops he values at 30*l.* The Act of Court concerning this business being read, it appears that by Mr. Bell's own agreement he consented to pay 10*l.* per tun for freight of the said wine, deducting two tuns which were allowed for leakage; after long dispute, the Court refuses by general consent to remit the freight, and on comparing Mr. Bell's demands for the wine with the freight due to the Company for the same, they find little or no difference. Mr. Bell is desired to submit himself to the decision of the Court; he refuses so to do, but is advised to consider the matter seriously and give answer at the next court. William Predys petitions for

¹ Alderman Clitherow.

clearance of the account of his son Richard, who died five years ago and left several legacies in his will, which will he, the father, has long since proved and once before came up from Plymouth to clear his son's account, but was refused, it being alleged that his son was indebted to the Company for certain moneys taken up at interest in India; now coming to London again he is informed that this is false, wherefore prays that he may receive what is due unto him; the Court desires him to have patience until the return of the ships, when, after examination of the accounts, order shall be made for payment of his due. Mr. Nicholas Crispe, Alderman Wright, Messrs. Stephen Burton, Samuel Carleton, Thomas Jesson, Sir Hugh Hamersly, and Sir Morris Abbott accepted as security for Lahore and flat indigo bought by Nicholas Crispe from the Company and from Mr. John Langham. Henry Smith appointed land purser of the *Mary* and Robert Foster of the *Hart*. The almsmen at Poplar petition for gowns, which, according to the Court's order, they are to have every two years; the time having expired last Michaelmas, the same are ordered to be provided accordingly. Messrs. George and John Clarke allowed by the balloting-box as good security for pepper bought by Mr. Daniel Harvy. Henry, brother and executor of George Collins, who died in the Indies, ordered to pay freight on ten cwt. of drugs brought home as private trade. Gratuity of 10s. from the poor-box given to John Suckcliffe, who was wounded aboard the *Hart*. (2½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, OCTOBER 26, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 64).

Mr. Governor, Mr. Hugh Hamersly, Alderman Abdy, Alderman Andrews, Messrs. Bownest, William Garway, Mun, and Crispe entreated to deliver this afternoon to the Lords of the Council a petition exhibited to the King about raising the custom. William Fugill, who was fifteen years in the service of the 'Hollands' Company in the Indies, and brought letters from the Company's Agent in Persia with a recommendation from Mr. Barlow, is entertained to go as corporal in the *Mary* at 40s. per month. Mr. Collins to be paid 26*l.* 10s.; and for the 50*l.*, the same is to be deducted in part payment of his debt to the Company. (½ p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, OCTOBER 30, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 65).

On reading the minutes of the last Court, it is observed that placing land pursers in the outward-bound ships tends rather to the prejudice and charge of the Company than to their benefit, these men only keeping 'prick and chequer' and not performing the duty for which they were appointed, namely, to keep the Company exactly informed of any private trade put aboard the ships; also that, they being employed, the pursers and mates neglect their business and rely wholly upon information given them by the land pursers as to what goods are brought into the ships, to whom they belong, and their quantity and quality; after serious consideration and long dispute, it is resolved that no more land pursers be entertained on the outward-bound ships, that those already employed be discharged, and that all pursers be enjoined to observe and carry out the directions now to be given them. Mr. Governor relates what occurred at the Council Board last Monday, when the Company's petition to be exempted from the new impositions was delivered to the Lords Commissioners for the Treasury. Sir William Beecher with some difficulty had the petition read, which was so 'distasted' by Their Lordships that they would give no direct answer to it nor see Mr. Governor and the Committees accompanying him, though they waited in expectation the whole afternoon; but Mr. Governor, being desirous before leaving Whitehall to speak to Lord Cottington, was brought to His Lordship by Sir William Beecher in the 'Privy Galleries', when he explained that the Company did not petition in opposition or disobedience to what the King had commanded and declared by his new book of rates, but only to show their own condition, and to desire the Lords Commissioners' consideration that they might be, in some proportion, made equal with the Dutch, as otherwise they would be unable to support their trade. Lord Cottington replying 'onely "Well", without giving any other answer', the Governor took his leave. Mr. Governor relates that, being summoned to appear before the Lords at the Star Chamber last Wednesday afternoon, he went, accompanied by Alderman Fenn, Mr. Muns, and Captain Milward; being called in he was

desired to say what the Company wanted concerning their patent for transportation of gold, to which he replied that some had been questioned lately for selling foreign gold and silver to the Company, and so are now afraid to supply them as formerly, wherefore the Company desire the King to renew their patent and give them licence as well to buy as others to sell without incurring the danger of the law. 'My Lords Grace of Canterbury' thought this request against law and not fit for the King to grant, and after much dispute it was decided that the Company must not expect such a patent from the King, but that they shall have an 'Order or Act of State' which shall be entered in the Council book and lie open for all to see, and shall secure the Company in buying, and those that sell from danger; this the Governor did not think would be sufficient, neither could he agree to it without first acquainting the Company, for unless it was granted under the Great Seal they would not be able to supply themselves with gold and silver for their voyage. The Governor now desires the Court to decide whether they will accept this 'Act of State', whereupon, by erection of hands, it is agreed that it is not safe for the Company to depend upon such an Act for business of so great consequence, and that the King and Lords be moved to have it confirmed under the Great Seal of England, this being no more than what has been granted by His Majesty to the Company on a like occasion. Mr. Fotherby ordered to deliver to Mr. Browne, master of the *Royal Exchange*, 3,000 bundles of reeds to trim his ships, and Captain Styles to arrange for payment. Mrs. Roberts, widow of John Roberts, commander of the *Fewel*, to be paid 40*l.* on account of her husband's wages, to accommodate her with apparel on her second marriage. The Court presents the Lord Mayor, as a token of its love, with the bag of pepper he desires to buy. Mr. Governor reports being told by Toby Bland, one of the Farmers' Deputies, that 14 barrels of cloves have been taken out of the *Hart* and put into the *Royal Exchange*, the cloves being bought by Mr. Browne, master of that ship. The latter, on being charged therewith by the Governor, confessed that he bought four barrels of cloves and one of white pepper, but refused to disclose from whom; he is to be warned to appear before the Court next Wednesday, when, if he persists in his refusal, he is to be brought

into Chancery to enforce his confession. 'Letter' read from Mrs. Hungerford, on which the Court orders the money due to her son for plate left him by Mr. Heynes, to be taken to the Prerogative Court and there disposed of by Sir Henry Martin; but as for the jewels and valuation of Mr. Heynes' estate in the Company's hands her son is told that Sir Henry Martin will be informed by the Court why they refuse either to deliver up the jewels or appraise the estate. Mrs. Heynes, executrix of her late brother, is called in and acquainted with Mrs. Hungerford's desires and the Court's resolve not to part with any of the late Mr. Heynes' goods until the accounts are returned, when she shall be fairly dealt with. Richard Cooper's answer to complaints made against him read, in which he seems to clear himself, and offers to take his 'corporall oath' for further justification; but the Court being persuaded that he knows more than he says, especially concerning the great sums of money employed by Mr. Heynes in private trade at the waterside, and of the contract made between Heynes and others, presses him to confess, which will procure his more favourable treatment. He persists in his denial, saying that the books belonging to Heynes, which he has delivered up, may satisfy the Company, and as for the partners he was not one, but thinks that Messrs. Gibson and Burt were, though this he cannot confidently affirm. On demand he confesses that Mr. Gibson sent home a parcel of pearl which cost him 70 tomaunds, and 100*l.* at another time by bill of exchange to Mr. Gore; that he himself had indulged in private trade in a small way, not prejudicial to the Company, and therefore desires that his long service and small salary may be taken into consideration and he dealt favourably with; but the Court, not being satisfied, desires him to set down in writing before 'this day senight' what he knows of the particulars demanded. (4 *pp.*)

ACCOUNT OF SALTPETRE FOR THE KING'S STORE, NOVEMBER 3, 1635 (*Public Record Office: Dom. Chas. I.* vol. ccci, No. 10).

Account by Richard Poole of all the saltpetre brought into His Majesty's store from 3rd of May last to this day. Besides the amount brought in by the saltpetremen, the East India Company had brought in 801 cwt. 19½ lb., which made the total brought in 2,259 cwt. 2 qrs. 16½ lb., which was 93 cwt. 2 qrs. 3 lb. less

than the quantity assigned to be brought in by the saltpetremen only. (1 p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, NOVEMBER 4, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 69).

After consideration and debate the Court expressly orders that henceforth neither Mr. Sambrooke nor any other accountant shall deliver out any copy or notes of accounts or estates registered in the Company's books to executors or administrators of any of the Company's servants dying in India or Persia, or who have come home (except concerning their wages), before receiving order and direction for so doing; neither is the Secretary or Remembrancer to issue copy of any Act or Order of Court without special leave and direction. Mr Deputy, Alderman Abdy, and Mr. Muns entreated to accompany Mr. Governor this afternoon to the Star Chamber to hear the decision of the Lords of the Council concerning the patent desired by the Company for transportation of 40,000*l.* in gold, part of the 100,000*l.* they are licensed to transport annually in foreign silver. Robert Heath chosen purser's mate in the *Swan*, but he refusing the post, the petitions of John Turner (who has served the Company before, knows the country language, and has testimonials from Mr William Peirce and Mr. George Willoughby, President at Bantam) and of John Belling to act in his stead are considered; whereupon Turner is chosen by erection of hands and told that he is not only to keep an exact account of all private trade shipped, both outwards and homewards, but to do the like from port to port and deliver a fair written account thereof to the Court on his return, that by this means due satisfaction may be received by the Company for freight, and fraud may be prevented; Turner promising to do this is directed to go aboard, keep prick and check and not to leave the ship unless the purser is there. Mr. Foster, counsellor-at-law, engaged by Francis Stockton to mediate in his behalf concerning two bales of silk claimed by the Company, is called in and his arguments in favour of the said silk belonging to Stockton heard by the Court; when after long dispute, at the instance of Mr. Foster, the Court agrees to consider and end the case within a fortnight. (1½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, NOVEMBER 6, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 71).

The master of the ~~Swag~~ desires canvas to make new sails for his ship, she having only one new 'suyte'; he alleges that the Coast is dangerous and that the ships he will meet may want such provision; the Court resolves to supply the canvas, but to consign it to the merchants, who are to dispose of it as they see cause. Mr. Governor reports that he, with some Committees, waited on the 'Lords', who have now granted the Company a licence under the broad seal of England to export what gold or silver they please, not exceeding the former proportion allowed; they have also promised that an Act of State shall be drawn up to save the Company harmless in buying gold or silver, as also those from whom they buy.¹ Consideration had of Captain Crispe's observations on private trade; the Court is of opinion that it cannot be entirely suppressed and that the main cause of its increase is the long voyages, and ships being sent from port to port; they only intend to prevent excess herein and so insist on the proclamation already issued against it being observed, which if any transgress they must forfeit all goods over and above those allowed, or pay the freight without expectation of favour. This proclamation must be published aboard every ship going out, and every one required to declare their private trade to the purser, who is to register it, so that, in case of any dying, their friends can obtain an account. The purser is also to keep exact account of all goods coming into or taken from the ship from port to port in the Indies, that the Company may require freight accordingly; as also of the freight made by carrying the Indians' goods from one port to another; likewise each person is to keep his own account of what goods he carries out and brings home, with the proceeds accruing, for the satisfaction of the Company. Finally, Messrs. Cockayne and Mustard are entreated to join with Messrs. Cradock, Crispe, and Smithwick in preparing a draft, according to the tenor of this court. (1½ pp.)

¹ An entry on the Privy Council Registers for November 18, 1635, records the King's approval of the Company's desire to surrender its present patent in exchange for one permitting it to export gold as well as silver (up to the same limit), and orders the Attorney-General to prepare a grant accordingly. Apparently the matter went no further, the Letters Patent of November 30 being issued instead.

A COURT OF COMMITTEES. NOVEMBER 11, 1632 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 73).

Cicely Day, a poor aged woman, mother of Thomas Day in the *William*, to be given one month's pay of her son's wages. Mr. Alderman Garway and his brother William allowed by the balloting-box as security for pepper bought by Mr. Daniel Harvy. Letters intended for Bantam and Surat, to be sent by the *Swan*, are now read and several passages in that written to the President at Surat disapproved by the Court, because Mr. Methwold appears to be blamed for events which occurred in India before he took up his charge there; also the tone used is considered 'too tart' and Mr. Bowen is directed to revise these passages and 'wherein hee shall find any harsh or bitter language, to sweeten the same in a more mild and gentle phrase'; also to add how well the Company approves of the President's services, his 'well written and digested letters', his care for the prevention of private trade, the course he has taken for lessening their 'huge debt' and charge of their factories, and specially to commend him for his good service in procuring a peace and trade with the Portuguese, which it is generally hoped will be of much consequence and conduce to the good and advantage of the Company. (1 p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES. NOVEMBER 13, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 74).

Nicholas Antill petitions for the estate of his son John, who died in Persia, and freely submits himself to the decision of the Court; whereupon, after hearing the will and seeing the accounts, 200*l.* is ordered to be paid him in full of all demands; this he thankfully accepts, promising, upon receipt, to give the Company a general release. Mr. Gregory Clement to be paid for 'mamoothas' [see p. 31] long since brought into the Company's cash at Surat, at the rate of 5*s.* for five 'mamoothas'. By erection of hands ordered that 25,000*l.* be sent in the *Swan* for the Coast of Coromandel, [blank] in silver and the rest in gold. Mr. Sherburne's bill of 16*l.* 11*s.* to be paid by Mr. Mountny. The Court being asked if they intend to keep any more Quarter Courts and whether, seeing there is little or no business of moment to impart to the

generality, a Quarter Court shall be summoned this term or not ; after consideration it is agreed that the Quarter Court shall be dissolved by the court which appointed it, as some think that the Court of Committees cannot 'annihilate' what was settled and ordered by a General Court. It is therefore resolved and ordered that a General Quarter Court be appointed for this day fortnight, and that John Spiller be informed thereof. Mr. Governor acquaints the Court that he lately waited on the Earl of Lindsay to acknowledge the favour he did the Company in relieving the *Jonas*, *Hart*, and *Swan* when they were in distress at sea for want of men and victuals, and, as the Earl had formerly performed the same courtesy on a like occasion without receiving any requital, the Governor proposes that consideration be had of what is fitting to be done herein ; whereupon it is resolved to present the Earl with 100*l.* as a token of the Company's thankfulness for past favours, and Mr. Governor is entreated to deliver the same. Henry Glascocke's request to take passage for India in the Company's ship denied, it being thought his going would tend to the prejudice of the Company by private trade for himself and others. (1½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, NOVEMBER 16, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 76).

Ordered that all captains, factors, masters, pursers, or other officers engaging in private trade beyond that allowed in the King's proclamation and the Company's declaration shall forfeit their wages. The purser of the *Swan* and his mate are directed to attend the next court. Edmond Phipps, grocer, accepted as surety for Robert Phipps, factor in the *Swan*, and Thomas Turner, who returned in the *Jonas*, as surety for his brother John, purser's mate in the same ship. Edward Yowe, who came home in the *Hart* and has been ill ever since, given 20*s.* from the poor-box. Mr. Bowen directed to write a private letter to Mr. Methwold and tell him that the Company think it wise, on account of the tyranny and ill usage of the Governor of Surat, the deadness of trade and other considerable reasons, for him to collect its estate together that he may more easily withdraw it from the country in case the English are not treated better, or if any difference should arise. Mr. Sherburne also instructed to prepare a draft of a letter to be sent from the

King to the Great Mogul, complaining of the oppression of the English under the Governor of Surat and of the monopolies established in the country, which, if not redressed, will necessitate the departure of the English and the abandonment of their trade. Lord Brook appears and acknowledges that he is in brokes to the amount of 120*l.*; he moves that the brokes upon the Third Joint Stock may be reduced from 18 to 12 per hundred and his remitted, as he hath from time to time left money in the Company's hands, which he conceives should countervail the brokes imposed. The Court replies that the brokes were imposed by the General Court, as is mentioned in the preamble of the subscription to this Third Stock, and therefore cannot be altered by this court, though some would reduce them to 8 per hundred, as was done in the last Stock. His Lordship's brokes cannot be taken off, but he being both a receiver and payer, Mr. Sambrooke is directed to examine his account and allow him interest for the time his money remained in their hands; this shall be deducted from his brokes, but he must pay the rest. Lord Say observes that there is a great difference between interest and brokes; the latter are to be insisted on or 'the whole designe wold be overthrowne.' Philip Bearden petitions for remission of freight on cloves; ordered that 3*s.* 4*d.* per lb. be allowed him, the Company to pay all charges, as is usual. A similar request made by George Sephton, late surgeon in the *Swan*, receives a like reply, but he is granted remission of freight on certain China ware. (1½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, NOVEMBER 18, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 77).

The Court, hearing from Mr. Treasurer that 1,500*l.* has been offered for the pearls brought home in the last ships, which cost 1,800*l.* in Persia, resolves after consideration to sell the stringed pearls here and send the others to India, where at Mr. Mountry's coming away they would have yielded at Surat 25 per cent. profit. Consideration had of Captain Crispe's paper concerning the Company's great charges at home and abroad; those at home, amounting to 5,226*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*, were objected to and the Captain thinks they can be reduced. It is observed that this has already been done by lessening the salaries of the Company's servants at Blackwall, and

that the home charge is not above 'one and a third per hundred' which for such a trade is not great. Hereupon it is agreed to consider the charge in general and afterwards to proceed to particulars. The general charge is divided under four heads, namely shipping, interest, dispersing of trade into many factories (which might well be managed in fewer), and the want of returns from Persia: all these being debated, it is proposed, as before, that some able man be sent out, accompanied by a good accountant, to call all factories to account and so discover any exorbitant charges; and that failing such a man Mr. Methwold, who it is thought will be willing, be authorized to undertake this duty. The worth of the Company's trade being discussed, it is observed that though of late years it has not been good for the adventurers, yet to the King and kingdom it has been advantageous, and with care may be improved. After long debate on the above-mentioned particulars the charge of Governor, Deputy, Treasurer, and Committees, is considered. (1½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, NOVEMBER 23, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 79).

Mr. Smithwick presents certain propositions tending to the good of the Company, which are read. As regards the first, 'That the East India Company might save 20,000*l.* yearly in the charge they are at in their shipping, which is about 2,000 tunns yearly, besides the forbearance of about 40,000*l.* layd out a long time for soe much shipping and the adventure thereof, and soe lesse stock will maintaine the trade or the trade wilbee thereby much increased,' the Court after debate concludes that no such sum could have been saved, for that no more shipping than what was necessary for prosecution and safety of their trade has been sent out. To the second, 'That in the trade of Persia 10,000*l.* yearly may bee gayned or saved which for many yeares together has been lost,' it is replied that if the factors sell a rial of eight for thirteen shahees which is valued by the Company at sixteen, it is in substance the same thing and 'adds nothing to the chest'; neither can 50 or 60 per hundred be made by sale of Indian goods, as these cannot be obtained because of the late great famine and mortality, and if they could, being so much dearer than formerly, they would yield no

profit; that rials had to be sent in compliance with the contract made with the King of Persia; all which being considered it is concluded that 10,000*l.* yearly could neither have been gained nor saved. Mr. Smithwick, however, avers that the factors have misled the Company, who have done wrong, being misinformed, and thus 'the blind have ledd the blind'; and that if the Court will not hear him he will proceed in another way and have a Committee to examine this business. The third proposition is 'That the Company may bee well satisfied that they need not feare any great losse or damage by the King of Persia his debt'. The fourth, 'That some good course may bee taken that the Company may buy the Indian wares much better cheape there then usually, and sell them here at reasonable prizes to profit.' Mr. Smithwick does not think fit to give his reasons to the Court for these last two propositions, but will do so either to a Committee, to Mr. Governor, or to Mr. Deputy. The fifth proposition, 'That the exorbitancy of private trade which soe much damnifieth and impoverisheth the Company may in great parte bee suppressed,' the Court conceives has been sufficiently handled and provided for. For the sixth proposition, 'That 10,000*l.* more in probability may bee yearely saved which hath and willbee paid and lost by the Company.' Mr. Smithwick refuses to give any reason, alleging that he has been heard with so much prejudice. And to the seventh and last 'That it were fitt there were some tryall made of the trade of China and Japon, where cloth dyed and dressed may be vented at great prizes and treasure furnished, as the factors doe now advise and formerly,' it is answered, that this matter has been fully heard before Mr. Attorney Noy, and that even if the trade were good the Company is not in a position to undertake it. Mr. Smithwick finally desires that some select Committees may seriously consider these propositions; this is refused and they are referred to the sworn Committees. Question raised as to whether the King will send a present to the Viceroy of Goa; it is agreed that Mr. How remind Lord Cottington to ascertain the King's pleasure in this matter. It being doubted whether the sending of goods to Goa and the annual dispatch of 3,000*l.* or 4,000*l.* for the trade of Macao might not impede the conclusion of the treaty now pending, both are referred for consideration. On request the master of the *Swan* is allowed 5,000 weight of bread, which will cost 40*l.*

more than his allotted proportion, and the Court directs that the factors be advised of the overplus for supply of other ships. Mr. Cogghill, who is going to 'Marcellis', coming to take his leave, is desired; if the coral has not been dispatched on his arrival, to send it off by the first ships, but failing these, to dispatch it overland to Lyons and 'Rohan' so that it may arrive by the middle of February. (2½ pp.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, NOVEMBER 25, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 81).

Mr. Acton's bill of 5*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.* for law causes to be paid. The *Swan* having taken in all her goods and provisions except the gold, ordered that she leave Gravesend for the Downs, whither the gold, if not arrived before her departure, shall be sent overland. Several offers made by clothiers to buy the Company's dust of indigo; Captain Crispe offers to take the whole parcel, but decision as to the sale thereof is referred until next Friday. Captain Powell moves the Court on behalf of himself and other captains who intend to offer their services to the King of Persia in his wars against the Turks, for letters of recommendation to the Company's Agent in Persia; his request is refused, the Court not thinking it fit to meddle in this business without the allowance of the State. Mrs. Mary Kirby, widow of Jeffery Kirby, transfers 1,600*l.* adventure in the Third Joint Stock with all profits to Sir James Cambell. On petition of Henry Bonner, who married a sister of John Leachland, deceased in India, Mr. Bowen is ordered, when writing the Company's letters, to desire the President of Surat to do his best to get possession of the said Leachland's daughter (whose mother is an Indian) and send her to England by the next ships.¹ (1 p.)

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, NOVEMBER 27, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 83).

John Norris, a late factor of the Company, to be paid 81*l.* 10*s.*, which sum he placed long ago in the Company's cash at Bantam. Consideration had of the motion to restrain Mr. Methwold from sending any of the Company's ships to Macao, for if the Hollanders

¹ Cf. *Calendar of State Papers, East Indies*, 1630-4, p. 616.

learn that these ships carry any goods or munition belonging to the Portugals it may cause them to surprise the English and confiscate both ship and goods. After much dispute it is ordered that Mr. Methwold shall not be restrained in this matter but cautioned to be as careful as possible not to give the Dutch any just occasion to quarrel with the English. Mr. Deputy proposes that the dust of Lahore indigo be sold, and mentions that an offer has been made for it; whereupon Captain Crispe repeats his offer to buy the said indigo, but sale thereof is again deferred until next Friday. Mr. Governor demonstrates the particulars drawn up by the Auditors of how the 160 000*l.* brought upon account to be laid out in charges in India the last four and a half years has been spent; Mr. Markham is directed to ascertain what has been made by trade and freight during this time, that the two accounts may be compared and it may be seen whether profit or loss is the result. Mr. Isaac Pennington transfers 1,625*l.* adventure in the Third Joint Stock with all profits to Mr. Jaques Oyles, merchant. Mr. Smithwick moves that the silk bought by Alderman Garway be weighed and removed from the Company's warehouse, to prevent prejudice in case of any casualty, Alderman Garway being absent this is deferred for consideration to the next meeting. Mr. Fotherby's petition that the reduction of his salary may be reconsidered is read but not granted, the Court not thinking fit to alter what has been so lately settled. (1½ pp)

LICENCE FOR EXPORT OF GOLD, NOVEMBER 30. 1635 (*Parch-ment Records*, No. 19).¹

Letters Patent, reciting a former grant dated January 16, 1618, by which the East India Company was permitted to export each year, free of customs, silver coin or bullion not exceeding 100,000*l.*, and now granting them licence, on their petition, to buy and transport in their intended voyage the sum of 30,000*l.* (part of the aforesaid 100,000*l.*) in foreign gold, and what is wanting of the said sum in English gold, without payment of custom or other duties. (*Injured by damp. Great Seal missing.*)

¹ See also *Patent Roll* (at Public Record Office), 11 *Charles I.*, pt. 5, M. 32.

A COURT OF COMMITTEES, DECEMBER 4, 1635 (*Court Book*, vol. xvi, p. 85).

Mr. Russell offers to buy 100 barrels, or as much as can be spared, of the Company's gunpowder at 4*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* per cwt.; the Court will decide after ascertaining how much gunpowder is now available. Captain Styles acquaints the Court with Mr. William Swanley's intention to leave the Company's service next Christmas unless his former salary is continued, for if it is abated it will not be sufficient for him to live upon; resolved that Mr. Swanley be allowed to do as he thinks fit, for the Court will not alter what has been settled after mature consideration. Mr. Deputy, in answer to a motion made at the last court, promises to weigh his silk remaining in the Company's warehouse as soon as possible and to take all risk concerning it. Francis Stockton renews his suit for satisfaction for two bales of silk bought by him from Walter Mountfort but which the Company thinks are the two bales lost out of the *Blessing*, wherein Stockton was purser; this suit having been already fully heard and referred to the determination of the Court, to whose decision Stockton and his counsel freely submit themselves. it is resolved by erection of hands that Stockton be paid 200*l.* in satisfaction of all his demands, for which he is to give the Company a general release. Toby Bland, a Farmer's Deputy, desires some recompense for his alleged services in discovering private trade, as when fifteen barrels of cloves and one of white pepper belonging to Mr. Swanley, late master of the *Swan*, were landed from the *Hart*, but by the help of Messrs. Joyce and Batty passed the Custom-house and were shipped again; the Court refuses his request, seeing little reason to reward him for information which is of no benefit to them, it not having been given in time to get satisfaction from the said Swanley, whose account has been cleared long since. Mr. Richard Cooper presents his relation of Mr. Heynes's private trade in Persia, with the names of those thought to be his partners, also copy of an account in Heynes's hand, found after his death, wherein his estate and private trade is set down, which will enlighten the Company and be of great advantage to them in many ways; in consideration of these and other services Cooper's account is ordered to be forthwith cleared, his wages and

debts paid and satisfaction given him for his calicoes which the Company sold. Captain Crispe moving to buy all the dust of indigo, a note is ordered to be set up on the Exchange to give notice of sale of the same next Wednesday morning, at a Court of Committees, by treaty or by the candle. William Browne, late steward of the *Star*, petitions for payment of 10*l.* formerly deducted from his wages on John Smith, boatswain in the *Palsgrave*, informing that Browne had sold him 2 cwt. of the Company's pepper; Browne now produces Philip Bearden, who testifies that this accusation was made by Smith when he was drunk and denied by him the next day when he was sober; whereupon the Court orders that Browne be paid the 10*l.* formerly deducted. Mr. Nathaniel Mountny to receive 200*l.* on account. Mr. Thomas Steevenson's petition read, wherein he demands allowance for freight of his lighters, which money has been long withheld in satisfaction for a bale of calicoes lost or stolen by the negligence of his servants on discharge of the *Discovery* in 1628; his former petitions were referred to Messrs. Spurstowe and Mustard, who can come to no conclusion about them, so he now appeals to the Court. Notwithstanding Mr. Steevenson's liability in law for the bale of calicoes, to prevent further trouble Mr. Mountny is ordered to examine his bills, make allowance for his services rendered the Company, and deduct 20*l.* for the said calicoes. To this Mr. Steevenson 'condiscended.' (2½ pp.)

THE KING'S UNDERTAKING TO JOIN IN THE ADVENTURE TO THE INDIES, DECEMBER 6, 1635 (*Public Record Office: East Indies*, vol. iv B, No. 7).

Whereas His Majesty has commanded Captain Weddall to undertake a voyage to Goa, Malabar, China, &c., and has also commanded Endymion Porter, 'one of the groomes of our bedchamber,' Sir William Courten, Thomas Kynaston, and Samuel Bonnell, with their partners, to adventure in the said voyage, 'now for assurance of our reall affection to the prosperity of the same and for better encouragement of the said adventurers in soe hopefull an undertaking, wee doe heroy signific and declare that wee will put into the joynte stocke with the said adventurers the somme of tenne