

said place, they can easily bring them from thence. I am night and day thinking about this business, and hope in God to meet with an easy success. The second method is; that, by the help of God, if the fort is taken soon, 'tis well; if not, it will be impossible to do it in the Monsoon; and after the Monsoon is over we cannot tell how the matter will turn out: perhaps the Marattas may come, and the condition of the army may then alter; and if, now that the country is in our possession, and our orders are obeyed throughout the whole country, we meet with difficulties with regard to provisions, &c. as aforesaid, what must our situation be then? Let this be aside; but as the Monsoon will begin now, it is their intentions (supposed to be the Faringees) to quarter the troops at this very place; which will be of no prejudice to them, as they will receive Batta and be happy; but it will put you under an extraordinary expense of the army. All the weak horses will certainly die in the rains of a single week: the grounds here are so soft, that a little rain will sink a man down to his waist. Since it is so, what must be the situation of the horses and the elephants? As these two methods, regarding the business of the fort, are attended with great difficulty, should the army return without taking the fort, we shall get a worse name than we got during the war with Hyder, because he (meaning the Rajah) is an inferior. As for my part, I shall not fail to exert myself as long as I live in what I was ordered, and in the business of the Circar; several Lacks of people of the army are witnesses to it: besides which I have endeavoured so far as to incline all the Sardars of the Faringees to take the fort, who are firmly inclined upon that business. I thought fit to advise you with my sentiments, but God is omnipotent.

The General has sent Mr. Matthews, with some of Nazeeb Khan's horse, into the Tanjore country, who brought away about 7000 cattle and sheep, so that the army does not want for mutton at present.

No. 14.

From Omdat-ul-Omrah Bebauder to the Nabob, dated 7th, and received 14th October, 1771.

I AM not unmindful of thinking to take the fort even a single minute; I have inclined the General upon that business: but what vexes us is the inexperience of the Engineers: a battery was not yet erected to batter the walls; it rains very hard for three days and nights; the General is also concerned about it: your Excellency may be assured, *that I shall engage the Engineer with a promise of a separate present, besides what he is to have for his share out of the general present for the army,* so that he may be attentive to erect the battery. The General says, that it is not in his power to erect it, but that it was the business of the Engineer; who says that he will soon do it, but it seems to be in a dilatory way.

The fort of Tanjore is not yet distressed; the people within remain with firmness, and are throwing shells also; they fire every day about 5 or 600 cannon shot, but their guns opposite to our battery were stopt or broke, wherefore they are firing the guns from the sides of the walls. The instructions which you have hitherto sent me were for to take the fort, and hope in God to make a speedy conquest

conquest of the same: in case of delay (which God forbid!) what step should be done? As you have not yet advised me concerning it, I desire you will soon let me know, that I may retain both the advices that are concerning the taking of the fort, and what is to be done in the failure thereof, and shall use them as the time and opportunity may require.

I must desire your Excellency to speak to the Governor, and get it mentioned in a public letter which shall be wrote to the General, to leave all the goods and grain that may be found in any place or fort *which may be taken under my management*; because, when the Vellum fort was taken, the General placed his own guard over the goods and grain there: several brass pots, &c. were taken away by the soldiers and officers; his own Dubash took away the goods, to the amount of two thousand Pagodas, *on his own account*: when I mentioned to him concerning it, he was displeased, and said that nobody took any; but if he did, it signified nothing: on this, I did not think proper to make him displeased, and so I remained quiet. At length, when they had filled up their bellies with all the goods, *they** caused my own guard to be placed. Now you will be pleased to get the Governor to write to him under the cover of the following expressions:

“The Nabob has desired us, that the Company’s people shall have no manner of concern either with the goods, grain, &c. and that they should be entirely put under the power and disposal of his own people.”

No. 15.

From Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder to the Nabob, dated 8th, and received 14th October, 1771.

I LATELY addressed your Excellency the repeated account of the occurrences here; now I am to inform you, that this day the two Vackeels of Tanjore, namely, Sambajee and Baboo Row, came to the camp with their Master’s letters to myself and the General; I have not time to send you copies thereof, because the General has insisted and sent Mahomed Nazeeb Khan with the whole army of cavalry to Trichinopoly, from which place a supply of provisions is coming with eleven companies of Sepoys. As to the Sepoys that are here, they were all employed upon business; wherefore he thought proper to send the cavalry with Nazeeb Khan as above. I desired the General very much to send only the cavalry, and let the said Khan remain here; but his answer was, that if he does that, half the number of horses will chuse to stay in the camp in case the said Khan remained here, wherefore he ordered him to go.

In consideration of your advice before, I shall put it off with the Vackeels of the Rajah ’till the fort may fall into our hands, or I know how the affairs shall stand. If God grants the fort soon, ’tis well; if not, let me know your directions about what is to be done. I took a great deal of pains to incline all the Sardars to take the fort, but there wants an inclination of Providence, which I am praying for. Mr. Matthews went to Amma Pettah in order to bring provisions, where

* The word *they* is not in the copy.

he found a large quantity of rice and Paddy, but he had no bullocks with him; which was the fault of the bullock people, who had orders to go along with him, which they neglected. Mr. Matthews not thinking it proper to remain there any longer for want of bullocks, he turned his thoughts to return to the army; in the mean time there came from the fort a party of 500 horses of the enemy to oppose him, and so they faced the Circar troop of horse; at which an engagement ensued, in which God has granted you a victory; for about 200 horses of the enemy were killed and wounded, and about 80 horses were seized; 20 of the said horsemen were Jemidars, and the remainder common horsemen, who are likewise taken prisoners. Mr. Matthews, with all the horses and people, arrived this day here, but has not yet acquainted me with the circumstances of the horses; to-morrow I shall enquire into it, and take them into the possession of the Circar: the said horses are a thousand times better than all the horses in our army.

Agreeable to my late request, you will get the Governor to write to the General in a public letter as soon as possible, that whatever stores, &c. that may be got as a prize from the fort and the country of Tanjore, to be the Circar's property, and that the same may be left under my power and management.

With regard to the present money to the army that was stipulated, it is not yet entirely finished; by the blessing of God I shall advise you of it to-morrow, agreeable to my late address. I hope you will send a letter of thanks to General Smith for his friendly treatment towards me, and for the great pains he takes in the affairs of the Circar, expressing at the same time that you were informed of the same by me: you will also send another letter of the same purport to Captain Horne, as it will prove beneficial to the affairs of the Circar.

There happened great displeasure between Captain Alexander and some of the horses of Nazeeb Khan, that went with him to bring supply of provisions; praised be God that it was happily ended, which was owing to the good conduct of the said Khan.

Agreeable to your directions, I am exerting my endeavours to take the fort, and hope in God for his full grace, that it may fall soon into the hands of your people.

I did not think proper to keep the Tanjorean prisoners who were taken this day in the army, and shall therefore send them to Vellum, to keep them with proper care at that place.

Marawar and Nalcooty has not yet arrived here, whose circumstances I lately advised you very fully.

From

No. 16.

From Omdat-ul-Omrab Behauder to the Nabob, dated 16th, and received 25th October, 1771.

YESTERDAY I had the honour to address a letter to your Excellency, acquainting you that I shall confer with the General, and settle the affair of the Enaum to the army in writing, and advise you with it: this day I accordingly settled that matter, agreeing to give double the Enaum that was given to the army at the expedition against Madura; that is, 1000 Pagodas were given at Madura to a Captain; in the present expedition 2000 Pagodas; and in the same proportion to be given to other Officers, according to their ranks: so that I wrote a letter to the General, and sent it to him under my seal and sign, who as well as others were pleased with it. But Colonel Lang and Colonel Flint, with other Sardars, thought it was not enough, and seemed to be a little displeased; I told them that not a single Pagoda will be added. The General spoke to me to agree for no more, but to remain firm in what was already offered: I remained so before he spoke to me about it, but his speaking to me was an extraordinary caution. I send enclosed copy of the English paper given under my seal and sign, for your perusal.

As soon as I agreed to give double the money paid at Madura to the English army as above, the English Sardars in the Circar's service, having gathered together round me, *demanded the same sum to be paid to them.* The General told them, that he will not give them any out of the Enaum agreed on as above. I talked to the General on that head, but his answer was, that he accounted only with regard to the Company's Servants, and that he had no business with those of the Nabob. On this the Circar's Servants began to say, that as your Excellency was their Master, it behoved you to encrease their honour; and added, that the Company's Servants are looking upon them with contempt, because they entered into your service: I answered them, "That it was not in my power to offer any thing for them, but that I was willing to write to you in a proper manner. In short, *the demand of the English in the Circar's service is this,*—that in case the fort is taken, an Enaum should be given them in the same manner as may be given to the Company's Servants. I think proper to give the same Enaum to them; it is true, that by their entering into your service, the Company's Servants do not mind them. Please to let me know your direction on this head, that I may acquaint them with it.

No. 17.

From Omdat-ul-Omrab Behauder to the Nabob, dated 20th, and received 25th October, 1771.

I AM busy, from the beginning to this very hour of my writing this letter, to incline the Sardars towards taking the fort, I have not in the least neglected in the same. I maintained a negotiation of peace on one side; the Tanjore Vackeel's Son and Son-in-Law, Syed Muckdoom Ally Khân, had an egress and regress with me; and as soon as the Rajah set Monajee and the Dobbeer at liberty, I received a letter from Monajee, desiring me to send Syed Muckdoom Ally Khân to him. I wrote an answer to the Rajah and Monajee, that I could not send the said Khân, but

but that Monajee should come, with full power to finish the affair, without which it cannot be finished. At length the Rajah and Monajee advised me by their letters of sending the Vackeels with full power; upon which I, Mahomed Nazeeb Khān, Syed Muckdoom Ally Khān, and Ubraur Khān, conferred with the said Vackeels; who said, that they will never agree to give up the fort of Vellum as long as the Tanjore may remain in their possession; they told the same thing with regard to the districts of Arny, Coiladdy, and Elangad. The General has said to me, that it was improper to demand again Coiladdy and Elangad, which had been given them before; I gave him a proper answer for it. In short, they offered 10 Lacks of Rupees for the expenses of the army, and, upon a strong argument, they offered 20: I told them that a peace cannot be made. Muckdoom Ally Khān and Mahomed Nazeeb Khān advised them so much, that they came at last as far as 27,50,000; and said, that even if they were to lose their lives they cannot offer any thing more. Afterwards, I, at the pressing request of the General, spoke to them about considering the troubles of the army. I beg leave to represent what had passed on that head:—That the General and all the Sardars of the army sent a message to me, that if Tanjore is taken, the money agreed on shall be certainly paid to them; *but in case of peace they asked me what I will give them?* to which I answered them, “That I was empowered by your Excellency to make an offer in the matters of war; but what they then advanced was a new custom, as even a single Cash never hath been paid before in case of peace”. At length this argument lasted between us from the evening ’till midnight: they vexed me to that degree that it is impossible for me to express: I was obliged to tell them at last, “That it was out of my power to agree for the payment of any sum, even a Cash, in case of peace, but that *I would talk to the Rajah on that subject*; and if he agreed to give any thing, I should advise your Excellency of it, and that you had the sole power either to part with it or to detain it”; and I added to them, “That I should not tell them the amount thereof”. On hearing this, some of them were displeased; I then told them, “That the displeasure of my Master would lay heavier upon me than their displeasure.” The Vackeels began to say, “That they laboured under many difficulties to make the above offer on account of the charges of the army, which was all in their power, so that they could not agree for any more”. They wrote to Tanjore, and received no answer; they wrote a second time; I was very hard upon them, so that *they settled at last 5 Lacks of Rupees as a present to the army*, which being added to the above sum of 27,50,000 on account of the charges of the army, and including the Peshcush money, which, with the interest, is reckoned to be about 9 Lacks of Rupees, makes the total 41,50,000 Rupees.

Besides the above, the Vackeels say, that the country which they took from the Marawar is worth 4 Lacks of Rupees; this they have given up to the Circar, together with the fort of Armogam, which they had before given to the Marawar’s adversary; they have also given up the villages of Toovah, &c. You will know the particulars of what they have agreed to give by a separate paper enclosed; and having settled these matters, by the advice and counsel of Mahomed Nazeeb Khān and Syed Muckdoom Ally Khān, I went to the General, and told him that the Tanjoreans were willing to agree to somewhat more or less with respect to my demand, excepting Vellum, Arny, Coiladdy, and Elangad; and that if he was able to take the fort, I would delay the negotiation, the first object being the capture of the place:

place: I told him also to try his whole force once against it, and should he miscarry therein, (which God forbid!) I would then make peace.

The General's answer was, "That he could not promise to take the fort so soon, but in due course of time; that as to what I said of trying his force, he could do it to be sure; but supposing that he stormed the place, and was repulsed therein, (which God forbid!) in that case the Rajah would pay me nothing; and that I should therefore do what I thought best:" I replied, "Suppose the people of the fort should repulse us in the first, we will make a second assault": The General said, "That was true, but then I must consider the rains and wounded people". I must observe to your Excellency, that it rains very hard; that above 500 Sepoys and 100 Soldiers have been killed and wounded only at the batteries, and in the several skirmishes; near 500 Sepoys and 100 more Soldiers are sick; notwithstanding all which, our batteries are advanced very near to the ditch, within the distance of a yard from it, and our people therein are firm in maintaining their post, and in opposing the enemy; but a great many of them are fallen sick, and by reason of the disagreeable smell in the army, several people have died. On hearing the above therefore from the General, I asked him—What am I to trust to in oversetting the negotiation, if you will not engage to take the place? His answer was, that what he had told me was just. I communicated this to Mahomed Nazeeb Khan, and asked his advice; he said, "That if the General takes the fort, it is well; if not, peace must be made; but if neither are done, our reputation will suffer exceedingly". For my part the capture of the place is what I should first chuse, and next to *that* peace; but then such peace should be made before the Tanjoreans are in any shape sensible of their superiority over us, either through the severity of the rains, the sickness of our people, or the coming of the Marattas. The rains now are very severe, at which the Tanjoreans are very glad. I shall wait for your answer on this matter of agreeing to the peace as long as I can; and should it's receipt be delayed, I shall pursue such measures as may appear to every one most advantageous for the Circar's affairs.

No. 18.

From Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder to the Nabob, dated 28th October, and received 1st November, 1771.

I HAVE already addressed repeated letters to your Excellency, informing you of the particulars of the war and the negotiation for peace, by which I hope you are acquainted with all matters; since which, by the guns fired from our batteries, a great part of the high wall of the fort is already broke down; and the Chiefs of the English camp, through desire of getting their Enaum money, made haste, and began likewise to reduce the fausse-brayewall of the fort; and they told me that they would storm the fort within three days. On this I asked the General, whether he was convinced the fort would be taken by his storming it; he answered, No; and I was of the same opinion; for the people of the fort have digged a large ditch within the high wall, and raised also another high wall; they have likewise erected three batteries opposite to the walls that have been breached, and mounted guns thereon, of which news was repeatedly brought to me as well as the General;

but the said Chiefs press me to permit them to assault the fort. I consulted with Nazeeb Khan, Syed Muckdoom Ally Khan, and Ubraur Khan, about this matter, and they also were not for storming the place so soon. However, in order to clear myself of all blame which might arise, from the Commander of the army saying that the fort would have been taken, had not such an one (meaning me) concluded a peace, I spoke to the General in the following manner, viz. "I have in some measure put the negotiation for peace on a proper footing, and you have in some measure also made a breach in the wall of the fort; if you are convinced you can take it, I will break off the peace: the fort should be taken; if not, the other alternatives are,—either to make peace, or for me to tell you to storm the place; on the following condition, to wit: That as, in case of your miscarrying therein, (which God forbid!) the Rajah will not agree to pay any thing, until he shall again esteem the loss of his fort as certain; in case of noncompliance, and as you say after such a repulse you will retire to Vellum, and return after the Monsoon, you should in that case procure a peace from the Rajah on the same terms as I have now settled with him." To this however the General would by no means agree; and of course I considered, that if the assault was made, and the fort did not fall into our hands, it would lessen our reputation, that we did not conquer a Zemindar of the country; besides which there will be a great loss of money, and the terror of the Circar, as well as the English, will be removed from the hearts of the natives; and that no body knows the consequence that may happen after the rainy season. I therefore, by the concurrence of the General, and Nazeeb Khan, Syed Muckdoom Ally Khan, and Mahomed Ubraur Khan, and after a strong argument accepted a peace; insisting upon restoring Fort Vellum and Arny, but the Rajah never agreed to restore Arny, Vellum, Coiladdy, and Elangad; and he added, that as long as the fort of Tanjore remain in his possession, he would not part with them: I thereupon declared†, partly with good words and partly by threats, *that I would send an army immediately to get the Annacut broken down, and ruin his country*, and never would agree to any terms of peace more; this induced the Rajah to evacuate the districts of Arny. As to the Fort Vellum, the Rajah said that he would never agree to have the Circar's garrison stationed there, but that the same might be demolished. Afterwards, these points being settled, I demanded, by way of security for the payment of the Circar's money and the present of the army, amounting in all to 32 Lacks and 50 thousand Rupees, besides the Peshcush money, the delivery of the district of Mayavaram, and a part of the district of Combaconum; which they disputed, and said they would give an agreement to discharge the Circar money, but never would deliver up the country; at last however they agreed to it, and I received the Rajah's Saned under his hand and seal to that purpose, as the said districts would produce 16,25,000 Rupees; I will send thither the Circar's Amuldar to-morrow. Besides this, the Rajah has evacuated Marawar and Nalcooty's countries, as well as Armogam and Hanamantagoody; but I hear that the fort of Armogam having been given by the Rajah to the Marawar's adversary, the Marawar now has retaken the same; wherefore I shall enquire into this matter from the Rajah, and acquaint you with it. The Rajah sent a message, to give bills for two years' Peshcush, and the interest money upon Madras to be paid in ready specie; I therefore intended, that

† This word is not in the copy.

after I obtain a paper of consent for the several articles proposed, and an obligation as well as the Saneds for the districts, a copy of which comes enclosed, to get an agreement drawn on the part of the Circar under my hand, promising them to get the same signed by you within some days, and deliver the same to the Tanjore Vackeels : but in the interim, Yafawvantrow, a trusty person of Tanjore, told me, that the Rajah has wrote him to bring Syed Muckdoom Ally Khân along with him ; the Rajah and Monajee have also wrote to me very much on this subject ; wherefore I sent Nazeeb Ally Khân and Syed Muckdoom Ally Khân to the fort, and they paid a visit to, the Rajah, who, as well as Monajee, was very civil to them ; and soon after they arrived in the fort, the firing from the fort stopt, and a flag of truce was hoisted ; we were desired also to stop our firing, which I accordingly requested of the General, and the same was complied with. The said Khâns returned to the Camp at eight o'clock in the night, but the Tanjore Vackeels remained in the fort, in order to get satisfaction for the Peshcush money, and to bring the guns, &c. effects of Marawar, which the Rajah took from him. By God's blessing, after I get all the effects which were demanded as above, and possess the districts of Mayavaram, and a part of Combaconum district, as well as Hanamantagoody, I shall move from this place, and then acquaint you with it.

It is out of my power to inform you of the obstinacy of Marawar and Nalcooty ; neither they sent any assistance, nor came themselves to me ; notwithstanding *they wrote me a letter that they will possess their own countries.* It is talked that Marawar retook Armogam fort ; I therefore intend to write to them the day after to-morrow, acquainting them, that, by the Almighty's blessing, the business of the Circar is finished without any person's assistance ; and that as the camp will return towards Trichinopoly, they would have no business to come. If your Excellency is inclined to take possession of Ramanaut and Nalcooty's country, you cannot collect better troops than these at present ; you will therefore get an order from the Governor and Council, in the same manner as was granted respecting Tanjore, and you on your part will invest me with the necessary powers on the subject ; in which case, through the blessing of God, I shall take possession of these two places in a very short time. If it be your opinion, the Governor may write to the General to assist me, by bringing with him what number of troops I may request of him ; for there is no occasion of so many Europeans and Sardars, which in reality would increase the expense ; and the Monsoon will be passed before the camp is arrived in Trichinopoly, and the tents are repaired. I must acquaint you, that it will take up ten or fifteen days for our camp to arrive at Trichinopoly ; because it will require two or three days to seize Mayavaram and the part of the district of Combaconum, as also two or three days to get the bills for Peshcush money, as well as getting the effects of Marawar ; and likewise five or six days to seize Hanamantagoody. I will dispatch Mr. Budden's battalion in order to seize Hanamantagoody ; this will meet with some difficulty, for I imagine Marawar had possessed the said fort of Armogam ; but I dare not to commit hostilities without your orders, and without commencing a war the fort would not fall into our hands ; therefore I will order Captain Budden, and the Circar's Amuldars, to

go

go and only seize the countries in the Rajah's possession, until I receive your orders on the subject. This I refer to you, to do as you may think proper; I think this will be a proper time for you to give orders to the Circar's Amuldars to go and seize the Army country. Besides the agreement which I got from the Rajah in writing, I prevailed on him to give me a verbal promise for the discharge of the interest money of the Peshcush; for he never would agree to give a writing on that occasion: this being immaterial, I received only his promise; I likewise received his promise to have our shot delivered to our people.

The circumstances of the camp are as follow; viz. Four of the elephants belonging to me have died through sickness, one of which called Fatta Lashear, there was not it's equal in the Carnatick. In the same manner 12 horses belonging to me, and 3000 of the Circar's cattle, as well as Company's and Merchants, have died through sickness. The nauseous smell arising from the said elephants, &c. occasions a sickness to the people, and some are dying.

No. 19.

From Omdat-ul-Omrab Behauder to the Nabob, dated 8th, and received 10th November 1771.

EVEN after a peace is settled, I told the General that the Tanjoreans were deceitful; and if the Mourchas continued undemolished, they would give the goods agreed on as well as the money, according to agreement; but otherwise, they would give nothing. The General thinking my representation true, continued the Mourchas undemolished; and in the mean time I negotiated; and, by the Almighty's blessing, got the Fort Vellum for the Circar, as likewise Coiladdy and Elangad, which they have delivered to the Circar. I sent for the Vackeels of Marawar, and after asking them concerning the goods that were taken from Marawar, sent Abdul Rahaman to the Rajah, who returned the same to me. I have received letters, which the Rajah has signed and sealed, directed to the Braminies of Army and Marawar, concerning the restoration of the districts, and a security for the interest money of 77,000 Rupees; as well as a paper containing a fresh treaty, about restoring the Fort Vellum, Coiladdy, and Elangad to the Circar. I have now by me the bills for 6 Lacks and 50,000 Rupees, and the remaining money will be received to-morrow, when the Mourchas will be demolished. I acquaint your Excellency fairly and honestly, that I have received nothing from the Tanjoreans, except the water which their ground afforded. As I was indisposed with a cough, I got this letter wrote out by the Moonshy's hand, for which you will excuse me.

No. 20.

From Omdat-ul-Omrab Behauder to the Nabob, dated 12th, and received 16th November, 1771.

YOUR Excellency was pleased to mention in your letter, that since I left Trichinopoly to go against Tanjore, I dispatched only three letters to you touching

touching the business; that you are greatly surprized at what occasioned me to be so dilatory. That at the time of my asking leave to go against Tanjore, I spoke out several times in the Durbar, that in return to my former faults, I would execute my Master's business in such a manner, that he may obtain satisfaction from me. That at the time of my taking leave, you pointed out some methods for taking the place; that notwithstanding all these your expressions, you received advices from different parts, that the fort was very near to be taken, but I concluded a peace; that by this you observe, that I forgot all your writings and sayings. That—what induced me to conclude such a speedy peace, notwithstanding the rains having cleared, and every thing was ready to take the fort. That though I made a peace, I should have settled a considerable sum, and should have got Coiladdy and Elangad restored, as well as getting the Peshcush money increased every year, in the same manner as my deceased Grandfather had done. That in answer to the letter you wrote to me, to keep Fort Vellum in our possession 'till the money is paid as was agreed, I wrote to you to demolish the same. That the small sum of forfeit which I settled without Coiladdy and Elangad is also not ready money; that by this transaction you find no profit, but excessive loss. That on account of the immense expense occasioned, you think it proper to lay all the charges of this matter, as well as the advantages that can be reaped by it in this place to my charge; that I may manage it solely myself. And that when you consider all these points, you concluded that it proceeded through three reasons; namely, *Imprimis*, for want of sense; secondly, maintaining great civility; and, lastly, receiving a considerable bribe: all which I observe, and take the liberty to refer you to the purport of the following Persian verses, namely, “You will excuse me, for I came up to beg your pardon; I repaired myself up to your court black faced (or with a pale countenance); cause me to return whitefaced, (or with a chearful countenance); don't let me return from your court dejected and hopeless.” I lately addressed a letter to your Excellency, therein giving you the reasons of my writing seldom to you, as well as the particulars of the circumstances of the peace. I boldly take the liberty to acquaint you, that with regard to the three reasons you mentioned, two may be true, * as you allege; those are, being “senseless, and receiving bribes.” I must acquaint you, that while I resolved to give up my life in the affairs of the Circar, could I for my own interest hurt my Master's business? However, I hope you will pardon me, according to the purport of a verse in the Moorish language, which says, “If you try me by the laws I am ruined;” but on the contrary, “if you are favourably inclined, I am restored.” You were pleased to intimate to me, that I should acquaint you with whatever answers I think proper to write to the General; let me inform you, that sometime ago I addressed a letter to your Excellency, acquainting you with the particulars of the General's proposal, as well as the fixed extraordinary demands of the Sardars in the camp for the Enaum money in case of a peace, and of my answers to them; acquainting them at the same time that it was not in my power, but in that of your Excellency; and that I would demand from the Rajah, but it is the

* 'Tis an ironical expression.

Master's or your business to give or not to give: I now also address this to you, that whatever you may think proper, the same will be best. You wrote to me to send the copies of all your letters, after getting them wrote out by the Moonshies; but soon after you wrote me in another letter to send the originals: although I regard your last orders to be effective, yet I expect to know your pleasure again, and am ready to act in whatever manner you may please on this subject. The Tanjore Rajah, according to his agreement, sent two guns of Marawar, and for want of draft bullocks I kept them in the same place; I intend to send bullocks from Trichinopoly for the same, but I wait to know your pleasure. Monajee came and paid a visit to me, the General, and Mader-ul-Mulk; and the next day we marched our army, and arrived on this side Vellum: I was detained here this day, in order to send forces to seize the countries belonging to the Marawar that were taken by the Rajah, and to send forces likewise to seize Mayavaram, &c. as well as getting the elephants of the Marawar from the Rajah: by the blessing of God I shall proceed to-morrow further. I lately acquainted you that I would send Urshed Beg Khan to seize the countries of Marawar; I now appointed Amanulla Khan to go with a party of 1000 horse, together with Captain Budden, his battalion, and two guns of Alexander's, in all four battalions; I also, by the concurrence of the General, appointed to send a company of topasses to go along with them; I likewise appointed Amuldars to send in order to seize Mayavaram, &c. I will send Mr. Goddard with his battalions to go along with the said Amuldars: all these are ready to take their journey. I have now by me the bills for 11 Lacks of Rupees, out of which 8 Lacks are on account of the Peshcush; and the 3 remaining Lacks, given in my name, I gave away to the Circar.

No. 21.

From Omdat-ul-Omrab Behauder to the Nabob, dated 15th, and received 18th November, 1771.

THIS day, being the 11th instant, I together with the General arrived at Trichinopoly. This is a very good opportunity to punish Marawar, &c. In your letter to me you advised, that you would soon send an answer for the above business. I hope, before you send an order to march against the Marawar, you will write a letter to the Rajah, to send 2000 of his horse and 5000 Sepoys for the Circar's assistance, and send it to me, which I think will be to the interest of the Circar.

No. 22.

From Omdat-ul-Omrab Behauder to the Nabob, dated 17th, and received 20th November, 1771.

YOUR Excellency was pleased to advise me to lay provisions in store at Vellum; I left about 2000 gunnies of rice, which I had with me, in the said place; and on my arrival here I spoke to Mahomed Nazeeb Khan, Syed Muckdoom Ally Khan, and Mader-ul-Mulk, about sending to the said fort such quantity of provisions, as it may prove sufficient for 12 months for about two thousand people, talked

talked of before; they immediately drew out a list of calculation, and gave orders to get Paddy, &c. ready: by the blessing of God I shall again put them in mind of the same, and send Paddy, &c. to the said place. There are one battalion belonging to Alexander, and one company of Topasses, in the said place; besides which, there is another battalion belonging to the Company, under the command of Mr. Cosby, who is a faithful friend to the Circar; in short, the fort of Vellum is strongly fortified.

You were pleased to intimate, that my endeavours towards dispatching the affairs of the Circar, will be a means of happiness both in this and the other world; and likewise to get a good name and reputation, by undertaking an expedition against the enemies, notwithstanding the Circar money may be expended on that account: all this was owing to your Excellency's favour towards me, which hath exalted me to such a degree of honour. If you had employed any other servant upon this business, it was impossible for him to have dispatched it in a better manner than myself. I cannot make suitable returns to all these favours, excepting that I sacrifice my life in the affairs of the Circar, and use my endeavours towards the success of the affairs, which you may be pleased to intrust me with. You were pleased also to intimate, that in a short time an order will be sent to me to undertake an expedition against Marawar, and that I should be mindful to carry a large quantity of rice with me: I return my thanks, paying my humble compliments for the favour and honour thus shewn me; I shall accordingly be mindful of your advice. It will be just in your Excellency to think of punishing the said Marawar, because, notwithstanding your orders, and my letters sent to him since my arrival at Trichinopoly, with a design to march against Tanjore, he never assisted our army: if he had any such inclination, it was in his power to do it easily: by his not assisting the Circar, the Tanjoreans thought themselves under an obligation to him, and restored the country which they took lately from him; upon which Marawar, in his answer to them, expressed his thanks and gratitude to them.

No, 23.

From Omdat-ul-Omrah Bebauder to the Nabob, dated 8th, and received 13th December, 1771.

I HEREWITH send your Excellency a copy of a letter which I sent to the Rajah of Tanjore, together with one that came from your Court, and the same will be presented to you.

Copy of a Letter wrote to the Rajah of Tanjore, on the above date.

HIS Excellency was pleased to write you a letter in the strongest terms, advising you to keep 2000 Horse and 5000 Sepoys, under the command of a brave man, in readiness. By the blessing of God, I shall be employed from his Excellency's Court upon a certain expedition; wherefore I write this, to desire you will, agreeable to
His

His Excellency's express orders, make ready the full number of the said Horse and Sepoys with all possible speed, because our high and mighty standard will be moved out in a short time.

No. 24.

From Omdat-ul-Omrab Bebauder to the Nabob, dated 16th, and received 20th December, 1771.

I UNDERSTAND by what the Killedar of Vellum and Mr. Cosby have wrote to me, that the Tanjoreans had strictly forbid their country people to sell any grain to our garrison in the said place; as they could not get the grain there, the said Mr. Cosby has wrote to order the daily quantity, for the subsistence of the people in the fort, to be delivered out of the stores of provisions laid in the said fort; on this I wrote a letter to the Rajah of Tanjore, copy of which I send enclosed to your Excellency's perusal.

No. 25.

Copy of a letter from Omdat-ul-Omrab Bebauder to the Rajah of Tanjore, dated 16th December, 1771.

I UNDERSTAND by what Captain Cosby, and Mahomed Ackber, Naib in the fort of Vellum, write to me, that your people, for these three or four days, having placed guards round the said fort, are forbidding the rice, &c. to be carried to the Buzar of the said place; which occasioned a great scarcity of provisions in the Buzar, insomuch that the people in the fort undergo great hardships. In consideration of my letter, you ordered your people to punish the Colleries, and remove the troubles on the road of Vellum; and you likewise ordered the grain to be sold to the garrison of the said fort; besides which, your Vackeels have entered into a firm agreement for all these particulars: since it is so, I am fully persuaded that the above proceedings of your servants must have happened without your knowledge; however, you will now, out of regard to your agreement, and to our friendship, strictly prevent your people from the above proceedings, ordering them at the same time to sell rice, &c. provisions in the Buzar of Vellum, which will be a means to increase the friendship between us.

Mader-ul-Mulk Letters to the Nabob, from No. 1, to 23.

N. B. No. 18, 19, 21, 22, and 23, are the most material.

No. 1.

From Mader-ul-Mulk to the Nabob, dated 13th, and received 17th August, 1771.

I WROTE repeatedly to Syed Muckdoom Ally Khan, about buying horse-gram, to the amount of ten thousand Rupees, and to get ready boats and baskets in a sufficient manner; and have appointed Mahomed Syed as a Daroga upon that business, and sent him before me: I also wrote to the Amuldar of Portq

Novo and Chillumbrum, soon to send boats from the Coleroon river, to the end that they may arrive at the fort to serve for the army to cross; I have likewise wrote to Ally Navaz Khan: by the blessing of God, the boats and baskets will be procured sufficiently, so as to enable the army soon to cross the river. I received yesterday Syed Muckdoom Ally Khan's answer to my letter; acquainting me, that the rice, salt, &c. can be procured; that it will be a very difficult matter to procure cattle and sheep: that during the siege of Pondicherry, cattle and sheep have been supplied from all the districts of Arcot, &c. and that orders should be now sent to the Talookdars of Arcot, Arrialore, and Worriarpollam, about supplying with cattle, provisions, and sheep: I thought fit to acquaint you with what the said Khan has wrote to me. On my arrival at Trichinopoly, whatever cattle and sheep can be procured from the Polligars' districts, as well as from the districts of Trichinopoly, &c. I shall not neglect to collect them; notwithstanding you will be pleased to send your orders to every one, that I may be sure of it. By the blessing of God, and your power, the affairs of the provisions will be dispatched in the best manner. I shall be diligent in getting the gunpowder ready as much as necessary. I gave strict orders that no body of the Sepoys, &c. shall molest the villages on this road, and am placing two or three Sepoys in every village, with orders to remain in the same 'till the army passed, so that none of the country people shall receive any injury.

No. 2.

From Mader-ul-Mulk to the Nabob, dated 18th, and received 24th August, 1771.

THIS day I arrived at Munsoor Pettah, and found the river is swelled to that degree, that the people of 60 years of age in this place declared, that they never saw such a flood in their life; in short, it appears that there is one great sea, running from Moosary to the end of the Lalguddy country; nobody can cross it: about three hundred creeks, occasioned by force of waters, are to be seen on the sides of Coleroon and Caverry rivers, and about ten or twelve villages were drowned. In reality, there are three rivers at present which are hard to cross; there will be about four boats, and twenty baskets in both the rivers, and which are under the care and management of the Faringees. It was the intention of Omdat-ul-Omrah Behaudar to arrive in the fort this day any how, not minding whether the Sepoys cross the river or not; but it was my opinion to decline going this day; on the contrary, to send half the number of Sepoys to the other side, and to appoint a man upon this business, with orders to remain on this side 'till the people of the army cross the river, and then to go himself; and that afterwards we should pass: this was approved by the said Behaudar. It was found a difficult matter first to go from Munsoor Pettah to the sides of Coleroon; wherefore we have sent for some baskets from Coleroon, and sent four companies of Sepoys, along with Lieutenant Alwan, to Pitchandar Covil, with orders to arrive there, and from thence to send two companies to Seringham, and the other two companies to keep with him at the said Pitchandar Covil 'till our arrival. Orders were delivered, in the English language, to Capt. Alexander, Capt. Cole,

Cole, with one company of Topasses, Capt. Proos, and Capt. Goddard, concerning the crossing the river, that every one of them may act accordingly; copies of which are enclosed in this letter; Capt. Alexander with two companies of Sepoys remained, to go there after he sent away his things. In order to settle the affair of the boats and baskets, some trusty people were appointed. I have sent people, and sent for all the baskets of the grain-sellers from Moofary, Totteyam, &c. and some baskets are already brought, and ten or twelve more will be brought also this night; besides which, there are twenty baskets ready in the Circar. By the blessing of God, the people of the army will pass in three days. If the troops with Colonel Butler should arrive in five or six days, 'tis to be reckoned soon: I expect every minute the boats from Porto Novo, Arrialore, and Devecotah; and cannot express the usage we met with by the people at Trichinopoly, for every thing both great and small lies under the power of the Farringees. I returned many thanks to God for my safe arrival here, and am in firm hopes to arrive also safe in Trichinopoly. I prepared a daily letter, containing the accounts of the occurrences, which I shall send you by and by, and the same will inform you of all matters. You will hear by other hands of the pains I have taken on the road, in keeping the Sepoys in good order and exercise. By the grace of God, I shall prepare all accoutrements in Trichinopoly, like to those of the companies belonging to the English, and send them soon to the army.

No. 3.

From Mader-ul-Mulk to the Nabob, dated 21st, and received 28th August, 1771.

I HAVE addressed a letter to your Excellency from Munsoor Pettah; after which, to this time, being three days, I could not write to you, by reason of my being busy about crossing the rivers Cavery and Coleroon. It is impossible for me to express the excessive swelling of the above rivers; for the people talk, that such swelling hath never been seen within these sixty years. On account of the creeks occasioned in the sides of Coleroon, the waters coming from as far as Munsoor Pettah and Lalguddy run with equal rapidity. All the Pishaun crop was ruined, and several villages on the sides of the river were drowned; the people saw it with their own eyes, and brought news, that several shades of the houses of the inhabitants were forced away by the flood, and that several men and women were seen sitting on them; the same rapidity exists to this day: I ordered the boat people soon to send the boats, and to save those people. I saw no possibility of passing the army 'till the water was abated; wherefore I and Omdat-ul-Omrah embarked ourselves in a boat on the 20th in the morning, and crossed a stream, which arose by breaking thro' the sides of Coleroon, and the same may be esteemed like to a third river; and then, having passed over Coleroon, stopt a little while at the Choultry of Amnamondaff, on the other side of the Cavery; and then having embarked again, crossed the Cavery, and arrived near the fort of Trichinopoly; where we were met with by General Smith, Syed Muckdoom Ally Khan, &c. I then presented your compliments

to

to the General, who was vastly pleased; afterwards I went to the sepulchre of Natta Saib Saint, where I read the prayers of Phatta Jaseen, and then arrived in the fort on Tuesday, at 5 o'clock in the evening. By the consent of Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, I sent Carimoody Khan to the fakkeers and hermits residing at the other sepulchres of the saints, to implore their prayers for your long life and happiness; as well as for a victory to be gained, and success to be met with in your affairs according to your desire: he accordingly went, and implored their assistance, of which I think proper to acquaint you.

This morning I and Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder went to the General, to whom we delivered your letter, as well as that from the Governor and Council, and explained the contents of them very fully in the Moors language; he was glad to hear them. I beg leave to acquaint you of the subject of our discourse, which is;—The General was pleased to say to the said Behauder, that whatever business is to be done, should be finished before the rainy weather; and asked him whether he will write a letter to the Tanjore Rajah, or whether he brought his Vackeel along with him: To which he answered, that he will certainly write a letter to him; and that the Rajah's Vackeels came along with him, but that they were detained at Munfoor Pettah, on account of the swelling of the river, and that they will come by and by. The General told me, that his gunpowder and bullocks remained on the other side of the river, so that I should get boats to bring them soon to this side, or by the time Colonel Butler's army may arrive: I answered, that the swelling of the river continues in the same force for these fourteen days; that, by the blessing of God, boats were sent for from Porto Novo, Chillumbrum, and Worriarpollam, and that they will soon arrive; and I added, that there became three rivers, including a stream, occasioned thro' the creeks in the sides of Coleroon, which are difficult to pass; so that as there is one single river of Caverry, within the distance of 6 coss to the westward, near Moosary, all the boats shall be sent there as soon as they arrive, to the end that the whole army with Colonel Butler, with ammunition, &c. together with the troops along with me, may easily pass; that the same should be effected as soon as the water is abated, as it was then in it's height, inasmuch, that even a large bamboo, that helps to shove the boats, could not reach the ground; and that on the decrease of the water, the army shall cross the river; which my advice was highly approved by the General and the said Behauder, who wanted to write a letter to Mahomed Ubraur Khan, ordering him to arrive with his army at a ford of Moosary; but I told him, that Govinda Punt and an Engineer shall be sent first to review the ford, and tell us to send the army—then it will be better to send. The said Behauder sent his sentiments to me in writing, but what occurred in my mind I took the liberty to advise you: the said Govinda Punt and Engineer were sent to review the ford of Moosary. I took one company of the Sepoys from the General, out of whom fifty men were sent along with Mahomed Syed, in order to collect the boats and baskets, and not to suffer the Sepoys of the said company to injure the boat people. I have before wrote from Trevenalloor to the Amildars of Chillumbrum, Worriarpollam, and Porto Novo, in order to send boats, of which I gave you timely notice; the said boats are soon expected: at present there are four boats, and fifty baskets of the Circar, together with some other baskets of the inhabitants

bitan's ready; besides which, Syed Muckdoom Ally Khân gave orders to get ready four boats, and ninety baskets, which they are making ready: as soon as the waters are abated in the river, the army will pass.

The General desired me to supply him with beams, planks, and bamboo sticks, both large and small, on account of the Mourchas, according to a list, copy of which comes enclosed; I sent him word, that I shall supply him as much as I could. I find the General has no inclination to take the Teak planks, &c. that are in the fort, on account of the Mourchas. Syed Muckdoom Ally Khân tells me, that when the General spoke to him about these things, he returned for an answer, that on his arrival near Tanjore, whatever may be necessary for the Mourchas can be procured at the same place; notwithstanding, should the General ask me for the Teak planks and beams that are in the fort, what answer I should make please to advise me.

This day the General, Capt. Horne, Capt. Kennedy, the Chief Gunner, sent Engineer Montresor, with his Dubash, desiring me to deliver up the gunpowder that is in the magazine, that they may get it re-made, to be kept ready to serve upon occasion. I understand by what Syed Muckdoom Ally Khân tells me, that they had been with him three or four days ago, in order to see the powder magazine; and that he then made an excuse, that the writer who kept it's account was gone to Ser-ingham, and that unless he came and opened the door, it could not be seen. I did therefore tell them, that I will get the said powder re-made. Upon which they told me, that the Governor has wrote to the General to receive the said powder and get it re-made, and that your Excellency approved of the same; I answered, that I knew such discourse had passed in my presence, but as he then had no occasion for the gunpowder, I will get it remade, and keep it; desiring him at the same time to let me know, at that very instant, what quantity of powder should be necessary: the people were sent to bring an account of the powder barrels: what quantity of powder that may be found damaged, I gave orders to be re-made.

About sixty Coutique people from Trichimopoly fort were gone to the army. Syed Muckdoom Ally Khân has appointed Peer Mahomed's brother as Cutwall of the Buzar; I shall keep him employed 'till the arrival of Darvash Mahomed.

The General has sent a Lieutenant, with his Dubash, Ramah, to acquaint me that bad sheep are supplied, so that I should order the butchers to supply with good ones. I answered them, that I shall give strict orders to the butchers, who will supply with good ones. Afterwards I sent for the head butcher, and ordered him to sell good sheep in the Buzar; besides which I shall supply them with what has been stipulated to be delivered every month. According to Syed Muckdoom Ally Khân's letter, I wrote you from Trevenelloor concerning the sheep, &c. and hope you will be pleased to order the sheep, &c. to be supplied likewise from the country of Arcot, Worriarpollam, Arrialore, Chillumbrum, Verdachelum, &c. because they are very necessary; what number of sheep that can be collected in this country, I shall never fail: you will be pleased to issue out your orders to Rajah Beerbur, alias Atchena Punt, &c.

I addressed

I addrested a letter to you concerning the Gunnies, upon which you were pleased to order the said Atchena Punt to get them and send me; I request you will cause the said Gunnies to be soon sent. At the time of my coming, I enquired in Trevenalloor and Veeramany concerning the Gunnies, where they told me, that the four pieces of Gunnies may be had for a Pagoda; but I asked five, to which they agreed; I think fit to acquaint you with the same.

To this day about twenty-four tents of the measure of six yards, with their hangings, and seven kitchen tents, were made ready; I shall get some more to be made.

The General sent me a list of sheep and cows for daily food of the Europeans, in the English language, by his Dubash Virdah, a Persian translation of which I send enclosed to your perusal.

I shall send you a list of rice, &c. by and by, which they promise to give me, and as soon as they give it to me, it shall be forwarded to your Court.

No. 4.

From Mader-ul-Mulk to the Nabob, dated 24th, and received 28th August, 1771.

I HAD the honour to receive your letter, dated 17th instant, in answer to that of mine on the 23d; wherein you were pleased to direct me to inform you with the names of the deserters of the Sepoys belonging to the battalions of Alexander and Captain Goddard, that you may sign their desertions in the roll; that as there were a great many people to be got in Trichinopoly, I should fill up their vacancy; that I should procure such a number of cattle from the country of the Polligars of Trichinopoly, that it may prove sufficient to the consumption of the Hatmen; and that I should get ready such quantity of gunpowder as I may think necessary. I must inform your Excellency, that the army is still on the other side of the rivers, and as soon as they cross them, I shall fully inform you of the names of the deserters, as well as a list of the people that may be filled in their room, according to your direction. I lately advised you that I advanced 2000 Rupees to the Chief of the butchers to procure cattle, and sent them towards the Pollams; besides which I advanced 1000 Rupees, through the means of the Renter of the Sawyer and Cotavally, that they may buy sheep of the merchants that bring their herds to be sold near the fort: though this money is a trifle, yet it was advanced to encourage to carry on the business: I shall likewise advance more money frequently to purchase sheep and bring them. I sent orders to Marawar, Tondiman, Nalcooty, as well to the Zemindars of Manyparah, and all Renters and Amuldars of Trichinopoly country, concerning the sheep, and to send supplies of grain, drugs, horse-gram, &c. Syed Muckdoom Ally Khan has hitherto procured horse-gram to the amount of 200

10 R

Rupees

Rupees, in consequence of your letters and those of mine; which is but a trifle to carry on the business; wherefore I have been very strict in the articles of the horse-gram, and sent sums of money to different places; notwithstanding I desire you will be pleased to write to Ally Navaz Khan to procure the horse-gram, to the amount of 2000 Rupees in his country, and send it to Trichinopoly; the said letter may be sent hither to me: I have also sent for Gunnies, which are scarce to be got, you will therefore be pleased to order Rajah Beerbur to send them from Arcot country. Some Gunny bags, tents, and kitchen tents are ready, and more will be ready, as well as the boats and baskets to get the army to cross the river; this is what Syed Muckdoom Ally Khan has told me; I have appointed Mahomed Syed, &c. to remain on this side. What I wrote to you about the supply of sheep from Arcot was for to carry on the business with more care, but I shall not neglect to procure as many as can be got in these parts.

No. 5.

From Mader-ul-Mulk Bebauder to the Nabob, dated 28th August, and received 1st September, 1771.

I LATELY advised your Excellency of my settling the affairs of the boats and baskets, and of my appointing proper people with some Sepoys upon this business. When I found that the people of the army do not cross soon, I enquired into the reason; and it appeared to me, that the Faringees took all the baskets under their sole disposal, and would not let any one pass; and they do not let even the soldiers to do the same; on the contrary, they are getting over the other side their things, Pariar women, horse-keepers, wives, and cattle. General Smith came to me more than once, and asked me what should be done about the above proceedings of the Faringees: I answered, that he had already sent the Darogas, with the Sepoys, about settling that business, of which he knows; notwithstanding, as his Faringees are thus acting, it will be proper for him to write a letter to Colonel Butler, not to suffer any others excepting the soldiers to pass over: the General replied, that it was highly necessary to get over all the soldiers and gunners; saying, that the Sepoys, guns, carriages, and the things of the Faringees, may be got over by and by. I spoke to him, that in order to settle that matter, the officers in the Circar's service were appointed; and that all the boats and baskets are under their orders; and I added, that whomsoever both he and the Colonel may speak to get over, the said officers will let them pass. The General was vastly pleased with it, and said that it was a very proper method; and added, that he only waited for the gunners and soldiers as there were many guns in the camps; so that, he said, the guns along with Colonel Butler may arrive afterwards, as his chief aim is to get the Faringees soon to pass by any means; telling me at the same time, that he will give the letter requested of him with great pleasure. After I obtained the said letter to Colonel Butler, agreeable to the above purport, I sent Captain Colson, Mr. Alvert, and Mr. Freeman, with direction that Captain Colson do proceed to Munsoor Pettah, and there take all the boats and baskets under his orders; and I sent word to Colonel Butler to

to send over all the Faringees, and to keep Mr. Alvert on the side of Coleroon: I directed Mr. Freeman to remain on this side of Cavery, and get as many Faringees as may arrive there soon to pass over. After these officers were sent, I went one day to see, but could not find any one of the army to pass the river; I was therefore obliged to tell Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, to keep himself in the Choultry of Chintamani, on the side of Cavery, and what number of the boats and baskets laden with the people may arrive there, soon to land them, and send them to me; as I was willing on my part to go to Seringham, and get the troops soon to pass. I accordingly embarked myself in a boat on Tuesday the 27th instant in the morning, arrived at Seringham, and settled the affairs of the boats and baskets; I ordered rafts to be prepared in the two streams between Seringham and Cavery for the army to pass on; every raft can carry two men; I staid all the day at a proper place by the Cavery river, in order to get over the men; but none of the people of the army came there; on the contrary, the Faringees used to send over the people of no use. I did not get over any man, but ordered Mr. Freeman not to let any body pass, excepting the Faringees, without my Chit. On my hearing of the circumstances of the people's passing through the waters between Munloor Pettah and Coleroon, I thought it necessary to go to Pitchandargoody and settle that business. This day I arrived at the said place, and found that nobody of the army came over this side; I at that very instant getting ready fifteen baskets and three boats, sent Mr. Alvert with a letter to Colonel Butler, acquainting him, that I remained there purely to get the troops to pass over the river, desiring him at the same time to send away all the Faringees of the army at first, and soon, that I might transport them to the fort of Trichinopoly. As boats and baskets are kept ready for that purpose, the Colonel, on receipt of my said letter, settled it so that none but the soldiers and gunners shall pass; he left Major Desplans in the army, and himself, with the whole body of the gunners, embarked in the baskets and came to me. I then shewed him great civility, and immediately got all the gunners to pass over the Coleroon, and from thence they crossed the Cavery also. By the blessing of God, this day several officers and gunners with their things passed through the waters of Munloor Pettah, Coleroon and Cavery rivers this night. I remained here at Pitchandargoody, with seven companies of Sepoys of the battalion of Captain Alexander; the Colonel is also with me. I hope to get over the other side all the Faringees, including some Sepoys, by tomorrow. The water is now daily decreasing, which is owing to the blessing of God, and your good luck. I sent people with an offer of an Enaam to see and find out a ford in their river, which may be passible, and hope to pass the whole army in two or three days, excepting great carriages and baggages. I shall not be easy before the army have crossed over the river; altho' there was a multiplicity of business in the fort relating to the provisions, &c. to be dispatched, yet I thought it to be a matter of the first consequence, and am taking pains night and day; you will soon hear the army is crossed.

For these seven days the Faringees sent over the cattle and the people of no use, and they beat the boat people; and for which reason they were dispersed: they made two trips in a whole day, and left away several baskets, and made their escape when-

ever

ever the baskets floated ashore; the people at their pleasure put their things in them, and sent them as they pleased, not minding the Darogas who are appointed upon that business. By the blessing of God, all the boat people are now with me; they don't go any where; I am giving an Enaum for every trip of a boat six Rupees, and to the basket three Rupees each trip.

No. 6.

From Mader-ul-Mulk Bebauder to the Nabob, dated 8th, and received 11th September, 1771.

I FOUND although the waters are decreased in the rivers, yet the people belonging to the command of Captain Matthews, Captain Alexander, Goddard, &c. are crossing them slowly; wherefore I and Mahomed Nazeeb Khan went to Pitchandargoody on the 7th: now Captain Matthews and Rumley's troops are crossing the rivers. I gave presents to certain people, and found out a ford in the river, where it is passable; by the blessing of God, horses will also cross the river this day; I shall also stay this day in this place, and get Captain Alexander's battalion, as well as those of Captain Goddard and Captain Budden, to cross the rivers. To-morrow I shall go to Trichinopoly, and shall supply every battalion with what stores may be necessary; and after paying them to the end of August, I shall send them to the camp. I have supplied Omdat-ul-Omrah Bebauder whatever stores he wanted. You will know the particulars of stores by my letter, which may be sent you hereafter; the said Bebauder is at Seringham, and is endeavouring to get the army to cross the river. The river Cavery is also passable; the saddles and people's things are sending in baskets and boats; the horses are carried through the ford.

Mr. Cafamaijor requested rice, salt, &c. which I delivered after I took his receipt. I advanced money to the people to purchase sheep; they are also gone to the Mysoor country: I am also delivering 250 sheep to the Laringees for the expense of the army.

No. 7.

From Mader-ul-Mulk to the Nabob, dated 11th, and received 14th September, 1771.

I FIND by a paper which your Excellency was pleased to send me, that I should procure 1000 cattle on account of the provisions: I, knowing the necessity of such supply, thought of procuring 4000 cattle, and sent to different parts for them. At present, out of the said cattle, I delivered 1000 for the expense of one month, and some sheep to answer the expense of twenty days, to the Company's people according to their request; I also delivered 1000 cattle to the care of Darvash Mahomed, Cutwall in the camp, and am now busy to procure 2000 more. I wrote repeated orders to the Zemindars and Talookdars of different parts on this side about sending large supplies of provisions, and hope to receive continual supplies from

from them. This day General Smith demanded an immediate delivery of provisions for sixteen days to the whole camp, laden on four thousand bullocks, besides 1000 bullocks given before. By the blessing of God I have a sufficient quantity of rice; but to collect 4000 bullocks at this very instant is a thing impossible: if the General gives me four days time, I can any how procure 4000 bullocks; however I shall procure more than 1000, and send them laden with rice to the camp; besides which I shall send an hundred bullock-loads of rice, which may be equal to 1000 bullock-loads, together with the rice laden on the elephants: the army halted this day on account of the same demand; wherefore I am so busy about procuring the provisions, according to the General's demand, that I have no time to eat nor rest: by the blessing of God the army will march to-morrow. The usual custom of the Cutwall of the army is this, that if the provisions are brought from different parts to be sold in the Buzar, the price of them is not made known to us. The Cutwall desires that the whole quantity of provisions may be delivered out of the stores in the fort; the General is fully convinced that 3 or 4000 bullock-loads can be procured from the fort. This day I acquainted the General with the circumstances of the bullocks, and told him to enlist some bullocks also himself; to which he agreed, and was convinced that it is very hard or a great difficulty to procure bullocks. If I had enlisted 4 or 5000 bullocks immediately on my arrival hither, it would never have occasioned so great pain and trouble: as your order was to enlist 1000 bullocks, I delayed. I think it necessary at present to enlist the bullocks, accordingly as I have addressed; night and day I am attentive upon this business. By reason of the swelling of the rivers, like which nobody has seen within this sixty or seventy years past, my whole attention has been employed, from the day of my arrival in Trichinopoly, in getting the army, artillery, &c. stores of the Company to cross the rivers. The boutique people and bullocks of the Merchants could not get time to cross the river; they are spread towards Munfoor Pettah, &c. villages. You were pleased to order me to deliver what quantity of grain the Company's people may ask for, and moreover 1000 bullocks; instead of 1000 I delivered 2000 bullocks to the General; I also delivered about 1000 bullock-load of rice, besides some carts, &c. as aforesaid: I shall procure more than 1000 bullocks, and shall exert myself to the utmost upon this business. If my time had not been employed in getting the army crossed, and the General did not make so large demand of the bullocks, I would have supplied him with provisions more than he desired. The General has now told me that he wanted 4000 bullock-loads of provisions; and in order to collect which it will certainly require three or four days, I am afraid, and hope that the General will not be displeased on that account.

N. B. A note, dated the 16th of September 1771, is sent enclosed to the Governor.

No. 8.

From Mader-ul-Mulk to the Nabob, dated 22d, and received 25th September, 1771.

I HAD the honour to receive two letters from your Excellency, dated the 15th and 17th of September, on the 18th and 20th of the same month. You were pleased to mention of my neglect in sending supplies of provisions, which you say was proved before the Hatmen; directing me at the same time to avoid the bad consequences that might arise by such neglect, and to send repeated supplies to the army 'till it may prove sufficient to prevent the complaints of scarcity. I took a great deal of pains in sending repeated supplies, and in paying the battalions and troops, and likewise in advancing money to Nazeeb Khân, particulars of which I addressed in my former letters; notwithstanding, if it is talked that my neglect is proved before your Servants and Hatmen, it must be imputed to my bad luck: indeed I have taken a great deal of pains in this affair: as it was the first beginning of the business, was the reason that the supplies from the out-countries were not arrived. I suppose the General has wrote to the Governor of it at the time of the marching of the army, since which I have sent repeated supplies to the camp; I have also sent supplies along with the battalions of Alexander and Captain Budden, and likewise along with Nazeeb Khân, all which are arrived with the General. By the blessing of God I have ready some bullocks of the Circar laden with provisions, as well as those brought by Merchants from different places. I am writing to Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, and to the General, for these three days, about sending an escort of the Sepoys, and likewise empty Gunny Bags. I have already enclosed to you a copy of my letter wrote to him yesterday; and as soon as the escort comes, I shall send away the provisions which are ready. I have charged the Amuldars of our districts to supply with 3000 bullocks according to proportion, and ordered the Merchants to go towards our districts and bring provisions. By the grace of God, as the fort of Vellum is now conquered, we can receive great assistance about provisions, and the Merchants from different parts will have free egress and regress; so that I shall supply the army with such quantity of provisions, that it may remove the scarcity, and give a room for people to talk of it's plenty. After I perform my devotion to God, I have no other thoughts but to think of a method of sending provisions to the army: agreeable to your advice, I am very busy and attentive upon this business: I have sent some proper people to the Zemindars and Amuldars, to press them upon this business of the provisions.

No. 9.

From Mader-ul-Mulk to the Nabob, dated 24th, and received 28th September, 1771.

I HAD the great honour and satisfaction to receive your two letters, which mentioned of my delay in sending addressees to your Excellency, containing some kind verses. I lately sent repeated letters in answer to your several favours, thereby advising you of the occurrences on this side; by which I suppose you are fully acquainted with my sending supplies of provisions to the camp, and other circumstances, as I did not fail to send you two or three letters every day. Can I neglect or delay writing letters to you at this juncture, when Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder is employed with an army upon *so* important *an* expedition? * I cannot enjoy my rest if I fail in writing daily letters with an account of the occurrences here. By the blessing of God I have 800 bullocks ready laden with rice; besides which I have filled 300 Gunay bags, which came from the camp with 300 bullocks, with rice; so that in all 1100 bullock-loads of provisions I shall soon send to the camp along with Captain Budden's battalion. Some Merchants have brought 7 or 800 ox-loads of provisions, which I kept here for want of an escort; these shall be also sent to the camp. This day I received General Smith's letter in answer to the letters which I wrote to him, copy of which comes enclosed, which will inform you of my sending the provisions from hence. By the help of God there is a good deal of provision in the camp; when the present supply gets there it will increase the quantity. Now the Merchants from different parts are in some measure got into a way of going to and from the camp, of which I thought fit to acquaint you.

Last night I advised you by a letter of Mr. Hay's demand of the gunpowder, and of my being under the necessity of supplying him with 3 or 400 barrels out of the Circar, considering the present circumstances of times. Now I must inform you that there is a great scarcity of gunpowder in the camp; Mr. Hay is also sending what powder is ready from hence: I, on my part, shall give 3 or 400 barrels, as necessity may require, and will get the gunpowder made in room of what barrels shall be laid out; but if a sufficient quantity comes from Madras, it will be very proper; which will not only serve for sending to the army, but for me to receive out of it in lieu of what I had given them: I am in hopes of the arrival of the gunpowder from Madras, and of receiving out of it in lieu of what hath been given out of the Circar; and shall not neglect in getting ready the gunpowder, which we are making ready.

This is the 24th September, 1771, of the English style; there are six days more for that month to be complete, and then it will be highly necessary to pay about 8000 Pagodas on account of the pay of the four battalions, 4000 Pagodas on account of the Batta of the said battalions, 2000 Pagodas on account of the

* The words in Italicks are not in the copy. *

Batta and pay of the Faringees, and 6000 Pagodas on account of Messrs. Matthews' and Rumley's troop; in all Pagodas 20,000. I lately advised you fully of the ruinous state of the country of Trichinopoly, by reason of the swelling of the rivers, which washed away the Corn, Valan and Caur Crop, as well as the seeds which have been sown; and in order to cultivate, and to get the Pishawn crop ready, and to collect the revenues thereof, it will take up five or six months: it is a difficult matter to raise so much money at present. The Circar army is to be employed upon an important expedition after the month is out; if a delay is made to pay them, it will be attended with very bad consequences; then you will say that I neglected to tell you of it before; wherefore I thought fit to advise you, hoping that you will be pleased to assist me with money to enable me to pay the Circar army, that I may pay to them; and as soon as the collection of the revenues begins, I shall send a bill to your Court. A sum of 5000 Pagodas, being the remainder of the 50,000 relating to Nazeeb Khan (an account of the receipt of which hath been sent you before) I shall soon send to the said Khan.

N. B. The Nabob has sent this letter to the Governor enclosed in his note, dated the 28th September 1771.

No. 10.

From Mader-ul-Mulk to the Nabob, dated 25th and received 29th September, 1771.

I HAD the honour and happiness to receive your Excellency's favour, dated the 22d instant, this day at twelve o'clock in the forenoon. You were pleased to mention of the scarcity of provisions in the camp, and of my neglect in sending them, notwithstanding repeated letters were sent to me, directing me: at the same time to send a sufficient quantity to the camp, and to mend the past neglect; and you added, that if I was unable to supply them, to advise you soon, that you may arrive at Trichinopoly, and dispatch that business; all which I fully observe. I must beg leave to inform you, that after the army marched towards Tanjore, I sent repeated supplies of grain to the camp. I lately addressed a letter to you, enclosing a copy of General Smith's letter, acknowledging the receipt of the supplies sent from hence, and informing me of the sufficiency of provisions in the camp, by which you will be fully acquainted with the matter; besides which, yesterday, being the 24th instant, I sent to the camp 913 ox-loads of rice, &c. belonging to the Circar, together with 605 belonging to the Merchants of different parts, in all 1518, filled with rice, &c. and with 1000 sheep, along with six companies belonging to the battalion of Captains Davis and Budden, which I hope have arrived there by this time, and so the provisions will be plenty in the camp. By the blessing of God some more oxen are collected, and provisions were sent for from the neighbourhood; so that as soon as an escort arrives from the camp for to carry the gunpowder, I shall send another supply along with them: night and day I have no other business to mind but this; and unless I dispatch it I can't find any relief in my eating and sleeping.

Agreable.

Agreeable to your directions, I have lately paid to Nazeeb Khân, any how, the pay of the battalions, troops, &c. and shall soon send him the remainder, being Pagodas 5000. You were pleased to signify your intention to come hither, in order to dispatch the business of the provisions; by the blessing of God, and your favour, it is no great matter; I have dispatched that business already, and will continue to dispatch it in the best manner I can; you may make yourself easy about it. If your intention is to come hither upon another business, it will be the utmost of my desire, as well as that of the people here, and I shall think myself very happy to kiss your Excellency's feet.

A Separate Note.

THIS day I received a letter from the General, wherein he acquaints me, that, by the blessing of God, the Circar army is arrived near the fort of Tanjore; that the Mourchas will be soon erected; that the Rajah of Tanjore has already fortified his forts in the strongest manner, by forming a glacis, and digging a deep ditch, &c. by the assistance of the Dutch workmen; that he is still strengthening it daily; that he will, by the blessing of God, exert himself towards the reduction of it; that I should, on my part, send immediately 1000 Coolies to Collycotah, that they may bring necessaries of the Mourchas to the camp; and that if the rains set in, (which God forbid!) it will be attended with bad consequence. The said letter reached my hands about eight o'clock at night; and as it is a difficult matter to collect 1000 Coolies in one night, I intend to take two companies of Sepoys from Captain Poverly, and to send them, with one company of Sepoys that are with me without arms, to Collycotah along with Mahomed Syed, and to write to the Faringees at Collycotah to join one company out of the two that are there, which makes the number 400 men; besides which I shall collect 3 or 400 Coolies, and send them to Collycotah this night. I have appointed Mahomed Syed upon this business, that he may immediately proceed to Collycotah, and send the stores of the Mourchas soon to the camp; I have likewise sent for the Coolies from Lalguddy, and shall send the stores of the Mourchas to the army. I lately wrote to the Amuldar in the neighbourhood about sending supplies of Coolies and axe-men; and as soon as they arrive, I shall send them also, with the stores of the Mourchas, to the camp, of which I thought fit to acquaint you.

No. 11.

From Mader-ul-Mulk to the Nabob, dated 27th September, and received 1st October, 1771.

WHEN a late supply was sent the Gunny Bags were wanting; wherefore I procured Gunnies, Courchees, Veils, Covers of the Tent Walls, &c. from the Circar as well as from the Banyans, and sent them to the camp under a proper escort; and wrote to Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, that whenever the said supply may arrive near, to send out a proper party from the camp, consisting of

10 T

horsemen

horsemen and Sepoys, to meet the supply on the road, that it may be safely conducted to the army.

No. 12.

From Mader-ul-Mulk to the Nabob, dated 29th September, and received 3d October, 1771.

ON the 27th instant Captain Alexander's battalion, with one thousand horse of troop, and Sawyer from the camp, arrived here in order to carry the provisions. Last night I dispatched to the camp one thousand Gunnies full of rice, &c. and three hundred Cooly-loads belonging to the Circar and Merchants, together with two thousand sheep of the Circar, along with the said battalion and horsemen; but before these set out, I, according to the direction of the General, sent five horsemen with a letter to him, advising him to send out two battalions to meet and conduct the said supply: when those horsemen marched not above four or five cofs, they saw some wounded men; on this they advanced a little further, and found that two thousand horse and five hundred Colleries of the enemy, having extended their hands of plunder, killed a great many people; upon which the horsemen rode up with full speed to Alexander, who was then advanced two cofs from the Golden Rock, and reported this news to him; who forwarded the same to me in the midnight by horsemen, asking my advice how to proceed: I then wrote to him to return, and halt under cover of the walls of the said Golden Rock, which he accordingly did. I wrote all these circumstances to Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder and the General, desiring him to send two battalions; and as soon as a proper escort arrives from the camp, I shall send the supply; of which I thought fit to advise you.

Since writing the above I had the honour to receive your favour of the 25th instant, with one upon urgent business to Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder. As the enemy's horles are now spread on the road, and some of the Harmen's letters, with those of mine, which the Hircars carried, have been lost lately, I did not think proper to forward the said Behauder's letters of importance at present. On the arrival of the proper escort, I shall send Alexander's battalion along with the supply, at which time I shall forward the said letter. In future I hope you will be pleased to order your letters, which may be wrote to the said Behauder, to be made up into small size, because there is a danger on the road.

Some people that were wounded by the Tanjore horsemen are already arrived here, and a great many more are coming.

From

No. 13.

From Mader-ul-Mulk to the Nabob, dated 30th September, and received 9th October, 1771.

I HAD the honour and happiness to receive your Excellency's favour, dated the 26th September, on the 29th of the same month. You were pleased to say, that as soon as you had received my letter, you wrote a note to the Governor, desiring him to send a supply of gunpowder from Madras to the camp, concerning which you will advise me by and by. Your sending the note to the Governor was very proper; if you again remind the Governor, and a large quantity of the powder is sent from thence to Trichinopoly, it will be vastly good; because it will be very advisable and advantageous to the affairs at this juncture, for a sufficient quantity of powder and other stores of war to be in readiness. I lately advised you of Mr. Hay's demand of the gunpowder, and of my intention to deliver 3 or 400 barrels to him, as the necessity of the times required, besides 600 barrels given him before; but I have not yet delivered them, saying that the barrels are not ready: if he is again necessitated to repeat his demand, I will then deliver them to him. You were pleased to intimate, that I should get ready double the quantity of the gunpowder mentioned in your list out of revenues of Phasely 1181, considering the necessity of the same, as in all likelihood the expense of it will be a great deal. By the blessing of God the making of the gunpowder was begun some time ago; but as you are now pleased to order me to get more powder to be made, I shall do it accordingly, in as speedy a manner as possible, that it may serve upon occasion. If you be so good as to write to Rajah Beerbur concerning a supply of brimstone, and send the same also from your Court, it will be better if this is sent, and the price of it made known to me; I shall send the money from Tanjore. I can get large quantity of salt-petre in this place, but the brimstone is scarce to be got; I sent money to the neighbouring places in order to buy the same.

You were pleased to advise me that Rajah Beerbur sent a large quantity of provisions from the Arcot country; but I must acquaint you, that he did not send even a single bullock or a bag, excepting one thousand Gunnies, which he sent before, and I acknowledged the receipt of them. The people of the neighbourhood have not yet sent any, notwithstanding the orders and letters sent both from your Excellency's Court and myself, so that the burthen of the whole supply of provisions fell upon myself. By the help of God I took a great deal of pains in procuring provisions, and sending for merchants, strangers, from different parts, with a promise of freeing from customs, and giving them turbands. I advised you yesterday of the enemy's horses on the road or Tanjore, and of my recalling Alexander's battalion, that was detached with a supply of provisions to the camp. This day I received advice that the General has sent another battalion from the camp, under the command of Colonel Flint, according as I have wrote to him, in order to conduct the said provisions; wherefore I sent this morning to the camp 1100 Gunnies,

nies of rice, &c. with 300 Coolies'-load belonging to the Circar and Merchants, as also 2000 sheep belonging to the Circar, along with Alexander's battalion, and 1000 troop of horse and four companies of Sepoys; besides which 1000 Gunnies of the merchants were also sent from Toovagoody to the camp; in all 2100 Gunnies. Two battalions that were sent from the camp as above will join them on the road, so that, by the help of God, the supply will arrive ~~fine~~ in the army. I have and am still gathering another supply of rice and other provisions; and as soon as an escort is arrived from the camp, which is expected in two or three days, I shall send away the same. In short, I took vast deal of pains in the affairs of the provisions, and think it needless to rehearse them to you; I hope you have heard it from other hands. I am spending my time night and day in sending supplies of provisions, and in collecting money from the Amuldars of the districts, and in writing orders to the Zemindars, &c. for provisions, and in encouraging the merchants to come, as well as in sending for intelligence from different parts, not regarding my rest or victuals. Now the merchants begin to open their way; the supplies which they have brought have been already sent two or three times to the camp along with those belonging to the Circar: there is a sufficiency of provisions in the camp at present. Some merchants came and represented to me, that the Cutwall of the army buys rice of them at cheap rate, and is selling it dear in the camp; and he also demands custom from them; wherefore they said that they cannot venture to go to the army in future: I am encouraging and sending for them at a vast pains and trouble; and if such people are thus injured, how is it that they venture to come again?

You were pleased to say, that you have wrote to me before to take out one Lack of Cullums of Paddy out of the stores in the fort of Trichinopoly, because of the urgency on account of the provisions, which you direct me to execute; ordering me to send for as much from the country in the room of it, and put it in the stores, and to take care to keep 3 Lacks of Cullums always ready in the stores: I shall, agreeable to your orders, take the Paddy, when it may be wanted, out of the stores, and endeavour to procure as much in the room of the same. As I am also of opinion that the collection, and to keep ready provisions in the fort, will be the means of strengthening the affairs of the fort, I shall act accordingly,

You were pleased to direct, that I should deliver the two thousand sheep that came from Madura towards the expense of the soldiers; from the day of my arrival here I am continually writing to Shaick Moheydeen Junnady about the supplies of provisions, and he is writing in answer that he will send them; but I have not yet received either a single sheep or a gunney of grain from him. He has wrote falsely to your Excellency; I am apt to think his letter informed you of his intention to send sheep from Madura in four days, and upon that supposition you were pleased to intimate that I have received them. Let me beg leave to remark, that your letter reached my hands in three days: the letter which the said Junnady addressed to you must have been of 7 days old to this day; if he had really sent the sheep, they must have been arrived by this time: however I have now wrote to him, soon to send the sheep according to his agreement; and as soon as they arrive, I shall put them in the expense account of the soldiery according to your orders.

No. 14.

From Mader-ul-Mulk to the Nabob, dated 9th, and received 14th October, 1771.

ON the 8th instant, at nine o'clock in the morning, news was brought, that one battalion of the Sepoys is arrived from camp at Toovagoody, in order to bring provisions, which I hope will arrive here this day; by the blessing of God, I shall send 6000 sheep, and 2000 ox-loads of provisions to the army, along with the said battalion, of which I thought fit to advise you.

No. 15.

From Mader-ul-Mulk to the Nabob, dated 21st, and received 27th October, 1771.

THIS day I have dispatched 974 Gunny bags full of rice, laden upon oxen which arrived from the camp, and likewise upon the oxen belonging to this place, as per list enclosed, thro' the means of Capt. Poverly; of which I thought fit to advise you.

Note enclosed.

THIS morning I have dispatched to the camp 974 bags of rice, laden upon oxen; besides which, I sent in the forenoon 174, in all 1148, as per separate list enclosed.

No. 16.

From Mader-ul-Mulk to the Nabob, dated 27th, and received 30th October, 1771.

I HAD the honour to receive your Excellency's two letters, dated the 19th instant; on the 21st, two more letters, which you were pleased to send to Omdat-ul-Omrah Bechauder, enclosed in my letters, were forwarded to the army along with the escort: whenever an answer may arrive from thence, I shall send it to you. You were pleased to say, that I should supply with one thousand barrels of gunpowder, at two different times, to the General; that five hundred barrels were sent from Madras to him; and that I should deliver five hundred barrels more to the said General, thro' the means of Mr. Hay, the Company's Paymaster; and to keep as many barrels ready to deliver him, whenever you may be pleased to send an order to that purpose: all which I observed, and beg leave to inform you, that I delivered the General about six hundred barrels of powder, by your orders, at the time of the marching of the army; afterwards, when Mr. Hay demanded a second

10 U time

time of me, I acquainted you of the same by a letter, dated the 24th of September last; and told you, that in consideration of his demand, I shall be under the necessity of delivering him four or five hundred barrels of powder; but as he did not bring the empty barrels, I could not give him the gunpowder: afterwards he brought the barrels, and demanded the powder of me; I then delivered him about three hundred and twenty-nine barrels of powder, on his agreeing to return the Circar barrels, as soon as the gunpowder is brought from Madras: so that what was delivered to the General amounted to nine hundred and twenty-nine barrels. Your Excellency must be sensible of the quantity of the gunpowder in the Circar magazine, by lists that have been sent to you before; notwithstanding you order me to deliver five hundred barrels of powder at present, and to keep as many ready, in all one thousand barrels; is it possible for me to deliver so many barrels? however, I am busy, and getting more gunpowder to be made.

You were pleased to advise me to take great care, and exert myself in sending large supplies of provisions; that as Caur crop will be gathered this month, I should fill up the stores, in lieu of what hath been expended already out of them; that repeated supplies should be sent to the army; and that as soon as Sumbaher crop begins, I should sell the Caur Paddy out of the stores. I must remark to your Excellency, that it is two months since the army was employed upon the Tanjore expedition; consider from whence the army hath been supplied all that while; in short, the whole supply to the camp has fallen upon myself. By the blessing of God, and your favour, I have sent repeated supplies to the army, inasmuch that the grain is very plenty there. As Omdat-ul Omrah Behauder himself was gone to the camp, I took and am taking an extraordinary care for to send continual supplies of provisions.

No. 17.

From Mader-ul-Mulk to the Nabob, dated 28th October, and received 1st November, 1771.

THIS evening Captain Poverly received a letter from General Smith, acquainting him of the conclusion of peace with the Rajah of Tanjore, and of Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder's signing to the treaty; upon which 21 guns were fired upon the occasion. I could not yet learn the particulars of the treaty, nor have I received any letter from the said Behauder; if I learn any thing hereafter, I shall advise you. By the blessing of God, if the forts of Vellum, Coiladdy, Elangad, &c. are cleared, and money is received agreeable to your pleasure, it will be best. With regard to the sending provisions, I exerted myself to that degree, that it caused a plenty of them in the camp, inasmuch that the Feringees never spoke a word of scarcity. The Circar's people, from the time of their entrance in the country to this day, never tied a Toranam to any of the districts; if they had done that, we could have got other sums, besides the money agreed on, to be paid on account of the peace, and received assistance with regard to the provisions; but all supplies of provisions, &c. were sent from this place from the beginning of the expedition, of which I thought fit to advise you.

From

No. 18.

From Mader-ul-Mulk to the Nabob, dated 30th October, and received 1st November, 1771.

I HAD the honour to receive your Excellency's favour, dated the 27th instant, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, together with one directed to Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder this morning at nine o'clock. Mr. Alvert brought the said Behauder's letters, dated the 29th, this morning at 7 o'clock, which I have forwarded to you. I have just now sent your above letter to the said Behauder, with one from myself; and whenever an answer may arrive, it shall be immediately forwarded to you.

Note enclosed.

SINCE writing the above, Captain Poverly came to me with a letter from the General to him, which he read before me; the same was expressive of the highest displeasure; purporting, that the Sardars in the army were not satisfied with this peace; that the General would never take the field any more; that what had been done had been ill done; that his reputation was lost; and that the Tanjoreans in all likelihood would not pay even the small sum stipulated in the treaty: such are the contents of the above letter. Be so good as to tear this paper after reading it. If you order me, I will send you both the original and a copy of the General's said letter.

No. 19.

From Mader-ul-Mulk to the Nabob, dated 30th October at night, and received 3d November, 1771.

ON the 29th instant I sent Rahaman Ally Khan with Tondiman's troops to the army, and delivered about 955 bags of rice and horse-gram, together with 3000 sheep, to Captain Poverly, and took his receipt; and then sent the same through his means, along with the Sepoys of the battalion, to the camp, according to the list enclosed. By the blessing of God, the fort of Tanjore being very much distressed, the walls thereof were battered down greatly by the continual fire; and that fear and confusion took place in the hearts of the besieged to that degree, that if the firing had continued in the same manner for a few days longer, the fort must have fell: notwithstanding which I suppose a peace was concluded, upon condition of the delivery of the fort of Vellum, Elangad, Coiladdy, Collierputty, &c. and our keeping possession of certain districts 'till two years, or until the money is collected under the Circar's management, and afterwards to deliver them back. Let me beg leave to acquaint your Excellency, that when the Rajah's life and house were at a stake, he would have given up the fort of Vellum, Coiladdy, Elangad, &c. of his own accord; but it was not done so.

so large a force offered a very favourable opportunity, and the Faringee Sardars were highly astonished on hearing of the above peace. If the peace had been concluded upon the condition of keeping the fort of Vellum, Coiladdy, Elangad, &c. under the power of the Circar, and receiving a proper sum, as well as an agreement from the Tanjore Rajah, importing, that he should keep a fixed number of troops in his service, and enlist no more, it would have given good appearance; perhaps it might have been possible to do it now, as certain districts are to be taken under our charge, to remain only 'till the money agreed on is collected: it will be of no loss to him, as he did not pay any money out of his treasury: after two years, his above districts will be returned to him; and as he is now acquainted with the manner of the European war, he will accordingly think of dispatching his business in future, or perhaps fortify the fort of Tanjore and Vellum in the strongest manner, and raise troubles as may be requisite; at which time it will be impossible to punish him, even with double the force we have collected at present: however I was not acquainted with your will and pleasure, but am only employed to send supplies of grain, &c. to the army, which, by the help of God, and your power, was dispatched with due success; and sufficient supplies were sent to the army, insomuch that they were perfectly easy about it: I am still busy about the same business. I have acquainted you of the sentiments that occurred to my mind, and hope you will excuse my presumption; as it is the duty of all those that are attached to your interest to wish for the benefit of the Circar by all means, I thought fit to address myself to you as aforesaid.

List of the Provisions taken out of the Store in the Fort of Trichinopoly, and sent, under the Care of Meer Ismael Daroga, &c. to the Army employed upon the Expedition of Tanjore, through the means of Serjeant Smith, of the Battalion of Captain Poverly, Commander of the Fort of Trichinopoly, dated 28th October, 1771.

Taken out of the stores of provisions in the fort of Trichinopoly, and loaded upon oxen belonging to the Circar and Govendamoodily	-	617 bags
What came from Chillumbrum, which also belongs to the Circar	- -	200 ditto
		<hr/>
		817 bags

No. 20.

From Mader-ul-Mulk to the Nabob, dated 3d, and received 6th November, 1771.

I HAD the honour to receive a letter written in your own hand, dated the 31st ultimo, this morning; together with one directed to Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, advising him not to make a peace: your writing to the said Behauder as above was very just and proper. By the blessing of God, and your power, the fort of Tanjore was very much distressed; if necessity required to conclude a peace, even in that case we should by no means deliver back the fort of Vellum. We must take Coiladdy, Elangad, &c. countries of Trichinopoly, of which I acquainted you three or four days ago. If you be pleased also to write to the said Behauder upon this subject, it will be very proper, considering the present times. Agreeable

able to your directions, I have forwarded your said letter to the said Behauder, together with one from myself, along with the escort to the army; and as soon as I receive an answer, it shall be sent to you.

No. 21.

From Mader-ul-Mulk to the Nabob, dated 8th, and received 11th November, 1771.

AT the time of my setting out from Trichinipoly, which was in the night of the 4th instant, to the camp, in order to visit Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, I addressed a letter to your Excellency, which I hope has been presented to you. I arrived in the army on the 5th instant, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, and had the pleasure of seeing the said Behauder and General Smith. I understood before by the General's letter, that by the fire from our batteries the fort was very near taken, and that the same was prevented by the said Behauder's making a peace; but here I find the contrary, as well from what I learn from the said Behauder, Muckdoom Ally Khan, Mahomed Nazeeb Khan, Mahomed Ubraur Khan, and others, as from the state and situation of things here.

In company with the said Behauder and the General, I went to see the walls of the fort, and found about 30 yards of the wall of the fausse-braye broke down, and the stones lying there in broken pieces; the breach however was not practicable, and the fort wall was very little broke down, the rubbish therefrom being about a man's height. When the General came to see me the 5th instant at night, he asked Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder what orders he had received from your Excellency; Omdat-ul-Omrah answered, "That you had wrote to him, if possible, not to make a peace;" adding at the same time, "That he had told him the same thing very often. On this I told the General, that your Excellency had placed all reliance on him respecting the taking of the fort of Tanjore; and accordingly I found by his letters to the officers in Trichinopoly, that the fort would have been taken, had not the conclusion of the peace prevented the same. To this Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder answered, "That he had spoke a great deal to the General about taking the fort, and that it was in consequence both of the General's informing him, that he could not tell whether the fort would be taken, but that he would endeavour to do it", and the setting-in of the rains together, which had obliged him to make peace. The General on hearing this was silent; at which time Captain Horne was present. The General asked me whether I had seen his letters? I told him yes: he then said, "That he had not wrote, he would take the fort, but that he would endeavour to do it"; adding, "But this is the rainy season: I replied, "That he had wrote to the Governor, he would take the fort in case of rain or no rain:" to which the General said, "That what he had wrote to his Honour was, that he would take it in case of little rain, but not in case of a good deal". Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, in the General's presence, related to me every thing he had spoke to the General about taking the fort before my coming; after which the General returned home. The next morning the said Behauder sent for Syed Muckdoom Ally Khan, and Mahomed Nazeeb Khan, and told them of

what had passed the preceding night; directing me at the same time to write to your Excellency of what I had seen and heard, and likewise to tell the same to the said people; wherefore I took the liberty to address the above particulars to you.

Note enclosed.

THIS day Omdat-ul Omrah Behauder told me that I should send Amuldars to take possession of Coiladdy and Elangad, according to your Excellency's orders: he told me also to collect twelve months provisions in the fort of Vellum, and to write to you for twelve thousand Rupees to fortify the said fort, and to deliver that sum to the Engineer; I wait for your orders upon this subject.

No. 22.

From Mader-ul-Mulk, to the Nabob, dated 28th at night, and received 12th November, 1771.

AT the time of my departure from Trichinopoly, I addressed a letter to your Excellency; since which I had the happiness to receive two letters, enclosing two directed to Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder; I have delivered the two letters to him, to which he will send an answer to-day. On my arrival in the camp, I explained all matters to the said Behauder, and told him strongly, that your will and pleasure were to take the forts of Vellum, Elangad, and Coiladdy; in short, I spoke to him repeatedly to the utmost of my power, that if he does not execute the above business, your Excellency will not be well pleased: to which his answer was, "That he addressed a letter to you, and expected an answer to it:" I replied, "That since he had wrote to your Excellency what was necessary, it would be to no purpose to expect to hear again from you; and that if it was possible to take the fort, he must do it; otherwise, in case of a peace, he should by no means give up the forts of Vellum, Coiladdy, and Elangad. Syed Muckdoom Ally Khan, &c. told me, that before the peace they had used their utmost endeavours to keep the fort of Vellum, but the Rajah would not agree to it, and still continued in the same resolution: I told him in answer to remember the Proverb, which says, "That if one insists upon another man's life, he will be glad to agree to suffer the pains of agony than to part with it;" so that, I told them, "Since the Rajah's own house was at a stake, he will undoubtedly be willing to give up the said fort. As the said Behauder had lately fixed his seal to the Agreement Paper, he was hesitating a little upon it; I then told him, "That he must not look upon his agreement, but that he should by all means be mindful to preserve your Excellency's pleasure;" and I added, "That if that article was not inserted in the treaty, it was no matter, but now some fresh demands may be specified and obtained." On this Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder asked me what he should then do? Whether he should renew the war? and then said, "That he would recommence the firing:" I replied, "Why so? first send for the Tanjore Vackeels, and send by them your demands in writing for the cession of the forts of Vellum, Coiladdy, and Elangad to the Circar; and tell the Vackeels, that if those demands are complied with by the evening, the peace

peace will remain confirmed, and the army will decamp; if not, that they should inform him of it soon, when he would recommence the firing": Thus I told him by various ways and means. At length Mahomed Nazeeb Khān told the said Behauder, that as he could not then answer or overcome my questions, it is unknown what questions there will be put in your Excellency's presence in future for him to answer. At last he sent Yafawvantrow, Baboo Row, Sambajee, Ismael Ally Khān, and Peer Mahomed, with a list of demands to the fort, on the 5th instant at night; by the blessing of God, and your good luck, they accordingly returned with a Saned on the 6th, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, for the delivering of the Forts of Vellum, Coiladdy and Elangad; so that the Murchas were taken off this day, and the business was finished this day, somewhat more or less, agreeable to your pleasure. Your Excellency is very sensible of the agreement made before; and now, on the Rajah's agreeing to our fresh demands as above, the said Behauder was vastly pleased with me, and said, "That this business was done through my endeavours." I answered him, "That as your Excellency will now be pleased with him, it will be an infinite satisfaction to me." It is to be remarked, that the Tanjore Vackeels argued with me very much, at the time of their carrying our demands; saying, "That the treaty was already given under our seal, it was not proper to advance fresh demands". I then told, "That as an order arrived from your Excellency's Court, they should by "all means preserve your pleasure;" if not, I told him, "the war will be renewed." This day the said Vackeels told me privately, in the name of the Rajah, that he will make me a present of one Lack of Rupees. I communicated the same immediately to the said Behauder, and desired him to put it in the Circar's account, which was accordingly done. To-morrow Monajee will come to visit us. This day the Sardars of Marawar and Nalcooty, that arrived with an army, came to pay a visit to the said Behauder, who, myself, Nazeeb Khān, &c. were sitting upon chairs. I must observe to your Excellency, that the present peace is a thousand times better than what has been heretofore made. If any beneficial affair relating to the Circar is dispatched through our endeavours, and by the endeavours of those that are attached to your interest, it will be to their advantage and benefit.

No. 23.

From Mader-ul-Mulk to the Nabob, dated 14th, and received 16th November at night, 1771.

I SUPPOSE that your Excellency is fully acquainted with the particulars of the peace made with the Rajah of Tanjore. By the copies of the several papers and writings which have passed between us, induced by the consideration of the credit of the Circar's affairs suffering, and it's consequence, to wit, your displeasure against Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, both which I could not bear; I went from hence to the army, and acquainted the said Behauder very fully, and in the best manner, of what occurred to me thereon. Accordingly, by the blessing of God, on negotiating, and talking a little roundly to the Vackeels, the fort of Vellum, which it had before been agreed to restore, is now to remain in the possession of the Circar. The whole matter has been settled, somewhat more or less, agreeable to your pleasure, just as I told Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder would be the case. Your Excellency's letter, expressing

sing your displeasure at the former peace, has been received. By God's blessing, such a large army of Indians and Feringees, with artillery, &c. stores of war, have been employed upon this expedition, that the fort and the people there were distressed to that degree, by the severity of the siege and the continual cannonading, that whatever might have been demanded of them then could with ease have been obtained, and would have been consented to on their parts without excuse or delay: but the negotiation has not been conducted on a uniform plan; however, what is done, is well done. The army has marched from thence, and arrived within eight Cofs of Trichinopoly. I on account of the affairs of the Circar, took leave of Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, and arrived at Trichinopoly on the 13th instant, at three o'clock in the afternoon; to-morrow or next day the army will also arrive. I sent such plenty of provisions both grain and sheep, &c. to the army, that if it had remained more than a month in the same place, there would have been a sufficient supply for the whole army, consisting of about two or three Lacks of people. When the army moved from the plains of Tanjore, several thousand Gunnies full of provisions lay in the said plains for want of cattle to bring them away; this I saw with my own eyes; it was very difficult even to convey them to the fort of Vellum, which is one Cofs from the said plain; at length the said provisions were carried by several trips to the said fort, and kept there; besides which, there were some provisions ready in the said fort. I in order to preserve them which belong to the Circar from being damaged, gave orders to be sold: we shall see what will happen in future.

P. S. If the rice is kept in one place it will soon be damaged, but the Paddy will not be spoiled; what lay in store at Vellum is rice. A letter which I addressed when in the camp comes enclosed.

Nazeeb Khán's Letters to the Nabob, from No. 1 to 10.

N. B. No. 5, 7 and 10, are the most material.

No. 1.

From Nazeeb Khán to the Nabob, dated 8th, and received 11th September, 1771.

MADER-UL-MULK, in order to get the Circar's army across the river, arrived at about two of the pahaar in Pitchandy Covil; Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder is at Seringham, and I stay along with Mader-ul-Mulk. The regiments of Captains Matthews and Rumley are coming over from yesterday. The Circar's battalion will cross the gutter of Munsoor Pettah this day, and arrive at Pitchand Covily: the water in the said gutter is the depth of a man's breast in some places, and in others to their necks; the river Coleroon is much after the same manner, but that of the Cavery River is somewhat less. He is getting the people and stores over the river Coleroon, and the gutter of Munsoor Pettah, in boats and baskets, and the horses he endeavours

endeavours to wade over in the shallowest parts of the river; he likewise, by presents to the boat people, induced them to find a way in the said gutter and river for easily wading over, and afterwards caused Bamboos to be erected as marks, in order to ascertain the way. By the blessing of God, the whole army will come over the river within the space of two days, and arrive at Trichinopoly.

No. 2.

From Nazeeb Khān to the Nabob, dated 10th, and received 18th October 1771.

I ADDRESSED a letter to your Excellency, at nine o'clock this morning, concerning my arrival at Trichinopoly with the Circar's army, together with 2,500 cattle belonging to the Company; four companies of the Company's Sepoys, and seven of the Circar's, of Captain Davis's battalion, with 1000 cattle, are arrived at this place also for provisions; I shall in conjunction with them march from this place. Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder has gathered sheep and cattle, a sufficiency for one month's supply for soldiers, as well as rice, &c. which I believe he will measure out to-morrow, and deliver to the Sardar of the English. I hope you are acquainted with the circumstances of the army, by the repeated accounts given to you. I now also take the liberty to inform you, that on the 8th instant, Sambajee and Baboo Row, from Tanjore, arrived in the camp; but as I left the camp on the 8th at night, I am not acquainted with the particulars of the negotiation of the said Vackeels, who after arrived in the camp. I have been with Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, but he did not let me know any particulars of their arrival: had I been one day more in the place, I would have made myself acquainted, and informed you with the particulars. A certain person tells me that a disagreement subsists between Colonel Rofs and a Sardar of the gunners, and the General also complains about this matter; neither the wall nor battery of the fort were broke down during my stay in the camp, and the fort had not ceased it's fire. Last night the said Colonel was wounded in the Mourcha, which was erected so near the ditch, that if stones are thrown the same would fall into it; and there is no water in the ditch on the side of the fort, called Collycotah, towards which a Mourcha is erected; Collycotah is not inhabited. There is a Tank called Sevaganga; the people within the fort drink the water of the said Tank; the shells are fired against the said fort, (supposed to be upon the Sevaganga Fort). The same night that Colonel Rofs received his wound, the people from the fort came out against the Mourcha just at the time when it rained, and the small arms were fired from the Mourcha for a considerable time. It being night time, I could not learn the particulars of the damage sustained by the said people; they are fighting with great intrepidity to all appearance. God grant the fort of Tanjore may be soon conquered! but it does not come into my thoughts, that the same will fall into our possession within ten or fifteen days. The Circar rice that comes to the camp is divided among the people belonging to the English, as per General Smith's chit; as

the merchants cannot freely sell their rice, there attends a difficulty for the poor people to get the same. There is not a sufficiency of water to be got upon the spot where the army lay at; if a good rain falls, the water can be got without difficulty. Tondiman's people who are in the camp, received 3000 Pagodas from the Circar out of their Batta 'till the time I set out; his Vackeel is daily complaining about this matter: the General ordered them to command the Mourcha erected towards the Durga of Meer Mahomed Saib. The General is very much contented with Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, who on his part thinks it a matter of the first consequence to please the General in every respect.

No. 3.

From Nazeeb Khân to the Nabob, dated 17th, and received 24th October, 1771.

OMDAT-UL-OMRAH BEHAUDER having prepared answers yesterday evening, gave leave to the Vackeels; but in the interim news was brought that Yafawvantrow, Syed Ismael Khân, and Syed Peer, were arrived near the Mourcha; wherefore the said Vackeels declined going yesterday-night. The General did not send for the said Row, &c. to the camp, it being night time; they came this morning to the camp, and paid a visit to Omdat-ul-Omrah. Monajee desired very much to send Syed Muckdoom Ally Khân, but Omdat-ul-Omrah declined it, not thinking it advisable. This day a smart fire was carried on from our Mourcha, and the same will be continued hereafter likewise, as a new battery is already erected in a very strong manner. Omdat-ul-Omrah tells me that Mr. Matthews is now at the distance of 10 Cofs from this place, and has gathered up cattle, &c. by a plunder.

No. 4.

From Nazeeb Khân to the Nabob, dated 21st October, 1771.

THE Tanjore Vackeels, along with Muckdoom Ally Khân's Son and Relation, with the Rajah's and Monajee's letters, concerning their empowering the Vackeels to get the affair settled, arrived here yesterday to Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, who was desired to incline favourably towards the settling of the affair. He negotiated with the Vackeels, who I suppose will go again to Tanjore, and return tomorrow: they requested very much to cease the fire from our Mourcha, but Omdat-ul-Omrah told them, that as soon as the affair is settled, the war will be ceased on the same day. I must acquaint your Excellency, that had the army undertook this affair two months sooner, the business would have been carried on in a proper manner: although our Mourcha kept a fire every day, yet the walls of the fort are not broke down, as it was requisite: the English Sardars take great trouble upon this business night and day. It is said that from the day that Monajee was restored to his management, the Sepoys in general were greatly encouraged. By the blessing of God the rice, &c. sell in the Buzar without much difficulty, and there is no complaint about it at present as was before.

From

No. 5.

From Nazeeb Khan to the Nabob, dated 24th, and received 29th October, 1771.

SOME time ago I addressed several letters by the Tappy, which I suppose have come to your perusal. The Vackeels, &c. having negotiated their business, returned from this place; and they, meaning Sambajee, Baboo Row, and Yafawvantaw, together with Syed Muckdoom Ally Khan's Son and Relation, arrived again on Tuesday, being the 21st instant, and brought with them the agreement paper, (a draught of which was delivered to them by us) after wrote out fair in the same manner, and got it signed and sealed by the Rajah of Tanjore; who agreed to all points mentioned in a paper of consent that was delivered here by the Vackeels, excepting only one, which is, that the Circar might have the Army Jaghire in the room of the Marawar's Districts, which may be delivered to the Rajah. On this, Omdat-ul-Omrah being displeased with the Vackeels, told them, that as they did not stand to their agreement, the affair would not be settled; so that he continued all this day in the above negotiation; and afterwards it was settled, that the Jaghire of Army should likewise be given to the Circar. With regard to the two years' Peshcush with interest, as well as the expenses of the expedition, and presents to the army, as per list enclosed, it was determined, that the Peshcush money with the interest money should be paid in ready specie, and the expenses of the expedition, &c. should be discharged within the space of two years, or ending Phasely 1182; so that the country of 16 Lacks of Rupees should be pawned 'till the above money was fully paid. The Vackeels will go to-morrow morning to bring the Rajah's writing sealed and signed upon the same purport. They agreed to deliver up the Fort of Vellum, Coiladdy, Elangad, &c. Villages of Tavaloor. I make no doubt but the said Vackeels, according to their promise, will bring the Rajah's writing, with his seal and sign, to-morrow evening or the day after.

The Mourcha is advanced very near the ditch. By night and day there is kept an incessant fire from the cannon as well as small arms. The quantity of mud they have placed around the ditch, obstructs the shot from penetrating the walls of the fausse-braye; wherefore they are digging out the same. The wall of the great fort and some batteries are already broke down, notwithstanding they are continually firing their guns, &c. from the fort. The English Sardars' intentions are, that as soon as the walls of the fort and fausse-braye are properly demolished, to assault the fort. On the side of the Mourcha there is a little water in the ditch, but it is very deep: it is said also, that the people within the fort have repaired their side walls and battery walls, &c. which are broke down, in a very strong manner, they having all assembled there. A negotiation of peace is on the carpet, and a probability likewise of conquering the fort: judging from circumstances, it appears to me that the settling the affair is very near at hand; but the reduction of the fort will require a long time: God only knows the event. From the 21st, beginning at two o'clock, to this day evening, there was an incessant rain, notwithstanding which the people from our Mourcha continued fighting as usual. Captains Matthews and Rumley with their force arrived in the camp yesterday; they did not bring with them any cattle, &c. but

but it is said that they brought only seven horses. This night Omdat-ul-Omrah ordered me to send the horsemen along with the Company's people that go to bring provisions to Vellum, which I shall do accordingly. I have paid one month's wages and Batta to the Faringees' people and Sepoys; and as to Mr. Davis's battalion, the assignment of their pay is made over at Trichinopoly; he is gone thither with his battalion: if the Muttasfeddies at Trichinopoly pay their wages, it is well; if not, a method must be taken to pay them in this place. As Captain Matthews, &c. arrived yesterday, I desired Omdat-ul-Omrah to send for the accounts of the wages of their people, as the money is ready in my hand; as soon as they send their accounts I will pay the money. Omdat-ul-Omrah ordered the Muttasfeddies of Bakshegury to pay the wages of sixty Rupees per month to Syed Haje Mahomed, beginning the 28th instant. I wait to know your pleasure concerning it, to mark the horses with Circar's Chop as usual.

No. 6.

From Nazeeb Khán to the Nabob, dated 25th, and received 30th October, 1771.

LAST night I addressed a letter to your Excellency concerning the occurrences in this place, which will come to your perusal. This day Sambajee and Baboo Row, together with Syed Muckdoom Ally Khán's Relation, went to Tanjore, and the said Khán's Son and Yafawvantrow are in the camp. Last night Captain Matthews, &c. with their troops, giving out as if they were going to Vellum, set out at three o'clock in the afternoon, and stayed 'till morning beyond the Mourcha (which is reckoned half a Cofs distance from the camp) and then returned to the camp; I could not learn fully what may be the reason of it. Guns are fired from the morning against the walls of the fausse-braye, and it's wall is demolished. The war is not put a stop to, by reason of the Vackeels passing and repassing; but on the contrary a smart fire is continued for these three days, and the guns as well as small arms are fired likewise from the fort, which causes great damage to our people in the Mourcha. As the English Sardars are sincerely attached to the business, the Almighty God may grant success in the affair according to our hearts desire. We had no rain last night, but the weather is cloudy. Captain Davis's battalion, which went to bring provisions, is not yet returned; it is said every minute that the same are arrived at Vellum. Boiled rice sells in the Buzar at eight Seers per Rupee, but no horsegram is to be got; the Collieries belonging to Tondiman, who bring in small quantities, sell privately at seven or eight Seers per Rupee.

No. 7.

From Nazeeb Khán to the Nabob, dated 28th, and received 31st October, 1771.

ON the 26th instant at night I addressed a letter to your Excellency, giving you a full account of the occurrences here, which I hope will reach you. I now take the liberty to inform you, that the Vackeels who went on the said night to the fort, returned to Omdat-ul-Omrah at three Pahar of the same night; and in the morning, being the 27th, Omdat-ul-Omrah acquainted me, that he told the

Vackeels of declining to give up the fort of Vellum, which he promised before; but they answered, if that was his intention, he should not suffer the Circar's garrison to be placed in it, but the same should be demolished; to which Omdat-ul-Omrah said he had agreed, and that a Cowle must be granted by the Circar for that purpose. I answered him, that he had before settled matters in some manner with these people, and had stopt hostilities, and then re-commenced them on account of this very fort; if thoughts of peace therefore had again occurred, he should consider well of the matter, negotiate and settle every point which had escaped him at the first adjustment of affairs, and talk and argue the matter with the General thoroughly: so that hereafter the Europeans might not have it in any manner in their power to cast the following reflexion, *that they would have taken the place, but were prevented by the conclusion of peace*; and that all this being done, he should then make peace. To this Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder replied, that he had nothing more to talk with the Tanjore Vackeels; that he had questioned the General about this business; that the General's answer was, he had done his utmost therein, and would storm the fort in two or three days, but that the success thereof depended upon Providence. That on hearing this, he, Omdat-ul-Omrah, had told the General, "But supposing (which God forbid!) it should not be successful, then it would not be possible to conclude a peace on the creditable and honourable terms now offered:" however, if he would promise to take the fort in a short time, he, Omdat-ul-Omrah, would not make peace. That the General's reply to this was, "The rainy season, as you know, is near at hand; no one can tell when the fort will be taken; the making of peace therefore appears to me proper; it is best therefore to make peace." On hearing all this I told Omdat-ul-Omrah, that since he and the General were of opinion that the making of peace was proper, I had no objection. Accordingly the said Omdat-ul-Omrah, at twelve o'clock in the forenoon, drew out a treaty of friendship under his own seal, engaging therein in a short time to procure a treaty to the same purport under your Excellency's seal, and on delivery thereof to receive back his own. After drawing out of this treaty, he desired me and Syed Muckdoom Ally Khân to carry it, together with his letters, in company with the Vackeels, and to deliver them to the Rajah; on this I endeavoured all I could to excuse myself from this commission, saying that I was not sufficiently qualified for such negotiation, but it was to no purpose; at length I was obliged to obey his orders, for I, Syed Muckdoom Ally Khân, and the General's Dubash, went in company with the Vackeels to the fort. We first paid a visit to Monajee and the Dobbeer, who shewed us great honour and respect on account of the Circar; we discoursed two or three Gurrahs with them. They told us that the improper proceedings of the Rajah were owing to the instigations of certain senseless people that were firmly attached to your interest, and that the Rajah will never do any thing as long as he lives against the pleasure of the Circar; I and Syed Muckdoom Ally Khân made them proper answers. Afterwards we were conducted to the place where the Rajah used to be, and two or three minutes after the Rajah came there, and enquired after Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder's health at first; and then he desired us to tell him, that no man was his patron at your Excellency's Court, and that he therefore hoped he will bestow favours on him; to which we returned a proper answer. At the time of our taking leave they presented me two

pieces of gold cloth, one turband, one sash, and one Keemcab, and they gave the same to Syed Muckdoom Ally Khan; they also gave to the General's Dubash one turband, one Patty of Hyderabad, and one Sash of Guzerat: and upon our receiving these, we came again to the place where Monajee sat, who importuned us very much to stay with him that night; but as we had no business we excused ourselves: upon which they said, that the victuals was ready, which we should eat and go: we complied with their request; sat out towards the close of the evening and returned to the army, and informed Omdat-ul Omrah Behauder of every particular that passed there. The firing both guns and small arms ceased on both sides from four o'clock yesterday evening; the guns and the people still remain in the Mourcha in the same manner. I heard nothing upon certainty either from Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, or from any other creditable people; but there are reports raised by people, that the peace which was made yesterday will not be preserved on this side: however, if any thing happens hereafter I shall advise you. Monajee agreed to pay the two years' Peshcush, with the interest, in four days, beginning this day. Yesterday morning Captain Rumley received the sum of 2409 Star Pagodas, and 100 cash, concerning the wages, &c. of his people, after delivering the accounts and receipt under his seal and sign; Capt. Matthews has not yet received his money I paid him (supposed to be the said Captain Rumley) by the knowledge of the said Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder.

No. 8.

From Nazeeb Khan to the Nabob, dated 5th, and received 8th November, 1771.

YOUR Excellency's letter of the 31st ultimo, directed to Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, is received, and he was greatly perplexed at the perusal of it's particular passages; and of course *he considered from morning 'till ten o'clock in the night in order to break the peace*; he likewise consulted with the General about it. The Mourchas are still continued undemolished, but the war has ceased this week past; and by the concurrence of the General, either one thing or the other will be settled by to-morrow: as soon as I am acquainted, shall advise you of it. Raza Ally Khan, who went to Tanjore to negotiate about Elangad and Coiladdy, conversed with them in a proper manner. Yafawvantrow, together with the Vackeels, and with the jewels belonging to the Marawar, returned this evening; Omdat-ul-Omrah, after examining the said jewels that were brought to him, delivered the same again to them. There was an agreement of paying eight Lacks of Rupees, being on account of two years' Peshcush, with the interest thereof, as well as three Lacks, a part of the sum of *six Lacks* of Rupees, being on account of a Nazir to Omdat-ul-Omrah, in ready specie; but they brought bills for the sum of six Lacks and 50,000 Rupees, (being a part of the above sum) payable in 45 days: it was settled that the remaining sum should be paid on Monday; but the Vackeels represented that the Mourchas should be demolished, and march out to-morrow, and that five days after which they will pay it at Trichinopoly. As Omdat-ul-Omrah's intention was upon another scheme, he was silent, not giving them any answer.

No. 9.

From Nazeeb Khān to the Nabob, dated 6th November, 1771.

THIS day your Excellency's favour directed to Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, in answer to his letter wrote to you concerning the particulars of the peace, was received, and he was immediately relieved of the uneasiness at the perusal of the contents thereof; he having met with the General, conversed again with him, keeping himself harmless. He sent for Yafawvantrow, &c. this evening, and gave orders to them to bring bills for the remaining sum, as well as the paper for the districts of Coiladdy and Elangact; the said Row, &c. promised to bring bills for the said sum the day after to-morrow, and to-morrow to bring the papers for the said districts. Omdat-ul-Omrah told them likewise to bring the Rajah's writing under his seal and sign, purporting that the Circar Tannas or garrison may be continued for ever in the fort of Vellum; they replied, that the Circar's garrison is already placed in the said fort, and that they will never suffer the same to be demolished according to agreement: and they added, that if your Excellency be so favourable as to restore the said fort, it is well; but if otherwise, they could do nothing: to this Omdat-ul-Omrah did not agree; and there is only this point in dispute on that subject.

No. 10.

From Nazeeb Khān to the Nabob, dated 7th November, 1771.

YOUR Excellency's favour of the 4th instant I had the honour to receive, on the 7th instant, wherein you were pleased to intimate, that the people in your place say, that nothing was wanting to take the fort, but that Omdat-ul-Omrah of his own head thought proper to make peace; and that as I must be acquainted with every circumstance relative to this matter, I should inform you thereof very particularly.

Give me leave to acquaint your Excellency, that, as far as I saw, Omdat-ul-Omrah did not transact even the least business without the knowledge and opinion of the Sardars here, informing them even of every individual person that came out from the fort. When the negotiation for peace came into a proper channel, I told Omdat-ul-Omrah, that the Sardar of the camp was not inclined towards peace; upon which he answered, that he had talked to the General on this subject, informing him of his having put the negotiation for peace on the best footing; and mentioning, that as the General also had advanced his batteries near to the ditch, and had made a breach in the walls of the fort,—if he thought he was able to take it, it was well; if not, that he should tell him to make peace. That the General's reply to this was, he could not promise to take the fort, but that he would endeavour to do it. Omdat-ul-Omrah says, that in answer to this he told the General, "But if you fail in the storming thereof, then the Rajah will not give us so much money as he now offers;" "True" says the General, "I know it, it is better therefore to make peace." Besides this, on the day when Omdat ul Omrah sent Syed Muckdoom Ally Khān and

and me with the Circar's Cowle to the fort, he consulted a long while with the General, and conversed with the Vackeels whom he sent for likewise; after which he desired the General's Dubash to accompany Syed Muckdoom Ally Khân and me to the fort, on account of the rainy season; and believing that the fort would not be taken in such a short time, they in conjunction with each other settled a peace, in short, nothing was done without the knowledge of the Sardar of the army. I every day addressed letters to you, giving you a full account of the occurrences here, by which I hope you are acquainted with the particulars. Omdat-ul-Omrah was so diligent and careful in transacting the business here, that no room was left to blame him hereafter. I must acquaint your Excellency, that the Rajah's agreement was brought to the Circar on the 25th ultimo, and the Vackeels returned to the fort in the morning, in order to put a stop to the war, and the orders were sent to our Mourcha likewise. When this was done, and soon after, Omdat-ul-Omrah was given to understand that some people blamed him for peace; he immediately went to the General, and desired him not to cease the war; he also sent to acquaint the same to the people within the fort; and on the 26th they resolved by joint consent to conclude a peace: by this I refer you to judge what harm Omdat-ul-Omrah did to the Circar. And you may believe, that when necessity required to send any Chubdar or Hircar to the fort, he always acquainted the General before he sent them, giving likewise the General's Hircar to accompany them; if this be the case, how could he do such an important business of peace, without the knowledge or opinion of the General? This is what passed 'till yesterday evening. This day, at three o'clock in the afternoon, the Vackeels returned according to their promise, and gave a writing to give up the fort of Vellum agreeable to Omdat-ul-Omrah's desire. By God's blessing every thing is now settled, and the people from our Mourchas will return to-morrow, and they shall be demolished.

A P P E N D I X.

N U M B E R XXV.

Extracts of Letters from the President and Council and Select Committee at Fort St. George to the Court of Directors, relative to the Expedition against Tanjore in the Year 1771.

Extract of Letter from the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, to the Court of Directors, dated 25th March, 1771. Received in London, 12th January, 1771.

Par. 9. **W**E are concerned to acquaint your Honours, that we are at present much embarrassed by the conduct of the Rajah of Tanjore, who hath lately set on foot an expedition against the Great and Little Marawar, under the pretence that some districts possessed by them have been wrested from the Tanjore Government. We beg leave to refer your Honours to the proceedings of the Select Committee of the 11th and 12th February * communicated to us, as also to our minutes of the 12th February on this subject†, and to the several letters received from the Nabob on this subject‡; by which you will be advised of the grounds on which the Rajah founds his right, of the arguments urged by the Nabob against it, and of the Nabob's earnest desire that we should immediately have recourse to arms to oblige the Rajah to desist from his enterprize.

10. Although we are fully convinced of the impropriety of the Rajah's conduct in thus taking up arms to support his pretensions to a right, which, to say no more, is disputed, and that too without the least previous notification to the Nabob; nevertheless we have thought it expedient, for the reasons stated in our minutes§, to defer proceeding to extremities, or to determine finally on the measures to be pursued, and in the mean time to make all necessary preparations in our power, that we may be able to act as occasion shall require. We also thought it advis-

* Vide pages 642 to 653. † Page 653. ‡ Page 309, &c. § Pages 653 to 658.

able to write a letter to the Rajah*, representing to him our sense of his past conduct, and recommending to him to desist from his enterprize; to which we have not yet received any answer. And in order that the Nabob might be clearly and fully informed of our situation, and of the impossibility of our undertaking an expedition, without being ascertained of the means for carrying it on, we addressed a letter to him on the subject†, to which we have not yet received any answer.

Extract of Letter from the Select Committee at Fort St. George to the Court of Directors, dated 25th March, 1771. Received in London, 11th September, 1771.

Par. 6. YOUR Honours are advised by the Board, in their separate department‡, of the expedition undertaken by the Rajah of Tanjore against the Marawar, and of the reasons which had induced them to defer determining finally on the measures to be pursued; they have therein expressed their sentiments on this subject as far as they were able from the information and materials received from this Committee. But as we have not thought it necessary as yet to communicate to the Board at large the contents of your dispatches to the Commissioners, (which dispatches were opened by this Committee, as your Honours are herein before informed, Paragraph 3.) your sentiments therein expressed could have no weight with the Board in their measures; nevertheless, as we are informed of them by the perusal of those dispatches, we have thought it necessary to consider minutely as well the letter as the spirit of your several orders, which affect our present state and circumstances. We beg your permission to refer to our minutes of the 13th instant§, where having recited the orders which affect our measures relative to Tanjore, we state also the various constructions that may be given to those orders, and consequently the danger we are in of incurring censure, whatever measures we pursue, if they should not prove successful. We are well aware that even such critical examinations of orders may expose us to your displeasure, because they have the appearance of cavil; but we beg leave here to make our declaration, that nothing is further from our intention. The truth is, that we think ourselves now acting under every disadvantage that can possibly attend any Government: We think our conduct liable to misrepresentation by the Nabob, and some British subjects dependant on him; and we think it probable that Sir John Lindsay may be misled by them and others in his judgment of our measures. But what makes our situation most precarious under these circumstances is, that your Honours seem to place little confidence in your civil Servants in India; and therefore construe your injunctions to them, not as general rules for their guidance according to the circumstances of times, but as positive and decisive orders; and yet there are generally attending them some expressions that leave room for different constructions. Were our conduct to be scrutinized only by the Court of Directors, we should, notwithstanding all these difficulties, act with some degree of confidence, because we should not much doubt of being well able to justify our conduct to any one united Power; but when our measures, or the effects of them, may not, as it is almost impossible they should, be consonant to the ideas and views of all parties, it is clear to demonstration, that every step we take must appear to us desperate: this,

* Vide page 575.

† Page 581.

‡ Page 917.

§ Page 659.

and this only, is our reason for entering into so critical an examination of orders; because it is necessary, for our own safety, to ascertain their precise meaning if we can, and then to follow them at all events; or to shew wherein they clash, or are liable to different constructions, and then to assign our reason for preferring the one to the other.

Extract of Letter from the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, to the Court of Directors, dated 20th July, 1771. Received in London, 12th January, 1772.

Par. 4. WITH respect to the affairs of Tanjore, the Select Committee acquaint us that they have addressed your Honours fully thereon, and therefore we shall not take up your time with a repetition; their proceedings have from time to time been communicated to us, and so far as they have been communicated to us, have had our concurrence.

Extract of Letter from the Select Committee at Fort St. George to the Court of Directors, dated 20th July, 1771. Received in London, 12th January, 1772.

Par. 5. IN the 9th and 10th paragraphs of the advices from the Military Department of 25th March per Egmont*, and in the 6th paragraph of those from this Committee of the same date†, your Honours were informed of the conduct of the Rajah of Tanjore, in commencing hostilities against the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars; of the Nabob's earnest solicitations for our immediately marching against him; of our reasons for adopting at that time a more cautious conduct; and of our resolution for making the necessary preparations, to enable us to act as occasion might require; as also of the letters wrote to the Rajah and the Nabob on the subject: as this matter hath come more immediately under our consideration as a Select Committee, we shall resume the subject, and advise your Honours of the transactions since the above-mentioned dispatches.

6. A translation of the answer received from the Rajah of Tanjore to the letter wrote him by the President on the subject of his conduct, was transmitted by the Egmont‡, under cover to Mr. Secretary Michell; our remarks thereon are entered on our proceedings, to which we beg leave to refer: § we have therein stated the views of the Nabob, the Marattas, and the Rajah, as they appear to us; the objects of an expedition against Tanjore, and the several points necessary to be adjusted with the Nabob previous to our undertaking the same.

7. The answer from the Nabob to the letter wrote him the 20th February || on the subject of the expedition, we did not receive 'till the 26th March, the day after our dispatches per Egmont were closed: we beg your particular attention to the said letter**, and the remarks thereon.††

8. Conformable to what your Honours were before advised, we thought it expedient to go on collecting the troops and stores at Trichinopoly necessary for the expedition, but to defer even making any declaration of our intentions until

* Vide page 917. † Page 918. ‡ Page 508. § Page 665 || Page 581. ** Page 671. †† Page 682(*).

every thing should be prepared; nor then, unless the situation of affairs should render our undertaking it advisable. In this plan we firmly persisted, notwithstanding the pressing solicitations of the Nabob for marching immediately against Tanjore, and the reflexions cast upon us by Sir John Lindsay, for suffering, as he alleged, the Nabob's Government to be insulted and despised. Our above-mentioned remarks * on the Nabob's letter, and the remarks on Sir John Lindsay's letters, and our answers to him and the Nabob†, sufficiently explain the motives of our conduct.

9. The bullocks sent with a part of the stores having returned about the beginning of June‡, we thought it expedient to defer sending any more, as we had been alarmed by advices over-land of preparations for war in Europe, until we should receive advices from your Honours, which were daily expected: and at the same time it appeared necessary to recommend to the Nabob, that the bullocks should be kept in readiness; to which the Nabob, with difficulty acceded. But the Committee of Stores having, in their report delivered in to Consultation the 10th June, represented, that many more of the stores might be spared from hence even in case of a war, we thought it prudent, rather than suffer the bullocks to remain idle, that such stores as could be spared should be immediately sent away. The Nabob was accordingly made acquainted therewith; when, to our great surprise, he seemed averse to the expedition, represented the danger thereof by reason of the Marattas, and desired that the bullocks might be immediately discharged. We beg leave to refer your Honours to the minutes || wherein we have endeavoured to account for this sudden change in the Nabob's conduct; and which we judged could only proceed from the determined resolution he saw in us not to engage in an offensive alliance with the Marattas, and the precautions we took to avoid any measures which might compel us into such a system; and which we believe the Nabob hoped to effect, by engaging us in an attack on Tanjore before we were sufficiently prepared. However, as the discharging the bullocks immediately might have been productive of bad consequences, since it would be necessary, in case the expedition against Tanjore were laid aside, to bring back a great part of the troops and artillery that had been collected for that service, and for which the bullocks would be required, we thought it necessary to have a conference with the Nabob on the subject; ** when he represented the obstacles which occurred to him against the expedition: the Nabob at length consented that the stores might be sent away. Upon the receipt of the advices, by the Queen, of an approaching war with France and Spain, we consulted the Council on the expediency of proceeding immediately against Tanjore; †† who were of opinion, that it was necessary to obtain the Nabob's sentiments before we could determine finally thereon. Previous however to our having an interview with the Nabob, the Grosvenor arrived, with advice of an accommodation having taken place between England and Spain. ‡‡ The President, with Mr. Hattings, having waited on the Nabob, the subject was renewed; and we beg leave to refer your Honours to the substance of the conference then had with him, as stated in our minutes: the result of which was, that the Nabob desired time to

* Vide page 682 (*). † Page 610. ‡ Page 683. § Ibid. || Page 684. ** Page 685.
†† Page 687. ‡‡ Page 689.

consider on it, as the determination must (he said) depend on the motions of the Marattas. What has further passed on this subject, in conference between the Nabob and the President, is related in our Minutes*: and here we beg leave to say, that the frequent references we make to our Minutes, is not merely to save ourselves the trouble of reciting the substance here; we wish you to understand our conduct by gradations, which will give you a clearer idea of the perplexities in which we are involved than a summary could do. Being ourselves in a state of uncertainty, we are obliged to leave you in doubt what measures will be pursued in respect to Tanjore. We have often said, and repeat, that we disapprove of the conduct of the Rajah, and think he ought to be called to account, if it could be done with safety; yet it was with reluctance, even in the beginning, that we put on any hostile appearance, because the danger with which we were threatened by the Marattas made it doubtful whether we should be able to prosecute such a plan: but we saw clearly, that if we declined taking preparatory measures for chastizing the Rajah, every misfortune which should afterwards befall the Carnatick would have been imputed to our supineness, and refusal to vindicate the Nabob's honour and support his Government. Even as it is, these charges are brought against us by Sir John Lindsay, as you will please to observe in his letters. Now that we are nearly prepared to undertake the expedition, we mean in respect to troops and stores, the Nabob hesitates; and well he may: having advanced thus far in hostile preparations at Trichinopoly, although no declaration has been made of the object, were nothing to be attempted against the Rajah, were the projected expedition silently to be dropped, it would be in effect so plain a declaration of our embarrassments, weakness, and fear of the Marattas, as would invite them and all other enemies, into the country, upon the first convenient opportunity. Upon this reasoning then we ought immediately to advance; but we are, as we have all along been, of opinion, that whenever we begin against Tanjore, the Marattas will support him by entering the Carnatick; and now the Nabob joins in the same opinion. What are the consequences to be expected, should such an event happen? we have no troops to prevent the ravages of the Maratta horse; we must therefore leave the Carnatick open to their devastations, and prosecute the expedition against Tanjore. But these ravages immediately deprive us of revenue in the Carnatick: we have all reason to expect that such a scene in the South will certainly tempt the Subah (instigated by his ambitious Manager, Fazul Beg Khân,) to an enterprize against the Circars: we have but a poor stock in our Treasury; we have no certain assurances of assistance from the Nabob; but on the contrary, all his engagements for money have constantly annexed to them the condition of peace and quiet. Here then are two evils, which shall we chuse? Did it rest wholly with us to determine, and were we sure of a fair, generous, and candid judgment of our conduct, we should determine to hazard the expedition; because we think the dropping it silently, now we are advanced so far, will ultimately be productive of more dangerous consequences, if possible, than those we apprehend immediately from prosecuting it. But when we know there are who lie in wait to misrepresent every thing we do, when we have so recently and severely felt the smart of misrepre-

* Vide page 691 to 693.

sentations, and when we have cause to apprehend that the power and influence of the Crown will be exerted against us, we shall be cautious: but as we have been so, we will be candid; we conceal nothing from the Nabob, and shall give him time to digest his plan, or to find alternatives. At present your Honours will perceive by our minutes *, that he has conceived the idea of bringing about an accommodation by the means of the Maratta Vackeel. 'Tis not to the interest of the Marattas that an accommodation should take place; they will nevertheless mediate, take money on both sides, and whatever terms are settled by their intervention, they must support; and will thus acquire an acknowledged right of interposing between the Nabob and his tributary: for which, and many other reasons, this mode of accommodation is contrary to our judgment, and we have told the Nabob so; but we dare not oppose it; for if we do, all subsequent misfortunes would certainly be laid at our door, and our objection would be imputed to a rooted obstinacy and enmity to the Maratta. We rather think, if it be not too late for accommodation, some method might be found to open a negotiation between the Nabob and the Rajah, without any mediator; and this we should recommend in preference far to the intervention of the Maratta. Here the matter rests at present. Your Honours will, we hope, pay due attention to the striking change in the Nabob's system: at the time when the Sumbah crop, the richest of the year, was still on the ground, and consequently the Marattas might have entered the country with every advantage, then the Nabob and the King's Minister urged us beyond measure to commence hostilities; but we had not then *peremptorily* declared against an offensive alliance with the Marattas: now that the season is the most disadvantageous for a plundering army, the Nabob hesitates respecting the expedition, lest the Marattas should enter the country; but now we have declared *peremptorily* against an offensive alliance with them. We have more fully explained this subject in our remarks on Sir John Lindsay's letters of the 20th March † and 18th April ‡, and in our Minutes of 11th June §.

14. Since writing the foregoing we have received a letter from the Rajah of Tanjore, copy of which comes enclosed; and which may possibly give an opening for a negotiation, if the Nabob should think it advisable.

Extract of Letter from the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, to the Court of Directors, dated 9th October, 1771. Received in London, 28th March, 1772.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors, for Affairs of the Honourable the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East-Indies.

HONOURABLE,

1. OUR last advices, dated the 20th July §, waited on you by the Duke of Portland, duplicate of which we have forwarded to Bengal to go by the early ship from that Presidency, and a triplicate will be sent with our next general advices, which

* Vide page 717. † Page 289, &c. ‡ Page 301, &c. § Page 683. § Page 919.

we fear will not be before January, as we have now no hopes of the arrival of a ship from Bengal in time to be dispatched during this month.

2. In our above-mentioned advices we referred your Honours to the Select Committee for an account of affairs respecting Tanjore; as they have communicated to us from time to time the substance of their proceedings and correspondence with the Nabob on the subject, and as we have concurred with them in the measures judged necessary to be taken in consequence, we now take the opportunity, by His Majesty's ship *Stag*, to advise you of such material occurrences as may be necessary for your immediate information.

3. Your Honours were particularly advised by the Select Committee of the doubts we were in, at the departure of the Duke of Portland, with respect to the measures which the Nabob meant to adopt for terminating the difference with Tanjore. On the 29th July † the Committee informed us, that the Nabob proposed having recourse to negotiation; and as the Tanjore Vackeel had no powers for settling the disputes, and as the season was too far advanced to admit of any delays, the Nabob had resolved to send his eldest Son to Trichinopoly to make his demands on the Rajah, and to require a direct and positive answer thereto. And in order to enforce the same, it was judged necessary that the remainder of the troops and stores should proceed immediately to Trichinopoly, to be in readiness to march against Tanjore, should the Rajah refuse or delay complying with the Nabob's requisitions. Orders were accordingly immediately issued for the march of the several detachments, with the artillery and stores intended for this service; and General Smith was advised of the measures that had been resolved on, and directed to make every preparation in his power. Although all possible expedition was used, it was not 'till the beginning of September that the whole of the troops and stores crossed the river near Trichinopoly, owing to the waters being exceedingly high, which greatly retarded their passage.

4. The Rajah not having shewn any inclination to accede to the Nabob's demands, the army marched from the plain of Trichinopoly the 13th September towards Tanjore. The following is the state of the force under the command of General Smith, abstracted from the general muster-rolls taken in camp the 1st and 2d September, viz.

Company's Troops.

Effective, Non-Commissioned, and Private.

Artillery	—	—	—	247
European Infantry	—	—	—	1236
European Cavalry	—	—	—	46
Scpoys	—	—	—	5945
				7474
				Carried over.

* Vide page 919.

† Page 720.

	Effective, Non-Commissioned, and Private.			
Brought over	—	—	—	7474
Lascars	—	—	—	1341
Carpenters	—	—	—	79
Smiths	—	—	—	159
Coolies	—	—	—	1047
Fascine-Makers	—	—	—	63
Bullock-Drivers	—	—	—	1110
Draught Bullocks	—	—	—	1755
Carriage Bullocks	—	—	—	4549
				10,098
				17,52

5. We have no return of the Nabob's troops with the army, but they consist of four battalions of Sepoys, and about 2000 horse.

6. The army arrived before Vellum, a strong fort about six miles S. W. of Tanjore, on the 16th September. On the 20th, in the morning, a battery of six eighteen pounders was opened against the place, and which was taken possession of by our troops at 12 o'clock the same night, the enemy having abandoned it. On the 23d the army moved from thence, and encamped the same day near the fort of Tanjore. Our latest advices from the army inform us, that they broke ground before the place on the 29th September at night. We expect every hour to hear of their opening batteries; and as you never had a finer army in the field on the Coast, nor one better furnished in every respect for such an undertaking, as your Honours will perceive by the enclosed list of stores which have been furnished, we have all reasonable hopes of their success before the rains set in. Whatever may be the event, we shall give you the earliest advice.

Extract of Letter from the Select Committee at Fort St. George to the Court of Directors, dated 9th October, 1771, Received in London, 28th March, 1772.

2. YOUR Honours are advised from the Military Department of our measures with respect to Tanjore; we shall defer laying before you an account of our proceedings and correspondence with the Nabob on the subject, or explaining the motives and reasons for our conduct, until our next general advices, when you will be fully and particularly informed of all circumstances; the intent of these advices being only to give your Honours a general idea of our situation.

Letter from the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, to the Court of Directors, dated 18th October, 1771. Received in London, 16th July, 1772.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors, for Affairs of the Honourable the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East-Indies.

HONOURABLE,

SIR JOHN LINDSAY failed from this road the 12th. By a letter from the Chief of Cuddalore, we are informed that he anchored off Cuddalore the 14th; and it

it is currently reported that he may remain there some days. If the breaking up of the Monsoon were to be risked, we should think Madras road much more eligible than that of Cuddalore, as it must be more difficult in the N. E. Monsoon to clear the Coast from the latter than the former: however, that your Honours may receive all the intelligence we can possibly convey to you by the Stag, we have directed the Chief of Cuddalore to advise you of the latest news that shall reach him before her departure*. Having this morning received a letter from General Smith, dated the 12th instant†, we enclose a copy for your information, as also a copy of a private letter of the same date‡. We cannot find words to express how much we are chagrined at the distress the army suffers for want of provision, which it is not in our power to remove. There is no want of provision in Trichinopoly, as the Nabob informs us; but the scarcity of grain in camp is principally and originally occasioned, as we are told, by the want of bullocks and gunny bags to transport it thither. As this service was wholly undertaken by the Nabob, we could know nothing of the measures for executing it, or of the defects, until they were felt, and then we had no remedy. Captain Poverly at Trichinopoly advises us, that a large convoy of provisions and stores set off from thence the 12th§, and will, we doubt not, relieve the present distress of the army. We have been so short of money, that we could not, 'till within these few days, send the sums necessary for the present month; a sufficient supply for that purpose is now on the way to the army. Eight companies of Sepoys within these few days marched to reinforce the army, which leaves us very bare in these parts; and we took that opportunity to send a further supply of 500 barrels of gunpowder, though our stock is reduced very low; but as we have, so we shall continue to do all in our power to support General Smith effectually. We have great hopes that the weather, which has been very fair for some days, will continue so many more: the rains, which General Smith mentions, were not from the setting in of the Monsoon; we had the same kind of weather here at the same time, but with the winds from the westward.

We are,

HONOURABLE,

Your faithful humble servants,

Fort St. George,
18th October, 1771.

Jos. Du Pré
Warren Hastings
Sam^l. Ardley
John Smith
Geo. Stratton
Henry Brooke
John Whitehill
Rich^d. Brickenden
Geo. Mackay.

* Vide page 769.

† Page 770.

‡ Page 773.

§ Page 768.

Letter from John Cartier Esquire, Governor of Fort William, to the Court of Directors, dated 30th November, 1771. Received in London, 21st May, 1772.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors, for Affairs of the Honourable United Company of Merchants trading to the East-Indies.

Honourable Sirs,

THE dispatches by the Morse and Ponsborne having left town these four days, gives me a very uncertain hope of communicating the intelligence I have this instant received from Mr. Du Pré, of an accommodation having taken place between the Nabob Mahomed Ally and the King of Tanjore. Mr. Du Pré considers this event as of most material consequence for your early information. I have not lost a moment in transmitting the account to your Honours, with a copy of Mr. Du Pré's letter enclosed, which I judge to be more eligible than to attempt putting a stop to the sailing of those ships, as they must have weighed from Ingellee before this can possibly reach them.

I am, with all possible respect,

Honourable Sirs,

Your most faithful humble servant,

Fort William,
30th November, 1771.

JOHN CARTIER,

To the Honourable John Cartier Esquire, President and Governor of Fort William.

S I R,

YOU have been informed by the general letters from hence, that we had been under the necessity of putting our army in the field, in order to call the Rajah of Tanjore to account. After taking the fort of Vellum, the army sat down before the capital the beginning of last month. We expected that the reduction of the fort would have been the consequence; but we have just received advice that the Nabob has accepted of terms of accommodation. The event of this expedition is so interesting to our Employers, that I wish to give them the earliest information. I do not as yet know the terms of accommodation, or on what grounds and motives they were accepted; we shall doubtless have all the particulars in a few days. I could wish therefore, that if your early ship is not already gone, she might be detained 'till I can write you further on this subject; but if you should not think it proper to detain her, in that case I beg that you will be pleased to communicate the contents of this

this letter to the Court of Directors, and all further explanations shall go by the first opportunity.

I have the honour to be, SIR,

Your most obedient

and most humble servant,

Fort St. George
2d November, 1771.

(Signed)

JOS. DU PRÉ.

A true Copy.

JOHN CARTIER.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors, for Affairs of the Honourable the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East-Indies.

HONOURABLE,

WE addressed you by His Majesty's ship Stag, under date the 9th October*. The Stag left this road the 12th, and anchored off Cuddalore the 14th; of which being advised by your Chief there, we addressed another letter to you under date the 18th, and directed the Chief to communicate to you such advices as should reach him relative, to the operations of the army, before the departure of the Stag: but Sir John Lindsay having sailed before our letter of the 18th was received at Cuddalore, we now forward the same *via* Bengal.

In our address to your Honours of the 9th October by the Stag, we expressed our opinion, that the siege of Tanjore might prove successful, as there was all reasonable cause to expect it. Limited and restrained as we are by the tenor of your orders, and threatened by the Minister of the Crown, armed with the powers of prerogative, we were under the necessity of leaving unquestioned in the Nabob the right of negotiating terms with the Rajah. Our reasons at large will appear in our records, which shall wait upon you by the first ship from hence. We enclose a copy of our instructions to General Smith†, by which you will be pleased to observe, that the right of commencing and terminating hostilities is reserved to the Nabob; but being commenced, the mode and plan of operations are left entirely to the General. The Company in this expedition being only auxiliary, and the Nabob, the Ally of the Crown, as His Majesty's Minister has informed us, and possessing the rights of his government under the guaranty of the Crown, by virtue of the 11th article of

* Vide page 922.

† Pages 723, 724.

insulted and despised. Our reasons against commencing hostilities at that time are fully set forth in our said advices, together with the motives which determined us to make every possible preparation to act as occasion might require. The Select Committee, in their address per Duke of Portland*, informed your Honours of the state of uncertainty we were then in with regard to the Nabob's intentions respecting the expedition. It was but a few weeks before that he pressed the expedition without ceasing; and now that every thing was prepared, and the season appeared the most favourable, he became wavering, started every difficulty, and urged every argument against it. The causes however could not long be concealed; the necessity of taking a decisive line obliged the Nabob to open himself; when it appeared, that there were two points to which he was desirous of obtaining our concurrence: the first was, that all negotiations with the Rajah should be conducted by him; and the other, that the fort and country of Tanjore, if reduced, should be delivered into his hands. We beg your Honours will be referred to the Minutes†, where our reasons for acquiescing with the Nabob's first proposition are fully set forth. With respect to the second proposition, of suffering the fort and country of Tanjore, if reduced, to fall into his hands, a careful perusal of the proceedings‡, which we earnestly request, will explain to your Honours our sentiments thereon, together with our reasons for complying therewith. The proceedings on the above subjects are full and explicit, and deserve your most serious attention and consideration.

37. Your Honours will no doubt observe the Nabob's offer § of making the Company a present of ten Lacks of Pagodas, in case the fort and country of Tanjore were delivered up to him; as also our resolution of not accepting that or any other sum from him, by way of compensation, compact, or agreement, for resigning to him any conquests that might be made. This was our reasoning: either the right to the conquest was in the Nabob, or it was not; if it were in the Nabob, we could support no claim to an equivalent; if it were not; and that we have a right to bargain, ten Lacks of Pagodas are not to be thought of as an equivalent: we therefore declined any agreement which might bind the Company, leaving your Honours at liberty to act therein as you might see expedient. We informed the Nabob however, that if he chose to make the Company a voluntary and free gift, without any stipulation whatever, we should receive and reserve it, subject to your will and pleasure. ||

38. In our address of the 4th November** we transmitted to your Honours copy of a letter from General Smith, with a translation of the treaty which had been concluded; and which appeared to us at that time to be insecure, as the Nabob had not the least security for the performance of any of the stipulations on part of the Rajah, who

* Vide Page 919.

† Pages 696, 697, 702,—716 to 720; also Page 722.

‡ Page 726, &c.—also Pages 737, 738.

§ Pages 624, 625,

|| Page 626.

** Page 928.

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† Pages 696, 697, 702,—716 to 720; also Page 722.

‡ Page 726, &c.—also Pages 737, 738.

§ Pages 624, 625.

|| Page 626.

Page 928.

we doubted not would evade complying with them; as the measures which had been taken against him could only tend to increase his resentment, without disabling him. The receipt of General Smith's letters of the 27th October*, advising of peace being concluded, at a time when we were in hourly expectation of hearing of the fall of the place, alarmed us exceedingly; from the daily accounts we had received of the successful progress of the siege, we could not suppose that any other terms would have been accepted than the surrender of the fort at discretion: how great then must have been our surprize and concern to find, by the articles received the 4th November†, that the terms were so inadequate to our expectations, and no security obtained for the performance even of them. It is certain that our instructions to General Smith‡ empowered him, without limitation, to direct all the military operations; but placed the power of commencing and ending the war in the Nabob, for the reasons assigned in our minutes. General Smith nevertheless, in a correspondence with the Governor, clearly understood that the reduction of the fort, was what we wished; and joined in opinion with us, from the same apprehensions of future troubles, that it was necessary: it is true his letters mentioned that a negotiation for peace was on foot; but as the original plan was, that such a negotiation should be encouraged, while our operations were pressed forward, in order that the alternative might always be open, we considered it as so intended, and had no expectation of a sudden conclusion; especially as we were advised of the successful progress of the siege, and received not from the Nabob the least hint of an idea of compromising. We do not mean to cast any blame on General Smith, but we are desirous that none should fall on us, without cause. You will observe, that a promise of a gratuity had been made by the Nabob's Son to the army in case the place was taken; the conclusion of peace therefore, without taking the place, caused a general discontent; and nothing was talked of in the Settlement, nothing was read but letters from the army, representing the certainty of their taking the place, had not the peace prevented it; that it was shameful thus to stop the progress, and tarnish the glory of the British arms, in the moment that fortune presented the laurel: and indirect hints, according to custom, began to circulate, that whatever face the Governor and Council might put upon the matter, no doubt they and the Nabob understood one another in the measure. It is undoubtedly the part of Government to be deaf to such rumours, which, though in the mouths of all, can rarely be traced to any. But as we had so lately suffered the greatest injustice at home, by secret misrepresentations from the same quarter, we thought it necessary, as well for our justification as for your information, to obtain, if possible, some éclaircissement; we therefore desired General Smith to give us all the lights in his power, and we likewise requested the same favour of the Nabob, informing both of our motives. The information General Smith has given us you will find in his letter of the 6th November, entered in Consultation the 18th§; and the Nabob has sent us a volume of papers, containing a narrative of what passed relative to the peace, with copies of letters from his Sons, Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder and Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, and from his General of Horse, Nazeeb Khán||. Your Honours have in

* Vide Page 786. † Page 791. ‡ Page 722. § Page 803. || See Appendix No. XXIV.

these every material and every information which have come to our knowledge, and to your judgment we submit them; an opinion from us is not necessary; but your Honours will doubtless draw this conclusion from the whole, that whether this expedition hath ended well or ill, it cannot consist with your honour, or your interest, that the Company's forces should, in their operations, be subjected to the control of the Nabob. You will read, in the Minutes of the Select Committee, the necessity for yielding that point in this expedition. Apparently we have the remedy in our own hands; we may covenant with the Nabob that it shall be otherwise, before we consent to put a man in the field for the service he desires; but if the Nabob should again, by art or contrivance, draw us on step by step into measures proper in themselves, until we are so far advanced that we cannot recede without dishonour and danger, and then hesitate or refuse to advance on any terms but his own,—what remedy have we?

39. Our apprehensions, arising from a peace so suddenly concluded, and upon terms which appeared to us so very insecure, rendered it necessary that we should take every possible precaution as if we were actually on the eve of a war; a letter was accordingly wrote to General Smith to that effect.* By one of the articles of the treaty, the fort of Vellum was either to be restored to the Rajah, or destroyed. As this was a fort of the utmost importance, being in a manner a key to Tanjore, the Nabob, by our advice, sent positive orders to his Son, on no account to deliver it up without his express directions. It was indeed the only tie we had on the Rajah for the performance of his engagement; and as it would require a considerable time to demolish it, if it were resolved to do so, by reason of it's great extent, we directed General Smith to leave in it a sufficient garrison of the Company's troops, with a proper quantity of stores for it's defence, and on no account to deliver it up without our express orders: in the mean time we advised the Nabob to instruct his Son to require punctual performance of every article of the agreement. The Rajah had engaged to pay certain sums of money, and to deliver up certain jewels, and other effects, taken from the Marawar, which it was probable he meant not to accomplish; it seemed therefore very justifiable, in case of failure, to recommence hostilities; and hostilities recommenced on such grounds, would disannul the whole agreement, and leave the parties at liberty to insist on fresh conditions on either side: the Nabob's Son was therefore instructed, in case this should happen, to demand, as a *sine qua non*, the cession of the fort of Vellum. As we conjectured, so it proved; the Rajah equivocated; our guns had not been drawn out of the batteries; dispositions were made for recommencing hostilities; a fresh negotiation ensued; the fort of Vellum, with the districts of Colladdy and Elangad, were demanded and formally ceded by the Rajah. Thus ended the expedition, and the army returned to Trichinopoly and it's environs.

40. The pecuniary advantages gained by the Nabob in the late expedition against Tanjore, are as follow:

Two

Two years' Peshcush due and recovered	—	—	8,00,000
Interest on ditto	—	—	77,000
Indemnification for the charges of the expedition	—	—	32,50,000
Nazir to Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder	—	—	3,00,000
Ditto to Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder	—	—	1,00,000
			<hr/>
			Rupees 45,27,000

So much the Nabob acknowledges, of which eleven Lacks are already paid, and one Lack and seventy-seven thousand are now shortly to be paid; there will then remain thirty-two Lacks and fifty thousand, being the whole of the indemnification for the charges of the army; which are to be paid in the course of two years, out of the revenues of assigned countries, valued at sixteen Lacks and twenty-five thousand per annum.

The countries acquired, and their estimated value, are as follow :

The fort of Vellum, to which neither district nor revenue are annexed.		
The district of Elangad and Coiladdy	—	80,000
The district of Arny	—	2,00,000
The fort and district of Hanamantagoody, taken by the Rajah	}	2,00,000
from Marawar, and now given up to the Nabob		
		<hr/>
Per annum, Rupees		4,80,000

The jewels, elephants, &c. taken by the Rajah from Marawar, and now given up to the Nabob, are of small value.

41. The Nabob, sensible of the importance of the fort of Vellum,* requested that a proper garrison of the Company's troops, under the command of a prudent and vigilant officer, might be placed in it; and as Major Vaughan, from the bravery, steadiness, and prudence with which he distinguished himself during the siege of Tanjore, appeared to us an officer worthy of such a trust, we have placed him in the command†. We have been very particular and express in our instructions to him,‡ to avoid all manner of intercourse with any of the Tanjoreans, and to be well on his guard against treachery or surprize; as the great importance of the place will naturally lead the Rajah to try all means to regain possession of it; and it's proximity to Tanjore might afford him opportunities, if the utmost precaution were not taken.

42. Having, pursuant to your orders, made public His Majesty's Letters-Patent respecting plunder and booty, together with your commands relative thereto; we received, during the Tanjore expedition, a letter from General Smith§, inform-

* Vide Page 897.

† Page 808.

‡ Page 812.

§ Appendix No. XXIII, Page 824-
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ing us, that the Nabob's Son, Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, had made a proposal to the army, of giving them seven Lacks of Rupees in case Tanjore should be taken, provided that what should be found in it, as well as what had been and might be taken during the expedition, were delivered up to him; which proposal the officers unanimously rejected, but seemed disposed to accept of double what each officer received at Madura; and for such a consideration they would relinquish their claim to that proportion of the spoil which had been allotted them by your orders, in consequence of the said Letters-Patent. As it appeared to us, that, according to the usage of war, the plunder of any place taken by assault is the property of the individual troops that take it, and as we understood the offer of seven Lacks of Rupees to be made as an equivalent and redemption of such plunder, we could not interfere; for if it were the right of the army, the army might relinquish their right for a consideration, or retain it: had we given an opinion that the offer was sufficient, we should have disgusted the army in the day of service; had we given a contrary opinion, we should have disgusted the Nabob; we did neither: we remained silent, and soon after were informed by General Smith, that the Nabob's Son had agreed to satisfy the army by a gratuity, in case of the capture of the place, conformable to a paper which he enclosed, by which every officer would receive double what they received at Madura, which, upon a gross calculation, we found would amount, in the whole, to about four Lacks and sixty thousand Pagodas to the Company's forces only, exclusive of the Nabob's own troops then before Tanjore. Large as this sum was to the whole, the Field Officers were dissatisfied with the distribution, as the Staff were allowed double proportions; for which, and other reasons, they wished the whole to be cast into one sum, and the division left to the President and Council. In the former case, we declined to give an opinion, lest we should offend either the Nabob or the army; in the present case, we proposed to defer our opinion 'till the conclusion of the expedition, lest we should offend the General or the Field Officers, who differed on the point of distribution, and the Nabob also, who had declared the specific sums to each. In a few days after the receipt of this appeal, we received advice of the conclusion of peace; and were informed by General Smith, that a stipulation had been made with the Rajah for five Lacks of Rupees, as a present to the army; which he recommended to our protection, in hopes of obtaining some addition from the Nabob to that promised gratuity. On the other hand, the Nabob complained of the stipulation in favour of the army, alleged that it was a dangerous precedent, that he acknowledged no right whatever in the army to any compensation, and that he never would submit to the payment of one Rupee, as a matter of right; but that if the army would silently rely on his generosity, he should not be backward in gratifying them, when it might be convenient to him. There appeared to us no difficulty in determining the rigid line of right; but it appeared impossible to give an opinion which should satisfy every one: in this case therefore, as in all others, where some must be offended, we have endeavoured to be strictly just; though we wished it had been in our power, consistently with our duty, to have favoured the army, and gratified their expectations in some degree, out of good policy, as well as inclination. Upon reference to the

proceedings*, your Honours will be fully informed of every particular circumstance. Our letter to General Smith of the 26th November† contains a recital of what has passed on the subject, together with our sentiments and opinion thereon; this letter was communicated and explained fully to the Nabob before it was sent away, and met with his entire approval; we therefore beg leave to refer the same to your attentive consideration, as we wish to have your sentiments to guide us on any future occasion.

*Extract of Letter from the Select Committee at Fort St. George, dated 28th February, 1772.
Received in London, 10th September, 1772.*

12. **THOUGH** all the measures relative to the expedition to Tanjore were previously concerted by the Select Committee, yet as the sanction of the Board was necessary, they became ultimately the measures of the Board, and you are therefore advised of the whole from that department. Some reflexions may nevertheless be proper here. Tanjore has certainly been humbled, and the possession of the fort of Vellum is undoubtedly a great check upon it; but the Tanjoreans have been so exasperated by the Nabob, and they are so firmly persuaded of his intentions to conquer the whole whenever he shall find a favourable opportunity, that we look upon as certain, that should any troubles arise in the Carnatick, whether from the French or a country enemy, and present to the Rajah a probability of freeing himself from his apprehensions of the Nabob, he would take part against him, and at such a time might be a dangerous enemy in the South: it was upon this conviction, that when the differences between the Nabob and the Rajah rose to such a height, as that it became necessary to attack him in his capital, we seriously wished to reduce it entirely, and the whole country. Your Honours will see by our Minutes what our first ideas were on this subject; how we were obliged to recede, and at last to resign ourselves to the Nabob for want of powers to control him. We have not ventured to give an opinion whether the Nabob really intended the conquest of the place or not; that his earnest wishes are to possess it and the country, and all Indostan, if he could, we have no doubt; but in a jealous mind there are ever rising fears, which counterbalance every wish. Although we do most confidently believe that there has been an understanding between the Nabob and the Marattas, (the terrible threats denounced by them, and the ease with which he has procured their return into the Balaghat prove it); yet we believe he was really apprehensive of their espousing the cause of Tanjore seriously, had the place been taken; not out of attachment to the Rajah, but to share the booty. But what oppressed his mind much more, as we verily believe, was his apprehension of a latent purpose in the Company, at a convenient time, to take the country from him. It is in vain that your Honours think to remove his apprehensions, by recalling to his memory the generous support you have given him; he feels no such principles in himself, and cannot conceive it to be

* Vide Appendix, No. XXIII. page 819, &c.

† Page 835.

be possible they should exist in others. He has however, by the late expedition, accomplished, or he thinks he has accomplished, what, next to the possession of the whole, he has been most anxious to effect. The Company's guaranty of the Treaty of 1762 has been a rankling thorn in his side; by this quarrel and accommodation with the Rajah, he fancies he has removed that restraint, and may henceforth exercise authority in any way that may best suit his views, without hazard of our interposition. We explained our ideas of the Government of Tanjore, and the system of it's dependence and connexion, very clearly in our address by the *Britannia*, dated the 31st January, 1770, Paragraphs 3 and 9*; we see no cause to change our opinion in any respect; and if your Honours will be pleased to consider attentively all the motives for our late measures, you will find that we were determined by necessity and not by choice. With respect to the guaranty of the treaty of 1762 between the Nabob and the Rajah, we are under some doubts, whether, according to the law and usage of nations, it is abolished or still in force. The Rajah, upon a plea of injustice on the part of the Nabob, declined to comply with the terms of the treaty, by punctually paying the *Peshcush*; as guarantees we interposed, and marched a force to compel him; open war ensued; the Rajah in the end submits, pays the *Peshcush*, with a further sum as an indemnification for the charges of the war; a new treaty passes between the Nabob and him, in which we have no part, and in which not a word is mentioned of the treaty of 1762, nor a word in respect to the payment of the *Peshcush* in future, nor of it's remission. The question is, whether that treaty and guaranty are or are not virtually restored. We have carefully avoided any hint to the Nabob on this subject, either for or against the question; and the Nabob is equally reserved: how long it may be possible to preserve this silence, will depend on circumstances; for whenever a case may happen that shall require a decisive measure, our conduct in the one case or the other would be very different. We therefore hope your Honours will see the necessity of tracing a strong line for the guidance of your Government in this respect. If you resume the right, or rather acknowledge the Company still bound by their guaranty of 1762, it will be absolutely necessary that you empower your Government confidentially to carry it effectually into execution, by exerting the right, and interposing power, if necessary, to prevent injustice to the Rajah. Had your Government here stood in such a degree of confidence with their Constituents, as that they might have entertained a reasonable hope of support and justification in an impartial and spirited conduct, the part they should have taken ought no doubt to have been this:—Upon the Rajah's complaint that he was entitled to an indemnification for the expenses he sustained in the assistance given to the Nabob in the late war, and that the Marawar and Nalcooty Poligars with-held from him his just rights; on the other hand, the Nabob complaining that the Rajah with-held the *Peshcush* unjustly, had no right to the indemnification he demanded, nor any just claim on Marawar and Nalcooty; this Government, as guarantees, ought to have marched a force to maintain peace between the complaining parties, to have required Deputies from both, to state the demands of each respectively, and, upon a fair discussion, to have decided be-

† See Page 937.

tween them ; and to have enforced the decision, whether in favour of the Nabob, or in favour of the Rajah : but your Government here did not dare to act such a part. It was plain from your orders to this Committee, under date the 17th March 1769, as well as subsequent orders, that you thought the Rajah stood in a degree of favour with this Government, which you did not approve ; and that you adopted all the Nabob's ideas of levying Crores as an equitable pretension, because other Subahs had done so. At the same time the Minister of the Crown, ranging himself on the side of the Nabob, received all his complaints against the Rajah as gospel ; attacked us openly, but with flagrant injustice, and accused us of with-holding that assistance from the Nabob which our trust required. The designs of the Ministry are plain, and we know the extent of ministerial power ; we should otherwise have thought a refutation needless, and have consigned such partial zeal to contempt and oblivion.

The Rajah, so early as September 1770*, represented to the President his apprehensions of the Nabob's designs and representations to the King's Minister ; but finding no tendency to redress, and seeing the weakness of this Government, and it's inability to protect him, too hastily and indiscreetly stood forth in open opposition ; most probably expecting support either from the French or the Marattas. The contest hath ended not dishonourably to the Company's arms, but we hope your Honours will not, on that ground, be too confident of future success, even at the hazard of being thought timid. A steady regard for the public welfare obliges us to say, we are amazed that we have got thus far so well ; and if your Honours will attentively consider every embarrassment in which we have been entangled by the Nabob ; his chicanery in respect to money and provisions ; his views to compel us into a Maratta alliance ; his wishes to possess Tanjore ; his fears of the Company if it were subdued ; his hope of support against the Company from the Crown ; and his jealousy of the future effects even of that support, we think your Honours will see cause to rejoice that we are in no worse state at present. Should your Honours think it best to revive the guaranty, and take it upon you, we are persuaded the Nabob will oppose it by every means in his power ; and it will certainly be the cause of a fresh quarrel with him : but should that be got over, and the guaranty be acknowledged ; and, at the same time, should your Government, from whatever cause, not to be relieved from it's present weakness in respect to the Nabob ; his designs against Tanjore, or some other indirect purpose, may again drag you into hostility. If you do not resume the guaranty, but leave the Rajah wholly at the mercy of the Nabob, we do not hesitate to declare it as our opinion, that his apprehensions of the Nabob are so great, that whenever we shall be involved in trouble, he will become dangerous, and take part against us, to save himself from impending ruin, should he see a probability of success. Our conclusion is, that one of these decisive measures should be adopted with firmness and vigour ; either to take Tanjore openly and avowedly under your protection, and give him proofs of your impartial justice, which we think even now, notwithstanding what has passed, will bind him firmly to your interest ; or to conquer and subdue him totally ; but in the latter case, the consequent arrangements will be matter of the most serious consideration. What we

said

* Vide page 391.

said on this subject by the Britannia contains our sense; and since the year 1768, such lights have been thrown on the Nabob's character and conduct, as may amply suffice to enable your Honours to determine with justice and propriety: we therefore only add, that every day convinces us we have not been mistaken, and we confirm every word we have wrote.

Extract of Letter from the President and Council at Fort St. George. in their Military Department, to the Court of Directors, dated 15th October, 1772. Received in London, 10th April, 1773.

58. IN the 42d paragraph of our address per Lord North, we laid before your Honours an account of what passed respecting the donation which the troops expected from the Nabob for the expedition against Tanjore; we at the same time explained to your Honours our ideas and sentiments on that subject. The Nabob has since informed the President, that he proposed making the troops a present of five Lacks and ten thousand Rupees on that account: he has been very particular in expressing, that he admits of no right in the army to any compensation; that he offers this gratuity in consequence of their renouncing all right, claim, or pretension; that he offers it as a free and voluntary gift, and it must be so received, or not at all: he has wrote a letter * to us on the subject, to which, and to our answer †, we beg your Honours will be referred. Notwithstanding these declarations, your Honours will be pleased to observe, that in his letter * quoted in the last paragraph, a doubt is suggested, whether his own troops should not share in this intended gratuity. Our answer was founded on his own declarations.

Extract of Letter from the Select Committee at Fort St. George, dated 31st January, 1770. Received in London, 28th July, 1770.

Par. 3. WITH respect to the measures you have been pleased to recommend with regard to the Rajah of Tanjore; in deliberating on this matter, it became necessary for us to take every circumstance under consideration, and to weigh well the means we had of undertaking an expedition against him, as well as the consequences to be expected therefrom. As your Honours, at the time you recommended this measure, had before you the treaty entered into between the Nabob and the Rajah, to which the Company became guarantees, you were consequently competent judges how far that guaranty or engagement ought to operate. We should not therefore have hesitated from any doubt on that subject, but should certainly have endeavoured to carry your commands into immediate execution, had not our situation, and other circumstances, of which you could not have been informed, rendered such an undertaking impracticable, as well as, in our judgment, impolitic at this juncture.

4. The province of Tanjore being so situated, as that the Carnatick must ever be a natural barrier to it against invaders by land, it is undoubtedly most reasonable

* Vide page 849.

† Page 850.

that it should always bear a part of the charge of repelling such invaders. This principle, though not established by any particular compact, treaty, or agreement, is clear and determinate; as resulting from equity, and the natural rights of Governments: but the mode and quantum are not so determinate, and must depend either on the usage of former times—on particular compact—or on arbitrary power. The stipulated tribute paid by Tanjore to the Carnatick, in peace as well as in war, should we think, be considered only as an acknowledgment of superiority. What quota of troops or treasure should be furnished in time of war we cannot ascertain, either by usage or compact; it appears therefore to us to have been arbitrary; that is to say, the Government of the Carnatick hath exacted whatever it had power to compel, and Tanjore hath refused succours or money, as far as the Government thought it had power to support such refusal. As this is by no means peculiar to these two States, the same principle prevails invariably throughout Indostan: upon this principle, which is wholly that of power, it is certainly contrary to sound policy of the Carnatick to suffer the existence of such a State; and there can be no doubt but that the rulers of the Carnatick would have long ago reduced Tanjore to the same terms as other dependent Rajahships, had not Tanjore been sufficiently powerful in itself, or by connexion, to oppose such attempts effectually. Upon this reasoning therefore it appears to us, that if the Nabob of the Carnatick possessed the whole power of the Carnatick, it would be good policy in *him*, and consistent with the principles of the Indostan Governments, to reduce Tanjore to the same terms of obedience and control that other Rajahs have been reduced to; and if the Company possessed the whole power of the Carnatick, it would be equal good policy in the Company to do so: but it is a great question with us, whether it would be good policy in the Company to suffer the Nabob of the Carnatick to reduce Tanjore, if he were powerful enough of himself to do so; and it is another question with us, upon the present divided system of power in the Carnatick, *if it would be good policy in the Company to reduce Tanjore, and place it under the management and control of the Nabob: we incline to the opinion, that it would not*; but that whilst the present system, or want of system, remains between the Company and the Carnatick, if the reduction of Tanjore should be resolved on, it would be more advisable for the Company to retain it in their own possession, or, reserving the sovereignty, place in the management of it either the present Rajah or any other Subject, under such limitations and conditions as might make him useful, but put it out of his power to be dangerous. The impropriety and inconvenience of such a State subsisting in the heart of the province, is evident from the Rajah's conduct in the late war with Hyder Ally. The junction of his troops, particularly his cavalry, to our army, might have greatly contributed to the prevention of those ravages which the Carnatick sustained; but that would have exposed the Tanjore country to the resentment of the common enemy, and the Rajah thought he saw his particular interest in purchasing a peace for his own country. This conduct in the Rajah might now furnish us with a just plea for calling him to account; but when your Honours are informed of all our reasons for declining such an attempt at this time, we flatter ourselves that our conduct will meet with your approbation.

8. Your Honours have already been advised by the Thames, of the urgent manner in which Hyder Ally pressed that the Rajah of Tanjore should be included in the treaty, of his motives for pressing that point, and of our's for including the Rajah, as a friend and ally of the Carnatick : we see nothing in that article of the treaty which ought to restrain us from calling him to an account, if other circumstances were favourable ; but whilst the present rooted enmity subsists between the Nabob and Hyder Ally personally, we cannot doubt but that the latter will take all occasions to distress the Carnatick ; and should he compromise his affairs with the Marattas and the Subah, a fairer opportunity could never present itself ; and we might fail in our attempt, and find ourselves again involved in a ruinous war, without money, and without resources : for all which reasons, we are humbly of opinion, that in our present circumstances such an undertaking is not advisable ; and that whenever it be attempted, it should be under such favourable circumstances as should leave no doubt of success. These are the motives which have hitherto prevented our taking any measures for carrying your commands into execution, although the Rajah certainly deserves chastisement ; and not only for the supply of money and provisions he furnished the enemy with instead of assisting us, but for since delaying the payment of the Peshcush, which was due in July last, under pretence of poverty, and soliciting to have the whole remitted, in consideration of the expense of the troops he sent to our assistance during the late war, and which gave us no assistance. The Nabob, who wishes for nothing more earnestly than to see the Rajah humbled, has strenuously urged us to compel him to conform to his engagements, alleging, that it is not customary to make any allowance for troops furnished by a tributary to his superior, unless they are employed out of the province : this may be true, although it is ascertained to us by no better testimony than the Nabob's. *We believe it to be the custom to allow Batta even to the troops of those Rajahs or Polligars who are in absolute subjection ; and it is certain the Nabob did remit a year's Peshcush to the Rajah of Tanjore, in consideration of the assistance he gave at the siege of Madura ; but whether that were a voluntary gift, or as a customary gratuity for such service, we cannot tell : the Nabob asserts the former, the Rajah the latter. We believe, as we have already observed, that nothing has ever been precisely ascertained on this subject between the Carnatick and Tanjore ; power has determined it in times past, and power should determine it now ; but as it is not altogether convenient at this time, for the reasons before given, we wrote to the Rajah in such terms as leaves the default open to future censure, but expressing our expectation that he comply with the article of the treaty concerning the Peshcush, which we have guaranteed ; to which letter we beg leave to refer*.*

9. With respect to the Nabob, we have thought it necessary to keep him in entire ignorance of your commands on this subject, being sensible that had he the least intimation of such a design, it would not long remain a secret ; and such an alarm to the Rajah might be as prejudicial, in the present state of affairs, as the actual attempt. Far therefore from giving the Nabob any room to expect any ho-

* Vide page 563.

stile measures on our part against the Rajah, we have represented to him, *as we think the fact is, that the Rajah has thus presumed to delay his payment, upon the encouragement which he draws from the apparent disunion of the Company and the Nabob, and the real weakness of both, resulting from the Nabob's refusing us in our distress the aid of money, without which the military power, which is in our hands, must be inactive, and by his obstinate opposition to the arrangements recommended in your commands to us in respect to his private debts, creating thereby and supporting a general ferment in the colony.*

A P P E N D I X.

N U M B E R XXVI.

Extracts of the Proceedings of the Select Committee and of the President and Council at Fort St. George, relative to an Expedition against the Great and Little Marawars, (or Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars) in the Year 1772.

Extract of Proceedings of the Select Committee at Fort St. George, Thursday, 7th November, 1771.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

Warren Hastings

Samuel Ardley.

Read a letter from the Nabob, received the 3d instant.

From the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Du Pré, dated and received 3d November 1771.

I N my former letters I acquainted you of the state of dependence and subjection in which the Marawar and Nalcooty Zemindars, and also Tondiman, were in to the Governors of Trichinopoly during the time of the Rajahs of that place. Their state of subjection and obedience was such, that if the Rajah either ordered them upon any service, or sent for them to him, the same was immediately complied with; and in case of neglect of any business, or the bringing of a less force than what was established, in the same manner as deductions are made from the pay of servants, the Rajahs used to take credit in the revenues of the districts intrusted to those Zemindars, and to receive their Peshcush likewise. In consequence

consequence of the Rajah of Tanjore proceeding against them, and their repeated requests in the most pressing manner for assistance, I addressed the Governor and Council several times on this subject, and got a force sent, owing to which the Rajah returned; and it was merely on that account that the army, with my Son Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder was sent against Tanjore: but notwithstanding I wrote to those Zemindars to assist me with provisions and their troops, neither the Marawar nor Nalcooty Zemindars sent to the army a single man, or supplied it from their countries with a single grain of provision; and, contrary to the spirit of obedience, do not pay their stated Peshcush: besides, they keep in their woods the insolent Colleries, and notorious thieves of the Madura and Tinnevely countries, who, through the support and protection of those Zemindars, molest the inhabitants of the villages of those countries in the cultivation of the lands, and hold in their possession some districts belonging to Madura, which were before in mine: I am desirous therefore, by God's blessing, of sending my Son afore-mentioned, with full powers to punish those Zemindars, and to put under his orders four battalions of Sepoys, and the horse in the Circar's service; flattering myself at the same time, that out of your real favour and kindness, and in consideration of the tranquillity of the country and the ease of the inhabitants, you will empower the General to send a few soldiers and artillery-men, and some heavy pieces of cannon, together with some battalions of Sepoys, (as many as my Son and the General shall think proper) to go with my Son under the command of some one, or that the General may go himself;—that I may in consequence of this write to my Son to prepare himself for the punishment of the said Marawar and Nalcooty Zemindars, and the destroying the places they have possessed themselves of; also that I may write to the Rajah of Tanjore and Tondiman to send their troops to accompany him. As it is necessary that these orders should be received while the army is in the parts they now are, the sooner you favour me, by sending away the orders to the General, I shall esteem it as proceeding from the sincerity of your regard.

What can I say more?

The President acquaints the Committee, that the Nabob yesterday morning earnestly requested, that the Board would immediately come to some resolution on the subject of the above letter, while the troops are now collected in the South, that he might send the necessary instructions to his Son, and call on the Rajah of Tanjore and Tondiman to send their troops; but when the President desired to be informed what were the Nabob's intentions in this expedition, *he said that he meant to extirpate those Polligars entirely.*

The Committee think it unnecessary at present to enter into a discussion of the propriety or expediency of complying with the Nabob's requisition; especially as matters are not yet, we understand, finally concluded at Tanjore, and nothing can we apprehend be attempted during the rains; and by the time they are over, we may be able to determine, from the situation of affairs between the Marattas and Hyder Ally, how far it may be prudent to undertake an expedition. In the

mean time we are of opinion, that General Smith should be instructed to obtain the best information he can with regard to the nature of the country, the number and strength of the forts, what troops are kept up by the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars, and the force that will be required to reduce them, and to advise us thereof; giving his opinion at the same time, whether it be more advisable to attempt it immediately, or wait until the rains are over, that we may take our measures accordingly, should it be thought prudent to undertake the expedition either during or after the rains. And as the giving the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars any alarm may be attended with bad consequences, whether we do or do not resolve to proceed against them, General Smith is to be desired to be careful that the intimation given him do not transpire.

RESOLVED, That the Nabob's letter and the above Minute be communicated to the Board, and if approved, that advice be sent to General Smith accordingly.

Jof. Du Pré
Warren Hastings
Saml. Ardley.

A T A CONSULTATION, Thursday, 7th November, 1771.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

Warren Hastings	Samuel Ardley
John Smith	George Stratton
Henry Brooke	<hr style="width: 50px; border: 0.5px solid black;"/>
John Whitehill	George Mackay.

THE Select Committee lay before the Board the letter from the Nabob dated the 3d instant*, desiring that a force may be sent against the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars, with the opinion of the Committee thereon, as recited in their Minutes of this day, in which the Board concur: conformable to which, a paragraph is inserted in the draught of the letter now prepared to be sent to General Smith, as entered in the subsequent Diary.

Jof. Du Pré
Warren Hastings
John Smith
Geo. Stratton
Henry Brooke
John Whitehill
Geo. Mackay.

* Vide Page 941.

944 EXPEDITION AGAINST MARAWAR AND NALCOOTY IN 1772.

Extract of Letter from the President and Council at Fort St. George to General Smith, dated 7th November, 1771.

THE Nabob hath informed us, that the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars, although they were summoned to attend with their troops on the late expedition, neither did so, nor furnished any supplies of provisions ; for which, and other misdemeanors, he desires the Company's assistance to call them to account. We desire you will give us your opinion upon this subject ;—what places of strength they possess ;—what forces ;—what artillery and stores may be necessary to reduce them to obedience ;—whether an expedition for that purpose can with propriety be now immediately undertaken ; —what time it may require ;—or whether it will be more advisable to defer it 'till the expected rains are over.

We wish to have this proposition of the Nabob's, and this our application to you on the subject, kept secret ; for as we are by no means resolved to undertake such an expedition, nor have we had time or opportunity to consider of the propriety or expediency of such an undertaking, it might be of great prejudice if those Polligars should be alarmed with the apprehensions of such an intention. But not being sufficiently acquainted with their strength and resources, we wish to be assisted by such informations as you may be able to give us, that we may be the better prepared to form a judgment at a proper time.

Extract of Letter from the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Du Pré, dated 13th November, 1771.

ENCLOSED I send you an extract of a letter from Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, advising of the Marawar, &c. not having sent their assistance 'till the conclusion of peace ; also a copy of a letter received from the Marawar, by which you will see how much artifice the said Zemindars possess, and how falsely they write. I some time ago wrote to you, desiring you would send an order to General Smith respecting their punishment ; and as the troops are now assembled near to their country, the sooner the order goes the better ; give me leave to request it therefore of you.

What can I say more ?

Extract of a Letter from Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder to the Nabob, dated 28th October, 1771.

THE insolence of the Marawar and Nalcooty Zemindars is come to that pass as exceeds description ; they neither came themselves to the army, nor assisted it with the smallest thing ; and have wrote me letters besides, setting forth they should take possession of their own country themselves ; and it is said, indeed, that
the

the Marawar Zemindar has taken possession of the Fort of Armogam. For these reasons, I shall write to them the day after to-morrow, telling them, that, by God's blessing, the Circar's business has been finished without the assistance of any Country Power, that the army will now return to Trichinopoly, and there is no occasion for their coming. If your Highness proposes taking Ramnaut and the Nalcooty Man's country, when can there be a finer army collected together than the present? If an order therefore from the Governor and Council to the General, agreeable to the order they gave in writing respecting Tanjore, is received here, and your Highness, out of your favour and goodness, will intrust me with this expedition on the part of the Circar, by God's blessing, I will conquer them both in a very little time. Should your Highness's pleasure be towards this, let the Governor write to the General, to take with him whatever troops I may desire and recommend to him; for there is no occasion for so many officers and Europeans, and *they** add to the expense. The rains will be near over by the time the army arrives at Trichinopoly and have pitched their tents there, as the former will certainly take ten or fifteen days.

Copy of a Letter from Batchy Pilla (Dalawaure to Satputty Marawar) to the Nabob. Received by the Nabob, 10th November, 1771.

I HAD the honour to advise your Highness lately of the transactions here particularly; from which, and the representation of Subyah, Son of Cauwaury Rungah, Vackeel, your Highness is probably acquainted therewith. Conformable to your Highness's orders, I sent with Rehemaun Ally Khan, my Son, with some troops and some merchants belonging to this country, also 1000 sheep for the victorious army employed upon the expedition against Tanjore, as your Highness has probably been advised before by letters from me and the said Rehemaun Eaur Khan. I am both night and day ready for the Circar's business, and exerting myself therein. By God's blessing, and your Highness's auspices, after the victorious army had set down before Tanjore, I went with my troops, and recovered the whole of the country which the Rajah of Tanjore had before taken from us; I flatter myself therefore that your Highness will shower down your favours upon me, who for this long time have been as a Son to your Highness, and issue positive orders to the Rajah of Tanjore, not to give me any molestation or trouble about this country; and that I may be honoured also with having the same confirmed to me by your Highness, and thereby have my mind entirely at ease. I shall comply with your Highness's orders in whatever business it be. I have no help or support but your Highness; your Highness's countenance and favour therefore are necessary in every shape.

I have mentioned this as in duty bound.

* The word *they* is not in the copy.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 18th November, 1772.

Extract of Letter from General Smith to the President and Council, dated Camp, 3 Miles W. of Vellum. 12th November, 1771.

I AM a total stranger to the Marawar country, having never been employed in those parts, but I shall endeavour to gain the best information with respect to his strength, forts, the nature of the country, and such other points as may be requisite to know ere any expedition can take place, and inform you thereof. It is most certain, that they have not yielded the Nabob the least assistance during the siege, nor did they appear 'till all was over.

AT A SELECT COMMITTEE, Thursday, 21st November, 1771.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

Warren Hastings

Samuel Ardley.

THE President acquaints the Committee, that the Nabob had been very earnest in pressing the expedition against the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars; that he had not been able to give the Nabob any determinate answer thereupon, as the Committee had deferred entering into a discussion of the propriety or expediency of the measure, at least until General Smith could give us his opinion on the several points recommended to his enquiry and consideration in the letter from the Board of the 7th instant*. The President further acquaints the Committee, that he has this day received a letter from General Smith, dated the 17th, advising, that he had not yet been able to obtain the information required by the Board regarding the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars, but hoped in a short time to be able to furnish the Board with the necessary information on this head. That as the Nabob is continually pressing him, the President, on the subject, he thinks it necessary that the Committee should no longer delay taking the matter under their consideration, that he may be enabled to give the Nabob such answers as may be conformable to the sentiments of the Committee.

The Committee thereupon now proceed to enter into a discussion of the propriety and expediency of complying with the Nabob's requisition, in sending a force immediately to reduce the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars.

The principal objection which occurs to the undertaking that or any other expedition at this juncture, is the probability of the Marattas entering the Province while our troops are employed at such a distance, as to prevent our assembling a sufficient force to oppose their ravages; and we have all reason to believe

that the designs of the Marattas are to invade this country, unless the Nabob can find means to compromise with them for a sum of money.

However striking this objection may at first view appear, we think it is not of sufficient weight to prevent our taking immediate measures for reducing the Marawar and Nalcoory Poligars to a proper state of subjection, if their reduction be advisable in other respects.

We have frequently in our proceedings expressed our opinion, drawn from experience in the late war, that were our force in infantry much greater than it is, we could never hope to prevent the ravages of horse; and were all our troops collected in the most advantageous stations, a few thousand cavalry would over-run the country, without our being able effectually to hinder their depredations. The force required for the present service, will not oblige us to leave our garrisons so bare as to expose them to danger; and there is no reason to suppose that the Marattas will venture to bring heavy artillery to attempt the reduction of any of them; they well know such an attempt would expose them to a defeat, and to the loss of their guns and baggage: their views will be confined to plunder, and the obtaining a sum of money from the Nabob.

Had the expedition against Tanjore been undertaken at that season of the year when it was first proposed, we are of opinion still, as we were then, that the Marattas would have made an effort to assist the Tanjoreans. Our advices from the Maratta army, for some time past, mention the pressing instances of the Rajah of Tanjore to Trimbeck Row for immediate assistance, and his promises of giving it. By our last intelligence we are informed, that bills for a very considerable sum, sent by the Rajah, were received by Trimbeck Row; who having thereupon called a council, it was resolved to leave a part of the army to oppose Hyder, and to march with the rest to the relief of Tanjore. But it must be observed, that the letters which accompanied those remittances, represented the siege of Tanjore as advancing, and the place to be in great danger of falling, if not speedily relieved; and at the receipt of the letters it was not known in the Maratta army that a peace was concluded; we remain therefore in doubt whether, upon the receipt of the news of the peace, the Marattas will desist from the above-mentioned intentions of entering the Payen Ghaut or not. If they should pursue that design, we must in a very few days hear further of their motions; and if they should pass the Ghauts, it is certain we must for the present desist from all thoughts of reducing the Marawar and Nalcoory Poligars, and collect a force nearer the center. If, upon the news of a peace with Tanjore, they should desist for the present, but still keep in reserve their design of invading the Payen Ghaut, which we still think most probable; in that case it is not likely they will carry that intention into execution 'till the latter end of January or February, unless they should sooner conclude a peace with Hyder. Our reason for this opinion is, that from January to May an army of Marattas might best be subsisted in the province, and their ravages would be most severely felt; the crops being then on the ground, part unreaped, and part in stacks,

and

and but little secured in the forts : if therefore it were in our power, with infantry, to *prevent* their ravages, we may hope that the expedition proposed against Marawar will be over before the time comes, when the depredations of the Marattas are most to be apprehended.

We come now to consider,—How far it is consistent with the interest of the Company, in their present system with the Nabob, to assist him in reducing the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars to a proper state of dependency ;—and we are clearly of opinion, that whether the power of the Carnatick be in the hands of the Nabob, or the Company, it is equally for the interest of the Company that the several Polligars should be kept in such a state of subjection, as to prevent their being able to raise any disturbances or troubles in the country. The Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars, have been generally looked upon as ill affected towards the Nabob's government ; and their late conduct, in declining to send any assistance to the army before Tanjore, evidently shews that they were not well-wishers to the enterprize : not that they bear any good will to Tanjore, which would equally excite their jealousy were it to attain an independency, but because the Nabob's power becomes dangerous to them as it becomes stronger ; there needs no argument to prove it. These Polligars affect independence, but being tributaries of the Trichinopoly Circar, the Nabob's aim is to divest them of all power, and to reduce them to a state in which they may be easily controlled ; they know it, and, from a dread of his increasing power, there is little reason to doubt but they would have availed themselves of the first favourable opportunity of joining with the Rajah, or any other enemy, in any attempt against the Nabob, by which they might hope to render themselves less dependent. And altho' the forts of Vellum and Coiladdy, being in the hands of the Nabob, is a great check on the Rajah's conduct at present ; yet we may look upon it as certain, that he will not remain easy under such restraint, but will take the first favourable opportunity, either by an alliance with the French, or some other Power, to acquire his former influence ; in which we may expect the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars will join, with a view of securing their own independence ; and which they may do to a great advantage, by an attack on the Madura country, if measures are not taken to prevent them.

The foregoing reasons, together with the repeated orders of the Court of Directors for our supporting the Nabob's government, and rendering him respectable in the eyes of the Country Powers, induce the Committee to be of opinion, that the expedition should be undertaken without loss of time. But we are at the same time of opinion, that we ought to govern ourselves by the spirit of the Company's orders, under date the 4th March 1767, par. 3.—and consequently, that the total extirpation of the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars should not be the object proposed ; *which we believe to be the Nabob's real intention* ; but only to reduce them to a proper state of subjection and obedience, by seizing their forts and strong-holds, and by such other means, as to prevent their being able to with-hold their stated Peshcush, or to become troublesome in future. We are of opinion that this declaration should be made to the Nabob on our part, and a promise desired on his, that he will not compromise

or make up matters with them before the work is completed, by subjecting them in the manner proposed, unless we shall concur with him in the necessity of desisting. If therefore the Nabob can be brought to consent to the above proposition. viz To confine our operations solely to the reducing the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars to a proper state of dependency, without proceeding to an entire extirpation of them; and not to make up matters until they are so reduced; but that the Officer commanding the expedition shall have full power to carry on his operations in such a manner as he shall judge will best answer our views:—in that case, we are of opinion, that provisional instructions should be prepared and sent to General Smith;—if it appears to him, from the accounts he may receive of the nature of the country, the number and strength of the forts and forces of the Polligars, that they may be so reduced by the month of January at the farthest; in such case, that he do immediately set about making the necessary preparations for carrying the same into execution.

AGREED, That this Minute be communicated to the Board; and if approved by them, that the President be desired to confer with the Nabob on the subject.

Jos. Du Pré
Warren Hastings
Saml. Ardley.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday, 25th November, 1771.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

Warren Hastings
John Smith
Henry Brooke
John Whitehill

Samuel Ardley
George Stratton
———
George Mackay.

THE Select Committee communicate to the Board their Minutes of the 21st instant, respecting the Nabob's requisition for undertaking the expedition against the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars, and containing the sentiments of the Committee thereon, in which the Board acquiesce; the President is therefore desired to confer with the Nabob on the two points to be settled with him, should the expedition take place.

(Signed)

Jos. Du Pré
Warren Hastings

John Smith
Geo. Stratton
Henry Brooke
John Whitehill
Geo. Mackay.

950 EXPEDITION AGAINST MARAWAR AND NALCOOTY IN 1772.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday, 2d December, 1771.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Prie Esquire, Governor, President.	Samuel Ardley.
Warren Hastings	Geo Stratton.
John Smith	— — — —
Henry Brooke	— — — —
John Whitehill	Geo. Mackay.

Extract of Letter from General Smith to the President and Council, dated, Trichinopoly, 23d November, 1771.

THE recent example that has been made of the Rajah of Tanjore, and the narrow escape he has had, little short of his entire reduction, should, I conceive, give the Nabob such influence over the Marawar Polligars, that they will dread his resentment, and rather accept of terms, than be so very impolitic to run the risk of being compelled to a compliance, or perhaps totally reduced; but if it should prove otherwise, and your Honour, &c. come to a resolution to undertake the expedition, I think the sooner it is set on foot the better. The capital of the great Marawar is called Ramanadaporam, distance from hence about 50 cofs. The fort has a very good wall, a ditch about 12 foot deep full of water, no Fausse-braye, and but an indifferent Glacis; is said to have forty guns, chiefly Malabar, and all badly provided with carriages, except a few. The garrison consists of 300 horse, as many Sepoys, and four thousand pike and match-lock men. He has several forts of less consideration. The Nalcooty or little Marawar's capital is called Trippatoor, distance from hence about 30 cofs, not so strong as Ramanadaporam, lies within eight cofs of our march to that place, and by all accounts will be the most troublesome to reduce.

All the information I have been able to procure is from Hircars, and scarcely two of them agree in any one particular; but from the whole I may venture to conclude, that little is to be apprehended from the strength of their forts or forces; though it is said they can bring 10 thousand men into the field. The greatest inconvenience is the distance thence from our magazines, and the difficulties we may labour under for provisions; for if the means of supporting the troops be not provided, there is no answering for our success when those are uncertain. We shall have thirty cofs to march into the Marawar country after we leave Tondiman, yet he might be very useful in assisting us with provisions, if he should be heartily in our interest.

It is impossible for me to form any exact judgment of the time such an expedition might require; our marches will be interrupted with defiles, and in some places we shall have the road to open thro' woods for our guns to pass; however, I imagine it may be concluded in six or seven weeks.

I think the troops to be employed on this expedition, should consist of Captains Matthews' and Rumley's cavalry, six hundred European infantry rank and file, four bat-

battalions of Sepoys, with their field artillery, and six pieces of heavy cannon well manned, with a sufficient supply of stores, which I might now estimate, but will be better able to judge of on the return of some spies I have sent into the Marawar country. Much will depend on the Nabob, as to the means of conveyance, and providing the troops with what supplies of grain and other provisions they may require; which it will rest with your Honour, &c. to settle with him in such manner, that our operations may not be impeded from any deficiencies in that very essential article.

The President's Minute.

WITH respect to the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars, the President acquaints the Board, that the Nabob has acquiesced in the propositions made to him, agreeable to the resolution of last consultation, provided the expedition takes place; but that he thought it were better deferred for the present, on account of the threatened invasion of the Carnatick.

Jos. Du Pré
Warren Hastings
John Smith
Geo. Stratton
Henry Brooke
John Whitehill
Geo. Mackay.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Friday, 3d April, 1772.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

John Smith

George Stratton.

John Whitehill

George Mackay.

—————
Charles Smith.

LETTER from the Nabob read, containing an account of the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars, and desiring that the expedition may be immediately undertaken against them.

From the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Du Pré, dated 31st March, and received 1st April, 1772.

IN the district of the great Marawar there are two forts, Ramanaut and Hanamantagoody; the latter of which was taken by the Rajah of Tanjore, and is of no great strength: there are besides some small Guddas, to reduce which a large force is not required. The whole of this country is a plain. In the year of the Hegyra, 1162, I was employed by my father in the reduction of the fort of Ramanaut and the country of the Marawar, in consequence of his disturbances and refractory behaviour; accordingly I erected batteries against that fort, and it was very near falling into my hands, when, with my father's permission, in consequence of the strong report of the coming of Hidayet Mehyecdeen Khan and Chunda, supported by the

French,

French, I settled the matter with him, and returned to Trichinopoly. The fort of Ramanaut is not very strong, for the Rajah of Tanjore reduced it to the last extremity; and his withdrawing from thence was owing to his apprehensions at the arrival of the English forces at Trichinopoly, and the advancement of my troops in the parts about Madura. By God's blessing, as soon as the above fort of Ramanaut is taken, Hanamantagoody and all the small Guddas will with ease be reduced; by the terror of which also possibly the Nalcooty Zemindar will run away without fighting: should he however oppose us, by God's blessing there are many roads into his country, in which there is a small wood; and as soon as the fort of Trivatore, which is not very strong, is taken, the whole of his country will fall into our hands. From your kindness to me, I flatter myself, that as, in Mr. Palk's government, the taking of Vengole and Pulnand countries lying on a plain, and the reduction of Worriarpollam situated in a wood, were accomplished, although the run-away Zemindars of Vengole were in truth the bravest of all the Polligars in the Carnatick; so in your time, by God's blessing, the conquest of the Marawar and Nalcooty countries will also be effected.

What can I say more?

In consequence of which the following letter was wrote to General Smith:

To Brigadier-General Joseph Smith, Commanding Officer of the Troops on the Coast.

S I R,

UPON the representations which were made to us by the Nabob immediately after the Tanjore expedition, we intimated to you the probability that it might be necessary to assist the Nabob in reducing the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars; and we therefore desired you to obtain the best information you could of their strength, and give us your opinion of the force you should judge necessary for that service. In your letter of the 23d November last †, you communicated to us your opinion on this subject, founded on such information as you had then been able to obtain. The hostile appearance of the Marattas on the borders of the Carnatick made it necessary to suspend the intended operations against those Polligars for a time, and various circumstances have continued that suspense 'till now that the Nabob hath renewed his application to us for assistance. We are not furnished with sufficient information to judge of the practicability of such an expedition at this season of the year; you who are in the South, and may take measures for obtaining precise intelligence, may be best able to judge; but that you may have the best and all the information we can procure, we desired the Nabob would give us in writing his ideas of the strength of the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars: he has done so in a letter the 31st March, copy whereof we enclose for your information. It does not furnish us with sufficient knowledge to guide us in ascertaining the force that may be necessary; we therefore refer it to your consideration, and desire that you will digest it, with such informations as you may have obtained; and having done so, we leave it to you to concert with Omdat-ul-Omrah Bahader the force that may be necessary for this intended service, taking into the account such of the Nabob's forces, both cavalry and infantry, that are intended to be employed on it, of which the detail will be communicated to you by Omdat-ul-Omrah

battalions of Sepoys, with their field artillery, and six pieces of heavy cannon well manned, with a sufficient supply of stores; which I might now estimate, but will be better able to judge of on the return of some spies I have sent into the Marawar country. Much will depend on the Nabob, as to the means of conveyance, and providing the troops with what supplies of grain and other provisions they may require; which it will rest with your Honour, &c. to settle with him in such manner, that our operations may not be impeded from any deficiencies in that very essential article.

The President's Minute.

WITH respect to the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars, the President acquaints the Board, that the Nabob has acquiesced in the propositions made to him, agreeable to the resolution of last consultation, provided the expedition takes place; but that he thought it were better deferred for the present, on account of the threatened invasion of the Carnatick.

Jos. Du Pré
 Warren Hastings
 John Smith
 Geo. Stratton
 Henry Brooke
 John Whitehill
 Geo. Mackay.

*From the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Du Pré, dated and received
 21st February, 1772.*

ENCLOSED I send for your information a letter I have received from Mahomed Ausim Khân, under date the 13th instant. Thanks to the Almighty, that the scheme for throwing at a distance the disturbances of the Marattas has now taken effect, and thereby the uneasiness we laboured under of their army penetrating into the Carnatick removed. The letters which Mahomed Ausim Khân mentions to have dispatched to me before are not yet arrived, when they do I shall advise you of their contents. At our last interview you asked, when shall we receive advices of peace with the Marattas, that you might distribute the Company's troops into different places, and dismiss the bullocks, &c. entertained on account of the Tanjore expedition, and thereby lessen the expenses. Since, by God's blessing, as we proposed so it is come to pass; I am to request, from your kindness to me, that you will from this time exert yourself in ordering the Company's troops to places where the expense of their Batta may be lessened, and in dismissing the bullocks, &c. As you well know the debts I labour under, and the little rain which has fallen in the country, you will lessen the Batta of the soldiers also at Trichinopoly as much as possible, that I may thereby be eased in the expenses through your kindness.

In my letter of the 3d of November last, I informed you of the particulars of both the Marawar Zemindars' not assisting in the Tanjore expedition, either with troops or provisions; besides which, they have also re-possest themselves of the country the Rajah of Tanjore took from them; and the few troops which they sent after the Tanjore expedition was over went away of their own accord; of all which their insolence you are not acquainted. When Mahomed Aufim Khan therefore took leave of me, I told him, that if the negotiation for peace with the Maratta Chiefs took effect according to our wish, he should immediately advise me thereof, as it was necessary those Zemindars should be punished agreeable to their deserts; accordingly the said Khan, directly on the Marattas' departure for the Balaghaut, advised me thereof. My views, by God's blessing, are, that herein no time be lost; and in consequence I have wrote to Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder to go to those parts with the Circar's troops: your favour also in this business is necessary, to assist Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder with as many of the Company's troops as you may be able, or may be proper, agreeable to what you were so good as to agree to before. The remainder of the Company's troops should not be kept together at one place, for then there will be a great crowd; but they should be divided, and stationed at Cuddalore, the several places in the Company's Jaghire, Madras, and also the Circar's forts, through apprehension of the disturbances of the Marattas. In consequence of your desire, I gave orders for the collecting together a number of sheep, &c. for the keeping ready of rice in different places; accordingly, of the sheep collected together, a great number have died, and I have lost a great deal by the rice; respecting the remainder of both the sheep and rice, whatever you may write to me, that I shall do.

What can I say more?

Paragraph of a Letter from Mahomed Aufim Khan to the Nabob, relating to the Marattas, dated 13th February, 1772.

I HOPE your Excellency has received the letter which I addressed to you on the 5th instant, and are acquainted thereby with what passed the first day, since which, from the 6th to the 13th, I wrote to you a full account of what passed, acquainting you of a peace, and delivered it to a Camel-man, which I hope is brought to you by the way of Vencataghery and Sautgudda. I must inform your Excellency, that Trimbeck Row and Mararow are become firm friends to your Excellency and the Company; all the Sardars of the army declared themselves in your friendship. The money you gave on account of the Zeafut or entertainment, as well as the presents of cloth, &c. were divided little by little among all the Sardars, Managers, and Muttasfaddies; they were vastly pleased, and thought themselves under an obligation at receiving the Admiral's letter and the Governor's presents, and said that very few people had treated them with such kindness and civility as they had met with from the said Gentlemen. By the blessing of God a peace has taken place at present, and we are freed from apprehensions. In reality Hyder's country was saved by your means: they wanted to halt their army at Kistnaghery, and send their parties as far as Guntoor and Dindegul; but considering that it will be disagreeable to you, because the Pundaras, of common robbers in the

the camp, cannot be kept under command, notwithstanding the strict injunctions that may be laid upon them, and in consequence the inhabitants of the Circar's country will be dispersed; and moreover being informed of all these circumstances both from Madarow and myself, they declined to halt at the said place, but proceeded to the Balaghaut country: you may therefore begin the wedding of your Son, and send a detachment to join Ramanalla Khân, and Captain Budden, who were ordered upon the expedition against Marawar, and punish him; don't lose the time. By the blessing of God, as the army is in readiness at Trichinopoly, it may be fitted out in a week, and the bullocks are also ready in the Circar's service. You'll be pleased to send your orders to the Circar's country to send in the money, and to free themselves from the apprehensions which they had conceived.

From the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Du Pré, dated and received, 4th March, 1772.

IT is an established custom in every country, for tributary dependants, as long as they remain such, after due payment of their tribute, to expend the profit arising from their lands upon themselves, giving their relations and companions a share thereof; such dependants likewise attend on the service of their Lord for the time being, and are not vested with power, without the order of such their Lord, to give a stranger any settlement in their districts, in order that thereby no disturbances may be raised in the country. What the Marawar has done, in contradiction to this established custom, the enclosed paper will shew; it is right therefore, considering your kindness to me, that you should order General Smith to proceed with such troops as he may desire, in conjunction with my Son Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, to punish and expel the two Marawars; and the sooner this is done the better.

What can I say more?

An Account of the Circar Army now at Tondy, belonging to Marawar.

THE Circar army, consisting of 800 horse and 2000 Sepoys, with stores of war, lay encamped at Tondy with great care, situated within five Cofs to the north of Davypatam, alias Nowpaugan, making intrenchments with the Palmeirs, and erecting batteries, and mounting guns upon them. They never plunder the countries on that side, nor injure the inhabitants thereof. Pitcha Pilla, Manager of Marawar and Ramanaut, with a body of 2000 Colleries, 100 horse, and 2000 Sepoys, lay encamped at Davypatam, within five Cofs of the Circar army. Sankar Linga Pilla, nephew to Tandavaroy Pilla, Manager belonging to Nalcooty, with a body of 2000 Colleries, &c. fixed his camp to the eastward, within the distance of eight Cofs from the Circar army. It is about a month and a half since a smart engagement happened between the Circar army and that of Marawar; great part of the said Marawar's troops were killed and wounded, which put Pitcha Pilla into confusion; and so he wrote to the Faringees at Keelcara, belonging to the Dutch, in the bounds of Marawar, informing them of the treaty that hath been made before between Marawar and them, whereby they were bound to assist in time of need; that their Superior has also

*952 EXPEDITION AGAINST MARAWAR AND NALCOOTY IN 1772.

also wrote to them upon that subject, and that they should therefore yield their assistance in that critical time: upon which the said Faringees, out of regard to their engagement, sent a party of 150 horsemen, &c. from Keelcara to the assistance of Marawar; but in the interim the said Pilla sent word to the Faringees, that there was no occasion to send the assistance, that he would finish his affairs with the Circar by one way or other; so that they should recall their troops, if they had already sent them, as he would call for them when it may be necessary: on this the Chief at Keelcara recalled those horsemen, &c. Formerly an agreement was made between the Dutch and Marawar, that there should be no fort built at Keelcara, besides the Factory-house, surrounded with a square wall, which stands from old times. Now Marawar agreed to permit them to build a large and strong fort like to that of Negapatnam round the said factory, and to furnish them with materials for that purpose, in consideration of which the Dutch were to assist them upon occasion. Marawar, in performance of his agreement, measured out a spot of ground, and delivered it to the Dutch, in order to build a fort at Keelcara, in the same form of the fort of Negapatnam, so that the Dutch are now collecting the materials to build it. Besides which, about two months ago, the Chief at Tootogoreen went to Pitcha Pilla, Manager of Marawar, negotiated and agreed with him to write to the Governor of Colombo, and send for an assistance of 1500 Europeans, and the same number of the Malays; and he accordingly wrote to the said Governor upon that head: now the said troops from Colombo are arrived at the island of Mannargoody.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Friday, 3d April, 1772.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

John Smith

George Stratton

John Whitehill

George Mackay

Charles Smith.

LETTER from the Nabob read, containing an account of the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars, and desiring that the expedition may be immediately undertaken against them.

From the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Du Pré, dated 31st March, and received 1st April, 1772.

In the district of the great Marawar there are two forts, Ramanaut and Hanamantagoody; the latter of which was taken by the Rajah of Tanjore, and is of no great strength: there are besides some small Guddas, to reduce which a large force is not required. The whole of this country is a plain. In the year of the Hegyra 1162, I was employed by my father in the reduction of the fort of Ramanaut and the country of the Marawar, in consequence of his disturbances and refractory behaviour;

haviour; accordingly I erected batteries against that fort, and it was very near falling into my hands, when, with my father's permission, in consequence of the strong report of the coming of Hidayet Mehyeddeen Khan and Chunda, supported by the French, I settled the matter with him, and returned to Trichinopoly. The fort of Ramanaut is not very strong, for the Rajah of Tanjore reduced it to the last extremity; and his withdrawing from thence was owing to his apprehensions at the arrival of the English forces at Trichinopoly, and the advancement of my troops in the parts about Madura. By God's blessing, as soon as the above fort of Ramanaut is taken, Hanamantagoody and all the small Guddas will with ease be reduced; by the terror of which also possibly the Nalcooty Zemindar will run away without fighting: should he however oppose us, by God's blessing there are many roads into his country, in which there is a small wood; and as soon as ever the fort of Tripatore, which is not very strong, is taken, the whole of his country will fall into our hands. From your kindness to me, I flatter myself, that as, in Mr. Palk's government, the taking of Vengole and Pulnaud countries lying on a plain, and the reduction of Worriarpollam situated in a wood, were accomplished, although the run-away Zemindars of Vengole were in truth the bravest of all the Polligars in the Carnatick; so in your time, by God's blessing, the conquest of the Marawar and Nalcooty countries will also be effected.

What can I say more?

In consequence of which the following letter was wrote to General Smith:

To Brigadier-General Joseph Smith, Commanding Officer of the Troops on the Coast.

S I R,

UPON the representations which were made to us by the Nabob immediately after the Tanjore expedition, we intimated to you the probability that it might be necessary to assist the Nabob in reducing the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars; and we therefore desired you to obtain the best information you could of their strength, and give us your opinion of the force you should judge necessary for that service. In your letter of the 23d November last†, you communicated to us your opinion on this subject, founded on such information as you had then been able to obtain. The hostile appearance of the Marattas on the borders of the Carnatick made it necessary to suspend the intended operations against those Polligars for a time, and various circumstances have continued that suspense 'till now that the Nabob hath renewed his application to us for assistance. We are not furnished with sufficient information to judge of the practicability of such an expedition at this season of the year; you who are in the South, and may take measures for obtaining precise intelligence, may be best able to judge: but that you may have the best and all the information we can procure, we desired the Nabob would give

† Vide Page 950.

us in writing his ideas of the strength of the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars; he has done so in a letter of the 31st March, copy whereof we enclose for your information. It does not furnish us with sufficient knowledge to guide us in ascertaining the force that may be necessary; we therefore refer it to your consideration, and desire that you will digest it, with such information as you may have obtained; and having done so, we leave it to you to consult with Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder the force that may be necessary for this intended service, taking into the account such of the Nabob's forces, both cavalry and infantry, that are intended by him to be employed on it, of which the detail will be communicated to you by Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder; and having done so, we desire you will take such measures as may be proper for having the troops you shall think necessary held in readiness for this service: and on this subject we have only to recommend, that the detachment may not be larger than in your judgment the service may require; and this as well from a motive of economy, as because the precedent may be inconvenient, and teach the Country Powers to undervalue a small force, when it may not be in our power to employ a greater. When you shall thus have ascertained the force proper for the service, we shall leave it to you to take the command of the expedition yourself, or to decline it, if the force should be such as may not require your presence; and in the latter case we shall appoint Colonel Sir Robert Fletcher to take the command; but in case you should take the command of it yourself, Sir Robert Fletcher is then to take charge of the garrison of Trichinopoly.

We are, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servants,

Fort St. George,
3d April, 1772.

JOS. DU PRÉ, &c. Council.

Extract of Letter from the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Du Pré, dated 3d, and received 4th April, 1772.

WHATEVER extraordinary charges on account of the expedition against the Marawar and Nalcooty Zemindars, or on account of the expeditions against other Polligars, may with my consent be contracted, of such charges you will be so kind to send me separate accounts, as I shall pay them to the Company apart.

What can I say more?

From the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Du Pré, dated and received 5th April, 1772.

ENCLOSED I send you a translation of a letter received by Goina Pilla, the turned out Dalawaure belonging to the Marawar; the said Goina Pilla is at Trichinopoly, and the letter was wrote by a relation of his who is with the Marawar.

What can I say more?

Translation

Translation of a letter from Shunkeram Pilla to his Relation Goina Pilla at Trichinopoly, dated at Ramanaut.

I HAVE already acquainted you of the particulars of the force assembling by the Rajahs of Marawar and Nalcooty, and of their putting their forts in order, after which they sent their Vackeel to the young Nabob. To day it is publicly reported, that the French ships are gone against Madras, and are fighting against that place; that the Governor of Pondicherry also is getting ready his troops, and would set out from thence. At hearing of which, the Rajah and the Dalawaure pleased, sent for Bramins, (whose office it is to offer up prayers to the Almighty) telling them that the great God had heard their prayers; and that they should make this farther prayer, to wit, that war might subside between their enemies, that they thereby might remain in quiet. After which, they distributed 2000 Chuckrams, and 500 pieces of Doolies, &c. amongst the Bramins; and asked the advice of the people, whether they should turn out or imprison the Moormen that were there on the part of the Nabob: that Hinumnaute Boockary said nothing ought to be done against him until certain advices were arrived. After which, it was determined to send a large force to oppose Zemaunnullau Khan and Captain Loudon, and to plunder their party, which would run away through terror of the French; accordingly seven thousand Collieries, with rockets, had been dispatched as an advanced corps, under the command of Dumpauee Pilla.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Friday, 17th April, 1772.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

John Smith

George Stratton

Henry Brooke

John Whitehill

Charles Smith

George Mackay.

Letter from General Smith, received the 14th instant, read as follows:

To the Honourable Josias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

I AM honoured with your commands of the 3d instant, enclosing a copy of a letter from His Excellency the Nabob; the contents of both were immediately communicated to the young Nabob, Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder; by whom I am informed, that there are in the Marawar country nine forts to be reduced that will require garrisons, and several others of less consideration; and that three or four of these forts might probably oblige us to break ground before them.

*954 EXPEDITION AGAINST MARAWAR AND NALCOOTY IN 1772.

The expense of ammunition that may be required cannot be ascertained, as that will depend on the resolution and strength of the different garrisons.

On consulting with the young Nabob on the number of the Company's troops that would be necessary for this expedition, and remarking to him His Excellency's opinion with respect to the Marawar strength, and also your's, that no greater force should be employed than was absolutely necessary; he observed, that if the intent of the expedition was merely to collect the tribute, a much smaller force than to make an entire conquest would be sufficient; but as it was his *father's* intentions to reduce those Polligars, *and take the possession of their country*, he thought nothing ought to be left to chance. I then mentioned 120 artillery-men, 400 European infantry, with three battalions of Company's Sepoys; which he proposed should be augmented with Captains Matthews' and Rumley's cavalry, with Alexander's and Loudon's battalions of Sepoys (the remainder of His Excellency's black infantry are only fit to garrison the forts as they may fall into our hands); and with a less force the young Nabob is of opinion the expedition ought not to be undertaken: indeed, from the best accounts I can procure, I am also of opinion the force he mentions will be necessary.

Reports from Tanjore say, that the Rajah is about to dismiss part of his cavalry, in order to assist the Polligars with them, without the appearance of his being concerned.

From all the information I have been able to obtain of the roads leading to the Marawar country, that by which the Rajah of Tanjore marched his troops is the only one at this season of the year which affords water sufficient for our army; and as the weather is grown intensely hot, a scarcity of that article would be terrible indeed.

I have given the necessary orders, that every department may be prepared and in readiness; the young Nabob is also making preparations, and presses me in the most earnest terms to accompany him on the expedition.

Aftermentioned is an estimate of the troops, &c. proposed for the field, and referred to your Honour, &c. for your determination and instructions respecting their operations.

I have the honour to be,

Honourable Sir and Sirs, with respect,

Your most obedient servant,

Trichinopoly Plain,
10th April, 1772.

JOSEPH SMITH.

Messieurs Stratton and Mackay dissent to the expedition being undertaken in the manner proposed by General Smith, and beg leave to enter their reasons for such their dissent in a subsequent Consultation, which is agreed to.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 20th April, 1772.

ORDERED, That Captain Pitman be appointed to proceed with the troops, as Engineer, on the expedition against the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday, 27th April, 1772.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

John Smith	George Stratton,
Henry Brooke	_____
John Whitehill	Charles Smith
George Mackay.	

Messieurs Stratton and Mackay having, in Consultation the 17th instant*, dissented to the expedition against the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars, as proposed by General Smith, now deliver in their reasons for such their dissent.

Mr. Mackay's Reasons for his Dissent to the Marawar Expedition.

I DISSENT to the expedition against the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars, as proposed in General Smith's letter of the 10th instant, and resolved on by the Majority on the 17th instant.

1st. Because, though I think it is evident that it will require more troops now to reduce those Polligars, as they have had so much time to prepare for their defence, than would have been necessary some months ago, when the expedition was first proposed to General Smith, and when he named a still greater force than he does at present; yet I am clearly of opinion, that the number of troops demanded by him for the expedition, in his letter now before the Board, is more than twice sufficient, and seems rather calculated for the rank and command of a General Officer, than for the service to be performed. It may be thought great presumption in me to give an opinion in military matters in opposition to that of the Commanding Officer of the troops, but I think I know pretty well the grounds I go upon; for added to the long experience I have had in India, which fully convinces me that irregular country troops are but a mere rabble when opposed even to the worst of our Sepoys, I know the sentiments of some of the principal officers of this establishment, and Officers of whole military abilities I believe the

* Vide Page 953.

Board have the highest opinion : and I have the satisfaction to find that they coincide nearly with my own with regard to the expedition in question.

2d. Because, as I wish to see that honour and reputation restored to our arms, (our greatest, and I may say, only security in this country) which for some time past has been greatly on the decline, by our miscarriages in the late war with Hyder Ally, and ill fortune before the walls of Tanjore, with the finest and best appointed armies that ever took the field in India, I cannot give my consent to our sending a General Officer, with such an army as in former times would have been thought sufficient, not only to oppose the greatest Country Powers, but even to humble the power of the French Nation on this Coast, in order to conquer a couple of insignificant Polligars, whose country, if in the Nabob's possession, might not be able to reimburse the charges of the expedition; and as he seems himself to be of opinion, that he could accomplish their reduction with his own troops, if he had but a few Europeans from the Company to join them, as appears by his letter to the President of the 3d November*, what reputation can we expect to gain if we succeed, and what disgrace must we suffer if we do not?

3d. Because, as the land winds will soon set in, the weather must be so extremely hot, that I fear most of the Europeans who go on this expedition will either die, or be rendered useless, through mere fatigue and the severity of the season, even if they meet with no other disasters; and the preservation of the few we have, and more particularly of the corps of artillery, on whom we are chiefly to depend in case of any troubles, and who have lately suffered so much by the explosion of the magazine at Trichinopoly, deserves the utmost attention of the Board.

4th. Because, though we are now at peace with all our neighbours, and may not have reason to apprehend a French war soon, notwithstanding the formidable force they have at the Islands; yet the Marattas are still in the Balaghaut, and should they either subdue Hyder, or make peace with him, it is not at all unlikely but that they may renew their claims on the Nabob for Chout and the arrears due to them. Trimbeck Row's last letter to the President plainly shews that they are dissatisfied with our conduct, in refusing them the assistance they wanted against Hyder; and the late signal advantages they have gained over the Rohillas may not only encourage them to treat us with still less ceremony than they did some time ago, but likewise to threaten our frontiers in Bengal: should these events take place, we should be greatly embarrassed how to act, when to considerable a part of our force is at so great a distance from us. For these reasons, I am for reserving our small resources of men and money for more important occasions than the present service.

5th. Because General Smith has been hitherto so very unfortunate in all his military operations, that I cannot bring myself to believe he will succeed even in this, so as to answer the expectations of this Board, or the Nabob. I was I believe the only Member at this Board, who seemed to have the least doubt about

the taking of Tanjore; I had my doubts however, and the event I think has shewn that they were not entirely groundless. If we should be unsuccessful in this expedition, though there are no Field Deputies with the army, the blame may be still laid on want of provisions, bad bullocks, and every other possible difficulty that might have existed. The Nabob, whatever fair promises he may now make in order to gratify his revenge on those Polligars, who must detest his Government, will then frame various excuses and delays to avoid paying the expenses of so large an army; and perhaps, as he has done lately on a similar occasion, write to His Majesty to be entirely relieved from it. All these circumstances well weighed, I leave it to the consideration of the Board, whether this is a proper time to burthen him with an additional debt, when, by his late engagement, he is to pay the Company for three years near eight Lacks of Pagodas a year, besides what he owes to his private creditors. That the young Nabob should so earnestly press General Smith to accompany him on this expedition is, I must confess, very inconsistent with his declarations, in the account he wrote to his father of the siege of Tanjore, and transmitted to the Court of Directors; and the only inference I can draw from such a contradiction is, that the people of this country in general, whatever they may think, are always desirous of saying what they believe will be most agreeable to those they are speaking to.

GEO. MACKAY.

Mr. Stratton.

I DO not agree to undertaking the expedition on the terms proposed in the General's letter for the following reasons:

1st. Because the Nabob, in his letter to the President dated 31st March*, represents the service as trifling, and points out the weakness of the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars to the following purport: viz.

That the forts of Ramanaut and Hanamantagoody are of no great strength; that the latter was taken by the Rajah of Tanjore, and the former reduced by him to the last extremity; that there are some small Guddas to reduce, which a large force is not required; that as soon as Ramanaut is taken, Hanamantagoody and all the small Guddas will with ease be reduced; that possibly the Nalcooty Zemindar will run away without fighting; that should he make any opposition, there are many roads into his country, in which there is a small wood; and as soon as ever the fort of Tripatore, which is not very strong, is taken, the whole of his country will fall into our hands.

2d. Because the employing so considerable a force on an occasion so trifling, appears to me to be in effect a sure method to debase still further the credit of our arms, which has suffered so much on former occasions.

* Vide page 932.

2d. Because

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3d. Because it appears to me that we should preserve our Europeans as much as possible; and I think this service might be effected with Sepoys, with the assistance of the artillery, at a season which is particularly unfavourable to Europeans.

4th. Because I think we ought to have a watchful eye on the French and on the Marattas; that our Europeans should not at this time be employed in the extremes of the Carnatick, and indeed that they ought never to be employed but on occasions where their services are absolutely necessary.

The President informs the Board, that he will deliver in his remarks on the above dissents at the next Consultation.

Extract of the Proceedings of the Governor and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Friday, 1st May, 1772.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

John Smith

George Stratton

Henry Brooke

John Whitehill

Charles Smith

George Mackay.

THE President acquaints the Board, that the Nabob had informed him, that as he should not be able to proceed immediately to Trichinopoly, as he had proposed, he had sent the necessary orders to his Son Omdat-ul-Omrah to take upon him the charge and superintendence of the expedition against the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars, and had desired that the same may be undertaken as soon as possible.

The President lays before the Board copy of the intelligence received by the Nabob, and transmitted to his Son, respecting the road, forts, &c. in the Marawar and Nalcooty districts.

An Account of the Roads in the District of Ramanautpoor.

THE distance between Tondy and Ramanautpoor is twenty cofs; in the road from Tondy to Eengurrapatam there are small woods. From Eengurrapatam, after you pass the river, for five cofs, it is part a wood, and part an open plain; and from Oopoopilesaugoody to Ramanautpoor, for the space of four cofs, is a plain. From Ramanautpoor to Tinnevely the road is as follows:

From Ramanautpoor the village of Trimungaw is five cofs distant; the road a plain, and therein are Tanks. From the Pagoda of Trimungaw the village of Shuckul is five cofs distant; in the road thereto there are some small woods.

From the village of Shuckul to that of Shauelgoody is twenty Cofs; in the road thereto, for the space of a Cofs and an half, is a wood.

From Shauelgoody to Moodaly's Choultry are four Cofs; for one and an half of which the wood is very thick, and then trifling. From Moodaly's Choultry, the village of Meel Maunda (the Pollam of Coojau Naigue, a Polligar of the Tinnevelly district) is two Cofs distant; in the road thereto you pass through a little wood.

From Meel Maunda, the village of Wubyaaur, in the Tinnevelly district, is two Cofs distant; in the road thereto is a great deal of wood. From Wubyaaur, the village of Cullatoor (the Pollam of Aunjee Naigue, a Polligar of the Tinnevelly district) is five Cofs distant; in the road thereto there is a great deal of wood. From Cullatoor, Nungaulcoorchy, the Tilla of Cutbema, Polligar of the said Nungaulcoorchy, is five Cofs distant; the road thereto is a plain.

From Nungaulcoorchy, the village of Pouwanly, in the Tinnevelly district, is a Cofs and a half; the road thereto has some small woods in it. From Pouwally to Tinnevelly there are six Cofs; the road thereto is an entire plain.

An Account of the Forts and Gadies of Stone and Mud, belonging to the Zemindar of Ramanautpoor.

THE said Ramanautpoor is the place of residence of the said Zemindar; and it has a stone fort, with a town wall, and with 44 bastions; it has a ditch without water, which comes in it in the rainy season only. There is an open field without the fort on all sides. There is a fresh water Tank, called Teppoogonta, within the fort. Every one of the said bastions is mounted with guns large and small, out of which there are four great Bangady guns, which carry shot as far as one Cofs; besides the guns upon the said bastions, there are about 50 guns in the said fort. There is a large Tank lying without the fort to the westward within the distance of a quarter of a Cofs; there is another Tank to the south side of the said fort; there is a Pettah to the eastward, and in which a great Pagoda, with a Tank called Teppoogonta, is situated; and to the north side there stands a Paddy field. The said fort lies within 20 Cofs from Tondy; and on the road to Tondy and Ramanautpoor there are little woods and open plains to be seen here and there.

Killuvanally is a mud Gady, and it has six bastions, without a ditch. There are little woods to be seen on all sides of the said Gady within the distance of one Cofs and a half; there are some fresh water wells within the said Gady, and the bastions are mounted with small guns. The distance between Tondy and the said Gady is five Cofs, and it is situated in the limits of Tanjore and Nalcooty.

The Gady of Armogamcotah has nine bastions, and it's wall and the bastions are built with stone, about a man's height, and on the top of which mud works are raised. There stands a ditch, in form of a small gutter, round the said Gady, and

woods are to be seen on all sides of the said Gady: there are some fresh water wells within the said Gady. The distance between Ramanautpoor and the said Gady is eight Cofs, and from Tondy twelve Cofs.

The Gady of Pautubcotah is built with stone, with four bastions, without a ditch; and it is situated within the distance of twenty Cofs from Ramanautpoor, and it is surrounded with a hedge of Gajacoy plants. The distance between the Sea of Ramanautpoor and the said Gady is one Cofs and a half. There stand little woods here and there round the said Gady, and there are some fresh water wells within it.

The Gady of Comarycotah is built with stone, with nine bastions, without a ditch; and it is very strong, and the bastions are mounted with guns, large and small; and it is surrounded on all sides with woods, as far as the distance of a musket shot. By reason of the thick woods the walls of the said Gady cannot be seen until one arrives near it. There is a fresh water well within the Gady, which lies within the distance of twelve Cofs to the westward of Ramanautpoor. There is a thick wood on the road from Ramanautpoor to the said Gady. Tondy is situated within 28 Cofs from the said Gady.

The Gady of Muttadcorchey is built with mud, with four bastions, without a ditch; there is a fresh water well within it, and there are woods round the same, within the distance of an half Cofs and a quarter Cofs. The distance from Ramanautpoor to the said Gady is twelve Cofs, and there is a thick wood on the road from Ramanautpoor to the said Gady. Tondy is situated within the distance of twenty-eight Cofs from that Gady.

The Gady of Purnally has nine bastions, and it's wall is built with mud, and the bastions with bricks. There is a fresh water well within it; two guns are mounted upon the bastion, there is an open field to be seen about the distance of five Cofs, on three sides of the said Gady, and on the fourth side an open field to be seen, about the distance of $1\frac{1}{2}$ Cofs. There stands a Tank near the said Gady, and the Pettah round it; and from which place Ramanautpoor is situated within the distance of 16 Cofs to the westward, and Tinnevelly is situated within the distance of twenty-four Cofs. This Gady is situated within the limits of the Tinnevelly country.

The Gady of Trigody has four bastions, without a ditch, and it lies within twenty-eight Cofs to the eastward of Tinnevelly. Ramanautpoor lies within twenty Cofs to the westward of the said Gady; there is a thick wood round it.

The Gady of Mulmuda is built with mud, with eight bastions, without a ditch; and there is a thorn hedge round it, and a river near: there is a fresh water well within, and woods round the said Gady; and it lies within twenty-four Cofs to the westward of Ramanautpoor: there is a large Pettah within the distance of a musket shot. The District of Mulmuda remained under the jurisdiction of Madura, in the

Government of the Gentoo Rajahs, and it remained also some time under the management of the Circar.

The Gady of Yarlachey, built with mud, with six bastions, without a ditch; and there is an open field on all sides, and a fresh water well within the said Gady; and it lies within twenty-eight Cofs to the westward of Ramanautpoor.

The Gady of Nudocaud and Nutcaud is built with mud, with four bastions, without a ditch; and there is an open field on all sides, and a fresh water well within it; and it lies within thirty Cofs from Ramanautpoor.

The Gady of Nundalgody is built with mud, with four bastions, without a ditch. There is a Tank called Teppoogonta to the westward near the said Gady; there lies a Lake to the north side, and a Pettah to the east side of the said Gady; an open field on all sides; and it lies within thirty-two Cofs from Ramanautpoor.

An Account of the Gadies and Roads in the country belonging to the Zemindar called Nalcooty.

IN the said country six Gadies are situated; out of which one is built with stone, and the other five are of mud, with square walls: the place of residence of the said Zemindar is here underwritten. There are many woods in the said country; several of them are full of thorns; a passage is opened through the woods. The Naut Collieries' places are adjoined to the said country; there are many Tanks and wells in the same; no scarcity of water.

Town of Sevaganga is a place of residence of the said Zemindar; and in the middle of which a square mud wall, without a bastion, is built by way of his palace; and round the said palace the houses of the Rachapoots, horsemen, &c. people of the said Zemindar, are situated. There are little woods within the distance of one Cofs; on all sides of the said town a thick wood is to be seen: from beyond two Cofs and a half of the said town no horses or horsemen can pass; but as there are roads open on all sides through the said wood, the people are passing and repassing by the same.

The Gady of Tripatore, built with stone, with eight bastions, is situated within the distance of seven Cofs to the north side of Sevaganga, and surrounded with a ditch on all sides, and its gate lies towards the west. There are some fresh water Tanks within the said Gady; a Tank called Teppoogonta lies to the north of the said ditch; a great lake lies to the west and south, under which there grows Paddy. There is a thick wood round the said Gady to the distance of half a Cofs and one Cofs. The limits of Tondiman lay within the distance of two Cofs; the bastions are mounted with guns large and small.

The

The Gady of Puttopallomcotah is built with mud, with six bastions, without a ditch; which is situated within the distance of three Cofs from Tripatore, eight Cofs from Sevaganga and Nuttom: round the said Gady there is a thick wood, within half a Cofs and one Cofs. The said Gady is a place of residence of Tandarooy Pilla, the Prime Minister of the said Zemindar.

The Gady of Paramala is built with mud, with four bastions, without a ditch; situated within the distance of eight Cofs from Nuttom, and twelve Cofs from Sevaganga. There is a mount near the said Gady, and round the said Gady there are many woods; on all sides several Bramins' houses. A Pagoda, and other people's houses are situated without the said Gady. There are several Naut Collieries' houses to be seen in the said woods.

The Gady of Hanamantagoody is built with mud, with six bastions, without a ditch; situated within the distance of four Cofs from the limits of Tanjore, and eight Cofs from the limits of Tondiman, and twelve Cofs from Sevaganga; Sooryancall Taver, one of the brothers of Voyda Taver, Zemindar of Nalcooty, and an enemy to him, resides in the said Gady. There are several woods on all sides round the said Gady, within the distance of one Cofs and $\frac{1}{2}$ Cofs. There are some fresh water Tanks within the said Gady, and a Pettah without.

A place called Calyagody is situated in the midst of the woods, eight Cofs from Sevaganga; there is a thick and large extent of woods round the said place, which makes it difficult for people to pass. Wodya Taver chose it as a place of his residence; in case of troubles he sends his family and effects there. A Pagoda is also situated in the said place; and it lies within twelve Cofs from Tondy. There is a Tank also called Teppoogonta, always full of water.

The Gady of Tripanom built with mud, with eight bastions, is situated within six Cofs to the westward of Sevaganga, and it has a ditch like a gutter; there are two gates, one to the eastward and the other to the southward: there runs Madura river near the said Gady to the east side. The Gadies of Trivadore and Trinattore, belonging to the Naut Collieries, are situated to the north of the said Gady: the Amuldar of Madura keeps the Circar Tanna in the said Trivadore and Trinattore. There is a thick wood on all sides of the said Gady; and to the north side, and in the woods, the Naut Collieries' houses are situated in different places, and they have Paddy fields: also there is a wood within the distance of a quarter of a Cofs, to the north and west, and to the south and west; it lies within the distance of one Cofs to the said Gady. There is a large and open field for the army to encamp; there are some fresh water wells within the said Gadys, and several Tanks without. The bastions are mounted with guns large and small; about a thousand Peons are always kept there by Nalcooty. The Districts of Tripanom remained under the government of the Gentoo Rajahs, and sometimes it remained under the management of the Circars; but the said Zemindar of Nalcooty possessed himself of the same. The said Gady is situated within the distance of five Cofs from Madura; there is a wood on the road to Madura and Tripanom.

The Gady of Avaryvarcotah hath been built with mud, with six bastions, but it is now demolished, and remains without the Tanna or garrison ; it is situated within eight Cofs from Sevaganga.

Sevaganga is situated within the distance of twenty-four Cofs from Ramanautpoor, and there is a wood in the road with thorns ; the Tanks supply with water in the rainy seasons, and at other times people must depend upon the well waters in the villages.

In consequence of which the following letter is now wrote to General Smith :

To Brigadier-General Smith, Commanding Officer of the Troops on the Coast.

S I R,

IN our letter to you of the 17th April*, we desired that you would draw together and encamp the detachment you should think it necessary to form for an expedition against the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars ; and we informed you, that the Nabob had intimated to us his intention very shortly to proceed to Trichinopoly to settle his affairs in those parts, and to attend particularly to the progress of this expedition.

The Nabob having now informed us, that he cannot conveniently proceed immediately to Trichinopoly agreeable to his first intention, and that he hath therefore empowered his eldest Son, Omdat-ul-Omrah, to take upon him the charge and superintendance of the expedition on his behalf ; we therefore desire you will pay the same regard and attention to his advice and opinion as you would have done to the Nabob, had he proceeded to the south, and taken these affairs under his own immediate management.

As we much wish to have this expedition completed as soon as possible, that the heavy charges of the field may cease, and the troops be ordered to their respective stations, we desire that, with the advice and concurrence of Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, you will march and proceed on the intended service with all expedition ; taking care nevertheless, agreeable to our recommendation in our letter of the 17th, to have a proper store of provision, and that sufficient means are provided by Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder for furnishing you with future supplies.

We have only to wish you success, and to repeat our desire that you will keep us constantly advised of all material occurrences.

We are, S I R,

Your most obedient humble servants,

Fort St. George,
1st May, 1772.

JOS. DU PRÉ, &c. Council.

* Vide page 955.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday, 4th May, 1772.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

John Smith

George Stratton

Henry Brooke

John Whitehill

Charles Smith

George Mackay.

MESSIEURS STRATTON and MACKAY having dissented, in Consultation the 17th April*, to the resolution of the Board in favour of an expedition against the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars, and having on the 27th† delivered in their reasons for such dissent, I think it proper to assign the reasons which weighed with me against their objections. I do not mean to enter at large into all the arguments in support of *an expedition* against those Polligars; they have already been clearly stated in the Minutes of the Select Committee, and those of the Board when the Minutes of the Select Committee were read and approved. As the objections now made are not against *an expedition*, but against *the expedition as proposed in General Smith's letter of the 10th instant*‡, I shall offer my reasons against the objections distinctly to each article.

To Mr. Mackay's dissent.

Article 1st. §

1st. Soon after the Tanjore expedition, it was recommended to General Smith, in a letter from the Board, to inform himself of the strength of the Marawar and Nalcooty Polligars, and to give us his opinion of the force that might be necessary to call them to an account. After a short time had elapsed, he acquainted the Board, in a letter of the 23d November||, that upon the best information which he could obtain, which however, he added, was only such as he had procured by the means of Hircarrahs, and was not to be depended on, he thought the following force would be necessary, viz. Captains Matthews' and Rumley's cavalry, 600 European infantry rank and file, four battalions of Sepoys with their field artillery, six pieces of heavy cannon well manned, with a sufficient supply of stores. This force appearing to me, as I believe it did to every Member of the Board, greater than the service to be performed required, I wrote to General Smith on the subject, and gave him the reasons why I thought a greater force should not be employed than was absolutely necessary. In his reply the reason he assigns for recommending such a force is in these words: "The Company's troops proposed for the Marawar expedition were 600 Europeans, four battalions of Sepoys, and six heavy guns;—a force so respectable, in that part of the country, I considered would have this good effect of shortening the campaign, and the Marawars would make every concession the Nabob demanded with little more trouble than marching against them." In the Board's letter to General Smith of the 3d instant**, they recommend very particularly that the force

* Vide page 961. † Ibid. ‡ Page 954*. § Page 961. || Page 950. ** Page 965.

to be employed should not be greater than the service really required; in answer to which General Smith proposes the following force, viz. 120 artillery, 400 European infantry, three battalions of the Company's Sepoys, four eighteen and two twelve-pounder guns; to which the Nabob's Son proposed adding Marth's and Rumley's cavalry, with Alexander's and Loudon's battalions of Sepoys; which indeed is less than the force first proposed in his letter of 23d November, for which I think two very probable reasons may be assigned, viz.—either that the General, upon better intelligence than he had when he recommended the larger force, may now think a smaller sufficient; or that he hath abated of the numbers first proposed, as an approach towards the sentiments of the Board. But whatever the reason be, it does not appear to me to be a valid objection against the expedition—That the force now proposed is less than was proposed before,—since even the force now proposed is objected against as too great. I acknowledge that I incline to the opinion that the force now proposed is greater than is absolutely necessary for such an expedition; and if we had any other enemies in the field, or any other immediate or necessary service for the troops, that might render it inconvenient to spare the force now required, I should not scruple to give my voice for appointing, by the authority of *the Board*, such a force as, upon good advice, should be thought by *them* sufficient; because, under such circumstances, the necessity of the service would authorize a bold risk; and in case of failure, the Board would, by reason of such necessity, stand exculpated in the opinion of candid men: but in times such as these, when troops, if not employed on this service, will remain idle in garrison; when the Commanding Officer of the troops, informed of the sentiments of the Board with respect to the force, declares his opinion decisively for the force he has named; when the Commanding Officer, having long served the Company, and whose conduct has met with the strongest and repeated approbation of the Court of Directors:—these circumstances considered, shall we, without necessity, take upon ourselves every risk of every protraction, disadvantage, or even failure? Shall we, by denying the force which the General whom the Court of Directors have thought proper to appoint declares to be necessary, wantonly render ourselves responsible for all sinister events? I do not think the present state of our affairs requires such a risk of me, and therefore I decline it. But if an expedition be necessary or proper, and so it has been agreed to be, and the force required can be conveniently spared, it does not appear to me that the objection to the force is a sufficient reason for objecting to the expedition.

To the Second Objection.*

2d. I wish to see it too, and would run many risks to obtain it, but not the risk of opposing my judgment to that of the Commanding Officer of the troops, in a matter wherein he has had better opportunities of informing himself than I have had in a matter belonging properly to his department, and at a time when the troops he desires may be spared without inconvenience to the service. Our first object, I think, should be—to support the system committed to our charge, such as it is; the next—to acquire as much honour in supporting it as we can: but if we cannot acquire honour, that is no reason why we should not support it, if we

* Vide page 962.

lose no honour in doing so. If by a small force our purpose could be accomplished, by a larger we ensure, or at least increase, the probability of the accomplishment. Can we be dishonoured by accomplishing our purpose even by a greater force than was absolutely necessary? I think not. But it is said we might acquire honour, by effecting our purpose with a smaller force. To use a trite phrase, there are times when it is prudent to play a saving game. I know the army in general is much attached to General Smith: I have very strong reason to believe that it is in general, from the Officer to the ranks, much disgusted with the Governor and Council for many causes, particularly on account of the Tanjore prize-money: under these impressions we want their services in the field: shall we send them thither under the General to whom they are attached, and who will be in honour bound to execute, with the detachment he hath chosen, the service he hath undertaken; or shall we irritate them more, by setting ourselves and another Officer in opposition to him, by undertaking the same service with half the men? Is this the time for such an experiment? I think not.

To the Third Objection.*

If the season be an objection, it must be against the expedition on any plan, and not particularly against the expedition *as proposed in General Smith's letter of the 10th instant*†, that is, against the force proposed; for it appears to me, that if the expedition be necessary or proper at this season with any force, it is proper to send a larger force now than at another season, because of the loss to which they are exposed. We should preserve our men no doubt most carefully, and we should never risk them wantonly, but we must risk them when the service requires it.

To the Fourth Objection‡.

The possibility of troubles from the Marattas, when they shall have done with Hyder, is one of the strongest reasons for pressing forward the expedition against Marawar, &c. now, and for sending such a force as may in all human probability ensure success; because I deem it as certain as any future events can be, that these Polligars, irritated as they have been by the Nabob, and knowing his intentions against them, will not fail, if they are left in their present strength, to disturb the peace of the Madura and Tinnevely countries, whenever we shall be obliged by troubles in these parts to call our forces from the South; and since we have not forces sufficient to protect the long line of country from Tinnevely to Cuttack, good policy, I might say necessity, indicates that we should, while we can, reduce those tributaries, who we are sure will disturb us, whenever they see us so entangled as to be unable to oppose them. The benefit to be derived by the removal of that danger, even at the expense of some Europeans, will, I think, be greater than any service the same number of men could render against the Marattas were they to invade us, and these Polligars retain the power of ravaging the Madura and Tinnevely countries, to the entire loss of its revenue.

* Vide page 962.

† Page 954*.

‡ Page 962.

To the 5th Objection.

I CAN say nothing to good or bad fortune, because I know not what it is—and I shall say as little to the event of the expedition against Tanjore; every light we have had has been sent home—there let it be judged. I declare I have not given my assent to this expedition to gratify the Nabob's revenge on those Polligars, but because, if they were not originally and naturally, *he has made them his enemies, and therefore it is necessary they should be reduced: it is necessary or it is good policy they should; I do not say it is altogether just, for justice and good policy are not often related.* The Nabob's delays or excuses, to avoid paying the expenses of the expedition, are risks we must ever run, while our connexion with him remains on the present footing—nor can we prevent his appeals to the Crown: the question is, Whether, by the tenor and spirit of the Company's orders to this Presidency, we are obliged to support and assist him in establishing and maintaining peace and good order in his government, and particularly in reducing the Polligars; and whether it is not apparently for the peace, and safety of the Madura and Tinnevely countries, that these Polligars should be reduced:—this granted, we must run the risks which attend it. It is not in this country alone that courtiers use pleasing language to those whom they think it their interest to please. The Nabob, pressed here for his opinion of the proper force, writes a letter which conveys no determinate idea, but which seems to lean to the opinion of a small force, as the Polligars are of no great strength: [but what do the terms *small* or *great* mean? they are only comparative; he expresses nothing determinately here]—while his Son in the South, who we may be certain speaks the words of his Father, assents to General Smith's proposition, which recommends what is deemed here a large force. Can we blame the Nabob? He thinks there are here who will be best pleased with the idea of a small force; he knows what is assented to in the South will be most pleasing here. What then can be gathered from what he has said or hinted in either place? he wants our assistance, and wishes to obtain it without disgusting any; and he would no doubt wish to obtain it rather at a small than a great expense. But suppose the Nabob had named a specifick force, the question might well be asked, who is the proper judge of the specifick force for a specifick service, the Nabob, or the Officer who is to command? which Officer tells us, that he has taken the opinion of the Nabob's Son, who must speak the Nabob's sense, at least that sense which he thinks proper to declare.

To Mr. Stratton's Dissent.

HAVING, in the order of entering the dissents, replied first to Mr. Mackay's, there remains but little to observe on Mr. Stratton's; because, tho' the order of arrangement be different, the spirit, as far as it goes, is nearly the same.

To the 1st.

THIS is replied to in the latter part of my answer to Mr. Mackay's 5th objection.

To the 2d.

I REFER to the answer to Mr. Mackay's 2d.* Supposing that the force required by General Smith is greater than is absolutely necessary. I think General Smith's reason for proposing it deserves attention;—he thinks it will shorten the expedition, and that there will be little more trouble than marching against them. And if, as is suggested in the 4th objection, there is cause to be on our guard against the Marattas and French, and therefore that our Europeans should not be employed at so great a distance; then it follows, that if the reduction of these Polligars be proper—and it has been agreed to be proper—it should be executed as expeditiously as possible. If our arms have really of late fallen into discredit, surely it cannot be prudent to risk further dishonour, by hazarding a party merely adequate, when a party amply sufficient to ensure success, as far as success can be ensured, may be spared without inconvenience. But I do not admit that our arms have suffered such dishonour as has been suggested. In the Mysore war the enemy constantly fled before us; and we were driven to a peace for want of money; our treasury therefore suffered more discredit than our arms. In the expedition against Tanjore, the declared purpose to the world, whatever the latent purpose might be, was to call him to an account, and not to conquer him; and he was compelled to submit to the terms demanded of him: Wherein did our army suffer dishonour?

To the 3d Objection.

I REFER to the latter part of the answer to Mr. Mackay's first objection†.

To the 4th Objection.

I REFER to the answer to Mr. Mackay's fourth‡.

JOS. DU PRÉ.

THE Board entirely agree with the President in the arguments and reasons contained in the above remarks on Messieurs. Stratton's and Mackay's dissents.

Mr. Mackay acquaints the Board, that he thinks it necessary to reply to the President's remarks; and which he requests he may be permitted to do at a subsequent consultation—which is agreed to.

* Vide page 967.

† Ibid.

‡ Page 968.

Extract

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday, 11th May, 1772.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

John Smith

Henry Brooke

John Whitehill

Charles Smith.

The following reply of Mr. Mackay to the President's observations on his (Mr. Mackay's) dissent to the Marawar expedition, is now laid before the Board :

AS I think the President, in his remarks on my dissent, to which the Board have agreed, has mistaken some part of my meaning, and as I wish to be clearly understood whenever I give an opinion at this Board ; in order to explain more fully what I have already said, I beg leave to offer a few observations on the President's remarks.

On his 1st Remark.*

IT is very improbable I could mean (and I declare I did not) to offer as a reason for my dissenting to the expedition, that General Smith had proposed a less force *now* than he had *at first* ; when I declare, that the force now required is, in my opinion, more than twice sufficient for the undertaking : it would therefore be absurd in me to find fault with the General for naming a *small force*, when I argue for a still *smaller one* than he has named. I might nevertheless be of opinion the expedition could have been undertaken at first with a less force than at present ; and it was to shew in a stronger light the impropriety of the General's thinking otherwise, that I made use of that argument. The reasons given by the President for our subscribing to the opinion of the Commanding Officer, without making any further enquiries, I confess have weight, but not so much with me as with the President. He says, that General Smith has been appointed by the Court of Directors, has served the Company long, and that his conduct has been repeatedly approved by them. I consider every servant on the establishment, civil and military, without distinction, equally under the direction of this Government, for the purpose of carrying on the public service in that manner which shall appear to them, on mature deliberation, to be most for the advantage and credit of their Employers ; and in all cases where the Court of Directors do not give us positive orders, but leave us at liberty to judge, I take it for granted, that whether we follow our own opinion, or that of any one else, we are equally responsible for the event of measures which receive our sanction : how then can I, as a Member of this Board, concur in sending General Smith at the head of a large army, to perform a service, which I am convinced in my own mind would be better and sooner

* Wide pages 966, 967.

executed by several other Officers I could name, with less than half the force required by General Smith? People may say and think what they please, it is not in my power to prevent their doing so; but I declare before God that I do not bear that Gentleman any personal ill will or animosity, and never did. As a man, I believe him possessed of several good qualities; as an Officer to command, I believe him deficient in some very essential ones, and that the service has greatly suffered by those deficiencies; nor is it in my power to alter this opinion 'till I am convinced it is wrong, even if all mankind differed from me. Our not having any other enemies in the field, does not appear to me a good reason for consenting to the number of troops demanded, or to any other number that might be demanded, if we should be of opinion that they are too many. The *precedent* is bad, and may be attended with consequences very injurious to the service, in point of honour as well as expense. Indeed the President's idea and mine differ very widely in this matter; he is inclined to the opinion, that the force required is greater than is *absolutely* necessary; whereas I do verily believe, that the force required is much greater than is necessary at all. The President says, "That, in other circumstances, he would not scruple to give his vote for appointing, by the authority of the *Board*, such a force, as, upon *good advice*, should be thought by *them* sufficient." Such a vote, in my opinion, could never be given with more propriety than in the present case; but if good advice can be had, why not take it at all times and in all circumstances, and more especially when the advice already given is opposed by any Member of this Board? The operations of Government must be often at a stand, if the apprehension of blame, in case of not succeeding, be a bar in the way of those who are not at the head of it, to do what they think is right. I have fewer inducements than any one here to run much risk for the good of the service, nor do I pretend to a greater degree of public virtue than the rest of mankind; but I am nevertheless of opinion, that the affairs of Government can never be properly conducted, without running many risks; and what risks more necessary for the good of the service to run, than to employ on such occasions as the present, without regard to rank or seniority, the Officer we believe most capable of serving the public, and at the least expense. If to think it right that another Officer should command this expedition, as I certainly do, for the reasons I have already given, be construed as setting up that Officer in opposition to General Smith, it may be extremely inconvenient for any Member at this Board, under the apprehension of such an imputation, to give his opinion freely on any military matter that comes before him. For my own part I do declare, when I dissented to the expedition, I had not such an idea, otherwise than as I believed the good of the service required. I am sure my sentiments in general with regard to the Commanding Officers, have on several other occasions been known to this Board long before the Officer, who I imagine is meant in the remarks, arrived here.

On the 2d Remark.*

I THINK, whenever our troops are employed against country enemies, they must lose some honour if they do not acquire it; because we ought as much as possible to impress those people with a belief, that nothing we undertake is impossible

* Vide page 967.

for our troops to perform. I am for supporting the system committed to our charge as much as any man; and tho' I do not think we can suffer dishonour by accomplishing our purpose with even a greater force than is *absolutely* necessary, yet I am of opinion, that it is derogatory to the honour of this service, to send a General Officer, at the head of such an army, to drive a few naked Polligars out of some mud forts. When the Rajah of Tanjore took Hanamantagoody, and reduced Ramanaut (or Ramanadaporam) to the last extremity he had with him, as I am informed from pretty good authority, no more than about three thousand men, horse, Peons, and Colliers;—a force not equal, in my opinion, to a battalion of our Sepoys. The real reason of the army's attachment to General Smith, is, I believe, so well known to this Board, that it is unnecessary for me to say much on the subject. If a pliant constitutional good nature, that can refuse nothing to solicitations, be sometimes reckoned a virtue in private life, in a public character I am certain it is quite otherwise; and more particularly at the head of an army, where, without a proper degree of severity, it would be impossible to enforce that strict discipline and due subordination so essentially necessary in a military life: therefore the plea of the army's attachment to General Smith, is, in my opinion, rather against the President's argument. I believe every Member at this Board may safely lay his hand upon his heart, and declare, that he has never endeavoured nor wished to injure the army in any one respect whatever. Whence then can this dislike to the Governor and Council arise, but from their being taught to believe that they are deprived of many *advantages* and *douceurs*, which the Governor and Council might and ought to obtain for them? and if opinions so ill-grounded, and so injurious to the Governor and Council, are not encouraged by the Commanding Officer, it is very certain I believe, and the Board have often thought so, that they are not sufficiently suppressed by him. I think therefore, that the army's being disgusted at the Governor and Council, ought not to be urged as a reason for General Smith's commanding the expedition, but a very good reason for sending another Officer, who would prevent their being dissatisfied.

On the 3d Remark.*

WHEN I mentioned the season as an objection, I meant it only with respect to the Europeans, and not the Sepoys; because I believe the service might be performed with them alone, and a very few artillery-men and Topasses to manage the guns.

On the 4th Remark†.

COULD I bring myself to believe that the expedition would be attended with the success expected from it, and that speedily, though I should then object to the force as too large, yet I should agree in opinion with the President, to press it forward as fast as possible; and I think it might be good policy to do so for the reasons he gives.

On the 5th Remark‡.

THE President may not, perhaps, know what good and bad fortune is; yet I think he must know very well what I mean, when I say that General Smith had been

* Vide Page 968.

† Ibid.

‡ Page 969.

hitherto unfortunate in all his military operations. We are undoubtedly directed, by the Company's orders, to support the Nabob's Government, and to reduce the Polligars belonging to that Government to his obedience; but whether the two Polligars now in question were meant among the number, or understood then by this Government, I doubt very much, as it is but lately that the idea of their being tributary to the Nabob has been adopted. If we are to make war with every Power that he makes his enemies, we must endeavour to conquer the greatest part of the peninsula of India for him; and whether it may be good policy in us to exhaust our small resources of men and money, in order to reduce those Polligars, and enlarge the Nabob's dominions, at a time when he is using every endeavour in his power to throw off his dependence on the Company, is a point that I shall not take upon me to determine. I do blame the Nabob very much for being so unsteady and insincere, as to give it here under his hand, that a few Europeans, added to his own troops, would be sufficient; and at the same time to direct his Son at Trichinopoly not only to consent to the large army General Smith had proposed, but to desire that more troops might be still added to it. The real truth is, that asking the opinion, either of the Father or the Son, is a mere matter of form, and nothing else. That the Officer who is to command the expedition ought to be a better judge than the Nabob of the proper force, admits not of the least doubt; that is not what I contend for; but that other Officers are still better judges than the Officer who has named the present force, and I think we ought to have consulted them.

GEO. MACKAY.

The President acquaints the Board, that the above reply having been delivered to him, he thought it necessary to make some remarks thereon, which are now read as follow:

The President's Remarks thereon.

AS I think enough has been said on the subject of the expedition against Marawar and Nalcooty, to enable the Court of Directors to form their judgment of the propriety of undertaking it, and of our motives for committing the command of it to General Smith, I wish I could have avoided saying any more on the subject; but Mr. Mackay's observations, now laid before the Board, require of me a further explanation.

Ist. Mr. Mackay observes, *that the reasons given for our subscribing to the opinion of the Commanding Officer, without making any further enquiries, have weight, &c.* and in another place, *that if good advice can be had, why not take it?* From whence it may be inferred, that I am for subscribing implicitly to the opinion of the Commanding Officer, and that I refuse to hear any other opinion, or to take any other advice. To remove the impressions which might be made by such observations, it is necessary that I should explain the cause that has given rise to them.

Mr. Mackay proposed at the Board to ask the advice and opinion of Sir Robert Fletcher, in respect to the force proper for the expedition. I had before asked his

† Vide page 972.

opinion for my information, and not to be made a matter of public record; I found it to be conformable to Mr. Mackay's, and this I communicated at the Board, but not as a matter of public record. When Mr. Mackay urged the propriety of asking Sir Robert Fletcher's opinion publicly at the Board, I objected to it for these reasons:—We know Sir Robert Fletcher's opinion already: if we ask it publicly, it must be for one of these two purposes,—To follow it, or to reject it: if we follow it, such a resolution will have all the appearance of setting up Sir Robert Fletcher in opposition to General Smith, and cannot fail of disgusting the latter; if we do not follow it, the consequence will be, that Sir Robert Fletcher will naturally think that we ought not to have called upon him publicly for his opinion, if we meant not to be guided by it, and he may be disgusted. General Smith is actually Commanding Officer of the troops; Sir Robert Fletcher may come to that command; I saw no good to the Service by disgusting either of them, and setting them at variance; and I thought further, that, in consideration to Sir Robert Fletcher, to whom I think it could not have been agreeable, we ought not to place him in so disagreeable a situation, as that of giving an opinion contrary to his judgment, or contrary to that of his Commanding Officer, and that too in a matter wherein I think the service not materially affected: The Board will give testimony whether this is a true and candid state of the case or not. I shall only add to this declaration, that I have a great respect for the merit and abilities of Sir Robert Fletcher; but so long as the Court of Directors shall think proper to continue General Smith in the command of their forces, I shall think it my duty to support him in the honour and execution of that command; and I will not give my assent to any measure, without necessity, to disgust him and drive him from that command: and if, in my time, Sir Robert Fletcher should come to that command, I shall then, from the same motives, think it right to support him as effectually. I do by no means agree with Mr. Mackay in opinion, that whether we employ the Officer appointed and approved by the Court of Directors in a matter properly belonging to the office and department to which he is so appointed, or whether we, by an exertion of power, wrest from him his proper office, and, in opposition to his sentiments, commit the execution of it to another, we are equally responsible; I think in the first case we are not responsible for the executive part, and in the second case I think we are wholly responsible. I do not say that such an exertion of power should never be made; there are cases where it might be very proper; but the necessity must be very apparent, which it is not to me in the present case.

† 5th. We have said more than once in our proceedings, that we have no absolute proof that the Marawar and Nalcooty are tributaries and dependants on the Nabob's Government: the Nabob asserts it; we have no proof to the contrary; and I believe they were always understood to be so by this Government, from Mr. Saunders' time down to the present period. Why then is the doubt now started, after having, upon that claim, undertaken the Tanjore expedition, and resolved even on that which is now brought in question? and how does it follow, that because we do, by virtue of the Company's general plan, support the Nabob in regulating the interior govern-

ment, that is, by reducing to obedience the refractory dependants, that therefore we are to make war with every Power that he makes his enemies? The one is conformable to the system laid down for our Government, the other utterly repugnant to it.

JOS. DU PRÉ.

The Board confirm the President's relation of what passed on the subject of the proposal made for consulting Sir Robert Fletcher on the force necessary for the expedition, and at the same time declare their concurrence in the remarks made by the President on Mr. Mackay's reply.

Extract of Letter from Governor Du Pré to the Nabob of the Carnatick, dated 13th May, 1772.

IT is exceedingly satisfactory to me, and I can venture to assure your Excellency it will be so to the Company, that your Excellency hath also promised to reimburse the Company immediately, over and above the aforementioned sums, the amount of whatever shall be by them expended in extraordinary charges on account of the expedition against the Marawar and Nalcooty, or on account of any expeditions against any other Polligars †; and permit me to add tho' it is not expressed in your letter, the amount of all military stores, buildings, and repairs, as I understood such to be your intention and declaration to me, for they also are extraordinary charges.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 15th May, 1772.

CAME in the following letter from General Smith:

To the Honourable Josias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor, &c. of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

I HAD the honour to address the Board on the 11th instant; on the 12th we marched to Tovogaddy, and this day to a high ground, Vellum bearing E. S. E. distance two miles. Here we shall be obliged to halt to-morrow and next day, at the Nabob's request, on account of some business he has with the Rajah of Tanjore.

I have wrote to Mr. Dawson to station Tappalls from Cuddalore to Trevalore, a large town about ten miles west of Negapatnam, from whence I shall continue them to Tondy, and (when it can be done with safety) elsewhere, as the situation of the army may make it necessary, in order to be as regular as possible in advising our operations.

I have the honour to be,

Honourable Sir,

With respect and esteem,

Your most obedient servant,

J. SMITH.

Camp near Vellum,
13th May, 1772.

† Vide page 954.

Extract

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday, 18th May, 1772.

P R E S E N T,

Jofias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

John Smith
Henry Brooke
John Whitehill

George Stratton

Charles Smith.

Extract of Letter from General Smith to the President and Council, dated, Camp near Trichinopoly, 11th May, 1772.

To the Honourable Jofias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

I HAVE been honoured with your commands of 17th ultimo and 1st instant; in consequence the artillery, 1st battalion of the 1st regiment of infantry, the the grenadier company of the 1st battalion of 2d regiment, and the 1st battalion of Sepoys, with Captain Rumley's cavalry, marched and encamped on the Plain on the 23d ultimo; they were soon after joined by the 5th and 10th battalions of of Sepoys, and by two battalions of the Nabob's, with some Topasses.

I had given Mader-ul-Mulk the earliest notice of the quantity of grain necessary to subsist the troops, of which he promised to provide 3000 bullock-loads of rice by the 9th; and as that supply was in great forwardness, in order to be retarded as little as possible, on the 7th I detached the heavy guns and stores to Vellum: last night the remainder of the rice was received: this morning the army moved into the Vellum road, and to-morrow we shall proceed with all possible expedition on our route.

I think it necessary to inform you, Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder has represented to me, that from the frequent mismanagement of the grain in camp by his people, he was apprehensive we should be entangled in the same difficulties as at Tanjore; and in order to obviate the cause, he applied to me to direct Mr. Petrie to take charge of the Circar rice that is now in Camp, and might hereafter be received, to issue it (when the stock in the Buzar is exhausted) to the Sepoys, Lascars, and necessary attendants of the army, and to account with him for the proceeds. Although sensible of the expediency of such a measure, and the satisfaction I may hope to receive from Mr. Petrie's management of the grain, I have declined employing him in that capacity 'till I am acquainted with the sentiments of the Honourable Board, which I request I may be favoured with.

I have not advised you of every particular as they happened, but have no doubt the Honourable President did, as all occurrences have been communicated to him in due course.

The Board's Resolution.

AGREED, That Mr. Petrie be appointed to take charge of the Circar grain in Camp, conformable to the desire of Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, and the recommendation of General Smith, and that instructions be prepared for him.

Jos. Du Pré
John Smith
Henry Brooke
John Whitehill
Charles Smith.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 19th May, 1772.

THE following letters were this day wrote :

To Brigadier-General Joseph Smith, Commanding Officer of the Troops on the Coast.

S I R,

WE have received your letter of the 11th instant.

In consequence of the application of Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, that the grain in Camp belonging to the Circar be put under the charge of Mr. Petrie, and which you have recommended as essential to the good of the service, we consent thereto : Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder must however be particularly informed, that we do by no means, by such our acquiescence, take upon us to supply the detachment with grain and provisions, which must depend solely upon him, to whom the Nabob has committed that charge ; our intention being only that such grain and provisions as he shall furnish be issued to the troops, and accounted for in the most regular manner ; for which purpose we have thought proper to lay down some rules and regulations for Mr. Petrie's conduct in this employ, copy of which comes now enclosed for your perusal.

We shall lay before the Nabob the bill for repairs of officers' quarters at Trichinopoly, and will endeavour to obtain his consent for allowing the same.

We are, SIR,

Your most obedient humble servants,

Fort St. George,
19th May, 1772.

JOS. DU PRÉ, &c. Council.

To Mr. William Petrie.

S I R,

IN consequence of the desire of Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, and the recommendation of General Smith, that the Circar grain supplied the detachment may be put under your charge; we have consented thereto, and have thought it necessary to lay down the following rules for your conduct in this employ :

You must keep very regular and exact accounts of all grain and provisions put under your charge by Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder or his people, for which you are to give receipts; the price thereof must be fixed on your receiving them, to enable you to bring them regularly to account.

They are only to be issued to the Sepoys, Lascars, and such other attendants on the army as General Smith shall see proper; and you must also be careful to keep exact accounts of all issues, according to the indents delivered to you by the proper officers; agreeable to which indents you are to collect the amount, at a certain price to be ascertained and fixed by Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, who will no doubt consult General Smith thereon; such amount, when collected, must be carried to the credit of the Nabob.

You will also keep regular accounts of all losses that may arise, either by the enemy, wastage, or by any other means.

Copies of your accounts you will transmit monthly to us.

We are, Sir,

Your affectionate friends,

Fort St. George,
19th May, 1772.

JOS. DU PRÉ, &c. Council.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 21st May, 1772.

CAME in the following letters from General Smith :

To the Honourable Josias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor, &c. of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

I HAD the honour to address you 13th instant, when I mentioned the Nabob's desire of halting here on the 14th and 15th; and as his business with the Rajah was not then concluded, we have been obliged to halt this day also. I have now the pleasure to acquaint you that we shall march in the morning, and am, Honourable Sir, with respect,

Your most obedient servant,

Camp near Vellum,
16th May, 1772.

JOSEPH SMITH.

To the Honourable Josias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor, &c. of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

I HAD the honour to address you yesterday, and agreeable thereto we marched this morning and encamped; Vellum bearing N. W. by W. distance 10 miles, and 13 from our last ground.

I have the pleasure to acquaint you, that the medicines, so much wanted by the Doctors, arrived safe in Camp this afternoon.

I am, Honourable Sir, with respect,

Your most obedient servant,

Camp at Cassanadoo,
17th May, 1772.

JOSEPH SMITH.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 23d May, 1772.

Extract of Letter from General Smith to Governor Du Pré, dated, Camp at Jaffer Choultry, 18th May, 1772.

I HAD the honour to advise you yesterday of the arrival of the troops at a village called Cassanadoo, from whence we proceeded on our route this morning and encamped; our last ground bearing S E. by E. distance eight miles. The shortness of our march was on account of the water, there being none nearer than fourteen miles from hence.

To Brigadier-General Joseph Smith, Commanding Officer of the Troops on the Coast.

S I R,

IN our instructions to you, dated 30th December 1768, we desired that in future, with the returns of the army every month, you would transmit to us a regular and circumstantial detail of all dispositions of the troops, encampments, marches, lines of battle, and other military orders given out by you, together with the copy of the journal kept by you of all occurrences. Our reasons for desiring such detail and journal were, that we might thereby be enabled not only to draw useful information therefrom, relative to the season and country where our troops might be employed, and the propriety and practicability of the operations they might be engaged in, but that you might stand vindicated for all measures when taken to the best of your judgment; and that we might have before us materials sufficient to form our opinion on, and to advise our Honourable Employers of the grounds and motives for our conduct, as well as of all occurrences.

We

We consider this regulation to be in force in all military operations whatever, as the reasons for making it will always exist; and we impute our not having received from you such detail and journal of the expedition against Tanjore, to your not having adverted to this regulation at the time: we however desire you will furnish us with one as soon as you have leisure; we also desire that you will transmit to us monthly the like detail and journal of the operations on which you are now employed; and the Engineer should be instructed to make a sketch of the country through which you march, copy of which you will please to transmit to us from time to time, which will be of great use in enabling us to form our judgment on the present operations, and in taking measures for the future security and good government of the country that may be reduced.

It is with much concern we find ourselves under a necessity of informing you, that it is currently reported here, that when you turned out the army to receive the Nabob's eldest Son, Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, on his taking the field, a general hiss was raised by the troops: we say we have it only from report, and therefore our information cannot be authentic; but whether it be true or false, we cannot in justice to you, as well as to ourselves, avoid mentioning it; since if it be false, that you may have an opportunity of refuting the report; and if it be true, that you may inform us whether any and what measures were taken to seize the ringleaders, that a severe and exemplary punishment might be inflicted on them. The Nabob, as a friend and ally of the Company, and under their immediate protection, is entitled to every mark of deference and respect from their Servants; the insult therefore said to have been offered to him, in the person of his Son, was of such a nature as ought not to have been passed over; since at the same time that it reflects great dishonour on this Government, it manifests an unpardonable licentiousness in the army.

We are, SIR,

Your most obedient humble servants,

Fort St. George,
23d May, 1772.

JOS. DU PRÉ, &c. Council.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 24th May, 1772.

Came in the following letter from General Smith:

To the Honourable Josias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor, &c. of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

I HAD the honour to advise you yesterday of the arrival of the troops at Jaffer Saib's Choultry; from whence we marched this morning and encamped, our last ground

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ground bearing N. by W. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. distance fourteen miles. I have the honour to be with respect,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Camp near Pettah Cotah,
19th May, 1772.

JOSEPH SMITH.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 26th May, 1772.

Received the following letters from General Smith :

To the Honourable Josias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor, &c. of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

I HAD the honour to advise you yesterday of the arrival of the troops at Pettah Cotah, from whence we marched this morning S. by W. 15 miles, and encamped on the sea beach. To-morrow I shall be obliged to halt in order to refresh the cattle, as they are not in a condition to perform the next day's march, on account of the badness of the road.

I have the honour to be with respect,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Camp at Sheedoobava Satrum,
20th May, 1772.

J. SMITH.

To the Honourable Josias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor, &c. of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

I HAD the honour to advise you of the arrival of the troops at Sheedoobava Satrum on the 20th; from whence we marched this morning S. by W. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. 13 miles, and encamped near the sea. I have the honour to be with respect,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Camp at Great Mungalum,
22d May, 1772.

J. SMITH.

Extra

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 29th May, 1772.

Came in the following letters from General Smith :

To the Honourable Josias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor, &c. of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, that we marched this morning 15 miles S. W. and encamped one mile distance from the sea.

By letters from Captain Loudon dated this morning, he mentions his having detached some Sepoys from Tondy to take possession of three small forts, which the Polligars proposed to surrender. I have the honour to be with respect,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Camp at Arma Satrum,
23d May, 1772.

J. SMITH.

To the Honourable Josias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you of the arrival of the troops at Tondy, 20 miles S. W. by S. from our last ground.

The Nabob has disapproved Captain Loudon's accepting the proposal made to him of taking possession of the three little forts mentioned in my last, which the Polligars had evacuated, and has ordered the Sepoy's to return hither. I shall have the honour to address you on our moving from hence, and am, Honourable Sir, with respect,

Your most obedient servant,

Camp at Tondy,
24th May, 1772.

J. SMITH.

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Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 1st June, 1772.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

John Smith

George Stratton

Henry Brooke

John Whitehill

Charles Smith

George Mackay.

Came in the following letter from General Smith :

To the Honourable Josias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor, &c. of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, that we marched this morning ten miles S. W. by S. and encamped near the sea at a village in the district of Ramanadaporam. I have the honour to be with respect,

Honourable Sir,

Camp at Copilly-Pilliar-Covil,

Your most obedient servant,

26th May, 1772.

J. SMITH.

Extract of Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour to Governor Du Pré, dated, Camp near Tripavanam, 25th May, 1772.

IN consequence of a letter from General Smith the 11th instant, desiring me to form a detachment from the garrison of Madura, in order to assist his operations while acting to the south, by holding in check the little Marawar.

Upon information from the Nabob's managers, who gave me to understand that a considerable part of the Nabob's troops would join, I ordered two eighteen pounders, with bullocks sufficient for their use, to be ready for the reduction of the fort of Tripavanam, which is about 15 miles east of Madura; but finding myself disappointed in regard to the Nabob's troops, and thinking that I could not venture large artillery out with the few people I could take from Madura, I therefore changed my plan; having no alternative, but to take it by a coup de main, or give over the undertaking. For which I ordered two petards to be prepared, and marched, agreeable to the time fixed by the General, 22d, with ten companies of our Sepoys, five of the Nabob's, some of his horses and Colliers, with two three pounders, and two 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch mortars, one serjeant, five artillery men, and forty Lascars. Last night we attacked the place, and I have the pleasure to inform you we have succeeded without any considerable loss, having only one private artillery man killed, and one serjeant; one bombardier badly wounded, by the accident of the quick match of the Petard, which was too short, not giving them time to avoid the explosion, and carelessness in loading a mortar. About twelve of the Nabob's Sepoys were killed in the advance post by the cannonade and musketry from the fort during the day. This fort is of so much consequence, that I am told it is the best in the second Marawar's country; and in such a position, that we could not well have a communication from Madura to Ramanadaporam without being in possession of it.

There were about 1000 people in it of one sort or other, who, after the explosion of the petard, were so terrified, that they all ran into two Pagodas, where we took them prisoners in the morning. I have been in continual expectation to hear from the General, who mentioned to me that he would write to me again from Vellum, but have heard nothing yet from him: I shall wait 'till I hear some account of the army for further proceedings.

The Board's Minute.

THE Board are well pleased at Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour's success against Travavanam, but they cannot at the same time avoid observing, that this is the first intimation they have received of Colonel Bonjour's having been ordered to make a diversion from Madura against the Marawar Polligars..

Jos. Du Pré
John Smith
Henry Brooke
John Whitehill
Charles Smith
Geo. Mackay.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 2d June, 1772.

Received the following Letters from General Smith.

To the Honourable Josias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor &c. of Fort St. George

Honourable Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you we marched this morning eleven miles S. W. and encamped one mile from the sea, and ten from Ramanadaporam.

I have the honour to be with respect,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Camp near Davipatnam,
27th May, 1772.

J. SMITH.

To the Honourable Josias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor, &c. of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, that we are now encamped before Ramanadaporam, about 8 miles from the sea, and 9 N. by E. from our last ground.

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As soon as any thing worth mentioning occurs, you shall be immediately advised thereof.

I am with respect, Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Camp before Ramanadaporam,
28th May, 1772.

J. SMITH.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Friday, 5th June, 1772.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

John Smith

Henry Brooke

John Whitehill

George Mackay.

George Stratton

Charles Smith

The President lays before the Board the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour.

• Honourable Sir,

I HOPE you have received my letter of the 25th*, by which I informed you of my having taken the field, in consequence of a letter from General Smith, and succeeded in the attack I made on the fort of Tripavanam. I have since been informed that the fort of Palimery, about 30 miles south of this, hath been delivered to a party of the Nabob's troops, which I desired the Nabob's Manager to send in consequence of their answer to my summons. About 400 villages have submitted, on condition that they were to be treated in the same manner as when under their former Master; and the most part of the Colleries, who were undetermined upon the part they would take, I am told claim our protection; so that a great multitude will be calmed, and facilitate our further operations. The Nabob's Manager has made application to me for 400 stand of arms out of the stores at Madura, which he intends for the four companies of new Sepoys, a part of which he has already enlisted; the other, he says, he may get in a few days in the Madura country: as he tells me that he has orders from the Nabob for doing it, and having so few people, I could not refuse him.

I have delivered to his charge the fort of Tripavanam, and sold a few horses, &c. found in it for the value of Pagodas 498; I hope you will have no objec-

* Vide Page 984.

tion to my dividing them among people who suffered, and turned out voluntarily on the occasion. I have no account yet of the army, and remain with respect,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient

And most humble servant,

Camp near Tripavanam,
28th May, 1772.

A. BONJOUR.

The President acquaints the Board, that the Nabob had recommended that Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour should be directed to prosecute his success, by reducing the forts in the Marawar and Nalcooty districts, and by that means to open a communication between Madura and Ramanadaporam; in consequence of which the following letters are now wrote :

To Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour, commanding at Madura.

S I R,

THE President has communicated to us your letters of the 25th and 28th May, and we are well pleased at your success in the reduction of Tripavanam.

Although the object of the operations was resolved on by us, the plan and measures to be pursued in the accomplishment thereof were left to General Smith; but as he has only from time to time advised us of the progress of his march to his arrival before Ramanadaporam, without giving us any intimation of the plan and measures he purposed pursuing, or of the instructions he gave you, we cannot with propriety give you any precise or positive orders with regard to your future operations, lest they should clash with any directions you may receive from General Smith. Our orders therefore to you can only be conditional, to be carried into execution as far as the force you have will admit of, in case they are not contradictory to, or do not clash with those General Smith may send you. In consequence of which it is necessary to inform you, that the Nabob, on the receipt of the advices of your success against Tripavanam, has desired that we would recommend it to you to endeavour, as far as you are able, to open the communication between Madura and Ramanadaporam, by reducing the forts and places lying between them, whether belonging to the Marawar or Nalcooty Polligars. This appears to us to be a very essential service, and would be attended with many advantages in facilitating our operations; we therefore desire you will take such measures as you shall judge expedient for carrying the same into execution, provided they do not, as we have said

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said before, clash with any orders you may receive from General Smith, which you are to follow as far as may be in your power.

We are, SIR,

Your affectionate friends,

Fort St. George,
5th June, 1772.

JOS. DU PRÉ, &c. Council.

To Brigadier-General Joseph Smith, Commanding Officer of the Troops on the Coast.

S I R,

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL BONJOUR hath advised the President, that in consequence of the orders he had received from you for making a diversion with the troops under his command, he had attacked and taken the fort of Tripavanam, and that he was in expectation of receiving your instructions for his further proceedings. The Nabob has earnestly recommended that Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour be directed to endeavour to open the communication between Madura and Ramanadaporam, and, as far as it appears to us, such a measure would be attended with many advantages in facilitating your operations; but as we have no intimation of the plan you propose pursuing, and are entirely ignorant of the orders you have given to Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour, we cannot with propriety give him any precise or positive orders for his conduct, lest they should clash with those you have or may send him; we can therefore only give him discretionary instructions, a copy of which comes enclosed for your perusal; and we desire you will send him such orders for his proceedings, as you shall judge most likely to facilitate your operations

The President has communicated to us your several letters advising of your march from Trichinopoly to Ramanadaporam.

We are, SIR,

Your most obedient

Humble servants,

Fort St. George,
5th June, 1772.

JOS. DU PRÉ, &c. Council.

Jos. Du Pré
John Smith
Henry Brooke
John Whitehill
Charles Smith
Geo. Mackay.

Extra

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 7th June, 1772.

The following letter from Mr. Parkison was this day received.

To the Honourable Josias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor, &c. of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

SINCE I had the honour to address you the day after the army arrived before this place, nothing worth mentioning has occurred, except the preparations making by the Engineers. This morning a battery for two 12 pounders was finished, and it's expected another for four 18 pounders will be completed very early to-morrow; the former for enfilading, the latter to batter in breach. The General is never disengaged a moment, but he is at the out-posts or batteries, where he is now, and perhaps will not return to camp to night; he proposes to write to you so soon as they are completed; and it's probable little time will elapse between their being opened, and our being in possession. The enemy have several guns mounted, and keep up a tolerable brisk fire; but if we are able to finish the 4 gun battery by to-morrow morning, they will be but a very short time after masters of the place.

I have the honour to be, .

With the greatest respect,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Camp before Ramnadaporam,
1st June, 1772, 10 P. M.

THOS. PARKISON.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 8th June, 1772.

CAME in the following letter from Mr. Parkison.

To the Honourable Josias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor, &c. of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir, .

I AM directed by General Smith to acquaint you, that this morning at seven o'clock a battery of four 18 pounders was opened against Ramnadaporam, that

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by five in the evening a practicable breach was effected, and the place carried by assault with very inconsiderable loss. The General, who does not return to camp to-night, will give you a particular account of all occurrences, as soon as the service he is now upon will admit of it.

I have the honour to be,

With the greatest respect,

Honourable SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

Camp near Ramanadaporam,
2d June, 1772.

THOMAS PARKISON, Secretary.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 10th June, 1772.

Received the following letter from Mr. Parkison.

To the Honourable Josias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor, &c. of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

I HAD the honour to communicate last night to you the success of the army in the reduction of Ramanadaporam: I am now further directed by General Smith to acquaint you, that the Nabob this morning mentioned his intentions of agreeing with the troops for their right to the plunder found in that place; that he proposed a Field Officer should share Pagodas 2400, a Captain 1200, a Subaltern 600, and the rest of the troops in the same proportion as at Madura; which the General having made known to the principal Officers, and they readily acquiescing therein, the Nabob was put in possession of the fort, plunder, &c. and all the Honourable Company's troops withdrawn, except a part which remains at his own request. The General, who has been all this day in the fort assisting the Nabob and preserving order, is too much fatigued to write himself, but will to-morrow transmit
to

to your Honour, &c. a copy of the Nabob's agreement, and an account of the operations of the army as they occurred.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Camp near Ramanadaporam,
3d June, 1772.

THO^s. PARKISON, Secretary.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 14th June, 1772.

Received the following letter from General Smith.

To the Honourable Josias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor, &c. of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

ENCLOSED I have the honour to send you a general monthly return of the army for the month of May, with a list of Officers; also a journal of the Marawar expedition, and plans of our encampments corresponding thereto, to the 4th instant.

I have the honour to be, Honourable Sir, with respect,

Your most obedient servant,

Camp near Ramanadaporam,
8th June, 1772.

JOSEPH SMITH.

Extract

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Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday, 15th June, 1772.

P R E S E N T.

Josias Du Pré Esquire; Governor, President.

John Smith

George Stratton

Henry Brooke

John Whitehill

Charles Smith

John Maxwell Stone

George Mackay.

Letter from General Smith, received the 12th instant, read as follows :

To the Honourable Josias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

I Have been honoured with your commands of the 19th and 23d of May, to which I deferred replying, on account of our constant marches, 'till such time as something material occurred for the Board's information.

Mr. Petrie, agreeable to your consent, has taken charge of the grain delivered by Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder for the use of the army, and his attention to that business, I am persuaded, will give satisfaction. As to the price on the sales in camp, it was sold during the Tanjore expedition at twelve measures for a Rupee, and at a higher rate I think it ought not to be vended : I mentioned this circumstance to Mader-ul-Mulk before I marched from Trichinopoly ; in justice no objection could be made, nor did he express any disapprobation thereat.

I am concerned that the Honourable Board should think me remiss in any part of my duty, or attention to their instructions and orders ; it is what I never meant nor intended. When the army marched from Trichinopoly, three days brought us to Vellum, and afterwards one to Tanjore. I thought that by letter having furnished your Honour, &c. with a detail of our operations before those places, particularly of the latter, transmitted by the hands of Captain Montrefor, it would have been needless to trouble you with occurrences which I considered of no moment, but since it is the pleasure of the Honourable Board, that the order of the 30th of December 1768 shall be punctually complied with, in respect to the operations of the army, &c. both of the last campaign and this, the Engineers are directed to make a sketch of the country through which the army marches, with such other remarks as may prove useful, which shall also be forwarded regularly.

It was with concern and astonishment I perused that paragraph of your letter, wherein it is mentioned that the Nabob's eldest Son, Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder,

was insulted by the English troops while under arms to pay him the compliment due to his rank on joining the army. I will take upon me to say, that the Board has been very much misinformed, and that the propagator of so notorious a falsehood deserves exemplary punishment. The day Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder joined the army, I ordered the first company of Grenadiers, with a battalion of Sepoys, to escort him to the plain; I met him myself, and rode by his side along the front of the line, where every respect that could have been shewn to our Sovereign was paid to him, and the men behaved with as much decorum and order as I ever saw. It cannot be imagined that any troops who bear the name of soldiers, when drawn out under arms, with their Officers at their head, could be guilty of so unmilitary a proceeding, where the ring-leaders could be immediately seized and brought to the severest punishment; which most undoubtedly would have been the case, had the men behaved in the manner you describe. I know not who these slanderers are, I wish I did; it would then be possible perhaps to make them adhere a little more to truth in future, and save both the Board and myself some trouble in these explanations, and also prevent such unfavourable impressions taking place in the minds of the Board with regard to the troops I have the honour to command.

The Honourable President will have made you acquainted with the marches of the army 'till our arrival before Ramanadaporam on the 28th May, of which he had been duly advised. I have the honour to acquaint you, that Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, after two days negotiating with the Ranny, gave me to understand that the place would be surrendered to him without force of arms; and I had every reason to believe what he said, as the garrison permitted myself and a number of Officers to ride round the fort close to their walls, and examine every part of it without the least molestation. On the third day in the morning, Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder informed me that every thing was settled with the Ranny for the surrender of the place, and desired I would order the corps of grenadiers, with Capt. Rumley's cavalry, to be in readiness to march and take possession. They marched accordingly about seven next morning to the Plain, and halted a small distance from the fort, 'till the Nabob's Agents went in to settle the form of surrender; but after having waited for some time, I found from the messengers that new difficulties had arisen; and by the armed troops appearing on every bastion round the fort, I communicated my doubts to the Nabob that these people's promises and intentions were very different, for the garrison, so far from appearing to admit him, seemed to me preparing for an attack. Several of the Nabob's people went and came, but all brought vague replies. I repeated my suspicions to Omdat-ul-Omrah, and gave him my opinion that they were only seeking to amuse him, and that it was proper to commence hostilities immediately: he waited 'till four o'clock in the evening, and finding that no satisfactory answer would be obtained, desired I might proceed to the reduction of the fort. Batteries were accordingly erected with all expedition; one of two twelve pounders to enfilade, and four

eighteen pounders to batter in breach. The two-gun battery opened the 1st in the morning, and the other of four guns about seven on the 2d. Between four and five the same evening a breach was effected, and the corps of grenadiers, commanded by Major Braithwaite, ordered from camp to be in readiness for the assault, which was made at five in the afternoon, and the place carried with the loss of two Europeans only. Captain Baillic, my Aid-du-Camp, was the only Officer wounded on the attack by a pike. The grenadiers and other troops employed behaved with remarkable steadiness and coolness during the assault, and those who opposed them died in the breach with great bravery. There were in the place 3000 fighting men and a number of inhabitants: many of those who carried arms were killed, some threw themselves over the walls, and others fled to the Ranny's palace for protection, and there saved their lives, as the first confusion was over before the troops advanced so far: the Ranny, the young Rajah, and Pitcha Pilla, the Dewan, are prisoners: they were found with all their effects, jewels, &c. and of course the whole of this country must in a few days more fall under the Nabob's subjection.

As the fort was carried by storm, the booty and plunder found in the place became the property of the troops employed on this service, which, for a consideration granted to them by Omdat-ul-Omrah, they have given up to him.

Enclosed I have the honour to transmit you a copy of the agreement between the Nabob and the army, with a return of the killed and wounded; and when a plan of the fort, with a return of warlike stores, ammunition, and provisions, can be made out, they shall also be forwarded to your Honour, &c.

I shall soon have the honour to address you again on the subject of our future operations; and am,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

With great respect,

Your most obedient servant,

5th June, 1772,
Camp near Ramanadaporam.

JOSEPH SMITH.

A Translation of a Copy of an Agreement given by Omdat-ul-Omrah Bebauder.

THE troops of the English Company having taken the fort of Ramanadaporam by storm, declare, that according to the rules of war, and the practice of the said Company, the money and effects found therein are the property of the troops:—The Nabob

Nabob Omdat-ul-Omrah Behaudee therefore gives this engagement to General Joseph Smith Behaudee, and all the other Officers of the said troops, that on condition of their giving to him the whole of the money, goods, and elephants, which may be in the said fort, he, the said Nabob, as an equivalent for the same, will give to every Major 2400 Pagodas, to every Captain 1200 Pagodas, to every Lieutenant and Ensign 600 Pagodas, to the Paymaster, Commissary, senior Surgeon, Chaplain, and Secretary, 1200 Pagodas each, and to the inferior Surgeons 600 Pagodas each; to all the Company's troops moreover employed on this expedition against Ramnadaporam, he will give the same as His Highness did at the time of the reduction of Madura. In confirmation therefore, that agreeable to this engagement the above sum shall be paid to every one in the space of three months, the said Nabob has given this writing to serve as an agreement. Further, he will give to the General Joseph Smith Behaudee the one eighth part of what I am by agreement to pay to the whole of the Majors, Captains, &c. Officers, and to the whole of the troops.

Dated the 30th of the Moon Suphur, of the Hegyra 1186, equal to the 3d of June 1772, of the Christian Era.

A Return of the killed and wounded since the arrival of the Army before Ramanadaporam to this date, 4th June, 1772.

None of the European cavalry or artillery killed or wounded.

1st Battalion, 1st Brigade

{ killed
wounded

Grenadiers of 1st Battalion, 2d Brigade

{ killed
wounded

Total

Lieutenants	Serjeants	Private	Total
1		2	2
	1	1	1
	1	1	2
1	1	4	5

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S E P O Y S.

			Subadars	Harildars	Nagurs	Sepoys	Total
Grenadier Sepoys	{ killed	1					1
	{ wounded	1				3	4
8th Company, 1st Battalion	{ killed					1	1
	{ wounded						
Ditto of the 5th Ditto	{ killed				1	1	1
	{ wounded				1	2	3
Ditto of the 10th Ditto	{ killed						
	{ wounded						
Total			1	1	1	7	10

N. B. CAPTAIN BAILLIE and Lieutenant Maule of the Engineers wounded, not included as above, as also Adjutant Lucas, included.

H. A. M. Cosby,
Major of Brigade.

JOSEPH SMITH, B.G.

The President lays before the Board the following letters from General Smith:

Honourable Sir,

THE letter you did me the honour to write on the 23d May* would have been fully replied to some days ago; and that it has otherwise happened, believe me, Sir, was not thro' inattention, but owing to the business I have lately had in hand, which kept me hourly employed; and what from fatigue, heat, and bad water, I have now so disagreeable an irruption on my body, that I sit down in infinite pain to address you. So soon as this complaint is removed, you shall be truly informed of every thing that has passed, and I shall continue so to do of every material circumstance that may occur. The Nabob has sent his troops to take possession of Camery and Pauman Corah. Vackeels are come in from the Nalcooty Man, and the moment I hear their instructions to the young Nabob, you shall know them. I am, with perfect esteem and regard,

Honourable Sir,

Your devoted servant,

Camp near Ramanadaporam,
the 6th or June, 1772.

J. SMITH.

* Vide page 980.

To the Honourable Josias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor, &c. of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

IN a short address I had the pleasure to send you two days ago, I therein made you acquainted with my indisposition, and promised, when somewhat relieved from pain, that I would fully reply to your favour of 23d May.

That the army halted 4 days within 8 miles of Tanjore is most certain, and three of them were at the request of the young Nabob, who represented formally to me he had business to transact with his own servants that were in Tanjore, grain-merchants, &c. as likewise to purchase several articles for the expedition that he could not possibly do without, and to get from the Rajah an order to his Amuldars thro' the country where the army was to march for their being well supplied with provisions of all kinds, and to know whether any of the Tanjore troops were to accompany him; these were the reasons he assigned to me for desiring our stay. I then informed him, that my orders from the Honourable Board were to prosecute the expedition with all diligence, and it was not agreeable to me remaining three days idle. His answer was, that he could not go until he had satisfied his wants, which could not be done at any other place; and if on this plea he has acted any other part, let me assure you, Sir, I am entirely ignorant of it; and I am of opinion that the Rajah or Monajee would have wrote to me, had the Nabob offered to threaten them while we remained so near. It was my intention to have halted for a day, in order to make some enquiries into the conduct of the bullock Maistries, who, after leaving Trichinopoly, had introduced a number of draught bullocks into the service, that were, when mustered, deemed unfit and discharged accordingly.

There was an absolute necessity for the army taking the route it did; and had we encamped under the walls of Vellum, the Tanjoreans, if they were under apprehensions, would have been equally alarmed; and that they might not, I used every precaution in my power, by writing to the Rajah and Monajee ere we marched from the Plain, because I know the jealousy of these people.

You have a most undoubted right to be informed of every occurrence that happens in this army, and it is a duty incumbent on me to communicate them; that I did not of our halt at Tanjore, and the reasons for so doing, was not from any want of respect to you, Sir, but merely not thinking it of that consequence which it appears to be; and which in future shall never happen, as I shall readily and most cheerfully convey to you the minutest circumstance that reaches my knowledge.

Since the fall of Ramanadaporam, the young Nabob has sent several detachments of his own troops to take possession of the different forts in this country; which so soon as he finds effected, and has received an account of what the enemy have left in

them, and what is necessary to supply them with, he then purposes moving against the Nalcooty Man, who I find has taken a very strong post in a wood called Kala Skeri; and where I believe he means to defend himself, as the situation he has chosen is perfectly well calculated for them to act in: so soon as I have gained a thorough knowledge of the place, the different roads to it, and other material information, you shall be advised of the mode in which we mean to proceed against them. The forts of Armogam, Hanamantagoody, and some other trifling ones lately abandoned by the Polligars, are left entirely destitute of provisions; and which I have requested the young Nabob to supply without loss of time, as they border on the little Marawar's country, and are much infested by the neighbouring Polligars.

The orderly books of the Tanjore expedition were left at Trichinopoly, so that it's out of my power at present to comply with the Board's request; but I now forward to them the plans of our march from Trichinopoly to this place, with the orders, &c. Captain Pitman has regularly taken down a sketch of the country as we marched, and will continue to do so until the end of the campaign, when it will be presented to the Honourable Board, unless they should require it sooner.

I think, Sir, you'll be under the necessity of keeping some of your own troops in this place 'till the country is settled; the fort is very old, and wants much to be done to it, if the Nabob means to make it defensible even against Polligars. The palace is one of the best buildings I have seen in this country, and denotes it's inhabitants having lived in truly Eastern luxury, which I'm afraid they'll never experience again. I have seen the young Marawar, a youth about 12 years of age, but the Ranny has been invisible, at least to all Europeans. She has two daughters, both fit for matrimony; the young Nabob has taken up his quarters as near to them as he well can, without intruding on their delicacy, tho' I believe, if their minds were known, they wish him at a farther distance. I have felt very much for the distresses of these miserable people, tho' they drew it on themselves, by not accepting the offers that both the Nabob and myself offered to them; nor can I account for the infatuation which seized them, to think of defending the place against such an army; tho' they had 3000 men, who bore arms of one kind or other, in the town; but being attacked on a sudden, they knew not what to do or how to act, which gave us a very easy conquest. I fancy the young Nabob would have been better pleased to have gained his point any other way than the one we did; for when I informed him that all plunder and booty found in the place would become the property of the captors, he seemed not well satisfied, and could not think it proper by any means: however, after being informed of the rectitude of the matter, and well knowing what the palace contained, which had been preserved as much as possible from the hands of the soldiery, and that the Ranny's apartments had been held sacred, he of himself offered for the plunder 1200 Pagodas to each Captain, and 600 to Subalterns; to the Serjeants and men the same as at Madura; which I hope will meet with your approbation, as I am convinced 'tis far from being a bad bargain, if report can be trusted to. I am, with true respect and esteem,

Camp, Ramanadapuram,

8th June, 1772.

Honourable Sir,

Your most devoted servant,

JOSEPH SMITH.

P. S. This

P. S. This is accompanied with a plan of the breach where the troops entered.

The President acquaints the Board, that notwithstanding what General Smith has said on the subject of the report of the Nabob's Son having been insulted by the troops, he cannot but be still of opinion that the report was not without foundation; and altho' the information he received may not have been exact as to time and place, yet that he thinks his author, as to the fact itself, may be depended on. That he judged it proper, to avoid bringing the Nabob's name in question, to defer making any mention of the affair to him until the letter to General Smith was sent away; that he has since conversed with the Nabob, who acquainted him that he had received the like information, and promised to shew the President a letter he had received from camp on the subject. The President further informs the Board, that he will make more particular enquiry regarding the affair, and inform them of the result.

The President informs the Board, that he communicated to the Nabob that part of General Smith's letter respecting the necessity of repairing the fort of Ramana-daporam, and putting a garrison of the Company's troops in it; and offered, if the Nabob desired it, to order an Engineer to superintend the works, and to put a garrison into it. To which the Nabob replied, that he had not yet determined whether to keep or demolish the fort; and tho' he did not absolutely reject the offer of having a Company's garrison in it, he did not seem inclined to accept it.

The President further acquaints the Board, that having conversed with the Nabob on the expediency of sending discretionary orders to General Smith, to consult with the Nabob's Son with regard to the force necessary to be kept in the field, that the remainder may be ordered into garrison, as soon as the service will admit of it, and the expenses of the army reduced as much as possible; the Nabob had expressed his approbation of the measure.

AGREED, therefore, that orders be sent to General Smith accordingly, and that he be advised of the Nabob's answer respecting the fort of Ramanadaporam.

The President lays before the Board the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour:

Honourable Sir,

ENCLOSED I send you a monthly return of the troops under my command. I have nothing to inform you of but what I mentioned in my last, except that the Nabob's Manager has put people into a little fort called Pondalcovery, fifteen miles south of Palimery, near the frontiers of Palamcotah district: every thing remains in a profound silence, and those parts seem to express a determined obedience, or perhaps wait to see the fate which the people of Ramanadaporam may expect.

Yesterday

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Yesterday I had a letter from the General, dated the 28th ultimo, near that fort ; he says he expects to be in possession of it, by some means or other, the next day, and proposes to go immediately after to Ramanadaporam : he desires me to point him out the best road, by which he may receive some Arrack and money coming for his supply to Madura : I hope his speedy success will bring him this way, and that I shall not be obliged to send it further ; for Ramanadaporam is only a Pagoda, upon an island at sea, of the greatest veneration in the country, where those people may have retired more by fear, than by a resolution to defend themselves ; and as I have been told lately, there is a great division among the people intended for the protection of that Government, having no head but a poor desolate woman, who will submit herself to any terms except giving up the fort, which she calls her house, and which the black people say she will defend to extremity.

I shall remain encamped here about, in order to keep in check the second Marawar, and cover our communication from Madura to the army, as directed by the General ;

Having the honour to be, with respect,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient and most humble servant,

Camp, near Tripavanam
2d June 1772.

A. B O N J O U R.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 16th June, 1772.

To Brigadier-General Joseph Smith, Commanding Officer of the Troops on the Coast.

S I R,

WE have received your letter of the 5th instant, and the President hath communicated to us those of the 6th and 8th.

The Nabob has been made acquainted with that part of your letter of the 8th, respecting the necessity of repairing the fort of Ramanadaporam, and of keeping some of the Company's troops in it, until the country shall be settled ; and an offer was made to him of one of the Engineers to superintend the repairs, and of a garrison of the Company's troops if he desired it. In answer to which, he informed the President, he had not yet determined whether to keep or demolish the place ; at any rate he did not seem inclined to have it garrisoned by our troops ; and indeed, if his own are able to maintain the place, we think it more advisable, than that the Company's troops should be so dispersed. Whenever we are acquainted with his determination on these points, you shall be advised thereof.

From

From the easy conquest of Ramanadaporam, we are led to hope that there will be little difficulty in reducing the country dependent on the Nalconty Polligar; but as we are unacquainted with the service remaining to be performed, we cannot with propriety determine the force necessary for it. We need not say that the Nabob as well as we are anxious to have the heavy expenses of the army reduced as soon and as much as possible, and we shall be glad whenever the Company's troops can, consistently with the service in which they are now engaged, be ordered to their respective stations; it is therefore our desire, as well as the Nabob's, that you consult his Son Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder with regard to the force necessary to be kept in the field; and whenever he and you shall judge that the whole or any part of the Company's troops may, without prejudice to the service, be put into garrison, we desire you will give the necessary orders for that purpose.

We are, SIR,

Your most obedient humble servants,

Fort St. George,
16th June, 1772.

JOS. DU PRÉ, &c. Council.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday, 22d June, 1772.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

John Smith

Henry Brooke

Charles Smith

John Whitehill

John Maxwell Stone

George Mackay.

THE following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour received yesterday, is now read:

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

I HAVE received the letter you have honoured me with the 5th instant*. My direction from General Smith, was no other than a proposal to form a detachment out of the garrison of Madura, in order to join a party under the Nabob's Manager, who I was to support, as far as I thought he could be depended on, for to assist the operations of the army while acting to the south; for which purpose we have determined to open a communication between Madura and Ramanadaporam, by reducing the forts of Tri-pavanam and Palimery, which were the only places where the enemy could have garrisons to interrupt or molest the above communication; this we have effected, not so much by force of arms, than by severe summons's and good treatment to the

* Vide Page 987.

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people who did submit ; so that after the reduction of Tripavanam, the inhabitants of the adjacent villages, who otherwise would all have taken arms, did remain in peaceable tranquillity in their habitations : since this reduction, the people under the Nabob's Manager having all been dispersed for the protection of the mentioned places and dependencies. My detachment consisting only of ten companies of Sepoys, with two three pounders, and expecting daily a reinforcement of the Nabob's troops, who his Manager informed me had been ordered to come for that purpose, I did not think proper to undertake any thing further upon the second Marawar, being doubtful if I could have pursued it ; but proposed to remain encamped hereabout, in order to observe him 'till the above troops had joined. The day before yesterday, Captain Matthews with his party reached this place going to the grand camp. Having had intelligence that the second Marawar was preparing to run away, we had determined to prevent his doing it, in a manner contrary to the Nabob's expectations ; but his Manager having represented his late orders, not to interfere with any places out of the districts of Tripavanam and Palimery, I have deferred the undertaking, fearing this movement should prove contrary to the negotiations of the young Nabob, who, together with the General and army, I hourly expect to see in these parts.

I have the honour to remain, with a profound respect,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your most humble and most obedient servant,

Camp near Tripavanam,
13th June, 1772.

A. BONJOUR.

The President lays before the Board the following letter * from General Smith :

To the Honourable Josias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

SINCE I had the honour to address you on the 8th instant, nothing very material has occurred, except that the Nabob's troops have got possession of all the forts that belonged to the great Marawar, and Ondat-ul-Omrak's having signified to me his desire of proceeding against the Nalcooty Man.

I purpose marching the army to-morrow towards Sravaganga, in order to finish the campaign as soon as possible. The little Marawar remains yet in the woods of Kala-Koil with about 10,000 Coilkries, and where I suppose he means to defend himself.

* One paragraph in this letter is omitted, it being foreign to the subject.

The young Nabob intends leaving in Ramanadaporam Captain Alexander's battalion for it's garrison, and Captain Loudon's, with Nazeeb Khan's cavalry, in the eastern parts of the little Marawar's country, to prevent in our absence their giving trouble to the inhabitants of these parts; which they now would be encouraged to do, should not a force be left exclusive of the garrison.

A part of Captain Gilles's battalion is at Tondy, and the remainder are disposed of in the different forts of Armogam, &c. so that of His Excellency's troops, only Captain Goddard's battalion and Martin's Topasses will remain with me; the former of which act as a body-guard to the young Nabob.

I have been honoured with the Board's commands respecting Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour, with a copy of their letter to him, which I shall reply to to-morrow as soon as we come to our ground.

Enclosed I have the honour to send you a return of the stores found in Ramanadaporam, by which you will perceive what are wanted, particularly gun carriages; all that are in the place being truly of Heathen construction, and unfit for our service.

I shall now, Sir, continue to transmit to you daily the occurrences of our march, &c.

And am, with perfect respect and esteem,

Honourable Sir,

Camp at Ramanadaporam,

Your most obedient servant,

15th June, 1772.

JOSEPH SMITH.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 23d June, 1772.

CAME in the following letter from General Smith:

To the Honourable Josias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

I HAD the honour to address you last night, and agreeable thereto we marched this morning twelve miles W.N.W. on the Sevanga Road. The young Nabob, who had not finally concluded his affairs at Ramanadaporam, and did not march with the army, joined us about two o'clock this afternoon.

I have the honour to be,

Honourable Sir, with respect and esteem,

Your most obedient servant,

Camp at Shieramadain,

16th June, 1772.

JOSEPH SMITH.

Extra

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Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 24th June, 1772.

RECEIVED the following letter from General Smith :

To the Honourable Josias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, that the army marched this morning eleven miles N.W. by W. and encamped on the N.W. bank of the River Vicar, which passes Madura, and at this place divides the great and little Marawar countries. The Nalcooty Man continues still at Kala-Koil, preparing to defend himself.

I have not had time these two days to address the Board fully respecting our future operations; I am afraid the same reasons will subsist 'till the army halts, which will be in three or four days, when I shall do myself that honour.

I am, with respect and esteem,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Camp at Yeamanissaram,
17th June, 1772.

JOSEPH SMITH.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 26th June, 1772.

THE following letter was this day received from General Smith :

To the Honourable Josias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor, &c. of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you that the army marched to day N. by W. fourteen miles into the enemy's country. To-morrow I propose proceeding to Sevaganga, where their advanced-guard is stationed, and from whence I shall have the honour to write you fully. From this place to Kalla-Koil is fifteen miles, and encompassed on all sides with thick woods, impassable except by a pathway; the narrow roads that lead to this place being shut up by barriers and trees cut down for that purpose.

I have the honour to be, with respect and esteem,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Camp at Cannonour,
18th June, 1772.

J. SMITH.

ExtraB

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 29th June, 1772.

RECEIVED the following letter from General Smith :

Honourable Sir,

ALTHOUGH I promised to write you fully on our arrival at this place, yet I have been disappointed from a constant hurry, and numberless incidents that happen almost every moment in the hour to call off my attention; and Mr. Parkin's illness has prevented him from giving me any assistance. I am this instant returned from examining the road a part of the way to Kalea-Kere, which is twelve or fifteen miles from Sevaganga; seven of them the road is pretty good, the country in general very bushy of cockspur roses, here and there open spaces with villages: we have opened the way forwards to a plain that lays between us and Kalea-Kere, and where the grenadiers with Bruce's battalion were ordered to move to, and remain 'till the rest of the troops joined them to-morrow morning, when we shall proceed in opening the way through the rest of the wood; which by all the accounts is exceedingly thick, and the Colleries have taken every precaution in their power to obstruct their enemies' progress, by filling up the roads with large trees, bushes, and digging deep trenches across the pathways, and erecting several strong posts at distances in the wood; and unless we can find some of their bye-paths to enter by, it runs much in my mind, that the Nalcooty Chap and Tandavaroy Pilla, who are both in the place, will, if they resolve on defending it, give us some trouble to force them out: they have a small fort in the center of this wood, and reports say that their families and riches are with them. On the evening of the 20th, Colonel Bonjour, with Captain Matthews's cavalry, and ten companies of Sepoys, joined Mooden Saib, the Nabob's Manager, with some Colleries, &c. I propose reinforcing the Colonel with Martin's battalion of Topasses and two six pounders, and sending him towards Tripatore, to draw off their attention, which seems now wholly bent this way.

One of their Vackeels is with the young Nabob, who I am informed has asked in his Master's name for a Lack of Rupees per annum, his life and honour protected, and he will then give up all pretensions to his country, and will live wherever the Nabob shall think proper: but I do not imagine it possible for them ever to agree; and the Nalcooty Man will either make a desperate defence in his woods, or at once abandon them, and fly to some part of the country where it may not be easy to get at him. The Tappals cannot now pass through the country without strong guards, and I propose forwarding all letters by Madura, as the most convenient, and less liable to interruption. I beg pardon, Sir, for sending you such a scrawl and so incoherent, but I am persuaded you will excuse, until we can find leisure to give you a circumstantial detail of matters. Our heavy guns, stores, and

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baggage are to be left in the village of Sevaganga, which is the largest in the Nalcooty Man's country, and has a palace in it.

I am, Honourable Sir,

With respect and esteem,

Your devoted servant,

J. SMITH.

Sevaganga,
22d June, 1772.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 4th July, 1772.

RECEIVED the following letter from General Smith :

Honourable Sir,

I HAVE been honoured with your letter of the 15th, and the commands of the Board dated 16th, to both of which I shall reply fully to-morrow ; in the interim have the satisfaction to tell you, that Kala-Koil was yesterday taken by a detachment under Colonel Bonjour, with the loss of one Sepoy only, and some few wounded. The Rajah and several of the principal men then in the fort were surprized and put to death, endeavouring to make their escape by the same gate that the detachment had opened a passage into the fort by. The Nabob had for two days negotiated matters with these people, and were on the point (at least to all outward appearance) of concluding it, Cowles, &c. being granted, and were then sending in to the Rajah when the Colonel's party was on their march to the place. I had given the Nabob letters for Colonel Bonjour, which he had delivered to *their* Vackeels ; but instead of forwarding them, as they ought to have done, without loss of time, they were delayed, and our troops possessed themselves of the fort with great ease ; as Tandavaroy Pilla, with the strength of the Rajah's force, was at the barriers opposite to our encampments, and where they apprehended any attack we should make would be from that quarter : so that Colonel Bonjour met with little or no opposition ; though he had a very severe and fatiguing march ere he reached Kala-Koil, and the Colonel is now much indisposed from the fatigue he suffered. The Rajah had ten elephants, several horses, money and jewels in the place, which the young Nabob has ransomed for 50,000 Pagodas. Tripatore has surrendered, and the death of the little Marawar has given the Nabob the entire possession of these two countries ; so that I shall now have nothing more to do than settle with him the number of troops requisite to be left for his protection, and order the rest to their several destinations ; and I shall take the route of Madura, and soon to Madras, where I hope

I hope to give you such account of this expedition, as will leave no room to doubt we have been either idle, or putting the Nabob to any unnecessary expence.

I am, with respect and esteem,

Honourable Sir,

27th June, 1772,
Camp, Kerinour, eight
Miles West of Kala-Koil.

Your devoted servant,

J. SMITH.

P. S. The young Nabob wrote his Father last night, but I was too much tired, and did not know 'till it was too late. Colleries very troublesome on the road.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday, 6th July, 1772.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

John Smith
Henry Brooke

George Stratton
John Whitehill
John Maxwell Stone

George Mackay.

THE President acquaints the Board, that having, pursuant to the Minute of Consultation of 15th June,* made further enquiry regarding the report of the insult said to have been offered to the young Nabob, he had seen it expressed in a letter from Camp, dated 9th May, that the young Nabob was hissed by the European corps the day after he came to camp, as he was coming down the lines in his chariot. That this letter was not addressed to him, the President, nor was it wrote with any apparent intention of giving the above-mentioned circumstances as an information; but merely as the relation of an event, which the writer thought might prove unfavourable to the hopes of the army, as not tending to excite in the Nabob such sentiments as might procure a gratuity to the troops. That he, the President, had again applied to the Nabob for a sight of the letter which he had received from camp on the same subject, and which the Nabob had promised to shew him; but the Nabob's Moonshy being sick, the letter could not immediately be got at; but that the Nabob promised to send it to the President, when it should be communicated to the Board.

The President further informs the Board, that having heard that an insult of the like nature had been offered to the young Nabob soon after his return to Trinichinopoly after the Tanjore expedition, he wrote to General Smith on this subject;

* Vide page 999.

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that the intimation did not however come from the Nabob, neither did the President mention any thing to him of the affair 'till he had wrote to General Smith; and it was in consequence of the letter to General Smith that the young Nabob wrote the President a letter, as entered in Country Correspondence†. That upon the President's application to the Nabob to know whether he had received any intimation of the affair, the Nabob communicated to him the following postscript of a letter from his Son:

A Translation of a Postscript of a Letter from Omdat-ul-Omrab Behauder to the Nabob, dated 28th January, 1772.

YOUR Highness directs me to inform you of the particulars of the soldiers' demanding the gratuity money. From the day of my leaving Tanjore for Trichinopoly to this day, I have heard from most of the army that I should procure for them the gratuity money; but to this I have paid no attention, making it my study to gain the good will of the Chiefs of the English in such manner, that the same money might not fall either upon your Highness or me. Accordingly some time ago, when I was returning to Trichinopoly from visiting the tomb of Nattur Saib, a large body of soldiers cried out with loud voices, desiring the gratuity money; and one of them advanced, desiring the same: I gave no answer, but made a sign to the latter to come to my house, which accordingly he did; when I talked to him both harshly and mildly, telling him, "This was a matter not in my power to settle." The man, after assenting thereto, went away, and spread the report of his having so assented among his comrades; since when there has been no disturbance about the first business. Before I would take the liberty to write to your Highness on the subject, I waited for it's getting to a greater height; God be praised however that has not been the case, the Governor Behauder having wrote to General Smith thereon in a very angry manner; which I esteemed as proceeding from some hint from your Highness, and accordingly returned my thanks to your Highness for so great an attention to my reputation. To say more would be exceeding the bounds of respect.

† From Omdat-ul-Omrab Behauder, the Nabob's eldest Son, to Governor Du Pré, dated 29th Jan. 1772.

Next to the Almighty and to my Father am I bound to express my thanks and gratitude to you, who, notwithstanding my remissness in not having wrote to you for so long a time, have still (conformable to that natural goodness, and that kind attention to friends which you possess) showed me such great favour in your letter to General Smith Behauder, on a bare information of the insolence of the soldiers respecting the gratuity money; at the same time therefore that I thus return my thanks to you for your kindness, am I to beg your excuse for my said remissness. It is true indeed that in the eyes of those who search into the meaning of things, every letter addressed by me to my Father (considering the union that in every respect prevails between you) was in fact a letter also to you; however, in compliance with the formal custom of the world, I have requested forgiveness of a fault which in reality is none: knowing also your goodness, not satisfied even with this request, I have another also to make to you, which I have begged of my Father to explain and to desire of you; and as his prayers on my behalf to the Almighty are attended with all effect, I make no doubt but his requests to you will be attended with the best, the completest effect.

What can I say more?

Opinion of the Board thereon.

Upon reconsidering what hath passed on this subject, the Board are of opinion, that they could not, consistently with their stations, avoid taking the steps they did; for although the matter came before them merely by report, and not from any precise and direct information, nevertheless it appeared to the Board, that however the circumstances, as reported, might differ from the fact as it really happened, yet that such a report would not be entirely without foundation: and what confirmed them in that opinion was, the recent instance of a like insult having been offered, of which the President informed the Board at the time, but which they wished for very obvious reasons might not appear upon their proceedings; and which they hoped might have been avoided, as the President made them acquainted with the letter he had wrote to General Smith on the subject, and which they could not but suppose would at least prevent any thing of the like kind happening again. All these circumstances considered, it was certainly a duty incumbent on the Board, in support of the honour of the Nation, of the Nabob, of the Company, and of their own as well as General Smith's reputation, to make him acquainted with a matter, which seemed to reflect so much discredit on this Government, as well as on himself; and we did hope that General Smith would, in consequence thereof, have made the strictest enquiry into the circumstances which could have given rise to such a report: but as he has, in his letter of the 5th June †, confined himself to the simple denial of the fact with regard to time and place, as related in our letter of 23d May ‡, the Board are of opinion that he should be made acquainted with the circumstances, as they are now reported to us; the following letter is therefore now wrote to him:

To Brigadier-General Joseph Smith, Commanding Officer of the Troops on the Coast.

S I R,

WHEN we communicated to you, in our letter of the 23d May a report which prevailed of an insult that had been offered to the young Nabob by the army on the Plain of Trichinopoly, we mentioned it as a report, and not as an information: had it come to us in a regular, formal, and precise information, we should agree very heartily with you in opinion, that if it proved false, even in the circumstances, the author ought to receive exemplary punishment: but reports do not come to the public with that kind of precision; it is difficult to trace them to the original author; they may have many authors: the ground may be true, but in circulating, the circumstances may be varied, or exaggerated through mistake, inattention, or design. Nevertheless, as reports, such as these, uncontradicted, always leave some impressions on the mind, even in the best of times, and sink much deeper, when contending interests make it convenient for a party to give them vigour, we thought it necessary for your honour, for that of the Army, of the Company, and Nation, and for a justification of our conduct, to inform

† Vide page 992.

‡ Page 981.

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you of the report, *that you might have an opportunity of refuting it if it were false.* In your answer of the 5th June you inform us very circumstantially that the fact, as *we related it*, is utterly without foundation; the circumstances are a sufficient refutation: for we think it impossible that such an insult could have been offered under your eye without being known to you; but we did hope that the communication we made to you of what had come to us by report, would have brought to us in your answer a clear and circumstantial account of what did actually happen, that could have given rise to such a report. But as you confine yourself to a negation of the fact in time and circumstances as related in our letter, we have thought it necessary to make some enquiry into the grounds of the report; and we understand, that although the young Nabob was not hissed by the troops on *the day* you turned out the army to receive him, that insult was offered to him the next day, or shortly after, by the European corps as he passed the line in his chariot. We do not give even this for absolute fact in every circumstance of time, place, and manner, but we must say it seems probable to us that he was insulted by the European troops at some time, in some place, and in some manner; and we are the more induced to this opinion, because on enquiry it appears to us that he was insulted once before at Trichinopoly, after the Tanjore expedition, by a body of soldiers demanding the gratuity-money; and that to free himself from them, he made a sign to one of them to follow him, or to go to his house, which the man did; and this having been done publickly could be no secret, yet we never heard that any man was punished: of this we took no public notice, hoping that nothing of the kind would happen again; but when we heard of a second insult from the army, then ordered on a service which the young Nabob was to attend as the Representative of his Father, we must confess we began to fear they might proceed beyond insult. It rests on their Officers to restrain such licentiousness, and on us to remind them of the necessity of doing so; having done our part, and less than we have done could not justify us, we can only express our concern at what has happened.

We are, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servants,

Fort St. George,
6th July, 1772.

JOS. DU PRÉ, &c. Council.

The President acquaints the Board, that the Nabob had expressed a desire of having a list of the army at the taking of Ramanadapuram:

ORDERED, That a copy of the muster-roll, and a list of Officers now received, be delivered to him.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday, 13th July, 1772.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

John Smith

George Stratton

Henry Brooke

John Whitehill

John Maxwell Stone

George Mackay.

Letter from General Smith read as follows :

To the Honourable Josias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

I HAVE received the Board's commands of the 5th † and 16th ‡, of June to which I would have earlier replied, but that the hope of a speedy conclusion to the wish in hand led me to defer it, 'till I could give them a satisfactory account of the army's proceedings.

After the reduction of Ramanadaporam, Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder represented the necessity of the army's remaining there some days, until his Amuldars were put in possession of the countries dependent thereon, and that the inhabitants were furnished with his Cowle, and brought back to their villages; in consequence of this representation the troops halted from the 3d of June to the 15th, where he signified his desire that they should proceed against the Nalcooty Man, or little Marawar.

On the 16th we removed, and arrived at Sevaganga the 19th; on the 21st in the evening Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour's detachment joined, 'but being much fatigued could not march the next day. On the 22d the corps of Grenadiers advanced to a village near the edge of the Kala-Koil Woods; and on the 23d in the morning the whole moved from Sevaganga to Keranoor, about seven miles west from Kala-Koil. The Colonel was reinforced with the Nabob's battalion of Topasses commanded by Captain Martin, and marched the same day to Sholavram, with orders to proceed to Punganary, a village to the northward of it; by which one of the principal roads leads to Tripatore, and where his appearance would either draw off a part of their attention from the barriers near to us, or give him an opportunity of surprising them while they directed their views towards the army. On our arrival at Keranoor, Omdat-ul-Omrah received several messages from

† Vide page 988.

‡ Page 1000.

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Tandavaroy Pilla, desiring that an accommodation might take place, and his Master would agree to any terms that should be thought proper to impose; but as the Ramanaut people had deceived for two days in their negotiations, I cautioned him not to give those too much time lest they should play the same game, and be only amusing while they moved to a distance their families and effects. He seemed to believe they were sincere in their intentions, and would gladly embrace the terms offered; however, the 23d past, the 24th, and the 25th at noon their Vackeels returned to Tandavaroy Pilla to inform him matters were settled, and they had agreed to leaving the place the next day. As I had observed them during the treaty very busy at work repairing a barrier our troops had burned, and cutting a vast number of bushes to close up the roads with, I was resolved not to stop Colonel Bonjour's progress till I was assured from the young Nabob of his having finally concluded. This information I had from him about 10 o'clock in the morning of the 25th, when he requested I would send orders for the Colonel to halt wherever the letters should find him: accordingly one was given to the Nalcooty Man's Vackeel to forward through the woods, and a duplicate by our own Hircars: unfortunately for the Rajah, Colonel Bonjour was then on his march to Kala-Koil; and the Vackeels, instead of dispatching the letters as they ought to have done, the moment they received them, dallied away the time in camp; and when they arrived at Raneymundulum, a fort about two miles in the wood, and where Tandavaroy Pilla was with all their force watching our motions, the first thing they heard was the firing from Col. Bonjour's detachment; this alarmed them exceedingly; Tandavaroy Pilla went off in great haste and confusion, and the Nabob's Vackeels, with the Marawar's, returned to camp.

Col. Bonjour entered the place without loss of a single man: the Rajah was killed near one of the gates, and several people fell in the first hurry of our troops entering: Tandavaroy Pilla and the Rajah's two brothers made their escape to the westward. Some money and jewels were found in the fort, which the young Nabob ransomed for 50,000 Pagodas; and I shall have occasion to say more of it in my next address. The death of the Nalcooty Man, and the seizure of the Ranny and her Son at Ramanaut, gives the Nabob entire possession of both their countries, and those obtained too without the loss of twenty men. I have represented to his Son Omdat-ul-Omrah your orders with respect to the army, and your wishes that they may as speedily as possible return to their several destinations; he insists on my staying two or three days longer here, and then leave with him a detachment composed of the Grenadiers of the first battalion of the second regiment, with two six pounders, the first battalion of Sepoys, five companies of the 71st battalion, Capt. Rumley's regiment of Black Cavalry, and Captain Martin's Topasses. Capt. Loudon is for the present to garrison Kala Koil, the heavy guns and stores to be sent to Madura, and the regiment, with the fifth and tenth battalions of Sepoys, and Capt. Matthews's Cavalry, march to Trichinopoly; all which I hope will meet with your approbation; especially as I am just informed that the Rajah's people have abandoned Tripatore, the only fort of consequence in this country.

I am of opinion it will be highly necessary, whatever the old Nabob may urge to the contrary, that some of the Company's troops should be kept in this country 'till they are accustomed to his government; which may require some time to break them to, and make them submit quietly to the yoke. Tandavaroy Pilla 'tis said is clever, and had great sway amongst the Polligars; he may perhaps, when recovered from his fright, and finding the greatest part of our troops returned, be induced to raise disturbances in these parts, and prevent the inhabitants settling in the country, and the Nabob from reaping any other advantage from the conquest than merely the possession. This, when represented to him, will I suppose have proper weight, and shew the absolute necessity for lending your assistance. His own troops, unless paid with more regularity, cannot be depended on.

So soon as these matters are settled, which I hope will now be in two days, I propose leaving Major Des Plans to conduct the troops back to Trichinopoly, and take the route of Madura myself.

I have the honour to be with respect,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient and

most humble servant,

Camp near Keeranoor,
29th June, 1772.

JOSEPH SMITH.

Letter from General Smith read as follows:

*Extract of Letter from General Smith to Governor Du Pré, dated, Camp at Keeranoor,
1st July, 1772.*

To the Honourable Josias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

I HAD the honour to address the Board on the 29th June, and therein made them acquainted with every occurrence that had happened since the army marched from Ramanaut; I have now the pleasure to inform you, that the troops under Major Des Plans marched this morning towards Trichinopoly, and that I propose setting out to-morrow for Madura.

The health of Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour being very precarious, and as it's necessary a Field Officer should be with the young Nabob, I have directed Major

Braithwaite to remain with the Colonel, in case his indisposition should oblige him to quit the detachment, which step I hope you'll not disapprove of.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour.

S I R,

THE Nabob's eldest Son, Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, having represented to me the necessity of leaving a part of the army with him 'till such time as the new conquered countries are settled, and being of the same opinion myself, I am come to the resolution of augmenting your detachment with a company of European Grenadiers, the 1st battalion of Sepoys, Captain Rumley's regiment of Mogul Cavalry, Captain Martin's corps of Topasses, and Nazeeb Khan's Horse; which you will please to take under your command, and at all times afford the young Nabob every assistance in your power, that may tend towards the final establishment of affairs in these parts.

Considering the ill state of your health, and how much you have lately suffered from fatigue, I have directed Major Braithwaite to remain with you, that in case it should so happen, from indisposition, you are under a necessity to leave the detachment, he may take command of it in your absence. I have enclosed a copy of the Governor and Council's instructions to me for your guidance. Wishing you health and success,

I am, S I R,

Your most obedient humble servant,

Camp, Keeranoor,
30th June, 1772.

J. S.

To Major Des Plans.

S I R,

THE Governor and Council having directed that the troops under my command should return to the northward so soon as the service they were employed on was effected; you will therefore be pleased to proceed with the 1st battalion of the 1st regiment, the 5th and 10th battalions of Sepoys, field artillery, and Capt. Matthews's regiment of Mogul Cavalry, by the nearest route to Trichinopoly; where on your arrival Capt. Bruce's battalion is to march into the fort, and form a part of that garrison. The Europeans and Captain Cosby's battalion proceed on to Vellour, the light artillery are to be left at Trichinopoly, and Major Horne will dispose of his corps agreeable to the general orders given out at Fort St. George for that purpose. The route I would recommend to you, is from hence to Sholavram, Paganary, Pericham-Koil, Nedomaram, Nicolum, Perour-Killiour, Kirrenour,

Kirrenour, Matour, Trichinopoly; but in case your Hircars can point out any other more eligible, pursue it. Musket ammunition and a Buzar are ordered to attend you, and some of Tondiman's people as guides through their Master's country. Captain Matthews may remain at Trichinopoly, and wait such orders as the Nabob shall think proper to send him for his future observance.

I am, wishing you a pleasant march,

S I R,

Your most obedient servant,

Camp at Keeranoor,
30th June, 1772.

J. S.

The Board's Minute.

HOWEVER ready we might be to gratify Major Braithwaite, by confirming General Smith's appointment of him to the detachment of the Company's troops left with the young Nabob, if it could be done consistently with the good of the service; yet when we consider the strength of the detachment, which consists only of one company of Grenadiers and a battalion and half of Sepoys, together with the purpose for which it was left, we are of opinion, that the appointment of even one Field-Officer might have been dispensed with. Since General Smith acquaints us the Nabob hath entire possession of the whole country, and the detachment, as we understand, is only intended, by the awe and influence it will create, to enable the young Nabob to settle the affairs of Government; under these circumstances, it would be unjustifiable in us to increase the military charges, when the exigency of the service does not require it: It is therefore resolved, that General Smith be desired to direct Major Braithwaite to join his proper corps in garrison. But as the President acquaints the Board, that the Nabob had expressed great satisfaction at the conduct of Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour, and had requested that he might continue in the command of the detachment, as an Officer in whom he places great confidence, the Board acquiesce: and in case Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour should be unable to keep the field, and it should be necessary to appoint another Field-Officer to the command of the detachment, the distance from Trichinopoly or Velum, to whatever part of the country the detachment may be in, will not be so great but that an Officer may have time to join it, without any danger of the service suffering by delay.

The Board observe, that General Smith, in his orders to Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour, hath directed him to take the command of the Nabob's troops left in that country, which is certainly improper; for although the Nabob was induced, for the good of the service, to put his troops under General Smith's orders during the expedition, yet that service being now over, and the army separated, the Na-

bob's troops fall again of course under his own immediate command ; and as we have no control over them, except when the Nabob thinks proper to put them under our directions, it must rest with him to put them under the orders of Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour, whenever he shall judge it expedient for the execution of any particular service. We are convinced these circumstances did not occur to General Smith at the time ; it is however proper that he should be made acquainted with our sentiments thereon.

The President acquaints the Board, that he had been informed that very great disorders had arisen in camp on the subject of the plunder taken at Kala-Koil, the particulars of which he had not been able to ascertain ; but he learns that both the young Nabob and the General had been treated with great disrespect on that occasion by some of our Officers.

It is with the greatest concern that the Board find themselves so frequently obliged to take up matters from common report ; it is what they earnestly wish to avoid, as they are convinced it may, to persons unacquainted with our situation, have the appearance of a desire to find cause of complaint ; but when matters become the subject of common report, which, if true, so essentially concern the honour and interest of the Nation and Company, and which reflect so much on the conduct of this Government, as well as on the Officer at the head of the troops, if he hath not taken measures to punish the delinquents,—and when we are unable to obtain authentick information through the proper channel, that is, from the Officer from whom we ought to receive it,—we cannot avoid taking measures for ascertaining the facts on which such reports are founded. We did hope, from the information given us by General Smith, in his letters of 29th June, that we should before this time have received from him the particular circumstances relating to the affair at Kala-Koil ; but as we have been disappointed, and as we cannot, after the late insults offered to the young Nabob by the soldiers, as mentioned in our letter to General Smith of the 6th instant, but be exceedingly alarmed for the consequences of such repeated marks of licentiousness ; it is agreed, that General Smith be made acquainted with our anxiety on that account, and desired to give us the most particular information in his power.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 14th July, 1772.

Came in the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour :

Honourable Sir,

THE detachment, of which I send you my last monthly return, having in part been returned to Madura, and new troops appointed to remain with me in the field, I enclose you in this the present state of the last, together with a monthly return of the fifth company of the seventh battalion of Sepoys remaining with me.

I have

I have nothing material to inform you with since the fall of Kala-Koil and dependencies. The young Nabob is now appointing people for the management of this district, after which he proposes proceeding towards Ramanadaporam, where I am to accompany him. I have the honour to remain with respect

Honourable Sir,

Your most humble and most obedient servant,

Camp near Sevaganga,
5th July, 1772.

A. BONJOUR.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 15th July, 1772.

WROTE the following letter to General Smith :

To Brigadier-General Joseph Smith, Commanding Officer of the Troops on the Coast.

S I R,

WE have received your letter of 29th June*, and the President hath communicated to us those addressed to him, dated the 27th June † and 1st instant ‡ ; the latter enclosing your orders to Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour and Lieutenant-Colonel Des Plans.

Our inclination is not less than your's to favour the interest of Major Braithwaite ; but as every act of Government becomes an example and precedent, which the interest of individuals will always find reasons to plead on future occasions, we are sorry we cannot, consistently with the idea we entertain of the system proper to be pursued on this Coast, acquiesce in the appointment of two Field-Officers for such a detachment of the Company's troops as you have left with the young Nabob : we do not think, that either the detachment, or the service which remains to be performed, require even one ; nevertheless, as the Nabob is well satisfied with the conduct of Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour, places great confidence on him, and requests his service on this occasion, we readily confirm him in the command of the detachment of the Company's troops you have left with him ; but we desire you will be pleased to order Major Braithwaite to join his proper corps in garrison ; and if Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour's health should not permit him to continue in the command, he may then be relieved by another Field-Officer, if that should be necessary : the distance from Trichinopoly or Vellum to any place where that detachment may happen to be, is not great ; and we do not see how the service can possibly suffer in the interval of Colonel Bonjour's disability to act, should it so happen, and the arrival of another Field-Officer, since it does not appear to us that any military operations remain to be performed. We take our opinion from your advices, which inform us, that the Nabob is now in full possession of the countries of both the Marawars, and that the

* Vide Page 1017.

† Page 1006.

‡ Page 1013.

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detachment is left with the young Nabob to assist (as we conceive by the awe and influence it will spread) in settling the affairs of the Government; but if any occasional service should be requisite in the interval of Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour's disability to act, and the arrival of another Field-Officer, if another should be necessary, the senior Captain may take the command: our plain meaning is this, that we never can consent to burthen the Service with more Field Batta than is necessary.

When this expedition was undertaken, the Nabob was induced, for the good of the service, to put his troops, which accompanied the army, under your orders; the expedition being over, and the army separated, his troops of course fall again under his own immediate command: and as we have no control over them, except when the Nabob thinks proper to put them under our direction, it must rest with the Nabob to put them under the orders of Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour, whenever he shall think it expedient for the execution of any particular service. We are convinced these circumstances did not occur to you at the time you gave Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour directions to take them under his orders.

In your letter of the 27th ultimo to the President, you mention that the young Nabob had agreed to give 50,000 Pagodas for the ransom of the plunder taken at Kala-Koil; and in your letter to us of the 29th, you intimate that you shall have occasion to say more on that subject: we have waited with impatience to hear further from you thereon; we say with impatience, because reports prevail in the Settlement reflecting much on the conduct of some of our Officers.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday, 20th July, 1772.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

John Smith

George Stratton

Henry Brooke

John Whitehill

John Maxwell Stone

George Mackay.

ORDERED, That a letter be wrote to Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour, advising him of the favourable sentiments the Nabob entertains of his conduct, of our having confirmed him in the command of the detachment left with the young Nabob, and of our having given orders for Major Braithwaite to return into garrison, and of our sentiments respecting the Nabob's troops having been put under his orders by General Smith. And as it is probable that the service on which Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour is employed will be a work of some time, and as it will be proper that the several Field-Officers should join their respective brigades as soon as the service will admit of it; it is resolved, that Captain Chaigneau be appointed to the command of Madura in his room. And the Governor acquaints the Board, that he proposes appointing Captain Robert Wood to be Town-Major in the room of Captain Chaigneau.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday, 20th July, 1772.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

John Smith
Henry Brooke

George Stratton
John Whitehill
John Maxwell Stone

George Mackay.

LETTER from the Nabob, advising that he hath no further occasion for Captain Matthews's services, and desiring leave to return him to the Company.

From the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Du Pré, dated and received 14th July, 1772.

CAPTAIN MATTHEWS was lent me, by you, from the Company for the Circar's service, for which I am obliged to you; having however in future no further occasion for the Captain's services, I request your permission to return him to the Company.

What can I say more?

The President acquaints the Board, that the Nabob had informed him, that the reason of his being unwilling to employ Captain Matthews any longer was, that he had great cause to be displeased with Captain Matthews's behaviour at the capture of Kala-Koil.

As the Board, in their letter to General Smith of the 15th instant*, have desired to be informed of the particulars of that affair; AGREED to defer taking any measures regarding the same until we receive his answer.

Jos. Du Pré
John Smith
Henry Brooke
John Whitehill
J. M. Stone
Geo. Mackay.

* Vide Page 1018.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 21st July, 1772.

WROTE the following letter to Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour :

To Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour, commanding the Detachment of the Company's troops with the young Nabob.

S I R,

GENERAL SMITH hath informed us, that he had appointed you to the command of the troops left with the young Nabob, to assist him in settling the affairs of the Government ; and it is with great satisfaction we acquaint you, that the Nabob, from a sense of the propriety of your conduct, hath expressed himself well pleased with the appointment ; which being also very agreeable to us, we have confirmed you in the command of the detachment.

We have wrote to General Smith, informing him of the reasons why we think the presence of two Field Officers with the detachment unnecessary, and have in consequence thereof directed, that Major Braithwaite do join his proper corps in garrison : we doubt not but General Smith hath made you acquainted with our sentiments ; lest he should not, we desire you will signify them to Major Braithwaite, and that he proceed to his station.

In the orders delivered to you by General Smith, copy of which he hath transmitted to us, we observe that he hath directed you to take upon you the command of the Nabob's troops left in that country. The Nabob's troops are under his own immediate control, unless he shall at any time judge it expedient to put them under the command of our Officers, for the execution of any particular service. They were put under the command of General Smith for a particular service ; that service being finished, and the army separated, they returned again of course under the immediate orders of the Nabob ; who may, if he thinks fit, put them under your orders ; we hope he will, but that must be an act of his own, and could not with propriety be done by General Smith ; it will therefore be proper that you apply to Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, that they may be regularly put under your command, if such be his intention.

As the service on which you are employed, may, as far as appears to us, be a work of some time, and as it will be proper that the several Field-Officers should join their respective corps, we have judged it expedient to appoint an Officer to relieve you in the command of Madura, and have accordingly appointed Capt. Chaigneau for that station ; he will set out in a few days, when we shall direct the Officer whom you have left in the command to deliver the same over to him.

We are, S I R,

Your most obedient servants,

Fort St. George,
21st July, 1772.

JOS. DUPRE, &c. Council.

Extract

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 7th August, 1772.

GENERAL SMITH being returned from Camp takes his seat at the Board.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday, 17th August, 1772.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

Joseph Smith

John Smith

Henry Brooke

John Whitehill

Charles Smith

Samuel Johnson

John Maxwell Stone

George Mackay.

GENERAL SMITH delivers in to the Board the following letters :

To the Honourable Josias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

IN my letter to the Honourable Board of the 29th June*, I gave them to understand that I should have occasion to say something further on the subject of the prize-money given by the young Nabob, Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, in lieu of plunder and booty taken by the army under my command at Kala-Koil ; I shall now take the liberty to lay before them an impartial account of what passed there the 26th June relative thereto.

The day following the surprize of the place the young Nabob and myself went thither ; and on our arrival, Colonel Bonjour informed him that he had used his utmost endeavours to prevent the effects, &c. of the Rajah from being plundered ; and that there were in the inner square of the house two small rooms lock'd, supposed to be his treasury, and containing other valuable effects. The Colonel conducted him to the place, and opened the two doors, in presence of myself, Major Braithwaite, Captains Baillie, Cosby, Pitman, Mr. Rois, and several other gentlemen, whose names do not immediately occur. Upon examining one of the rooms, there were found only some brass pots, and a number of trifling things of small value ; in the other, some pots covered with cloth tied and sealed. I raised the first that came to hand from the ground, and found it not very weighty ; Captain Cosby lifted another,

* Vide page 1012.

which appeared much heavier, and from the weight supposed must have contained gold or silver, but none of them were opened in my presence: there were likewise some small boxes covered with cloth, one of which I took from the rest promiscuously, opened it, and found only a jewel, such as the natives wear about their necks, of no great worth, with some few trinkets. The young Nabob having satisfied his curiosity, centries were posted at the doors, with positive orders to admit neither *whites* nor *blacks* without Colonel Bonjour's permission: this being done, we adjourned to head quarters, where the Officers of the detachment were assembled, and a number of gentlemen from camp, amongst whom were Majors Horne and Braithwaite. The Colonel took the young Nabob and me aside, to make known that his Officers either expected the plunder found in Kala-Koil should be given up to them as their right and property, or that he should give a sum equivalent thereto; and Colonel Bonjour's detachment not having shared prize-money for the capture of Ramanadaporam, laid their claim to the whole plunder and booty in this place.

The young Nabob listened to all the Colonel said on this subject, and then made him this reply, as nearly as I can remember;—That in the instructions given him by his Father, he had positively enjoined him not to grant any donation or prize-money, but in cases where fortified towns were taken by breach and assault; that as it had never, since he could remember, been customary or usual to grant donations or sums of money to the Company's troops, when employed on service against Polligars, Woods, or Pollams, he thought they had no right to what was found in the place; and gave as instances where it had not been done, the taking of Worriarpollam, Arrialore, &c. when Colonel Campbell commanded the army: however, he said, in consideration of the fatigue and trouble the detachment had undergone, and for the taking of Tripavanam, he would consent to give Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour and his Officers the same prize-money as the Officers shared at Ramanadaporam, but not a Pagoda more. He further observed, that as the articles of peace between him and the Rajah were finally concluded and signed early in the morning of the 25th of June, and in consequence orders were immediately dispatched to Colonel Bonjour to halt his detachment whenever those orders should meet him, and all hostilities to cease against the said Rajah, which instructions, by the dilatoriness of the Rajah's Vackeels were not forwarded in time so as to prevent the Colonel from advancing and surprizing him at Kala-Koil, where he had remained in full confidence of the security of his person, agreeable to the treaty which he had reason to think was on the point of being concluded; on these grounds the young Nabob insisted the troops had no right to plunder or booty, as what was found there had been kept for the Circar, agreeable to the articles settled and concluded by him and the Rajah. Colonel Bonjour communicated the young Nabob's sentiments to his Officers, at which they seemed greatly dissatisfied, and soon after presented the Colonel with an address to this purport; “That if the young Nabob would give
“to each Captain 6000 Pagodas, each subaltern 3000, and so in proportion,
“they would give up all title to the plunder; but if these proposals were rejected,
“make the most of what they found in the place.” The young Nabob declared
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he would not add a Fanam more than what he had first offered; with which, if they were not content, he would refer it to his Father and the Honourable Board. As soon as the Officers of the army understood that Colonel Bonjour's detachment claimed the whole plunder found in Kala-Koil to their exclusion, Majors Braithwaite and Horne waited on me, and requested, on behalf of themselves and their brother Officers, that no agreement might be made with the young Nabob, in which the army was not included. When Colonel Bonjour marched from my encampment, his detachment was reinforced with a battalion of Topasses, some field-pieces and artillery-men, of course considered then as part of the army co-operating with me against the common enemy, and not in the light the Officers of that detachment seem to think. This difference in opinion brought on some altercations between the two parties, which were soon after settled amongst themselves; and it was agreed, that the Officers of the detachment should receive from what might be given for the plunder of Kala-Koil a sum equal to the Officers' shares at Ramanadaporam, and the remainder be carried as a joint stock, and equally divided amongst the whole. This point being finally agreed to by all present, the next to be considered of was, what sum they should accept of in lieu of the plunder and booty. About the time this was agreed to, the young Nabob made an offer of Pagodas 30,000, and left the division of it to be settled by the army themselves; immediately after he retired with me to the Pagoda, and left them to consider of his proposal: but the sum not being deemed adequate to the supposed wealth of the place, to which they asserted a right, the young Nabob, at my request, increased it to 40,000 Pagodas; I assuring him, that if his Father disapproved of this addition, I would willingly give it out of my own share of the Ramanadaporam prize-money, rather than the army should think themselves injured or appear dissatisfied. This proposal was made known to Colonel Bonjour and his Officers by Mr. Duffin, Surgeon to the detachment, who had been backwards and forwards several times with messages to me relative to the business, and who was the acting person for them during the whole transaction; he returned with an answer, that the gentlemen rejected the sum of Pagodas 40,000, continuing still in opinion that it was inadequate to the wealth found in the place. Finding, after all the trouble I had taken to settle matters between the parties, they still seemed discontented, I informed Mr. Duffin, that I could not think of interfering any more in so disagreeable a business, especially as the young Nabob asserted and declared that the troops had no right to the plunder of the place, peace having been concluded between him and the Rajah, and for other reasons before mentioned; and being myself doubtful with respect to the rights of the claim on account of the aforesaid circumstances, I declared, that if this business could not be settled to the satisfaction of both parties, I should be under the necessity of putting a garrison into the place, secure the treasure and effects, and transmit an account of the whole to the Honourable Board, to be finally adjusted by them and the Nabob: I also assured them, that should any Officer presume to seize or touch any parts of the effects, &c. he should be put in arrest, and sent to Madras. While this was in agitation, hints were thrown out, that if 50,000 Pagodas could be obtained in lieu of the plunder, all then would be perfectly satisfied; and wishing very heartily myself to have it ended, I desired Captain Baillie to wait on the young Nabob, and give him

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an intimation of it; he did so; the young Nabob came in a few minutes after to the place where we sat at dinner, and consented to give the sum mentioned, which was accepted by all the Officers present. Captain Baillie,* at my request, waited upon Colonel Bonjour and his Officers, to inform them of the young Nabob's last offer, and to know if they were fully satisfied with this agreement; in that case our centries might be removed, and the effects put under the charge of the young Nabob's people: he accordingly went, and brought me for an answer, that the Colonel and his officers were satisfied, and that he would put my orders respecting the centries in execution. Mr. Duffin returned to know when the young Nabob would order the bond to be prepared, and at what period the payment should be made; the young Nabob replied three months, the same as has been agreed to at Ramanadaporam. Having no Moonshies on the spot, the bond could not be drawn out the same evening, which seemed to give some uneasiness to the Officers of Colonel Bonjour's detachment; two or three of whom met me on my return to camp, and after paying their compliments, expressed a desire to have the bond signed ere the young Nabob left the place; I observed to them his word was sufficient, I would be answerable for the bond; on this assurance they took leave, and were thoroughly satisfied: Captain Cotgrove, to the best of my remembrance, was one of the number.

I returned next morning to Kala-Koil to visit the young Nabob, where I found Col. Bonjour and Capt. Matthews: the former of these Gentlemen informed me, that Capt. Matthews had been speaking to him on the subject of what passed the day before, relative to the agreement made with the young Nabob; and not being present himself, greatly disapproved the step his Brother Officers had taken, in resigning their right to the plunder for so trifling a sum as Pagodas 50,000: Capt. Matthews spoke to me at the same time, intimating their dissatisfaction. I answered, that the Officers themselves, then on the spot, had debated and settled the matter, and that it could not be altered: here the conversation dropped, and he took his leave. About noon Colonel Bonjour received an address from Captain Matthews and the Officers of the detachment, with another to the young Nabob; copies of both I have the honour to enclose, as also a letter some time afterwards from Capt. Matthews to Mr. Duffin, and his answer thereto. I cannot help here remarking, that it was a very extraordinary step taken by the Officers of Col. Bonjour's detachment, to sign an address absolutely denying what they so lately had agreed to, and that in the presence of their Colonel and other Officers: I could not refrain from rebuking Captain Cotgrove and others of them for having recanted in the manner they did (and under their hands) what they the day before had given their consent to, and which, amongst men of honour, should ever be held sacred. Capt. Cotgrove replied, that no written agreement had been made at the time, and he did not think himself bound to the observance of any other.

You will please, Honourable Sir and Sirs, to observe, that in the Officers' address to Col. Bonjour, dated June the 27th, they request that an inventory may be taken

taken of the effects, &c. in Kala-Koil, *though they themselves the day before consented* that every thing should be given up to the young Nabob for the consideration before-mentioned, and well knew the time our centries were removed from the inner square: Lieutenant Bryne, as he commanded the Sepoys, must certainly have known it; and, if I recollect right, he was ordered by the Colonel, the moment the agreement was made, to deliver over the plunder to the young Nabob's servants. I was at the time highly displeased at the inconsistency of behaviour that appeared amongst those Gentlemen during the whole of that transaction, and should most undoubtedly have proceeded against them as I thought their demerits deserved; but considering that such a step might have awed them from making any representations to the Honourable Board on a matter wherein they afterwards imagined themselves aggrieved, I forbore for the present taking public notice of it.

Thus, Honourable Sir and Sirs, I have given you as candid and impartial account of this affair as my memory can furnish; and have the honour to be with respect,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient servant,

Fort St. George,
17th August, 1772.

JOSEPH SMITH.

To Colonel Bonjour, commanding the Detachment that stormed Kala-Koil.

S I R,

IN consequence of a right invested to captors by a general order of the Honourable the Court of Directors of the East-India Company, we find ourselves entitled to the plunder of Kala-Koil, which upon inspection we find amounts to a considerable value.

The small number of Officers and of men that have been upon this expedition will make the share of each the more considerable; we therefore request of you to acquaint His Excellency Omdat-ul-Omrah, that we are willing to accept of 3000 Pagodas for each Subaltern's share, and the rest in proportion, otherwise that we are willing to take the plunder on our own account.

We are, Sir, with the greatest respect,

Your obedient servants,

Kala-Koil,
26th June, 1772.

(Signed) JOHN COTGROVE, Captain,
In the name of the Officers.

A true copy. Thomas Parkison, Secretary.

1026 EXPEDITION AGAINST MARAWAR AND NALCOOTY IN 1772.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour, commanding a Detachment at Kala-Koil.

S I R,

WE the Officers do, in the name of all your detachment, considering ourselves by the Honourable the Governor and Council's orders, and the rules of war, entitled to every thing that was in this fort when taken by us by assault, and having heard that a compensation is likely to take place, by no means in proportion to the value in money, jewels, and other things which we have seen, do therefore take this method of assuring you, that we do not agree thereto, and request that you will represent the same to the General and Nabob, and cause an inventory to be taken of every thing by proper persons, that we may have our just dues.

We send you a letter for the Nabob, begging you will deliver it to the General for him.

We are, Sir, with respect,

Kala-Koil,
27th June, 1772.

Your humble servants,

(Signed)

Rich^d. Matthews
Jn^o. Cotgrove
Geo. Bryne
Jn^o. Oldham
Harcourt Woodhouse
Robert Scouler
Alex^r. Gordon
Cha^s. Barron
Edw^d. White
Thos. Green
Cha^s. Jeale Ashby
Manuel Martinz
Mich^l. Bruce
Jos^b. Carre.

A true copy. Thomas Parkison, Secretary.

To His Excellency the Nabob Omdat-ul-Omrab Behauder, &c. &c.

S I R,

WE, the Officers of the detachment commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour, considering ourselves entitled to all the effects of this place at the time we took it by assault, and having heard that an agreement is likely to take place, which

which we think by no means equivalent to the value thereof, and without our consent having been obtained, do, in the name of the said detachment, signify to your Excellency our disapprobation of any such agreement being made, and do request that you will permit an inventory to be taken of the said effects, that they may be divided amongst us, according to the custom of war.

We are, with respect,

Fort Kala-Koil,
June 27th, 1772.

Your Excellency's most obedient servants,

(Signed)

Rich^d. Matthews
Jno. Cotgrove
Geo. Bryne
Jno. Oldham
Harcourt Woodhouse
Robert Scouler
Alex^r. Gordon
Charles Barron
Edward White
Tho^s. Green
Cha^s. Jeale Afhby
Manuel Martinz
Mich^l. Bruce
Joleph Carre.

A true copy. Thomas Parkifon, Secretary.

To Mr. Duffin.

S I R,

BEING authorized by the Officers of Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour's detachment to act for them respecting their lawful claim to the several things found in the fort of Kala-Koil, when taken by us by assault on the 25th June; and having heard that you were an active person in an agreement said to be made with the General or Nabob, that Pagodas 50,000 should be the ransom of the said effects, I am to request of you information what you did say concerning the matter to any person or persons, and by what authority you acted, it being of the highest concern to us all.

I am,

Your most obedient servant,

Camp,
27th June, 1772.

(Signed)

RICH^d. MATTHEWS.

A true copy of Mr. Duffin's copy of the original in his own hand writing.

Thomas Parkifon, Secretary.

To Captain Matthews.

S I R,

I HAVE received your letter of the 28th ultimo, and am not a little surprized to find the Officers of Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour's detachment are unacquainted with what was transacted at Kala-Khil, as they were all present except Lieutenants Bryne and Scouler: however, Sir, for your satisfaction I shall repeat what I know of the affair, and how far I acted.

When the General and the Nabob came to Kala-Koil the 26th in the morning, by desire of Colonel Bonjour all our gentlemen assembled, to consult what was best to be done in settling the prize-money with the Nabob. Accordingly a letter was wrote with the content of the whole, addressed to Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour: the purport of which was, that by a right invested in the captors, the plunder of Kala-Koil became our property: the smallness of the detachment, and the supposed riches of the place, made us form an estimate of Pagodas 3,000 to Subalterns, and 6,000 to a Captain; which, if his Excellency did not approve of, we were willing to make the best of the plunder.

After Colonel Bonjour had read the letter, he gave it to the General, who, upon reading it also, gave it to the Nabob, and mentioned to him at the same time the proposals, which were disapproved of, and offered only a share to each Officer, equal to what was given at Ramanadaporam; but by the General's interposing, an offer was made soon after of Pagodas 40,000, which was to be given for the good of the whole, our shares being first made equal to those at Ramnad. I being present was desired to acquaint our gentlemen of it. I immediately went to Colonel Bonjour, who was laying in his Palankeen, and told him the message; his opinion was, that we had better accept of it; and by his desire I went to propose it to the rest of the gentlemen, except Lieutenants Bryne and Scouler. I believe all the Officers were present, and it was their opinion, if we could raise it to 50,000 Pagodas, it would be much better to accept it than to have any further dispute. This I acquainted the Colonel of, who repeatedly wished it might be settled.

Authorized by the Colonel and the greatest part of the Officers, I went to the Nabob; he was then in the Pagoda. I first spoke to Captain Baillie, and mentioned the proposals, which he communicated to the General, and afterwards to the Nabob. Soon after he came and told me the Nabob had agreed to them, which I made known to the gentlemen, who seemed satisfied.

This is the substance, as near as I can recollect, of what I know of the affair: as I left the place soon after, I cannot say what other resolutions have been taken; and

and have only to mention, that I acted implicitly as they desired: if they have altered their minds, they cannot blame me.

I am, SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

Madura,
July 1st, 1772.

(Signed)

WM. DUFFIN.

A true copy of Mr. Duffin's answer to Captain Matthews's letter, wrote and signed by Mr. Duffin.

Thomas Parkison, Secretary.

General Smith also lays before the Board the following letter he has just received:

Dear Sir,

I HAVE received a very extraordinary letter from Captain Matthews, a copy of which I now enclose you, with my answer thereto: I shall make no comments on it, or those gentlemen, who I am afraid are deceiving Captain Matthews; but time I hope will shew who has acted with most probity; agreeable to which I have wrote Captain Matthews. I beg you will lay our letters before the General, to whom make my most respectful compliments; and believe me,

Dear Sir, with much esteem,

Madura,
10th August, 1772.

Your devoted servant,

To Captain Baillie.

WM. DUFFIN.

SIR,

AS our affair respecting what passed at Kala-Koil will be brought before the Board, what you wrote to me concerning the part you acted, and what you told Messieurs Oldham, Gee, Gordon, and Green, being contradictory, you may not appear to advantage; therefore I think you had better recollect what did happen, and favour me with what will be of service to you, if your letter of the 1st July be dropped.

I am, SIR,

Madras,
4th August, 1772.

Your obedient servant,

To Mr. Duffin.

RICH^d. MATTHEWS.

To Captain Matthews.

S I R,

I HAVE received your favour of the 4th instant, desiring me to recollect again what was transacted at Kila Koil the 26th June last, as Messieurs Oldham, Gee, Gordon, and Green, have inform'd you that I have declared otherwise to them than what I wrote you in a former letter concerning that affair.

Whatever those Gentlemen may have told you, Sir, I can form no idea of, as I am conscious, whenever I have had any conversation with all or any of those Gentlemen about Kala-Koil (which has always been in a cursory manner) I have never deviated from the substance of what I wrote you. I am sorry to observe that Captain Matthews should entertain a doubt of my using any finesse in giving a circumstantial and *voluntary account* of the affair merely for his private satisfaction: I painted matters as they really were, in order to prevent your interesting yourself to your own disadvantage on the occasion from a wrong representation of facts; I shall therefore, Sir, strictly adhere to what I have already wrote you; nor am I under any apprehensions of appearing to a disadvantage, as you seem to intimate: and as matters are brought to such lengths, I think it necessary to clear up an affair, that from false representations might throw aspersions on my character, to lay the whole of our correspondence before the General, that it may be transmitted to the Board.

I am, S I R,

Your humble servant,

Madura,
10th August, 1772.

WM. DUFFIN.

ORDERED, That the foregoing letters do lie on the table.

General Smith having on the 11th instant addressed a letter to the Board, requesting permission to resign the service; the President at the same time received a letter from General Smith, desiring to be excused attending in Council, as he was busy in preparing the letters and papers he had to lay before the Board; whereupon the President caused the Council to be assembled on the 11th in the morning, when the letter from General Smith was read, setting forth, that as a peace was established throughout the Carnatick, and that as he had suffered much in his constitution from the climate, he purposed returning to England by the first opportunity, and therefore requested leave to resign the service; and expressed his satisfaction at resigning the command into the hands of an Officer of Sir Robert Fletcher's known merit and abilities. Upon reading the abovementioned letter it occurred to the Board, that as it had always been usual for the Members of the Council, on their quitting the service, to take their leave personally of the Board; and as General Smith had the day before attended in Council, his sudden application by letter to resign the service, might

might appear to arise from disgust to the service, or to the individual Members of the Board; which opinion might with reason be supposed would be the more readily received and propagated after the disputes and differences which had formerly subsisted, and were publicly known and canvassed not only in India but in England. It further occurred, that the letters which had been wrote to General Smith on the subject of the insult said to have been offered the young Nabob on the plains of Trichinopoly, and regarding the plunder taken at Kala-Koil, remained yet unanswered; and although the Board were convinced that General Smith meant to give them all the satisfaction in his power on the subject of those letters, and had informed the President that he was preparing his answers thereto, nevertheless the Board thought it would appear more regular and proper, that the answers should be given in before General Smith applied for leave to resign; and there was not a doubt but that General Smith would upon the least hint see that propriety, and wish to have it so. It was therefore agreed, that no Minute should then be made on General Smith's letter, and the President was desired to acquaint General Smith, as well as Sir Robert Fletcher, with the reasons which induced the Board to defer the consideration thereof.

The Council having met on the 14th instant in the Civil Department, Mr. Mackay proposed that the letter from General Smith should be taken into consideration:—Whereupon the President informed the Board, that it having been agreed, on the 11th instant, to defer the consideration thereof until he could make General Smith and Sir Robert Fletcher acquainted with the sentiments of the Board as above recited, he had informed Sir Robert Fletcher thereof the same day, but had not an opportunity so soon of seeing General Smith; but some of the Members of the Board having acquainted the General of the Board's sentiments, he, the President, received a letter from General Smith on the 12th in the morning, by the hands of Captain Baillie, desiring that the letter might be returned to him. As no Minute had been made thereon, and the Board having expressed their wish that General's Smith's resignation might be agreeable to the usage generally observed, and being of opinion that it would have the appearance of more regularity, as well as cordiality, if the application to resign were postponed until his answers to the points referred to him were received, the President ordered the Secretary to return the letter, agreeable to General Smith's request, and at the same time desired Captain Baillie to acquaint the General with the reasons which had induced the Board to defer the consideration thereof. The following question was then proposed by Mr. Mackay to be put, viz.

“That General Smith's letter read before the Members of the Board on the 11th instant be taken under consideration; and, instead of accepting his resignation at this time, that he be desired by the Board to remain in the service 'till he shall have replied to the Board's letter of the 6th July, and have likewise reported to the Board what passed in regard to the plunder taken at Kala-Koil?” To the latter part of this question the President objected, as it appeared to him to imply an intention of the Board to enquire into General Smith's conduct; whereas he understood that the Board never meant any such thing; and that all they proposed was merely

for the sake of propriety and regularity, and for the appearance it might have to the Public, to afford General Smith the opportunity, which they conceived he would upon reflexion wish to have, of giving to the Board, previous to his resignation, some éclaircissements on the subjects before mentioned; and the President therefore proposed, that the question might be put without the latter part, viz. "Till he shall have replied, &c." Mr. Mackay thereupon declared, that it was by no means his intention, by proposing the latter part of the question, to call General Smith to an account for his conduct; all he meant was, for the purpose of giving General Smith an opportunity of explaining to the Board the subjects of those letters before he quitted the service, and which appeared to him the only reason why the Board should defer accepting General Smith's resignation. That matters having been debated some time, and the other Members seeming to concur in opinion with the President, Mr. Mackay proposed that the question might be dropped entirely, which was agreed to; and it was then intended that the whole transaction should remain in silence, as there appeared no necessity for entering a recital of it on our proceedings. But as the Board are given to understand, that, immaterial as it appeared to them, it is become the common topic of conversation in the town, and that they are accused of having *refused to accept* of General Smith's resignation; and Sir Robert Fletcher having also declared, that he thought himself, as well as General Smith, ill-used by the Board in this affair; and as there is reason to believe, that the conduct of the Board, which has been misrepresented on the spot, may be represented at home with still more aggravating circumstances, they have thought it necessary to be thus particular in relating the matter on their proceedings as it really happened.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday, 24th August, 1772.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

George Stratton

John Whitehill

Samuel Johnfon

John Smith

Henry Brooke

John Maxwell Stone

George Mackay.

LETTER from General Smith read as follows:

To the Honourable Josias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

I AM honoured with your letter of the 6th July*, which came to hand while on my journey to the Presidency, therefore deferred replying thereto 'till my arrival, and hope that will in some degree apologize for the delay there appears in the answer.

* Vide page 1009.

In my address to the Honourable Board, dated the 5th of June, 'tis true I remarked they were misinformed with respect to a report which prevailed at Madras, of the young Nabob's being insulted by the troops under my command on the day he joined the army, and that too when they were under arms. As such a report could be spread with no other view than to give your Honour, &c. some unfavourable impressions with regard to my conduct, or otherwise to prejudice me in your opinions: and as the propagators of these reports had not justly informed themselves of what did really pass at the time, so I thought myself at liberty to reply only to the information given; but as the Honourable Board, in their letter of the 6th July*, seem to think I ought then to have given them a circumstantial account of the matter, so am I concerned it was not fully stated to your Honour, &c. in my address of 5th June†, which would have prevented any farther trouble on this subject.

I never heard any complaints from the young Nabob or his brother, that the soldiery had behaved to either of them with disrespect, while the troops were encamped on the Plain; and all the information I did receive relative thereto came from private hands, which I now take the liberty to inform you with.

On the 4th of May, the second day after the young Nabob joined us, his brother Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, attended by Nazeeb Khân, rode along the front of our line in his chariot just before sun set, where many of the soldiers' women were cooking victuals for the different messes: these women, it is said, were the first who called out to Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder for money, the soldiers who heard the clamours joined in it, and immediately the noise spread from right to left of the Europeans; but what language they made use of on the occasion I never was perfectly informed of, as it happened just at the time when both officers and soldiers were preparing themselves for the evening roll calling.

I made the strictest enquiry in my power to find out the person or persons concerned in the insult, that a most exemplary punishment might be inflicted on them, but my enquiries were not attended with success. The next day I met both the young Nabob and his brother, and, to the best of my remembrance, neither the one nor the other touched on the subject, or even gave a hint at what had passed the day before; I therefore immediately issued out general orders, expressing my displeasure at such unprecedented behaviour in the troops towards the young Nabob, who at this time was supposed to have been with his brother in the chariot. A copy of those orders I now enclose for your Honour's, &c. perusal.

With respect to what happened at Trichinopoly previous to this, the only information I ever had was from the young Nabob himself; who mentioned, that as he was passing through one of the streets, an artillery-man in liquor came towards him, and asked for prize-money; the young Nabob, instead of desiring his attendants to seize the man and bring him to me, ordered the soldier to follow his Palankeen home, and there he presented him with some Pagodas. I remarked to

* Vide page 1010.

† Pages 992, 993.

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the young Nabob, at the same time, how imprudent it was in him to reward a man who had behaved with disrespect; and instead of it he should have given me immediate notice, that, by a severe punishment, such disorders might be in future prevented: the young Nabob then said, that he looked on it as the action of a man who was deprived of his senses by the liquor he had drank, and not in the serious light I had represented, begging of me that no farther notice might be taken of it, and at his desire I acquiesced.

I have the honour to send accompanying this letter the Orderly Book, with plans of encampment, &c. during the Tanjore expedition;

And have the honour to be, with respect,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Fort St. George,

Your most obedient servant,

20th August, 1772.

JOSEPH SMITH.

Trichinopoly Plain, Tuesday, 5th May, 1772, G. O. Parole Suffolk, C. S. Samiavram.

THE General is much concerned to hear the very extraordinary and unprecedented behaviour of the European soldiers to His Excellency the young Nabob yesterday evening; he considers it indeed as the highest disrespect to himself, and only from a supposition that present folly, more than premeditated design, was the cause, for this time forgives. In future, whoever is known to attempt any thing of the kind, or in any way behave improperly to the Nabob, may depend on being punished with the utmost severity; particularly the non-commissioned officers, who ought to know better, and whose particular business it is to prevent such irregularities.

This order to be read and well explained to all the troops at evening roll-calling.

A true Copy. Thomas Parkison, Secretary.

The Board can only express their wish that General Smith had considered their application to him in the light it was really intended, that of justifying their conduct in a matter, which, from the report which prevailed, seemed to reflect on this Government; and that he might have an opportunity of vindicating himself from the reflexions which might be cast on him, for suffering an insult offered to the Nabob, in the person of his Son, to pass unnoticed. If General Smith had, on our first application, given us the like information he has done now, and had transmitted to us a copy of the above general order given out by him on the occasion, we should have thought any further enquiry unnecessary.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday 24th August, 1772.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré, Esquire, Governor, President.

John Smith

George Stratton

Henry Brooke

John Whitehill

Samuel Johnson

John Maxwell Stone

George Mackay.

READ the following letter from Brigadier-General Joseph Smith :

To the Honourable Josias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

WHEN I addressed the Honourable Board on the 11th instant, to solicit their permission to resign the command of the troops, an impediment arose that had not occurred to me, and which it was thought necessary should be removed ere the resignation took place; and having now endeavoured all in my power to give the Honourable Board that satisfaction, I am induced again to renew my former request; and at the same time beg leave to assure the Members of that Honourable Board, that whatever disputes may have arisen while executing the public service, with me they are entirely forgot; and I declare, neither disgust, nor any other motive of discontent towards the Honourable Board, urges me to this solicitation, but an ardent desire of revisiting my native soil after a servitude of 22 years; and I can do it with the greater pleasure, since the command will devolve on an Officer (Sir Robert Fletcher) whose abilities as an Officer have been proved to the world; and who, I am certain, will always exert those abilities to the public good.

With my warmest wishes for prosperity to the Honourable Company's affairs in this country, and every possible success to you, Gentlemen, I remain with all respect,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient servant,

Vipery,
24th August, 1772.

JOSEPH SMITH.

AGREED.

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AGREED, That General Smith's resignation be accepted, and that a letter be wrote him informing him thereof.

Jos. Du Pré
John Smith
Henry Brooke
John Whitehill
Samuel Johnson
J. M. Stone
Geo. Mackay.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday, 31st August, 1772.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré, Esquire, Governor, President.

Sir Robert Fletcher

John Smith

Henry Brooke

John Whitehill

Samuel Johnson

John Maxwell Stone.

THE following letter to General Smith is now signed :

To Brigadier-General Smith.

S I R,

WE have received your letter of the 24th instant, and have, in consequence of your request, accepted of your resignation.

Your zeal and attachment to the Company's service in the course of our administration need no testimony ; and if we offer our's, we hope our Honourable Employers and you will receive it as a justice which we owe to both.

We receive great satisfaction in the cordial declaration you make towards us : differences in opinion upon public measures ought never to go beyond those measures ; with us they never have ; and it is with truth and sincerity we wish you all happiness.

We are with real esteem, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servants,

Fort St. George,
31st August, 1772.

JOS. DU PRÉ, &c. Council.

Extract

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday, 14th September, 1772.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

Sir Robert Fletcher

Henry Brooke

John Maxwell Stone

John Smith

John Whitehill

Samuel Johnson

George Mackay.

Extract of Letter from the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Du Pré, dated 30th August, and received 1st September, 1772.

ENCLOSED I send you a memorial from the Officers of the Circar's troops, received through the channel of Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder. What they represent is this: "That the Company's Officers, during the late campaign, kept them equally " under their command with the seven battalions of the Circar's Sepoys which were " at that time in the camp, and made use of their services also, in the same manner as they made use of *those* of the said Sepoys or the Company's troops; as all " your Officers know: that such being the use, what reason can be assigned why " they should not partake of the gratuity of the five Lacks of Rupees, or Star Pagodas 145,714, and the Marawar and Nalcooty money? and that if, notwithstanding " all this, they are not permitted to partake thereof, the same appears contrary to justice." My friend, there were 5000 of the Circar's horse, and five battalions of the Circar's Sepoy, besides the troops of Tondiman, and the Vencataghery Zemindar, employed on the expedition against Tanjore; at the taking of Ramanaut and Nalcooty, and in the escorting of provisions, there were in the camp likewise a part of the Circar's troops, under the command of the Company's General, who were employed on the former hard and severe service. The reduction of Ramanaut and Nalcooty turned out, as I told you it would, no very difficult matter. If the Circar's troops are not permitted to partake of the above money, it is a piece of injustice done to them, and at the same time disgracing them among their competitors. You are wise; the doing justice herein rests on your honour and wisdom; advise me therefore of what appears to you proper, that I may send an answer to the Circar's Officers.

A Translation of a Memorial from the Circar's Officers to the Nabob, dated 17th, and received by the Nabob, 25th August, 1772.

THE memorial of all the Circar's Officers, who were present on the expedition against Tanjore, Ramanaut, and Kala-Koil, to His Highness the Nabob. Your Memorialists beg leave to represent, that Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, as an Enam or gratuity to the Company's troops for the Tanjore expedition, agreed to pay the

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sum of five Lacks and ten thousand Rupees ; besides another sum in lieu of the elephants, money, &c. found at Ramanaut, and another small sum in lieu of the effects of Kala-Koil : the two latter sums were payable in three months. We, the Memorialists, are the servants of your Highness, and executed the Circar's business at Tanjore, Ramanaut, and Kala-Koil, in the same manner as the Company's troops. The Company's people at that time said, that the whole of the ready money, effects, &c. &c. at Ramanaut were *our* property; and that if Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder did not agree to give them an equivalent, they would take the whole of the said goods, effects, &c. and divide the same according to every man's proportion; in which case we, the Memorialists, should have come in for our proportion. Your Memorialists beg leave further to represent, that if the Company's troops have a right thereto, we, your Memorialists, have also a right thereto; for the Company's troops only act in support of your Highness, whereas we are the Servants of your Highness; and in the affair of Kala-Koil, the Topass company, and Captain Matthews's troops, advanced before the rest of the army, and were the first engaged with the enemy, and stormed and entered the place. On a former service, your Highness was pleased to say, that we should have our share of what your Highness might give to the Company's troops; we, your Memorialists, therefore request your Highness would honour us herein so far as may be just, or else we shall be disgraced throughout the whole world.

May your Highness's years and prosperity last for ever !

N. B. At the bottom of the Memorial it is said to be,—The Memorial of the Circar's faithful Servants,

Captain Alexander
Captain Goodair

Captain Martin
Captain Loudon, &c.

The President acquaints the Board, that as we had no copy of the Nabob's agreement respecting Kala-Koil, he applied to the Agent for the same, a translation of which he now lays before the Board as follows:

This is the writing the Nabob Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder has given under his own seal to the army of General Joseph Smith Behauder; namely, that he will pay to the said army, into the hands of whatever person he may appoint on behalf thereof to receive the same, in the term of three months, the sum of 50,000 Star Pagodas; on which account he has given this agreement. Dated 27th June, 1772, of the Christian Era, or the 24th of the moon Rubbee de lauvul, of the Hegyra Era.

The President also lays before the Board a draught of an answer which he has prepared to be wrote to the Nabob, which the Board approve.

From Governor Du Pré to the Nabob of the Carnatick, dated 17th September, 1772.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter of the 30th of August : the subject is of so great importance, it cannot admit of a decisive opinion from me;

me; for to which side soever I turn I find supporting and objecting reasons. That rewards to merit are great incentives to noble and spirited actions all men must grant; that the benefits thrown indiscriminately amongst good and bad have the very contrary effect none can deny: but to preach such general maxims to expecting numbers, were as fruitless as to reason with the winds or sea. Perhaps a temporizing conduct, under the present circumstances, may be best; by which I mean to say, that whatever course your Excellency shall think fit to take in respect to what is past, it shall not be taken as a rule and precedent; and I shall be ready and willing to concert with your Excellency what may be proper, in future operations, to prevent the embarrassments that now occur.

Having thus, from a sincerity of heart, taken the liberty to offer without reserve such general reflexions as occurred to me on the subject, I proceed with equal frankness to reply to the particular matter stated in your letter.

When the various corps of troops are united in one cause and in one service, to reward the one and not the other must cause envy, disunion, and disgust; unless it be in cases where particular rewards are bestowed on particular merit: this is a general maxim, founded on the principles of human nature, and cannot be controverted. It seems not necessary at present for me to suggest what may have been your Excellency's inducement to offer a gratuity; I shall only beg leave to say, that in respect to the five Lacks and ten thousand Rupees, or Pagodas 145,714, which your Excellency, in your letter to me of the 29th May 1772, offered as a present, out of your own free will, to the Officers, Soldiers, &c. who were on the Tanjore expedition, I did understand that your Excellency's meaning and intention was to give that specifick sum to the Company's Officers and Soldiers, &c. employed on the expedition, reserving to yourself to reward your own troops separately, in such manner as you should think fit; nevertheless as your Excellency must certainly be the best interpreter of your own intentions, and as the sum offered is a free gift and bounty, it rests entirely with your Excellency to do in it as you shall think proper.

The case in respect to the taking of Ramanaut appears to me to be very different from that of Tanjore; for the fort of Ramanaut being, as I understand it, taken by storm, the effects found therein were deemed the property of the captors; and in consideration of the captors' relinquishing their claim, and surrendering those effects to the Circar, your Excellency's Representative, Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, did enter into an engagement to pay to each Officer, &c. a certain specific sum: so that, whether this agreement be construed to extend to the whole of the troops employed on that service, or only to the Company's troops, every Officer, &c. of the Company's appear, by the tenor of the agreement, to be entitled to that specific sum; and it does not rest with them or with me to determine, or even to judge of the rights or pretensions of the others.

The case in respect to the capture of Kala-Koil differs from the other two: that place was taken by storm like Ramanaut, and in like manner the effects found therein were given up to the Circar: but whereas, in the case of Ramanaut, a particular

ticular sum is expressed to be paid to each particular person; in that of Kala-Koil the sum of fifty thousand Pagodas is agreed by Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder to be paid to the army of General Joseph Smith Behauder. The words certainly imply the whole army; it is however represented to me, that it was understood by the Officers of the Company's troops to have been intended for their proportion only; it must rest with your Excellency to determine as to you shall seem just.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday, 28th September, 1772.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

Sir Robert Fletcher

Henry Brooke

Charles Smith

John Maxwell Stone

John Smith

John Whitehill

Samuel Johnson

George Mackay.

LETTER from Captain Matthews read as follows :

To the Honourable Josias Du Pré Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

THE day I arrived at Madras I received a message from the Nabob by a Dubash to this purport, " That the Nabob had no further occasion for me, and I " might go to my duty in the Company's service." Being certain of having given him no real cause of treating me thus injuriously, I felt this abrupt dismissal with all the force of the intended indignity; to add to it, Mader ul-Mulk Behauder hath frequently exulted upon my being, as he expresses it, *turned out of his Father's service.*

In a conversation with the Governor the day after my arrival, I heard that Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder had wrote to his Father heavy complaints of my behaviour to him at Kala-Koil. As I am sensible they are void of truth, I may with reason be apprehensive of others equally unjust from the same quarter, which may not come to my knowledge time enough to prevent the mischief intended me; I therefore shall trouble you with a circumstantial relation of what did happen on the 25th and 26th of last June, which was the cause of the part I acted on the 27th.

Kala-Koil was taken by surprize the 25th of June, 1772, by a party under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour. Great quantities of money, many jewels, plate, and valuable clothes were found; ten elephants, forty horses, and a number of bullocks. Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour perceiving a general plunder, desired

desired the Officers to put a stop to it, and cause every thing to be carried to the Palace. Some Officers told him they conceived they had a right to what might be found in the place, as it was taken by assault; he replied, he knew it very well; that it was his intention all persons concerned should have due proportions; that his detachment only had a right to it, which if any one attempted to deprive them of, he would give up the place to be plundered: he thought the value of the effects might be four Lacks of Pagodas. One man asked protection of Captain Cotgrave, promising to shew where immense treasure was hid; this person he delivered to Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour, and heard no more of him.

The 26th in the morning, the General, the Nabob, and many Officers of the army, went to the fort. The General congratulated Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour's Officers on their success, saying that every thing belonged to them, the army not being entitled to a part. The Nabob was perfectly happy at the capture of the place, because, as he said, it was not his intention to make peace with the Nalcooty Polligars; and asked the Officers what they would take for their shares of prize-money. The Gentlemen, by desire of Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour, were called together; they made a demand in writing of three thousand Pagodas for a Subaltern, six thousand for a Captain, and in that proportion for the several ranks.

The Nabob, the General, and others, went to the place where the treasure was secured; the Nabob looked at it, and was anxious for the departure of every person; he made their stay very short, and desired the things might be taken great care of: sometime afterwards our centinels were relieved by the Nabob's.

It was rumoured that the Nabob had made some inadequate proposals; that the Officers of the army had protested against any agreement with the Nabob or any other person for a ransom, without the consent of all parties; and that the General should say, if Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour's Officers did not agree to the proposals, they probably might not get any thing. Great confusion, in consequence of the difference, ensued; at length the General made known that he had prevailed on the Nabob to give fifty thousand Pagodas, of which Lieutenant Colonel Bonjour's detachment were to receive as much as the Officers of the army were promised for Ramadaporam, and the remainder divided equally among the whole. Dr. Duffin told some of Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour's Officers, that the General said, if they did not agree to this, he would order them out of the fort, put his Grenadiers over the palace, and that they should not have any thing.

The evening of the 26th, Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour's Officers sent me word (I was at the distance of 9 miles from Kala-Koil, at the edge of the wood) they were apprehensive of their being deprived of their right, for want of some person to speak for them; desiring I would not fail being with them the next morning. I went, and heard what I have related, and much more. They were much chagrined that the General should attempt to force them to a compliance, and at Lieutenant Colonel Bonjour's passive behaviour, after making them such promises on the 25th; for some of them had delivered up several thousand Pagodas, upon being

assured of a share of the whole. They declared they would not consent to such a trifling compensation as the General seemed to think sufficient, and requested me to tell Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour their sentiments; I did so, and desired he would acquaint the General with them; he said he would; went, and brought me word, that the General would be glad if I would point out the means to settle the matter. I asked his permission to speak to the General, which he readily granted, saying his indisposition was the cause of his resigning every thing to him, and hoped it would be settled to the Officers' satisfaction.

I told the General, that the Officers of Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour's detachment had desired me to assure him, that they would not agree to the terms of a ransom said to be making with the Nabob for the treasure, &c. in Kala-Koil; that they did think fifty thousand Pagodas was not an eighth of the value of the effects in the place; and requested he would be pleased not to settle with the Nabob but to their satisfaction; and that a true estimate might be known, they hoped he would take off the Nabob's centinels, put on the Company's, and permit an inventory to be taken; after which we should be capable of judging of terms adequate for ransoming such things as we could not readily value; because they held the specie in the brass pots to be full as good as any the Nabob could give. The General said the Officers had agreed; that he had finished the business with the Nabob, and that it could not be altered; that he did not think the Board would consent even to that. I replied, the Officers had not agreed, and would stand to the consequence of refusing to agree to the Nabob's last proposals, and refer the matter to the Governor and Council; so that he should secure the effects. The Nabob had not signed the bond at this time; I saw it in his hand; he said it was not proper, and would have one wrote of only two lines, or something to the same purpose.

When I informed Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour's Officers of this, a representation was determined on to be given to Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour, to be made known to the General, and a protest for the Nabob. These we sent about 9 o'clock in the morning of the 27th, and had no message from the General until near four in the afternoon, which was in words to this effect, "That if he heard a word of the matter, he would send Captain Matthews and the other Officers prisoners to Madras".

I never spoke a syllable to Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder concerning the prize-money.

As I hope my conduct as an Officer has hitherto met with your approbation, and as this prejudged abusive treatment from the Nabob Waulau Jau, &c. &c. respects the service in general, I humbly request your Honour, &c. will be pleased to take such measures as shall appear to you most proper to do me justice.

I cannot

I cannot help remarking, that to oblige the Nabob, I declined the honour and advantage of the command of a troop of above one hundred strong, which was offered to me upon the death of Captain Cowley.

I am, with great respect,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient humble servant,

Madras,
September 21st, 1772.

RICHARD MATTHEWS.

The whole transaction respecting Kala-Koil, as far as has come before the Board, appears so confused and intricate, that the Board cannot with propriety pass a precise judgment thereon; they can, however say, that Captain Matthews, from his general conduct as an Officer, has always merited their good opinion.

Jos. Du Pré
Rob. Fletcher
John Smith
Henry Brooke
John Whitehill
Charles Smith
Sam^l. Johnson
J. M. Stone
Geo. Mackay.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 3d October, 1772.

THE Nabob having, in a letter received yesterday, represented that the Colleries in the districts of Ramanaut and Sevaganga were collecting their forces, and that it would be necessary to reinforce Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour, to enable him to reduce them; which he thought should be effected before any thing was attempted against the Polligars in the Tinnevelly country, and therefore proposed that Major Braithwaite should immediately proceed and join Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour.

From the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Du Pré, dated and received 2d October, 1772.

I HAVE lately received advices that the Colleries have joined together, and are raising disturbances in the districts of Ramanaut and Sevaganga; I am to request therefore that you will be so good as to order Major Braithwaite, who is set out for Tinnevelly, first to punish the Collery disturbers; and after every thing is settled to our satisfaction respecting them there, to proceed to Tinnevelly: the sooner this order is sent the better. By God's Blessing I shall dispatch Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder also to his assistance, with two battalions of Sepoys, and the 1st regi-

ment of cavalry, in order that the punishment of the Colleries may be effectually accomplished by Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder and Colonel Bonjour, their acting on one side, and Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder and the Major on the other. I have repeatedly before mentioned this matter to you in conversation. You will be so kind as to order the Major to remain with Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, until Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder shall join the army, when, as it was before determined on, he will act with Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder.

What can I say more?

In the Nabob's Hand.

YOUR kindness in this matter is requisite.

In consequence of which the following letter was immediately dispatched.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour.

S I R,

THE Nabob having represented to us, that it is necessary you should be reinforced, in order to enable you the more effectually and expeditiously to reduce to obedience the Colleries, who are now in arms, and raising disturbances in the districts of Ramanaut and Sevaganga, we have this day sent orders to Major Braithwaite to join you with his detachment, if you shall think it proper: we enclose you copy of our orders to him, in consequence of which you will please to send him immediately such instructions as you shall think the service requires.

We are, Sir,

Your most obedient servants,

Fort St. George,
3d October, 1772.

JOS. DU PRÉ, &c. Council.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday, 19th October, 1772.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.	
Sir Robert Fletcher	John Smith
Henry Brooke	John Whitehill
Charles Smith	Samuel Johnson
John Maxwell Stone	George Mackay

Extract of Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour to the President and Council, dated, Camp near Covenoor, 6th October, 1772.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

GREAT confusion still subsists in the Marawar, and indeed I cannot foresee when it will be calmed, considering the innovations which the Nabob's government may

may introduce or propose amongst these people. As I cannot place any dependance in the Nabob's troops, who are dispersed over this country, and on account of the taking of the fort of Camery by the enemy, I have ordered Captain Browne's battalion to join me, not knowing what turn affairs may take to the south; should it be a favourable one, this battalion may be in readiness at any time to join Major Braithwaite's detachment. The above fort, which is the best in the country, has since been abandoned by the enemy.

I have the honour to be, with profound respect,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient humble servant,

Camp near Covenoor,
6th October, 1772.

A. B O N J O U R.

The Board's Minute.

AS Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour must, from his knowledge of the country, and the disposition of the inhabitants, be the best judge of the measures necessary to be taken for reducing the Naut Colleries, and for maintaining peace and quietness in the district of the Marawar Polligars, it must be left to him to take such steps, with the concurrence of Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, as shall appear most expedient for that end.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 23d October, 1772.

Extract of Letter from the President and Council to Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour,

WE have received your letters of 20th September and 6th instant.

You, who are on the spot, must be the best judge of the measures necessary to be taken for keeping the Marawar country in subjection, and for reducing the Naut Colleries, as you are best acquainted with the nature of the country and the disposition of the inhabitants; we must therefore rely on your prudence to take such steps, with the concurrence of Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, as may appear best calculated for establishing and maintaining peace and quietness in those districts.

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Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday, 26th October, 1772.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

Henry Brooke

Charles Smith

John Maxwell Stone

Sir Robert Fletcher absent.

John Smith

John Whitehill

Saml. Johnson

George Mackay.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Bonjour read as follows :

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

I HAVE received your letter, enclosing your order to Major Braithwaite to join me with his detachment; as I was sensible that this was in consequence of the fort of Canery having fallen into the hands of the enemy, and that fort being since abandoned by them, I proposed leaving the above detachment in waiting in Madura, or it's environs: but the Nabob Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder having represented to me the necessity of his going to Ramanadaporam, where he desired I would accompany him with the troops I had then with me; *at the same time representing the great troubles in the second Marawar country*, he requested that I should call the detachment under Major Braithwaite, in order to be disposed of for it's protection. Considering the matter, I objected, that not knowing the resources he had in this country for provisions, I could not, in such a season, consent to it without being perfectly satisfied on this account; and he not sufficiently clearing this point to me, I only consented that Captain Johnson's battalion of Sepoys should be stationed at Kala-Koil and Savaganga, where he promises that he will see they are provided with provisions for three months. In consequence of this, the above Captain Johnson marched yesterday for the said place; having prevailed with the Nabob to give him the command of all the forces he proposes leaving in this country, in order that the whole may be actuated by measures relative to the support of each party, for which I have given to Captain Johnson such instructions as I thought the most eligible for the purpose. But give me leave, Honourable Sir and Sirs, to represent to you, that in this case I have acted more as a man to whom it imports to justify his conduct at any time, than from an opinion that the number of troops employed in this service will answer a wise purpose. You will see by my letter to His Highness the Nabob, which, agreeable to order, I beg, after perusal, you will transmit to him, *That force of arms alone will not effect the settling and tranquillity of this country.* This I must enforce, by requesting you will support my opinion before him; for *I cannot promise you any thing favourable from the operations I may direct,*
when.

when they are not supported by a system of government, suitable to the genius, customs, and privileges of the people who are to be influenced by it.

I have the honour to remain, with perfect respect,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient and most humble servant,

Camp near Covenoor,
17th February, 1772.

A. BONJOUR.

To His Highness the Nabob of the Carnatick, &c. &c. &c.

S I R,

I HAVE received the letter you have honoured me with, and am extremely obliged to your Highness for your favourable attention to me, by increasing my detachment with the troops under Major Braithwaite; but am sorry to see this country in such a state of confusion, as to apprehend that force of arms will not have the effect of settling it. For these people, sensible of their inferiority before our troops, and a great number of them still animated by an attachment to their former Government, have fixed their attention to create a disorder, which may prevent your Highness from receiving the revenues of this country; so that a war may be continued for a long time without encountering an enemy, who always avoid engaging when plunder is not in question; by which the followers of our camp and poor village-people are the greatest sufferers; at the same time the expenses of your Highness's troops are considerable, without foreseeing a probability of supplying to them by the produce of the above country. Considering this, I have taken the liberty to recommend to the Nabob Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder, to endeavour to bring Tandavaroy, who is the man of the most influence among them, to your Highness's interest, by offering to him such terms, as to make it worth his while to remain your Highness's faithful servant; even by giving him, as he had before, the management of the whole country; which would always be secured, by your Highness having proper garrisons in the principal forts, and having spies over Tandavaroy, whose power should be limited to the authority of a renter.

Any thing in my power shall not be wanting to settle matters to the satisfaction of all parties. The rains at present are very contrary to the operations of par-tisans, by whom only success may be expected in surprizing the enemy, and taking some of their Chiefs prisoners. Wishing your Highness perfect health, and happy success in all your undertaking, I have the honour to remain, with gratitude and respect,

Your Highness's most humble

and most obedient servant,

Camp near Covenoor,
16th October, 1772.

A. BONJOUR.