

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

I HAVE the honour to inform you, that yesterday the corps of Grenadiers, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Vaughan, took possession of the breach, and entered the town by storm. It being at noon-day, and an intense hot sun, the enemy had retired as usual to their victuals, concluding the attack would not be made 'till evening, and the place was surprized with little loss on our side. It has proved a very fortunate stroke; the lives of our best Europeans saved; the Rajah and his family, Monajee and his sons, two of whom are wounded, being prisoners.

Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder requested that the Company's troops should remain in the town 'till this morning, when, if agreeable to him, I shall withdraw them, and leave the Nabob's troops in possession of our conquest.

There are many hundreds of horses taken in the fort, and Nazeeb Khan's cavalry, who were to the eastward, have also seized some. When an account of the stores and ammunition can be had I shall forward it, with returns of the killed and wounded, and wait the Board's orders for the future destination of the troops.

The situation of the Rajah is truly pitiable, and likewise Monajee's; I do therefore hope, as the place has fallen by the English arms, that the Honourable Board will exert their influence with His Highness, that those prisoners may be treated agreeable to the rank they once held in this country.

Lieutenant-Colonel Ross, our Chief Engineer, has great merit; our works were carried on with spirit, security, and judgment; and the Officers of the highest rank in this army say they were the best they had ever seen in this country. I have also the pleasure to say with justice to all the Officers and men on this expedition, that they have exerted themselves in the discharge of their duty with the utmost spirit and alacrity, and so as to recommend them to the favour of the Honourable Board.

I have the honour to be with respect,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient servant,

Tanjore Fort,

18th September, 1773.

JOSEPH SMITH.

ORDERED, That the thanks of the Board be communicated to General Smith and the Army for their spirited and good conduct on this expedition.

As it may be of much consequence to the Company to receive the earliest intelligence of the conquest of Tanjore, it is resolved to address the Honourable Court on this subject by the way of Bengal and Bombay.

Read draught of a letter to the Honourable Court of Directors;

APPROVED, and ordered to be dispatched by the Dolphin, under cover to the President and Council of Fort William.

A^r. Wynch
John Smith

Charles Smith
Sam^l. Johnson
J. M. Stone
E^d. Stracey.

Pursuant to the resolution of this day, the following letter was wrote and dispatched by the Dolphin to the President and Council of Fort William:

To the Honourable Warren Hastings Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council of Fort William.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

WE have the pleasure to acquaint your Honour, &c. that the capital of Tanjore was taken by storm the 17th at noon, with a very inconsiderable loss.

The enclosed packet to the Honourable Court of Directors contains the account of this event, which we request your Honour, &c. will forward by the very first dispatch for Europe.

By advices received from Poonah, dated the 5th instant, we are informed that Narrain Row was assassinated by a Commandant of Sepoys; and that his uncle, Ragonaut Row, was thereupon set at liberty, and will, we understand, be appointed his successor.

As the Mansfield is not yet arrived, and as we are apprehensive it may not be in our power to dispatch her for Europe should she not arrive in the course of this month, we must again request your Honour, &c. will order the Mercury to call here for our dispatches to the Honourable Court.

We are, Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your obedient and most humble servants,

Fort St. George,
20th September, 1773.

A^r. WYNCH, &c. Council.

Extract

1220 EXPEDITION AGAINST TANJORE IN 1773.

Extract of Letter from the Select Committee at Fort St. George to Thomas Mostyn Esquire, Resident at Poonah, dated 20th September, 1773.

WE have been duly favoured with your letter of the 4th August, which reached us the 18th of the same month, and were glad to find, by the intelligence contained therein, that there was little probability of our meeting with any interruption from the Marattas in our operations against Tanjore. We deferred replying to your abovementioned letter until this time, in the expectation of our being able to communicate to you some important advices respecting Tanjore; and we have now the satisfaction to acquaint you, that the place was taken by assault, after a practicable breach made, the 17th instant, and the Rajah with his family and principal officers were made prisoners. What adds to the satisfaction we feel on this occasion, is the little loss we have sustained during the expedition.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 21st September, 1773.

DISPATCHED the following letter to General Smith, conformable to the resolution of yesterday's Council.

To Joseph Smith Esquire, Brigadier-General, and Commanding Officer of the Forces on the Coast.

S I R,

WE have received your letter of the 18th instant, and congratulate you upon the conquest of Tanjore.

We desire you will accept of our thanks for the zeal, activity, and good conduct which you have manifested upon this expedition, and that you will also communicate our thanks to the officers and men under your command for their vigilance and spirit on this occasion.

We shall in a day or two reply fully to the other parts of your letters, and give you the necessary orders and directions.

We are, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

Fort St. George,
21st September, 1773.

A^R. WYNCH, &c. Council.

Wrote the following letter to Bombay :

To the Honourable William Hornby Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council of Bombay.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

IN our letter of the 1st September we advised your Honour, &c. of the progress of the siege of Tanjore, and we have now the pleasure to acquaint you, that the place was carried by storm the 17th instant at noon. The enemy being off their guard, and not suspecting the attack at that time of the day, our loss was much more inconsiderable than could have been expected.

As it may be of material consequence to the Company to receive the earliest intimation of this important conquest, we request your Honour, &c. will dispatch the accompanying packet for the Honourable Court either by the first opportunity over-land, or by the first sea conveyance that may offer from your Coast.

We are, Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient and most humble servants,

Fort St. George,
21st September, 1773.

AR. WYNCH, &c. Council.

Proceedings with the Dutch, in consequence of the Expedition against Tanjore in 1773; and of the Nabob's unwillingness to admit an English Garrison into that Fortrefs.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Wednesday, 22^d September, 1773.

P R E S E N T,

Alexander Wynch Esquire, Governor, President.

John Smith

John Whitehill

Charles Smith

John Maxwell Stone

Edward Stracey.

THE President reports to the Board, that he yesterday represented to the Nabob, that as the conquest of Tanjore was now accomplished, there appeared no longer any necessity for keeping the troops in the field; and therefore advised that they might be ordered to their respective garrisons, in order to reduce the expenses incurred by the field charges. That the Nabob, in reply to this, requested that the army might for the present be kept together, as it would probably be found necessary to employ the troops in reducing some districts in the Tanjore country to his obedience. The President now lays before the Board a letter from the Nabob which he received last night on this subject. In the said letter the Nabob sets forth, that the Dutch have taken possession of certain districts in the Tanjore country, which they now occupy with their troops, under the

pretence of having purchased them from the Rajah : in consequence of which, the Nabob requests that the army may be ordered to march towards these districts, and to put him in possession of the same, if the Dutch refuse to deliver them up in an amicable manner ; adding, that the Rajah of Tanjore being his tributary, he had no right to sell or alienate any part of his dominions to the Dutch. He declares his readiness to continue to them the protection and privileges they enjoyed during the time of Rajah Pertaupa Sing, the Father of the dispossessed Rajah ; but he intimates his apprehensions, that they intend to deceive, and take this opportunity of increasing their power and consequence ; which if not prevented in time, may prove of bad consequences to his government and the Company's interest. The Nabob further adds, that Sir Robert Harland approves of the measure he recommends, and has declared his readiness to afford every assistance in his power.

*From the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Wynch, dated and received
21st September, 1773.*

THROUGH the blessing of the Almighty, and the assistance of my best friends, the city and fort of Tanjore have fallen into my hands. After expressing great thanks to you for the pains you have taken in this business, and requesting, as a favour, you will convince the Gentlemen of Council of my thankfulness to them for the friendly assistance they have also afforded me therein ; considering the present situation of affairs in the country, in order that I may have your opinion, I beg leave to acquaint you of the following past transactions.

For the good of the country you thought it proper to assist me with the Company's troops to take Tanjore, for which I am greatly obliged to you. My present application to my friends is this, that they will keep the troops in the field until the whole country comes into my possession ; for without the country what signifies the fort ? as it is the yearly revenues of this country that will enable me to strengthen my friendship with the English Company. One business well done is a reason why another should be well done ; I am therefore in hopes that you will not refuse my application. You well know that the Dutch pretend they have purchased a small quantity of ground from the dispossessed Rajah. The same power which, by God's blessing and your assistance, I possessed over the fort of Tanjore, I also possess over the whole country : the Rajah was a tributary of mine, and had therefore no right to sell such districts without my permission, and for this reason the purchase of the Dutch cannot be just.

There is no necessity for my mentioning to you, that the Dutch being possessed of such a proper territory, by which they may be enabled to keep up a handsome force in this country, is very prejudicial to the interests of the English Company. The interest of the latter is clearly this ; that besides themselves no European should be possessed of power in this country. In this light therefore, since that territory will give the Dutch such vast power, as to be of detriment to mine and
your

your interests, every reason points out the necessity, that, as well for the sake of my friendship as our mutual interests, I should desire of you to order the army to march towards that territory, which the Dutch keep in their possession through deceit, and to oblige them to deliver up the same to me. I am the owner of that country, and do not wish to take any advantage of the Dutch, but will with the greatest pleasure agree that they should remain in the same state they were in the time of Pertaupa Sing, the Father of the dispossessed Rajah, and that the same privileges be continued to them; their being in possession of more than these is neither for your nor my interest. It is not my intention to quarrel with the Dutch, for I know they are your friends; indeed it will give me great pleasure to enter into a friendly and an amicable negotiation with them; but what I am apprehensive of is, that their views are to deceive, and that if we do not act with firmness, they will make unjust and unreasonable requisitions; for which reason it is that I desire the troops may march towards those parts. The Admiral thinks this is a proper step, and is very sensible that, in this affair, my interests and those of the English Nation and the English Company are one; he has therefore frankly agreed, that immediately upon the determining of this matter between you and me, he will afford every assistance in his power. It appears to me, that to bring the Dutch to an equitable road there needs only firm resolutions; and that whenever they see the King's ships and the army proceeding for my business, they will do justly by me; and I shall at all times be ready to settle the same in an equitable manner, as may be agreeable to you.

Respecting the fort of Tanjore, be so good as to send orders to Colonel Ross, to repair as soon as possible the wall he breached, and to destroy every thing he has done for the taking of the place. Be so obliging as to send me an answer to this letter soon, for this is an excellent opportunity, and such matters may be adjusted now with a great deal more ease than they can be by and by; after this you and I will talk about other affairs.

What can I say more?

THE Board taking into consideration the subject of the Nabob's letter, are convinced that the measure which he recommends is advisable, if considered solely in a political view; for if the Dutch are allowed to keep possession of Nagore, and other districts in the Tanjore country, their power and influence will be greatly increased, and they may prove troublesome neighbours, if not formidable rivals, to the English upon the Coast. But as the subject now before the Board is of great importance, it is agreed to defer coming to a final resolution, until every circumstance can be properly weighed, and until further lights be obtained from the Nabob. And as the Nabob has represented the approval of Sir Robert Harland, the King's Minister Plenipotentiary, it is resolved to advise with him on the subject; as the Board are in some measure uncertain how far our acting against the Dutch, (even in an auxiliary character) by dispossessing them of their lands, which it is said were purchased from the Rajah of Tanjore,

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may be construed a breach or violation of any treaties subsisting between the Crown of Great-Britain and the States of Holland. It is accordingly resolved to adjourn 'till to-morrow forenoon at nine o'clock, and then to meet at the Governor's Gardens; and that Sir Robert Harland be requested to meet the Council there; in the mean time that General Smith be directed to keep the troops together until further orders, and to repair the breach in the fort of Tanjore.

Ar. Wynch
John Smith
Charles Smith
J. M. Stone
Ed. Stracey.

AT A CONSULTATION, Thursday, 23d September, 1773.

P R E S E N T,

Alexander Wynch Esquire, Governor, President.

John Smith

John Whitehill

Charles Smith

John Maxwell Stone

Edward Stracey.

PURSUANT to the resolution of yesterday, the following letter was this morning wrote and dispatched to General Smith :

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

S I R,

THE Nabob having requested that the army may continue in the field for the present, and we having acquiesced in the same, you will be pleased to keep the troops and officers together until you receive further directions from us.

As it is necessary to put Tanjore in a state of defence as soon as possible, you will be pleased accordingly to give directions for repairing the breach and destroying the approaches.

We are,

S I R,

Your most obedient humble servant,

Fort St. George,
22d September, 1773.

AR. WYNCH, &c. Council.

The

The Board having met according to adjournment, the President reports, that in consequence of the resolution of yesterday, he had waited upon Sir Robert Harland, and communicated to him the desire of the Board to have his presence in Council, and that he had promised to attend this forenoon.

Sir Robert Harland being present, the President communicates to him the purport of the Nabob's representation, his request for the Company's assistance to recover from the Dutch certain districts in the Tanjore country, which they have taken possession of with their troops, and withheld from the lawful proprietor and liege Lord of the said country. The President then applies to Sir Robert Harland for his opinion, how far our acquiescence with the Nabob's request can be deemed a violation of any treaty subsisting between the Crown of Great Britain and the States of Holland. Sir Robert Harland thereupon requests to see the Nabob's letter, which is accordingly read to him; he then delivers himself to the following purport: That it appears to him, that as the Rajah of Tanjore was feudatory to the Nabob of the Carnatick, he could not alienate any part of his country without the consent of his liege Lord; that, as auxiliaries to the Nabob, we had assisted him to reduce the capital of Tanjore, and in that character we might doubtless put him in possession of the country dependent thereon, and assist him in the recovery of the same from any Power whatever, as this was only a continuation of the same service. When asked by the President, whether he thought our acting against the Dutch, in putting the Nabob in possession of these districts, should they refuse to withdraw their troops, could be considered as any infringement of the treaties subsisting between the two nations; he, Sir Robert Harland, repeatedly declared, that he did by no means consider it in that light, and that the measure could be justified on very good grounds. That he was willing to co-operate and assist with the force under his command, should such assistance be required; but, in his opinion, it was better not to call in the aid of the Crown, lest what is at present only a dispute between the Nabob and the Dutch, should be considered as a national concern. Nevertheless, he had no objection against countenancing the operations of the troops on shore, by ordering the ships to lay opposite to Negapatnam or Nagore; but that he thought he could be of more service to us, by his representations of the propriety of the measure to Administration as a mere spectator, than by his interfering therein with the force under his command. Sir Robert Harland further said, that, in his opinion, we might be subject to censure if we suffered the Dutch to keep possession of those districts in the Tanjore country, from the consequence which might naturally be expected from such an increase of their revenues, which would enable them to augment their forces in such a manner as to become dangerous rivals in this part of India.

Sir Robert Harland then retires; and the Board having maturely considered the arguments which may be urged in favour of the Nabob's application, the consequences to be apprehended from the addition of territory and power to the Dutch, as well as the objections which may be made to our employing the Company's troops to assist the Nabob in this service, are unanimously of opinion, and

accordingly determine to support the Nabob in asserting his claim to those lands, which the Dutch, under pretence of purchase, have lately possessed themselves of in the Tanjore country; and even to act offensively against them, so far as to the recovery of those lands, if the Dutch refuse to relinquish them amicably on the requisition of the Nabob. The motives and reasons which induced the Board to adopt the foregoing resolution are briefly recited under the following heads:

First. As to the right the Rajah of Tanjore had to dispose of and make over to the Dutch any part of his territory, it appears to the Board, that as he acknowledged himself tributary to the Nabob, and holds his lands of him in fee, he could not, agreeable to the feudal system, which prevails all over India, alienate any part of his country to any other Power without the consent of his liege Lord, the Ruler of the Carnatick Payen Ghaut. It may be urged in opposition to this argument, that former Rajahs of Tanjore have made over certain towns and districts to the English, French, Dutch, and Danes; but it is equally certain, that when those grants were made, the weakness and relaxation of the supreme Government were so great, that the natural rights thereof could not be enforced and maintained, by which means every tributary was encouraged to aim at independency. This desire of independency is well known to prevail in every part of India, and it is force alone that can exact a due obedience to Government. If the Rajah of Tanjore had actually a right to make over those lands to the Dutch, by the same rule he had a right to sell his whole country to Hyder Ally, the Marattas, or to any other Power; and if the claim of the Dutch to the districts in question be admitted, the grant of the whole country would also be good and valid. The absurdity of such a proposition is too obvious and apparent to require a particular discussion.

Secondly. At the time these lands were sold or made over to the Dutch, the Nabob was actually in arms against the Rajah his tributary, and besieging him in his capital: he had sent a Vackeel to warn the Dutch against giving the Rajah assistance, as he was determined to reduce Tanjore to his obedience: therefore such grants or alienations cannot be deemed valid, from the time and manner in which they were made; nor can the Dutch plead ignorance of the Nabob's claim of superiority over the country of Tanjore, as he asserted it in his letter to their Government of Negapatnam; nor did they controvert or dispute his title in their submissive reply to his letter.

Thirdly. As auxiliaries to the Nabob, we determined to assist him in taking the town and country of Tanjore. The capital is now reduced; but until the Nabob is put in possession of the country, our agreement is not fulfilled; and therefore the present measure must be considered as a natural consequence of the former determination, and a continuation of the same service.

Fourthly. We have already in our Minutes alluded to the danger of permitting the Dutch to extend their possessions on the Coast, and thereby acquiring a considerable addition to their power and consequence on this side of India. We might enlarge upon this subject, and enumerate the many instances where the Dutch, from

from small beginnings, have encroached even to attempt the subversion of the Government which at first tolerated their settlement, and afforded them protection;—their designs in Bengal, and intrigues in different parts of India;—but we shall confine ourselves to the point in question, and only add, that in determining to assist and co-operate with the Nabob in putting him in possession of the districts in dispute, besides the other considerations which are here recited, we had in view the detriment which might arise to the Company's trade and manufactures on the Coast, and to the British influence in India, by the Dutch acquiring additional seaports, and such an extent of fertile valuable lands in the Tanjore country; and the opportunities they may have therefrom of fomenting disturbances in the country to answer their own views, and of forming connexions and entering into intrigues with Hyder Ally, the Marattas, or other Country Powers, hostile to the peace and security of the Nabob's government. For it is well known, notwithstanding the declarations of the Dutch to the contrary, that they assisted the Rajah of Tanjore during the siege with military stores; and although we cannot at present produce positive and full proofs of the facts, yet it was universally said and believed in Camp, that a considerable quantity of grape-shot was conveyed into Tanjore from Negapatnam not ten days before the place was stormed; and there is great reason to believe, that the assistance they had given and had engaged to give to the Rajah against the Nabob was a part of the consideration for which the grants of the districts were obtained: and we may naturally conclude, that the troops which have arrived from Ceylon were intended not merely for the purpose of protecting their new possessions, but for the assistance of the Rajah; since it is well known that the pretended grants were not sent to Negapatnam until the beginning of this month, and that the troops could not have been sent for and arrived from Colombo in that time.

Although the Board are unanimously of opinion, that it is expedient and necessary to assist the Nabob in the recovery of the alienated districts; nevertheless they are so averse to any measures which may produce a prolongation of the war, or embroil us with the Dutch, that it is agreed to recommend to the Nabob, in the strongest manner, to avoid proceeding to extremities until amicable measures shall have been found ineffectual; and even to pay off those sums which the Dutch have actually lent on mortgage, or paid for certain grants of territory in the Tanjore country.

ORDERED, That a letter be wrote to General Smith, to make him acquainted with the Nabob's application, and to desire he will procure the necessary intelligence respecting the force of the Dutch, and his opinion of the force which will be necessary to act against them, should they refuse to accede to the Nabob's offers of accommodation; and that the troops be kept in readiness to march at the shortest notice.

AR. Wynch
John Smith
Charles Smith
J. M. Stone
Ed. Stracey.

CONFORMABLE to the resolution of this day's Council, the following letter was dispatched to General Smith:

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

S I R,

THE Nabob having requested the assistance of the Company's arms to put him in possession of certain districts in the Tanjore country which are now occupied by the Dutch, on the pretence of their having been sold to them by the Rajah; we have the same at present under consideration, and shall transmit you our ultimate instructions shortly: in the mean time we desire you will lose no time in procuring certain intelligence of the force which the Dutch have at Negapatnam, Nagore, and other parts of the Tanjore country, and transmit us your opinion of the force which will be requisite to act against the Dutch, should they refuse to evacuate those districts amicably on the requisition of the Nabob. You will also be pleased to obtain and transmit to us the most circumstantial information in your power respecting the claims by which the Dutch have taken and keep possession of these districts, whether any and what sums have been paid on that account, and also at what time the grants, if any, were made.

After allotting such a force as may seem to you necessary for the defence of Tanjore, should the Nabob's Son apply to you for a garrison of the Company's troops, you will be pleased to order the rest of the forces under your command to hold themselves in readiness to take the field on the shortest notice.

We are, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servants,

Fort St. George,
23d September, 1773.

AR. WYNCH, &c. Council.

Letter from Narrain Row, the Chief of the Marattas, to Governor Wynch. Received 24th September, 1773.

I HAVE lately heard that the Nabob Serajah-ul-Dowlah Behauder has sent a Sardar with an army towards the district of Tanjore, and is thinking of ruining the same. In the course of the last year the affairs of that district were settled, some money was collected, and for the remainder the fort of Vellum and other places were kept possession of, and an agreement was entered into with the Rajah of Tanjore: possibly some mistake may have happened in the engagements so entered into. This proceeding of the Nabob's however must be looked upon as tending to lessen my friendship and regard; and I acquaint you that the said district and government belong to me. You will, in a proper manner, convince the said Nabob, that he ought not to suffer any thing to occur to him which friendship may disapprove of, but that, on the contrary, he should endeavour to increase the old regard subsisting between us, which may give us both pleasure. The Sardar therefore who has been sent to those parts should be recalled, for I esteem the devastation of that district as my own.

What can I say more?

Extra

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Saturday, 25th September, 1773.

P R E S E N T,

Alexander Wynch Esquire, Governor, President.

John Smith

John Whitehill

Charles Smith

John Maxwell Stone

Edward Stracey.

THE minutes of last consultation read and approved.

Read and approved draught of a letter to the Nabob, as entered in country correspondence, being in reply to his of the 21st instant, requesting our assistance to put him in possession of certain lands in the Tanjore country now held by the Dutch. The Nabob is told that General Smith shall be directed to proceed immediately with the troops under his command towards the said lands, and on the requisition of Mader-ul-Mulk to assist in the recovery of them; recommending to the Nabob at the same time to avoid coming to extremities as long as they can be avoided, and to assure the Dutch of being repaid the money they may have lent on or paid for the said lands on their relinquishing them amicably to the Circar.

From Governor Wynch to the Nabob of the Carnatick, dated 25th September, 1773.

I HAVE been honoured with the receipt of your Highness's letter of the 21st instant, and beg leave to tender my sincere congratulations on the reduction of the fort of Tanjore. Agreeable to your Highness's desire, General Smith shall be ordered to proceed immediately, with the troops under his command, towards the lands belonging to the country of Tanjore, which the Dutch have of late possessed themselves of and, on the requisition of your Highness's Second Son, Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, to assist him in the recovery of them. I cannot, however, at the same time too strongly recommend to your Highness, that before force be used, every consistent endeavour for the obtainment of these lands amicably should first be exerted; and that for this purpose (agreeable to what your Highness has repeatedly mentioned to me) the Dutch should be assured, on their peaceably and quietly giving up the lands to your Highness the money they may have lent on, or paid for them, shall be justly repaid, and their ancient privileges confirmed to them.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 26th September, 1773.

RECEIVED the following letter from General Smith:

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor.

Honourable Sir,

I WAS last night honoured with your letters of the 20th instant, and am much obliged to you for the information you give me respecting the sailing of the Mercury, Latham, and Mansfield.

Our encampment was beginning to be unhealthy, by continuing so long in one place; we have therefore moved ground to Colly Perimboor, on the Trichinopoly road, six miles from Tanjore, and five from Vellam, 'till the orders of the Board arrive, when I propose taking leave of Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, and setting out for the Presidency. I have at his desire left him a guard of one Subaltern, and 30 private, and two field pieces.

As there is now no occasion to keep up the expense of two Tappals, I have ordered the one lately established to be discontinued; therefore any letters you are pleased to honour me with you will forward by the way of Cuddalore.

I have the honour to be with respect,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

J. SMITH.

Camp at Colly Perimboor,
23d September, 1773.

Extract

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday, 27th September, 1773.

P R E S E N T,

Alexander Wynch Esquire, Governor, President.

John Smith

John Whitehill

Charles Smith

John Maxwell Stone

Edward Stracey

RECEIVED the following letter from General Smith :

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor, &c. of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

I HAVE been honoured with your letters of the 21st and 22d instant, advising, amongst other things, the Nabob's desire that the troops should be sent to take possession of the country said to be sold and mortgaged by the Rajah to the Dutch.

I have been conversing with a Captain Eloy, who came over to us from Hyder in December 1767, was in Tanjore, and is now one of the Nabob's prisoners: he says, that about the 1st June last, he went with Narfing Uppah, brother to Gilli Pilli, escorted by 50 Horse and 50 Sepoys, to a village called Chickul, four miles from Negapatnam; that after two days a Counsellor and a Storekeeper came out in a chariot, and conducted them to the fort, where they were saluted with the guns of the fort and citadel, and received with all the pomp and parade possible. That in the course of a month (in which time messengers were daily passing and repassing to and from Tanjore) the King's grant of Nagore, &c. to the Dutch arrived; Narfing Uppah then returned to Chickul, where he was again waited on by the Counsellor and Storekeeper, to whom he delivered the grant in form, and returned with them to the fort, when he was saluted a second time with two rounds of all the guns in the place. The next day he set out for Nagore, from whence he returned at night, and soon after conducted the Governor and Council to Nagore, to be present at the ceremony of hoisting the Dutch colours, which was done on or about the first day of July. The Gentleman dined there, sat up 'till three the next morning rejoicing, and then returned to Negapatnam, where Captain Eloy says it was well known that the Board at Madras had determined on the expedition against Tanjore.

The Dutch claim by their grant 12 miles west, 13 north, and 16 south of Negapatnam, and have at that place 500 Europeans, 300 Malays, and 1200 Sepoys. They have advanced 100 Malays and 300 Sepoys to Arkiem Mungalum, * a place one mile east of Trivalore, where Mader-ul-Mulk has stationed 300 Black Horse, and no hostilities commenced on either side.

* New Boundary.

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The Dutch expect a reinforcement from Batavia, and are fortifying Nagore, but I believe they have left very few troops on the island of Ceylon.

The Governor at Negapatnam had Tom-Toms sent round the town, ordering all the elephants, &c. belonging to the Rajah to be turned out of the fort, which I suppose was in consequence of an application from Mader-ul-Mulk, who is very busy settling matters in Tanjore.

I have the honour to be with respect,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Camp near Tanjore,
24th September, 1773.

J. S M I T H.

The President informs the Board, that he has received a private letter from General Smith, representing in the strongest terms his apprehensions for the security of Tanjore, if not garrisoned with Company's troops; and advising that the troops should not march towards Nagore, until the safety of Tanjore is provided for, by putting an European garrison in the place. The President then acquaints the Board, that, previous to the receipt of the General's letter, he had represented to the Nabob the expediency of having an European garrison in Tanjore, as he did not think the place altogether secure if only garrisoned by his own Sepoys. That the Nabob had always evaded giving a positive answer to the President on this subject; and only said, that he would soon come and consult with his friends upon it, meaning the President.

The Board taking the subject into consideration, are convinced of the propriety and necessity of our taking every measure in our power to provide for the security of the new conquest; and as it does not appear that this purpose can be answered any other way so effectually as by having an European garrison in the place, it is resolved, that the President be desired to represent to the Nabob the opinion of General Smith on this subject, the many ill consequences which may reasonably be apprehended, should Tanjore be left without a proper garrison; and to request his acquiescence in a measure, which is evidently so much for his own advantage. The President will accordingly call upon the Nabob this evening, and report his determination to the Board to-morrow morning, when it is agreed to resume the consideration of the subject.

Read letter from the Nabob, dated 26th instant, wherein he promises to use every endeavour to settle matters amicably with the Dutch, and even to pay them off the money advanced by them to the Rajah, and to continue the same indulgencies to them which they enjoyed under the former Government; the Nabob encloses a copy of a letter he proposes for the Dutch Government at Negapatnam, and desires the President to make any alterations in it he judges proper. The consideration of the said letter to the Dutch deferred 'till to-morrow, when a translation of it will be laid before the Board; the shortness of the time, and the length

of the letter, rendered it impracticable to have the translation ready for to-day's Council.

Ar. Wynch
John Smith
Charles Smith
J. M. Stone
Ed. Stracey.

Letter from the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Wynch, dated and received 26th September, 1773.

I HAVE received your letter of the 25th instant, and am obliged to you for your congratulations on the capture of the fort of Tanjore, which gave me great pleasure likewise, as I esteem the same as proceeding from the greatness of your friendship. I am thankful to you also for telling me, that, agreeable to my desire, General Smith should immediately be ordered to proceed with the troops under his command towards the lands belonging to Tanjore, which the Dutch have lately possessed themselves of, and to assist my Son Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder. You add likewise, that you cannot at the same time too strongly recommend, that, before force is used, every consistent endeavour be first exerted for the obtainment of these lands amicably; and that for this purpose (agreeable to what I had repeatedly mentioned to you) the Dutch be assured, that "In case of their giving up of these lands to me peaceably and quietly, the money they may have lent on, or paid for them, shall be justly repaid, and their ancient privileges confirmed to them;" all which I duly observed. My views are the same as what you mention; I am on no account desirous of quarrelling with the Dutch; and if they will evacuate the lands they have lately possessed themselves of in a friendly manner, agreeable to what I mentioned to you, I will repay them what they advanced the Rajah, and will agree to shew them the same treatment they have from former times received. Since then my intention from the first has been in this manner, and you also have recommended the same to me, how can any difference happen therein?

Enclosed I send you a draught of a letter I have prepared to the Governor of Negapatnam; be so good as to make whatever alterations therein may be proper, and having done so, to return it to me, that I may write to him conformably.

What can I say more?

Copy of a Letter to the Governor of Negapatnam.

FROM the beginning of my Government, I have conceived that the Dutch, as a great and honourable nation, have been willing to establish their own good name; with a view to these qualities, I have ever taken pains to procure their friendship; and it has been the farthest from my desires that any cause of dissatisfaction should arise between us, or that any interruption should ensue to that tranquillity, which

is so necessary for the increase of trade and the support of commerce. It was on this account, that when the bad conduct of my tributary, the Rajah of Tanjore, obliged me to send my Son Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder against him, for the purpose of taking the management of that country into my own hands, I have given my strict orders to my Commanders not to touch a straw of what belonged to the ancient villages of the Dutch in the kingdom of Tanjore. At the time then that my intentions towards your nation were so replete with good will, do you reflect upon my astonishment when I understood that you had sent men, and money, and artillery, and stores, to the succour of my rebellious subject; and, over and above this, that you had received some districts of him without my consent, who am his true liege Lord; and in like manner planted Dutch colours upon Nagore, a principal seaport in that country? think of my amazement at this too? Notwithstanding I was still desirous of maintaining a friendly correspondence with you, and sent my servant, Mahomed Ubraur Khan Behauder, with a message of the most amicable kind to Negapatnam, in order, by that means, to afford you an opportunity of increasing that friendship that has hitherto subsisted, and been current between us, by a display of openness and sincerity. Your Arruzdasht of the 7th September 1773, penned in the most agreeable terms, in answer to my friendly message, and the presents that accompanied it, I conceived to be proofs of your fair intentions, and you too express your certain confidence, that I should not deviate from the ancient established system; nevertheless, when Mahomed Ubraur Khan demanded of you why you had erected Dutch colours at Nagore, you answered him, that the Rajah and his late Father not having it in their power to pay you the money they had borrowed of you, the Rajah (who is now deposed) had, in consideration of the amount of the debt, given you Nagore and its dependencies; a circumstance which I was in the highest degree surprised at, more especially as you did not mention a word of this conversation, which so passed between you and my servant, in the letter you wrote to me. But notwithstanding all this, I am still desirous of settling this matter with you in an amicable manner, and have therefore judged it expedient to write to you on the subject particularly.

If then this be certain, that either the deceased or late deposed Rajah were in debt to you, how happens it that, when two years ago the forces of the Circar were sent against the fort of Tanjore to bring the Rajah back to his duty, you then made no mention of these circumstances? How happens it that you at that time had not obtained any new districts there, nor had the least pretensions of that kind? It was incumbent on you not to have trusted the Rajah with more money to enable him to be disobedient to his Master, because you might foresee that that Master would not put up with such bad proceedings, without inflicting the correction they deserved; but when I sent my servant to you with so friendly a message, did you think it consistent with propriety to conceal your connexion with the Rajah under a cloak of friendship towards me? You well know that of late the unjustifiable measures pursued by the Rajah of Tanjore in respect of paying the sums due to the Circar, and his siding with my enemies, have laid me under a necessity of sending an army against him; notwithstanding which you have supported him in his disobedience, and the hope you have given him has been the cause

cause that he has so entirely refused any degree of subjection to his proper Lord, as to oblige my army to besiege him in his capital. That done however, and he destitute of all hope of assistance from every other quarter, you, understanding his situation, brought him to consent to every thing you desired, and engaged to succour him in open hostility against me. What you thus took from him you call land that he has given you, and yet that can by no nation be reconciled to justice, because you have not performed the engagements you had made with him: besides which the Rajah had no right to make such a sale, for the vassal has no power to dispose of any part of his country without the consent of his Liege.

By the favour of God, the whole Carnatick is under my sway, and the Rajahs of Tanjore and Trichinopoly, of Marawar and Nalcooty, were always dependent on this Subahdary. Things thus circumstanced, have not these proceedings of your's been totally without my consent? Nay they must have been with a pernicious view of strengthening my tributary, in order that by open disobedience he might act in opposition to me, who have nevertheless been so much your friend.

You only expressed your friendship by fair words in your Arruzdasht, which indeed are the proceedings of those that receive favours from me and remain in hopes of my protection. It is by your persuasion and encouragement that the Rajah made a trial of war; you may now see to what circumstances the Rajah was reduced for your sake; my victorious army took his fort by storm, and he, with his brother and family, have fallen into my hands: now I am determined to take upon myself a power of regulating the whole of his country. I observe that you sent foul draughts according to your desire, and demanded Saneds in three different ways, under the seal of the Rajah for the above districts: before two weeks the Tanjore fort was taken; the said Saneds remained in the hands of Narasingarow, whom the Rajah has sent; and until the fort was taken, the Rajah, &c. were unacquainted whether Narasingarow had delivered the said Saneds to you or not: *the money agreed on was not fully paid to the Rajah*; part of the money that was agreed on by the Dutch Company in lieu of the Saneds was only to be paid to the Rajah, and the best part was to be paid to certain Dutch Gentlemen. I understand all these particulars by information given by the Rajah, Dobbeer, Monajee, Gilli Pilli, &c. managers of the said Rajah, who has now sent me word to write to you, and recall the Saneds of the districts, together with a writing by which he forgave the usual Peshcush, and likewise the jewels which he had pawned, as the money which had been received shall be repaid; I hope you will know this also by the Rajah's letter to you: I have therefore, through the blessing of God, given orders to my army, under the command of my son Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, to take possession of the whole of the Tanjore country, because I can by no means suffer that any part of the country shall be sold during my government. I now request of you to deliver up Nagore, and all other districts of the Tanjore country, and which have fallen into your hands some time since by the means of any Saned of the late Rajah without my consent; and in the same manner you will deliver up the Saned under the Rajah's seal, and the jewels that had been pawned. I shall agree to pay off the whole of your just debts that had been contracted by the Rajah. If you act fairly and friendly with me, you shall have my aid in your trade, and likewise my assistance re-

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garding the ancient possession of your districts, according to old custom, on condition of your paying the usual Peshcush to the Circar; this will be a means to cement our friendship greatly.

If you don't chuse to comply with my request (which God forbid!) I shall, by the blessing of God, use my power which he hath granted me to recover my just rights; so that my army will march to take possession of the whole of the said country: who-soever shall attempt to resist my arms, he shall meet with ruin. If your nation chuse to make a war with me, (which God forbid!) I shall not look upon you as my friends in future. If you resolve upon hostilities of war against my government and peace of my country, I shall be under a necessity of esteeming you as authors of animosity; in which case I shall never suffer such people to carry on trade in my country, nor to live peaceably under my protection. Let them understand, that fear of all kind, especially afflictions of war, shall attend them from all parts of the Carnatick, from Camaurykinnia (supposed to be Cape Comorin) as far as the river Kistnah. Remember that I acquaint you with my friendship with great justice and reason; you will therefore consider thoroughly upon the foregoing, and you will not act in such manner as it may bring fear and troubles upon your nation in my country. You will be so kind as to send me a satisfactory answer soon.

AT A CONSULTATION, Tuesday, 28th September, 1773.

P R E S E N T,

Alexander Wynch Esquire, Governor President.

John Smith

John Whitehill

Charles Smith

John Maxwell Stone

Edward Stracey.

THE Board having met pursuant to the resolution of yesterday, the President reports, that he waited on the Nabob yesterday evening, and communicated to him the sentiments of General Smith on the necessity of having an European garrison in Tanjore; and that he, the President, had urged every argument he could devise to prevail upon the Nabob to acquiesce in the measure. That the Nabob had again called upon him this morning, and after much conversation on the subject, his ultimate determination was to the following purport;—That he was not in the least convinced of the expediency of having an European garrison in Tanjore, as he considered the place perfectly secure in the possession of his own troops; and were he at present to make an application for an European garrison, it would imply a distrust, which he does by no means entertain, of his own troops. That for the present he has no occasion for the assistance of the Europeans in Tanjore; when he has, he will then apply for them. As another reason for not adopting the measure, the Nabob said, that he had promised the inhabitants not to admit Europeans into Tanjore, as they were afraid of their killing cows, which is forbid by the tenets of the Gentoo religion.

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The President further added, that the Nabob expressed much uneasiness, and appeared to be much alarmed at our pressing this measure so strenuously.

The Board are much concerned at the Nabob's resolution, as they can by no means be convinced that Tanjore is altogether secure in the charge of his Sepoys, ill-paid, and consequently disaffected to his service, without good discipline, or a proper regard to military subordination; but as this Government has discharged its duty, in pointing out the danger, and urging the expediency of providing for the safety of Tanjore, by having an European garrison in the fort, and since the Nabob is determined against the measure, it remains to be considered what line we ought to follow; whether to march the troops, and assist him to recover the districts from the Dutch, agreeable to our former resolution; or, in consequence of his refusing to admit an European garrison, as General Smith recommends, that we order the troops to their respective stations. But before we enter into a minute discussion of the question, it is necessary to premise, that *as it was through necessity determined to deliver over the fort of Tanjore, as soon as subdued, to the Nabob, it is optional with him, whether to admit an European garrison or not.* We could urge no absolute obligation in the Nabob to come into our measure; we could only recommend it from its utility, and point out the consequences to be apprehended, if Tanjore is left with its present garrison.

We come now to consider what might probably happen, should we refuse to assist the Nabob in recovering the lands from the Dutch, and to order the army immediately to their respective garrisons, in case he should still refuse to admit an European garrison into Tanjore. Were such a measure allowable from the nature of the system subsisting between the Nabob and the Company, and could we believe that this resolution would induce the Nabob to alter his determination, we should not be averse to make the experiment; but when there is every reason to apprehend it would have quite a contrary effect, and most certainly would produce violent disgust in the Nabob, we could not think ourselves justified in adopting a measure, which might be attended with very disagreeable consequences. It is evident to the whole Board, from the disposition of the Nabob, that the more this measure is urged, the more strenuously will he oppose it; his fears will be alarmed, and he will readily believe that there is foundation for the report which went abroad, that the Governor and Council wanted to keep Tanjore for the Company. Such a report circulated in the Settlement during the former siege, and if it found its way to the Durbar, which is not improbable, it would operate very powerfully on the mind of the Nabob. It must also be considered, that if in the present case the safety of Tanjore is the object in view, it will be equally, if not more secure, while the troops are in the field, than it would be were we to order the troops to their several garrisons, and leave the Dutch in quiet possession of their late acquisitions. For these and many other reasons, which might be produced, the Board are unanimous in their opinion, to adhere to the former resolution of assisting the Nabob with the Company's troops, in recovering the lands in the Tanjore country lately alienated to the Dutch; and in consequence of this resolution, a letter is ordered to be prepared to General Smith,

directing him to march with the troops under his command, and carry into execution the intentions of the Board contained in the foregoing Minute.

Read translation of the Nabob's letter to the Dutch Government at Negapatnam, mentioned in the Consultation of yesterday †. As the Nabob has desired an opinion on the propriety of the said letter, and as the Board see nothing improper in what the Nabob has set forth, it is agreed that an answer to this effect be accordingly returned.

From Governor Wynch to the Nabob of the Carnatick, dated 29th September, 1773.

I HAVE been honoured with the receipt of your Highness's letter of the 26th instant, enclosing a draught of a letter to the Governor of Negapatnam, in which you are pleased to desire I will make such alterations as may appear to me proper.

Your Highness being the best judge of what are your intentions and resolutions towards the Dutch, and of the particular information you have received respecting the point in question with them, must of course also be the best judge of what is proper to write on the occasion; so far however as appears to me, I do not see any impropriety in the letter proposed. Agreeable to what I wrote to your Highness under date the 25th instant, General Smith has been ordered to proceed with the troops under his command; and after every amicable endeavour for the obtainment of the lands in question shall have proved ineffectual, he is directed, on the requisition of your Highness's second Son, Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, to assist him in the recovery of them by force.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 29th September, 1773.

Pursuant to the determination of Council yesterday, the following letter was dispatched to General Smith:

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

S I R,

IN our letter of the 23d instant, we informed you of the Nabob's application for the assistance of the Company's troops under your command, to put him in possession of certain villages and lands which the Dutch have lately possessed themselves

† Vide page 1233.

of in the Tanjore country, and that we had the same under our consideration. We are now to inform you, that we have come to the resolution of assisting the Nabob in the recovery of the country from the Dutch; you will therefore march with such a force as you shall deem necessary for the purpose, and proceed towards those districts by slow marches; and if the Dutch reject every amicable proposal which may be made them by Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, and absolutely refuse to deliver up the said lands to the Circar, you will then, upon his requisition, give every assistance in your power, even to the making use of the force under your command, to put the Nabob in possession of them.

We have in the strongest manner recommended to the Nabob to avoid hostilities, as long as there is a probability of being able to come to an amicable accommodation with the Dutch, and for your information we now transmit you a copy of our letter to the Nabob on this subject.

So far we had wrote before the receipt of your letter to the President of the 24th instant, which he has communicated to us; we entirely concur in opinion with you as to the necessity of having a garrison of the Company's troops in Tanjore, and you may easily conceive that no arguments have been omitted, which we thought would have any weight with the Nabob to induce him to acquiesce in a measure so essentially necessary. If we thought that a refusal to comply with his requisition, unless he consented to what we propose, would be justifiable, or would be attended with any good consequences, we should not be averse to making the trial; but we fear the consequences would be diametrically opposite to what we wish: add to this the danger of suffering the Dutch to remain in the quiet possession of additional territory, which would enable them to encrease their establishment in such a manner as might render them formidable rivals; and what may now with ease be affected, might, if deferred, prove a more difficult and arduous task.

These considerations render it necessary to prosecute the measure we have adopted, and we are convinced nothing will be wanting on your part for accomplishing the same.

We are, S I R,

Your most obedient humble servants,

Fort St. George,
29th September, 1773-

AR. WYNCH, &c. Council.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 30th September, 1773.

THIS day the following letters were received from Camp:

5240 EXPEDITION AGAINST TANJORE IN 1773.

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor, &c. of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

I HAVE been honoured with the commands of the Board of the 23d instant, and your letter of the 25th instant; to the former I should have immediately replied, but it has not hitherto been in my power to give them any certain account of the Rajah's transactions with the Dutch. I sent Mr. Redhead, who acts as Persian interpreter, to Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, to get from him all the information he could, and have now the honour to enclose you the answer I received.

I expect to-morrow evening another letter from the Board, and shall next morning reply to both at the same time.

I have the honour to be with respect,

Honourable Sir,

Camp before Tanjore,

Your most obedient servant,

27th September, 1773.

J. SMITH.

P. S. When Mr. Parkifon mentioned there being near 1000 Europeans at Negapatnam, the General's spies had mistaken the Malay troops on their arrival, included them in the number of Europeans, and reported both as such.

Brigadier-General Smith.

S I R,

I WAITED on the Nabob for the information you requested; he waved giving it me without the knowledge of his Father, and told me he should write him on the occasion, and act according to his answer. I pleaded very strongly the necessity of your immediate knowledge of the circumstances; he then called Hassum Khân Behauder and Nazeeb Khân Behauder, and after a short consultation gave me, in their presence, and that of the Dobbier, the following information.

I am, S I R,

Your most obedient servant,

J. REDHEAD.

ABOUT the latter end of July last the Rajah sent Hunmulk Sapille and Garfing Row, brothers of Gilli Pilli, as Ambassadors to the Dutch at Negapatnam, to mortgage part of his country. The Dutch accepted of the proposal, but hearing of General Smith, Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, and Hassum Khân Behauder, having left Madras, the Dutch pleaded the impropriety of keeping such lands in mortgage, and pressed the Rajah to sell them. The Rajah, on hearing of the arrival of General Smith, &c. at Trichinopoly, determined on selling Nagore, Kulloor,

Kulloor, Tuptra, and Tropanda, and sent the bill of agreement to his Ambassadors at Negapatnam; with whom it remained, as the Dutch did not pay the money, but used as a plea the returning of certain jewels in lieu of it, which the Rajah had formerly mortgaged. The Rajah wanting immediate assistance from money, refused the jewels, and wrote himself to the Dutch; as also instructed his Ambassadors to acquaint them, that if they did not pay the money, or return the lands, he should consider the lands as taken by force. The Dutch detained the two Ambassadors, from whom the Rajah had not heard 'till a week before the storm. The Rajah acquaints the Nabob, that supposing the Dutch to have paid the money for the lands, they certainly cannot be averse to shewing the receipts for it.

Extract of Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Ross, Chief Engineer, dated, Camp on the Glacis of Tanjore, 27th September, 1773.

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor, and Council of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

I HAVE the pleasure to enclose you a survey of the attack I had the honour to carry on against Tanjore, by which it was reduced the 17th instant. Since that time the Engineers have been employed in surveying and superintending the levelling of the trenches, in clearing away the passage made over the ditch, and in erecting a temporary bridge there, for the convenience of repairing the breach.

The General intends, with your approbation, that the Engineers remain here until they have got an accurate survey of the fort and it's environs for a mile round, as he conceives a perfect knowledge of a place of so much strength an object of consequence.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 1st October, 1773.

THE following letter was this day received from General Smith :

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

I AM honoured with your commands of the 23d instant, which shall be complied with as far as in my power.

With regard to the claims of the Dutch, and what has passed between their Government at Negapatnam and the Rajah of Tanjore, it is very difficult to come at a true state of the matter. It was natural to suppose that Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder had made all enquiries from the prisoners of distinction in his power rela-

tive to these transactions; and that I might be enabled to send you such accounts as would be satisfactory, I sent Ensign Redhead, who acts as my Persian Interpreter, to Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, to gain all the information he could on this head; and last night I enclosed the answer I received to the Honourable President.

The Dutch have received a late reinforcement, which my intelligence this night confirms; and they have at Negapatnam 750 to 800 Europeans, 450 Malays, and upwards of 1000 Sepoys; the latter they are recruiting with all expedition, and they report that more Europeans are expected from Ceylon, &c. With this force it can never be imagined they'll trust themselves without the walls of Negapatnam, unless it is at Nagore, which it is said they are fortifying with batteries and other works, and where they have at present stationed some Europeans and Sepoys; but against the Nabob's troops alone they might think themselves capable to act. Otherwise, if you should determine to put the Nabob in possession of the Tanjore districts claimed by the Dutch as ceded to them, I think a battalion of Europeans, four battalions of Sepoys, with field artillery, and His Highness's two regiments of cavalry, will be sufficient for that service; but if matters are not accommodated, Nagore, from it's vicinity to Negapatnam, and it's being an open place, will require a considerable force to defend it 'till it is fortified at least with temporary works.

Should Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder apply for Company's troops to garrison Tanjore, one of the battalions of Europeans, with two battalions of Sepoys, and a proportion of artillery, under the command of a good Officer, may be depended on to secure and defend the place.

Tanjore fort at present is garrisoned by the Nabob's Sepoys, except an Officer, thirty infantry, and twelve artillery-men, of the Company's troops. I shall never deem the place safe with such a garrison, and the story of Mulevakeel, in the Mysore country, confirms my opinion; some of the Members now at the Honourable Board may probably recollect it and it's consequences. I hope the Honourable Board will forgive me if I have said too much on a subject I confess myself anxious about, which is the preservation of a place that has cost us some lives, and is of more consequence than any other fort in the Nabob's possession. I have always thought our present establishment of Sepoys insufficient, before there was any prospect of their services being wanted for the defence of the Tanjore country; and as the necessity of augmenting that corps is much more necessary now than ever, I beg leave to recommend that you will again urge His Highness to consent that two or three battalions may be immediately raised on the same footing of the Carnatick battalions.

It is also my duty to acquaint the Honourable Board, that we have near 300 men sick and wounded in the different garrisons, and since the siege many more are reported unfit for duty in Camp. The European corps are much diminished, and the Monsoon breaking in upon us while in the field, unprovided with cantonmen's
or

or provisions for such an event; the consequence to the regiments may be highly detrimental, should you have any occasion for their services early the next year. Scarce any rain has fallen in this country during the whole season; the weather threatens much, and in all probability the new moon will bring with it a deluge; and the Tanjore country in the rainy season is a perfect swamp, and impassable to troops, being intersected with many rivers and water-courses, which require boats or some such means to pass them: in such circumstances it will be impossible for us to return to the Southward; but if the troops are quartered in proper time, which might be in Tanjore and its dependencies, when the rains are over, the men will be recovered from their late fatigues, and ready to execute with health and vigour any service the Honourable Board may have occasion to employ them on.

Lieutenant Owen has very particular business in Bengal, and as his services from the army can now be dispensed with, I request the Honourable Board will grant him their permission to proceed thither, to return early in the next year.

Serjeant Jones, who led one of the forlorn hopes on the storming of Tanjore, having been particularly recommended to me by many of the Officers in the army as a very deserving young man, and one who on former occasions had distinguished himself; and as it is usual in cases of this kind to promote men of real merit who are above pecuniary rewards, I request the Honourable Board will appoint him a Cadet, and grant him a commission in his turn.

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

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient servant,

Camp near Tanjore,
28th September, 1773.

JOSEPH SMITH.

As the foregoing letter required an immediate reply, the opinions of the Council were taken, and the following answer was approved and ordered to be dispatched.

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

S I R,

We have received your letter of the 28th September. In our letter of the 29th we acquainted you, that we had come to the resolution of affording the Nabob the assistance of the Company's troops, to recover for him the districts in the Tanjore country which the Dutch have lately possessed themselves of, and desired that you would march with such a force as you might judge sufficient for the purpose. On the receipt of your above-mentioned letter, the President communicated to the Nabob the force which you proposed to be employed on this service. He seemed to wish that the whole of the troops might be sent; but as you are the best judge of the force necessary, we shall leave the appointment thereof entirely to you. Should

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you still judge the whole not necessary, the remainder of the troops you will please to put into garrison at Vellum and Trichinopoly.

We have already given you our sentiments on the propriety of having a garrison of the Company's troops in Tanjore, and the reasons which prevented our urging the Nabob too far on the subject.

The repeated and positive orders we have received from the Honourable Court of Directors against making any addition to our present establishment, will prevent our raising any new battalions of Sepoys, unless the Nabob shall apply to us for that purpose; and from what hath lately passed on the subject of the charge of the three additional battalions of Sepoys, we have little reason to expect he will be prevailed on to consent to any increase of the establishment. Lieutenant Owen set out yesterday for Camp; you will please to acquaint him that he has our permission to proceed to Bengal. Agreeable to your recommendation we consent to the appointment of Serjeant Jones to be a Cadet on this establishment, and to be promoted in his turn.

We are, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servants,

AR. WYNCH, &c. Council.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 6th October, 1773.

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor, and Council of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

YOUR letters of the 29th ultimo and 1st instant I have been honoured with, and this morning I marched to Marima-Koil, four miles to the eastward of Tanjore, on the Nagore road, with that part of the army I proposed taking with me. I waited on Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder in Tanjore, to make known to him the instructions I had received from the Honourable Board, and to learn when he intended to join the army; I at the same time mentioned the near approach of the rainy season, and that no time should be lost in finishing the campaign. He told me there were not provisions in camp to enable the army to move, and that it will require three or four days for cattle and sheep to come from Trichinopoly; besides he had several matters to settle in the fort before he could attend the army. I repeated the inconvenience that must arise from delay, and that some consideration should be had for the Europeans; he said it was true, but they could not proceed 'till a month's provisions was in readiness, which will necessarily detain us some days; and I think it certain that the Monsoon will break ere we reach any place where the troops can be cantoned. This being the case, I have wrote to

Mader-

Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder my sentiments; and informed him, that in place of taking the European corps with us, the four battalions of Sepoys and the six pounders will be quite sufficient to put him in possession of those places he so much desires; and the Europeans may be either cantoned in Tanjore or elsewhere immediately 'till the rains are over. I cannot conceive why the Nabob wishes, at this juncture in particular, to take such a body of troops through the Tanjore country; which is a succession of Paddy fields, and only the villages and high roads that troops can encamp in. The low part of the country is so swampy, that travellers are up above their knees every step. I own I am concerned that the Nabob should solicit you so late in the year to keep your troops on foot, especially where much opposition cannot be expected, even when the season becomes so favourable as to admit the troops taking the field. If the Dutch do not see it necessary to submit to the Nabob's demands, and are not amicably inclined, they never will with the force they now have oppose us, but retire to Negapatnam, and there wait 'till they are in a condition to act against us with a probability of success. In the former case you cannot hurt them, without attacking their fort and driving them out of it; and in the latter, time must discover what is to happen.

The Nabob's Son does not mean to take any of His Highness's troops with him but the Mogul cavalry and six companies of Sepoys: the latter are not sufficient to protect Nagore and the several districts now in question; it is evident therefore that he means to apply for the Company's troops for that purpose. With regard to your troops garrisoning Tanjore, that neither the *Father* or *Son* ever intend to solicit for them I verily believe, 'till compelled by necessity; and then, as at every other time, when danger is near, the Company's troops must defend and support their honour.

The Nabob has lately obtained acquisitions that will require an addition of troops to defend them, especially if he leaves five battalions in Tanjore; in this case what is to become of the Marawar and Madura countries, from whence the most of them have been withdrawn? to what end does he make these conquests, if they are not maintained, and the inhabitants encouraged and protected? This will require his consideration; and I hope for his own interest he will be persuaded, that raising Sepoys is a measure which ought to be adopted immediately, and that they should be under the Governor and Council's orders and directions.

After leaving part of the artillery and Captain Brown's detachment at Vellum, I shall order the remainder of the detachment to proceed to Trichinopoly.

I have the honour to be with respect,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient servant,

JOSEPH SMITH.

Camp near Tanjore,
3d October, 1773.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 7th October, 1773.

Received the following letter from General Smith :

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

I HAD the honour to address you yesterday, and now send you enclosed a journal of the operations of the army, and the orders for last month, to which is annexed a return of the killed and wounded during the siege. As the service on which the heavy guns were employed is over, the 24 and 18 pounders, with the mortars, gone to Trichinopoly, and the 12 pounders to Vellum, I shall be glad to know if the draught bullocks belonging to them may be discharged the service. The spare carriage bullocks are delivered over to Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, as he wanted them to transport grain with the troops.

We have had showers of rain for some days past, and this afternoon it came on with great violence, and continued longer than usual.

I have the honour to be with respect,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient servant,

Camp at Marima-Koil,
4th October, 1773.

J. S M I T H.

The following answer was dispatched the same day to General Smith :

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

S I R,

WE have received your letters of the 3d and 4th instant. As you do not think it necessary to take the European battalion with you, judging four battalions of Sepoys, with six field pieces, a sufficient force for the service you are to be employed on, we desire to be informed in what manner you would recommend the remainder of the army to be disposed of; whether to canton at Vellum, or any more convenient station in the neighbourhood of Tanjore, 'till the present service is over, or to return to their respective garrisons.

As it is a difficult matter to re-assemble draught bullocks after they have been discharged the service, and as there is a possibility of a greater number being required than the exact complement to the guns, we recommend it to you for the present

present to keep one hundred spare ones in the service, and that all unnecessary people and Coolies be discharged.

We are, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servants,

Fort St. George,
7th October, 1773.

AR. WYNCH, and Council.

Letter from the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Wynch, dated 7th October, 1773.

ENCLOSED I send for your information copies of the several Arruzdashts I have received from the Governors of Pondicherry, Negapatnam, and Tranquebar, congratulating me on the capture of Tanjore; also copies of the Arruzdashts of Tuljaujee and his mother, expressing their thanks.

What can I say more?

Copy of an Arruzdasht from General Law, Governor of Pondicherry, received at the Durbar 2d October, 1773.

P R E A M B L E.

THE Arruzdasht of the friend full of sincerity and truth, Mr. Law de Lawriston, General, the Sword of the State Behauser, magnificent in war; who, after acquitting himself of the duties of civility, begs leave to represent to the chosen and high entitled threshold of the Servants of His Highness,

That, in this spring time of success, the sound of gratulation on the capture of Tanjore (which has fallen at the terrible appearance of the friends of the conquering State and its victorious heroes) has been wafted to us on the summer breeze of fortune. 'Twas a place where, from the beginning of time 'till now, the harmonious voice of true religion had not been heard; but in lieu thereof the horrid discord of idolatry, and the din of accursed infidelity. On this happy occasion therefore, we your friends, full of attachment, have not in the garden of our breast a single thorn of discontent; but, on the contrary, have found it fertilized with a saturation of joy; and the rose-bud of our heart, amidst the smiling flowers of victories and blessings that surround you, is become the Nisar of your heaven-like court.

We are continually raising high the hand of prayer towards the empyrean palace of Him who dispels the night of darkness, and elevates the lights of intellectual day, for increase of prosperity and life to the Lord of the world and its inhabitants, the center of the circle of time, the rest and dependence of the faithful.

May your glorious armies ever be triumphant! May your life and greatness continue and increase!

Copy of an Arruzdasht from the Governor of Negapatnam, dated 1st, and received at the Durbar, 7th October, 1773.

THE preamble is the same as in that from Negapatnam of 9th August last †. The letter runs thus:

Thanks in abundance be to God, and praises in a continued succession be given to him for the heart-refreshing, life-giving news; that at this happy time, whose beginning and end is blessed, the sort of Tanjore is taken, and the keys of it secured by the friends of the victorious State; that that accursed, senseless, outcast crew have been part put to flight, and part slain and taken captive; and that having become victims to the anger of Heaven, and the wrath of royalty, they were, by the assaults of your experienced conquering warriors, *who thirsted like crocodiles for blood*, brought to that pass, that without having time to breathe, they had no other alternative than to fly or suffer instant death, and were thus utterly routed and dispersed; for this we send up praises to the Celestial Court of the Supreme Giver of benefits. Here follows a couplet to the following effect: *I wish thy enemy may be ever in the situation of a tent-pin;—a stone at his head, his body in the ground, and a rope about his neck.*

We pray Heaven that victory and triumph may ever be attendants on the fortunate affairs of you, who are the Kiblah of the protection and hopes of mankind, by which means the gates of peace, joy, and delight, will be open to the wishes and desires, civil and religious, of us your zealous servants and wellwishers, and your favours will be showered down upon us in greater abundance, by honouring us with your commands, and affording us opportunities of serving you.

May it please your Highness!

For the better performance of the congratulations due on this fortunate occasion, I shall send in a few days more some Gentlemen of rank in the Council of this place, who are in the secrets of affairs, to wait upon your Highness. We have the most assured hope that your Highness will continue your inestimable favours, to the furtherance of the concerns of the Dutch Company and Nation, and we wish that conquest and success may ever attend your undertakings.

(A Couplet to this purpose):

Ages may be spent in congratulations on the assistance your good fortune affords you.

May the sun of your life, prosperity, magnificence, greatness, and glory, continue to shine with undiminished splendence.

Copy of an Arruzdasht from the Governor of Tranquebar, dated 22d, and received at the Durbar, 26th September, 1773.

P R E A M B L E.

TO the Nabob of noble and princely rank, of high and exalted dignity, His Highness of infinite power, and great as Solomon, the Nabob Aloph-ul-Dowlah Behauder; may his high shadow be lengthened! (i. e. long may he live)! The least of his faithful servants, Herman Abiston, Governor of Tranquebar, after performing the ceremonies and obeisances of servitude, prefers his petition, (and so on).

Having received the news of the success of your Highness's arms in the capture of the fort and country of Tanjore, I beg leave to present you my most sincere congratulations on that happy occasion, and to assure you of the great joy and satisfaction I have felt at it; for as the Danish Company have always hitherto experienced an high degree of your favour and good will, so I am confident that the future will afford us a continuance of it; and therefore I cannot but pray that your Highness may be blessed with yet greater degrees of conquest and good fortune, and that dishonour and destruction may be the portion of your enemies. For the better performance of the congratulations due on this your late conquest, it has been my intention to send two persons of some rank to your Highness's presence, with a few rarities for your acceptance; who at the same time that they performed this necessary duty, might also, by word of mouth, explain at length to your Highness the circumstances relative to our districts; nor did I design this from any doubt I entertained of your Highness's benign intentions towards the Danish Nation, which we have all along experienced, and are still secure in the possession of. However, in the midst of this, we have suffered an instance of injustice and oppression from the servants of the Circar; in explanation of which I beg leave to represent, that we had four districts in mortgage from the Rajah of Tanjore, the circumstances regarding which we formerly wrote to your Highness upon explicitly; these the Servants and Sepoys of the Circar command us to withdraw our troops from, and to take down the small ensign which we had put up to distinguish them from others. Though I shall not murmur at whatever the Sepoys of the Circar may do, however arbitrary it be, yet I cannot but request that your Highness will be pleased to send orders to your said servants and troops to cease from those measures, and suffer the affairs of our Settlement to go on in the old channel, 'till the two deputies I am about to send can reach your Highness's presence, and settle every thing that relates to those four districts, as well as the six villages we sent here; since whatever your Highness shall be pleased to command, after the arrival of those deputies, I shall adhere to with the utmost fidelity, and the most prompt obedience. It is on your Highness only I depend for protection, and therefore I have no more to add, than, with the most profound respect, to wish you length of days, and the protection of the Most High.

Translation of an Arruzdasht from Tuljaajee†, received at the Durbar, 7th October, 1773.

YOUR Highness has from the first been used to shew me a variety of kindnesses, and I, desirous of increasing that good will, was strong in my attachment; but some of my servants have by sundry methods sought to lead me astray, and I have lent too ready an ear to their seducing arguments; hence I have committed a number of faults, and have reaped the fruit they naturally produce. Your Highness nevertheless, reflecting on the fidelity of the deceased Rajah, my Father, has been pleased to pardon me, and sent a letter to the Nabob Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder expressive of the most beneficent intentions towards me, which he has explained to me word for word. I think myself highly honoured by being the subject of such eminent generosity, and am now resolved in return to conform in every thing to your Highness's will. You have shown me more kindness than even my Father himself ever did; and indeed it is the custom of parents, when their children offend, not only to pardon them, but to heap upon them fresh benefits. My honour is under the protection of your Highness.

The Nabob Mader-ul-Mulk treats me in every respect with the utmost attention, agreeable to your Highness's commands.

Translation of an Arruzdasht from the Mother of Tuljaajee.

YOUR Highness has of old been pleased to honour your Vassal, the Rajah Tuljaajee, with instances of kindness and good-will; notwithstanding which, he being devoid of foresight, and listening to the bad advice of some of his Servants, has neglected complying with your will, and has been guilty of various misdemeanours; hence he has brought ruin on his affairs, and matters have come to the end they have. After all, your Highness, with singular benignity, has been pleased to send a letter, full of beneficent commands for our support, to the Nabob Mader-ul-Mulk, who has acquainted us with the contents. How shall I express my thanks on that account! Your Highness always heaped benefits upon us, and now we depend on you alone for subsistence. My Son's life and my own honour I cast upon your Highness's protection, for you are our only support.

Extract of Letter from the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Wynch, dated 8th, and received 9th October, 1773.

MADER-UL-MULK BEHAUDER having sent for my perusal a copy of a letter he wrote to the Governor of Negapatnam by Rehemaun Ally Khan and Mahomed Syder, enclosed I send you the same for your information.

† King of Tanjore.

Copy

Copy of a Letter from Mader-ul-Mulk Rebauder to the Governor of Negapatnam, dated 5th October, 1773, and sent by Rehemaun Ally Khán and Mahomed Sydee.

IN consequence of the Zemindar of Tanjore, the tributary of the Circar, his joining with the enemies of the Circar, his persuading of them to disturb the tranquillity of the Carnatick, his acting contrary to his engagements, and his great disobedience, His Highness was under the necessity of taking such measures as might establish the tranquillity of the Carnatick without interruption from any one; accordingly, through the favour of the Almighty, he sent me with an army to reduce the fort of Tanjore, and to settle the whole of the country belonging thereto: the fort by God's blessing has been taken; the Rajah with his whole family have fallen into our hands, and from this disturbance we are at ease.

Between His Highness and the Dutch Nation a friendship has hitherto subsisted, and their trade has in every shape been assisted by the Circar. I am sent to reduce under the Circar's authority the whole of the country belonging to Tanjore, and am desirous that between His Highness and you the friendship subsisting should increase, and your trade by the support of the Circar be enlarged; I write this therefore, to desire that you will deliver to me Nagore and the other districts belonging to the Tanjore Government, which you have some time since taken into your possession without the knowledge of His Highness, the true Master of the dispossessed Rajah let whatever be the Saned you have acquired the same by from him: in the same manner, likewise, you must give me up the Saneds under the Rajah's seal, and the mortgaged jewels; in which case His Highness will agree to discharge the whole of the debt which may be justly due from the Rajah to you; and moreover, on your acting in so moderate a manner, you will meet with the support of the Circar in your trade; and on condition of your paying thereto the customary Peshcush, as it used to be of old, you will receive it's assistance in those districts which you have been possessed of from former times; and further, this proceeding will tend to strengthen the bands of friendship, and be productive of great benefit to yourself. I have sent the trusty Rehemaun Ally Khán and Mahomed Sydee to inform you of some circumstances, denoting the firmness of my regard, and tending to the good of your affairs; they are the bearers of a letter from His Highness as well as this letter, and I am ready with an army, by God's blessing, to set off towards those parts. His Highness's letter to you is couched in the strongest terms of friendship, you will therefore peruse the same with care and attention; and I am convinced, from your regard and goodness, that before my arrival in those parts with an army, you will have complied with His Highness's requisitions, which are consonant with equity and sincerity, such as must be approved of by every nation, and without a compliance with which there is no remedy whatever. Should you however act contrary hereto, adopt an hostile line, and be the means of shedding of blood, I shall regard the same as done merely for your own interest; as I have been informed for a certainty, both from the Rajah and all his Ministers, that apparently you have taken for yourself a sum of money besides what was for the Company; you will therefore, for a little benefit, cause
a great

a great loss to fall upon your Company; but the greatest of all will be an interruption in the friendship of His Highness, who, by God's blessing, is the absolute Lord of the whole Carnatick country, from Cape Comorin to the Banks of the Kistnah, in the fullest power. By this friendship you will reap great benefit, but by an interruption therein, throughout the whole Carnatick loss and misfortune in every shape will be heaped upon your factories from every part thereof. His Highness, by God's blessing, has the amplest authority to take the country belonging to Tanjore by any means he chuses, the same being his just right; in consideration, therefore of the regard I bear to you, I write this, to wit, that it is better you should do what may tend to strengthen His Highness's regard and avert disturbances, which can be effected in no other manner than by complying with his just desires.

What can I say more?

From the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Wynch, dated 10th October, 1773.

AN original letter in the Maratta language, signed by the Governor of Negapatnam, which he wrote to Narasingarow Gadah some days before the taking of Tanjore, has fallen into my hands; a translation thereof in the Persian language comes enclosed; by this it clearly appears the said Governor is in want of money; I have therefore wrote to Mader-ul-Muik Behauder to give the Dutch an assignment for the amount of the debt to them on one of the districts of the Tanjore country, and to receive from them the Saneds under the seal of Tuljaujee, also the mortgaged jewels and the districts they have possessed themselves of. I write this for your information.

What can I say more?

Copy of a Letter from R. V. Vlissingen, in the Maratta language, to Narasingarow Gadah.

I ENJOY my health, and hope you will always write to me of your welfare, that I may rejoice.

The eight Magans of Keelore, belonging to Negapatnam, amount to Pagodas 250,000; Nanore and Topetera are Pagodas 75,000. Tripundy Magan is Pagodas 15,000. The Peshcush or Tribute amounted to 65,000 Chuckrams, out of which 15,000, which was due to us on account of the three years last past being deducted, the remaining is Chuckrams 50,000; the price of which being settled, amounted to Pagodas 22,000 and odd, for which a draught or bill of sale to be given in the name of the Company being drawn, has been sent lately by the means of Canagasaba Pilla; I hope therefore that you will get the bill of sale drawn according to the said draught, and get it sealed according to custom, and send the same. We have great occasion for the money due to the Company to this day, which is Pagodas 250,000; and the same being deducted out of the aforesaid sums, there remains Pagodas 10,900 and odd; you will therefore order Canagasaba Pilla to receive the same, together with the Circar jewels that are here, and send them; if not, as the Company have

have great occasion for the money, you'll order what is due to them to be paid, and carry away the jewels.

P. S. You wrote to me that you will send people to carry away the elephants, but you have not yet sent them; I therefore desire you will write an order, either to Canagafaba Pilla, or somebody else, with a receipt to the Company, and with a direction to receive the elephants of the Company and manage them any how.

AT A CONSULTATION, Monday, 11th October, 1773.

P R E S E N T,

Alexander Wynch Esquire, Governor, President.

John Smith

John Whitehill

Charles Smith

Samuel Johnson

John Maxwell Stone

Edward Stracey.

READ the following letters from General Smith :

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor, &c. of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

ENCLOSED I have the honour to send you a return of the army, with a list of the Officers for the month of September.

I marched the troops this morning from Marima-Koil to Ammah Pettah, ten miles on the Negapatnam road, where I shall halt 'till Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, now Ummeer-ul-Omrah, joins me; for that new title was published at Tanjore this morning, and announced to all the country round by the guns and musquetry of the garrison.

If the Monsoon should break upon us while we are here, (and it threatens much) the men can be secured against the weather in the village people's houses, for their tents are by no means proof against the rains.

The regiments of cavalry cannot act near the coast, and as they will be of no use with the army, I have recommended to Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder that they may be sent where gram and grass can be had, and their services are more wanted; except a troop or two, which he may take to attend his person as a guard. I hope he will join the army to-morrow, and not give us any further delay, as no time is to be lost.

My presence can now be no longer of use with the army, and as my health and private concerns call me to the Presidency, I request you will mention to the Ho-

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nourable Board my desire of returning thither before the Monsoon breaks, and that the command may be delivered over to Lieutenant-Colonel Vaughan, an Officer who may be depended on, and is very capable of executing any orders your Honour, &c. may give him.

Mr. Salmon says he is not able to undertake a journey to Madras on horseback; at present he is looking out for Palankeen Boys, and as soon as he is provided with them, he will obey your orders, and return to his duty at the Presidency.

I have the honour to be with respect,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Camp at Ammah-Pettah,
6th October, 1773.

JOSEPH SMITH.

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor, &c. of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

I HAVE received your two letters, with one from the Board of the 5th instant, and shall very shortly reply to the latter.

Captain Pover's battalion of Sepoys belongs to Vellour, and as the distance to that place from hence is much the same as from Trichinopoly, to save time I shall order him to proceed immediately and relieve the six companies of the Ongole battalion.

Ummeer-ul-Omrah, with the two regiments of cavalry, joined the army yesterday evening; notwithstanding which I could not march to day, as he sent me a message last night, that neither himself nor his people were in a condition to move. I shall proceed to morrow to the eastward as far as the river, about four miles from Camp, but our provisions and baggage cannot cross it on bullocks. The elephants lately taken may be of use to us on this occasion.

If the Europeans are supplied with good mutton, which is better for them than beef, they will readily give up the latter; but our people cannot stand the Monsoon, and should it break on us before matters are accommodated with the Dutch, the troops as you desire shall be put under cover, or at least such part of them as can be accommodated at Trivalore; the remainder must be cantoned in the villages most convenient.

I have acquainted Mr. Salmon with your orders; he says he has not yet been able to procure Palankeen Boys, and that he cannot travel without them. The returns for prize-money I shall have the honour to transmit to you to-morrow;

And am with respect,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Camp at Ammah-Pettah,
8th October, 1773.

J. SMITH.
The

The President acquaints the Board, that the Nabob has expressed a desire that General Smith may remain with the army, until matters are settled with the Dutch; in consequence of which, it is resolved, that General Smith be directed to remain, if his health does not require his immediate return to the Presidency.

Ar. Wynch
John Smith
Charles Smith
Sam^l. Johnson
J. M. Stone
Ed. Stracey
Edward Cotsford.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 12th October, 1773.

WROTE the following letter to General Smith :

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

S I R,

THE President has communicated to us your desire to be relieved from the command of the army, as you imagine your services on the present occasion are not requisite.

As we are of opinion that your presence with the army may be the means of more speedily and effectually accommodating matters with the Dutch, and as the Nabob expresses a desire that you should remain with the troops until the service on which they are now employed is executed, we request you will for the present defer your return to the Presidency, unless your health and private affairs render it indispensably necessary.

We are, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servants,

Fort St. George,
12th October, 1773.

AR. WYNCH, &c. Council.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 13th October, 1773.

RECEIVED the following letter from the Governor of Tranquebar :

To

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To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

THE Gentlemen who will have the honour to present you this, Messieurs Bix (Member of the Council) and John Gotting, commanding Captain of the garrison of this place, are deputed to His Highness the Subah, Mahomed Ally Khan, to transact and settle some business of money lent to the former Rajah of Tanjore; should they in their said transaction have occasion to apply to you, and seek your good advice and counsel, then do I kindly beg your good and benevolent assistance therewith:

Having the honour to be, with a most perfect esteem,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient and most humble servant,

Fort Dansborg,
4th October, 1773.

A B B E S T E E.

Letter from the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Wynch, dated and received 13th October, 1773.

I BEFORE acquainted you of my having sent Rehemaun Ally Khan and Mahomed Sydee to Negapatnam, and enclosed I transmit you a copy of a letter from them after their arrival there to my Son Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, which he forwarded to me.

What can I say more?

Letter from Mahomed Sydee and Abdul Rehemaun. to Ummeer-ul-Onrab, Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, dated 10th October, 1773.

WE arrived at Trivalore on the 7th instant, and acquainted Chinnama Naick, Dubash to the Governor of Negapatnam, of our arrival by letter, who communicated the same to the Governor; and an order was sent to their guards in different places on the road not to stop us. On the 8th we approached from Trivalore and arrived at the village of Chickul, where 2 officers, with 50 Hat-men, 200 Sepoys, and 2 guns, were posted, it being two Cofs from Negapatnam. The said two officers came out of their posts and met us, and shewed us great civilities; we did the same in return; and from thence we went to Munchgulla, a small Pettah situated within one Cofs from Negapatnam, where we halted. On the 9th, the Governor of Negapatnam sent his people, who stayed with us, and procured us a place to lodge in on the road between Nagore and Negapatnam, within one Cofs from the fort; and then sent to acquaint the Governor thereof, who sent two Counsellors, one the sixth in Council, named Samoose, and the other the fifth in Council, named Nozale, who has also the post of Mint-Master, and other employs in the Company's service.

vice. These came in a coach, attended by three companies of Sepoys, with music, dancing people, &c. as also with Juggal Naick Dubash and Subbia Dobbeer, and visited us in the place we lodged at; and then having received His Highness's and your letters with great respect, they placed them in a silver plate covered with a gold cloth, which they took in their hands; and then both the Counsellors and we went together in the coach to the Governor, who was in the Company's garden near to the fort, with another Gentleman of distinction. The Governor caused the Europeans, Sepoys, &c. to be drawn up in two lines, and on our getting out of the coach and going into the garden, they saluted us with the same number of guns they did when Mahomed Ubraur Khân came here. The Governor came out of the house, and received the plate, in which the letters were placed, with respect from the hands of the Counsellors; and having embraced us, desired us to sit down upon chairs. We then informed him in a proper manner of His Highness's and your regard and favours towards him, with other particulars conducive to the increase of friendship and dispatch of business; all which he heard; and said, that his prayers to the Almighty were, that His Highness's favour and your's might daily increase towards the Company; adding, that as we were just then arrived from a journey, and as it was twelve o'clock in the forenoon, we should go and rest ourselves in his own garden; saying, that after he had perused the letters, he would send for and speak to us on the subject thereof as the next day. We told him, that your Excellency had a great desire to see him, and that the sooner he gave us an answer to the letters, the sooner he would have the happiness of seeing you. He replied, that he was exceedingly desirous of the same, and that he in reality belonged to the Circar. Afterwards he presented each of us with a dress consisting of three pieces, two flasks of rose water, some cinnamon, cloves, mace, and some nutmegs tied up in a cloth, and then we took our leave, and in company with the said Gentlemen, went into a chaise to the Governor's garden, not far from that of the Company, where the Governor stayed. By the blessing of God we shall fully write to you by and by of what may pass regarding the affairs which you were pleased to intrust to us; we did not think it necessary to write to you while we were upon the road. To-morrow we shall see the Governor, and shall constantly advise you of all occurrences.

Towards the close of the evening the Sepoys that were with us formed a guard, and stood in a line according to the custom of the English. The Europeans, Captains, Malays, Sepoys, &c. saw the same and wondered at it, and conversed together upon the subject.

I was sick, and when I arrived at Trivalore my sickness increased; by the blessing of God I was healed by the physick given me by Mahomed Yafem.

Some of the inhabitants of Tanjore that came hither are selling their horses at a cheap rate; please to let me know your directions on this head.

1738 EXPEDITION AGAINST TANJORE IN 1773.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 14th October, 1773.

CAME in the following letter from Camp :

Honourable Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you that the army arrived here to day, and the European artillery and infantry were put under cover in a large Choultry belonging to the Pagoda ; which was very lucky, not only by their escaping exceeding heavy rains that fell this evening, but their getting here at so critical a time, for to-morrow the roads will be impassable. Golam Ally Khán, the young Nabob's ambassador to the Dutch, had not got his answer from them yesterday ; very likely he may return to camp to-morrow.

You will please to forward your letters to the army by Cuddalore in future, as I have placed Tappals from thence to camp, and intend to strike off the late Tappal established from Tanjore to Madras the first letter received from you by the Coast route : I would do it now, but your letters by the Tanjore road would be stopped for want of conveyance.

What I now write is for your private satisfaction, lest you should be anxious to know what we are about. The General is very much fatigued, and not very well to night, but to-morrow he intends to address the Board, and his letter will go by way of Carrical and Cuddalore.

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

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Trivalore, 14 miles from Negapatnam, 11th October, 1773.

THOMAS PARKISON.

P. S. We have for four days marched but six and seven miles a day, and our provisions and stores with much difficulty brought up. The Dutch have stationed six small guards between us and them ; the nearest three miles from hence.

Letter from the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Wynd, dated and received 15th October, 1773.

ACCOMPANYING I send you a copy of a letter from Rehemaun Ally Khán and Mahomed Sydec, dated 12th instant, from Negapatnam, which came enclosed in a letter from Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder. By God's blessing, and your friendship, I understand that the Dutch are softened, and have adopted the line of propriety, and are sending people here ; but then they are at the same time collecting of forces ; for Rehemaun Ally Khán and Mahomed Sydec mention, that they
before

before advised of what they had heard, but that they had since received certain intelligence of the coming of troops. I mention this for your information.

What can I say more?

Copy of a Letter from Rehmann Ally Khan and Mahomed Sydes, dated 12th October, 1773, enclosed in a Letter from Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, dated 15th October, 1773.

BEFORE this we sent your Highness an Arzee, containing some interesting particulars under a small cover; and though we only learnt them from report, yet we thought it necessary to advise you of them.

Yesterday, being Monday the 11th of October, at five o'clock in the evening, the Governor sent for us, and we waited on him; there were with him Chengel Nayer, Dubash, and one Vencara Subrah, who acts as a kind of a Dobbier and Persian Mul-tah. To relate all the conversation that passed concerning the affairs in agitation would be to be too prolix at present; we shall explain it at length in a future Arzee, to which we beg leave to refer your Highness for fuller information.

By the favour of God, and the influence of your Highness's good fortune and power, a possibility has arisen of terminating affairs here agreeable to your Highness's inclination. The Governor has set about complying with your high command, has consented to the surrender of the districts he had taken possession of, and seems in every respect convinced that his own welfare and advantage is in the path of obedience and submission. These happy effects are evidently produced by the blessing of Heaven, your Highness's happy stars, and the admirable steadiness of your conduct. On whatever point your blessed eye chance to fall, whatever be the object of your desires, supernatural influence is still at hand to produce the wished-for event. May Heaven ever continue to surround you with its favours, and render all your enemies obedient and submissive, through the benediction of the Prophet and the Caliphs!

Since our arrival here the Governor has sent an Arruzdasht to the Presence, about sending the third in Council, together with the Chiefs of Sadrahs and Pullicat, thither to treat; the subject of their request is as follows: "We have purchased the lands of the Rajah of Tanjore, and your Highness has become Master of the country; if, out of your clemency and favour, you are pleased to grant us the lands, we shall accept of them thankfully; or if you rather chuse to reimburse what the Company have paid for them, with that also we shall remain satisfied, and submit to your Highness's will;" thus leaving both conclusions at His Highness's option. The Governor told us, that when he should have sent an Arruzdasht to this purpose to the Presence, he would then also send an Arzee to your Highness with rarities and presents, and that he had already begun to prepare the latter. "To day is fixed on, says he, for the departure of the Third in Council, who will be met at Sadrahs by the Pullicat Chief, and from thence they will proceed

“ceed all three together to the Presence; and whatever is there determined on, I am ready to consent to: nor am I without hope, that by the intercession of His Highness Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder, all the affairs of the Company will come to a happy termination.” In this manner we were taken up in conversation with the Governor, from five o’clock in the evening till nine at night; the particulars of which are fully declared in our second Arzee to day. After preparing and giving us the answers to your Highness’s letters he thinks of dismissing us.

In the course of conversation the Governor shewed a great deal of acuteness and discernment in his questions and replies; but as we were acquainted with the nature of the transaction from the beginning, we answered him so, that he could not but grant the truth of our arguments and assertions, and give up the point himself. At coming away we told him, that if he pleased to give us his answers to your Highness’s letters, we would take our leave and return to your presence, and would there act as you should think fit to command us. He answered us, that he would give us the answers to the letters we had brought, when he should be glad if we would depart afterwards; if it were necessary, we might come again; at all events it was not proper we should stay there, nor was it agreeable to the customs of the Company. The truth of it is, they are very desirous of sending us away.

There are here in secret some of the principal men of Tanjore, such as Hussein Khan Soor and the like; they would be glad to come to your Highness, but they desire a security for their lives, effects, and honour; if your Highness will please to send a letter offering such security, those that are willing will come upon such notice.

I heard at the Presence, and also from your Highness, that a person was arrived at Negapatnam with a present of elephants from the Candy Rajah; whom, if I met, I was ordered to have some talk with him, and transmit the substance of it: I have accordingly enquired about him, and find that he is within the fort, and cannot come out without the permission of the Governor. Having learned this, I sent to the Governor to acquaint him, that, according to the Nabob’s directions, I had to speak with the Candy Rajah’s Vackeel, and begged he would suffer him to come to me. The Governor sent in reply, that he had not the permission of his Superiors for sending that person to us, and that either to-day or to-morrow he would set off for his own country. I shall again make a trial, and transmit the result. The elephants are kept without the fort in a garden by the side of the river.

The news I transmitted in a former Arzee, upon deeper enquiry, I find to be certainly true.

From

From Narrain Row, the Chief of the Marattas. Received 17th October, 1773.

I HAVE heard lately that the Nabob Serajah-ul-Dowlah Behauder has sent a Sardar with an army to the Tanjore country, and wants to lay waste the same; this gives me great surprize, that you should be the means of ruining that country, and distressing it's inhabitants, considering the friendship and sincerity subsisting between us, and that the district and government of Tanjore belong to me. In consequence of our old regard, I am to desire that you will in a proper and judicious manner represent this to the Nabob, so that he may recall the Sardar he has sent from that district, and have in his view the doing of what may tend to the increase of our friendship.

What can I say more?

From the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Wynch, dated and received 17th October, 1773.

ENCLOSED I transmit for your information copies of two letters I received from my Son Ummeer-ul-Omrah, Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, together with copies of letters received from the Governor of Negapatnam, Rehemaun Ally Khan, and Mahomed Sydee, as also draughts of two letters which it appears to me it would be proper to write to my said Son, and to the Governor of Negapatnam. After perusing all these papers, be so good as to inform me soon of what occurs to you as proper to be wrote to my said Son, and to the said Governor, as likewise from yourself to General Smith, in order to remove the disturbance of the country, that conformable thereto letters may be wrote, for we are exceedingly stinted as to time.

What can I say more?

Draught of a proposed Letter from the Nabob to Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder.

I HAVE received your letters of the 13th at night and 14th instant, and have observed what the Governor of Negapatnam writes respecting your coming alone to Nagore, and his representation of his having sent two Europeans to my court; and that until he receives an answer from hence, he cannot withdraw his colours and people from Nagore: I have perused also the copies of your letter to the said Governor and his answer, together with a copy of a letter from Rehemaun Ally Khan and Mahomed Sydee.

As the Dutch are endeavouring to gain time, until the rains may come and foreign disturbances arise, you must therefore immediately on the receipt of this letter proceed with the General to Nagore, and take possession of the districts they have got in their hands; and this done, write to the Governor of Negapatnam, telling him to send his people of consequence to negotiate with you. Enclosed I send you a letter for him from myself open, wherein I have acquainted him that I

had sent you there with powers to settle affairs; after perusing the letter, pass it up and forward it; and soon terminate matters there, that the expenses may be put a stop to, and the troops remain in quiet during the rains.

Draught of a Letter proposed by the Nabob to be written to the Governor of Negapatnam.

BY the letter of congratulation you wrote to me on the capture of the Fort of Tanjore, I observed it was your intention to send two people of distinction to me: the answer to that letter you will receive separate. I have sent my Son Ummeer-ul-Omrah, Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, to those parts with powers to terminate affairs there. It is evident that I bear a regard for the Dutch Nation, and I am ready to give an assignment upon the districts of Tanjore for the amount received by Tuljaujee from your Settlement in lieu of lands or jewels, conformable to what the said Tuljaujee agreed to, and the representation of the Tanjore Mutesaddies; you will therefore in the first place give up the districts and jewels, and other things you have taken from Tuljaujee, and send your people of distinction to my Son, who is near you, and will give you an assignment for the amount due to you: it would occasion a great delay were the people of distinction to come to my court to negotiate.

Copy of a Letter from Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder to the Nabob, dated 14th, and received at the Durbar, 17th October, 1773.

LAST night I had the honour to address your Highness, advising of occurrences here, by which I imagine you must be acquainted therewith. In consequence of the letter from Rehemaun Ally Khan and Mahomed Sydee, (a copy of which I transmitted) purporting that the Dutch had adopted the line of obedience and submission to the Circar, and proposed complying with it's requisitions, I yesterday wrote a letter to the Governor of Negapatnam in warm and friendly terms, desiring that he would remove his people and flags from Nagore and the other places, and mentioning that I should come there.

To-day, being Thursday the 14th, I have received a letter from him in answer, and I understand also by a letter from Rehemaun Ally Khan and Mahomed Sydee, that he has said, if I come I must come unattended, and that his flags and people must remain as they are, until he receives an answer from your Highness's court, to which he has sent two Europeans. Enclosed I transmit to your Highness a copy of my letter to the Governor and his answer, and a copy of Rehemaun Ally Khan's letter on the subject of negotiation, by which your Highness will be informed of all particulars. The Dutchman has sent two Europeans to negotiate at your Highness's court: in the first place, it will take a space of fourteen days for them to reach it by land; the rains are hanging over our heads; and every day's delay brings with it the fruitless expense of the army upon your Highness. The Dutch are desirous to gain time, as we shall not be able to make war during the rains; and in case of the negotiation being carried on at your Highness's court, it will lessen the credit of your

your slave, who is so near them, and who was sent with a victorious army on this very business. I flatter myself, therefore, that your Highness will dispatch another letter by the Tappals to the Governor of Negapatnam; telling him, that you had dispatched your slave (meaning me) to settle all matters, that I am very near to him, and that he should negotiate with me and adjust his concerns; in which case they would be soon terminated. Agreeable to the General's advice, I wrote a letter to Rehemaun Ally Khân and Mahomed Sydee; telling them to acquaint the Governor of Negapatnam, that if he was desirous of negotiating in a friendly manner, to send two of his Council with them for that purpose; in which case I directed the said Rehemaun Ally Khân and Mahomed Sydee; to accompany them; or else to speak to the Governor, to get a clear and plain answer from him, and to come away; when whatever might be judged consistent with the times should be put in execution; I expect an answer to this by the evening, and will advise your Highness thereof. The General says plainly, that he will not lead out the Company's troops against the Dutch; that he brought them for the name; that the Circar's force here is well known, and that they have only four companies of two battalions, two companies with me, the two regiments of horse, and the horse with Rauce Mucunderow. On the road the General was desirous of sending even these away, but by dint of pressing I kept them. I am exceeding uneasy and puzzled at this business of the Dutch being delayed. This is the situation of affairs here; I mention them for your Highness's information. I shew great attention to the General, and consult his disposition exceedingly; he is pleased. To say more would be exceeding the bounds of respect.

Copy of an Arruzdashi from Ummeer-ul-Omrâh, Mader-ul Mulk Behaudee, to the Nabob, dated 14th in the Forenoon, and received 17th October, 1773, at Night.

IN the forenoon I addressed an Arruzdashi to you, thereby informing you of my determination, on the 13th at night, to go to Nagore jointly with General Smith, who advised me to it; and in the evening he came and told me, that as the Dutch flags are still flying over the villages near the army, and at Nagore, &c. and they still detain our agents with trifling excuses, he does not think it proper to march the army from the place where it then lay, notwithstanding the Dutch in appearance shew themselves to be humble to us: and he added, that he could not send out the Company's troops, because of the peace between the English and the Dutch; and that if your Highness's troops go, and they declined to oppose them, it was well, or otherwise it would be attended with bad consequences. I then asked him what was proper to be done; and, upon our joint consultation, it was determined that I should write positive orders to Rehemaun Ally Khân and Mahomed Sydee in the manner following, viz.

“ The Dutch talk of sending their people to His Highness's court, and for
 “ whose arrival there it will take up 14 days; and at last His Highness will send
 “ them to me, because the army arrived hither on account of the same business. I
 “ am

" am empowered from Court to settle all affairs, and came so near and remain in the
 " army; if it is the intention of the Dutch to maintain the friendship, and to deliver
 " up the Circar's country to the people of the Circar without quarrel, they should
 " send two of their Council here to negotiate, that the affairs may be finished here;
 " let them take off their Tannahs and flags from Nagore and other villages: but if
 " their design is to act contrary, and delay time, procure their plain answer, import-
 " ing that they can neither deliver up the country nor send the Counsellors, and
 " then come to me; afterwards I shall act according as the times may permit." I have, agreeable to this sentiment, wrote to the said Rehemaun Ally Khan and Ma-
 homed Sydee, and as soon as I receive their answer, shall advise you.

Copy of a Letter from Rehemaun Ally Khan and Mahomed Sydee, dated 13th October at Night.

YOUR Highness's letter of the 13th instant, by four regiment horsemen, we have had the honour to receive. You were pleased to say, that " The next day, being Thursday, you would set out with your army, and come to Nagore; and that we should tell the Governor of Negapatnam to withdraw his garrison from Nagore, and recall them to Negapatnam before your Highness's arrival. That of the two letters was to the Governor of Negapatnam, and enclosed under a flying seal; and that if it should meet us on the road, we should, after perusal, close it, and dispatch it to the said Governor."

Now on the first arrival of the four horsemen with the letters, the Dutch carried them before the Governor; and as the letter-bag was not under our name, the Governor enquired about letters from your Highness; and having asked his own letter of the horsemen, received it himself, and sent us the letters that were directed to us. As soon as we understood the contents of your Highness's letter, we sent the Governor word, that he might please to send his letter also to us, that we might come and deliver it in form; he replied, " That as the letter was directed to him, he had taken it;" to which we returned for answer, " That in our letter also there were circumstances which it was necessary to acquaint him with, and that therefore we should wait upon him;" the Governor sent us word, that he was busy in the translation of the letter, and we must excuse him, but he would send his Dubashes to us; which he accordingly did, to wit, Chinnapah Nayer, and Vencatacheluni Chitty: by the mouth of these we sent this message to the Governor; " That to-morrow His Highness the Nabob Ummeer-ul-Onrah would come to Nagore, and it would be necessary therefore that the Dutch garrison should be recalled to Negapatnam, agreeable to the contents of your Highness's letter;" which we made the Dubashes understand from beginning to end, in order that they might acquaint the Governor therewith succinctly. The said Dubashes went and explained all this to the Governor; who replied, " His Highness the Nabob is become an absolute Prince; if he is pleased to come to Nagore, it is highly agreeable, and I shall take care to shew him all the respect that is due to him, in performing which I shall take the greatest pleasure; 'till, however, we receive an answer from the
 " Presence,

“ Presence, whither our Chief is gone, and whose commands I am ready to obey, it is better that our ensign and garrison remain there, though I cannot pretend to forbid the Nabob’s coming.” He also plainly sent us word to the following purpose: “ If perchance the Nabob should think fit to remove the Dutch colours and garrison from Nagore, your stay any longer here will be improper, you also must go home :” he added also, “ Tell His Highness, that if he chuses to come, it is extremely agreeable, but he must please to let our colours and garrison remain ’till an answer arrives from the Presence; in this respect it is necessary to shew us thus much kindness.”

We now make bold to acquaint your Highness, that whensoever you shall be pleased to remove the Dutch garrison and colours, they will also remove the garrison and colours of the Circar, and in that case the Governor will treat us as enemies; we therefore beg, that when that is resolved on, your Highness will please to grant us notice of it with the utmost expedition, in order that we may take our leave of the Governor, and come to your Highness; since the preparing an answer to your Highness’s letters will not take up longer than the night of the 16th instant: your Highness will be pleased therefore to favour us with speedy notice on this head, that we may not be subject to the ill treatment that may ensue by staying longer than that period.

We shall send the Governor’s answer after this, when ready, by the horsemen of the regiment.

Since the writing of this, the Governor’s Arzee in reply is finished, and we have sent it off.

Copy of a Letter from Ummeer-ul-Omrab, Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, to the Governor of Negapatnam, dated 13th October, 1773.

I OBSERVE by a letter from Rehemaun Ally Khan and Mahomed Sydee, of your true regard and friendship, and likewise of your intention to maintain an old friendship with His Highness, and was glad of your good disposition. By the blessing of God, you are endowed with wisdom and future consideration, and know the good and bad consequence of all affairs; no doubt you’ll act agreeable to His Highness’s pleasure, which is attended with reason and justice, and increase the friendship. By the help of God, I shall arrive at Nagore, belonging to Tanjore, with my victorious army, and as you are residing near the said place, all conference regarding amity shall be regulated; I hope therefore that you’ll out of friendship recall your people that are at Nagore to Negapatnam before my arrival. I write this by way of friendship.

What can I say more ?

Copy of the Answer from the Governor of Negapatnam to Ummeer-ul-Onyah, Mader-ul-Mulk Bebauder, dat d 14th October, 1773.

I RECEIVED your favour by a trooper, and observe the contents; I understand your good friendship and sincere regard for me: I received also His Highness's letter, together with your own, which were sent lately by Rehemaun Ally Khan and Mahomed Sydee Khan, and understood the whole particulars therein contained: I am now preparing satisfactory answers to those letters, and as soon as they are ready they shall be sent by the said two people, and the same will give you a proper explanation of the matter; I hope therefore that all affairs relating to the Dutch Company will meet with His Highness's approbation according to our wishes. Be pleased to come to Nagore, which belongs to the Company, with a few people, as there is no occasion to bring your victorious army to that place; it will be proper for the Company's people to remain in a place that belongs to the Company. You are endowed with wisdom, and it would be needless for me to say any thing further.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday, 18th October, 1773.

P R E S E N T,

Alexander Wynch Esquire, Governor, President.

John Smith

Charles Smith

Samuel Johnson

John Maxwell Stone

Edward Stracey.

READ several letters from the Nabob, dated and numbered as follows:

Dated 7th instant, as entered in Country Correspondence, No. 112,* enclosing copies of letters of congratulation from the Governors of Pondicherry, Tranquebar, and Nagapatnam, and Arruzdashts from the dispossessed Rajah of Tanjore and his Mother.

No. 113, † dated 8th instant, with copy of a letter from his Son Mader-ul-Mulk to the Governor of Negapatnam.

No. 114, ‡ translation of a letter from the Governor of Negapatnam to Narfing-Gadah Row, Manager to the Rajah of Tanjore.

No. 116, || dated 13th instant, with a copy of a letter from his Vackeels at Negapatnam to his Son Mader-ul-Mulk.

* Vide page 1247.

† Page 1250.

‡ Page 1252.

|| Page 1256.

No. 118, * dated 15th instant, with a copy of a letter from his Vackeels at Negapatnam.

Read a letter from the Nabob, dated 17th, No. 121, † enclosing copies of several letters respecting his negotiations with the Dutch at Negapatnam, and likewise draughts of two letters which he purpofes to write to his fon and to the Governor at Negapatnam on the fame business.

RESOLVED, That the Nabob be made acquainted with the orders which have been sent to General Smith, directing him to affift with the Company's troops for the recovery of the districts in the Tanjore country poffeffed by the Dutch to the Nabob's Government; and that he be informed at the fame time, that we understand preparations are making at Negapatnam for the difpatch of certain Deputies from their Government empowered to treat with Mader-ul-Mulk, and that we hope matters will be fettled amicably between him and the Dutch.

Read the following letter from General Smith:

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor, &c. of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

ENCLOSED I have the honour to fend you a return of the Company's troops entitled to prize-money for the capture of Tanjore, with a list of Officers. I hope you have not given the Nabob a copy of that sent you by Captain Colby, as I fuppofe it was no more than a return of the army for laft month, and of courfe not only the Lascars, but many of the Officers, may be left out.

I have the honour to be with respect,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient fervant,

Cantonments at Trivalore,

14th October, 1773.

J. S M I T H.

The Nabob having agreed with the Company's troops for a certain fum to each rank, in confideration of their giving up their right to the plunder which might fall into their hands on the capture of Tanjore by storm, and having desired a return of the Company's troops for that purpose, the President applied to the General for the fame, which he accordingly transmitted in the foregoing letter.

ORDERED, That the faid return be delivered to the Nabob.

* Vide page 1258.

† Page 1261.

AT A CONSULTATION, Thursday, 21st October, 1773.

P R E S E N T,

Alexander Wynch Esquire, Governor, President.

John Smith

Charles Smith

Samuel Johnson

John Maxwell Stone

Edward Stracey

Edward Cotsford.

MESSIEURS BROOKE and COTSFORD not having been at the Board during the proceedings regarding the Dutch at Negapatnam, the Minutes of Consultation, and the other papers on that subject, are now read for their information.

Read the following letter from General Smith, with one to the General, wrote by order of Mader-ul-Mulk.

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor, &c. of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

ENCLOSED I have the honour to send you a letter I received this moment from Ummeer-ul-Omrah's Secretary, advising that the Dutch had refused to send Ambassadors here, as the Third in Council and another Gentleman were gone to Madras to treat with the Nabob. From this it appears they either mean to protract time, or oblige His Highness to make use of force against them; and if assisted by our troops, I understand they are prepared to protest formally against the Company for the recovery of the lands that may be taken from them, or perhaps only with a view to make our Honourable Masters answerable for the money.

I can foresee that it will be very difficult for me to come at a certainty as to the proposals that have been made to the Dutch, how far amicable, and what has passed on their part in consequence; but as the Honourable Board may inform themselves of these matters from the Ambassadors gone to Madras, I request to know from your Honour, &c. when I am to render the Nabob the assistance of the Company's troops to put him in possession of the lands in question, if they should find it necessary.

I have the honour to be with respect,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Trivalore,
17th October, 1773.

J. SMITH.

SIR,

S I R,

HIS Highness Ummeer-ul-Omrah desires me to present his compliments to General Smith, and acquaints him that last night he received the answer from his Ambassador at Negapatnam, in consequence of what the General and His Highness consulted on two nights ago. That they have held a consultation, the result of which was, that as they had already sent the Third in Council, with another Gentleman, as Ambassadors to the Nabob at Madras, they thought there was no occasion to send an embassy here; and if His Highness's Ambassador wanted to leave Negapatnam, in pursuance of the order he had received to that purpose, he might set out whenever he pleased.

His Highness begs General Smith will consider and give him his opinion what he thinks best to be done, from the instructions he knows His Highness has received from his Father the Nabob: the Ambassador sets out from Negapatnam this morning: and I am,

S I R,

Your most obedient

and very humble servant,

Trivalore,

17th October, 1773.

M. BRUCE, Secretary.

Read a letter from the Nabob, representing the wilful delays used by the Dutch, that they are not sincere in their intentions of accommodating matters with him, the danger of such delays, and desiring that orders may be sent to General Smith to march without delay, and assist his Son in taking possession of the lands usurped by the Dutch. The Nabob encloses a letter from the Governor of Negapatnam.

From the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Wynch, dated 20th, and received 21st October, 1773.

TO-DAY I have received an Arruzdasht from the Governor of Negapatnam, in words very long, but meaning nothing: therein he says, "He has sent some people of distinction to tender their congratulations on the conquest of Tanjore." By his manner of writing it is probable that the coming of these people also may mean nothing, for I cannot find in the Governor's Arruzdasht any traces of what he said to Rehemaun Ally Khân and Mahomed Sydee; nor has he mentioned any thing thereof in his letter to my Son, a copy of which I enclose. Owing to the rainy season being at hand, the increasing expense of the army, and an apprehension of foreign disturbances, I am very uneasy respecting the settling of this Negapatnam

patnam business. It is plain that the Dutch want to gain time. In the same manner as you resolved to procure for me the districts these people had possessed themselves of, I must request you will send orders to the Sardar of your troops, to assist my Son in the reduction of them without delay on his requisition. Should it not be in your power to afford me this assistance, acquaint me of it, that I may think of some other mode. On this business, enclosed I send a draught of a letter I have prepared for the Governor of Negapatnam, and which, if you approve of it, I am desirous of sending to him; for your information also I transmit a copy of a letter I have wrote to the Gentlemen of Council belonging to Negapatnam, who are coming to me. The Arruzdasht of the Governor of Negapatnam is enclosed; as I have no copy of it, after you have perused the same, and had a copy thereof taken, return the original. The Governor of Negapatnam observing our dilatoriness, writes in this manner; by a little warmth on your part, I am in hopes he will be brought to reason: your favour in this business is necessary.

What can I say more!

In the Nabob's Hand.

The bad consequences attending this matter will not alone accrue to me; it will be very prejudicial also to the affairs of the Company. Further, do as you please; I write this as I am a friend to the Company.

Draught of a Letter proposed by the Nabob to be written to the Governor of Negapatnam.

I HAVE already acquainted you, that my Son Ummeer-ul-Omrah, Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, had full and entire powers from me to remove all differences between me and you respecting Nagore, and the other lands belonging to the dispossessed Rajah of Tanjore; my desire therefore is, that you should send people of trust to him, in order that he may there settle all matters in an equitable manner, having invested him with authority also to grant an assignment for the amount of the sum which may remain justly due to you from the dispossessed Rajah of Tanjore. As it is alone the delivering up of these lands which can strengthen our friendship and regard, I have therefore directed Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder to take possession thereof without any further delay. If you will readily give orders for the coming away of your troops, and removing your flags from thence, I shall esteem it as proceeding from your friendship, and you shall experience my friendship in the same manner in return. You will settle all matters there with Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder; this done, I shall with pleasure receive your congratulations by the means of your Gentlemen of Council at Madras; but I have no desire of seeing them until all matters shall be cleared up.

Copy

Copy of a Letter from the Nabob to the Negapatnam Council, who are coming to his Court by the permission of the Governor of that Place, dated 10th October, 1773.

TO-DAY I received an Arruzdasht from the Governor of Negapatnam, wherein he mentions that he had sent you to pay his congratulations to me on the conquest of the fort of Tanjore. The matter is this: until this day (between which and the capture of the said fort a space of a month and four days have elapsed) the negotiation for, and the cession of the lands belonging to Tanjore, possessed by your nation, have been delayed, and in consideration of my old friendship for your nation I have hitherto waited; if you have power to settle matters, come to my court, and you shall experience my favour; but if you are only coming to congratulate me, remain at Sadras, and send me an answer to this letter soon; afterwards whatever measure shall be proper for the tranquillity of the Carnatick shall be put in execution.

Arruzdasht from the Governor of Negapatnam, enclosed in one from Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder, and received at the Durbar, 21st October, 1773.

AFTER the usual preamble.

The letter which at this time your Highness has been pleased to transmit, I have been honoured with the receipt of. You are pleased to say, "That a perpetual flow of kindness and good-will has been all along shown by your Highness, and the former Subahdars of the Carnatick, towards the furtherance of the concerns and commerce of the Dutch Company, since the time of their first settlement in the country;" on which I beg leave to observe, that we have not the smallest doubt or hesitation in subscribing to that assertion; but that, at the same time, I can venture to affirm as a self-evident fact, that neither have the Dutch Nation, from the beginning of that period 'till now, been in the least deficient in amicable measures, real friendship, or declarations of attachment; and that, for my own part, it is my earnest desire, that unreserved affection and good-will may every day increase between us.

This your Highness must know by experience, nor will it ever undergo the minutest variation. I am night and day praying for an increase of your honours and dignities, as well as for your favour towards us; and when the Rajah of Tanjore received the reward of his bad actions, in falling before your victorious army, under the command of Ummeer-ul-Omrah, Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, the happy news imparted to the Dutch Company and myself the highest degree of joy and satisfaction; which I expressed in an Arruzdasht sent your Highness on that occasion, and at the same time acquainted you, that for a fuller display of our attachment, three European Gentlemen of rank would wait upon your Highness to give you joy on the late event, and petition your future favours, in like manner as we had experienced your past; those Gentlemen have accordingly set out for Madras.

Your Highness has also been pleased to say, "That the Dutch Company, forgetting all the obligations they owed to you, and being affected with enmity against the Circar, had sent military stores and assistance to Tanjore; and that, from a dependence on our support, the Rajah had been induced to go the lengths he has done." *All this is utterly contrary to the true state of the case*, as I represented in mine of the 9th August last,* at which time I also answered these complaints, by word of mouth, at full length to Ubraur Khân, and repeated that reply again at parting with him; and is no credit to be given to these repeated asseverations?

I now beg leave, however, to lay the matter before you more explicitly. *That the Dutch Company have at all assisted the Rajah with ammunition and military stores is absolutely false*, and therefore, as to that point, our hearts are altogether at ease: but I now beg leave to shew in what respect some men who have come to your Highness have calumniated us, and how your Highness has been led to give credit to their information. Mahomed Ubraur Khân on his coming here was a witness at how high a rate we valued your friendship, and what an unreserved and amicable conduct we pursued; he therefore, we hope, has done us justice in that respect before your Highness; though some other persons of bad principle, finding it conducive to their own interest and views, have endeavoured to disturb the unity subsisting between the Circar and us, by representing us in a different light. Such men, though they have but too well succeeded in their design, will not however be long without their due reward. Now your Highness may well conceive, that the Dutch Company, even for the sake of their own reputation, and the increase of their credit with you, would not act contrary to their own solemn engagements and declarations: and it is evident that nothing more is wanting to establish and increase a good understanding between us, than for your Highness to be convinced *of the falsity of the aspersions thrown upon us in regard to our succouring Tanjore; to evince which I beg leave to say, that I am sure no mention of any such connexion will be found in the Rajah's own papers, and that no proof can be brought of it.* Ubraur Khân, at parting, asked us, why we had erected Dutch colours at Nagore; to which we returned for answer, not as your Highness has been informed, "That the late Rajah, unable to discharge the debt his Father had contracted with the Dutch Company, had therefore sold us Nagore and it's dependencies;" for that the Father of the late Rajah did never contract a debt with our Company is universally known, and as clear as the day; and since of course no such circumstance can be mentioned on the Rajah's records, we could not but know, (as your Highness also may conceive) that to pretend to ground our proceedings on so glaring an untruth, would be to bring ourselves into the greatest difficulties for such misconduct. But what was the fact? that the *late* Rajah not being able to discharge the sums he himself had borrowed of us, we had on that account purchased of him Nagore and it's dependencies; nor did any other conversation on that head pass between Ubraur Khân and us. And the cause of our not taking notice of it in our letters to your Highness was, that we had finished the letter, sealed it, and delivered it, without Ubraur Khân's making the least mention of such a subject; but he afterwards brought it up in a moment, unprelaced and unexpected: surely had he delivered us the question in writing, we should at that very time have

inserted

* Vide page 1183.

inserted our answer in the Arruzdashit. Let but your Highness weigh these circumstances impartially, and you cannot but clear us from every degree of blame.

That we did lend money to the late Rajah is most true ; for when, in the year 1771, peace was concluded between your Highness and him, on the condition of his paying a stipulated sum to the Circar, we supplied him with money to discharge that sum : excepting which, what could induce us to take such a step ? for “ To do it with any evil intention towards “ your Highness, or in order to assist the Rajah against you, or to reduce him from “ the path of obedience,” was what we never dreamt of. And as we forbore to lend him money before that peace was concluded, from a conviction that the very mention of it, on our parts, would have been highly improper, at the same time that it would have been equally unjust in the Rajah, either to ask or to receive a loan (and neither did he) ; so after his treaty with your Highness had authorised such a proceeding, we were induced to it by the consideration, that should we decline assisting him, our neighbouring country would be subject to a second invasion, and be made desolate, it’s revenues suffer considerable loss, and scarcity and famine impend over it’s inhabitants. When however, on our requiring the principal and interest of the sum we had lent him, he was unable to answer our demand, he agreed to sell us Nagore and it’s dependencies, and this was the cause of our making the purchase. Far from taking this step after your Highness’s victorious army had moved against the place, or after Ubraur Khān had come to give us notice of that measure, in “ Order “ (as we are accused) to injure your Highness’s interest ;” far from any such intention as this, our bargain was fair and equitable ; nor had we any sinister views or expectation from the Rajah in doing so, as your Highness, on a review of the whole, must conclude ; and contrary to which, whatever any principal inhabitants of Tanjore may advance in your presence, we beg leave to assure you is inconsistent with truth.

Your Highness has been pleased to observe, “ That the tributary Rajahs of “ Tanjore have never mortgaged or sold any part of their lands ;” in reply to which, we beg it may not be deemed impertinent if we advance some instances to evince the contrary. The state of the Tanjore Government, from it’s beginning to it’s fall, has been very well known, and the freedom of it’s decisions in every respect undisputed ; the magnanimous English, as well as the contemptible Danes at Tranquebar, are equally well acquainted of this. Were it not so, how came it to pass, that in the year 1738 they (the Rajahs) sold the district of Carrical to the French ? And how happened it, that in the year 1705 also they sold the port of Nagore to the Dutch, who thence derived the privilege of erecting their colours at that place ? Had they not been absolute lords of their own country, how could they have taken such steps as these ? Agreeable hereto the Rajah, since that period, has sought our friendship, has granted us an Enaam of two villages in perpetuity, and engaged his word to us in the most positive manner, that if he disposed any part of his country, it should be to us, and none else ; has since set on foot a friendly communication with the Dutch Company, and carried on with them pecuniary negotiations, which finally have produced the sale of Nagore and it’s dependencies ; all which proceedings tend to shew, that he was Master of his own country, a point that we are well assured of. Not to mention, that the Dutch Com-

pany have lent money on mortgage, since your Highness's war in 1771, even to the Mahajans, who are also so far masters of their own possessions; and yet your Highness did not at that time dispute the point, nor have your predecessors, the former Subahdars of the Carnatick, given any directions to the Dutch Company, or any other nation, concerning the sale of lands, or the grant of Enaums; but, on the contrary, have acquiesced in the conduct of the Rajahs, who have granted Cowles to whomsoever they chose even in your Highness's time, without having any of those acts annulled or disapproved, nor has any one 'till now ever disputed their authority. Were they not lords of their own country, they could not even issue orders in their own name for the collection of their revenues; nor need we other proof of this point, than the absolute power with which the Baljevars reigned in Tanjore, before the Marattas took possession of it; who issued Cowles, and granted Enaums to whom they pleased; to which the former Subahdars of the Carnatick consented, and the payment of their Peshcush suffered no delay.

Now a Peshcush is twofold; first, *the Peshcush of him who is master of his country*; and secondly, the Peshcush of him who is not master of his country: that which is paid to the Circar is of the former kind; but of the latter are the amount of the revenues, the amount of the stipulated Peshcush, and the amount of the elephants that were purchased of us, for the payment of which a mortgage has been given to the Dutch Company of lands and jewels; of which sum, after deducting the principal and interest, we have got a receipt from the Rajah's servants, Narsingarow and Gangafavah Pilla, for the remainder, as they had received of us to that amount at various times.

Now after having got a receipt, we need no longer any testimony from the Rajah's accounts; but your Highness must not be surprised that I did not answer you expressly to the letter you sent me on this subject, enclosing one from the Rajah to the same purport; as the truth is, that we have not obtained the proper Saneds from the Rajah; nor did I think it proper to risk the credit of the Dutch Company, by producing their accounts against those of a man deposed from his government, and a prisoner, since it might prove a great impediment to our future commercial negotiations, as well as an object of contention between the Circar and us. At the same time we are in no need of testimony from the imprisoned servants of the Rajah, either with regard to the terms of agreement between him and us, or with regard to the completion or non-completion of the payments due upon the Saneds; for we are surely better acquainted with these points than they who had no share in the transaction, nor even enquired into the particulars of it. Our testimonies are the letters and Saneds of the Rajah brought to us by people of consequence, of whom one was particularly appointed to this business, and the receipts of such persons on our delivering them the several sums; of which sums neither myself, nor any of the Council here, have any share; and whoever has informed your Highness of such a circumstance, has been totally regardless of truth: for my own part, I am in the highest degree astonished how your Highness could give ear to such a story, of which the author deserves little less than capital punishment. Consider, Sir, I and my Council are bound by oath to our Superiors for our fidelity; and how then should it enter our minds to pursue measures, that must inevitably bring dishonour and discredit upon them

them, as well as shame and disgrace upon ourselves? Heaven will pour it's vengeance upon those who are the inventors of so unjust a report. God forbid that we should ever be guilty of such an action. We earnestly hope that ere long those who have taken such pains to create a misunderstanding between your Highness and the Dutch Company, and to disturb the peace that hitherto subsisted between us, will meet with that correction and punishment they so richly deserve; and we pray for the protection of Heaven from such men's malevolent designs.

The Saned for the district of Keelore is to the amount of three Lacks and sixty thousand Pagodas, and that for the Pergunnah of Terpoondée twenty-four thousand Pagodas; both which Saneds the Rajah sent by the hands of Narasingarow and Gangasavah Pilla; but when the sum of the revenues of both these places was cast up and determined, those of Keelore were found to make no more than three Lacks and thirty thousand Pagodas, and those of Terpoondée only twenty-thousand Pagodas; so that far from having paid us to the full amount of the Saneds, as they have treacherously informed your Highness, they absolutely endeavoured to cajole us out of the remaining thirty thousand Pagodas on account of the former, and the defective four thousand in the account of the latter. However, the district of Keelore was afterwards valued at three Lacks and ten thousand; but that being disputed, it was at length determined at three Lacks and thirty thousand Pagodas; which sum they accordingly received, and sent the copy of that Saned to the Rajah.

Your Highness has been pleased to say, "That you would particularly enquire into this circumstance, whether those two persons or we had sent the copies of those Saneds to the Rajah; and that if the justice of our proceedings would bear this test, you would continue your accustomed favour to the Dutch Company." We cast the utmost dependence upon this issue. We know to whom we are answerable for our conduct, and that every thing will terminate agreeable to their commands; we have therefore sent thither an account of all that has passed in this affair as well as the original Saneds, and this being the case, we hope your Highness will not be offended at our not being able to produce them. For the rest, your Highness is well acquainted with the customs and regulations of Europeans, and therefore will not be surprized at my declining to act further in this matter, 'till I receive orders from Batavia relating to it; and with regard to delivering your Highness those Saneds at your request, believe me I shall not fail to do, in the utmost extent, whatever I am commanded from thence.

For a fuller explanation of the above particulars, and for the establishment and increase of a sincere and firm friendship between the Circar and us, as well as for the averting of every degree of dissatisfaction in future, three Gentlemen of the Council of this Settlement will wait upon your Highness. I can only add, that I pray to Heaven that a good understanding may be settled between your Highness on the one part, and the Company and myself on the other.

The

The Company have lent upon jewels to the amount of eighty thousand Pagodas, and private merchants to the amount of one Lack; but this sum of one Lack and eighty thousand Pagodas has since been included in the Saneds, and we have got Narasingarow's and Gangasavah Pilla's receipt for the principal and interest of that sum. In consequence of this, the two last mentioned persons have been desirous of disposing of the jewels; which being apprized of, I have kept them yet under my own care and under the seal of the Rajah, 'till I could advise your Highness of the circumstance. Whenever therefore the three Gentlemen that are about to wait upon you have settled the matters in dispute that relate to the Company, I am ready to deliver up the jewels into your Highness's possession; and am in hopes that, out of your great favour towards the Dutch Company, you will condescend to bring matters to a speedy determination with those deputies, and suffer them to return as soon as possible, which I shall esteem a very singular obligation. In the mean time, I must entreat that no violence be offered by the servants of the Cicar to any department of our affairs, but that every thing go on as usual 'till this determination takes place; and I will venture to engage that the Dutch Company shall never in future deviate from the path which gives satisfaction to your Highness, but shall take all opportunities of displaying the utmost zeal and fidelity in your service.

Some of the Tanjore people came here at the time of the siege, whom I have ordered to return with their effects; but I am unacquainted who they are particularly, and therefore cannot be answerable on that score. Two persons were mentioned to me particularly, in a letter from Ummeer-ul-Omrah, Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder; but those two sent their compliments to me the day after Tanjore was taken, and left the place: so that though I have the utmost desire to comply with your Highness's and Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder's inclinations in every instance, yet in this it is out of my power to do what you desire in delivering them up.

Having said so much on all these subjects, I have only now to represent to your Highness, with the utmost respect and submission, that in case any unjustifiable or arbitrary measures should be pursued in regard to the districts of the Company, seeing that no such proceedings have taken place on our parts, your Highness alone must answer for the consequences, whether good or bad; we can bear no share of the blame, for no fault can be proved upon us; but the Dutch Nation, whatever conduct your Highness chuses to pursue, will undoubtedly act agreeable to the rules of equity and justice. It was my duty to represent this to your Highness, and I have done so. May the Sun of your life, prosperity, fortune, power, magnificence, and glory, continue to shine with lustre and resplendence!

P. S. The whole amount of the Saneds is five Lacks, eighteen thousand, five hundred and forty-five Pagodas, of which sum two Lacks and fifty-three thousand Pagodas are due to the Company.

Copy of a Letter from the Governor of Negapatnam to Ummeer-ul-Omrah, Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder; no date, but received on the 17th October, 1773, at twelve o'clock in the forenoon.

I HAD the honour to receive your favour lately, together with that of His Highness by Rehemaun Ally Khan and Mahomed Sydee Khan, and observed the contents. As the government of the Tanjore country is now under your power, we hope to carry on the Dutch Company's affairs in the said country with daily success and prosperity. Regarding their mercantile affairs, His Highness, and the former Nabobs of the Carnatick Country, shewed their favours beyond measure in the affairs of the Dutch Company's trade; we hope therefore that the former favour may daily increase; no doubt that the Dutch Nation will always merit the same, and that the Company's affairs will meet with success, and the good friendship will increase. In your said letters you have wrote every thing just and true in answer to what we have addressed, but the expression which you have made use of, that the Dutch were people of bad conduct was entirely false; and for other matters I referred His Highness to the Arruzdasht which I have addressed to him; and you will on your part know them by the verbal accounts of the said Rehemaun Ally Khan and Sydee Khan; copy of the said Arruzdasht comes enclosed.

N. B. The above copy is written in broken Persian, hard to be understood; however Kudabanda Moonshy was sent for and consulted, and, agreeable to his conjecture, it was rendered into English as above.

The Board's Minute.

FROM the evasive and ambiguous manner in which the letter from the Governor of Negapatnam is wrote, as well from General Smith's letter of the 17th, it should seem the Dutch have at present no other object in view than to procrastinate and amuse the Nabob with negotiations, until they can receive directions from their Superiors at Batavia, or their Employers at home; and in the mean time it is certain they are in hourly expectation of receiving further reinforcements of troops from their other Settlements. The Board taking all these circumstances into consideration, UNANIMOUSLY DETERMINE, That General Smith be directed to march immediately with the troops under his command, on the requisition of the Nabob's Son; and to put him in possession of the districts possessed by the Dutch, if they should refuse to evacuate them in an amicable manner on the approach of the army.

In consequence of the foregoing resolution, the following letter was accordingly dispatched to General Smith:

1278 EXPEDITION AGAINST TANJORE IN 1773.

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

S I R,

THE President has communicated to us your letter to him of the 17th instant.

The Nabob hath represented to us, that it is evident, from the delays used by the Dutch in their negotiations with him, that they have no other design than to gain time; and hath expressed an earnest desire to bring this matter to a speedy conclusion; and in consequence thereof, he has desired that the troops under your command, on the requisition of his Son Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder, may without delay proceed and assist him in taking possession of Nagore, and the countries lately occupied by the Dutch, belonging to the Tanjore country. We desire that you will accordingly, on the requisition of the Nabob's Son Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder, march immediately with the troops under your command, and assist him in taking possession of Nagore and the abovementioned countries; and in case the Dutch should not on your approach evacuate the said districts, we do hereby authorize and direct that you assist the Nabob's Son in taking possession of the same by force; which done, we desire you will appoint such a force as you may judge necessary to assist the Nabob in keeping possession of the same; and we should be glad of your sentiments with regard to the disposition of the remainder of the army.

We are, Sir,

Fort St. George,
21st October, 1773.

Your most obedient humble servant,
A^R. WYNCH, &c. Council.

Read copy of a letter from the Nabob to the Deputies from Negapatnam, who are upon the road to this place, with a view, as they say, to treat with him respecting their claims in the Tanjore country.*

CAME in the following letter from General Smith:

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

I HAVE been honoured with your commands of the 5th, 7th, and 12th instant: in obedience to the former a battalion of Sepoys was ordered to proceed to Vellour without loss of time; and, in consequence of your instructions of the 7th, an hundred of the best draught cattle, with the heavy guns, were kept; the remainder, as well as all the unnecessary people belonging to the army, the Commissary was directed to discharge, except an hundred Lascars in the Chief Engineer's

* Vide page 1271.

ginger's department, that I have ordered to be continued in the service 'till we can see what turn affairs in this neighbourhood may take.

Though I don't hold the force the Dutch have at present in a very respectable light, yet as I found I could secure the regiments from the weather, I had continued my route with them and the Sepoys, and nearly reached this place before your letter of the 7th instant arrived. The Europeans were lodged in a Choultry, which is sufficiently large for the whole; the Sepoy corps are not so well off, and the Officers' quarters very indifferent; however they are satisfied to dispense with them.

I have the honour to acquaint you, that Golam Ally Khân and Sydee Khân, two Vackeels, who had been sent from hence to Negapatnam to treat with the Dutch, are returned; and that this morning, in order to know what passed, I had a meeting with Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder and Eagee Hussein Khân, the Nabob's Dewan.

The Vackeels said they had laid the powers granted to Ummeer-ul-Omrah before the Governor Van Vlissingen, required his delivering up to the Nabob the districts the Dutch had lately taken possession of belonging to the Tanjore country, and proposed to settle the mode of reimbursing him the money he had advanced to the Rajah: in reply, the Governor said he would consult his Council; and after they had met he not only refused to give up the districts on payment of the money, but also to treat with Ummeer-ul-Omrah, alleging that he intended to send two of his Council to the Nabob at Fort St. George to treat with him: the Vackeels urged there was no occasion, as his Son and Representative had full power to negotiate the business; the Governor's answer was, that he had acquainted the Nabob of his intentions to send Ambassadors to Madras, and could not depart from his purpose.

The Vackeels complain they have been treated with great disrespect by the Dutch, and are of opinion they do not mean to give up the lands claimed by the Nabob on any terms, but that their sending Ambassadors to Madras is intended to gain time. That they have refused to treat with Ummeer-ul-Omrah I can have no doubt of, as the Governor has wrote him a letter of apology, telling him Ambassadors were gone to his Father, and therefore he could not enter into any negotiations here.

The Governor Van Vlissingen having rejected every proposal made to him by Ummeer-ul-Omrah, or even to treat with him, and referred this business to Madras, he may next refer to Batavia, and from thence to Europe; therefore should Ummeer-ul-Omrah make a requisition of the Company's troops from me to assist to put him in possession of the lands in question, agreeable to your instructions of the 29th of September, I shall give him every assistance in my power for that purpose. The Dutch have mounted their guns on the walls of Negapatnam and on that Pettah; upwards of 2000 people are employed clearing the esplanade

and repairing the glacis; they are also taking every other measure for defence; and as they expect a further reinforcement of Europeans from Colombo, a constant look-out is kept at the flag-staff head; and by my intelligence this afternoon some vessels were in sight, which gave great spirits to the people of Negapatnam.

I have the honour to be with respect,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient servant,

Head Quarters, Trivalore,
18th October, 1773.

J O S E P H S M I T H.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 22d October, 1773.

THIS day the following letter to the President was received from the Governor of Negapatnam :

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, Governor and President for the Honourable English East-India Company.

Honourable Sir,

HAVING sent Ambassadors for the Dutch East-India Company to the Subah of Carnatica, Mahomed Ally Khan, in order to settle some affairs concerning the kingdom of Tanjore, I have the pleasure to inform you by this thereof; and as they shall reside in or about your Presidency, be so kind as to assist them in case it should be necessary; and with this hope I flatter myself, in consideration of the friendship which exists between both nations, and which makes me also be assured that the sincerity of your generous proceedings will have no other end but the continuation of friendship, which is and must be the observation of the treaties of peace and alliance made and contracted by both our Sovereigns, that truly must be accomplished: but notwithstanding this my hope, I must and am obliged to assure you, that it is with some concern that I have heard that Brigadier-General Joseph Smith, Commander in Chief of the English troops on this Coast, is in the army of the Subah, who threaten us with war; and this not only, but also that he has joined, and is come down to Trivalore; though I am not of opinion that he will act or do any thing which can give occasion to any difference between both Powers.

I am with esteem,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Fort at Negapatnam,
17th October, 1773.

(Signed) R. VAN VLISSINGEN.

The

The following is an extract of a private letter from General Smith to the President :

Extract of a private Letter from General Smith to the Governor, dated 21st October, 1773.

IN consequence of what I wrote to the Board on the 18th instant, this morning Ummeer-ul-Omrah, with two troops of cavalry, eight companies of his own Sepoys, and some light guns, attended by his own Officers, and followed by his two regiments of Mogul cavalry, marched from Trivalore, and entered the countries possessed by the Dutch. At their first post, three miles from Trivalore, there were stationed some Malays and Sepoys to guard a pass, and a flag in a tree. Mr. McAllister, a Nabob's Officer who led this detachment, told the people to leave the post quietly, and if they made no resistance they should not be molested; accordingly they marched off, and the Nabob struck the flag. This detachment of Dutch moved to another party on the high road, commanded by a Captain, and amounted to upwards of 100 men: when the Nabob's Officer approached this post they got under arms, and for some time opposed their passing, cocking their firelocks, and putting on an appearance of defence; however, after some pushing and scuffling, they thought it prudent to retire, and join their main body stationed at their old limits, consisting of 300 men and four pieces of cannon. The young Nabob continued his route towards Nagore, and on entering a plain near the town, the Dutch detachment, commanded by a Captain, and in force about 70 Europeans, as many Sepoys, and some Topasses, beat to arms, and formed near the village of Nagore. The young Nabob halted and formed his troops, and marched forward towards them. The Dutch Captain seeing this, enquired for the Nabob and General, as he supposed the latter to be there; but on being told there were no English troops with the detachment, he desired to see Ummeer-ul-Omrah, and then delivered him a formal protest from the Dutch Government; and told him his orders were to retire, and not to make any opposition; this he was permitted to do; and from the hour that the Company's troops moved they neither saw Dutchmen, Malays, Sepoys, nor any other person in arms, nor even a flag except Faqueers; and when they arrived at Nagore the Nabob's flag was hoisted, and he in possession of the place and countries. The Dutch Governor and his Council have protested in form against me as the leader of your troops; I have enclosed copies of both their *Protests* to the Honourable Board. Yesterday they received 70 Europeans from Ceylon in boats. They are gathering together from all quarters what troops they can; and I am assured by a very considerable Merchant, that they never meant to restore these countries, or to compromise matters with the Nabob; on the contrary they have wrote, it's said, letters to the Marattas, wishing for their assistance to recover Tanjore for the Rajah: and I think if the Nabob does not conclude this affair with them in a satisfactory manner to both parties, that they'll give him some uneasiness yet, and this Government their share of the censure. The people of England are now-a-days so disposed to receive every unfavourable impression with regard to the conduct of the Company's Servants abroad, that even let them have right on their side, yet they will be condemned for every act wherein

Nabobs are concerned; as the motives which lead you to their support or depression are always construed as rapacious, and from mere selfish views. The Nabob is now in possession of all the Tanjore country; what is next to be done with your troops? who is to take care of Nagore, and where are we to refresh for the next campaign? as I look on this as a certain fact, that the reduction of Tanjore, and his dispute with the Dutch, will keep your troops on foot at least for another year. You have a great deal to reflect on;—the state of your Europeans, your Blacks, the Carnatick, and the situation the most of our garrisons are in; Madras without walls; Hyder's formidable army, and which he is recruiting with horse and foot with all the vigour in his power; the death of Narrain Row; Ragobah's hatred to Europeans; his displeasure at the Rajah's reduction, and what scenes may be opened early in the next year; the scattered state of your forces; the cash chest; and in short a thousand things that will readily occur to you, Sir: all these require your very serious attention.

Letter from Governor Wynch to the Nabob of the Carnatick, dated 23d October, 1773.

I HAVE been honoured with the receipt of your Highness's favours of the 17th and 20th instant, with the papers enclosed. To the former I should have replied before, had not your Highness informed me verbally, on the succeeding day, of your intention to direct your Son Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder to remain in his present post, until he should be advised by your Highness of the result of the negotiation with the Gentlemen coming from Negapatnam. By your Highness's favour of the 20th instant, it appears you are convinced (and I must say I think there is a great foundation for such conviction) that the object of the Dutch is merely the gaining of time; and you desire therefore that without delay, on the requisition of Ummeer ul-Omrah Behauder, the assistance of the Company's troops may be granted, for the putting you in possession of the lands in question: agreeable to your Highness's desire, directions have been sent to General Smith to co-operate with your Son to this purpose if called upon. The letter you propose writing to the Governor of Negapatnam appears to me very proper.

From the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Wynch, dated 22d, and received 23d October, 1773.

MY Son Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder having transmitted me a copy of a letter he wrote to the Governor of Negapatnam, under date the 20th instant, enclosed I send you also a copy thereof for your information.

What can I say more?

Copy of a Letter from Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder to the Governor of Negapatnam, dated 20th October, 1773.

AFTER the capture of Tanjore, I dispatched Rehemaun Ally Khân and Mahomed Sydee to you, with a letter from His Highness, and one from me, with certain proposals; after which I marched with my army to the Cusba of Trivalore, which

is very near to Negapatnam, and have waited a great while in expectation of settling the matter with you in a friendly manner, and that two Ambassadors would be sent by you to negotiate with me, who am appointed from His Highness's court to terminate your business. Notwithstanding however I sent you word by my Ambassadors, and mentioned also in my letter, that I would agree to every reasonable proposal you had made to the dispossessed Rajah at the time of taking possession of his country, and with the greatest openness also sent you friendly messages, purporting that I would take your concerns upon me as a loan; but you neither agreed to my offers, which were fair and just, nor sent Ambassadors to negotiate with me, nor removed the flags you had hoisted in the country belonging to Tanjore, nor yet gave me a clear answer. My Ambassadors also, who in consequence of your pressing desire, and in the hopes of settling matters, remained a long time at Negapatnam, seeing that the prospect of terminating affairs was at a distance, and that a great deal of time elapsed in daily assurances of friendship and obedience, were under a necessity of taking leave and returning to me. The Arruzdashts besides which you wrote both to his Highness and me, are such as I cannot clearly understand their meaning; for all which reasons I am under the necessity of marching from hence with my army to Nagore, which belongs to the Circar, and is very near to you, where an equitable negotiation, on account of it's vicinity, may be soon managed. I now also desire that you will order your people to remove all the flags from the district of the Circar belonging to Tanjore, and strengthen the old friendship subsisting between His Highness and your Company. Do not, for a few trifling things, in any wise act contrary hereto, for no injustice will be done on my part.

From the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Wynch, dated 22d October, 1773.

MY Son Ummeer-ul-Omrah, Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, having transmitted to me copies of a letter he wrote to the General, and the General's answer, I send them for your perusal.

What can I say more?

Letter from Mader-ul-Mulk to General Smith, dated 20th October, 1773.

IN the beginning of my expedition against Tanjore in conjunction with you, I at every time informed you very fully of what I learned concerning the Dutch at Negapatnam Fort, and of their assisting the Rajah of Tanjore with ammunition and money; as also of their giving encouragement with hopes of assisting him with their forces, and of their seizing the districts of Tanjore and the port of Nagore, (the capital port of the Tanjore Country) and hoisting their colours in that place; you on your part also acquainted me with what you heard of the Dutch assisting the Rajah with ammunition, money, and other necessaries. His Highness has wrote to the Dutch by way of friendship to decline assisting the Rajah; he also dispatched Mahomed Ubraur Khan Behauder, embarking him in the King's ship, with his letters and friendly messages to the Governor of Negapatnam, and forbad his assisting the Rajah, who was a tributary to him. The Governor of Negapatnam,

negapatnam wrote in answer in his Arruzdasht (under date of the 19th of the Moon Jamadupamy), thereby expressing his warm friendship, and in the strongest manner, that he will not act contrary to the friendship and attachment to the Circar, nor will he do any thing contrary to old custom. Notwithstanding which, the Dutch assisted the Rajah under various pretences, and even not failed to continue the same until the day of conquest of the fort; and, very unreasonably, took the countries dependent on Tanjore from the Rajah, who had no power to sell the country without His Highness's knowledge, because His Highness was master of both him and his country; besides they did not perform even a single article of the conditions, which they made with the Rajah when they took the country of him; and after the Tanjore Fort was taken, there arrived the Dutch ships with great haste, full of soldiers and Malays: by which their proceedings, I observe, had it been fifteen days longer to take the Fort of Tanjore, undoubtedly the Dutch would have sent some soldiers to Tanjore as assistance. After Tanjore Fort was conquered, although the Governor of Pondicherry and the people of Tranquebar have sent their letters of congratulation according to their custom, yet the Dutch did not write 'till twenty days, or until they received the news of the camp's being set out from Tanjore. The whole of the Muttaseddies, substantial persons, and companions of the Rajah, kept their families and effects in Negapatnam before the fort was conquered; and after the fort was taken all of them fled, to whom the Dutch gave protection and kept them. The whole of these particulars are evident to all ranks of people as well as yourself. By the blessing of God, His Highness is a firm Subahdar of the Carnatick; and in order to keep this country in peace, and to preserve the honour and credit of his government, he thinks it necessary to cause all the people to be kept within their old and usual bounds, and not to do any thing contrary to custom; therefore, to do what may be conducive to the interest and peace of the Carnatick country, he wrote the present situation of affairs with the Dutch to the Governor and Council of Madras; upon which the Governor and Council thought it proper to write an order to you to assist me in this affair, and to regain me all the countries of the Circar dependent on Tanjore that were possessed by the Dutch; His Highness has also wrote an order to me, (who am empowered by him to settle affairs with the Dutch) to set out in conjunction with you, and use all endeavours in my power to induce the Dutch to observe their old and usual ways, and likewise to get the districts of Tanjore, which they possessed by deceit from the late Rajah. Before I set out from Tanjore, I acquainted you word by word of the contents of the letter that His Highness has wrote to the Governor of Negapatnam, and sent it, together with my own letter, by Rehemaun Ally Khan and Sydee Khan, the Circar's Ambassadors, to Negapatnam. From the beginning of the said Ambassadors' going, I always acquainted you with the whole purport of this negotiation that passed by the Dutch; and after their return, I got them to represent to you every particular by word of mouth. It is well known to you that His Highness empowered me to settle the affairs with the Dutch, as also what he was pleased to mention in the letter to the Governor of Negapatnam.

You know very well that the Governor and Council of Negapatnam used me very ill, and dishonoured me very much; that is, after the two Ambassadors sent by me, which in reality were from His Highness, and they, in their conferences at Negapatnam, expressed and declared, that His Highness was pleased to empower me to settle the affairs with them (the Dutch), which will be known by a letter sent to them by His Highness; and they (the Ambassadors) likewise advised and repeated, that I was sent from the Court to regulate the affairs; that I came to lay here in conjunction with you (meaning the General) with a large force upon the same business, and that I sent them to negotiate and settle the reasonable affairs of the Dutch; so that they (the Dutch) should send two of their Counsellors speedily to me in this very place: notwithstanding all which, the Ambassadors from the Governor of Negapatnam were sent to His Highness's Court on the fourth day. Besides which, during my Ambassadors' stay at Negapatnam, they perceiving great differences every day in the conversation of the Governor, and of his elapsing the time by evasive promises, in expressing his friendship, lengthening the negotiation at every time, desiring at the same time to settle the affairs by way of friendship according to his request, and of his preparing stores of war in the fort of Negapatnam, and clearing the ground round about it, and receiving the repeated reinforcement of soldiers and Malays, and his daily inlisting Sepoys, and his giving out by beat of Tom-Tom an order for the inhabitants that were within the town-wall of Negapatnam to go away; notwithstanding I was ready, according to His Highness's order, to comply with their reasonable request by fair means, and to pay the reasonable sums which they gave to the late Rajah for taking the country; induced them (the said Ambassadors) to take leave of the Governor and return to me; and I got them to represent to you the whole purport of the negotiation that passed between them and the Dutch. We (meaning you and I) have been laying here since these nine days with a large force, and with heavy expenses, without doing any business. This time of the year is so nice, that every hour we are apprehensive of the rains; if the rain begins, we shall not be able to do any thing at present: it is therefore I request, and at the same time think it proper, that you will, through favour, not let this opportunity slip; but will, agreeable to the Governor and Council's orders, afford your assistance in the recovery of the countries which are possessed by the Dutch. I used my endeavours to the utmost that the affairs with the Dutch might be settled in an amicable manner; but by their proceedings, and by the negotiation, as also by the letter which the Governor of Negapatnam sent in answer to my letter, I could not understand the meaning of it clearly, which is well known to you.

Paragraph of a Letter from General Smith to Mader-ul-Mulk, dated 20th October,

1773-

YOUR letter on the subject of the business with the Dutch, and desiring me to assist you with the Company's forces, I have received, and observed the contents. If the affairs between you and the Dutch should have been settled in an amicable manner at Madras it is much better, and I wish the same; but if they are not

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settled by way of friendship, and you desire me to assist you with the Company's forces, I am ready to act according to the orders of the Governor and Council.

From the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Wynch, dated and received 23d October, 1773.

IN my letter, dated the 20th instant, I sent you a copy of one I wrote to the Gentlemen of Council belonging to Negapatnam who are coming to me; and enclosed I transmit their Arruzdasht in answer, by which you will see that the coming of these three Counsellors was not in the least to settle matters justly. After taking a copy of the Arruzdasht, be so good as to return the original to me.

What can I say more?

Translation of an Arruzdasht, signed by a Mr. Johnson, directed to the Nabob, dated Friday, 22d October, 1773, at 12 o'Clock at Night.

AFTER a submissive preamble.

I have been honoured with the receipt of your Highness's favour, worthy of respect and honour, and this morning, being that of Friday, was made acquainted with it's contents full of graciousness. Myself, Mr. Dormieux, Chief of Pullacat, and Mr. Blaaukamar, Chief of Sadras, have been appointed to pay our respects to your Highness's court. At present I can say no more, having hitherto received no order for the same from Negapatnam; I am continually however expecting such an order. As this is the rainy season, I set out in haste for these parts before the rains might begin.

What should I represent more?

May the sun of your age, wealth, good fortune, and grandeur, through the goodness of the Creator of all beings, be ever shining and resplendent!

From the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Wynch, dated and received 24th October, 1773.

I HAVE received your letter of the 23d instant in answer to my letter, and observed it's contents. That the Dutch are endeavouring to gain time is now more evident than before, since they have sent to me, after a considerable time has elapsed, one of the Council at Negapatnam, without giving him any powers, as his Arruzdasht, which I sent to you yesterday, plainly shews. Enclosed I transmit a copy of my letter to him in answer, also a copy of a letter from Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder, who, by God's blessing, with the General, is arrived at Nagore, and a copy of my answer to Ummeer-ul-Omrah. I observe the order you have given to the General to assist my Son in the recovery of the districts possessed by the Governor of Negapatnam, and am obliged to you for the same.

P.S. Al-

P. S. Although it must give you a great deal of trouble to inform yourself of the contents of all copies of letters I send to you, yet I trouble you with them, because it is my desire to acquaint you of every matter, both trifling and of importance; you will be so good therefore as to excuse it.

Copy of an Arruzdash from Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, dated the Evening of the 21st at Nagore, and received at the Durbar, 24th October, 1773.

I LAST night sent your Highness advice of our resolution of setting out with the General and the whole army for Nagore, which advice I conclude you have received. This morning, at about two o'clock, I left the town of Trivalore, with six companies of your Highness's Sepoys, eight pieces of cannon, both regiments of horse, and the horse of Mokoonderow; and on setting out, agreeable to the General's advice, gave orders to the Sepoys of the Circar to keep their fire; and in case the Dutch should fire upon them, to attend to the orders that should then be given them. When we were got about three miles from Trivalore, a body of 200 Malays and ten horse, with a Dutch Officer, who were stationed there, shewed some opposition to a few of our Sepoys and horse that had preceded the army about a gun-shot distance in front; but at length, not relishing the appearance of our men, they moved off. From thence I marched directly to the town of Nagore, where were an hundred Europeans and 300 Malays: as soon as we arrived within a mile and half of the place, the Dutch came out of the town, and shewed an inclination to engage; upon which, having halted a little on the plain to arrange the troops, I advanced in readiness for action; sending at the same time an European Officer of your Highness's, who speaks Dutch, on before to desire the Dutch Officers who were halted on the plain to give us way, as the Nabob's army was come to take possession of and regulate the district. The two Dutch Officers perceiving the formidable figure of our army, left their own troops and came alone to me: I was then on horseback: they told me they had been hitherto stationed there by order of the Governor of Negapatnam, but that seeing that I was arrived with the army, they would leave the place: to which I replied, "It is now a long time that I have been waiting at Trivalore in expectation of Deputies from your Governor to bring matters to a determination between us, and I am now come to Nagore, which is a part of the Nabob's possessions, in order to be nearer to Negapatnam; your affairs may now therefore soon be treated of and settled; and I desire you will present my compliments to the Governor and tell him, that, if he will send two deputies to me every thing will be determined." Upon this, notwithstanding their former seeming inclination to engage, they went away with the most compliant complacence; and I, *Deo favente*, having entered Nagore, took down their colours and erected those of the Circar. After which I visited the shrine of our holy Saint Kader Saheb, and after performing the Fatiha at his tomb with becoming reverence, and begging his aid and blessing for the success of our designs, I returned at noon to the camp, which is pitched without the town. At three o'clock I received your Highness's favour, dated Tuesday the 19th instant, and learnt your Highness's directions "Concerning my waiting the event of the two Dutch Deputies, who were coming to your presence, treating with your Highness, and with regard to my not troubling the Dutch who

"were stationed in the villages." I had then already arrived at Nagore with the General, and had taken down the Dutch colours according to your Highness's former directions; had but this letter reached Trivalore a day sooner I should by no means have stirred a foot: however we shall see whether the Dutch send any one to treat or not; otherwise I shall remain silent in Nagore 'till I receive an answer to this Arruzdasht, nor shall I say any thing about the money.

P. S. Two Members of Council from the Governor of Negapatnam are just arrived; I shall receive them in the same form I did the Rajah, and shall write your Highness to-morrow an account of what passes between us.

Copy of a Letter from the Nabob to Ummeer-ul-Omrah, Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, dated Sunday, 24th October, 1773.

THE letter you sent me, dated at Nagore the evening of the 21st instant, I have received, and observe the contents: therein you acquainted me with your's and the General's safe arrival at Nagore; the visit you had from the two Dutch Officers stationed there; the message you sent by them to the Governor of Negapatnam, and their departure for that place; your having taken down the Dutch colours from Nagore, and having erected those of the Circar in their room; and your visit to the shrine of Kader Saheb: all which gave me great satisfaction. With regard to what you say as to declining to treat with the Dutch since the receipt of my letter in Nagore, which had you received at Trivalore you would not have stirred from thence, I need only take notice to you, my dear Son, that having reflected on the late unreasonable proceedings of the Dutch, I wrote you a letter, directing you to march to Nagore, on the very day on which you actually went to that place, to wit, the 21st instant, which you must some hours before this have received; and after that you must also have received another letter from the Governor to the General concerning your march thither. I now send you enclosed, for your information, copy of a letter from Mr. Wynch to me of the 23d instant, and of one which I wrote in answer to the Arruzdasht of those Members of the Dutch Council that were coming as Deputies from Negapatnam; they will now come to you. You mentioned the arrival of two other Counsellors deputed to you from the Governor of Negapatnam; you will, as you have promised, advise me of what passes between you. On your part you will observe to treat with them with the utmost complaisance about paying them the amount of the debt due to them, and of their giving up the country they had taken possession of, as well as the jewels, &c. under their charge, and persuade them to abide by the accustomed and established regulations. At the same time you will, without any marks of displeasure or resentment, but in an open and ingenuous manner, take possession of all the districts they had in their hands, and remove their colours; and in case any of the Dutch should oppose these proceedings by force, you will, by the favour of God, chastize them. You will also be careful, as much as may be, not to let the negotiation spin out to a length of time, and prevent the ill effects of their bad intentions, that the Circar may have it's own again.

Considering their obstinacy and deafness to all advice, it was not necessary to pay them the sum in question, for I have been at the utmost pains and trouble to pre-

preserve the country peaceable and undisturbed; but these have been at the bottom of the interruption it has undergone, *and have in fact been the ruin of the Rajah and his family*: however, with respect to the ancient friendship of the Dutch Nation, it is absolutely incumbent on me and you to give them what is their due, and redeem the districts, papers, &c. which Tuljaujee has given them.

Do not let a variety of affairs be a load upon your mind; subjection and dominion have each their appointed time. In the time of my honoured father (to whom God be merciful!) I was ordered on the expedition to the Balaghaut and Payenghaut, and have since reaped the fruits of that paternal discipline. By the favour of Heaven, and the activity of my best friends the English, I trust this is the time of your attaining a knowledge of affairs, and of having your diligence put to the trial.

From the Nabob to Mr. Johnson, a Member of the Board of Negapatnam, dated 24th October, 1773.

The Arruzdashts you sent me, dated at noon the 22d instant, advising me that yourself and the Chiefs of Pullicat and Sadras were deputed to me from the Governor of Negapatnam, but that you could not at present treat of any thing else in particular, as you had not as yet received orders for that purpose from Negapatnam, having set out in haste for this place on account of the approach of the rainy season, I have received and perused. It is now a month and nine days that, by the favour of God, the fort of Tanjore has been taken, and all this time has elapsed in expectation of Deputies from Negapatnam: since, notwithstanding the many letters I have received from thence, not a word has been said about giving up the districts of the Circar that depend upon Tanjore, I have been necessitated to send orders to my Son Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder, to march from Tanjore to Trivalore, and thence send a message to the Governor about restoring the districts he had taken possession of; and though my Son has been arrived there more than fifteen days, and has sent Vackeels and a variety of messages, he has yet received no satisfactory reply. Now that they have dispatched you hither, it is evident from what you write that they have not given you any power to act; and as you are apprehensive of the breaking in of the rains, I also, who have an army under my Son in the field, shining in arms and costly accoutrements, am apprehensive of a change of weather; which has induced me to write to my Son, that he leave Trivalore, and, by the favour of the Most High, go to Nagore, which is a step nearer to Negapatnam, in order to regulate the lands of the Circar.

The instances of friendship that have been interchanged between the Dutch Nation and myself have of old been numerous; but the present transaction speaks for itself. The money which really and fairly they have lent to the Rajah on jewels and land, I have consented to repay; and surely then any further delay in giving up the districts they had taken possession of in the Tanjore country is utterly unreasonable, and contrary to the modes of friendship. My Son has therefore full

powers to treat and to agree about the payment of the money; you will therefore do well to return, and wait upon my Son at camp; sending word at the same time to the Governor of Negapatnam, that he withdraw his hands from the districts in question, and return the papers which he made Tuljajee sign at his pleasure, at the same time that he abide by the established regulations; that he endeavour to increase the former union that subsisted between us, and study to attain my favour and good will.

AT A CONSULTATION, Monday, 25th October, 1773.

P R E S E N T,

Alexander Wynch Esquire, Governor, President.

John Smith

Henry Brooke

Charles Smith

Samuel Johnson

John Maxwell Stone

Edward Stracey

Edward Cotsford.

THE President lays before the Board a letter which was yesterday received from General Smith, enclosing copy of a letter to him from Ummeer-ul-Omrah, his reply, and a protest against him, as Commander in Chief of the Company's forces, by the Governor and Council of Negapatnam.

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

I HAD the honour to address you on the 18th instant, advising that the Dutch not only rejected every amicable proposal made to them by Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder, but refused to treat with him on any terms whatever. On the 19th, Ummeer-ul-Omrah having then halted eight days within three miles of the countries lately belonging to the Rajah of Tanjore, and now claimed by the Dutch; finding also his Vackeels were sent back, and that they absolutely refused to deliver up the lands, or to settle matters with him; he made a formal requisition of the Company's troops from me, to assist to put him in possession of those districts, a translation of which I have the honour to send you enclosed, with my reply thereto. I am very sensible how disagreeable it must be to your Honour, &c. to assist His Highness with the Company's troops against a European Power, even in support of his affairs in the Carnatick; yet I found myself under the necessity of rendering his Son the assistance he required, as all modes of settling between him and the Dutch by treaty were refused: the necessary orders were therefore issued, and, in consequence of your instructions of the 29th ultimo, the troops marched this morning and encamped at Nagore.

The

The several guards belonging to the Dutch retired from their stations to the village of Chickul, their old boundary. At Nagore were posted about seventy Europeans and near an hundred Malays, Topasses, and Sepoys. Ummeer-ul-Onirah had advanced at the head of a party of his Father's troops, consisting of two troops of black grenadiers, eight companies of Sepoys, and some light field pieces; the two regiments of black cavalry followed in the rear: he advanced towards the Dutch; on which their Commandant went up to him, delivered him a protest, and retired with the party to Negapatnam; Ummeer-ul-Onirah then marched into Nagore, took down the Dutch colours, and hoisted his Father's. At this time I was a long way behind with the Company's troops, and when they came up a considerable time afterwards, the Nabob's troops were in possession of the place, his colours flying, and the Dutch had retired to Negapatnam without a shot being fired on either side.

The Governor Van Vlissingen and his Council have thought proper to send me a protest in Dutch and English; I have now the honour to send you a copy of the latter as well as it can be made out, the original being scarcely legible; a copy of the former shall be sent to your Honour, &c. to-morrow.

Two Gentlemen from the fort are come to camp to wait on Ummeer-ul-Onirah, I wish matters may yet be accommodated; though I am persuaded the Dutch would not have given up these districts on any terms had the army remained at Trivalore.

It is absolutely necessary, for the preservation of the troops, that they should be cantoned without loss of time, and your orders on that head will be necessary by return of the Tappal; if they are to remain here Pandals must be built for the Europeans, which will not be a great expense, as there are abundance of materials on the spot.

I have the honour to be with respect,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient servant,

Camp near Nagore,
21st October, 1773.

JOSEPH SMITH.

Translation of a Letter from Ummeer-ul-Onirah Behaader to Brigadier-General Smith, dated Shaaban 2d, Hegyra, 1187, 19th October, 1773.

EVER since the commencement of the Tanjore expedition, every information I received respecting the assistance given by the Dutch to the Rajah, in supplying him with military stores, money, &c. filling him with hopes of a supply of troops, as also taking into their possession Nagore, and several villages, the most fruitful of any in the Tanjore country, I always communicated to you. Nay you yourself were so sensible of the assistance given by the Dutch to the Rajah, that you not only mentioned it to me, but

but also wrote to the Nabob to put a stop to it, by writing in a friendly manner to the Dutch; upon which the Nabob dispatched Ubraur Khan Behauder on board one of the King's ships with a friendly letter to the Governor of Negapatnam, desiring him not to assist the Rajah, for that he was tributary to him. The Governor, in his answer of the 19th Jamadupamy, assures the Nabob that they shall never deviate from the friendly footing they were always upon, or commit an act that might retard the success of the Circar. Is it from these motives they assisted the Rajah, and which assistance they never withdrew 'till Tanjore fell? as also taking unjustifiably the Rajah's country, who without the Nabob's knowledge has not power of selling it; for he is Sovereign, not only of him, but of his country: besides this, they have never yet fulfilled even one of the conditions by which they held the lands. The arrival of the Dutch ships in so short a time from Colombo, filled with soldiers and Malays, demonstrates in a very plain manner, that had Tanjore held out fifteen days longer, they would have sent soldiers to the Rajah's assistance. Upon the conquest of Tanjore, the Nabob received, as is usual, the congratulations of the French and Danes; but the Dutch never wrote him 'till twenty days after, nay not until they heard the army was marching towards them: they have also during, and after the siege, given protection to different people of the Rajah; not only them, but their goods and families: all these circumstances are well known to every body. The Nabob, who through Providence is Subahdar of the Carnatick, has ever found it necessary, for the sake of peace in this country, as well as for the support of his own authority and good name, that for the execution of every business for the peace and tranquillity of the Carnatick, to lay it before the Governor and Council of Madras, and from which he has never deviated. The business of the Dutch now before us he has also wrote to them, and you in consequence have received orders to give me assistance in settling this matter, and putting me in possession of such lands as formerly belonged to the Rajah now in the hands of the Dutch. I have received orders from the Nabob to march with you to put the Dutch in the same state they formerly have been, taking from them the lands of the late Rajah now in their possession. Before we marched from Tanjore, I told you word for word the letter of the Nabob to the Governor of Negapatnam, which I sent, accompanied by a letter of my own, with the Ambassadors of the Circar, Golam Ally Khan and Mahomed Sydee, to Negapatnam; and every intelligence I received from them (from the time they left this) respecting the treaty with the Dutch, I from time to time communicated it to you, and which you have also heard from their own mouths. Since their return the Nabob has been pleased to fix upon me for the settling of the business with the Dutch; this you know from his letter to the Governor of Negapatnam; whom you must be sensible has behaved to me with disrespect, by not attending to the Ambassadors sent by me to declare my authority, and to settle the business between the Dutch and the Nabob; and indeed the Governor might have considered the Ambassadors as immediately from the Nabob, since he must have known my authority, as well as from the letter wrote him by the Nabob, as my being here with you and so considerable an army. Finding things thus situated, I wrote the Governor of Negapatnam to send two Ambassadors to me; this was the measure you approved, and which you thought most proper to bring the business to a crisis; but instead of this, four days after the arrival of my Ambassadors at Negapatnam, the Dutch sent two of their own

to the Nabob. During the stay of my Ambassadors at Negapatnam, the Governor put off the business from time to time; differing one day from what he had said the day before, and wishing to retard matters by loss of time; and yet at the same time shewing, (by putting the Fort of Negapatnam in a state of defence, clearing the plain about it, receiving daily supplies of soldiers, Malays, and military stores, the inhabitants leaving the place, and still continuing to refuse to settle with my Ambassadors respecting their lawful demands of the lands, and those of the Dutch for money given to the Rajah, to effect which I was sent here by the Nabob) that he did not mean to settle the business amicably: these circumstances induced me to recall my Ambassadors, and from whom you have heard these circumstances since their return. You and myself, who are now here with a large army, at a very considerable expense, and at a season of the year when the approaching rains threaten us every hour, and should they come, must entirely put a stop to the business; since such is our situation, I must beg leave to request (and I am inclined to think my request full of propriety) that you will without loss of time give me that assistance which the Governor and Council have wrote you, by putting me in possession of the lands now in question, and now in the hands of the Dutch: since I find, from the different intercourses my Ambassadors have had with the Governor of Negapatnam, as also from his letter to me, which you are acquainted with that matters are not likely to be settled amicably.

What can I say more?

A true Translation,

John Redhead, Persian Interpreter.

Translation of a Letter from Brigadier-General Smith to Ummeer-ul-Omrab Behaudeer, dated, Shaaban 2d, Hegyra, 1187, 19th October, 1773.

I HAVE received your letter on the subject of the business with the Dutch, and in which you request that assistance from the Company's troops ordered you by the Governor and Council. It was my particular wish to see this business settled amicably on both sides, and indeed I think it would have been much better; however, since you think there is no possibility of it, I am ready to give you that assistance you require. I also received your letter respecting the Lascars, and as you suppose that the discharge of them at this time may be attended with bad consequences, from their being entertained by the Dutch, I shall not discharge them.

What can I say more?

A true Translation,

John Redhead, Persian Interpreter.

Reinier Van Vlissingen, Governor and Director on behalf of the General United Netherlands East-India Company at the Coast of Coromandel, together with the Council at Negapatnam.

To General Joseph Smith Esquire, Brigadier-General, and Commander in Chief of the Troops of the Honourable East-India Company of England at the Coast of Coromandel.

WHEREAS the Sovereign of these Carnatick Low Countries, His Highness the Subah Mahomed Ally Khan, and his second Son, His Excellency Ummeer-ul-

Omrah, Mader-ul-Mulk, Hatchies Machamadoc, Moone Warcham, whom you have assisted with your troops in behalf of the East-India Company of England; and being allied with him in conquering the Kingdom of Tanjore, to the greatest prejudice of all other European nations, who of late time have peaceably resided in the kingdom, and particularly of the Dutch East-India Company, whereas menaced us by their letters delivered to us by their Ambassadors, Rehemaun Ally Khan and Sydee Khan, on foundation of the most unreasonable and ungrounded pretensions, with a formal war; and notwithstanding all our just demonstrations and representations against it, and the deputation of three Ambassadors to Madras on behalf of the Netherlands Company with His Highness the Subah himself, there are however real hostilities committed by the troops of His Excellency Mader-ul-Mulk in the Company's possessions, as well by pulling down by force the Company's flag in the village of Adiamangalore, though it was throw down afterwards by night time in the Company's bounds, and consequently brought back; and as by denouncing the forms and signs of acquired possession in different other places resorting under the Netherlands East-India Company, together with your remaining in person with your troops in their Highness's army, commanded by His Excellency Mader-ul-Mulk, which is encamped at Trivalore, and consequently posted near our bounds, and ready to invade the Company's possessions, where the force of the Subah, as well as your own, are daily reinforcing with troops, guns, and other ammunition, not only, but where every thing is brought on what may serve a real siege of a fortification, whereby they are consequently really assisted by you in their intended hostility against the Dutch Company: As this joining their Highness's, and the daily reinforcing your troops, (though the instruction be not really to assist them, which we are ignorant of) may however be looked upon as, and wrote nothing else, but to assist them in their unjust pretensions on the Netherlands Company, and to constrain us if possible (how unreasonable soever) to consent to them; not to mention that it is generally known and undeniable a matter, that they can get no guns and other ammunition but what they have from your nation; all which doings are immediately repugnant with the close friendships and alliances subsisting between His British Majesty and the High and Mighty Lords, the States General of the Free United Provinces, against all rules of war, contrary to the contents of the treaties and covenants successively contracted between the two nations, and particularly against the secret article dated 19th February 1673-4, agreed on at Westminster, and ratified the 6th February 1715-16, expressing in general and relative to the present subject as follows, viz. "None
 " of the said parties shall be allowed that their subjects or inhabitants give any
 " assistance or counsel, or grant any favour, directly or indirectly, either by sea,
 " land, or any sweet water; it will neither be allowed that their people should
 " assist the enemy with ships, soldiers, provisions, money, ammunition, or any
 " other things which may serve a war;" forbidding expressly in particular all assistance whatever to the enemy of one or both covenants; which should more especially be taken notice of here, as both nations agree with respect to the important and principal point of human life and manners, viz. the pure and undefiled religion; and one of them, if the Dutch be attacked by a Mahometan Prince, by which doing, and in your own person, or in those who might have authorized you hereto, the whole nation destroy and annihilate the aforesaid treaties, and by assisting

assisting the Mahometans in the like manner in these countries, commence a public war, whilst the aforesaid Sovereigns in Europe enjoy perfect peace and tranquillity, and follow nothing else but the sacred observance of the said covenants. It is therefore that we, who represent in these countries the body of the Government, in the name and on behalf of the High and Mighty Lords, the States General of the Free United Provinces of the Netherlands, the Honourable Directors of our Company, the Honourable High Regency at Batavia, protest in the most earnest manner against those doings, leaving all losses, damages, and other prejudices, already resulted, and which may in future result from them, with the consequences and particulars accessory to them, directly and indirectly, to your charge and account, or of those who might have authorized you hereto, and in their persons, as being the only and real cause thereof, to the charge and account of the whole nation; for we hold ourselves, and, in our persons, the whole nation, entirely out of fault: and we have given not the least occasion to it, but much more to assist us in a case as this; with respect to which, by virtue of the aforesaid covenants, we reserve then to ourselves as yet the power of summons; and in the mean time we shall not omit to represent these doings to our Sovereigns.

Given in the Fort of Negapatnam, on the Coast of Coromandel, in the East-Indies, the 20th October, 1773.

Translated by Jacob Ado Dennient.

A true copy, Thomas Parkison, Secretary.

Read letter from the Nabob, dated 23d*, with a copy of a letter from the Dutch Deputy on his road to this place from Negapatnam.

Read likewise a letter† from the Nabob, with a copy of a letter from his son Ummeer-ul-Omrah, giving an account of the march of the army, and the taking possession of Nagore and the other districts.

The President reports, that until matters are finally adjusted with the Dutch at Negapatnam, the Nabob has requested that the troops may be cantoned at Nagore, and that he will send orders to his son to provide proper accommodations for the Officers and men during the rains.

ORDERED, That the troops be kept together for the present in consequence of the Nabob's request, and that the necessary directions be immediately sent to General Smith.

As the Board wish to obtain the sentiments of General Smith in the distribution of the troops after the rains, it is agreed that he be desired to repair to the Presidency, if his presence with the army for the present can be dispensed with.

* Vide page 1275.

† Vide page 1286.

The following letter is accordingly dispatched to General Smith ‡:

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

S I R,

WE have received your letter of the 21st from Nagore, and are well pleased to hear that the Nabob's son has taken possession of that place, and the other districts lately occupied by the Dutch in the territories of Tanjore, without loss, and without being compelled to proceed to hostilities.

The Nabob having requested that the troops may be all kept together at Nagore, until his affairs with the Dutch are finally adjusted, you will be pleased to canton them there; and the Nabob has wrote to his son to supply the necessary materials for erecting such Pandals as you shall think requisite for accomodating the troops, and to allot houses for quartering the officers.

If your presence is not necessary to the southward, we shall be glad to see you at the Presidency, in order to have your sentiments on the distribution of the troops, leaving the command of the army with the next officer in rank.

We are, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servants,

Fort St. George,
25th October, 1773.

AR. WYNCH, &c. Council.

READ a letter from the Nabob, enclosing copy of one he has wrote to the General of Batavia, complaining of the conduct of the Dutch Government at Negapatnam.

From the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Wynch, dated 26th October, 1773.

ENCLOSED I send to you a copy of a letter I have wrote to the Governor-General of Batavia,

What can I say more?

From the Nabob to the Governor-General of Batavia, dated 5th October, 1773.

HAVING learnt that Captain Pigou, Commander of the Huntingdon, is bound for Batavia, my friendship for you induced me to lay hold on the opportunity of writing to you on the subject of your concerns in this country; and I dare say, that on making you acquainted with them, your discernment is such, that you will know

‡ The last paragraph of this letter is omitted, it being foreign to the subject.

immediately now to rectify whatever has happened amiss; and that you will apply yourself to the confirming and establishing the friendship between us, which the improper conduct of your Governor at Negapatnam had well nigh put for ever a termination to.

It is not consistent with my dignity to set about proving my right of dominion over the kingdom of Tanjore; it is sufficient to observe thus much, that the flourishing state and extent of that country depended upon my pleasure; that the Rajah, by the treaty of peace, was my tributary, and, by a right of old standing, was my subject: agreeable to which, the forces of Tanjore, in the time of Pertaupa Sing, accompanied my army to the siege of Madura; and Tuljaujee, the late deposed Rajah, was obliged to send his forces under my orders when I was at war with the Regent of Mysore. Seeing then that the forces of Tanjore were under my orders, and that the country was tributary to me, surely it was the utmost ignorance in your Governor of Negapatnam, to imagine that I should ever consent to the measures he pursued, in seducing the Rajah from his obedience, and aiding him in a war with me, and at the same time in seizing himself a part of that country which was to reimburse my extraordinary expenses in the war, and reward my army for the labour they had undergone, without resenting such unwarrantable proceedings; for indeed your said Governor, in order to enable my tributary to carry on a war against me, has assisted him with money, ammunition, and men likewise, without my permission; and just as the fort of Tanjore was about to be given up, has purchased lands, and procured Saneds for them, without even performing the conditions agreed on with the Rajah. Nay, if all the Governor's proceedings be examined into, it will be found, that between him and the servants of the Rajah some chicanery has been practised, by which the money that the Rajah so earnestly requested never came to his hand. Tuljaujee's misconduct brought me to a resolution of sending an army against him; by the favour of God, conquest declared for me; the fort of Tanjore was taken by assault, the Rajah fell into my hands, the whole country became subject to my authority, and all the European Powers, within the verge of my command, sent me congratulations on the conquest I had made, your Governor of Negapatnam alone forgot to pay me the compliment, but remained in possession of those districts which made a part of my dominion, and which I could not by any means separate from the rest of my Circar. As soon as my army appeared before Tanjore, my friendship for your Nation led me to send Mahomed Ebraur Khan Behauder as my Ambassador to the Governor of Negapatnam; which Ambassador I sent in a ship of war of the King of England, who is my friend and ally, in order to treat with your Governor, if by any means I might establish the friendship that is between us, and restrain him from engaging himself in transactions that would prove a cause of disturbance to the peace of the Carnatick; all which, on the arrival of my Ambassador, he fairly promised and agreed to; but he thought better of it, and lost his understanding. Immediately on the taking of Tanjore I sent another Ambassador, from amicable motives and intentions, and particularly for the sake of paying the whole sum which truly and justly should remain due from Tuljaujee to your Company, on condition that those districts should be restored; but they committed my counsel to the winds, and in hopes that they might be able to procrastinate 'till the breaking in of the rains, when my army would be obliged to leave the districts,

they put off the business with continued delays. When however I perceived that my rank and dignity would be injured by such unworthy proceedings, I sent my Son Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder orders to march with the army under his command, in order for a display of that power which the Most High had put into my hands, for the purpose of putting in execution those friendly and equitable measures which I so much desired to pursue; and Heaven in justice granted me success; for Nagore and its dependent districts fell into my hands without a drop of blood being spilt, as indeed I had given strict orders to the Commander of my troops not to touch a hair of the head of such as should retreat without opposition.

By the favour of God, I am Lord of the whole Carnatick, of which Tanjore is a part; and the Kings of Great Britain and France, by the 11th article of the Treaty of Paris, have bound themselves to preserve it in tranquillity in my hands: notwithstanding which I am still desirous of settling this matter with your nation in a friendly manner, because I am not willing to attribute to the whole the bad actions of one individual. Your discernment and reflexion will soon convince you, that you could not be possessors of those districts. At the same time, though it be not absolutely necessary that I should pay the money lent to the Rajah, yet on this occasion also I am ready to set aside the right of conquest, and satisfy whatever just demands your Governor of Negapatnam may have upon the Rajah; however I must also give some consideration to my extraordinary expense in keeping an army in the field, and of course it becomes necessary for me to be pressing importunate for the sending back those troops which your Governor of Negapatnam has brought into the country. The performance of these conditions alone will preserve a mutual friendship between us, and my good will towards your nation, in procuring an uninterrupted commerce, and the possession of your accustomed rights and privileges, will be a perpetual source of prosperity and wealth. But to your Governor of Negapatnam I have given a warning, that from the impropriety of his conduct he had nothing to expect, but that my country should be ever shut up from him, and his commerce and seaports of course be ruined; and that every profit which his nation had hitherto reaped, from Cape Comorin to the river Kuttinah, would by this means be put an end to; for that such consequences might easily arise from the effects of my displeasure. And indeed, to say the truth, such at last must be the end of a perseverance in such measures; and therefore I trust, that when you have duly weighed all these circumstances, the advantages accruing from my friendship will naturally induce you to use the necessary means for attaining it.

I have no other view in this explanation than to convince you of my friendship, and to effect that you enjoy my protection in your commercial concerns, in your sea-ports, and in a continuation of all your ancient privileges, as well as that you receive the amount of the debt due to you from the late deposed Rajah of Tanjore: nor do I desire any return on your part, than a bare return of amity; and that which is merely the duty of your people, that they meddle not with the country under my authority. From which conduct the good-will of both sides must increase, and your commerce in the Carnatick flourish under my protection.

I have

I have taken leave to recommend Captain Pigou, the Captain of the Huntingdon, to your favourable notice, and hope you will shew him such marks of your regard as it becomes your beneficence to grant.

It gives me great satisfaction that I am enabled to inform you, by news just arrived, that my son, and the deputies from Negapatnam, have settled all differences in an amicable manner, and that they are delivering over the districts to me. As for the money that may remain due from the deposed Rajah to your people, I shall, as far as I am able, take such care to give satisfaction, that the Hollanders may hence forward put an entire dependence on my friendship, favour, and protection; at the same time that I shall be exceedingly glad to do my utmost endeavour for the prosperity of their concerns, wherever my power extends.

I have sent you a few things, of which I beg your acceptance, as an indication of my esteem; had time allowed, I should have sent somewhat of more value, and better proportioned to the regard I bear you; I shall however, please God, transmit them per first opportunity: in the mean time I have hope, that my having advised you of the above circumstances will be the means of creating a perfect good understanding between us; and I pray Heaven, that, by a confirmation of friendship, you may acquire those benefits which that friendship must naturally produce.

What can I say more?

From the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Wynch, dated 26th, and received 27th October, 1773.

I HAVE received your letter of the 20th of last August, with a copy of a letter from Tuljaujee to you, and a copy in English of one from him to the Governor of Tranquebar; the contents of all which I observed. I have mentioned to former Governors, the particulars of the bad faith and ill conduct of Tuljaujee, his raising of disturbances, and his interrupting the tranquillity of the Carnatick; to you also I have mentioned the same, in my letters under date the 3d and 4th of May, 18th of June, and 29th of July, 1773, by which you are probably acquainted therewith. As to what Tuljaujee has wrote himself, or has got others to write for him, it was entirely at the instigation of Sambajee his Vackeel, who went to Tranquebar, and procured the same to be wrote in the English language by the means of the Governor there, although it is altogether without foundation. I some time ago sent to you copies of the Arruzdashts I received from Tuljaujee and his Mother, expressing their thanks.

What can I say more?

From

From the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Wynch, dated 28th October, 1773.

ENCLOSED I send for your information a copy of an Arruzdasht from the Negapatnam counsellors, in answer to my last letter, forbidding their coming to me, and directing them to proceed to my Son Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder, to negotiate and settle matters. They kept my camel Hircarrah three days with them.

What can I say more ?

A Copy of an Arruzdasht from the Chief of Sadras, and Mr. Johnson, one of the Council at Negapatnam, to the Nabob, dated 27th October, 1773.

AFTER a very submissive preamble ;

The 23d instant at night we received orders from Negapatnam to proceed towards Pullicat, to take Mr. Dormieux the Chief there with us, and then to be honoured by paying our respects at your Highness's Court, full of graciousness. At that instant we were honoured with the receipt of your Highness's favour, worthy of respect and obedience, dated the 23d instant. Immediately upon the receipt of your Highness's said favour, we considered a great deal, and could find no remedy but that of complying with the orders of our Superiors, in proceeding to your Highness's Court to negotiate and to represent matters. We are accordingly set off, and hope that the sun of your Highness's years, wealth, prosperity, grandeur, and splendence, may ever shine upon the heads of your devoted servants, through the goodness of the Creator of all things.

What should we represent more ?

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 28th October, 1773.

Extract of Letter from General Smith to the President and Council, dated Camp near Nagore, 25th October, 1773.

I AM honoured with your letter of the 21st instant, directing, that on the requisition of the Nabob's Son, Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder, I should immediately march with the troops under my command, and assist him in taking possession of Nagore, and the countries lately dependent on Tanjore, but now claimed by the Dutch.

From what I learned on the return of Ummeer-ul-Omrah's Vackeels to camp from Negapatnam, I had no reason to expect your wishes to settle matters amicably could be brought about ; and as there was no longer any bar to my assisting Ummeer-ul-Omrah with the Company's troops to put him in possession of these lands, I marched on the 21st with the army, and encamped near Nagore. I also did myself

self the honour to address you with an account of the particulars of that day's transactions, to which you will please to be referred.

Enclosed I have the honour to send you a copy of the protest I received from the Governor and Council of Negapatnam wrote in Dutch; I consider it merely as a form on which they intend to found their claims; and as it is unaccompanied with any address, and not particularly against me, I shall take no further notice of it, but refer the reply (if any is necessary) to be made by the Honourable Board.

On the 22d three of the Council of Negapatnam waited on Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder, with a present of an elephant; and after declarations of friendship had passed on both sides, it was agreed that they should renew their visit on the 24th, when they returned to camp; and I am informed, that whatever their Employers at home may think, their Representatives here wish to be on friendly terms with the Nabob, and now seem disposed to settle matters amicably with him. They are however very busy putting the fort in a state of defence; several batteries towards the sea are erecting, and the necessary precautions taking respecting provisions, which, from their declarations, do not seem to be necessary.

It is impossible for me to say what number of troops would be proper to leave here. The Dutch are constantly bringing supplies of men from Ceylon, &c. to Negapatnam; seventy Europeans arrived there the day we came here; further reinforcements may be expected. I find also from Ummeer-ul-Omrah, that he does not wish to part with a man 'till his negotiations are finished, which may take up some time; and as the season of the year is so far advanced, if the Monsoon breaks, I fear the Company's troops now here must remain 'till the rains are over.

I have many reasons that press me to be at the Presidency, and when the troops are cantoned, I hope the Honourable Board will indulge me with their liberty to return thither.

Extract of Letter from the President and Council at Fort William to the President and Council at Fort St. George, dated 7th October, 1773.

WE have received your letter of the 20th ultimo, by the Dolphin, and beg leave to congratulate you on the success of the expedition against Tanjore; an event that must serve greatly to advance the reputation of the Company's arms in India, and we trust will, in it's consequences, tend to the solid advantage of our Honourable Masters, as well as the credit of their Servants, under whose authority this measure was so happily conducted, and attended with such complete success.

Extract of Proceedings of the Select Committee at Fort St. George, 29th October, 1773.

THE following letter from the Nabob having been received and translated while the dispatches per Mercury were preparing, copy thereof was sent a number in the packet by that conveyance.

From the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Wynch, dated 25th, and received 27th October, 1773.

I HAVE received your letter of the 7th of July last†, and observed it's contents. You tell me, that as the orders of the Company to your Government have at all times invariably purposed, that I should be supported in my Government, and the peace and security of the Carnatick be maintained, you shall readily co-operate with me in the present proposed undertaking; and for that purpose, on the part of my firm and true friends the Company, shall afford the necessary assistance for the accomplishment thereof: that a large army accordingly would shortly be assembled at Trichinopoly, under the command of General Smith, who has received instructions from your Government when assembled, and when every thing was in complete readiness, to proceed with the same against Tanjore; and after it should be taken, to put my Son Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, or any other person I may authorize for the purpose, in possession thereof, together with the military stores and effects that may be found therein: and you add, that whatever prisoners may be taken during the expedition shall be left at my disposal. I am at all times impressed with gratitude towards the Company for that constant support which they always afford for the good and prosperity of my affairs; to you also I esteem myself obliged on this account. As to what you write respecting my treating the prisoners, the Rajah and his family, with kindness; I answer, that ever since my connexion with the Company, you are doubtless acquainted with my mildness of disposition to every one, both high and low; the treatment I have shewn to the Rajah, and all the other prisoners taken at Tanjore, conformable to the rank of each, has probably in this country not been equalled by any Sardar. You tell me, that in the conferences which passed between the Select Committee and me, and you and me, after the receipt of my letter respecting the three battalions in dispute, it was settled, that the whole of the charge which had been incurred on their account, down to the end of last June, should be paid by me to the Company as a present, and from that period the charge thereof to be carried to my account in the same manner as the other battalions, and discharged also in the same manner by monthly Kists. It is very true, that when I met the Select Committee at the Company's Garden House, the 27th of last June, as I found that you were most steadily fixed in the affording of me your assistance for the reduction of the fort and country of Tanjore, being at all times the Company's true friend, and desirous of their benefit, on the condition aforementioned, in order to please my friends, I verbally agreed to give as a present the amount charge of the three battalions in dispute until the end of last June; and in my letter to you of the 18th of that month, I expressed my agreeing to the

† Vide page 1143.

keeping up of those battalions from the commencement of the expedition against Tanjore, in the hope of the fort and country of that name being taken, and both ~~the~~ and the former battalions being known by my name. Thanks be to the Almighty, that through the assistance and kindness of the Representatives of my best friends the Company, the fort of Tanjore has been taken; and some districts of the country belonging thereto, which the Dutch, through injustice, have possessed themselves of, will also, through your favour, be recovered, and the tranquillity of the country be obtained. In the same manner as you afforded me your assistance in the reduction of Tanjore, you will also shew your kindness to me in calling the former and present battalions by my name, which is consistent with justice, as they are paid by me; and the same will be esteemed throughout the whole world as a strong instance of regard between the Company and me, and will also be the means of myself and descendants relying upon your friendship. Since these ten battalions of my troops are under your orders, their being called by the Circar's name can make no difference in any respect, either with regard to their discipline, or to the employing of them, for your authority over them will remain the same as before. This money of the three disputed battalions, down to the end of last June, which I have agreed to pay to the Company as a present, Governor Du Pré (as Mr. Stracey can bear testimony) spoke to me about; and was very desirous I should agree to the same to be discharged, after the payment of the three years' current charges and the Mysore money, from the beginning of May 1772, which I had consented to, and which, by God's blessing, in case of tranquillity, will accordingly be paid by the end of April 1775; but this desire of his, for want of ability, I would on no account whatever agree to. Through the assistance of the Almighty however, the payment of this money to the Company, in case of tranquillity, shall now commence from the month of May 1775, to be paid in such Kists as shall then be determined on. You will be so good as to send me an account of the three battalions of Sepoys, from the time I have agreed to the same, in the same manner as you did before the account of the seven battalions, as I shall pay the charge of the former to the Company in the same manner as I do the latter. You say, that the orders of the Company to their Government have invariably purported, that I should be supported in my Government, and that the peace and security of the Carnatick should be steadily maintained; the Company themselves, and former Governors, have also wrote to me in the same manner, and I am accordingly both obliged to the Company and to their Representatives for the same; and, through your kindness, am now desirous of removing this foolish business of the Dutch, which has not the least shew of reason in it.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 29th October, 1773.

THIS day was received the following letter from the Chiefs of Pullicat and Sadrás, and a Member of the Council at Negapatnam.

1304 EXPEDITION AGAINST TANJORE IN 1773.

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

BEING ordered by the Honourable Governor and Council of Negapatnam in commission to your Presidency, we now give ourself the pleasure to acquaint you, that we propose ourselves the honour to-morrow in the forenoon to pay our respects to you; and request, in consequence, that you will be pleased to give the necessary orders, that we, as well as our attendants and equipage, may enter the town without any detention.

We have the honour to be with a perfect consideration,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient humble servants,

Mootecarra Choultry,
29th October, 1773.

P. H. Dormieux
W^m. Blaaukamer
H. A. Johnson.

AT A CONSULTATION, Monday, 1st November, 1773.

P R E S E N T,

Alexander Wynch Esquire, Governor, President.

John Smith

Henry Brooke

Samuel Johnson

John Maxwell Stone

Edward Stracey.

THE President reports to the Board, that the Chiefs of Pullicat, Sadras, and a Member of the Council at Negapatnam, who came here on a deputation from their Government at Negapatnam to the Nabob, waited upon him on Saturday morning, and delivered him a letter, and the following protest from the Governor and Council of Negapatnam against this Government:

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor of Fort St. George, and the Gentlemen of the Council.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

CHARGED by the Honourable Governor and Council of Negapatnam with a protest addressed to you, we now give ourself the honour to present the same herewith; and remain with a perfect consideration,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient humble servants,

Fort St. George,
30th October, 1773.

P. H. Dormieux
W. Blaaukamer
H. A. Johnson.

Reyner

Rehemaun Aily Khan, Governor and Director on behalf of the General United Netherlands East-India Company, at the Coast of Coromandel, together with the Council at Negapatnam, to the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor of Fort St. George, and the Coast of Coromandel, on behalf of the Royal East-India Company of England, and the Council at Fort St. George.

AS the Sovereign of these Carnatick Low Countries, His Highness the Subah of the Carnatick, Mahomed Ally Khan, and his second Son, His Excellency Ummeer-ul-Omrah, Mader-ul-Mulk, Hatchies Machamadoc, Moone Warchan, (who you have assisted in conquering the Kingdom of Tanjore, not only with ammunition and other warlike stores, but to the greatest prejudice of all other European Nations, who, on foundation of established prerogatives, of late time hence were seated in that kingdom, and particularly of the Dutch Company,) have menaced us, by letters delivered to us by their Ambassadors, Rehemaun Aily Khan and Sydee Khan, with a formal war, in foundation of the most unreasonable and least founded pretensions; and notwithstanding all our just representations, and the reputation of three Ambassadors, namely, Messieurs Philip Jacob Dormieux, William Blaaukamer, and Henry Ambrose Johnson, to settle matters in behalf of the Dutch Company with His Highness the Subah himself, and real hostilities are already committed by the troops of His Excellency Mader-ul-Mulk, who were, in conjunction with your troops, ammunition, and other warlike stores, invading and usurping on this day the Company's possessions, acquired by lawful eruption from the conquered King of Tanjore; particularly Nagore, where their Highness's flags are set up; and they were, and are assisted by your Nation in their enemy-like designs, repugnant with the union and alliance subsisting between His British Majesty and the High and Mighty Lords, the States General of the free United Provinces of Netherland, against all rules of war, and in contradiction to all the treaties and contracts successively made between the two nations; and particularly to the Secret Article of the Treaty of Westminster, concluded February $\frac{9}{19}$, 16 $\frac{71}{74}$ O. S. and confirmed on the 6th February, 17 $\frac{15}{16}$ O. S. expressing in general and relative to the subject before us as follow: "Neither of the said parties shall give, nor consent that any of their subjects or inhabitants, shall give any aid, favour, or counsel, directly or indirectly, by land or by sea, or on the fresh waters, nor shall furnish, nor consent that the subjects and inhabitants of their dominions and countries shall furnish any ships, soldiers, mariners, provisions, money, instruments of war, gunpowder, or any other things necessary for making war, to the enemies of the other party, of any rank or condition whatsoever;" in particular forbidding expressly all assistance whatever to the enemies of one of the covenanters; how much more so of allying publicly with their enemies, as is really the case here; and with respect to which doing we have already publicly protested against Joseph Smith Esquire, Brigadier-General of the forces of your Company on the Coast of Coromandel, who underwrote the passport he granted in this relation, and not as being in the Subah's service. Such should more especially be taken notice of here, as both nations agree with respect to the important and principal point of human life and manners; namely, the pure and undefiled religion,

gion; and one of them, whether the Dutch Nation be assailed by a Mahometan Prince; by which doing, you, and, in your persons, the whole nation, ~~destroy~~ and annihilate the aforesaid Treaties; and by assisting the Mahometans in the like manner, commence a war in these countries, whilst our Sovereigns in Europe are in perfect harmony and peace, and study nothing so much than the sacred observance of the said Treaties. It is therefore that we, who represent in these countries the body of the Government, in the name, and on behalf of the High and Mighty Lords, the States General of the Free United Provinces of Netherland, the Honourable Directors of our Company, the Honourable High Regency at Batavia, protest in the most earnest manner against those doings, holding you, as being the real and only cause of them, entirely and directly responsible and accountable for all losses, damages, and prejudices, already resulted, and which may in time result from them, and the consequences and particulars necessary to them; for we look upon ourselves, and, in our persons, the whole nation, free from all fault, as having given not the least occasion to it, but rather to assist us in a case as this is; with respect to which, by virtue of the aforesaid Treaties, we reserve then to ourselves the power of summons; and in the mean time we shall not be wanting to give the necessary information of these doings to our Sovereigns.

For though you may sometimes pretend that the troops of your Nation, who are with their Highness's, are enlisted in their service, it is however certain and undeniable, that they have them, as well as guns, ammunition, and other warlike stores, with which they are furnished, from no body but yourselves, and that this is directly contradictory to all the aforesaid confirmed Treaties of the Sovereigns, and consequently a formal enemy-like attempt; for as we have already observed, General Smith express's himself Commander in Chief of the forces of your Company, a circumstance which in Europe may and will be of consequence.

Given in the Fort of Negatpatnam, on the Coast of Coromandel, in the East-Indies, 21st October, 1773.

(A literal Translation.)

JACOB ADR. DORMIEUX.

To which the following answer was immediately returned :

To Philip Jacob Dormieux, William Blaaukamer, and H. A. Johnson, Esquires.

GENTLEMEN,

OUR President has laid before us your letter of the 30th October, which you delivered to him on that day, accompanied with a protest from the Governor and Council of Negapatnam against this Government.

We are, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble servants,

Fort St. George,
1st November, 1773.

AR. WYNCH, &c. Council.

A T

SELECT COMMITTEE, Monday, 1st November, 1773.

P R E S E N T,

Alexander Wynch Esquire, Governor, President.

John Smith

John Maxwell Stone.

THE President acquaints the Committee, that considering the great expense attending the army in their present position, the advices he had received of the arrival of repeated re-inforcements to the Dutch, and the probability there was, if matters were not shortly accommodated between them and the Nabob, that they might attempt to form connexions either with the Marattas or Hyder, which might in their consequences be very prejudicial both to the interests of the Nabob and the Company; he, the President, had waited on the Nabob on Saturday morning, as well to find out the train the negotiation with them was in, as the ultimate intentions and resolution of the Nabob respecting them. That the Nabob read to him a letter from Ushmaun Ally Khan, giving an account of what had passed between his Son Ummeer-ul-Omrah, and the people sent by the Dutch two or three days preceding; and told the President, that the succeeding day, or the day after, he should ask his sentiments respecting the terminating of the matter with them one way or the other. That he, the President, accordingly waited on the Nabob yesterday morning; that the Nabob observed, there were but two lines to take with the Dutch; the one, to insist by force, if necessary, on their complying with his requisitions; the other, to comply with what they directed. That with regard to the money they demanded, they insisted on the receipts of Narasingarow and Gangasavah Pilla being the standard for ascertaining; but at the same time refused to produce these persons, under pretence of their not being at Negapattinam, That although, by this mode of terminating the matter, he knew he should be a considerable loser, and that a compliance with their requisition must be attended with discredit; yet considering the present situation of affairs, his inability to pay the expense of the army at this time of the year, and the coming of the Vackeels of Hyder to negotiate a treaty, who in the course thereof, if they saw his forces engaged against the Dutch, would undoubtedly take advantage of the same; in his opinion, it was better to make up matters with them; and therefore, that he would write a letter to his Son in his own hand, as yesterday morning, to conclude the business. That this afternoon, he, the President, received a message from the Nabob requesting to see him; that accordingly he waited on him in the evening, when the Nabob informed him, that he had received a letter from his Son Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder, and he found his Son's sentiments were conformable to his own; that the Nabob then read the letter, which contained a particular account of what had passed lately in negotiation with the Dutch, and their determination not to consent to two of the requisitions of the Circar; the lessening of the number of their troops, and the

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the producing of Narfingarow and Gangafavah Pilla; and he then begs the Nabob would weigh well all the consequences of this affair, and send him his instructions. That after the letter with the papers enclosed were read, the Nabob said, that he must be a little more particular to his Son in answer thereto than he had been in the morning, and seemed fixed in the propriety for the present at least) of concluding matters with the Dutch. That having asked him, the President, whether he did not concur in the propriety thereof; he, the President, expressed his apprehension lest the Dutch, seeing this concession on his part, might still endeavour to procrastinate the business; adding however, that he, the Nabob, was the best judge of his own affairs; and if, as he said, he was unable to pay the expense of the troops, it was certainly proper to finish the business.

In consequence of the reports which have prevailed of the Dutch having sent a Vackeel to Poonah, it is resolved that Mr. Mostyn be advised thereof, and desired to obtain the best information in his power.

Ar. Wynch
John Smith
J. M. Stone.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 2d November, 1773.

THIS day the following letter was received from General Smith:

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

ON the 28th instant in the morning I was honoured with your commands of the 25th respecting the cantonments of the army, &c. but the weather having threatened us with a heavy fall of rain, the troops were ordered to march into their quarters on the 27th in the evening, and are accommodated as well as could be expected from the nature of the buildings in general in this country.

At present I cannot consider the army in any other light than in the field; for should the Nabob's business with the Dutch terminate otherwise than amicably, the troops may be under the necessity of marching out of their cantonments at a moment's notice. I am therefore of opinion the Coolies, carriage and draught cattle of the army, &c. must be continued; if dismissed, they cannot soon be replaced, perhaps not in a month, and we may be exceedingly distressed in taking the field, when the services of the troops are most wanted.

The Dutch have forbid their people supplying the army with any thing, particularly provisions; Carrical and Tranquebar afford nothing; Cuddalore is but

a poor market ; so that our supplies must come chiefly from the Presidency at a heavy expence : and let me add, that not a servant will stay here without camp. As to the Soldiers, if they are not victualled, they will find no means to subsist on their pay. Rice and every other article of provisions here as in camp. You will therefore please to give your orders in these matters, that they may be regulated accordingly.

The additional field expence of this army is no doubt very considerable, and it would give me pleasure to point out the means of lessening it ; but until matters are finally settled between the Nabob and the Dutch, in my humble opinion you cannot make the least alteration regarding the troops now here.

Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder entertains very sanguine hopes that a few days will put a favourable end to his negotiations ; I hope it may ; but the Hollanders, notwithstanding this, continue to bring supplies of men from Ceylon and their other settlements.

His Highness's two regiments of cavalry (except one grenadier troop) have marched, the first to canton at Trivalore, and the second is gone to Mellour in the Marawar country ; and Captain Manoury is on his return to Madras, agreeable to your orders.

My presence in cantonments can now be dispensed with ; I shall therefore, in consequence of the liberty your Honour, &c. have given me, set out in a few days on my return to the Presidency ; and as this may be my last address while here, I beg leave to observe, that the thanks of the Honourable Board, when communicated by me to the troops, for their spirited behaviour during the campaign, were received in the army with the greatest satisfaction ; and I have no doubt their conduct will merit such favourable notice on every future occasion.

I have the honour to be with respect,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient servant,

Head Quarters, Nagore,
30th October, 1773.

JOSEPH SMITH.

Extract of Proceedings of the Select Committee at Fort St. George, 2d November, 1773.

Intelligence from Poonah.

CAUSY PANDARUM, that was sent by the Rajah of Tanjore to request the assistance of the Marattas, is still at Poonah ; Ragonaut Row allows him for his expenses, and told him that he will take care of the Rajah's affairs.

1310 EXPEDITION AGAINST TANJORE IN 1773.

Extract of Letter from Thomas Moflyn Esquire, Resident at Poonah, to the Select Committee at Fort St. George, dated 26th September, 1773.

I LAST addressed your Honour, &c. the 9th instant, duplicate of which is enclosed, and on the 18th was favoured with your's of the 13th ultimo. I now return your Pattamars, principally to advise you, that Ragobah has wrote Hyder to send immediate assistance to the King of Tanjore, in case Mahomed Ally Khan does not raise the siege; and I am informed his letter is accompanied with the offer of the districts of Huscotah, Balipore, and Mudgerry, to induce him to comply with his request: a letter is also dispatched to Morarow Goraparah to the same purport.

Extract of Letter from the Committee to Mr. Moflyn, dated 4th November, 1773.

THE Dutch at Negapatnam having taken possession of Nagore and some districts dependent on Tanjore, under the pretence that they had been sold to them by the Rajah, the Nabob applied to us for the assistance of the Company's troops to enable him to dispossess them. Our troops accordingly proceeded towards Nagore, and those belonging to the Nabob having advanced to that place, the Dutch abandoned the districts in dispute on their arrival, and before our troops came in sight. The Nabob is now however endeavouring to accommodate matters with them.

We are well assured that before and during the expedition against Tanjore, the Rajah received from the Dutch supplies of stores and ammunition; and it is said that the Dutch have even sent an embassy to the Marattas, in order to obtain their assistance in support of the Rajah. We cannot say how far this report may be true, although we think it not improbable, as they have greatly increased their force at Negapatnam; we therefore request that you will use your best endeavours to come at the truth thereof, and advise us of the result; since, if it be so, it will be necessary for us to be the more watchful of their views and designs, which may tend to the obtaining an influence in this part of India very incompatible with the interests of our Honourable Employers.†

† *Extract of Proceedings of the Select Committee at Fort St. George, 14th January, 1774.*

Extract of Letter from Thomas Moflyn Esquire, Resident at Poonah, to the Select Committee at Fort St. George, dated 26th December, 1773.

MY last address waited on your Honour, &c. under the 19th ultimo, duplicate of which is enclosed; and I was favoured with your letter of the 4th November the 10th instant. It was impossible for me immediately to comply with your request respecting the report of the Dutch having sent an Ambassador hither to solicit succours for the King of Tanjore, as I was under the necessity of dispatching letters to camp for intelligence; for though I was certain no person had been here, either publicly or privately, in that character before Ragobah left Poonah, yet I could not pretend to say whether or no they might not have sent an Embassy to camp. However this morning I received answers from the army to the letters I sent away on the receipt of your commands, by which I learn no person has been there from the Dutch, nor is there the least talk of any one coming; but that a Vackeel, which the Rajah of Tanjore sent to Ragobah before or during the siege, is lately arrived with presents; and that Chandrabahanjee, a brother of the Rajah's, who escaped while the Nabob was carrying the attack, is now with Morarow Goraparah.

Letter from the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Wynch, dated 2d November, 1773.

SEND I send you copies of two letters from my Son Ummeer-ul-Omrah, one dated the 30th ultimo, and received yesterday evening, the other the 1st ultimo at ten o'clock in the morning, and received to-day: in these are enclosed copies of some letters from him to the Governor of Negapatnam, and the said Governor's answers; all which I also enclose for your information. Owing to the want of rain, the crops of the dry grain and corn, as well as the grain that was sowed of the Sumbah crop, have been lost; and should it now rain, it appears to me it will be with difficulty that six Annas are collected instead of a Rupee; on which account, as well as on account of my present debt, and my endeavours to pay the debt of Tuljaujee to Europeans, added to the gratuity-money to the army, render it entirely out of my power to support in future the extraordinary charges. The apprehension also I am under from Hyder Ally Khân, who, after collecting his troops together, dispatched his Vackeels to me, and the friendship I understand which subsists between him and Ragonaut Row Purdhaun, give me great uneasiness. On the ground of receipts from Gangasavah Pilla and Narlingarow, which they produce, but whose persons they refuse to deliver, the Dutch want an additional sum of two Lacks of Pagodas, as so much received by Tuljaujee, and their force also they refuse to lessen. If you approve of it however, for the considerations I have before-mentioned, as an act of necessity, I will for the present drop my requisitions respecting the above two people, and their lessening the number of their troops, and consent even to the loss of the two Lacks of Pagodas, and so settle the business with them; but then my fears are, lest our easiness and kindness in agreeing to those matters should add to the present haughtiness of the Dutch. In case however of their raising any further troubles and disputes, and starting fresh difficulties, I think, as their insolence is prejudicial both to the Company's and my affairs, after seeing the people sent by Hyder Ally Khân, by God's blessing and the assistance of my friends, to retaliate their proceedings in such a manner, *that should the Europeans even, who were before punished, have any remaining ill-founded pretensions in their heads, they may lay them aside entirely, by taking the whole of the Dutch Settlements upon this Coast, which may be done with the greatest ease, and by the stopping at once of their trade.* You are the representative of my best friends, and the support and protector both of me and the Carnatick country; in which engagement, out of their great kindness and friendship, *the King and the Company also are bound:* in this matter be so good as to acquaint me soon what is your advice.

What can I say more?

Arruzdasht from Ummeer-ul Omrah Rebauder, dated the Evening of the 30th October, 1773, and received at the Durbar, 1st November, ditto.

I HAVE before this acquainted your Highness fully and explicitly with the circumstances of my negotiation with the two Members of Council from Negapatnam, and their having agreed to most of our propositions, and their refusing to

comply

comply with others; all this therefore I conclude your Highness to be already apprized of: the point is this, the two Gentlemen above-mentioned essentially and absolutely refused either to surrender Gangasavah Pilla and Narasingarow, or to lessen the number of their troops; and persisted invariably in that declaration, maugre all my persuasions, mild and severe, and my remonstrances on the bad consequences of their non-compliance. They still persevere in a positive denial, and say they know not whither Gangasavah Pilla and Narasingarow went after the taking of Raudernagor (Tanjore); but that they have their receipt, agreeable to which they must be paid in specie, and they will then deliver up to your Highness the lands and jewels that have been mortgaged to them. I pressed them particularly close on the subject of diminishing their force; to which they said thus much in reply, that this matter rested on the will of the General of Batavia; that men would come from thence to Negapatnam, and would thence be appointed to other settlements; and that in those two particular points they begged to be excused: for the rest, such as giving up the lands, and taking the money in lieu of them, and so on, they were ready to comply with our desires. When I still continued pressing on this head, they told me they would go to the Governor of Negapatnam, and having acquainted him with the particulars I proposed, would return in a couple of days. They went therefore, but the Governor has not sent them again. On the 29th instant Chinnama Nayer, the Head Dubash, with a considerable Chitty Man, and Mahomed Bauker Moonsee, were sent hither. I desired Mahomed Ausim Khan Behauder, the Dobbeer, Rcheman Ally Khan, and Mahomed Sydee, to talk with them; who enquiring of them the purport of their message, were told, that the surrender of Narasingarow, and the diminution of their force, could not be agreed to; that in those articles they begged leave to be excused, but were ready to assent to the rest. Ausim used various arguments, rough and smooth, of one kind or other, to gain this point, but they were inflexibly firm in their first declarations. Afterwards Chinnama Nayer alone came to the chamber where I was, and told me softly, that out of regard to the welfare of the Circar, he assured me it was by no means advisable for us to kindle this matter into a flame; he said this, I suppose, from a probability he had conceived of our being terrified by such expressions. I answered him, that, by the favour of Heaven, we were so amply supplied with troops and implements of war, that we had not the least reason to be apprehensive of consequences: that the fate of Pondicherry was no secret to the world: that from a friendly and artless mode of procedure, we now treat in those mild and gentle terms; but were we inclined, we could soon convince them of the power we possess, by shutting up all their supplies, stopping the commerce of their settlements, and bringing them in every respect to the utmost extremity of distress. To which the Dubash, "Suppose," said he, "A person should have conducted himself in every other respect with becoming propriety, but in one instance only has been so unhappy as to commit a fault, what is he to do?" I replied, "If he has done a fault, let him confess that fault and beg forgiveness, which by that means surely he may hope to obtain. To speak more plainly, do you but bring hither Gangasavah Pilla and Narasingarow, and acknowledge the offence you have committed, and all shall be excused." He was confounded at this, and said it was no fault of their's: he alluded to his orders, which were to deliver

such a message from the Governor, and he had no authority to enter upon such topics. After this, about eight o'clock at night, they took their leave, and returned to Negapatnam. Yesterday the whole day elapsed in expecting the return of their deputies; at night I wrote the Governor a letter, of which, and of his answer, I received this morning, I sent your Highness copies enclosed, which need no further comment. The truth is, that from what the Governor writes on the one hand, and what the Deputies have said on the other, it is evident beyond dispute that they will not consent to give up Gangasavah Pilla and Narsingarow, or to reduce the number of their forces: in these points they discover an inexorable pertinacity; and from their thraſonical gestures and confident conceits, it is plain they depend on the arrival of a marine armament; when, if your Highness should persist in these demands, they will do all they can to bring about hostilities, and put forth their utmost efforts in warlike preparations. Hence I have thought it incumbent on me to represent matters as they appear, without concealment or reserve.

If then your Highness shall be pleased to order the payment of the sum specified in the receipts of Gangasavah Pilla and Narsingarow (copies of which, and of the deed of sale, I have already transmitted) by which the Circar must lose about two Lacks of Pagodas, and cease your demands concerning the delivery of those two persons, and the diminution of their force, there will be then good reason to expect the conclusion of a peace with the Dutch, and the writings will be redeemed; but if not, be pleased only to honour me with distinct orders on the occasion, and let the Governor send his instructions to the General, that I may proceed to hostilities; and, please God, in three or four days we shall be in possession of the fort of Negapatnam. Nor is it at all inconsistent to hope for such success, for at present *nothing can be more easy than to give them a good thrashing*; though after two or four months it will not be possible, as they will become every day more and more capable of giving us disturbance, by the coming of their ships of war with ample supplies of men and stores; the present therefore is the only fair opportunity, more especially as the times seem fraught with disorders, and the Chiefs of the Balaghaut countries are burning with resentment at the capture of Raudernagor.† Your Highness will be pleased to weigh well the benefits and advantages, as well as the evils and bad consequences, that may be produced by the circumstances herein enumerated, and advise me of whatever may be deemed most conducive to the present and future welfare of the Circar; for my own part, whatever shall seem most for your Highness's interest, whether peace or war, I am equally ready to execute your commands.

Letter from Ummeer ul-Omrah Behauder to the Governor of Negapatnam, dated 30th October, or rather in the Night of the 29th October, 1773.

YOU must have perceived, and have been thoroughly convinced, from my behaviour and declarations to your Deputies and yourself, that my intention has been to establish, to the utmost of my power, that friendship and union which has

† Raudernagor, i. e. Tanjore—see page 1312, line 8.

hitherto subsisted between my Father and the Dutch Company; and I could wish that you, Honourable Sir, would also pay a similar attention to that grand point, so as not to delay complying with our reasonable demands, the greatest part of which you have already agreed to, and a small part only remains. Yesterday and to-day have elapsed in expectation of my friends, your Deputies, with your consent to the articles required; if, out of regard to the long-continued amity between us, you are pleased to send those Gentlemen to me to-morrow, it will be particularly acceptable, as your amicable intentions towards us, and our's towards you may by that means be mutually evinced, and the ancient union established; for in truth much time has been spent in negotiation.

There is no necessity for your troubling yourself in writing a reply to this; your sending the two Members of your Board with full instructions will be a sufficient answer.

Letter from the Governor of Negapatnam to Ummcer-ul-Omrah Behauder, dated 30th October, 1773, and received at Nagore the same Day.

HAVING conceived an hope of the daily increase of your Highness's good will towards us, as well as of our being able to coincide in every thing with your Highness's desires, I readily assented to the measures proposed, and imagined our affairs were now drawing to the wished for conclusion; but how great was my astonishment, when I learnt from the Gentlemen of Council that were deputed to your Highness, that the delivery of Narasingarow and Gangasavah Pilla is one of the conditions prescribed us; a demand which, seeing as it is out of our power to satisfy it, from the departure of those persons after the capture of Tanjore, and seeing more especially that the circumstance has already been mentioned in my former Arruzdashr, and fully explained by our Deputies to your Highness, is, I must beg leave, with all due deference, to observe, very unjust, and altogether unfriendly. Your Highness is happy in displaying upon all occasions a quick discernment, a clear apprehension, a love for justice, generosity, and benevolence; but this request neither consists with reason, nor corresponds to equity or good will.

With regard to the return of our Deputies, as nothing more can be added to the ample and extensive discussions they have had with your Highness, and only this species of claim remains, which never can be gratified, I have humbly to request that you will dismiss the remembrance of these circumstances from your mind, and remain firm to that part of the agreement which has already been negotiated between yourself and the two Members of this Board; to wit, that the Circar either discharge the amount in specie, which is the most eligible method, or point out a mode for the payment of it; and that we, in consideration thereof, deliver up the country, which I am ready to perform with the utmost alacrity and joy. And as to what your Highness has been pleased to say, that we must put Narasingarow and Gangasavah Pilla into your hands, on which condition, and no other whatever, would our matters be brought to a termination, I have only

once

I entreat, that you will be pleased to pass over the mention of a circumstance, which it is impossible for us to comply with; and having viewed the particulars with an eye of favour and benevolence, you will finally determine the business in agitation: I shall then dispatch the Deputies to your Highness's presence, as you desire.

*Arruzdasht from Ummeer-ul-Omrab Behauder, dated Saturday, 30th October, 1773,
11 o'Clock at Night.*

I THIS morning gave your Highness a full account of occurrences here, and now transmit enclosed copies of a letter which I wrote since that to the Governor of Negapatnam, and of his answer thereto; you will thence fully apprehend how matters are. The Governor of Negapatnam has wrote me plainly, that if we cease our demand concerning Gangasavah Pilla and Narlingarow, he will send the deputies, but otherwise he will not; if we persist in requiring that they may be sent to us, hostilities are at hand; and yet if, agreeable to his desire, we give up that point, who knows what new and improper requests may spring up in the course of the negotiation, from a reliance on our yielding disposition?

Some people belonging to the Circar having gone into the places the Dutch have possession of, they have cut off the ears of each, and have also seized some bullocks and bullock-drivers of the Company and the Circar; in consequence of this, General Smith having confined six of the inhabitants of the Dutch districts, sent them to me to be kept under guard.

† He seems strongly inclined to hostilities; having therefore, in conjunction with Syed Aulim Khân, given your Highness the necessary information, I wait for further orders; nor shall I bring matters to a point 'till I receive your answer to my Arruzdasht of this morning and this: I beg to be informed what your Highness thinks proper to be done.

Letter from Ummeer-ul Omrab Behauder to the Dutch at Negapatnam, dated 30th October, 1773, in the Morning.

I HAVE received your's of to-day, and observe the contents. I wait for the arrival of your Counsellors, and write this to desire that you will send them to me to-day, in order that I may hear every thing from them at full length.

What should I say more?

Letter from the Dutch at Negapatnam to Ummeer-ul-Omrab Behauder, dated 30th October 1773, In answer to the above.

I HAVE just been honoured with your Highness's favour of to-day, which I esteem a mark of your favour and good-will: the contents I have perused: I have only

1316 EXPEDITION AGAINST TANJORE IN 1773.

to say in reply, that if your Highness will be pleased to inform me by letter, that you have laid aside the thoughts of insisting any more on the delivery of those two persons you were pleased to demand of us, which we have already shewn was impossible, and that your Highness was inclined to bring the other matters to a termination, I shall then be ready to send the deputies without delay.

What can I petition more?

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 4th November, 1773.

THE following letter we this day dispatched to the President and Council at Bombay*.

To the Honourable William Hornby Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council of Bombay,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

IN our letter of the 21st September we advised you of the capture of Tanjore, and transmitted an address to the Honourable the Court of Directors, which we requested might be forwarded by the first conveyance from your Presidency, as it carried the news of that important conquest.

No sooner was the Nabob in possession of Tanjore, than he represented to us, that the Dutch had possessed themselves of Nagore, a valuable sea-port, and several districts in the Tanjore country, on the pretence of having purchased them from the dispossessed Rajah, and that they were actually assembling a force to keep possession of the same. The Nabob, after pointing out the unjustness of these proceedings, and the bad consequences which might result to his Government and the English influence, by so great an addition of territory and revenue to the Dutch, solicited the assistance of the Company's forces, to dispossess them of the said lands and restore them to the Circar, should the Dutch refuse to deliver them up in an amicable manner.

Sensible of the justness of the Nabob's representation, we determined to acquiesce in his request; and orders were accordingly sent to General Smith to march with the Company's troops, and after pacific measures had been found ineffectual, he was directed to make use of the force under his command to oblige the Dutch to relinquish their usurped possessions, and to deliver them over to the Nabob. The Nabob was for some time amused with negotiations, which meant nothing but to gain time, until troops could be received at Negapatnam from Batavia and Ceylon. Finding this to be the case, and the Nabob's second son, who accompanied

* On the 6th of November, a letter was written to the President and Council at Fort-William, which is to the same purport as that to Bombay.

the army, making a formal application to General Smith for the assistance of the Company's troops, they marched accordingly towards Nagore. The Dutch guards withdrew on the arrival of the Nabob's troops before our's came in sight; and the Nabob's son, after striking the Dutch flag, took quiet possession of Nagore, where his colours were flying when our troops arrived.

The Dutch at Negapatnam have protested against this Government for the part it has taken in these measures; they are however treating with the Nabob, and we hope matters may be accommodated between them.

We are,

Honourab^{le} Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient humble servants,

Fort St. George,
4th November, 1773.

AR. WYNCH, &c. Council.

Letter from the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Wynch, dated and received 6th November, 1773.

AFTER I had acquainted you respecting the settling of matters with the Dutch, I wrote to my son Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder on the subject, and now enclose for your information a copy of his answer, and a copy of a letter wrote by him to the Governor of Negapatnam. This instant I understand by a letter from Rehemaun Ally Khan, that no answer had been received from the Governor of Negapatnam by the 3d instant at twelve o'clock at night, neither had the Hircarrahs returned. By the letter I wrote to you of the 2d instant, you will understand the state of my affairs with the Dutch; therein also I mentioned my consent, out of consideration to the preservation of the tranquillity of the Carnatick and the Company's territories, to pay to the Dutch more money than they paid to Tuljaujee, in order that you and I, in better times, might exert ourselves to secure peace and tranquillity from other quarters. I informed you also in the said letter, that the Dutch would think my mild proposals proceeded from fear; and particularly if they perceived my friends were not hearty in my affairs, that they would delay matters so much the more. I have therefore thought it proper to acquaint you of a better way of bringing them to terms; which is, that we should both represent to them that we will not suffer ourselves to be slighted any more; and they should be told plainly by us, that if, notwithstanding I agree to pay their money, they still delay to settle matters, we shall esteem their intentions are to reject my friendship; and should they so delay matters, *they must be given to understand that I will destroy Sedras and their other sea-ports in this country.* My idea is this, that in order to preserve our country (the country belonging to me and the Company) we must be resolute; no one can tell in a short time what enemy we may have in the Carnatick, and the force the Dutch have at present at Negapatnam in that case will

be a matter of great apprehension to us. Besides, I do not know what advantages the French may reap by such a disturbance, nor how large a force the Dutch propose bringing into this country, since they are daily receiving fresh troops at Negapatnam, and absolutely refuse to lessen their numbers. I have mentioned these circumstances to the Admiral, and he says, that whenever you are of opinion the force the Dutch have, or may further bring into this country, will be of great detriment to the peace and tranquillity of the Carnatick, and to the affairs and possessions of the Company in this country, you should acquaint him of it, when for the effecting of such a plan as may be the means of removing all our difficulties, he will with pleasure concert with you some proper scheme. Should the Dutch agree to the conditions I now consent to, we may judge their views are peaceable; but should they not, and endeavour to gain time, we must esteem them as enemies and disturbers, and adopt some proper plan for the averting of their mischief. I mention all these matters purposely to have your advice, which I am to request you will give me plainly.

What can I say more?

P. S. Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder acquaints me, that in case of a peace with the Dutch, his coming to me will be necessary; and in case there is no peace, that he must also come to acquaint both you and me of the particulars of matters. I have accordingly wrote to him to come here, since the General, &c. are set off.

Letter from Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder to the Dutch at Negapatnam, dated 2d November, 1773.

THE letter you sent me of date the 30th ultimo I have received, and understood the contents; to wit, "That the matters of producing Gangafavah Pilla, and Narfingarow, which I mentioned to your Deputies, is what you have it not in your power to perform; but that, exclusive of that, you are ready to bring the other affairs to a termination; and that agreeable to what your Counsellors had proposed to me, if I should pay you the amount in specie, it would be most eligible, otherwise I may point out some other mode for discharging the sum required." Nothing can be more evident or plain than the kindness and friendship which from the beginning of this negotiation, notwithstanding the power I have in my hands, I have shewn towards your Company, as well as the civility and attention with which I have treated those Members of your Board that were deputed to me. I have not failed in any of the duties of an amicable intercourse; I am as yet still ready to continue the same rule of conduct, that the unreserved affection and regard which His Highness the Nabob, my Father, has from old time conceived towards your Company, and which your Company cannot but reap great advantages from, may not suffer any interruption; but I am surprized to find, that after having experienced all those instances of good-will, you should for so slight a matter delay the time, and cast the determination of

our differences to a yet more distant period. Do not however think that your pursuing measures in contra-opposition to my Father's friendship will be ever of benefit either to you or to your Company. My friendship towards you you have seen sufficiently displayed in the course of the negotiation; and now I give you a fresh instance of it, in desiring that you will quickly send your Deputies to me, and you will be convinced of the candour of my designs; if you do not, observe that there is no defect of friendship on my part, nor will not be.

What shall I write more?

Arruzdasht from Ummeer-ul-Omrah Bebauder, dated, past 9 o'Clock at Night, 2d November, 1773. Received at the Durbur, 5th November, 1773, in the Morning.

I HAVE been honoured with two letters from your Highness, commanding me to put a period to the treaty with the Dutch, and have fully understood the contents.

I had two days before written your Highness an Arruzdasht, with a particular explanation of the run of affairs here, and was waiting your Highness's reply; your commands therefore about putting an end to this negotiation have been dispatched before the receipt of my Arruzdasht.

I have written a letter in answer to the Governor of Negapatnam on the subject of sending of the Deputies, copy of which I transmit enclosed. When they arrive, I hope, with the propitious influence of the Great Ruler of events, to bring this business to a conclusion that shall redound to the interest and honour, as well as the dignity and greatness of the Circar. When done, shall advise your Highness of the particulars at large.

From Governor Wynch to the Nabob of the Carnatick, dated 8th November, 1773.

I HAVE been honoured with the receipt of your Highness's favour of the 2d instant.

At your Highness's particular request, the assistance of the Company's troops was afforded for the recovery of the lands lately possessed by the Dutch belonging to the Tanjore Country, and which accordingly have been recovered. Your Highness is undoubtedly the best judge of your own resources, as well as the ground of your apprehensions from Hyder Ally Khan; certain it is, that the expense of the troops in their present position is great; and almost equally so, that while their attention is in any measure engaged against the Dutch, Hyder will avail himself thereof, either in negotiation with, or in any hostile intention against your Highness. On the other hand, by closing with the Dutch, on the footing your Highness states it, there appears to be considerable loss, attended with some discredit. On the whole however, as possession has been obtained of the lands in dispute,
the

They have repaired and thickened all their works, and thrown up a breast-work on the Nagore road, behind which they have two six pounders.

4th. Landed from the abovementioned vessel one officer and thirty artillery men.

AT A CONSULTATION, Thursday, 11th November, 1773.

P R E S E N T,

Alexander Wynch Esquire, Governor, President.

Henry Brooke

Samuel Johnson

Edward Stracey

George Dawson

Charles Smith

John Maxwell Stone

Edward Cotsford.

THE President informs the Board, that the Nabob, in a conversation he had with him this morning, gave him to understand that he expected in the course of to day to receive some certain information from his Son respecting his negotiations with the Dutch, and that he would communicate the same to him, the President.

Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Bellingham at Nagore :

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

I THINK it my duty to acquaint you, that advice was received yesterday at Negapatnam of the arrival of a vessel off Porto Novo, which was supposed to have been lost ; she is said to have a number of troops on board ; and since the above news, the Dutch are in the highest spirits.

It is confidently reported, that with this re-inforcement they are determined to re-occupy the villages of which they have been lately dispossessed, chiefly with a view of trying the disposition of the Company's troops, and knowing to a certainty what part they will take on such an occasion. If they should take such a step, and the Nabob, as is most probable, requires my assistance to repel them, I shall beg to know of you in what manner I am to act. I have also some authority for informing you, that were it thought proper or necessary to give encouragement, the greatest part of the Dutch troops might be shortly brought over to our side.

I am, Honourable Sir,

Your very humble and obedient Servant,

Nagore,
6th November, 1773.

JOHN BELLINGHAM.

P. S. Major

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Your very humble and obedient Servant,

Nagore,
6th November, 1773.

JOHN BELLINGHAM.
P. S. Major

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P. S. Major Harper is just arrived. I am somewhat better than when I last addressed you, but still much indisposed.

To which the following answer was immediately returned.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Bellingham, Commanding Officer of the Troops at Nagore.

S I R,

THE President has communicated to us your letter to him of the 6th instant, wherein you desire directions how to act, should the Dutch take any steps to regain Nagore, or the districts in the Tanjore Country belonging to the Nabob.

The motives which determined us to assist the Nabob in the recovery of the districts claimed by the Dutch, render it necessary that we should support him in the possession of the same; we therefore direct, that in case the Dutch make any hostile attempts to retake any part of the said districts, that you afford the Nabob's Son every assistance in your power to repel the same.

We are, Sir,

Your most obedient servants,

Fort St. George,
11th November, 1773.

A^R. WYNCH, &c. Council.

Read a letter which has been received from the Nabob, dated 6th instant,* enclosing copy of a letter from his Son Ummeer-ul-Omrah. In case the Dutch still delay to settle matters, notwithstanding he has agreed to pay them the money they demanded, the Nabob proposes that they should be given to understand, that he will consider their intentions to be hostile, and act against them accordingly.

As the Nabob expects so soon to receive more particular information from his Son respecting these matters, it is agreed to defer for the present an answer to his letter.

extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday, 15th November, 1773.

P R E S E N T,

Alexander Wynch Esquire, Governor, President.

Henry Brooke
Samuel Johnson
Edward Stracey

George Dawson
Charles Smith
John Maxwell Stone
Edward Cotsford.

GENERAL SMITH having returned from the army resumes his seat at the Board.

† Vide page 1317.

The

The President acquaints the Board, that he has been informed by the Nabob, that every thing is almost settled with the Dutch at Negapatnam, and that as soon as the writings are drawn up the negotiation will be finally concluded.

The President likewise informs the Board, that in consequence of several letters from Lieutenant-Colonel Bellingham, complaining of the dearth and scarcity of grain in cantonments, he had represented this matter to the Nabob, who promised to take the necessary measures for supplying the troops.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 17th November, 1773.

RECEIVED the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Bellingham :

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor, &c. of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

I MENTIONED in my postscript of last night a vessel being arrived at a place on the island of Ceylon with troops on board ; this morning I had the letter interpreted by Mr. Swartz, which is as follows, viz. that the Dutch have certain accounts of a large ship being arrived at Jasnypatnam from Batavia, having on board five hundred European soldiers ; for the reception of whom the Governor of Negapatnam has ordered a very large shed to be erected to serve by way of barracks, and yesterday he dispatched two large sloops and one chelinga 'tis said to bring those troops from Jasnypatnam.

I am sorry to inform you, that I do not find the Nabob punctual to perform his promise as I could wish ; the Sepoys have been served with rice this day somewhat better than they have had for some days past, but there is still a famine among the servants and other followers of the camp.

I am not apt to complain, but I do assure you, Sir, that my situation at present is a very disagreeable one.

His Highness informs me that he has settled this business with the Dutch, and that he intends going to Madras in a few days ; in consequence of which he has ordered two troops of his cavalry to proceed to Chingleput, there to wait his arrival, and to escort him to the Presidency.

I have the honour to be,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient and very humble servant,

Nagore,

12th November, 1773.

JOHN BELLINGHAM.

Extract

1324 EXPEDITION AGAINST TANJORE IN 1773:

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 18th November, 1773.

CAME in the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Bellingham:

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor of Fort St. George, &c. Council.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

I AM duly favoured with your instructions contained in your letter of the 11th instant, which I beg leave to assure you shall be punctually observed.

I have the honour to be,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your very humble and obedient servant,

Nagore,
15th November, 1773.

JOHN BELLINGHAM.

Extract of Proceedings of the Select Committee at Fort St. George, 18th November, 1773.

Extract of Letter from Thomas Mofyn Esquire, Resident at Poonah, dated November, 1773.

DUPLICATE of my last address to your Honour, &c. of the 26th September is enclosed, and your favour of the 20th of that month, with the agreeable news of the conquest of Tanjore, reached me the 11th ultimo, on which I beg leave to congratulate you.

I am privately informed, Ragobah, on being told of the reduction of Tanjore, expressed some resentment at it; which, added to what he wrote Hyder and Murrarow Goraparah before he knew it, gives reason to think, if he can settle matters with the Nizam, and get firmly fixed in his Government, he may strive to retaliate on the Carnatick.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 20th November, 1773.

THIS day the three following letters were received from Lieutenant-Colonel Bellingham, with intelligence of the motions of the Dutch.

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

I BEG leave to present you with some further intelligence from Negapatnam, as I have it translated from a Malabar letter, viz. 15th November:—At nine last night

night a small vessel arrived in 27 days from Batavia, with a letter to the Governor of Negapatnam. A council was immediately called, which sat 'till eleven. It was agreed, that all the country lately belonging to the Rajah should be immediately receded to the Nabob, (His Highness paying for the same) except the town of Nagore. Orders were also issued for paying the troops up to this day.

The Council met again this day, and are also to meet to-morrow; after which it is expected that the contents of the letter from Batavia may be publicly known.

I am,

Honourable Sir,

Your very obedient humble servant,

Nagore,

16th November, 8 P. M. 1773.

JOHN BELLINGHAM.

To the Honourable Alexander Wynd Esquire, President and Governor of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

FROM the intelligence which I hourly receive, and my personal observations, I have the strongest reasons to suspect that our late operations on behalf of the Nabob will be attended with somewhat serious.

The Dutch have at present near their advanced post four hundred Europeans and eight guns; they have in all, exclusive of black troops, about one thousand well appointed men, who have been proved in Germany and elsewhere; and amongst their officers are four who have particularly distinguished themselves on many occasions.

These circumstances, joined to their still trifling with the Nabob under the pretence of negotiation, combine to make me suspect they have in agitation something more than simple defence.

To this I may add the encampment of the French at Pondicherry, who, if they be so disposed, may, with the present wind and weather, join our neighbours in a very few hours.

His Excellency begins to agree with me that the Dutch have been hitherto only gaining time; and now suspects them so far, that I believe he means to quit his house at night in future, and sleep in the Mosque.

I have doubled my posts and centries, and taken such steps as will effectually prevent a surprize, and I have a perfect reliance on the bravery and conduct of the troops I have the honour to command.

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I have thought it however my indispensable duty to advise you occasionally of the motives and intentions of both parties, and if you be of opinion that this letter should have been addressed to the Honourable the Board, I request that it may be considered as such, and delivered to them accordingly.

I have the honour to be,

With perfect respect and esteem,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient

and very humble servant,

Nagore,
17th November, 1773, noon.

JOHN BELLINGHAM.

P. S. I am in great distress for paper.

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

SINCE this morning's dispatch the following intelligence came to hand :

Intelligence.

16. THIS day the Council met. The letter from Batavia positively forbids the giving up of Nagore, which they allege was a fair and regular purchase from the Rajah, and therefore their indisputable right: the rest of the Tanjore territories they are desired to give up on receiving the stipulated sum.

In ten days they expect more troops, and in that time they look for a final answer from Madras.

The Governor has moved in Council, that as the troops in Nagore are but few, the place should be attacked and retaken without loss of time. The Second in Council and the Paymaster-General opposed this motion, urging that in ten days they could have their answer from Madras, and in the mean time they may amuse the Nabob with the appearance of a negotiation.

17. At eight this morning a letter was dispatched to Jasnypatnam; afterwards six field pieces were carried to the Garden-house, where, it is said, a battery is to be erected.

If, Sir, this information can be depended upon, (and I really think appearances give it no small share of probability) we have but little time to lose on our part.

As

As I already acquainted you, I have every hope from the bravery of the Honourable Company's troops; but provisions I fear will fall short if we once proceed to hostilities with our neighbours. It is with the utmost difficulty the people can procure daily in the Buzar sufficient of the necessaries of life; if then we are so well acquainted with scarcity in the midst of peace, our sufferings when surrounded by an enemy are too easily conceived.

I will engage to do every part of the duty annexed to my office, but I presume the furnishing provisions is expected only from the Nabob; and I have too much reason to fear we shall find a considerable deficiency in that department.

This much I have thought it my duty to say on the subject: my situation will apologize for my troubling you so often.

I am, Honourable Sir,

Your most respectful humble servant,

Nagore,
17th November, 1773.

JOHN BELLINGHAM.

P. S. The Nabob sent a Hicarrah with a letter this morning to Negapatnam; he is returned without any answer.

AT A CONSULTATION, Monday 22d November, 1773.

P R E S E N T,

Alexander Wynch Esquire, Governor, President.

George Dawson

Charles Smith

John Maxwell Stone

Edward Cotsford.

Joseph Smith

Henry Brooke

Samuel Johnson

Edward Stracey

READ a letter from the Nabob, dated 21st instant.

From the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Wynch, dated and received 21st November, 1773.

ENCLOSED I send you a copy of a letter from Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder, and another from Rehemaun Ally Khan (accompanying a note of consequence) received last night, as also a paragraph of a letter received from the latter before; by these you will see clearly the perverseness and bad intentions of the Dutch. It is certain that, by the passiveness of my friends in this business, the Dutch have acquired great arrogance. The King of England himself, through his kindness and friendship, is the supporter and protector of me and my country, and the Company

Company and Governor and Council also are in the strongest manner bound therein. The ten battalions of my Sepoys likewise, who receive their pay monthly from me by the means of the Company, are for this purpose; to wit, to assist in punishing and expelling of every disturber of the tranquillity of the Carnatick country: considering therefore the proceedings of the Dutch, productive of an entire interruption to the present and future tranquillity of the Carnatick country, I ask plainly two questions if you, are the representatives of my best friends; and as a great deal of time has passed to no purpose, I could wish you would be so kind as to inform me clearly of your intentions respecting them in writing:—One is this;—Seeing the bad proceedings of the Dutch, and their view of acquisition in this country, prejudicial in the highest degree to me, and even to the Company, *can you avowedly chastize the Dutch, and keep them to their ancient limits?*—The other is this; Not appearing yourself in the chastisement of the Dutch, *will you assist me with the Company's soldiers and Sepoys belonging to me?* Be so good as to give me soon a clear answer to these two points in writing that I may be acquainted therewith. I shall mention these circumstances also to the Admiral, the King's Vackeel. I have had more trouble, and sustained more loss, in this matter of the Dutch, than in *that* of the reduction of Tanjore; for I have agreed to pay these people a great deal of money, besides the loss arising from the expense of the army, and the death of a great many horses. I have now wrote to my Son not to mention even the point of lessening the number of their forces, and to make them a verbal promise, that Nagore, &c. shall be given to no one else; and in case the business can be settled to settle it, and having settled it to come to me; and should the Dutch not hear what he says, to leave the whole of the Circar's and Company's troops at Nagore with Rehemaun Ally Khan, and having regulated the supply of provisions, to come unattended to me; when, after being informed of a certain assistance from my friends, he shall be sent again to the army with General Smith.

What can I say more?

Copy of a Paragraph from an Arruzdasht of Rehemaun Ally Khan, dated 13th November, 1773, at Night, and received at the Durbar, 17th November, 1773.

TO-DAY, being the 13th instant, a Bramin Dubash, named Vencata Soobiah, and Natbhedols, a Soucar, waited on Mader-ul-Mulk from the Governor of Negapatnam. They took notice, that in the articles proposed it was inserted, that if Gangasavah Pilla and Narsingarow should at any time make their appearance, and represent that there is an error in the amount of what the Dutch have received, that in that case they (the Dutch) should stand to the sum so rectified by the said two persons attestation. To this point, said they, we cannot assent; we formerly begged to be excused in this respect, and we still hope you will not require it of us. Mader-ul-Mulk replied, that for the Governor's satisfaction he would let it drop. Secondly, with regard to the article, "that the friends of the Circar should be their friends, and the enemies of the Circar their enemies;" they observed, that in this too they had cause of apprehension; that the English are the friends of the Circar; and that if it should happen (which God forbid!) that a war should break

out between them and the Dutch, either in Europe or here, that hostilities then would be considered as a breach of this article, and they therefore could not bind themselves to it. To which Mader-ul-Mulk's answer was, "Well then, let it run thus; *Excepting Europeans*, we will assist none who shall be enemies to the Circar: to this they agreed. Thirdly, they objected, that as to keeping their forces at Negapatnam at the hitherto "usual complement of men," and sending back those whom they had "brought thither above that number," it was not a matter in their option; since, whenever there is any thing to do, men are sent hither from Batavia. On this score there was a great deal of altercation, but it was at last agreed, that the forces should be kept at the usual establishment. Fourthly, that as to that passage, wherein it is said, "We the Dutch give it hereby in writing, that on account of the "Rajah's deviation from his duty, His Highness the Nabob has taken the fort and "country of Tanjore," they should not insert such an expression, *as that of the Rajah's having deviated from his duty in their part of the treaty*; but that they were willing to write, that the Nabob had taken possession of the fort and country of Tanjore. After terminating all these matters, the Bramin and the Soucar represented, that the Governor of Negapatnam was desirous of a Cowle from the Circar, granting the Dutch a continuance of the same privileges they enjoyed in the time of Pertapa Sing, and that the duties on the bales of cloth bought for the Dutch Company be levied in the same proportion now as formerly. Mader-ul-Mulk told them, that after they should have signed and brought their articles of the treaty a Cowle should be granted them; which having promised to do, they went away, saying they would come back with the treaty the day after to-morrow. Mader-ul-Mulk waits the arrival of the Teep.

When any new circumstances occur they shall be fully explained to your Highness.

Arruzdasht from Rehemaun Ally Khan, dated 17th November, 1773, at Night, and received the 21st instant, at half past one in the Morning.

YOUR Highness must have received my Arruzdasht, written on the night of Monday the 15th instant.

For these two days past the Governor and Gentlemen of Council at Negapatnam have been bringing up fresh subjects of dispute. It was inserted in the foul copy of the treaty that they should not assist, or be in alliance with the enemies of the Circar. To this they say, "We are ready to pay all due obedience to the Nabob's commands, why then should we be in agreement with the enemies of the Circar? "we think it improper to write such an article, nor can we think of putting it in "the treaty." Besides which, they say they cannot bind themselves to the article of keeping their forces at the usual establishment, because that number may sometimes prove too small, and sometimes too great. Thirdly, they request, that if at any future time your Highness should think fit to make over the districts of Keelore, Topettoor, Terpoondce, and Nagore, which (as they say) they had purchased

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of Tuljauee, to any other Power, you will be pleased to give them to none but them only, and they beg a writing from the Circar to that effect. This is a new matter they have brought up, and they have used various shifts to obtain such an engagement from the Circar.

After I had written my Arruzdasht, Narbhedofs, the Soucar, brought the articles of treaty from the Governor of Negapatnam to Ummeer-ul-Onrah; which were found to differ somewhat from the rough copy sent by the latter, and this fresh circumstance was introduced into them, viz. That if your Highness should think of giving the districts in question to the English, or any other European Nation, you must please to give the Dutch the preference. Ummeer-ul-Onrah sent for Mahomed Ausim Khan, and corrected that copy of the treaty in most parts where it differed from the other. He then told the Circar, that he might stay here to-night, and to-morrow morning he should go to Negapatnam and bring the Counsellors, in order that the contents of the (corrected) copy of the treaty being explained to them, they might then carry it to the Governor. The Circar therefore is to go to-morrow to Negapatnam, and will bring the Counsellors back with him. Whatever is then determined on shall be written to your Highness.

The Governor of Negapatnam is a very mischievous, bad-tempered, ill-inclined man. He is perpetually bringing forth new unreasonable demands, and pestering us with fresh "woulds" and "wishes."

Intelligence is arrived, that eight pieces of cannon, and four hundred Europeans, are brought out of the fort of Negapatnam, and stationed at the Governor's Garden, which is near to that of the Company's.

For these two days it has not rained in the day-time, but a little only at night. Complaints about rice, &c. are few. From somewhat unwholsome in the air, most of the horses in the select cavalry are dead, or dying. Whatever else happens remarkable shall be transmitted.

An Express Arzee from Rehemaun Ally Khan, enclosed in the Arruzdasht dated 17th November, 1773, at Night.

THE power which the Circar's and the Company's forces possessed in the eyes of the Dutch, immediately after the taking of Tanjore, no longer continued after the army's arrival and long stay at Trivalore; and the awe and dread they inspired, even during their stay at Trivalore, was much diminished after their coming to Nagore; but now, since the Commanders of the troops are gone to Madras, the superiority we possessed on our first arrival at Nagore seems totally annihilated.

The Members of Council from Negapatnam, who are now at Madras, having been openly informed by the Governor, and other persons of note there, have written the Governor of Negapatnam, that the English Chiefs absolutely and altogether

ther renounce any intention of war with the Dutch; hence therefore they assume the most domineering airs; and notwithstanding that Ummeer-ul-Omrah has treated the Dutch Counsellors with all the civilities and complaisance they could desire, and received them in the most warm and friendly manner, the Governor, apprized of the English withdrawing their assistance, discovers the utmost tenaciousness in his demands, and seems resolved to stand out. The aim of his double proceedings seems to be this; that as the English have made themselves masters of the country about Madras, and are by that enabled to maintain a formidable body of troops in this part of the world, so they in like manner, having forcibly got possession of the districts about Negapatnam, may keep a considerable force like the English in this country. The Dutch have not their eyes upon Nagore only, their views are much more extensive; so that the withdrawing of the English, which has brought matters to this pass, has been a pernicious measure; and that not only with regard to the injury done to the Circar, but the great damage the English themselves will also receive by the increased power of the Dutch. For some of the Chiefs of the Balaghaut, who are enemies to the Circar and the English, on being apprized of the independency of the Dutch, will naturally have recourse to Negapatnam; and by promising them the grants of other districts, will strengthen themselves with their alliance; and then the country will become immediately subject to the calamities of a war, which will be highly prejudicial both to the Circar and the English.

Agreeable to your Highness's commands, I have thus taken the liberty to represent, without reserve, what I have some time apprehended, as well as what strikes me from the present face of affairs; your Highness will please to pursue such measures as seem best in such a state of things. If, immediately on the capture of Tanjore, we had, without waiting at Trivalore, applied ourselves to the settling of affairs at Negapatnam, how could they have had time to receive advices from Japan, &c? agreeable to which sentiment, I at that time took Ummeer-ul-Omrah aside, and told him that great expedition in this affair was requisite.

Arruzdashit from Ummeer-ul-Omrah, Mader-ul-Mulk Bebauder, dated the Evening of the 17th November, 1773. Received 20th November, 1773, at Night.

AFFAIRS here are as follow: the Teep for the Dutch is ready; the Counsellors who were deputed to me from Negapatnam, after agreeing to the Teep and all other proposals, returned thither, and at parting desired I would send the copy of the Treaty, which they would get executed and bring back with them again. I accordingly sent the Treaty, two articles of which the Dutch at Negapatnam disputed, and sent me their objections; the articles are these: 1st. That the "Friends of the Circar should be their friends, and the enemies of the Circar should be their enemies;" and the other, "That the forces they have sent for more than the usual establishment be returned, and those maintained here be kept at the customary number." To this I replied, "What then you will not sign these two articles? Well, what matters it,—write only this then;—That you will never assist the enemies of the Circar." And as to returning the "Supernumerary forces, as you have

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“ have given me your word on that head, you will certainly do as you have promised ” But besides this, they have brought up a new demand, which they never mentioned before ; it is this ; That if Nagore, Topetoor, &c. countries, which they had possession of, should perchance at any future time be given away, they be given to them in preference to others, as the Rajah Pertaupa Sing had promised them under his hand. On hearing this out-of-the-way inconsistent request, I was exceedingly surprised, and told them it would be no credit to them to talk of such a circumstance, nor was it worthy of us to listen to it ; that, by the favour of God, the Nabob was Master of the Carnatick, and would not give a span of the country away to any one ; nor could such a thing ever be done, and that to demand it was altogether a wrong proceeding. For these ten days past, the Counsellors of Negapatnam have not come near me, and yet every time they come they have some new perplexing proposal to make. The truth is, I have now thoroughly perceived that the Dutch are extremely designing, crafty, faithless, and mischievous, and *are of a low dirty disposition*. I have got intelligence that the Dutch have had letters from Japan, exhorting them to be steady, as they shall be able to assist them ; and that they have written them from Batavia to this effect : “ Why have you given up Nagore, &c. countries to the Circar without first “ advising us ? ” Colonel Bellingham also acquainted me with this.

I am secretly informed from Negapatnam, that the Dutch Counsellors who are at Madras have written the Governor of Negapatnam, that the Governor of Madras told them, that “ He had sent the Company’s forces to Nagore on account of “ the rains, and that he had absolutely no intention of hostility ; that his people “ should not set foot upon one span of their districts : ” the Dutch from hence are “ become exceedingly arrogant, and are busied in repairing their fort and batteries. I have again sent for the Counsellors ; when they come I shall talk with them, and whatever is concluded on shall send your Highness advice of it. However, I must beg your Highness will not vex yourself about this matter, as perhaps I may be able to settle it consistently with your dignity and honour.

Colonel Bellingham has told me, that from the measures the Dutch are taking, it will be proper to call the regiment of cavalry from Trivatore : I answered him, that there was no need of regiments of horse, and that as the roads were dirty many horses would be lamed ; that four battalions and one regiment of soldiers might suffice, as General Smith had already told me they were enough, and had written to the Governor to that purpose. Now that it has rained plentifully, and the roads are so muddy, many horses will be destroyed. The Colonel however gives this as his opinion, and has also written the Governor an account of the bad conduct of the Dutch ; he has told me too, that he thinks they have a design of surprizing us in the night-time. At night I sleep at the tomb of Cader Saheb, which has also been written the Governor.

What more, &c.

The Board's Minute.

AFTER the recent success of our arms in reducing to the Nabob's obedience the fort and kingdom of Tanjore, by which he has acquired so great an increase of territory and revenue, and the vigorous and chearful support we have given him in his late measures with the Dutch, as far as we could go, consistently with the peace and amity subsisting between the Crown of England and the States of Holland; after such recent obligations to the Company's assistance, and such proofs of the ready concurrence of this Government in every measure which tends to the advantage of the Circar, we are surprized and concerned that the Nabob should declare, that the inactivity, or passiveness of his friends, has encouraged the Dutch to arrogance in their negotiations with him. On a review of every thing that has passed since these matters were in agitation, we can venture to say, that the Dutch have received no encouragement from the measures of this Board, or the operations of the army; on the contrary, it is evident, that if our resolutions to support the Nabob had been less firm, and if the army had not co-operated vigorously with his Son, the Dutch would not so easily have relinquished their acquisitions in the Tanjore country. We now proceed to take into consideration the two points on which the Nabob desires to be satisfied. First,—Whether, in consequence of the proceedings of the Dutch, and their views to acquisition in the country, we can avowedly chastise them, and keep them to their ancient limits.—The answer is obvious; we cannot as subjects of Great Britain act openly and avowedly against the Dutch, unless such acts shall proceed from the necessity of self-defence, as long as the treaty of friendship between the Crown of England and the States-General continues in force. As to the second,—Whether not appearing openly in the chastisement of the Dutch, will we assist the Nabob with the Company's soldiers, and Sepoys belonging to him:—If the Nabob only means by this question, whether we will assist him with the Company's troops in case he is attacked by the Dutch; the answer is, most undoubtedly we will assist him, and repel such attacks to the utmost of our power; but farther we cannot go, until it is evident, on the surest grounds, that the intentions of the Dutch are hostile to the tranquillity of the Carnatick.

AGREED, That an answer to the Nabob's letter, to the purport of the foregoing general observations, be drawn out, and laid before the Board for their approbation.

As the Nabob has repeatedly alleged, that the Dutch wilfully impede the negotiations at Nagore by evasions and unnecessary delays; the President informs the Board, that he this morning desired the Nabob to shew him the terms of accommodation which he required from the Dutch, that the Board may have the surest grounds for their future measures, should this negotiation not be terminated in an amicable manner: the Nabob promised to comply with the President's request.

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RECEIVED the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Bellingham:

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

I AM sorry to trouble you thus often, but absolute necessity compels me; and I should think myself very remiss in my duty did I not communicate to you the several informations I receive, and also my sentiments thereupon.

I undertake therefore to repeat, that the Dutch have in agitation something more than defensive. Four ships are arrived at Colombo with men, ammunition, and stores; I need not say how soon they may reach Negapatnam from thence. Great preparations are making both within and without the fort, and every thing on their part has the appearance of an approaching war.

As to their treating with the Nabob, I ever thought, and now am nearly convinced, that it was all finesse; His Excellency, I dare say, now thinks so too, but probably he may not in his letters chuse to declare it; for this reason I am the more solicitous to make my sentiments known. If the Dutch consider themselves (as too probably they do) driven by force of arms from their lawful right, there is but little room to doubt that by force of arms they mean to recover it.

I may, Sir, be misinformed, I may perhaps misconceive the conduct of both parties; of this you and the Gentlemen of the Board are more competent judges: I flatter myself however, that while I suspect I am less liable to a surprise, and I hope my laying my opinion thus freely before you will prove acceptable.

I am, Honourable Sir,

Your very humble and obedient servant,

Nagore,
18th November, 1773.

JOHN BELLINGHAM.

AT A CONSULTATION, Tuesday, 23d November, 1773.

P R E S E N T,

Alexander Wynch Esquire, Governor President.

George Dawson

Charles Smith

John Maxwell Stone

Edward Cotsford.

Joseph Smith

Henry Brooke

Samuel Johnson

Edward Stracey

READ

READ the following letter, which has been received from Lieutenant-Colonel Bellingham:

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

THE young Nabob this morning informed me that he has settled all matters with the Dutch ; however 'till I am regularly furnished with positive proof, I think it right to remain on my guard, and to procure every intelligence of their operations and intentions.

Yesterday they advanced 150 men with two guns within five hundred yards of our advanced posts ; this morning at day break they retired, leaving only two guards of Sepoys, and about 7 o'clock they again augmented them to about 70 without guns.

I beg leave to present you with some further intelligence :

19th. A Catamaran was dispatched to Jafnypatnam. All works in the fort are at a stand, the people being employed in erecting three batteries, viz. one at the Garden-house, one on the Trivalore Road,* and another on the Sea Face, besides building Pandals at the Garden-house for the reception of the soldiers expected from Batavia. Strict orders not to suffer any one to pass or repass near the Garden-house.

Three Ambassadors went to the Nabob ; they say His Excellency was very pressing to see them, and sent several importunate messages before they would go.

It is reported that they have received an answer from Madras.

I am, Honourable Sir,

Your very obedient servant,

Nagore,
20th November, 1773.

JOHN BELLINGHAM.

P. S. I have just received intelligence that they have totally withdrawn the above advanced posts.

Postscript to the letter of the 20th instant, 3 P. M. Intelligence just now received : 20th, the sloop and Chelinga lately dispatched to Jafnypatnam had orders

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to embark the troops, and carry them to Bedaroneem (about 10 Cofs from Negapatnam); they are expected there to-day, and orders are sent to disembark and march them to Negapatnam without loss of time; a Catamaran is also dispatched to Jafnypatnam to bring tidings of them.

The Governor and principal Officers were up all night seeing guns removed from the little and placed on the bastions of the great fort.

Planks and materials were sent out this day for three batteries which are ordered to be erected on the Nagore road.

JOHN BELLINGHAM.

Pursuant to the Minute of yesterday's Consultation, an answer has been prepared to the Nabob's letter of the 21st instant, which having received the approbation of the Board, is ordered to be wrote fair and dispatched.

From Governor Wynd to the Nabob of the Carnatick, dated 25th November, 1773.

I HAVE been honoured with the receipt of your Highness's favour of the 21st instant, with the papers enclosed. The due support and protection of your Highness's government, in all it's just rights, being a part of the trust reposed in me, I cannot but feel in the most sensible manner every thing which can carry with it the least idea of my having been deficient therein. Your Highness says, that by the passiveness of your friends (meaning evidently the Representatives of the Company) "It is certain the Dutch have acquired great arrogance". In your letter of the 21st September last, your Highness requests that the troops may be ordered to march towards the lands belonging to the Tanjore country, which the Dutch keep in their possession through deceit, and to oblige them to give up the said lands to your Highness; that it is not your intention however to quarrel with them, and that it will give you great pleasure to enter into a friendly and amicable negotiation. In answer to this, in my letter of the 25th of the said month, I informed your Highness, that, agreeable to your desire, General Smith should be ordered to proceed immediately, with the troops under his command, towards the lands in question, and, on the requisition of your Son, to assist him in the recovery of them; recommending however, that before force were used, every consistent endeavour should be employed for the obtainment of them amicably. In conformity to this, General Smith was ordered, and he in consequence marched to the east side of the fort of Tanjore; where he was obliged to remain some days for provisions, and for the junction of your Highness's said Son; who having at length joined him, he continued his march towards the lands in question; and I understand, in conformity to his instructions, the succeeding day after your Son's requisition of the assistance was made, afforded him that assistance; and in consequence, that possession was taken, and

and is still held of the lands in question. Now give me leave to ask your Highness, wherein does this passiveness on the part of your friends appear? whether, on the contrary, it does not appear they have done every thing your Highness yourself desired; and whether the throwing of such a reflexion upon this Government is a proper return for such a conduct? The negotiation has all along been entirely in the hands of your Highness. I shall now proceed to reply to the two questions your Highness puts to me; the first is;—Seeing the bad proceedings of the Dutch, and their views of acquisition in this country, prejudicial in the highest degree to your Highness, and even to the Company, can I avowedly chastise the Dutch, and keep them in their ancient limits?

In answer to this, I am to inform your Highness, that there is a treaty of peace and friendship subsisting between the Crown of Great-Britain and the States-General of Holland, which the subjects of both nations are bound duly to observe; and that accordingly, as a subject of the former nation, bound by that treaty, while that treaty continues in force, I cannot avowedly (that is to say, as a principal) act hostilely against the subjects of the latter nation, unless such act shall proceed from the necessity of self-defence. Your Highness's second question is,—Whether not appearing myself in the chastisement of the Dutch, will I assist you with the Company's soldiers and the Sepoys belonging to your Highness?

To which I answer, that if your Highness's meaning in this question be, whether I will assist you with the Company's troops if attacked in any shape by the Dutch, my reply is, most undoubtedly I will assist you to the utmost of my power: but if it be as I conclude, whether I will send the Company's troops, in the character of auxiliaries to your Highness, to act offensively against the Dutch in their ancient possessions; I answer,—I cannot, until either by an open act of hostility on their part, or otherwise on the surest grounds, their hostile intentions against the tranquillity of the Carnatick shall be fully proved.

AT A CONSULTATION, Friday, 26th November, 1773.

P R E S E N T,

Alexander Wynch Esquire, Governor, President.

George Dawson	Joseph Smith
Charles Smith	Henry Brooke
John Maxwell Stone	Samuel Johnson
	Edward Stracey
Edward Cotsford.	

The President takes the opportunity of the Board being assembled in the Civil Department to report to them, that last night he received a note from the Nabob, intimating that his negotiations with the Dutch are at last amicably settled; a copy of the Treaty he will deliver to the President, for the information of the Board. The President also lays before Board a letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Bellingham, (as entered in the ensuing Diary) which was received this morning, enclosing a letter to him from Ummeer-ul-Omrah's Secretary, to inform him that matters were finally settled with the Dutch.

Ar. Wynch.
Joseph Smith.
Geo. Dawson.
Henry Brooke.
Charles Smith.
J. M. Stone
Ed. Stracey
Edward Cotsford.

Came in the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Bellingham, enclosing a letter from Ummeer-ul-Omrah's Secretary, as mentioned in the preceding Consultation.

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

ENCLOSED I have the honour to present you with a copy of a letter I just now received.

I am, Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your very humble and obedient servant,

Nagore,
23d November, 1773.

JOHN BELLINGHAM.

Copy of a Letter to Lieutenant-Colonel Bellingham, November 23, 1773.

S I R,

HIS Excellency Nabob Ummeer-ul-Omrah desires me to acquaint you, that all the Dutch business is amicably adjusted to His Excellency's liking.

I am, Sir,

Your very humble servant,

Nagore,
23d November, 1773.

MICHL. BRUCE, Secretary.

A true copy, John Bellingham.

A T

AT A CONSULTATION, Monday, 29th November, 1773.

P R E S E N T,

Alexander Wynch Esquire, Governor, President.

George Dawson

Charles Smith

John Maxwell Stone

Edward Cotsford.

Joseph Smith

Henry Brooke

Samuel Johnson

Edward Stracey

THE President acquaints the Board, that the Nabob's Son Ummeer-ul-Omrah is arrived from Nagore, and that he has delivered to his Father the Articles of the Treaty concluded with the Dutch.

AGREED, That the President be desired to represent to the Nabob the expediency of withdrawing the troops from Nagore, in order to send them to their several stations.

At. Wynch

Joseph Smith

Geo. Dawson

Henry Brooke

Charles Smith

Sam^l. Johnson

J. M. Stone

Ed. Stracey

Edward Cotsford.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 1st December, 1773.

RECEIVED the following letter from Sir Robert Harland :

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President, &c. Council of Fort St. George.

GENTLEMEN,

AS I understand by various informations, that the Dutch have brought a considerable number of troops more than to supply their usual garrisons upon this Coast since June last, and as I am persuaded that you spare no pains to be perfectly well informed of all such transactions, and the motives of them, as may either be of present or remote import to the national interest in this country, I am led to apply to you for such information as you can give me on that head.

I beg therefore to be informed what is the usual establishment of the Dutch at their different Settlements on the Coast; what numbers of troops they have brought here, more than that establishment, distinguishing them into Europeans, Coffries, Malays, Sepoys, or troops of whatever denomination; from whence they came; and also what supplies of military stores they brought with them.

The suddenness of this armament upon the Coast, and the extent of it, as it has been reported to me, makes it of consequence that Government should be made fully acquainted with those particulars; therefore I am convinced you will forgive my applying to you, as I think it the best means of obtaining authentick information.

I have the honour to be,
GENTLEMEN,

Your most obedient and most humble servant,

Fort St. George,
1st December, 1773.

RT. HARLAND.

*Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, Friday,
3d December, 1773.*

P R E S E N T,

Alexander Wynch Esquire, Governor, President.

George Dawson	Joseph Smith
Charles Smith	Henry Brooke
John Maxwell Stone	Samuel Johnson
	Edward Stracey
	Edward Cotsford.

READ letter from the Nabob, dated the 30th ultimo, with the articles of agreement between him and the Dutch at Negapatnam, and also copy of the Dustuck given to the Dutch on the part of the Circar, entered in this Consultation.

Extract of Letter from the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Wynch, dated 30th November, and received 1st December, 1773.

BY God's blessing the affair of the Dutch is concluded, and I send for your perusal the original treaty with them, which my Son Ummeer-ul-Omrah, Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, brought with him; you will take a copy thereof, and then return it to me: I send you likewise copies of the Dustuck and agreement given to the Dutch on the part of the Circar. Although the amount of extraordinary expenses in the encampment at Nagore will not be so much as during the Tanjore expedition, since the whole force there consists of one regiment of soldiers and four battalions of Sepoys, yet considering my own situation, as well as the situation of my country, as mentioned in the former

former part of this letter, I am to request in the strongest manner, from your kindness to me, that until some necessity shall occur, the extraordinary expenses may be put an entire stop to, that I may be enabled to pay the amount of the stated Kists, and the extraordinary charges before-mentioned. I now send you the sum of one Lack of Pagodas; namely, 50,000 Pagodas on account of the extraordinary charges, and 50,000 Pagodas on account of the Kist for this day, in part of the amount of the Kists I agreed to from the 1st of last May; be so good as to acknowledge the receipt of this money. By the receipt of those 50,000 Pagodas, the amount of the Kist for this day, by God's blessing, the Company have received the sum of three Lacks and fifty thousand Pagodas in part of my agreement beforementioned.

Translation of the Treaty concluded between the Nabob of the Carnatick and the Dutch Government at Negapatnam, 23d November, 1773.

AGREEMENT between the Nabob Ummeer-ul-Omrah, Mader-ul-Mulk, Roshana Dowlah, Haphies Mahomed, Monavar Khan Behauder, Behauder Jung, in the name and on behalf of his Father, His Highness Bandagawn, Nabob Wadlau Jau, Ummeer-ul-Hind, Omdat-ul-Mulk, Serajah Dowlah, Anaverdeen Khan Behauder, Munfoor Jung, Sepoy Sardar, Mahomed Ally Khan, Subah of the Carnatick on one part, and the Honourable Reinier Van Vlissingen, Governor and Director of the Coast of Coromandel, &c. Council of Negapatnam, in the name and on behalf of the Netherlandish East-India Company on the other part; made and concluded for to make increase more and more the great friendship which has a long time since subsisted between His Highness the Subah and the said Company, concerning his being come with his army, and having conquered the Fort Tanjore and the countries belonging to that kingdom; to wit, as follows:

First, The Dutch Company acknowledges, and declares to have received, on account of His Highness the Subah, a Teep, or obligation, of Collandy Mudaly, factor of Mr. Paul Benfield at Madraspatnam, and Nullabaram Tarwaddy of Budarfy, the Brother's Son of Buckerieery, for 484,545 Pagodas, being 425,000 new Negapatnam Pagodas, which the said Company has paid for the districts bought from the subdued Tanjore Prince Tuljaujee Rajah; consisting of the Province Kiwalore, which containeth eight Maganams; the sea towns, Nagore and Topetoor, and the Maganam Terpondee, from which amount there has yet been deducted or kept back a sum of 180,000 Pagodas, for which the said Prince had before given in pawn jewels, which now unmolestedly are secured for it, and 59,545 Pagodas paid by the said Governor and Council for to buy off the duty of the money of recognizance and that of elephants.

Secondly, The said Company promises to give over and deliver to Collandy Mudaly, factor of Mr. Paul Benfield, and Nullabarum Tarwaddy, factor of Budarfy, after the receipt of 180,000 Pagodas, the jewels which have before been given in pawn by the Prince for 180,000 Pagodas, which amount afterwards is paid in

account, so, and in the same condition, as they have been sealed up by the Prince's seal, and according to the notice of his writers, that will be found with them; the said Governor and Council declaring likewise to have from henceforth never the least claim on the Prince's countries.

Thirdly, And because there are, in the aforementioned Teep or obligation of the factors of Mr. Paul Benfield and Budarsy, comprehended also those 59,545 new Negapatnam as well as Porto Novo Pagodas, which the Company has paid for to buy off the duty of the money of recognizance, amounting to 5000 Pardoes annually, and that elephants, consisting of one with large teeth and two with short ones for every year; the said Governor and Council promise to send annually the said elephants, according to custom, to Trivalore, and to deliver the money in ready cash at Negapatnam to him that brings the receipt of His Highness for it.

Fourthly, Whereas the five original bills of sale, and one receipt of Gangasavah Pilla and Narasingarow, which are of the tenor as the copies delivered thereof to the Circar, have been sent to Batavia, the Company promises also to deliver them in the month of June or July, of the ensuing year 1774, to Collandy Mudaly, factor of Mr. Paul Benfield; declaring that, besides the said bills of sale of the aforementioned districts and recognizance, they have no others, neither of the Prince himself nor of his Ministers.

Fifthly, His Highness the Subah has, by the Grace of God, a long time since been the Lord of this country, the Carnatick, therefore His Highness's own flag shall, by God's blessing, always fly at Nagore and Topetoor, places belonging to Tanjore.

Sixthly, The Company promises to deliver up to His Highness's people such of His Highness's people, as well inhabitants as others, that might come for shelter to Negapatnam as fugitives; as likewise is promised, on behalf of His Highness, to deliver up the Company's subjects and European servants that might run over into the territories of His Highness.

Further, the Honourable Company promises to observe in all things the former customs; as, on His Highness's part, is likewise promised to shew the favour to the Honourable Company, to let every thing always be treated and managed according to the custom.

Thus done, contracted, and agreed to at Nagore, and signed at Negapatnam, in the castle, the twenty-third day of the month of November, in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-three.

J. Apengh
Van Tessel
W. Duynevelt
T. D. Simons

R. Van Vlissingen
Lembruggen
T. E. G. Haselmann
Mr. Koning

Cornelis Pieterz.

(L.S.) Upon order of the Honourable Governor and Council.

WM. DUYNEVELT.

Translation

Translation of a Paper annexed to the Agreement.

ACCORDING to the bills of sale and receipt, the sum of it amounts to 488,545 new Negapatnam Pagodas, and 3000 Porto Novo Pagodas :

Whereof 34,000 Pagodas have not been paid by the Honourable Company to Gangafavah Pilla and Narasingarow, which therefore are deducted; the rest being still a sum of 484,545 Pagodas, whereof 454,545 are new Negapatnam Pagodas, and 30,000 Porto Novo Pagodas.

The Bills of Sale are the following :

One bill of sale dated in the year 1187, the 11th of the month Rabbi-laur, in the year Wiseawarom, the 22d of June, of the province of Kiwalore, viz.

- 1 Maganam of the same name
- 1 ——— Chickul
- 1 ——— Tewore
- 1 ——— Simbiamadeure
- 1 ——— Palle Cooretje
- 1 ——— Magelie
- 1 ——— Kelle Coodie, and
- 1 ——— Adiakamangulum.

8 Maganams together for a sum of 360,000 Pagodas.

One bill of sale of the Maganam Terpondee, situated in the province of Catjenam, containing eleven villages, with their tolls, &c. for 2400 new Negapatnam Pagodas.

One bill of sale of Nagore, and what belongs to it, and Topetoor, for 75,000 new Negapatnam Pagodas.

One bill of sale of the 5000 Pardoes annually paid as recognizance money for 65,000 Pardoes, or 29,545 new Negapatnam Pagodas.

One bill of sale of the Three Elephants of Recognizance yearly delivered to the Prince, viz. one with large teeth and two with short ones, for 30,000 Porto Novo Pagodas.

Copy of a Dufstuck under the Nabob's Seal, dated at Caudirpatnam, alias Nagore, the 23d of November, 1773, and delivered to the Negapatnam Counsellors.

To the Phouzgars, Amuldars, and Renters of the Subahship of Caudir, alias Nagore—these. By God's blessing, the fort and country of Caudinagur, alias

alias Tanjore, has been taken possession of by the Circar. As I have for a long time past been in friendship with, and been favourably inclined towards the Settlement of the Dutch Company, in consideration of the proper obedience shewn by the Dutch to the Circar, I write this, directing, that conformable to the times of the government of former Rajahs, down to the times of the administration of Rajah Pertaupa Sing, you pass the cloths of the Dutch Company upon receiving one half of the customs; that in the ancient villages likewise belonging to Negapatnam, you suffer water to pass in the manner which has been customary of old; that the people moreover belonging to the Dutch Company, with their goods and effects, be suffered to pass to and fro through the Tanjore districts in the same manner as before; and that in the village of Chickul they may keep their shops as has been usual.

Esteeming this a positive order, comply with it accordingly.

Translation of a Cowle under the Nabob's Seal, wrote and delivered on Tuesday the 23d Day of November, 1773, to the Negapatnam Counsellors.

A Cowle to the Dutch East-India Company.

THROUGH the blessing of the Almighty, the fort of Caudinagur, alias Tanjore, with the country thereof, has been taken possession of. In consequence of the favour, friendship, and support which I have ever shewn to the Dutch East-India Company in the carrying on of their trade, let them now also be convinced, that in consideration of their friendship and obedience to the Circar, on the part thereof they will experience it's favour and support in carrying on of their trade, in the receiving of their customs, and in suffering water to pass to the villages of old belonging to them, agreeable to what has ever been the custom in these respects.

Translation of a Writing in the Persian Language, given and signed by the Governor and Council of Negapatnam.

To His Highness Nabob Waulau Jau, Ummeer-ul-Hind, Omdat-ul-Mulk, Serajah-ul-Dowlah, Anaverdeen Khan Behauder, Munsoor Jung, Sepoy Sardar, Subahdar of the Carnatick; and to the Fountain of Generosity, the Nabob Ummeer-ul-Omrah, Mader-ul-Mulk, Roshana Dowlah, Haphies Mahomed, Monavar Khan Behauder, Behauder Jung, who having been sent with an army, has conquered the fort and country of Tanjore; on the part of the Dutch East-India Company, We, the Honourable Reinier Van Vlissingen, Governor and Director of the Sea-Port of Negapatnam, &c. on the Coast of Coromandel, to a Gentleman of the Secret Council of the said place, belonging to the said Company, do give this writing; to wit:—That having purchased from the dispossessed Rajah, Tuljaujee of Tanjore, the district of Kiwalore, consisting of eight Maganams, also Nagore, Topetoor, and the district of Terpondee, together with the Peshcuth, &c. and having now received from the Circar the amount of the said purchase, we have delivered all those districts to the Circar; mention of which is also particularly made in the treaty, as is here-

after expressed; conformable to which we have returned the said districts to the Circar, and give this engagement, that we have no demand on or concern with the said country. The amount of the five deeds purporting the sale of the districts, and the amount purchase of the Peshcush in money and elephants from the Circar, agreeable to the treaty; we have received, which render invalid the said five deeds of sale, together with a receipt of Gangasavah Pilla and Narlingarow, which we have sent to Batavia; we therefore engage that we will procure the said deeds and the said receipt from Batavia, and deliver them to the Circar in June or July 1774, in the performance of which we are not to make use of any shifts or evasions. We have given this writing therefore as a Saned, and signed our names thereto, in order that it may be of service on occasion. Dated the 8th of the moon Ramzaun, 1187, of the Mahomedan Æra, equivalent to the 23d of November, 1773.

J. Apengh
Van Tessel
W. Duynevelt
T. D. Simons

Signed by R^r. Van Vlissingen
Lembruggen
T. E. G. Hafelman
Mr. Koning

Cornelis Pieterz.

Counterfigned by order of the Honourable the Governor, &c.

W. Duynevelt, Secretary.

The Board's Minute.

AS it appears by the foregoing treaty, that Mr. Paul Benfield, jointly with a Soucar, has engaged to discharge the money which the Nabob is to pay the Dutch, the President thinks it necessary to acquaint the Board, that the Nabob informed him, during the course of the negotiation, he had requested the assistance of Mr. Benfield in raising the money to comply with the demands of the Dutch; and the President has reason to believe, that unless Mr. Benfield had exerted himself in this business, it would not have been in the Nabob's power to have accommodated matters so soon with the Dutch.

THE President reports to the Board, that it is the Nabob's desire that he troops may be withdrawn from Nagore, and ordered to their several stations, in order to reduce the expence, and also to shew the Country Powers that we are disengaged from all disputes with the Dutch, and of course better prepared to provide for the security of the Carnatick.

RESOLVED, That orders be accordingly sent to Lieutenant-Colonel Bellingham to march the troops with all convenient expedition to Trichinopoly, and on his arrival there he will receive further orders.

THE following letter is now read from Lieutenant Colonel Bellingham :

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

YESTERDAY a salute was fired at Negapatnam, which, on enquiry, I found was on account of the receipt of a letter in answer to one sent to Batavia at the time our troops took possession of Trivalore. In it they are told that they may expect nine ships about the middle of next month, with troops, ammunition, &c. at the same time a Counsellor is to arrive to take upon him the government in the room of Mynheer Van Vlissingen, who is to be Commander in Chief of the Forces : they are also directed to make every preparation for war, and to put the fort in the most defensible state.

They have at present employed in the fort about 3000 people, and in different detached works near 700.

I therefore submit it to your better judgment, whether it were not better to have a post established at Trivalore, in order to keep the communication open to Tanjore. I am,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Nagore,
29th November, 1773.

JOHN BELLINGHAM.

Ar. Wynch
Joseph Smith
Geo. Dawson
Henry Brooke
Charles Smith
Saml. Johnson
J. M. Stone
Ed. Stracey.
Edward Cotsford.

IN consequence of the resolution in Council this day the following orders were sent to Lieutenant-Colonel Bellingham.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Bellingham, Commanding Officer of the Troops at Nagore.

S I R,

YOU will be pleased, on the receipt hereof, to march with the troops, artillery, and stores under your command with convenient expedition to Trichinopoly, where on your arrival you will receive further orders.

We are,

S I R,

Your most obedient servants,

Fort St. George,
3d December, 1773.

A^R. WYNCH, &c. Council.

AT A CONSULTATION, Tuesday, 7th December, 1773.

P R E S E N T,

George Dawson
Charles Smith

Henry Brooke
Samuel Johnson
Edward Stracey

Edward Cotsford.

The President, Mr. John Smith, and Mr. Stone indisposed.
General Smith absent.

THE Board having met on the business of the other department, the following letter from the Dutch Deputies was read.

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor of Fort St. George, and the Gentlemen of the Council, &c.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

IN consequence of the order we lately received from the Honourable the Governor and Council at Negapatnam, we take now the liberty to request of you, in their name, a satisfactory answer on the protest we had the honour to present to you on behalf of the Honourable Netherlands East-India Company.

We have the honour to subscribe very respectfully,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient humble servants, &c.

(For the literal Translation)

Fort St. George,
6th December, 1773.

JOH^O. MARK^O. DORMIEUX.
T^O

To which the following answer was immediately returned.

To Philip Jacob Dormieux, William Blaaukamer, — Johnson, Esquires.

GENTLEMEN,

WE have received your letter of the 6th instant, desiring a satisfactory answer to the protest from the Governor and Council of Negapatnam, which you some time ago presented us with.

It does not appear to us necessary to return any answer to the said protest, otherwise we should have done it long ago.

We are, GENTLEMEN,

Fort St. George,
7th December, 1773.

Your most obedient humble servants,
AR. WYNCH, &c. Council.

Received the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Bellingham, dated 3d instant.

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor, &c. of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

Since my last nothing worth troubling you with has occurred. I have it from tolerable authority that the strength of the Military at Negapatnam, is

Europeans	} fit for field duty	{	1100
Malays			900
Sepoys			1500

To-morrow I shall have the pleasure of presenting you with a monthly return of the troops. I am,

Honourable Sir,

Your very obedient servant,

Nagore,
3d December, 1773.

JOHN BELLINGHAM.

Letter from the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Wynch, dated 7th December, 1773.

ENCLOSED I send you copies of two Arruzdashts from the Governor of Negapatnam and the Governor of Tranquebar expressing their thanks, also copies of my answers to them; the answer to the former is in reply to his present Arruzdashit, and to the Arruzdashit I received before congratulating me on the conquest of Tanjore.

What can I say more?

Copy

Copy of an Arruzdash from the Governor of Tranquebar to the Nabob and to Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder, dated 30th November, and received 5th December, 1773.

A R R U Z D A S H T.

THE devoted slave, whose life is your's, who is full of attachment, the Governor of Tranquebar, having kissed the ground of servitude with the lip of reverence, and having acquitted himself of the earth-saluting ceremonies of devotedness, petitions, atom-like, to be admitted to the sun-enlightened assembly of him whose power is infinite, who is a Solomon in dignity, a Saturn in height of grandeur, and like Heaven in magnificence, His Majesty, [or Highness,] &c. and Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder, Behauder Jung, — long may he live ! — That your Highness's great favour, which, in so charitable and slave-exalting a manner, you were pleased to send me by our Third in Council, Mr. Secretary Beex, Captain Goeting, and Tondaujee Pilla, together with a rich dress, I have had the honour, after the most longing expectation, to receive. I think myself dignified by it in time and in eternity, and it has imparted to me the utmost joy and delight ; I walked upon my head to meet it, and paid it all the respects that devotion and attachment dictated. But where shall I find a tongue to express the gratitude and thankfulness, which the benefits, grants, favours, and mercies, your Highness has been pleased to bestow upon your devoted servant, the Members of this Board, and the rest of the Company's people here, have impressed us with. Nor must I omit as gratefully to acknowledge the beneficent treatment shewn to our Deputies that were sent to the enlightened Presence, and the satisfactory decision which the Nabob, of his great clemency to the Danish Company, granted to our affairs ; our Deputies have already fully expressed themselves on this head, and my gratitude can admit of no increase. It is a very long time that I have conceived the strongest attachment to the Nabob, and now the happy period is arrived in which a mutual union is established ; and as it will suffer no diminution on His Highness's part, on our's it will every day increase : all I have to beg is, that your Highness will please to consider us always in the number of your devoted ones, and let us feel the benefit of your charitable favours, by which we shall reckon ourselves perfectly honoured. I never was deficient in good intentions towards your Highness, and your Highness therefore, out of your charity and clemency, has cast a favourable eye upon me and my Council, and sent us a great present ; at the receipt of which we all of us made our obedience in a very respectful manner, and esteemed it our business to devote ourselves and sacrifice our lives to your Highness's service, to be always as long as we live present to your commands, and to stand with our hands tied before your Highness, for we knew no other duty : my wife too, whom your Highness has in like manner, with the highest degree of favour and kindness, honoured with a rich dress, *has walked upon her head to receive it, has performed all that civility required in return for it, and stands devoted to your service with her hands tied.*

† I must acknowledge also the infinite civilities I experienced from your Highness when I went to wait upon you at Nagore, and had the happiness to enjoy

† This passage in the Persian goes on as though Mr. Abbessic had gone to Nagore, &c. which seems to be a mistake of the Moonshies.

your blessed company; after which your Highness was pleased, out of your clemency and favour, to give your sacred feet the trouble of coming hither and visiting the fort; a day which above all days I shall esteem an holiday; and all these favours and kindnesses are written upon the heart of your humble and devoted servant in gold. I only hope, that while I live I may yet once more have the happiness of visiting your Highness, which I pray God speedily to grant—Amen!

I have no other protector than your Highness, and therefore beg your Highness to regard me as one of your Sons, who is willing to sacrifice his life in your service, by which I shall be greatly honoured. What more but the bounds of respect.

May God long protect your Highness's life!

Copy of an Arruzdasht from the Governor of Negapatnam to the Nabob, dated 26th November, 1773. Received by the Dutch Counsellors, 6th December, 1773.

THE preamble is exactly the same with that of the 9th August last.*

From old time a friendly correspondence has been established and continued between the Circar and the Dutch Company, with all the marks of amity and concord; which though it has suffered of late some small degree of interruption, yet now again, by your Highness's benevolence and clemency, is restored to it's former footing. This has been happily accomplished in Nagore, on the 23d instant, through the mediation of His Highness Ummeer-ul-Omrah, Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder. Articles have been settled and agreed upon by both parties; we have executed our part, by signing our names, and affixing to it the seal of the Company, and have delivered it to the Circar; and we have to render your Highness thousands of thanks for condescending to sign with your own hand, and to adorn with your own seal, that copy which Mader ul-Mulk Behauder wrote and delivered to us. We have now only to entreat that your Highness will be pleased, with as much expedition as possible, to give audience to the Members of this Board that were deputed to your Highness on this occasion, and suffer them to depart for this place, which will be esteemed a singular favour.

What can I add more?

May Heaven cause the sun of your life, greatness, prosperity, dignity, magnificence, and glory, to continue shining and resplendent!

Copy of a Letter from the Nabob to the Governor of Negapatnam, dated 6th December, 1773.

YOUR Arruzdasht of the 26th ultimo I have received; the purport of it was, "That a correspondence of the most friendly nature had from old time been established and continued between the Circar and the Dutch Company; which

* Vide page 1184.

" though

“ though it had suffered a small interruption, yet now again, by the favour of God, all your affairs had been determined, through the mediation of Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder, at Nagore; that articles had been executed, to one copy of which you had put your hands and the seal of the Company, and delivered it to the Circar, and that Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder had delivered another to the Company on the part of the Circar, for which you return me thanks, and desire that after giving audience to the Gentlemen deputed hither, I will suffer them speedily to depart”; in the perusal of all which I have received much satisfaction. My Son Ummeer-ul-Omrah Behauder has arrived at the presence from Nagore, has said a great deal to me in your favour, and has brought me the articles signed by yourself and Council, and sealed with the seal of the Dutch Company, which has given me great pleasure. Hence I consider the friendship formerly established with the General of Batavia, with you, and with the Dutch Nation, as now confirmed with additional strength; and I regard the treaty now mutually concluded, as a security to that union, immovable as the wall of Alexander. Your Deputies of Council have visited me; the sight of them, as well as of the presents they brought from you, have been equally a cause of satisfaction to me, and I have agreeable to your desire given them leave to depart; you will learn from them the degrees of friendship and favour I bear towards you and the Dutch Nation in general.

An horse and a dress of four pieces have been sent you; I beg I may always have the pleasure of hearing from you.

In a separate Note.

Some pieces of linen and a vial of Otta are sent for your lady, which you must please to present her with.

Copy of a Letter from the Nabob to the Governor of Negapatnam, dated 7th December, 1773.

YOUR Arruzdashit of date the 1st October last, congratulating me on the conquest of the fort of Tanjore, I have received, and consider it as flowing from the abundance of your sincerity and affection; Heaven grant that the accomplishment of these victories may prove a blessing to me and all my allies!

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 9th December, 1773.

CAME in the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Bellingham:

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir,

THIS afternoon a sloop arrived at Negapatnam from Jasnypatnam with fifty-three Europeans; they were all immediately disembarked and lodged in the fort.

The

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 18th December, 1773.

RECEIVED the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Bellingham :

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President, &c. Council of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

I AM to acquaint you, that, in obedience to your orders, I have marched the troops from Nagore, and am now encamped on Trichinopoly plain.

I am,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your very obedient servant,

Trichinopoly Plain,
15th December, 1773.

JOHN BELLINGHAM.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday, 3d January, 1774.

THE following letter to Sir Robert Harland is now read and approved, and ordered to be dispatched.

To Sir Robert Harland, Baronet, Rear-Admiral of the Blue, and Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships in India.

SIR,

WE had the honour to receive your letter of the 1st ultimo, and have 'till now delayed replying to it, as we were willing to obtain further and more certain intelligence than we at that time had respecting the force of the Dutch at Negapatnam.

By accounts which we believe may be depended on, there were in Negapatnam, when our army marched from Nagore, eleven hundred Europeans fit for duty, of invalids and burghers about four hundred, besides nine hundred Malays, and about fifteen hundred Sepoys.

We are informed that the usual garrison in Negapatnam consisted only of about four hundred Europeans and Topassies, two-thirds of which were Europeans and one-third Topassies, besides about four hundred Sepoys and Malays. Most of the additional troops are said to have arrived from Ceylon. Their establishment at their subordinate settlements on this Coast is very inconsiderable, and hath not, that we have heard, been increased. We understand that some guns and military stores have been lately received at Negapatnam, but we have not been able to ascertain the exact quantity.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, 18th December, 1773.

RECEIVED the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Bellingham:

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President, &c. Council of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

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1354 EXPEDITION AGAINST TANJORE IN 1773.

A report prevails that five Dutch ships have been seen off Negapatnam, supposed to have on board a large reinforcement to their military establishment on this Coast; should this report prove true, we shall not fail to advise you of it.

We have the honour to be,

S I R,

Your most obedient and most humble servants,

Fort St. George,
3d January 1774.

AR. WYNCH, &c. Council:

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Wednesday, 5th January, 1774.

P R E S E N T,

Alexander Wynch Esquire, Governor, President.

_____	Joseph Smith
_____	Henry Brooke
Charles Smith	Samuel Johnson
John Maxwell Stone	Edward Stracey
	Edward Cotsford.

READ the following letter which was received yesterday from Sir Robert Harland :

GENTLEMEN,

Fort St. George, 4th January, 1774.

YESTERDAY I received your letter of the 3d, for which I am much obliged to you. I am now to ask you, whether it does not appear very extraordinary that, after all disputes were understood to have been finally settled between the Nabob and the Dutch, there should still be such a military force maintained at Negapatnam; that they should still be landing arms, ammunition, making tents and gun carriages, training and disciplining soldiers, Sepoys, and artillery, and increasing their military establishment on the Coast beyond all example; inasmuch that their Europeans, as I understand, exceed the number of soldiers which this Presidency can bring into the field.

This appears to me to be a matter of very great importance, therefore I beg leave to recommend it to your serious consideration, and should you think that those warlike preparations indicate any hostile intentions, whereby the peace of the Carnatick may be interrupted, or the Company's interest in it endangered, either by the Dutch joining a French army, or any other hostile Power who may appear in these parts, I shall be ready to remonstrate against their keeping such a force on the Coast, that we may by that means bring the Dutch to an explanation of their designs.

I shall be glad to receive your sentiments on this subject fully, and as soon as convenient.

I have the honour to be,

G E N T L E M E N,

Your most obedient and most humble servant,

Alexander Wynch Esquire,
President, &c. Council,
Fort St. George.

R^T. HARLAND.

The Board's Minute.

THE Board are obliged to Sir Robert Harland for the readiness which he expresses to consult with them on measures tending to the public utility ; however, at present, the Board have no reason to imagine that the Dutch, by their late warlike preparations at Negapatnam, mean to disturb the peace and tranquillity of the Carnatick, or to adopt any plan which may endanger the Company's interest. We have some reason to believe, that the force which they lately assembled at Negapatnam, was intended either to assist the Rajah of Tanjore, or to support themselves in their disputes with the Nabob ; now that these disputes are terminated, should the Dutch keep up so great a military establishment at Negapatnam much longer, and shew no intention of returning their troops to Ceylon and the other places from whence they came, there may then be some reason to imagine, that they carry their views farther than merely to defence and security of their ancient possessions.

A draught of an answer is now prepared to the foregoing letter, as entered in the subsequent diary.

A^r. Wynch
Joseph Smith
Henry Brooke
Charles Smith
Sam^l. Johnson
J. M. Stone
Ed. Stracey
Edward Cotsford.

6th January. THE following letter, draught of which was agreed on in yesterday's Consultation, was this day sent to Sir Robert Harland :

To Sir Robert Harland, Baronet, Rear-Admiral of the Blue, Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships in India, and His Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary.

S I R,

WE have received your letter of the 4th instant, and return you thanks for the readiness you express to consult with us on every measure tending to the public good.

At

1356 EXPEDITION AGAINST TANJORE IN 1773.

At present, as well as we can judge, we have no reason to believe that the Dutch, by their late preparations at Negapatnam, intend to disturb the peace and tranquillity of the Carnatick, or to pursue measures which may endanger the Company's interest. It is probable that the force which they have at Negapatnam was collected there either to assist the dispossessed Rajah of Tanjore, or to support themselves in their late disputes with the Nabob; but as these disputes are now finally settled, and as they have no longer any pretence for maintaining so considerable a military force at Negapatnam, should they delay sending back their troops to the places from whence they came, after they have had an opportunity of doing so, we shall then be of opinion, that there may be some reason to imagine that the Dutch have other designs besides the defence and security of their own possessions; in which case we shall be happy to co-operate with you on every measure which may counteract their views.

We have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servants,

Fort St. George,
6th January, 1774.

AR. WYNCH, &c. Council.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday, 17th January, 1774.

P R E S E N T,

Alexander Wynch Esquire, Governor, President.

George Dawson	Joseph Smith
Charles Smith	Henry Brooke
John Maxwell Stone	Samuel Johnson
	Edward Stracey
Edward Cotsford.	

THE President lays before the Board an indent of stores sent in by the Nabob for his fort of Tanjore, and reports, that the quantity of stores in the said indent is so great, that it cannot be complied with without greatly distressing ourselves. The President then proposes to the Board, that the Nabob be addressed by letter on the subject of admitting a Company's garrison into Tanjore. That as the Company are the protectors of the Nabob's country, it is the duty of this Government to represent to him when they think any part thereof, and particularly any important part thereof, is exposed to danger. That it must be allowed that neither the officers nor men in the Nabob's service are so much to be depended on as those belonging to the Company. That, at this particular juncture, it is the more necessary to be watchful of this important conquest; a numerous army of Marattas threatening the province with invasion; an European Government in it's neighbourhood jealous of it's reduction, and extremely anxious to see it wrested from the Nabob. Besides, should the country be invaded, it may not be practicable to throw

throw a garrison into Tanjore, should the Nabob then see the necessity of doing so.

AGREED, That a letter be wrote to the Nabob on the foregoing subject.

Ar. Wynch
Joseph Smith
Geo. Dawson
Henry Brooke
Saml. Johnson
J. M. Stone
Ed. Stracey
Edward Cotsford.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Friday, 21st January, 1774.

P R E S E N T,

Alexander Wynch Esquire, Governor, President.

George Dawson	Joseph Smith
Charles Smith	Henry Brooke
John Maxwell Stone	Samuel Johnson
	Edward Stracey.

READ letter, draught of which was ordered to be prepared last Consultation, to the Nabob, on the subject of admitting a Company's garrison into Tanjore.

APPROVED, and ordered to be sent.

From Governor Wynch to the Nabob of the Carnatick, dated 22d January, 1774.

AS your Highness, from ample experience, must be sensible that the Company have the protection of your Highness's possessions most sincerely at heart, it is needless to inform your Highness, that the protection of those possessions forms a very material part of the trust reposed in me; and that in discharging of this trust, it is my duty on all occasions to represent to your Highness, whenever I think any part, but particularly any important part of it, is exposed to danger, lending at the same time every assistance in my power for it's security. On this ground, therefore, I beg leave to address your Highness on the subject of the fort of Tanjore.

Agreeable to my promise, the said fort, on it's reduction, was delivered over to Ummeer-ul-Omrah, Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder, on the part and behalf of your Highness, and has remained ever since in your Highness's possession. Your Highness has lately sent me a list of stores which you informed me are wanted for the said fort, a list far beyond my ability to comply with. It is by no means my wish to throw any reflexion on your Highness's troops; your Highness however I believe will agree with me, that neither the officers nor men are in general so much to be confided in, or so experienced, as those of the Company.

1358 EXPEDITION AGAINST TANJORE IN 1773.

In the present situation then of the fort of Tanjore, both with respect to the stores and garrison therein, with an enemy impending over our heads, and with the Government of European nations in the heart of the Carnatick country, jealous at it's reduction, and exceeding desirous to recover it out of your Highness's hands, I think it is my duty to represent to your Highness, that, in my opinion, the said fort is not in a sufficient state of security; and I accordingly beg leave to tender to your Highness, in the name of your sincere friends the English East-India Company, a proper garrison of their troops to be placed therein. After the enemy enter the country it may not be in my power to throw a garrison therein, should your Highness then desire it.

From the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Wynch, dated 3d February, 1774.

I ENCLOSE for your perusal a letter of thanks I have received from the Governor of Negapatnam; you will oblige me if, after reading it, you will lend me back the original, as I have need of it.

What should I write more?

Arruzdasht from the Governor of Negapatnam, with his usual compliments, dated 25th January, and received 2d February, 1774.

YOUR Highness's gracious epistle upon the subject of excusing us the duties upon cloth, &c. I have received, and understood the contents. Your Highness was pleased to say, that you no sooner learnt these circumstances, but you sent the most positive orders to Narrow Pundit, Doeber, who has the management of Tanjore and it's dependencies, that no deviation should take place in the articles agreed upon between the Company and the Circar, but the ancient usage should be still observed; by all which gracious expressions I think myself highly honoured and distinguished. I flatter myself that the foundation of friendship between the Company and the Circar is now so strongly laid, and the treaty between us so firmly concluded, that so far from admitting any deviation, the engagements of each will daily gather new strength, and the sincerity of our union be continually increasing. Our reliance is on your Highness. May Heaven make the sun of your life to shine perpetually! &c.

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Sunday, 6th February, 1774.

P R E S E N T,

Alexander Wynch Esquire, Governor, President.

John Smith	Joseph Smith
George Dawson	Henry Brooke
Charles Smith	Samuel Johnson
John Maxwell Stone	Edward Stracey
Edward Cotsford.	

READ letter from the Nabob, in answer to the one wrote him regarding the admitting of a Company's garrison into Tanjore.

ORDERED, That a copy thereof be transmitted to the Honourable the Court of Directors in the packet. This subject has already been so fully discussed, that it does not appear necessary to make any remarks upon it at present.

From the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Wynch, dated 2d, and received 3d February, 1774.

I HAVE received your letter of the 22d ultimo, and observed the contents. What you mention of my knowledge that the Company have at heart the protection of the whole of my possessions, and that you have ready a proper garrison to station in the fort of Tanjore, I clearly understand. It is very certain that the Governor and Council shew their kindness in the protection of my possessions, and, agreeable to my wish, are herein bound, out of the greatness of our friendship, on the part of my best friends the English East-India Company, and have at all times power to afford me assistance as I may desire; for which kindness I am thankful to them. From the commencement of my connexion with the Company, in most of the forts of my country, where I thought it proper and mentioned it, there the people in my service, kept up by the means of the Company, with Officers, have remained; and again, from whatever place I have thought it proper, considering the times, to put a stop to their remaining, and mentioned it, from *that* place former Governors with great sincerity have removed them: however, in the principal forts belonging to me, the Sepoys in my service, kept up by the means of the Company, together with the Officers and Soldiers, are stationed for the protection thereof. What greater proof of friendship and confidence can I give to the Company than this, that for seven years past I remained, with my women, children, and relations, at Madras, attended by a few people? but out of the greatness of my regard indeed I look upon the city of my friends as my own house. The former Governor was desirous of withdrawing the Sepoys, my servants, kept up by means of the Company, together with the Officers, from the forts of Palaincotah and Madura; but at that time I did not think the same proper. It is certain that the former Governor's plan for withdrawing of the troops from the said forts was judicious; for if all the troops kept up by means of the Company were to be stationed in the several forts of my country, I think they would not be sufficient for the purpose; and from whence then could we get troops to bring into the field to repel any foreign disturbance? Considering the present times, as the assembling a military force in the field will be the means of impressing our enemies with awe and dread of the ten thousand Sepoys, which, agreeable to the desire of my best friends, I keep in my service, by the means of the Company, for the protection of the Carnatick country, with the soldiers and artillery men, for the pay of whom I have appointed a Jaghire, (the chosen part of my country) and whose Batta, when they march, is placed to my account; I say, if all these, together with my regiments of Cavalry, are assembled in one body, who is there that would be able to withstand them? Considering the old and great friendship subsisting between the Company and me, our affairs are so connected, that there is not the least room for any difference between us; I have therefore mentioned what appeared to me proper. Respecting the military stores wanted for the fort, which

which I wrote to you about, when compared with my old friendship, your sending of the same, and charging them to my account, would not be inconsistent. With regard to what you write, that my Officers and people are not so experienced as those of the Company, it is certain that, as well in my service as in the Company's, new people have little experience; but those people in my service, who have been disciplined for some time under Officers in my service, their discipline and their exertion in former battles have been experienced to be equal to the Company's troops; and the Officers in the Company's troops also have seen them, and approved of them.

What can I say more?

Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday, 11th April, 1774.

READ the following letter from General Smith:

To the Honourable Alexander Wynch Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council of Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

I HAD the honour to address you on the 3d of August last*, the day the troops marched on the late expedition against Tanjore, and then transmitted to you a translation of the Nabob's proposals to the army on the subject of the prize-money. I was honoured with your answer, dated the 16th of that month†, acquainting me you had expressed your sentiments very fully on that subject, in your letter of the 26th November‡ 1771, and that it was unnecessary to say more than to confirm the opinion therein given; but as it becomes my duty to acquaint your Honour, &c. with every material transaction that passes in the army, I have now the honour to inform you, that by a letter I received from His Highness, I understand it is not convenient for him to pay the ransom-money to the army at one payment, agreeable to his first intentions; he therefore proposes to pay one-fourth so soon as the muster-rolls and returns are delivered in, one-fourth to be issued the 30th of September, another the 31st of December, and the remainder the 17th day of March, one thousand seven hundred and seventy five.

I have the honour to be with respect,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient servant,

Choultry Plain,
6th April, 1774.

JOSEPH SMITH.

* Vide page 1170.

† Page 1189;

‡ Page 835.

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 1773.

Extract of Letter from the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Public Department, to the Court of Directors, dated 20th September, 1773. Received in London, 26th March, 1774.

Par. 2. THE Select Committee having reported to us the request of the Nabob for the assistance of your troops to subdue his tributary the Rajah of Tanjore, who had, as he represented, failed in the engagements he entered into at the late peace; and the Committee having also laid before us their reasons for judging it expedient to acquiesce in the Nabob's request, we were unanimous in our opinion in favour of the measure for the reasons set forth in our proceedings, *which shall wait upon your Honours by our first general dispatch*. The troops were accordingly ordered to assemble at Trichinopoly under the command of General Smith; they marched from thence the 31st July, and arrived before the capital of Tanjore the 6th August. The particular occurrences and detail of the siege will appear from General Smith's letters entered in our Consultations; at present we shall only inform your Honours, that the army broke ground before the place the 20th of August, and the 17th instant at noon it was carried by assault, with a very inconsiderable loss. The Rajah with his family and principal people are now prisoners with the Nabob's second Son, *who accompanied the army on this expedition*.

3. We have the pleasure to acquaint your Honours, that this important conquest has been made with a more inconsiderable loss than could have been expected, from the length of the siege, and the fire of the besieged, which was heavy, and kept up 'till the last.

4. General Smith informs us, that both Officers and men have acted during this expedition entirely to his approbation, and he bestows great praise upon their vigilance and spirit; and in justice to General Smith, we beg leave to inform your Honours, that the operations of this campaign demonstrate his zeal for your service, and do credit to his military capacity.

Extract of Letter from the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, to the Court of Directors, dated 14th October, 1773. Received in London, 26th March, 1774.

Par. 2. SINCE the unfortunate loss of the Lord Mansfield in the river of Bengal, and the uncertainty of the Mercury Packet being able to call here for our dispatches, render it doubtful if we shall have an opportunity of addressing your Honours from hence before the Monsoon, we think it necessary to give you a brief account of our measures since the conquest of Tanjore by the way of Amango, as we are informed a ship will sail from thence for Europe in the course of next month.

3. Before the march of the army from Trichinopoly against Tanjore, the Nabob being informed that the Dutch were giving assistance to the Rajah, by

sending him men and military stores, determined to dispatch a Vackeel to Negapatnam, to remonstrate with the Dutch Government on the impropriety of this procedure; and to acquaint them, that the bad conduct of his tributary the Rajah of Tanjore rendered it expedient and necessary to dispossess him of his fort and country, and that an army was accordingly assembled at Trichinopoly for that purpose†. At the desire of the Nabob, and to give the more weight to this embassy, Sir Robert Harland ordered two ships of the line to accompany the Nabob's Vackeel to Negapatnam. The Dutch, in reply to the said letter, made the most submissive acknowledgements, *and denied their having given any assistance to the Rajah of Tanjore‡*; notwithstanding which, there is great reason to believe that they sent him supplies of military stores during the siege; and we understand, that not many days before the storm, a considerable quantity of grape-shot was received at Tanjore from Negapatnam. This conduct in the Dutch was not to be wondered at, as it was good policy in them to assist the Rajah, and endeavour to counteract the Nabob's views in the conquest of Tanjore. We have however related these circumstances, as an introduction to the measures we have since pursued, and to shew how little reason the Dutch have to expect any marks of favour from the Nabob.

4th. Not many days after the fall of the place, when we thought of ordering the troops to their respective garrisons, a letter was received from the Nabob, setting forth that the Dutch had possessed themselves of Nagore, a considerable sea-port in the Tanjore country, and several valuable districts, on the pretence of having purchased them from the Rajah; and that they had actually assembled a considerable force at Nagore and it's environs to defend their new acquisitions. The Nabob, after representing the invalidity of these transactions between his tributary and the Dutch, and likewise the bad consequences which might result to his Government and the English from this great addition to the power and consequence of any other European Power in India, requested the assistance of your troops to put him in quiet possession of the alienated districts, by dispossessing the Dutch, if they refused to give them up in an amicable manner.

5th. In deliberating on this subject, we were convinced on the one hand of the justice of the Nabob's representation, and the bad policy of allowing the Dutch to extend their territorial possessions on the Coast; but we were at the same time cautious lest any measures we might adopt in support of the Nabob's pretensions might, in their most distant consequences, involve us in troubles with an European Power, or be construed a violation of treaties subsisting between the Crown of Great-Britain and the States of Holland: we therefore thought it advisable to consult Sir Robert Harland, His Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary, on the subject; who gave it clearly as his opinion, that our assisting the Nabob in the recovery of lands which his feudatory had unjustly alienated to the Dutch, could not in any respect be considered as a breach of the treaties now in force between England and Holland; and that as we had assisted the Nabob to reduce the capital of Tanjore, we might doubtless put him in possession of the country dependent thereon, and assist him in the recovery of the same from any Power whatever; and that in his opinion, thus called upon, we might be subject to censure, were we to suffer the

† Vide page 1163.

‡ Page 1183.

lands in question to remain in the hands of the Dutch : that he (Sir Robert) would have no objection to assist us with the force under his command should it be required, but that he thought he could be of more service to the measure by remaining neuter, and representing the propriety of it to Administration at home, which he promised to do. The conference with Sir Robert Harland is related at full in our consultation the 23d September*. We met in Council the day following, and after maturely weighing every argument for and against the measure, we determined to acquiesce in the Nabob's request; orders were accordingly sent to General Smith to march with the troops under his command towards the lands lately acquired by the Dutch, and after every endeavour for the obtainment of them amicably should have proved ineffectual, he was directed, at the requisition of the Nabob's second Son Mader-ul Mulk, to dispossess them, and restore the said lands to the Circar: at the same time the Nabob wrote to the Government of Negapatnam, promising them the full payment of the money they had advanced to the Rajah of Tanjore, and a continuance of the protection and privileges they enjoyed under the former Government, provided they agreed in an amicable manner to relinquish those lands which they had unjustly possessed themselves of in the Tanjore country.

6th. The limits of this address will not allow us to enumerate at length the motives and reasons which induced us to adopt the foregoing resolution; they are entered at full on our Consultation the 23d September; and we flatter ourselves they will sufficiently evince the propriety, indeed the necessity, of the measure, both as it effects the welfare of our Constituents and the safety of the Nabob's Government. It is not however altogether in a political light that we have defended our measures; we flatter ourselves we have made it appear, from the system of Government, and the nature of tenures in India, that the Rajah of Tanjore, *not being Lord Paramount of his country, but tributary to the Nabob*, had no right to alienate any part of his lands without the consent of his liege Lord, the Ruler of the Carnatick Payenghaut.

7th. The President having communicated to us the purport of a letter from General Smith†, representing the necessity of having a garrison of your troops in Tanjore, as he considered the place by no means in a state of security if left entirely to the charge of the Nabob's troops, and advising that our army might not be ordered to march towards the districts occupied by the Dutch until the Nabob acquiesced in the measure; it was determined to represent this matter fully to the Nabob, and by pointing out the danger of leaving so important a conquest in charge of his own Sepoys, to endeavour to prevail upon him to admit an European garrison into the place. This was the subject of many conferences with him, and every argument was used to bring him into a measure so evidently for the advantage and security of his Government, *but all to no purpose; we saw plainly, that the more we pressed the subject, the more averse he was to it.* All we could do was to represent the propriety and necessity of the measure as far as we could without

* Vide page 1225.

† Page 1232.

alarming his fears and jealousies; having done that, we left the Nabob to take his own line, since, according to the present system, we did not think ourselves justifiable in taking any steps which might have the least appearance of force or compulsion. It may be said, that his representation regarding the Dutch furnished an opportunity of bringing him to consent to our proposal, since, unless he did so, we need not have acquiesced in affording him the Company's assistance in the recovery of the districts which had been taken possession of by the Dutch. Our reasoning on this subject is fully set forth in our Consultation of 28th September*; when it appeared to us, that the trial could answer no one good purpose, and might be attended with many disagreeable consequences; we therefore determined to adhere to our first resolution of assisting the Nabob, and orders in consequence were sent to General Smith†.

8th. After providing for the security of Trichinopoly and Vellum, General Smith marched from Tanjore with the remainder of the forces the 8th instant, accompanied by the Nabob's Son Mader-ul-Mulk, who has received full powers to treat with the Dutch; and we flatter ourselves that the appearance of such a force, and the friendly offers of the Nabob, will induce them to relinquish their late acquisitions without coming to extremities: indeed their other settlements upon the Coast are so much in the Nabob's power, that we hardly think they will venture to risk their existence, by opposing him in the Tanjore country. The Danes at Tranquebar, who had claims similar to the Dutch, have sent a deputation from their Council to settle their affairs in an amicable manner with the Nabob, and we make no doubt of their being speedily terminated to their mutual satisfaction.

Extract of Letter from the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, to the Court of Directors, dated 29th October, 1773. Received in London, 26th March, 1774.

2. WE addressed your Honours on the capture of Tanjore by the way of Bengal and Bombay, and as we considered it necessary to give you the earliest intimation of the measures we were obliged to adopt respecting the Dutch after the fall of Tanjore, we gave you a brief relation of our proceedings under date the 14th October, and sent our letter under cover to the Chief of Anjengo, to be forwarded to your Honours by the first English ship sailing from the Malabar Coast.

3. We repeatedly represented to the Nabob the expediency of pursuing pacific measures with the Dutch, as long as there should be any prospect of their having effect; and in all our instructions to General Smith we have shewn how averse we were to commence hostilities for putting the Nabob in possession of Nagore, and the districts which the Dutch had possessed themselves of. From the dependence of the Dutch factories on the Nabob's Government, and considering how much

* Vide page 1236.

† Page 1238.

he had it in his power to destroy their manufactures, and deprive them in a great measure of the very necessities of life, we flattered ourselves their Government at Negapatnam would have acceded to his proposals in an amicable manner; but we are much afraid, from many circumstances which have occurred since our last address of the 14th October, that the Dutch will compel us, contrary to our inclination, to have recourse to force in assisting the Nabob in the recovery of the alienated districts.

4. On the arrival of General Smith with the army at Trivalore, a populous village about 14 miles from Negapatnam, he lodged the Europeans in the Choultries and Pagodas to shelter them from the rains, and waited the result of an embassy sent by the Nabob's Son, Mader-ul-Mulk, to Negapatnam. At first the Dutch seemed willing to come into the Nabob's measures, congratulated him on his success, and professed the most sincere attachment to his Government; they however, as we are informed, trifled with his Vackeels, put them off with evasions from day to day, and at last declared that they would not treat with the Nabob's Son, but would send a deputation from their Council to negotiate with his Father at Madras; and we understand that the said deputies are now on the road towards this place. At the same juncture the Nabob received a letter from the Governor of Negapatnam, couched in the most evasive and ambiguous terms; the purport of it however was evident, that they did not mean to accede to the Nabob's proposals, and that they would not evacuate the districts, nor deliver up the Saneds or grants from the Rajah, without orders from Batavia, or their Constituents at home. This letter, and the others which have passed on this subject between the Nabob, his Son, and the Dutch, and likewise from the Vackeels at Negapatnam, will be entered in our Country Correspondence. From all these circumstances it was evident, that the Dutch had nothing more in view from their negotiations than to gain time until they could receive reinforcements from Ceylon and Batavia, and which they seem to expect daily, or until the Monsoon was so far advanced as to render it impracticable for our troops to act before the month of January, when the tranquillity of the Carnatick might be disturbed by Hyder Ally or the Marattas; and the Nabob in a letter having earnestly pressed our acting with vigour and dispatch, we met in Consultation the 21st instant, and after the most serious deliberation on the subject, we unanimously determined to send orders to General Smith to proceed without delay, on the requisition of the Nabob's Son, with the troops under his command, and to put him in possession of the aforementioned districts, if the Dutch should refuse to deliver them up upon his approach in an amicable manner.* We have not yet had an answer from General Smith, but if any thing further occurs in this business before the closing of this dispatch, your Honours shall be informed of it.

6. In our address to your Honours dated the 20th ultimo,† on the capture of Tanjore, we mentioned in general terms the application of the Nabob for the assistance of the Company's forces effectually to reduce the Rajah, and to take possession of his fort and country. The Minutes of the Select Committee,

* Vide pages 1277, 1278.

† Page 1361.

which are sent by this conveyance, and the arguments entered on the Minutes, of our Consultations, will explain to your Honours the motives and reasons which induced the Board to acquiesce in the Nabob's request. Many circumstances which have come to light since the capture of Tanjore *demonstrate the propriety of undertaking the expedition at the time we did, as it is evident the intrigues of the Rajah, both with the European and Country Powers, would very soon have interrupted the peace and tranquillity of the Carnatick.* If we had refused to assist the Nabob, and permitted the Rajah of Tanjore to introduce foreign troops into the center of the country, and make grants of districts and sea-ports to the European Powers, the consequences would have proved exceedingly prejudicial to the influence of the English on the Coast. Add to this, that in consequence of our engaging to assist the Nabob in subduing Tanjore, he was induced to engage to make good some payments to the Company, even if troubles should arise in the country; whereas, in all his former engagements, the performance of them depended on the tranquillity of the Carnatick.

9. It has been recommended to the Nabob in the most earnest manner, both before the commencement of the expedition against Tanjore, and since the conquest of the place, to treat the Rajah and his family with that respect and attention due to their former station; and we have the satisfaction to *learn by letters from the Rajah and his Mother to the Nabob, which he has communicated to us, that they are treated with much attention and humanity in their confinement.*

16. In the former part of this address we informed your Honours of our resolution to employ the Company's forces in assisting the Nabob to take possession of the districts lately occupied by the Dutch in the Tanjore country, and the orders in consequence which we had sent to General Smith; we are now to acquaint your Honours, that the army marched from Trivalore the 21st instant, and the same day the Nabob's Son, at the head of his Father's troops, followed at a considerable distance by General Smith and the Company's army, took possession of Nagore, the Dutch guards having retired to Negapatnam, after delivering a protest to the Nabob's Son, without a shot being fired on either side; and when our troops came up, the Nabob's flag was flying in Nagore. The Governor and Council of Negapatnam have also protested against General Smith; they have nevertheless thought proper to send three Gentlemen of their Council to treat with the Nabob's Son in camp, and another of their Board, with the Chiefs of Sadras and Pullicat, are expected here to-day with congratulations to the Nabob on the capture of Tanjore.

Extract of Letter from the Select Committee at Fort St. George to the Court of Directors, dated 29th October, 1773. Received in London, 26th March, 1774.

3. YOUR Honours are advised from the separate department of the progress and success of the expedition against Tanjore; it therefore only remains for

us to lay before you the motives and reasons which induced us to acquiesce with the Nabob's desire of undertaking the same, and in which the Council concurred with us.

4. In our address of the 28th February 1772,* per Lord North, we expressed ourselves very fully on the little reason there was to expect that the peace which had been so suddenly concluded between the Nabob and the Rajah of Tanjore could be of any considerable duration. It appeared evident that the Nabob desisted from the entire conquest of Tanjore, not from any want of inclination to obtain so important an acquisition, but from an apprehension that the Company might at a convenient opportunity get possession thereof. As to the Rajah, we saw plainly that his acceding to the terms of the treaty was a mere act of necessity, and we had no doubt but he would avail himself of the first favourable opportunity of freeing himself from his dependence on the Nabob. It was on these considerations that we expressed an earnest desire to obtain your ideas and sentiments on the conduct to be observed by this Government, should it be necessary to take a determined line with respect to the Nabob and the Rajah of Tanjore.

5. That your Honours may be the more fully informed of the motives and reasons which weighed with us in the resolution we took to assist the Nabob in reducing Tanjore, we have sent by this conveyance a copy of our proceedings from the departure of the Triton, and beg leave to refer your Honours particularly to the Committees noted†; and we trust that our conduct will meet with your approbation.

6. We wish we could say we have any reason to hope that this additional proof we have given the Nabob of the Company's attachment and regard to his interests, had removed all those seeds of jealousy and distrust which he hath long entertained, and that a firm confidence and reliance on the Company had formed a place in his mind; indeed we did not flatter ourselves with the expectation of such a change in his disposition; on the contrary, *we were well aware of the danger of increasing his power and influence, by the addition of so valuable an acquisition as that of the kingdom of Tanjore; we saw plainly, that all his views, all his endeavours, have invariably tended to the attainment of independency:* nevertheless we thought we could not refuse him the assistance he required, on the same grounds and principles which are set forth at large in our proceedings of 1771, when the former expedition was undertaken; we thought we could not refuse an Ally of the Crown the assistance of the Company's troops in reducing one of his tributaries, whose conduct was become obnoxious to him. We saw less danger to the safety and peace of the Carnatick, and to the Company's possessions, by reducing Tanjore to the Nabob's obedience, than by suffering it to remain in the hands of a disaffected Prince, who we were well convinced was ready to join the first invader, and who we had full assurances was endeavouring to strengthen himself by foreign alliances and by foreign aid.

* Vide page 934.

† Page 1107 to 1117.

7. Your Honours will observe by our proceedings, that the Nabob offered to make the Company a present of ten Lacks of Pagodas, in case the fort and country of Tanjore were put into his possession, in the same manner as he did when the former expedition was undertaken.* Our reply† was the same as it was then; that whatever sum he might be pleased to give the Company as a free and voluntary present, we would receive with thanks, and advise your Honours, but that we were not authorized to receive that or any other sum as a consideration, compact, or agreement, for putting him in possession of any conquests that might be made. Nothing has passed with him on this subject since the reduction of Tanjore.

Extract of Letter from the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, to the Court of Directors, dated 6th February, 1774. Received in London, 14th July, 1774.

Par. 1. IN our address by the Mercury Packet, we gave your Honours a general idea of the most material occurrences in this Government, and endeavoured to lay before you a succinct account of the steps we had been obliged to take regarding the Dutch after the reduction of Tanjore; the march of the army, on the requisition of the Nabob, to put him in possession of the districts wrested from the late Rajah by the Dutch, and the final accomplishment of this object, after a faint shew of resistance made by the Dutch guards who were stationed in and about Nagore. Previous to our reply to your several commands of last season, we shall beg leave to pursue this subject, and relate the most material circumstances until the final accommodation of matters between the Nabob and the Government of Negapatnam. It appears to us necessary to be circumstantial on this head, that your Honours may be furnished with sufficient materials to refute any misrepresentations in Europe.

2. Nearly about the time that the Nabob was put in possession of Nagore and the other districts, a deputation from the Government of Negapatnam arrived at this place, with presents to the Nabob, and congratulations on the success of his arms against the fort of Tanjore. The Chief of the said deputation, when they waited on our President, presented a protest on the part of the Dutch Company against this Government for the assistance we had afforded the Nabob.

3. It is not our intention here to enter into a minute defence of our conduct, or to descend to a particular refutation of the complaints exhibited in the said protest; the most material parts are already answered by our proceedings on that subject‡; to these proceedings we beg your Honours to be referred, in which are contained the reasons which determined us to assist the Nabob in asserting his just claims upon the Dutch. A Copy of the said Protest§ is now sent a number in the packet,

* Vide page 1110.

† Page 1119.

‡ Page 1221 to 1229.

§ Page 1305.

4. The Nabob being in full possession of the Tanjore country, your army would have been ordered to its several stations, had not the Nabob requested that it might remain at Nagore, a sea port within three miles of Negapatnam, to give weight to the negotiations of his Son with the Dutch ; who, notwithstanding their thundering protest, were all this time endeavouring to make the best bargain they could with the Nabob. For the circumstances and the progress of this negotiation, we beg your Honours will be pleased to refer to the Consultations and the Country Correspondence : suffice it to say, that after many evasions and delays on the part of the Dutch, matters were at last finally accommodated ; and for your information we have transmitted a copy of the articles of agreement in the packet.

5. It is inserted in the treaty of agreement, that the Dutch at Negapatnam are in every respect to conform to their ancient customs ; from which it was inferred, that their military establishment was not to be increased, and that the troops which they had brought to Negapatnam from Ceylon and Batavia should be sent back as soon as opportunities offered : but as this is a subject which has given rise to a correspondence between us and Sir Robert Harland, we shall have occasion to write more fully upon it in the course of this address.

29. Having now replied to your several commands respecting this department received in the course of the season, we shall now proceed to give your Honours an account of our transactions since the last general advices.

30. We informed your Honours immediately on the fall of Tanjore, by the way of Bengal and Bombay, of the success of *your arms* on that expedition. Our Consultations, which wait upon your Honours by this dispatch, together with the proceedings of the Select Committee that were sent home in the Mercury, will give you a particular account of our deliberations previous to the expedition, and the material occurrences during the siege. In the course of this address we shall have occasion to relate the measures which we wished the Nabob to adopt for the security of this important conquest.

39. Your Honours will perceive, by a reference to our Consultations, a letter addressed to us by Sir Robert Harland†, regarding the warlike preparations of the Dutch at Negapatnam, and desiring to receive from us a particular account thereof, representing that the suddenness of this armament made it a matter of consequence that Government should be made fully acquainted with it. Our reply‡ contained the fullest and most authentic intelligence that we could procure. In a few days we received another letter from Sir Robert Harland§, communicating his apprehensions from the preparations which the Dutch were making at Negapatnam, and offering to remonstrate against their keeping such a force upon the Coast, if we were of opinion that their preparations indicated any hostile intentions. We are at all times ready to co-operate with Sir Robert Harland in measures wherein his influence or the force under his command can be used to public advantage ; but in the case now before us, it did not appear that any good purpose would be answered by

† Vide page 1339.

‡ Page 1353.

§ Page 1354.

2. Your Honours were advised, from the Military Department, of the measures taken to obtain from the Dutch the restitution of the districts belonging to Tanjore, which it appeared to us they had unjustly possessed themselves of. From the force they had collected, and the measures they were taking, we had some cause to believe they meant to defend themselves in their new acquisitions by force; and the more so, as it was currently reported they had actually sent a Vackeel to the Marattas; we therefore thought it necessary to write to Mr. Mostyn, your Resident at Poonah, for certain information respecting the truth of that report: *from Mr. Mostyn's answer, which we received the 14th January†, we had all reason to believe that the report was without any foundation.*

We are,

HONOURABLE,

Your faithful humble servants,

Fort St. George,
6th February, 1774.

Ar. Wynch
John Smith
Joseph Smith
J. M. Stone.

Extract of Letter from the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, dated 25th January, 1775. Received in London 9th July, 1775.

PAR. 19. REPORTS from Negapatnam say, that the Dutch intend to dispose of most of their factories upon this Coast, and only to keep such as are advantageous to their Company; that Negapatnam is to be reduced to a Chiefship subordinate to Colombo; that the Sepoys which were entertained some time ago, in consequence of their disputes with the Nabob, have been discharged, and their European force removed to Cochin and Colombo.

Letter from the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, to the Court of Directors, dated 14th May, 1776. Received in London, 31st January, 1777.

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 paid our respects to you by the Ankerwyke and Hillsborough, under date the 14th February, and then acquainted you that the Nabob had admitted your troops into the garrison of Tanjore the 9th of that month.

No persuasions, however, could induce him to concur in restoring the Rajah; he said he would not oppose the execution of your orders, but would never consent to

† Vide Note, page 1310.

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† Vide Note, page 1310.

give up the Tanjore country. So circumstanced, we determined, in consequence of the orders you had been pleased to send us by the Grenville, to restore the Rajah by your authority; and we thought proper to entrust the execution of those orders to our President. He set out the 30th March, and returned from Tanjore the 5th May; and we have now the pleasure to tell you, that the Rajah is put into the possession of the whole country his Father held in 1762,* when the treaty was concluded by the Nabob.

His fort is not only garrisoned by your troops, but his country protected by them also. He has, on this account, engaged to pay into your cash 4,00,000 Pagodas annually; and will keep no other troops himself, but what are necessary for his guards; the number not to exceed 500. We have the greater satisfaction in informing you of this, as every measure we have taken, has been at his request.

And the enclosed copy of the Rajah's letter will, we flatter ourselves, give your Honours perfect satisfaction. We did not think it right to accept any additional country near Deva Cotah. We have complied with the Rajah's request in all other respects; and our President begs leave to assure you, that he cannot express how grateful the Rajah is for the justice you have done him, nor how much he merits your countenance and protection.

We are,

HONOURABLE,

Your faithful humble servants,

Fort St. George,
14th May, 1776.

Pigot
Geo. Stratton
Rob. Fletcher
G. Dawson
Henry Brooke
Claud Ruffell
A. Dalrymple
J. M. Stone

Archdale Palmer
Francis Jourdan
Geo. Mackay.

From the King of Tanjore to Lord Pigot, dated 12th April, 1776.

THE satisfaction I feel on occasion of such an extraordinary friendship and justice as the Company have displayed toward to me is so great, that were I to begin to tell you what my mind conceives on this occasion, the subject would never have an end. Had I a thousand tongues they could not express my gratitude. When I had an

* This assertion is premature; The countries of Arny and Hananantagoody are still in the Nabob's possession.—See page 1370(*).

From the K. of Tanjore to the Court of Directors, 21 Oct. 1776. APP. No. XXVII. 1367()*

interview with your Lordship, I opened to you the sentiments of my heart; but as mere verbal declarations on this head are insufficient, I have thought it proper to write you a letter.

I shall ever consider myself as nourished and protected by the Company; and shall therefore never assist or succour their enemies. No measure shall ever proceed from me that is contrary to their interests; nor will I ever set on foot any connexion with other Powers, without the Company's consent. This I have written, as a means of increasing the friendship that is between us. In the present condition of my country, the placing a garrison of the English troops in the fort and city of Tanjore is exceedingly necessary; but, besides this garrison, if the Company will allow some more troops likewise for the protection of my whole country, this also will be highly proper. If, by the favour of Heaven, this be put into execution, neither I nor any of my family will need to apprehend that the calamities of war will fall upon this country again; and if the Company will only favour me thus far, I will, with pleasure, assign them out of my revenues the sum of four Lacks of Pagodas per annum for their military expenses. The mode of payment as follows: November 20,000, December 40,000, January 40,000, February 100,000, March 100,000, April 100,000.

For my body-guard, I shall keep a body of men, from one hundred to five hundred; and I want not to have one man, either horse or foot, more than that number.

As my finances are in utter disorder, and the state of my country all in confusion, I must throw myself on the Company for my present support; I therefore wish them to buy of me, at a reasonable rate, all the grain of the present year, excepting what my country may be in need of. By this measure the Company will not be burthened, and I shall be enabled to defray the expenses of my government, without running in debt.

Finally, as the fort of Deva Cotah, has no country annexed to it, I beg the Company will take what they think proper as a dependency thereon.

The country of Tanjore is the Company's; I have only to beg that they will preserve my honour.

Letter from the King of Tanjore to the Honourable the Court of Directors, dated 21st October, 1776. Received over-land, 19th May, 1777.

WHAT words shall I make use of to express my gratitude to you, for sending the great and illustrious Lord Pigot into this country, to restore to me my fort and my kingdom, and for the many other favours you have shewn me.

Thousands of tongues would not be sufficient to express your goodness, or my feelings; it is instances like this, both of justice and of honour, that have spread the
the

during the years 1771 and 1772, the Peshcush paid amounted to eight Lacks more: I gave one and a half Lack as a present to the Nabob's eldest Son: for the expenses of the people at Madras I paid Rupees 52,382 : 12 Annas; so that notwithstanding the collections made in the country during two years, and the 12½ Lacks paid down in ready money, there remained a balance due of Rupees (11,63,110 : 6½^{As}.) eleven Lacks, sixty-three thousand one hundred and ten, and six and a half Annas. The Nabob having declared he would not distress my country, I mortgaged to Mr. Benfield those districts which were formerly in the possession of the Nabob; and when this Gentleman's Dubash came to Tanjore, I got him to write a Teep for the amount of this balance, payable by one of the people about the Nabob, and which was sent to Madras and delivered to him: upon receiving it he declared that his accounts with me were settled, and that he had no further demands upon me. Things were thus situated, when the Nabob, having forgot all the good offices that were done for him, and being determined, through the most deceitful and unjustifiable means, to get possession of my kingdom, he used his influence with Mr. Benfield and his Dubash; sent for the latter down to Madras, made him declare that he had never wrote the above-mentioned Teep, and prevailed upon him to raise many other aspersions to my prejudice: the Nabob had equal influence with those in charge of your affairs at Madras; and in the year 1773 he sent an army against me under the command of his second Son, who took my fort, put myself and my family in close confinement, stripped me of my cloaths, my jewels, my elephants, my horses, and every thing about me that was valuable; he likewise plundered my fort, my treasury, my armoury, and practised an unheard-of cruelty in even robbing my women of the ornaments they wore: according to the accounts taken, he carried away to the amount of one Crore, five Lacks, and ten thousand Pagodas: he enjoyed the revenues of my country for two years and a half, in which he collected fifty Lacks of Pagodas more, and reduced it to a state of the utmost poverty and distress.

The Nabob having heard by a ship from Europe, that Lord Pigot was coming to take charge of the Government, he gave Mr. Benfield and others Tuncaws upon the Tanjore country, to what amount he thought proper. After his Lordship's arrival at Madras, before he came to Tanjore, or sent an English garrison to take possession of it, I remained a close prisoner, under constant apprehension of being cut off; from this dreadful situation his Lordship released me, and put me in full possession of my fort and of my kingdom. Before Lord Pigot's arrival, the Nabob carried away the guns and every thing else that was valuable in the fort, and left only the bare walls destitute of every thing! this was seen by his Lordship; who, after having enquired into the state of my finances, and every thing else relating to me, departed for Madras. An account of the whole will be seen by you in his Lordship's letters, and in that which I have addressed to him, dated Tanjore, the 13th April 1776.

When I received possession of the kingdom, there was a quantity of grain remaining in it; some part of which was delivered to the Company, as you will see by what his Lordship has wrote you.

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The Nabob has not as yet quitted all thoughts of governing this country, and he is using every means to distress me, that his invention can point out to him; he still with-holds from me the countries of Arny and Hanamantagoody, together with some other forts which were declared to be mine by the treaty concluded in the year 1762. This year the Cavery flowed to an extraordinary height, and broke down the bank near Kellore, which separates it from the Coleroon; if it is not repaired, the country can produce no crop, as the water of that river which fertilizes the soil, would then run into the Coleroon, and by that channel fall useless into the sea; when any part of the bank is demolished, we always dug earth in the Trichinopoly country for the repair of it; but the Nabob will not allow of this at present, though it has been customary to do so for upwards of 100 years.

When he heard, that the kingdom was to be restored to me, he gave all his creditors Tuncaws upon the country for double the amount of their debts, and after my restoration he conferred on me a fresh instance of his regard, by throwing this burthen from off himself, and by endeavouring to make me pay the balance due to the Tunkadars; it does not appear just that I should discharge his debts, after he has stript me of every thing I possessed, and has enjoyed the revenues of my country for two years and a half; however the Company are allwise, and I shall willingly abide by their decision.

The sum of one Lack of Pagodas, over and above what the country can produce, is now wanted as an advance to the farmers, and for the repair of the bank; as my finances are so circumscribed, and as the Nabob watches every opportunity of injuring me, I dread the evils which his treacherous temper may involve me in, my whole dependence is upon the Company; I know that they will never swerve from the path of justice; what they have done for me will be as lasting as the moon, and I place the most thorough confidence in their friendship.

I am informed, that Colonel Stuart is coming to take the command at Tanjore; if he does, I fear he will interfere in the affairs of government, and foment differences betwixt me and the Governor and Council.

Had you not been pleased to send Lord Pigot to relieve me from prison, I should before now have been deprived of my life and of my honour. I am at a loss to express my gratitude to his Lordship for having, by your direction, relieved me from prison, for restoring me to my kingdom, and for the great respect and attention he was pleased to shew me; judge then of my distress at hearing of his confinement, and of his being deprived of the government; the fault imputed to him is unknown to me, and I am a stranger to the laws of England. If sending for the Dobeer and Mutteseddies out of the Nabob's country is laid to his charge as a crime, I must beg leave to inform you, that these people have for ages belonged to this kingdom. When the Nabob usurped the government, he forced them to serve him; before his Lordship arrived at Tanjore he removed the Dobeer and others, with all the records of the country, into his own dominions; without them there would be no possibility of governing; all the accounts, letters, and papers, were known to them only;

From Geo. Stratton Esq; to the Nabob, 29 Oct. 1776. APPEN. NO. XXVII. 1371()*

only ; it was absolutely necessary that they should be brought, and they alone were sent for who had long been subjects of this country, and who were servants of the government.

I am a dependent upon the Company, I therefore expect your protection against the treachery of the Nabob ; I hope that you will oblige him to restore the riches he plundered from this country ; and the territories of Arny and Hanamantagoody, together with some other forts which he retains possession of ; and that you will prevent all disputes relating to the Bank, by putting it upon the footing it has stood upon for such a length of time ; it rests with you to determine every thing with regard to my situation ; I shall gladly obey your commands, and your's only.

Whatever manufacture this country can produce for promoting your commerce, I am ready to exert myself to the utmost for the provision of it ; look upon this kingdom as your own, and if there is any town or district you wish to have, oblige me by accepting of it ; send your own servants to take charge of it ; form any other regulation there that may prove advantageous to you, and I will gladly give every assistance in my power.

As my whole dependence is upon the Company, I hope that you will give the Governor and Council such instructions as you think proper with regard to my kingdom, and complete that honour which you have hitherto acquired. I again pray, that your colours may ever be spread in this country, and that I may always remain under their protection for my own safety, and to promote your welfare. This is the end of my wishes. I pay my respects to you.

(Signed) SHREE RAM PREDAAP.

Letter from George Stratton Esquire to the Nabob of the Carnatick, dated 29th October, 1776.

I HAVE had the honour to receive several letters from your Highness, which I have been prevented answering by the multiplicity of business the Board has been engaged in, in the dispatch of the last ships for Europe.

In the month of last June your Highness was informed by Lord Pigot with respect to Hanamantagoody, " That after the records had been consulted, it was found by your own instructions to Mr. Du Pre, when he went to Tanjore in 1762, that Hanamantagoody was then in possession of the Rajah ; and therefore, in pursuance of the Company's orders, that it appeared to him and the Council it ought to be restored to the Rajah ; and that they hoped it would appear in the same light to your Highness." Since writing the above letter, the
Governor-

(1372*) *From Geo. Strattan Esq; to the Nabob, 29th October, 1776. App. No. XXVII.*

Governor-General and Council at Bengal have thought proper to communicate to us their opinion on this head; wherefore we have resolved, "That Commissaries shall be appointed, in any manner which shall be approved by your Highness and the Rajah, to examine upon the spot their respective pretensions, and decide upon them, which decision ought to be binding on both parties." Your Highness will be pleased to honour me with your sentiments on this subject as soon as may be convenient.

With respect to the abatement of the customs heretofore paid by the weavers, mentioned in your Highness's letter of the 4th ultimo, I cannot but deem the sum of 2085 Pag^s. 15 Ann^s. in every respect moderate; the abatement shall therefore be made accordingly, commencing from the 31st July of this present year, the day on which the Jaghire was relet to your Highness.

I feel much concern in observing the complaints which have been made to your Highness by Tondiman and Ally Newaz Khan, of the disturbances occasioned in districts of your country by the inhabitants of Tanjore; this matter I will immediately represent to the Rajah, and at the same time point out to him the necessity of taking such effectual measures as may prevent the like complaints in future.

The Rajah of Tanjore having repeatedly represented to this Government the difficulties he has met with in repairing the Annacut, I am under the necessity of repeating to your Highness my former request, that you will be pleased to give such orders as may be necessary, that no assistance may be withheld from the Rajah's people in repairing the Annacut, in like manner as was customary in the time of Pertaupa Sing.

Now that your dominions are in perfect tranquillity, and that your Highness is freed from every apprehension of either foreign or domestic trouble, the harmony and unanimity that so happily subsists between your Highness and this Government, and the earnest desire I have, that not only your revenues should be improved, but that your country and government should experience every kind of prosperity and success, induced me to believe your Highness will pardon the liberty I take in requesting your attention at this period to the state and situation of your affairs.

No Power or State can be in a condition to make a proper exertion of their force in times of necessity and danger, the expense of whose peace-establishment exceeds their annual income; the time of profound peace is the proper time to form and execute plans of reformation. Your own interests and dignity as a Prince, and your peace and quiet as an individual, depend upon your calculating your expenses in proportion to your revenues; and the more independent you are with respect to finance, the more considerable you will appear, not only in the eyes of the Company, but of the Crown of Great Britain, and also of the neighbouring European and Country Powers.

From the Nabob to Governor Stratton, 2d February, 1777. APPEN. No. XXVII. 1373

I do not presume to dictate, or interfere in the precise mode of this wished-for reform; your own wisdom will suggest, that what is not absolutely necessary ought to be retrenched; and this conduct, believe me, Sir, will shew real magnanimity.

Your Highness knows my sentiments with respect to you so well, that I trust I shall need no apology for having said so much. In the station that I have the honour to hold, there is nothing I wish more sincerely than your happiness; believing this reform a necessary step towards your attaining it, my regard to your Highness, as well as duty to the Company, have prompted me to be thus explicit.

From the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Stratton, dated 2d February, 1777.

I HAVE received and perused your letter of the 29th October 1776; in which you say, that Lord Pigot last June acquainted me with respect to the affair of Hanamantagoody, that after the records had been consulted, it was found, by my own instructions to Mr. Du Pré, that Hanamantagoody was in the possession of the Rajah in the year 1762; and therefore, in pursuance of the Company's orders, that it appeared to you and the Council it ought to be restored to the Rajah, and that you hoped it would appear in the same light to me. I have searched for a copy of the said instructions in my office, but cannot find it; be kind enough to send those instructions for my perusal. Hanamantagoody does not belong to Tanjore, but to the district of Ramanaut.

In the Government of Mr. Du Pré, Tuljaujee, notwithstanding the said Governor and I forbade him, drew out his army against Ramanaut, which is tributary to me; and if he had taken it, it would not have belonged to the Talook of Tanjore. In the same manner Hanamantagoody is in the Talook of Ramanaut; and though Tuljaujee's Father took possession of it in the year 1762, yet nevertheless it does not belong to Tanjore. I was not pleased with the treaty of Tanjore made the same year, as may be seen by my letter to Lord Pigot of the 17th July 1762, and Mr. Palk and others can testify Lord Pigot's tyrannical and violent conduct in the execution of this business. The agreement that was made regarded Tanjore only, not every district which was at that time unlawfully in the possession of the Tanjoreans, for which there is also an agreement made. When those instructions were delivered to Mr. Du Pré, you, Sir, who was one composing the Council, looked upon these instructions as binding.

That same Mr. Du Pré, who is very wise and clever, in the time of his Government, and when Mr. Hastings was here, (whose conduct the King of Great Britain, the Parliament, and the Company, have so much approved, and whom they have appointed their Naib) settled the affairs of Tanjore in the year 1771. Tuljaujee wrote me letters to give up Coiladdy, Arny, Hanamantagoody, Vellum†, and Elangad, when he was very strong in Tanjore, and when the Maratta army had passed the Payenghaut to his assistance, which they both approved; and the King of Great Britain's Minister, Sir John Lindsay, and Admiral Harland,

† In the copy it is spelt *Bullum*.

Baronet, who was here at that time also approved. Copies of these were sent to the Company's Office, to Bengal, and to England, and I have now also sent copies of them enclosed. Why don't you recollect the letters sent by Tuljaujee for me to quit those places? If you, from the settling of the affairs of the year 1762, consider Hanamantagoody the property of Tuljaujee, so also be pleased to consider my right with respect to the settling of those letters in the year 1771. If it was his property, why did he give money to Mr. Du Pré and Governor-General Hastings, which they refused to accept, but returned. Be so kind not to pay any attention to the depositions of the Tanjoreans, which are entirely false; for all the people of the country know very well that Hanamantagoody belongs to Ramanaut. You say, that since writing the above letter, the Governor-General and Council of Bengal have thought proper to communicate their opinion on this head; wherefore you have resolved, that Commissaries shall be appointed, in any manner which shall be approved of by me and Tuljaujee, to examine and fix our rights, and that I and Tuljaujee shall abide by their determination.

My good Sir, Tuljaujee is my tenant. This business does not agree with my government and honour, for I am the true friend of the King of Great-Britain and the Company. Do you consider him as an equal with me, that you depute persons to settle our rights? I can never consent that a dispute between me and my tenant should be settled by another judge. I very shortly expect an answer from my best friends the Company, when, by restoring me the country of Tanjore, these affairs will be settled.

With respect to what you wrote concerning the sum of 2085 Pags. 15 Anns. of the cloth weavers, and the commencement of the abatement from the 30th July, directions agreeably thereto were sent to the Accomptants in the Company's Jaghire, not to receive any customs from the Company's cloth weavers after the said date, but to bring it to account at the conclusion of the year.

Your intentions of writing orders to Tuljaujee regarding Tondiman's and Ally Newaz Khan's complaints were very proper; but writing will be of no effect, for the disturbances and robberies of the Collieries of Tanjore in the districts of Ramanaut, Shevagunga, Worriarpollam, and Allianore, are greater than formerly; and they are also making disturbances in Collicotah, the Jaghire of Syed Muckdoom Khan. I have enclosed a letter from Syed Muckdoom Ally Khan's Son to Syed Asam Khan Behauder.

With respect to what you write about my affording assistance towards repairing the Annacut in the time of Pertaupa Sing, I am to acquaint you, that the Annacut is on the land of Trichinopoly, and was made by the former Subahdars. By the intreaties of Pertaupa Sing, who was my tributary and obeyed my orders, I assisted in repairing the Annacut, that Trichinopoly might not suffer any injuries thereby. As you have wrote me I should have assisted as formerly, but that the people of Tanjore are unspeakably troublesome, I have enclosed your letters from Rehemaun Ally Khan on this subject.

I am

I am very thankful and grateful for what you have wrote to me concerning the lessening my expenses, and settling my business, which I know proceeds from the greatness of your friendship and the warmth of your heart. I have formerly acquainted you very particularly, that on account of Tanjore, my debts and the pay of my army was increased. Without receiving the arrears due to my army and creditors, I shall meet with great difficulties in settling my affairs, which gives me great uneasiness. I have lessened my expenses as much as possible. Agreeable to what I have wrote, you certainly will do me the favour to banish my difficulties and the uneasiness of my mind. I am a friend to the Company and the English Nation in preference to all the Princes of Indostan, and have been and ever will be in all times a sharer with the Company.

What can I say more?

A true copy, R. J. S U L I V A N, Secretary.

Account of Grain sent from Tanjore for the Company's use after the Kingdom was restored to the Rajah.

Account of Grain sent from this Kingdom for the Company's use, after it was taken from the Nabob and restored to me.

The following are the rates:

One Seer weighs 85 Pagodas, $8\frac{1}{4}$ Seers make a Marcall, 12 Marcalls make one Cullum.

			M.
Shipped on board of boats	—	—	Cullums, 2,23,509 $\frac{1}{4}$ 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sent to the fort of Veilum	—	—	37,332 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
			<hr/>
			Cullums 2,60,841 $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{2}$

Two Lacks, sixty thousand, eight hundred and forty-one Cullums, one half Cullum, and a quarter of a Marcall, all of which has been delivered to the Company.

The expence of bringing grain from the interior parts of the country, to be put on board the Donies, is very great; the deficiency is equal to 15 or 20 Cullums per 100; the bullock-hire amounts to 3, 4, and 5 Fanams each, which, together with the customs, are all due to me. The value of grain changes here every hour; you must therefore fix a price at Madras, and I will settle the account: this I have before informed you of. You want to know whether the grain delivered to the Company is a part of the Government's share of the crop, or of the grain that was heaped up and marked for the creditors. The greatest part of this grain is the Government's share, and a part only is that which was marked for the creditors, but to which they had no right. It is customary in this kingdom to give the grain over to the farmers, and to collect money from them; the Nabob knowing that the

country would not be continued to him, and that he would not be able to collect money from the farmers, put his mark upon the grain, and thus left grounds for a dispute: but the creditors have no right to the grain; the Nabob must be accountable for any balance due to his creditors of this. As the Nabob has taken away the accounts, I do not know what balance of grain there might have been, or what part of it was marked by them.

Translated from accounts sent hither by the Rajah.

WILLIAM ROSS.

N. B. There is a considerable difference betwixt the Tanjore and Madras measure, which is as follows:

	Madras measure.	
80 Pagodas weight	— —	1 Seer
40 Seers	— —	1 Marcall
400 Marcalls	— —	1 Garce
1 Garce is	Tanjore Cullums 152 : $1\frac{5}{7}$	of a Marcall

Cullums 2,23,509 $\frac{1}{4}$: $1\frac{1}{4}$ Marcall, will, according to the above account,		
amount to	— —	Madras Garce 1469 $\frac{1}{3}\frac{3}{4}$
37,332 : $1\frac{1}{2}$ will amount to	—	ditto 245 $\frac{1}{3}\frac{1}{4}$
Cullums 2,60,841 $\frac{1}{2}$: $\frac{1}{4}$ or	— —	Madras Garce 1714 $\frac{1}{3}\frac{1}{4}$

Which is worth about 20 Pagodas per Garce in the Tanjore country.

WILLIAM ROSS.

Account of sundry Effects procured by the Ancestors of the Rajah of Tanjore, and which were forcibly carried away by the Nabob.

Account of sundry Effects, which my Ancestors, who are now in Heaven, have been procuring from the Time of Ecejee Rajah, being about a Century past, and which were forcibly carried away by the Nabob.

4000 horses, being on an average worth 200 Pagodas each	—	Pagodas 8,00,000
Saddles, bridles, &c. for the above horses, in which are included those for our own use	— —	60,000
140 elephants, worth on an average 1500 Pagodas each	—	2,10,000
Accoutrements for the above-mentioned elephants, consisting of cloaths, castles, chains, gold chains, bells, &c. &c.	—	20,000
500 Palankeen shells made of ivory, &c. in which those for my own use are included, amounting at an average to 100 Pagodas each	—	50,000
Carried over		11,40,000

	Brought over	11,40,000
Appendages, such as Pingerees, bedding, pillows, bulkers, curtains, ornaments, &c.	—	25,000
200 hackeries, amounting on an average to 30 Pagodas each	6,000	
2 ivory hackeries for our own use	1,000	
	<hr/>	7,000
Bulkers and other necessaries for the hackeries	—	3,000
200 camels, worth on an average 100 Pagodas each	—	20,000

An account of cows taken, worth 10 Pagodas each.

1000 Guzerat cows		
1000 of a larger species		
8000 country cattle		
1000 buffaloes of different kinds		
<hr/>		
11,000, which, at 10 Pagodas each, amounts to	—	1,10,000

An account of bullocks taken, worth 10 Pagodas each.

500 Guzerat carriage bullocks		
500 bullocks of a larger sort		
2000 country carriage bullocks		
<hr/>		
3000 bullocks, at 10 Pagodas each, amounts to	—	30,000

Arms and accoutrements, consisting of the following articles; swords with even blades, hammers with spikes, short sabres, long swords, knives, creases, lances, shields, pikes, scabbards, ferrils of different metals, with bows, arrows, &c.	—	2,00,000
20,000 muskets, worth on an average 3 Pagodas each	—	60,000
Gingal pieces of different sizes, rockets, &c.	—	15,000
200 guns great and small of different metals, worth upon an average Pag. 750 each	—	1,50,000
Brass pots and vessels of different sizes, for dressing provisions and for other uses, together with a quantity of brass metal	—	30,000
Tents, tent poles, tent walls, curtains, carpets of different sizes, &c.	—	25,000
Furniture made of timber and ivory, cots of different shapes, chairs, chests, stools, and some China furniture, amounting to	—	20,000
Iron utensils of different sorts, such as hatchets, chisels, mamooties, chains, bells for cattle, armour, helmets, locks, &c.	—	25,000
Snuff-boxes, boxes for toilets, musical instruments, looking glasses, Chinese figures, candlesticks, candles, &c.	—	30,000
Medicines of different sorts, (The names of some of them are mentioned, and the compositions cost a great deal of money.)	—	10,000

	Brought over	19,00,000
Ensigns and flags of different sorts, some of them made of gold, and resembling the heads of alligators and other fishes, together with white umbrellas, hair fans, ornaments for horses, fans, &c. &c.	— — —	10,000
Provisions, fine paddy, rice, wheat, and other grains, ghee, sugar, tobacco, oil, &c. &c. &c.	— — —	2,00,000
Cloaths, shauls, kingcobs, velvets, cloth, turbands, gold cloths, and a great quantity of other wearing apparel, together with my own wardrobe, altogether amounting to	—	10,00,000
Jewels, consisting of rubies, diamonds, emeralds, cat's eyes, pearls, coral, &c.	— — —	25,00,000
Several implements of religion, peculiar to the King Shree Ram Predaap Ramah Swamy, an anointed gold cup, golden images of the different gods, a particular stone brought from Benaras, near the banks of the Ganges, pots, ornaments for images, &c. &c.	— — —	1,00,000
Stores and ammunition of different sorts	— — —	1,00,000
Gold, silver, ornaments, pots, and gold bars	— — —	5,00,000
Ready money	— — —	12,00,000
10 Lacks of the abovementioned sum was buried by my ancestors for ages under ground, and was not to be removed or disposed of in any manner, let the demands for it be ever so pressing. Two Lacks remained in my possession, to be used by me as my necessities required.		
Taken from the Soucars, Merchants, Accountants, people in different employs, inhabitants of different ranks, including household furniture	— — —	30,00,000

In all Pagodas 1,05,10,000

In all one Crore, five Lacks, and ten thousand Pagodas. This is a part of that riches which my ancestors were ages in procuring; but as I have no proper account of the remainder, I cannot affix a value to it. The above is such as was particularly under my eye; I have been able to form a statement of it.

Every place belonging to me all over the country was plundered: if I had proper accounts of the things taken, they would be found far to exceed what I have stated; but the Nabob carried these accounts out of the country, so that the above is the only one I have got.

Translated from the accounts sent hither by the Rajah.

Account of Countries and Jewels which were sold and mortgaged by the Rajah of Tanjore.

An Account of the Countries and Jewels which were sold and mortgaged to the Dutch, including Negore.

IN 1181, of the Phafely, when Omdat-ul-Omrah came to Tanjore, jewels were mortgaged for a sum of money to pay my troops, amounting to Pagodas

80,000

Of this sum a part was given to the troops, and the remainder was given to the Nabob.

To make up the first sum I at that time stipulated should be paid to Omdat-ul-Omrah, I mortgaged to Colelapa Moodaly some jewels, together with some vessels of gold and silver, and obtained from him a sum of money, which I paid to the Nabob. To discharge the debt due to Comera, I sold some gold and silver vessels, and discharged part of the debt due to him. As to the remaining balance of that debt, I mortgaged the jewels he had in his possession to the people of Negapatnam, and raised a sum of money, with which I discharged it; the sum thus raised amounted to

1,00,000

Thus the sum borrowed at two different times from the people at Negapatnam amounted to 1,80,000 Pagodas, and the value of the jewels deposited with them as a mortgage amounted to five Lacks of Pagodas.

Being at that time in distress, I was under the necessity to receive this small sum of 1,80,000 Pagodas for a deposit worth five Lacks; all of which the Nabob took away after he got possession of the country.

The sums of money received on account of different districts are as follow:

I sold Keelore Pergunnah for	—	—	3,60,000	
I sold Nagore, for	—	—	75,000	
I sold Terpoondie Maganam for	—	—	24,000	
		Pagodas	4,59,000	
I sold the annual Peshcush of 5000 Chuckrams for			29,200	
I sold the annual Peshcush of three elephants from the Dutch for	—	—	30,000	
				5,18,200
		Pagodas	698,200	The

The sum of five Lacks, eighteen thousand, and two hundred Pagodas. Of this sum the people at Negapatnam paid me a part only, and the remainder continued due by them at the time Ummeer-ul-Omrah took my kingdom in the year of the Phasely 1183; and they have never paid that balance, nor have they settled their accounts. Part of the money I received was given to the Nabob, and part was given to my people; the remainder continued in the country in ready money, and was carried away by Ummeer-ul-Omrah with the rest of my effects.

My reasons for disposing of the above countries were as follows. When Omdat-ul-Omrah first came, attacked my country, and forced my consent to pay him fifty Lacks of Rupees, I gave some part of that sum in ready money; and that he might receive the remainder in the space of two years, he made me mortgage to him a part of my country. In the countries thus mortgaged he stationed his own people, and made them collect the revenues; but having declared that he could not by this means receive his money in the time limited, and having threatened me with the consequences of not paying it, to make up the deficiency that might be in these mortgages I gave part of my country as a mortgage to the Negapatnam people; upon which I received a loan from them, and thus paid the whole amount of what was due to the Nabob, together with the sum of fifty Lacks of Rupees stipulated. I paid the Nabob the Peshcush for two years; by this means I had no money to pay my people, or to answer my own expenses. When I was labouring under these various difficulties, the Nabob thought it a proper time to invade my country, and therefore sent his second Son, Mader-ul-Mulk, with an army for that purpose. As I was in distress for money to give my people, and as the Negapatnam people had failed of their engagements, I determined to sell these districts to them; for when I endeavoured to borrow money at Madras, the Nabob prevented the people there from lending it. It was therefore my misfortune to be obliged to borrow money from the Dutch, and, as the last resource, to dispose of my country.

Translated from accounts sent hither by the Rajah.

WILLIAM ROSS.

Account of Tuncaws given to Europeans by the Nabob on the Tanjore Country in the Year 1185, of the Phasely.

IN the year 1185, of the Phasely, the Tuncaws given to Europeans upon the Tanjore country amounted to Chuckrams 24,79,342 : 8 $\frac{1}{8}$, or Star Pagodas 10,55,039 $\frac{1}{2}$. The Tuncaws in favour of Mr. Benfield amounted to Chuckrams 11,74,479 : 9 $\frac{1}{2}$. For Chuckrams 8,67,029 : 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ of this sum he received ten orders, which were drawn after the following manner :

Chuckrams

	Chuckrams.	Chuckrams	Star Pagodas
3,53,665, $\frac{7}{8}$ Star Pagodas, exchange at Chuckrams 2, $3\frac{1}{2}$ Fanams each	8,54,614 : $8\frac{1}{16}$		
212, $\frac{5}{16}$ Porto Novo Pagodas, exchange at 21 Tanjore Fanams per Pagoda - -	447 : $1\frac{1}{16}$		
In Rupees — — —	11,968		
		8,67,029 : $9\frac{1}{2}$	
Another draught was drawn in favour of Mr. Ben- field for 20,000 Porto Novo Pagodas, exchange at 21 Tanjore Fanams per Pagoda — —		42,000	

448,000 Cullums of grain were received from Mr. Benfield, on account of the advance to the Farmers, and of the pay to the Sibendy and Watchers. This grain amounted to Chuckrams 2,65,450, as appears by six bonds which were given.

The following is the Account Particulars.

Five bonds were given for 3,48,000 Cullums, the price of which a- mounted to Chuckrams — —	2,15,450		
One bond was given for 1,00,000 Cullums of grain distributed to the Sibendy and Watchers in- stead of pay, the price of which amounted to — —	50,000		
		2,65,450	
Total Chuckrams	11,74,479 : $9\frac{1}{2}$		
	Or Star Pagodas	4,99,778 $\frac{1}{4}$	

An order was given to Major Manuel Martinz for
500 Star Pagodas, exchange at $23\frac{1}{2}$ Fanams, Chuckrams 1,175

To Mr. Henry Moore an order for
12,360 Star Pagodas, exchange at $23\frac{1}{2}$ Fanams 29,046

To Colonel Bonjour for the following sums:
6,000 Star Pagodas, at $23\frac{1}{2}$ Fanams
Chuckrams — — 14,100
20,000 Rupees, at $6\frac{1}{4}$ — — 13,500
27,600

	Chuckrams	Star Pagodas
Brought over	57,821	4,99,778 $\frac{1}{4}$
To Mr. Redhead an order for 5,000 Star Pagodas. at $23\frac{1}{2}$ Fanams, Chuckrams	11,750	
To Mr. De Souza four orders for 89,979 Star Pagodas and $\frac{7}{8}$, at $23\frac{1}{2}$ Fanams, Chuckrams — — 2,10,749 : $2\frac{1}{2}$ 2,00,000 Rupees, at $6\frac{1}{4}$ — — 1,35,000		
	345,749 : $2\frac{7}{8}$	
To Mr. Taylor an order for 35,563 Star Pagodas, at $23\frac{1}{2}$ Fanams —	83,573 : $0\frac{1}{2}$	
To Mr. Monckton three orders for 2,61,586 $\frac{1}{16}$ Star Pagodas exchange at $23\frac{1}{2}$ Fanams	6,14,728 : $5\frac{1}{16}$	
To Doctor Storie an order for 5,308 $\frac{3}{16}$ Star Pagodas, at $23\frac{1}{2}$ Fanams	12,474 : $0\frac{3}{16}$	
To John de Fries an order for 28,571 Star Pagodas, at $23\frac{1}{2}$ Fanams	67,141 : $8\frac{1}{2}$	
To General Fletcher an order for 3,000 Star Pagodas, at $23\frac{1}{2}$ Fanams	7,050	
To Mr. George Smith an order for 32,500 Star Pagodas, at $23\frac{1}{2}$ Fanams	76,375	
To Mr. Thomas an order for 12,000 Star Pagodas, at $23\frac{1}{2}$ Fanams	28,200	
	13,04,862 : $8\frac{1}{2}$	555,260 : $\frac{1}{4}$
Amount of Tuncaws in favour of Mr. Bentfield	11,74,479 : $9\frac{1}{4}$	
In all Chuckrams	24,79,342 : $8\frac{1}{2}$	
Or Star Pagodas	10,55,039 : $\frac{1}{2}$	

Account of the sums received by different Europeans.

Mr. Monckton	—	Chuckrams	23,105 : $9\frac{1}{2}$	
Mr. Benfield, out of the Papenash Subah	—	—	13,286	
Mr. de Souza	—	—	34,191 : $3\frac{1}{2}$	
Mr. Taylor	—	—	991 : 8	
Mr. de Fries	—	—	812 : 5	
Mr. George Smith	—	—	1,563	
Mr. Thomas	—	—	780	
		Chuckrams	74,730 : $6\frac{1}{4}$	
		Or Star Pagodas	31,800 : $\frac{1}{4}$	The

The whole of Mannargoody was mortgaged to Mr. Benfield on account of his debts; all the money collected in this district was entered in the Combeconum accounts, and must have been received by him when collected. As the accounts have been carried away, and as the Mutteseddy, Subaraw, who kept the treasury accounts, is gone to Madras, the amount of Mr. Benfield's receipts are not known.

The above statement is made out from vouchers, yet the particulars are not known to me, as the Nabob carried away the accounts. Some money must have been received from the Combeconum Treasury by the European Tuncawdars, which cannot be known in the absence of the Mutteseddy and of the accounts, nor can it ever be known until these accounts come here to be examined. Should any person be curious to know what grain has been received by the Tuncawdars, how much grain has been collected and marked, and what part of it was damaged, I must inform them, that the custom of my country is, after the farmers have received their proportion, to fix a price for the Government's share of the grain, at which rate it is delivered over and paid for by the farmers; but no grain has ever been received from them in lieu of revenue. The Nabob, however, knowing that the country would not continue with him, and that he had not time to raise collections from the farmers, received grain, heaped it up, marked it, and thus left room for dispute. But the Nabob's Tuncawdars have nothing to do with the grain; their accounts are not well known here, and the balance due to them, over and above what they have received from the farmers, must be discharged by the Nabob.

Translated from accounts sent hither by the Rajah.

WILLIAM ROSS.

Account of Tuncaws and Towjees given by the Nabob to his Creditors and Servants on the Tanjore Country, in the Year 1185 of the Phasely.

In the year 1185 of the Phasely, when the Tanjore country remained in the possession of the Nabob, he having heard that Lord Pigot was coming from England, made haste to give his creditors and servants Tuncaws upon that country. After Lord Pigot arrived from England, and was endeavouring to procure the restoration of Tanjore, he gave many more Tuncaws and Towjees to Europeans and to his servants; the amount of these, and of the money sent to him, was Chuckrams 50,40,685 : 8 $\frac{7}{8}$, or Star Pagodas 21,44,972 $\frac{3}{4}$.

The money sent to the Nabob amounted to Chuckrams 108,405 $\frac{1}{2}$: 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ or 46,130 $\frac{1}{2}$ Star Pagodas.

The Tuncaws given amounted to Chuckrams 3,3,06,981 : 2 $\frac{1}{8}$

Of this sum the Tuncaws to Europeans amounted to Chuckrams — — — 2,479,342 $\frac{1}{2}$: 3 $\frac{3}{8}$

Tuncaws given to other people, of which I have no particular account — — — 8,27,638 : 3 $\frac{1}{8}$

In all Chuckrams 3,3,06,981 : 2 $\frac{1}{8}$
Or Star Pagodas 14,07,226

Carried over 14,53,356 $\frac{1}{2}$

		Brought over	Star Pagodas.
The Towjees amounted to Chuckrams	—	16,25,292	14,53,356 $\frac{2}{3}$
Fanams $7\frac{1}{3}$			

The following is the Account of Particulars :

Expenses of the Household, Chuckrams	—	2,04,120
Horsemen's Pay (by these are meant such as rode their own horses)	— — — —	53,402 : $7\frac{1}{2}$
Allowance to dependants	— — — —	2,15,275 : $6\frac{1}{4}$
Troopers pay (by these are meant such as rode the Nabob's horses)	— — — —	4,857 : $7\frac{1}{8}$
Cavalry's pay	— — — —	42,218 : $3\frac{1}{8}$
Writers	— — — —	79,343 : $7\frac{1}{8}$
Sepoys	— — — —	5,72,835 : $4\frac{1}{8}$
Regiments	— — — —	3,66,565 : $1\frac{7}{8}$
Attendants	— — — —	80,098 : $\frac{25}{32}$
Presents or gratuities	— — — —	6,581 : $8\frac{8}{32}$

In all Chuckrams 1,6,25,292 : $7\frac{1}{32}$

Or Star Pagodas 6,91,616 $\frac{1}{2}$

Total Star Pagodas 21,44972 $\frac{1}{32}$

The foregoing is an account of some part only of the Tuncaws and Towjees, which were given when Lord Pigot was using his influence with the Nabob to restore Tanjore; the Nabob knowing that the kingdom would not continue with him, was unbounded in his grants to Europeans and others. As the Nabob granted Tuncaws and Towjees both before and after Lord Pigot's arrival, I have not been able to distinguish such people as received them at these different times; particularly as the Nabob carried away the accounts out of the country, and many of them were destroyed by the Muttefeddies: the above statement was taken from such accounts as have fallen into my hands; if they are in any respect defective, the errors will be cleared up when the proper accounts are examined. The Nabob continued to give Tuncaws upon the Tanjore Country until the Dobbeer Punt arrived at Arrialore. The above is taken from the accounts in my possession.

Translated from accounts sent hither by the Rajah.

WILLIAM ROSS.

N. B. The above account was transmitted from Tanjore in Chuckrams, which I have exchanged into Pagodas, as the other is a coin little known; the different calculations were made by people well acquainted with the rates of exchange; and I have literally translated their accounts, and examined them according to the following table :

10 Tanjore Fanams make	1 Chuckram.
2 Chuckrams and $3\frac{1}{2}$ Fanams, or	} 1 Star Pagoda.
$23\frac{1}{2}$ Tanjore Fanams, make	

Letter from the King of Tanjore to George Stratton, Esquire, dated 12th January, 1777.

I AM favoured with the letter you were pleased to address to me, dated 26th December; in it you say, "That you had frequently wrote me concerning the claims of the Nabob upon the Tanjore country, and of the resolutions made in consequence by the Governor and Council; that you very much regret being again obliged to address me upon the same subject. The opinion of the President and Council was, that during the time my country remained in the hands of the Nabob, he should receive the government share of that crop he sowed and reared; and if he had mortgaged that share to any one, that such mortgage should be made good by me: this being your determination, you were much surprised at my having evaded a compliance with it, and at my not having given one favourable answer to the letters you wrote me."

I am surprised at your saying, that I have not wrote you one answer to the letters you sent me concerning the claims of the Nabob, and the resolutions of the Council concerning them; to your letter of the 10th December on that subject I sent an immediate answer, and I have done the same to all the succeeding ones: but after doing so, if you censure me for not having wrote to you, what can I say? When Mr. Benfield came to this country, you sent by him a letter, dated the 7th September; the contents of it were as follows: "In a letter addressed to you some time ago by Lord Pigot, he stated the claims of Mr. Benfield, and the resolutions formed by the Council in consequence. Mr. Benfield is only entitled to the government's share of the crop; you will act justly, and limit a proper time for the payment of it; pay attention to the letter wrote you by Lord Pigot; Mr. Benfield is desirous to wait upon you on his own private business;" together with some other things of a like nature. My answer at that time was, "My Lord Pigot has wrote nothing to me concerning Mr. Benfield's business; I have no knowledge of it, nor do I understand the meaning of your letter; you will therefore be pleased to send me the letter wrote by Lord Pigot, together with the resolutions of Council: I shall enquire what is just to be done, and act in consequence." After the expiration of a month and some days, you on the 21st of October wrote me, "With regard to Mr. Benfield's business, according to the resolutions of Council, and the letter wrote to you by Lord Pigot, the burthen of these claims are thrown upon you; we beg of you to act justly upon the occasion, as this business entirely depends upon you. We now send you copy of the letter addressed to you by Lord Pigot in consequence of the resolutions of Council, and we desire that you will attend to it."

I then too wrote to you, "That Lord Pigot had addressed no such letter to me; that I had wrote you before I knew nothing of it, and that my first information arose from the copy you then sent me." You, from your enquiries, must now certainly know whether it is true or false that Lord Pigot addressed such a letter

to me. When the original is no where to be found, what am I to think of your now sending me a copy? For these reasons you on the 10th December wrote me, " Lord Pigot wrote a letter to you, dated 20th August, and we addressed you one " on the 21st October, which you must have received: in these we informed you, " that after having made strict enquiry, we found that the government's share of " the revenues of your country for the last year justly belonged to the Nabob, be- " cause he advanced money, sowed the ground, and reared the crop, during the " time the country remained in his hands; we therefore earnestly request of you to " give orders for making out true and just accounts of the government's share, to- " gether with the accounts given in by the farmers to the Circar, and that you dis- " patch these accounts immediately to us: if you properly consider this request, " you will think it just and reasonable;" with many other things to the same pur-
 pose. I on the 24th wrote you an answer as follows: " I have twice informed you " that Lord Pigot has not addressed me on the subject you mentioned. The Na- " bob took my kingdom by force, carried away my jewels, my furniture, my " horses, elephants, and other cattle; plundered my houses, my treasury, and my " armoury, and enjoyed the revenues of my country for two years and a half, " collected a great sum of money in it, and carried away all the accounts and re- " cords belonging to the kingdom. After having sustained these losses by the " Nabob, should all of them be forgot? or does it appear just that I should pay " him the produce of my country because he sowed the ground? Such a resolution " was never seen or heard of." My answer contains many other arguments, which I hope will prove convincing, if you are pleased to examine them; these answers immediately succeeded your letters, and I am very unhappy to see you persevere, in saying that I have paid no attention to them; I have therefore recapitulated some part of what I wrote before.

I some time ago gave orders respecting the grain which Mr. Benfield has heaped up in my country; and with regard to the money due to him by the farmers, I have desired that he would bring true and authenticated accounts of that money, that I might limit a time for the payment of it, proportionable to the ability of his creditors; the necessary orders for stopping this money, out of the inhabitants share of the crop have been sent to the Ryots and Amuldars. Mr. Benfield's Gomastah is now present here, and oversees his affairs. In every thing that is just I willingly obey the Governor and Council; if they, out of their regard for my kingdom, will be pleased to examine the arguments I have made use of, I doubt not but they will think them just and proper; should this happily be the case, my kingdom will be protected, and great honour will arise to the Company: I am certain that the English Company will never deviate from the path of justice, and in that confidence I find security. With regard to the propriety of the argument you make use of, that whoever sows the land should reap the crop, I made answer to it in my letter of the 24th; but as it is repeated in the letter now before me, I must again lay my reasons before you, which I shall endeavour to do in the concise manner. The year the Nabob took my country from me by force, I sowed the ground, and he received the whole produce of it; the last year likewise, when the Nabob

Nabob sowed the ground, he received almost all of that crop likewise. When the Company were so good as to restore me to my kingdom, what remained to be collected in it was very trifling, and not sufficient to pay my expenses. If it is just, that because the Nabob sowed the ground last year, he should possess that part of the revenue collected by him, and that I should restore that part which was received by me, it must likewise be just that the Nabob make restitution of the whole produce of my country the year he forced it away from me. You were pleased to say, if the Government's share of last year's crop was mortgaged to any one, that I should make good that mortgage:—give me leave to state this circumstance;—Suppose any one was to mortgage your goods without your consent, and that your own was again restored to you, who would you think answerable for the mortgage? but this though could not have escaped your wisdom, and why should I mention it?

You have further wrote me as follows; “I know it will be difficult to make
“just accounts of what is due from your country to the Nabob; he says, that it
“will be impossible for him to do it without the assistance of Dobbeer Pundit,
“as he kept the whole accounts, and managed the affairs of the country, and
“therefore they can be settled by him only; the Company will demand these ac-
“counts from us, I therefore desire, that you will give immediate orders to the
“Dobbeer Pundit, to Nandiga, Ameer Shing Moonshay, to his Muttasuddi,
“Amuldar, and Paishcar, to repair here without loss of time; and that they may
“not be in any danger on the road, I have ordered Colonel Harper to send an
“escort of sepoy along with them: upon their arrival here, they shall be made to
“state true accounts of what balance is due to the Nabob and to his creditors,
“and copies of these accounts shall be forwarded to you; but as the settling of
“them will take up much time, a sum of money must be paid immediately to the
“Nabob; this you must find means to perform, and as the Company have a right
“to enforce such payments, I desire that you will comply with the resolution we
“have made respecting you.” The Dobbeer Pundit, Ameer Shing Moonshay, and
the other Muttasuddies, have always been my subjects, and not subjects to the Nabob;
for two years and a half that he possessed the Tanjore country, he forced them into
his service. When the Company were pleased to restore me to my kingdom, I told
Lord Pigot, that as the accounts belonging to it were known to the Dobbeer Pundit
and Muttasuddies only, it would be impossible to govern the kingdom without them,
and that they must therefore be brought back if possible; his Lordship, in con-
sequence, was so good as to procure their return. I have asked the Dobbeer Pundit
and other Muttasuddies, what was the amount of revenues collected by the Nabob
in the kingdom, at the time he took it from me by force, and plundered me of
every thing; that I wanted this information for the Company, who desired to be
acquainted with it: They told me, that when the Nabob heard Lord Pigot was
coming to Tanjore, he carried away every page of the accounts that remained in
it; he likewise took some of the old accounts belonging to the kingdom; that there
were therefore no Records from which they could collect the information I wanted.
Whatever time the Company will be pleased to restore to me all I have been de-
prived of by the Nabob, and when he delivers up those accounts belonging to

me, of which he has possessed himself, I shall then give him the information he desires; but things being in the present situation, I am very much astonished that you would send for people, who were always my subjects, to determine the balance due to the Nabob and to his Creditors; why should I send Muttasuddies to make him acquainted with his own accounts? The Amuldars and other servants the Nabob had under him here belonged to himself, the Records, Persian and English, remained in their hands; he kept my subjects only that they might acquaint him with the different customs; all those accounts he took away with him, together with the old Records of the kingdom, and he has by that means left me quite ignorant of the accounts. The Nabob well knows the balance that is due to him and to his Creditors, and the Company have a right to enforce payment of it; but have they not likewise a right to make the Nabob restore to me the things which he deprived me of, the revenues which he collected in my kingdom, together with a true account of these things? It would be consistent that the Governor and Council decided in every thing with equal regard to both parties; but if that is not the case, and that they, through their attachment to the Nabob, order my subjects to be sent to him, such conduct can in no shape appear just to me. The Company, through their goodness, restored my lost dominions, and have promised to protect myself, my authority, my country, and my people, in all their rights and privileges; after this, such a behaviour to me could only serve to make me contemptible. I am indebted to the Company for my present situation; whatever tends to exalt or degrade me, the honour or dishonour of that action will revert upon my protectors. The Company are wise, generous, and good, and it will not appear just to them that I be tormented with such indignity; if so, they would not, though you have favoured me so highly, and have placed me on the throne of my ancestors; what am I to think? All these things cannot be unknown to you; if the Governor and Council are inclined that the Nabob and I should settle accounts, I am willing to consent to it; and the method of performing it, is to ascertain from the farmers in different places the amount of what money was collected by him. The farmers are very numerous, and are at present so poor, that they are in want of the necessaries of life; this kingdom contains 5000 Villages, to each of the Villages there are ten or twenty part owners, these will amount to twenty or twenty-five thousand men, and can all of them come down to Madras: as you have formed a resolution, it is necessary that the people must be distressed, and my affairs must be ruined. Though my enemies chuse to propose such things, do they appear just to you? If the Dobbear Pundit, Paiscars, and Farmers all go to Madras, who shall I have left to collect the revenues, cultivate the crop, keep my accounts, and to oversee my affairs? Shall I remain here alone to govern the kingdom? If the Nabob invents such schemes to ruin what the Company have established with so much honour to themselves, does a conduct of this nature appear just to the Governor and Council? Such things have never happened. If those accounts are to be settled, let the accounts of different countries be settled in the countries to which they belong; but to send the Farmers, Amuldars, Paiscars, and Muttasuddies to Madras, is a thing impossible. If the Governor and Council be pleased to consider, and instead of what
they

they have proposed, cause the Nabob to return to me all the Saprity, Muttefuddy, and Shereftidar's accounts, which he carried out of my country, I will then settle the accounts he desires, and give a statement of the revenues he collected in my kingdom for two years and a half, together with all the jewels, horses, elephants, cattle, furniture, guns, ammunition, and other valuables which he deprived me of; these shall be presented to the Company, and left to their justice, and whatever they in consequence determine shall be complied with.

You have further been pleased to write to me, "A large balance is due from the Nabob to his troops, which must be well known to you; these troops were raised to prevent enemies from coming into the Carnatick, and served to protect Tanjore as much as those which belong to the Company; *you** ought to assist in paying the debt that is due to them, as this claim is just, and as the Nabob is much in want of money; I wish that it may appear to you in the same light it does to me: The balance that is due to the Nabob must be paid, according to the resolutions formed here by the Governor and Council; if this money is not given, it will prove very prejudicial to his affairs, as well as to the affairs of the Company." The protection the Nabob's troops have afforded to me is well known to God and all mankind, and you yourself have been a witness of it. You say that the Nabob's and the Company's troops are the same. The Nabob maintained troops, and with these troops seized my country; the Company, out of their great goodness, have restored that country to me; will you say that these two are the same? If, according to your opinion of justice, you desire me to give money to the Nabob, what can I do, to whom must I appeal? Should the Company, after due consideration, think it just that I discharge the balance due to the Nabob, be assured that I will do nothing to give them offence; in the meantime, either the Governor and Council must attentively consider their resolution, and the arguments I use against it, or they must send me the directions they say they have received from the Company regarding these claims, that I may obey them; or else let this cause be referred to the Company, and let their determination be conclusive: but if, regardless of all these, you desire me to pay this balance to the Nabob, I am without resource. I shall never throw any obstacle on the intention of the Company; I shall never fail in any of my engagements to them, nor object to the just claims of the Nabob; but an extraordinary demand is now made on me; I think it necessary to acquaint the Governor and Council with my situation, and I hope that they, out of their friendship for me, will turn their faces towards truth, and act by me with justice. You have been pleased to write me, "That with regard to the money which was demanded of me, it would be proper to consider my circumstances, as the burthen was thrown upon my shoulders." What you say is exceedingly right; further, "That in future, without having well considered things, it does not become you to make objections. You ought to fix your attention on this claim; and if you considered the orders of the Company, and the resolutions of Council, you would see the wants of those who were in power, and would think a compliance requisite. This is a time in which you must have an overplus of grain in your hands,

* It is *I* in the Copy.

" this does not admit of a doubt; and if you failed to give the necessary assistance,
 " and was relieved yourself, without affording relief to others who wanted it,
 " the Company will have reason to think you are deficient in that part you
 " ought to perform. If you oppose the opinion of us, who are your friends,
 " what can we say? the preservation of the Carnatick should be the desire of
 " every one."

I before requested you would make me acquainted with the orders of the
 Company, and I now again make the same request. The Governor and Coun-
 cil have desired that I would act up to the instructions that came from England,
 with regard to my restoration; if you furnish me with a copy of these instruc-
 tions, I shall not fail to comply with them. The crop of last season has been
 very deficient, on account of the many obstacles it met with; these were the
 breaking down of the bank; my having failed in obtaining leave to cut earth for
 the repair of it at the usual place, until it was very late in the season; and a want
 of water in the Caverry, which was a natural consequence; besides, before the
 bank broke down, the freshes came with so much violence, that the seed in the
 ground was destroyed. As there was no money in the country, I requested the
 loan of one Lack of Pagodas from the Company, which they were unable to give
 me; and the incursions made by the Polligars produced great disturbance, so
 that the crop in some places does not exceed one half, and in others three
 quarters, of what was customary. Now that the season for collecting the revenues
 is come, there will prove a deficiency for want of troops; money is due to the
 Company, according to the stipulated Kists; my own expenses, the expenses of
 my attendants, together with the customary allowances to the Pagodas, and the
 usual charities, must all be discharged; every thing is to be begun, nothing re-
 mains of what I formerly possessed but the bricks of my fort; I have not a
 carpet, or any other necessary, that has not been lately purchased: if the Com-
 pany will be pleased to assist me, the kingdom will rise from it's present condition.
 When such is my case, what am I to think of your saying " That I must in this
 " season have an overplus of grain in my hands without doubt; and if I failed
 " to give the necessary assistance, and was relieved myself, without relieving
 " others who wanted it, the Company will have reason to think I am deficient in
 " that part which I ought to perform; if I oppose the opinion of you, who are
 " my friends, what can you say? the preservation of the Carnatick should be the
 " desire of every one."

If it was just that I should pay the balance due to the Nabob, I would, in con-
 sideration of the times, pay that debt; I would request that the Governor and
 Council allowed me a reasonable time to pay it in: when it is unjust that I should pay
 it, where is the use of that consideration in me? In what part of my conduct have I
 deviated from my engagements, that they should have cause to find fault with me?
 the Company are those to whom I am obliged for my kingdom, and from them I
 expect protection, and from none other; they are my only friends, and I wish to see
 the English colours always spread in this country; I shall endeavour to obtain their
 friendship,

dated 12th January, 1777.

APPENDIX. No. XXVII.

(*)1383

friendship, and from that shall arise my security and happiness. As I am under the protection of the Company, 'tis their's to secure me from all molestation whatever; it therefore appears improper that the claims made by the Nabob for a balance should be laid on me, and that I be desired to pay them. I earnestly request that the Governor and Council will permit me to perform my engagements with the Company without any deviation, and that the treaty made in the year 1762 with the Nabob, through the mediation of the Company's Representatives, be carried into execution, and strictly complied with. If you demand more from me than I have stipulated, I shall be unable to perform it; I therefore repeat my representations to you every week. Oblige me by paying some attention to my kingdom, and by doing what is just and proper; thus the fame of English justice will spread itself all over the earth. Do not disregard what I write to you, but pay attention to my requests.

Believe me your friend,

(Signed)

SHREE RAM PREDAAP.

Translated from a copy sent to the Vackeel for his information.

(Signed)

W^M. R O S S.