

Finding him too much moved, I did not think it proper to urge him further. I desired he would not consider these resolutions as meant to alarm him into our measures: that we thought it our duty to our country, to our constituents, to him, and to ourselves, to lay before him the whole truth; that he would find it so in the end: that as long as the troops could be kept together, the Company would never forsake him; but that if he could not assist us with money, we must make some reserve for the security of Madras, and also for Vellour and Trichinopoly, if possible; and if the rest cannot be paid or even fed in the Carnatick, they must go and subsist as long as they can in the Circars; and when they can be fed there no longer they must go to Bengal. I then took my leave, promising to see him again soon, to take his opinion further on these points.

The President acquaints the Board, that the Nabob had expressed a desire of having a copy of the said propositions, as they are of importance.

RESOLVED, That a translation of them be sent him.

The Select Committee communicate to the Board their minutes of the 11th instant, together with the draught of the † letter proposed to be sent to Hyder Ally Khân, which the President acquaints the Board has been communicated to the Nabob; who although he did not absolutely object thereto, he did not seem well satisfied with it.

RESOLVED, That the letters be delivered to the Vackeels, to be dispatched by them.

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

AT A COMMITTEE, Saturday, 14th December, 1781.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

Warren Hastings

Samuel Ardley.

READ a letter from the Nabob on the present state of affairs, and containing his reasons for joining the Marattas.

As there are some passages in the said letter which require explanation, independent of the arguments urged by the Nabob in support of his plan. the Committee

† Vide page 1437.

think it proper to enter the said letter on their proceedings, with such explanatory remarks as appear necessary, and which is accordingly done as follows :

*From the Nabob, dated and received 13th December, 1771.*

## LETTER.

## REMARKS.

(A) IN my letters some time ago I acquainted you particularly of the force and power of the Marattas; and their promise, that in case we assist them in punishing Hyder Ally Khân, they will deliver up the country belonging to the Payenghaut, and shew us other instances of their kindness.

(A) Hitherto, by our joint scheme of informing them, that the whole matter had been wrote to the Gentlemen in Europe, and that orders were expected from thence, we have passed the time over in such manner, that they have not thought of entering into this country, but have always enquired concerning their request: now however, considering the great length of time which it has taken to receive the letters from Europe, they are come into the Payenghaut country; and intend, if assistance is granted them agreeable to their desire, to perform their former promise of kindness; but if not, suspecting the same to proceed from a consideration of an engagement of friendship to Hyder Ally Khân, they intend to lay waste my country. Accordingly, whether it was with a view of striking a terror throughout the country, or that the same was done through a mistake of the Pandaunas, from whichever it proceeded, but immediately on their passing on this side of the Ghauts, and making a riot in some of the villages, such as Calaspauk, &c. the inhabitants of the country, on whom it's cultivation depends, and who, in this dry season, with the water from the wells, had sown a little grain, and were waiting for the time of reaping the same, greatly alarmed, fled with their women, children, and cattle, to places of safety, by which the grain so sown has suffered greatly. My situation is such;—that, out of the collections from the country, to the Company may be paid in lieu of the current charges, to the exchitors also may be given, and the charges of the Sepoys in my service,

(A A) 'Tis true the Nabob has told us so; but when, at a conference with Madarow Sadafive, as appears by minutes of Committee the 4th February, 1771, he was desired to explain what advantages he had to offer, he declined to mention any thing, until we should first declare our intention to join, or not join, the Marattas.

## LETTER.

## REMARKS.

service, with my own necessary expenses, may likewise be carried on. God forbid it should to happen ! but if nothing is received from the country, I have no means whatever of supporting all these charges ; and in case of the Maratta army coming into this country, and their disturbances happening therein, I do not think that a single village will remain in quiet, nor the inhabitants or their cattle remain in safety ; for the country will in a very short time be laid waste, and cannot recover itself for a great length of time ; in which case it will be out of my power to procure either grain or money even from any part, or to send provisions from one place to another. In those forts indeed where grain has been laid up in store, in *some* sufficient for the people there for a term of six months, and in *others* still more, sufficient for the fighting men in the Company's army, *that* is ready ; but my apprehensions are, where we are to get grain after the army and the garrisons shall have expended the above. I understand from you, that the Company likewise have no money. Should it be thought, that by joining with, and the assistance of Hyder Ally Khân, these ravages may be stopped, the same is by no means practicable ; for even when the said Khân was in the height of his power, he could not stand against them, and what can he do now that power is so much curtailed ? What motive can there be to induce me to consent to my country being ruined, and its inhabitants plundered of Lacks, by being at enmity with the Marattas ?

(B) Their chastisement, by the mode you propose, does not appear to me possible.

(B B) When the President communicated to the Nabob the opinion of the Board, (see their minutes 13th instant†) the Nabob said, that since we were resolved not to join the Marattas, his country must be totally ruined ; for he was of opinion that we could not prevent their plundering and burning ; neither could we come up with them, for they would not fight us ; which brought on the following conversation :

President. I think so too.

Nabob. Then how can you think of making war with them?

Pr. I do not, but if they make war on us, we must defend ourselves.

Na. Well, and how will you defend yourselves?

Pr. In the first place, all the grain in the country should be immediately secured in the forts.

Na. The Circar's grain has been laid in ever since July; there has been little since.

Pr. What belongs to the inhabitants should also be secured.

Na. There is but little remaining; the inhabitants have been living on it, and 'tis very near consumed by this time.

Pr. *So much the better*; the Marattas will find nothing here to subsist upon; how will they be able to obtain supplies of provisions?

Na. Oh! they have Lacks of Bunjauras, that bring them constant supplies; all the country is open to them through Cuddapah quite to Poonah.

Pr. Then I think the plan of operation should be this: Instead of harraſſing our troops as we did the last war, and by which I think we could not prevent their plundering the country, we should keep in their rear, and apply our whole attention and endeavour to cut off their supplies; great pains should be taken to obtain good and timely information of their convoys of provision, and as they must come through some of the Passes, we should endeavour to intercept them: I think this plan must be attended with success; and though it will not prevent their ruining the country this time, it may oblige them soon to retire from it.

Na. You never can prevent their getting supplies.

#### LETTER.

#### REMARKS.

(C) If the plan indeed I have repeatedly mentioned in conversation could be adopted, in some measure the essentials for that purpose might be got together; (C) but in the present situation of affairs, I think the entering into a war with them is begetting fresh disturbances in the country, and after sustaining vast loss, sacrificing the lives of many Europeans; and exerting ourselves herein, even for years, it does not appear to me possible to extirpate them. As I  
am

(C C) This plan is, for the three Presidencies to form a general confederacy with the Powers who are jealous of the Marattas, and attack them at once on all sides; Bengal on the side of Malva; Bombay to march to Poonah; and this Presidency on the Secra side, or by assisting the other Presidencies.



## LETTER.

am in every sense the Company's first friend, as they are my benefactors, and the protectors both of myself and country, and as the tranquillity of my country is the means of carrying on their trade, I have therefore, for the information of you, the Company's Representative here, wrote this plainly, in order that you may advise me, whose good is included in *that* of the Company, of what you may think most beneficial for the tranquillity and prosperity of the country, the safety of it's inhabitants, and the Company's trade. It is not with a view of supporting the Marattas I write this; my objects therein are the tranquillity and protection of my country, the inhabitants of which it is my duty to take care of; and the consideration, that, in the present situation of affairs, those objects cannot be obtained but by giving them assistance. Every letter, and every intelligence I have received from the Marattas about it, I have immediately sent to you, that you might be informed of it's contents; now likewise I send you enclosed the following letter, viz. from Madarow Pundit Purdhaun both to you and to me, a translation of one from him to Madarow Sadasive, and a letter from Rajah Beerburr regarding the situation of the people of the country.

What can I say more?

The Committee think it unnecessary here to recapitulate the many arguments and reasons against acquiescing in the plan recommended by the Nabob, of joining the Marattas against Hyder Ally; it will be sufficient to return him an answer, acquainting him, that we can by no means impute the present conduct of the Marattas to any suspicions they have entertained, that our refusal to comply with their demands and threats is in consequence of our engagements with Hyder Ally: this is evinced by their conduct in engaging in a confederacy against this Province in 1768, when we were actually at war with Hyder Ally; and which we have no doubt they would have carried into execution, had not Madavarow been called off to reduce Janojee. It will be also necessary to acquaint the Nabob, that notwithstanding the insult offered this Government, in demanding assistance, with threats in case of refusal, and which the Nabob styles a *request*, we are utterly averse to war, and are desirous of living in peace with the Marattas; that we are determined not to commence hostilities until we are *actually* attacked, when we must defend ourselves in the best manner we are able: that the orders of our Constituents, which must be our guide, will not allow us to entertain a

thought of assisting the Marattas; that these orders however can only affect the troops under our command: that the Nabob is at liberty to take such measures as he shall judge best for the security of his own country; though we cannot avoid declaring it as our firm and clear opinion, that whatever advantages he may promise to himself by gaining the present favour of the Marattas, in assisting them to reduce the Mysore country, that such a measure will, in the end, be productive of certain and utter ruin to this province.

A draught of a letter to the Nabob to the foregoing effect being prepared,

RESOLVED, That it be communicated to the Council for their approbation.

Jos. Du Pré  
Warren Hastings  
Sam<sup>l</sup>. Ardley.

AT A CONSULTATION, Saturday, 14th December, 1771.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

Warren Hastings

John Smith

Henry Brooke

John Whitehill

Samuel Ardley

George Stratton

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George Mackay.

THE Select Committee communicate to the Board their minutes of this day on the subject of the letter from the † Nabob of the 13th instant, containing his reasons for assisting the Marattas, with the draught of the letter proposed to be wrote in answer, which is approved.

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

*From Governor Du Pré to the Nabob of the Carnatick, dated 15th December, 1771.*

I HAVE received your Excellency's letter dated 13th, and, without reciting it's contents, I beg leave to reply to the material parts.

Whatever the Marattas may pretend, whatever colour they may give to their present conduct, it is most clear to me, and I hope to make it clear to all the world,

that it does not proceed from a suspicion that our non-compliance with their threats is in consideration of an engagement of friendship to Hyder Ally Khán. Your Excellency may remember, that in the year 1768, Ruckun-ul-Dowlah, on the part of the Subah, went to Madavarow at Poonah, and that all the advices from these parts gave us the strongest reasons to believe that an alliance was forming between them against the Carnatick Payenghaut. We were at that time engaged in a war against Hyder Ally, and our army was in the heart of his country. Foreseeing the ruinous consequences to this province if such an alliance should take place, and in order, if possible, to prevent, or at least to delay the conclusion, we wrote to Mr. Brome, then Resident from the Government of Bombay at Poonah, to make some overtures to Madavarow for alliance with him against Hyder Ally and Shushrow. Your Agent at Poonah was intrusted, on the part of your Excellency, to open a negotiation with Madavarow for the same purpose. 'Tis true that the proposal never was made on our part, for before our letter reached Poonah, the treaty for invading this province was concluded, and Mr. Brome was returned to Bombay; having, before he left Poonah, wrote us repeated letters, assuring us, as a fact undoubted, that such a treaty was concluded: these letters were received the beginning of December 1768; your Excellency at the same time received and communicated to us advices to the same effect. An undoubted confirmation of the fact is, that Madavarow wrote in express terms to the Governor of Bombay, that his design was to demand the Choute of your Excellency; they could not then colour their proceedings with a pretended jealousy of our friendship with Hyder Ally, for we were at open war with him, and Shushrow, on your part, was soliciting their aid against him; they declared their real motive, which was the demand of the Choute. Madavarow's intention, it is true, was prevented, after he had proceeded several marches towards the South, by the hostile appearance of Janojee Bouncello in the province of Berar, which obliged Madavarow suddenly to return; and the whole season being employed in reducing Janojee, the ruin of this province could not be undertaken that year. But though the design was thus, by an unforeseen event, delayed, it was not dropped; Madavarow has persisted in it uniformly; for in the latter end of 1769, Madavarow, with a powerful army, invaded the Mysore country; and in the beginning of 1770 he sent his Vackeel, Bulraum, to demand the Choute of your Excellency, and assistance from us, as your Excellency informed us. It is certain, that desirous of driving off the evil day, we have avoided giving a decisive answer, under pretence, first, that the Commissioners were coming who had full powers, but that our hands were tied; and this plea wasted the season of 1770. Early in 1771 another Vackeel, Madarow Sadasive, a man of higher rank, was to make the like demand; our plea to him was, that the Commissioners being lost, we could not act without orders, which we certainly expected to receive in the course of this season; and thus we are brought down to the present time. Our declarations to the Marattas have constantly been most pacifick; we have given them the strongest assurances of our desire to live in peace and friendship with them. Your Excellency says, they have *requested* our assistance. It is not the custom of Nations, of Princes, or of States, to insult each other in words; even during the rage of war their language to each other is polite; it is nevertheless universally understood, that to request in the smoother language, and to hold a drawn sword over one's head, is to demand with threat and outrage.



Your Excellency asks, What motive can there be to induce you to consent to your country being ruined, and it's inhabitants plundered of Lacks, by being at enmity with the Marattas? And you say, you think the entering into a war with them is begetting fresh disturbances in the country; and after sustaining vast losses, it does not appear to you impossible to extirpate them. Give me leave to observe, that there is a great difference between making or entering into war against a Power, and defending one's self when attacked. I am utterly averse to war with the Marattas, I declare, in the most positive manner, I have not the least intention to make war against the Marattas; though they make unreasonable demands upon the Company, such as I am not authorized to comply with, and enforce them with threats; yet I am passive, and seek peace; but if they proceed to actual hostility, if they invade the Carnatick and the Company, I think it necessary to defend both to the utmost of our power, and by the best means we can. I am far from thinking we can protect the country from ravage and devastation; it is not in that idea that I proposed a plan of operation; I proposed it as what appeared to me the best to distress them in case they should attack us, not as an attack upon them to prevent their invasion: if your Excellency can propose a better plan of defence, I will be guided by it. At present I observe your Excellency's proposal is to give them assistance, in order to preserve tranquillity in the country. I much fear that expedient would procure only a temporary tranquillity; and that when they should, by our assistance, have strengthened themselves by the conquest of the Mysore country and wasted our strength in wars for their benefit, the Carnatick and the Company too will then become an easy prey.

I have read to your Excellency a passage of a letter from the Company to the Government of Bombay; † your Excellency may understand from thence what their sentiments are with respect to the Marattas and the Power of Mysore; their orders to us are conformable thereto: we cannot deviate from that system without authority from our Constituents; and therefore we cannot now, nor in future, unless we receive such authority from our Constituents, give any assistance to the Marattas: nevertheless, as this resolution respects only the Company's forces, over which we have control, and not your own proper troops, over which we have no control, if your Excellency shall be clearly of opinion, that to unite with and assist the Marattas with your own troops will not only preserve your country from impending danger, but conduce to it's permanent prosperity and safety, your Excellency is in no wise restrained by our resolution in respect to the Company's forces from sending your own; although we must say, such a measure is contrary to our advice; because it is contrary to the system which the Company have recommended to all their *Presidencies*; because we cannot take a contrary part, without opposing one part of the Company's system against another; and because we think the present tranquillity it may produce will be but a palliative, and end in certain and utter ruin. If your Excellency should nevertheless adopt that measure, we must in that case beg leave to recall the Officers we have lent to discipline and command some of your troops; and we shall then put all the Company's troops in the Carnatick in garrison, and observe a strict neutrality, until we shall receive the Company's orders, which have been, and must continue to be, the guide of our conduct. Your Excellency has promised,

† Vide Note, page 1438.

promised, at all events, to reimburse the Company now shortly the current charges expended by them on your account to the end of October last, amounting to very near four Lacks of Pagodas. If I rightly understand what your Excellency says in your letter to which I am now replying, it amounts to this;—that in case the Marattas should invade the country, as you shall not be able to collect any revenues, so you shall not be able to assist the Company with any money, meaning besides the abovementioned four Lacks of Pagodas. This gives me the deepest concern, because, as I have already assured you verbally, I have no means of supporting the military charges beside the four Lacks of Pagodas; therefore, unless your Excellency should find some method of procuring further supplies, when that sum is expended, certain ruin must ensue. I observe also what your Excellency says about grain; that in some forts there is sufficient for the people there for six months, and in others still more, sufficient for the fighting men in the Company's army. I did understand from your Excellency in conversation that there was enough in several forts for years; I beg the favour your Excellency will be pleased to let me know particularly the quantity in each fort, that I may form a calculate of the time the army may be subsisted in the Carnatick: and all I can say on this subject is, that as long as the army can be subsisted, paid, and kept together, the Company will never forsake you; but when all the money, provisions, and resources are gone, all is gone.

P. S. Having verbally communicated to your Excellency some resolutions and opinions of the Council on the present state of affairs, and understanding that your Excellency is desirous of having them in writing, I herewith send a translation of the same, consisting of † fourteen articles.

*From Madavarow to Governor Du Pré. Received 15th December, 1771.*

I HAVE received your friendly letter, and observe very fully it's contents; to wit, that you had seen Madarow Sadafive; that he had informed you of some circumstances regarding our friendship; that the intervention of the Christian holidays, and the month of Ramzaun, had been the cause of deferring a more particular communication of sentiments on both sides; but that as soon as those festivals were past, the subject would be entered into.

The Company have ever maintained a sincere friendship with me, considering therefore your paying attention thereto as in every respect material and essential, let me have the pleasure of receiving letters from you, advising of your health and situation, that I may rejoice and be glad. For other matters I refer you to Madarow Sadafive.

What can I say more?

† Vide page 1421.

*From*



*From Madavarow to Governor Du Pré. Received 15th December, 1771.*

IT was with pleasure and satisfaction I received your letter, advising of your friendship and regard. In consideration of the friendship and regard which for this long time have subsisted between us, I have acquainted Madarow Sadasive, who is an experienced man, and knows my sentiments, very particularly of many circumstances relative to our friendship, and also certain other matters; which the said Madarow Sadasive accordingly, who is there, will inform you of fully in such manner as will be agreeable. Always let me have the pleasure of receiving letters of friendship from you such as this, that I may rejoice.

*From Madavarow to the Nabob of the Carnatick. Received by the Nabob, 6th December, 1771.*

IT was with great pleasure and satisfaction I received your letter, full of expressions of friendship and regard; and acquainting me, that Madarow Sadasive had informed you of my friendship and regard, and that the prosperity of my affairs was in every respect your aim; the said Madarow Sadasive has likewise in his letter informed me very particularly of your sincerity and regard. As the mutual favour and friendship between us are of old standing, the entering into a particular discussion thereof is inconsistent; and as you are exerting yourself to strengthen the same, I am fully convinced it will be effected. The six elephants you sent me, out of your regard, with Goindarow, Kishen Row presented to me, and I have approved of them. For other matters I refer you to Madarow Sadasive. Always in this manner let me have the pleasure of receiving letters of friendship from you, that I may rejoice and be glad.

What can I say more?

N. B. The Nabob sent to the Governor another letter from Madavarow to him, which is in substance nearly the same as Madavarow's letter to the Governor, marked A.

*Purport of a Letter from Atchena Punt to the Nabob, dated 5th December, 1771.*

YOUR Excellency was pleased to say, that as Trimbeck Row and Morarow have sent friendly letters to you, it appears that they have no bad design at present, but on the contrary they are inclined to cement the friendship with you; I should therefore give encouragement to the inhabitants to collect the present year's revenues, and send you money as often as possible: all which I observe, and take the liberty to acquaint you, that after the Maratta horse plundered and laid waste the Calaspauk, &c. districts, they on the 2d instant committed hostilities in the villages of Audoor Mangal, as well as the districts of Trinamel and Chengan. The Amuldar of Sancarapoor and Pandalum writes, that they ravaged and plundered the villages belonging to the said districts. As this is an open country, the horsemen, not only carry away the cattle, &c. wherever they meet them, but cut

and wound the inhabitants, which obliges them to disperse and go away for shelter. Although the different Amulda's, by my order, gave all possible encouragement to the inhabitants, yet they do not believe them, on account of their being struck with consternation of their horses. For want of rain in due season the inhabitants were greatly distressed, and, in addition to which, they are now in the last extremity by reason of the hostilities of the Marattas; of which I thought fit to acquaint you.

I am always sending necessary provisions and Sepoys to different forts, with orders to the Killedars to be upon their guard.

*Purport of a Letter from Verdappa, Amuldar of Ravetnellore, to Atchena Punt, dated 3d December, 1771.*

AFTER the Maratta horse plundered the district of Calaspauk, they went and laid waste the villages dependent on Chengam district. It is reported that 10,000 of the Maratta horse lay encamped at Auttore and Anantaghery, and are committing hostilities in the neighbourhood of the said districts. On the 3d of December they plundered Paupen, Cuppom, Pattore, &c villages belonging to Chakary, which is situated about the distance of five Coss from Ravetnellore.

It is reported that Chunda Saib's Son, with 5000 horse, arrived at Ravetnellore, and has a bad design.

The Maratta horse came to the villages of Paukoon and Curvanore, and after wounding Vancatnaib the inhabitant of the said villages, and demanding money from him, set fire to the said villages, and then went away, thro' the way of Culcurchy, after plundering Puttore, &c.

This day the Maratta horse came to the villages of Ravetnellore and Sancarapoor, and are committing hostilities there, which obliged the inhabitants of that place to go away for shelter.

*Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday, 16th December, 1771.*

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

Warren Hastings

Samuel Ardley

John Smith

George Stratton

Henry Brooke

John Whitehill

George Mackay.

THE President acquaints the Board, that having waited upon the Nabob, to confer with him with respect to the time of the army's moving, the place to which it should move, and the object, as agreed on in the 14th article† of the resolutions of the 10th instant; he, the President, proposed Trinomallee or Wandewash as the most proper stations. To the first, the Nabob objected it's being sickly,

likly, and he did not approve of Wandewash; and when the President desired him to name the place he thought most eligible, the Nabob expressed his desire that the troops might not move at present, as he was apprehensive that the Marattas would impute their motion to a resolution we had taken to assist Hyder Ally, which might bring them sooner into the province; and he therefore recommended that the army be held in readiness where it is; and desired that whenever we should determine to put the army in motion, we would acquaint him, as he proposed ordering some of his own troops to join it; for which purpose he delivered to the President the following disposition of them:

*Statement of the Nabob's Troops.*

Sepoys	Where stationed.
1 Battalion Captain Gillis	{ Worriarpollam
	{ Allianore
1 Ditto Captain Godaur	{ Trichinopoly and
	{ Environs
1 Ditto Captain Davis	{ Tinnevelly
1 Ditto Captain Buck	{ Arcot
	{ 3 Companies—Jaghire
1 Ditto Captain Bilderbeg	{ 3 Ditto Vellour
	{ 3 Ditto Arcot.
1 Ditto Captain Alexander	{ For the field.
1 Ditto Captain Loudon	

7 Battalions.

1 Battalion of Topasses, 500 men, Captain Martin's,—Tinnevelly

2 Regiments Cavalry	{ Captain Matthews 1	} about 800 men
	{ Captain Rumley 1	
2 Rasilas ditto	Ashad Beg, &c.	about 800
Irregulars, under Nazeeb Khan		about 1,400

3,000

Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder has powers to send away as many of the cavalry as he may think necessary to the several districts.

AGREED to meet to morrow morning to take this matter into consideration.

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

Fort

AT A CONSULTATION, Tuesday, 17th December, 1771.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

Warren Hastings

John Smith

Henry Brooke

John Whitehill

Samuel Ardley

George Stratton

Richard Brickenden

George Mackay.

THE Board having assembled, pursuant to the resolution of yesterday, proceed to deliberate with regard to the expediency of putting the troops in motion; and after taking the same, together with the Nabob's objections, ~~hereto, into serious~~ consideration, they are clearly of opinion, that it would be highly expedient, after placing sufficient garrisons in the several forts in the south, that the army should move to some central position, to be in readiness to act as occasion may require; and that for the following reasons:

First, We do not conceive that the motion of the army will, as the Nabob apprehends, bring the Marattas into the country sooner, than they intended, but that it may have a contrary effect; and that the Marattas, seeing our preparations and determined resolution to oppose their depredations, will be more cautious of entering the country; since they may well conclude, that such a step will naturally compel us into an offensive alliance with Hyder Ally.

Secondly, That if it had that effect of bringing the Marattas sooner into the province than they intended, it would be advantageous to us, as their depredations would not be so severely felt at this time as they would be when the grain is ripe and on the ground, and their means of subsistence would of course be more precarious.

Thirdly, Our advices inform us, and which are confirmed by the Nabob, that a detachment of 20,000 horse, under the command of Narrain Row, is on the march to reinforce Timbeck Row; and if their invasion be deferred until that detachment joins, the force they will be able to send into the Carnatick will be considerably increased.

Notwithstanding all which reasons and considerations, as the Nabob is averse to the army's moving, and as we are not empowered to take any measures for the security of the Nabob's country without his concurrence; and as he would have it in his power to distress us exceedingly, by not furnishing money, or sufficient supplies of provisions, for which we must depend



upon him, the Majority of the Board are of opinion, that the army should remain in its present position.

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

AT A SELECT COMMITTEE, Thursday, 19th December, 1771:

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Liqueur, Governor, President.

Warren Hastings

Samuel Ardley.

THE President acquaints the Committee, that he this morning waited on the Nabob to converse with him on the subject of money, and to request from him copies of such letters and papers as might give the Committee any insight into the causes, motives, and reasons for concluding the treaty with Tanjore; and which appeared the more necessary, as the delay which had already happened in this business would have but a bad appearance. To which the Nabob replied, that we should have had them before this time, but that he had been waiting for some letters and papers regarding the subject, and that we should soon be furnished with the whole †.

The Nabob then proceeded to express his concern at the distressed state of his country, and his apprehensions from the threatened invasion of the Marattas; that in this situation he thought it proper to consult the Admiral, who he understood was not well pleased that he had not been advised with on the present state of affairs. To which the President replied, that he was also ordered by the Company to consult with the Admiral on all occasions, where the aid and assistance of His Majesty's Squadron might be required; but that there was another person here;—the Nabob asked, Who? The President answered, His Majesty's Minister to the Princes of India, regarding whom we had no instructions. The Nabob replied, I know but one, the person mentioned to me in His Majesty's letter, and it is necessary I should consult with him. To which the President replied, By all means, Sir, take such measures for the peace and security of your country as may appear to you proper; I must make the Company's orders the line of my conduct.

The Board having concurred in opinion with the Committee with regard to the expediency of making every possible preparation for our defence, in case the Ma-

† The whole are printed in Appendix, No. XXIV.



rattas should enter the province; and the Committee being of opinion, that the appearance of His Majesty's Squadron on the Malabar Coast, where the Marattas have several ports and ships, would greatly favour our operations, should we be compelled into hostilities, it is proposed, that a letter be wrote to Rear-Admiral Sir Robert Harland, acquainting him of our situation, of the threats of the Marattas, and of our sentiments with regard to the service the Squadron under his command might be of, in case we are obliged to have recourse to arms in our defence.

AGREED, therefore, That a draught of a letter be prepared to that effect, to be laid before the Board for their approbation.

Jos. Du Pré  
Warren Hastings/  
Saml. Ardley;

*Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George,  
Department, Friday, 20th December, 1771.*

# P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

Warren Hastings  
John Smith  
Henry Brooke  
John Whitehill

Samuel Ardley.  
George Stratton  

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George Mackay.

THE Select Committee communicate to the Board their minutes of yesterday, respecting the propositions made by the Nabob of consulting the Admiral on the present state of affairs; and the Board concurring in opinion with the Committee with regard to the expediency of informing the Admiral of our apprehensions of an invasion by the Marattas, of the necessity of making preparations for our defence, and of recommending to his consideration, whether the appearance of the Squadron on the Malabar Coast may not check their designs on this side; a draught of a letter to him, as entered hereafter, is now laid before the Board and approved, and ordered to be transcribed.†

*Extract of Proceedings of the Select Committee at Fort St. George, 21st December, 1771.*

WROTE the following letter per Tappals to the Select Committee at Fort William:

† See the Letter in Appendix, No. XVII, page 413.

*To the Honourable John Carter Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Gentlemen of the  
Select Committee at Fort William.*

Honourable Sir and Sirs.

WE wrote you last under date the 10th instant, a duplicate of which comes enclosed; since when we have been favoured with your letter of the 10th November.

In our above-mentioned letter we advised you of our apprehensions of an invasion from the Marattas, who had advanced on this side the Passes, of their demand of assistance from the Company, of the Nabob's desire that we should unite with them, and of our resolution not to commence hostilities, but to make preparations for our defence. It is now necessary to acquaint you, that the demands of the Marattas for aid are more peremptory than before; and that Sir Robert Harland, His Majesty's Plenipotentiary, who 'till this time had not publicly interfered in the business, has espoused the Nabob's cause in favour of an alliance with them: a system so contrary to the sentiments of the Court of Directors, as well as to our own judgment, and repugnant to the plan which your Honour, &c. and the Presidency of Bombay seem to us to have adopted, that we have declared to the Nabob our resolution not to accede to his proposition, and the Maratta demands, unless we shall receive the positive commands of our Constituents so to do; which we can never expect, after they have so repeatedly and clearly expressed their apprehensions to this and the other Presidencies of the growing power of the Marattas, and the danger of any measures which may tend to increase it. In these sentiments your Honour, &c. have repeatedly expressed your hearty concurrence; and the Gentlemen at Bombay are so fully convinced of the propriety thereof, and of the expediency of supporting Hyder Ally Khân as a barrier to the Marattas, that they have instructed Mr. Sibbald, their Resident at Onore, to learn from Hyder Ally Khân, whether he can and will deposit a sum of money adequate to the expense they may incur in affording him assistance.

We have hitherto declined making any declaration in favour of Hyder Ally, as such a declaration would in fact be a declaration of war against the Marattas; in order however to keep up his spirits, and prevent his concluding a peace with the Marattas, we have desired he will inform us what supplies of money and provisions he can furnish, should the orders we expect soon to receive from Europe authorise us to assist him. It is nevertheless our present resolution not to commence hostilities against the Marattas, unless they shall compel us to do so by an actual invasion of the Carnatick.

From the foregoing account of our situation, your Honour, &c. will perceive that we cannot expect long to remain in peace; and as it appears to us that a diversion in your part of India might favour our operations against the Marattas, should we be attacked by them, we should be glad to be informed how far it might be practicable to encourage the Powers in your neighbourhood to act against them. We do not mean by this to recommend to you any measures which

which in your judgment may be prejudicial to the safety and interest of the Company's affairs under your management; we only mention it on a supposition that the several Powers, who have lately suffered by the encroachments of the Marattas, would readily embrace such an opportunity of recovering their possessions and influence; and we are fully assured that your Honour, &c. will exert every means in your power, consistently with your own security, for our support; and for this purpose we shall constantly advise you of every material occurrence.

The Gentlemen at Bombay write us, that they purpose dispatching the *Deptford* to fill up at this place; but as it is uncertain when she may arrive, and as it is necessary, in the present critical situation of affairs, that the Court of Directors should have the most early intelligence of every occurrence, the President and Council now address your Board, to request one of your latter ships may be ordered to touch at this place, to convey to the Company duplicates of our advices, as well as such further intelligence as may be necessary for their information.

We are,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient humble servants,

For St. George,  
21st December, 1771.

JOS. DU PRÉ, &c. Committee.

Received this day the following advice from the Maratta Camp:

*Advice from the Maratta Camp, dated 17th December, 1771.*

ON the 15th instant, in the forenoon, Trimbeck Row sent his garrison to the castle of Bujungadaga, and the Maratta flag was hoisted on the same; he got the late Killedar of Jagadavy, who is now with him, to write to the Killedar of Kadore Gada, situated five Coss to the north-east of Jagadavy, summoning him to surrender; but the Killedar returned an answer, signifying his resolution to fight.

Trimbeck Row received letters from Madarow Sadasive at Madras by a Camel, setting forth that the Nabob had complained to him very much about his troops plundering Calaspauk, and some villages also near Trichinopoly; and that while he, the said Madarow Sadasive, was negotiating for assistance, it was not proper to ravage the Nabob's country: upon which Trimbeck Row and Morarow having considered together, wrote to Balaventraw's son upon that head; and it is now talked in the camp, that they have determined to send Beeny Appazey with orders to the said Balaventraw's son to return, and to draw near their camp. Answers were sent to the said Madarow Sadasive by the Camel on the 16th, as it is said to make the Nabob easy about what had passed; and it is said also that they have sent letters to the Nabob upon the same subject.



Appajee Ram, Vackeel to Hyder, was ordered to return to his Master about settling some certain points with him: the Vackeel sent his baggage before him to Kistnagherry, and went to Morarow's camp on the 16th, where I saw him; and on my entering into conversation, he spoke to me in the manner following:

"Trimbeck Row tried all he could to prevail on my Master Hyder either to join himself, or to send his Son with a force to bear company, and to act in conjunction with him, promising him a favourable term of peace, but could not succeed; now he says he will be content only with his forces under the command of any of his Sardars." I told him in plain terms, "That as Hyder was bound with an oath in his treaty with the English Company, he will on no account join his troops to act against them;" and I added, "Excepting that point, Hyder might be prevailed on to join his troops to assist him against his other adversaries." On this Trimbeck Row related to me of Mahomed Ally Khân's faithless behaviour towards him, and of his disappointment, shewing his own letters to me at the same time; and at length he desired me to return to Hyder, and try once more to settle it with him according to his desire; but I have a strong notion that Hyder will never agree to assist the Marattas in their intended invasion against the Arcot country.

It seems the said Vackeel will leave the camp in a day or two.

News was brought that Ebram Saib, Killedar of Bengalore, is dead; Trimbeck Row has sent a Camel to Ouscotah to bring him a true account thereof. It has rained here for these two days, and the army remains to this day in the plains of Jagadavy.

AT A SELECT COMMITTEE, Monday, 30th December, 1771.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

Warren Hastings

Samuel Ardley.

The Honourable Company's snow Minerva arrived this evening from Bengal, with a packet from the Honourable the Court of Directors, received there per Lord Holland; the same is now opened, and found to contain,

Letter from the Court of Directors to this Committee, 10th April, 1771.  
Additional ditto, ———— 25th ditto.

Copy of letter from the Agents of the Nabob's Creditors, 10th April, 1771.

Packet from the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors to this Committee, 8th May, 1771.

AGREED to meet to-morrow morning to take the same into consideration.

Jos. Du Pré  
Warren Hastings  
Saml. Ardley.

*Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday, 30th December, 1771.*

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.	
Warren Hastings	Samuel Ardley.
John Smith	George Stratton
Henry Brooke	_____
John Whitehill	George Mackay.

READ a letter from Hyder Ally Khân, repeating his assurances of his determined resolution not to assist the Marattas, advising of his having dispatched five thousand horse to harrafs them, recommending our securing the Passes and the effects of the inhabitants, and promising to send a further force against them.

*From Hyder Ally Khân to Governor Du Pré, dated 5th, and received 26th December, 1771.*

I MAKE no doubt you have received the two friendly letters I dispatched to you a little time ago. The matter in short is this; the Marattas have been desiring of me to assist them to make incursions and raise disturbances in the country of the Arcot Payenghaut, have tried various modes of negotiation on this head, and for six months together were we disputing and quarrelling on this very point; my answer however was clear: they have now left these parts with an intention of passing into the said country of the Arcot Payenghaut, the Passes into which I have endeavoured to stop, by stationing Peons and Sepoys there; I have likewise dispatched a trusty Sardar, with a body of 5000 brave and well-mounted horsemen, to fall upon the van and rear of their army, and to keep going round them; accordingly 100 and 200 Maratta horses are taken every day by that body, of which I make no doubt you have heard from other hands: do you likewise keep two corps of your troops under the command of two trusty Sardars, one at Chengam and the other at Amboor, with orders to punish the Marattas whatever route they take; and dispatch directions to your Talookdars to send all the inhabitants and cattle belonging to the open towns and villages into the woods and other places of protection: it is well known that the Marattas can do nothing but ravage a country, and plunder it of it's cattle; your first order therefore should be (and that is necessary) to the Talookdars as above respecting the inhabitants and cattle. On hearing the news of the Marattas proceeding towards the Arcot Payenghaut country, I have now dispatched a fresh body of troops to reduce their garrisons lying near to this place, and shall by and by also send another corps of 5000 horse, 10 or 12,000 Sepoys, and 30 or 40 pieces of cannon, towards the said garrisons; in consequence of which, the Marattas, confounded, will not have leisure to make their incursions, and raise disturbances in



in the Company's districts. I mention this, as well out of consideration of the friendship and regard subsisting between us, as that our countries are both one. Let me always have the pleasure of receiving letters from you, advising of your health, that I may rejoice.

May your happiness and prosperity increase !

The President acquaints the Board, that the Vackeels had delivered to him another letter from Hyder Ally Khân, which is not yet translated; and at the same time informed the President, that they were instructed by their Master to repeat the offer made by them in April last, of eight Lacks of Rupees as a present to the Company, and three Lacks to the President, in case assistance were sent to him; and that he would engage to pay one Lack of Rupees per month for the expenses of the troops. The President then took an opportunity of informing the Vackeels of the reports which prevailed, of their Master's having, through the means of his Vackeel Appajee Ram,<sup>†</sup> offered to submit himself to the power of the Marattas, to give up to them what part of his country they may require, and to join them with an army, under the command of his Son, consisting of 2000 horse, 4000 Sepoys, and ten guns, to attack the Carnatick, which the Vackeels absolutely denied, and declared that their Master never would, to the day of judgment, join the Marattas.

Read a letter from Beeny Appazey, one of the Maratta Generals under Trimbeck Row, to Moodoo Kistnah, urging the expediency of our joining in the affairs of Madarow, and recommending to Moodoo Kistnah to get the matter settled, to which a draught of an answer is now prepared to be wrote by Moodoo Kistnah.

*Letter from Beeny Appazey Govind, one of the Sardars in the Maratta Camp, to Moodoo Kistnah, dated 15th December, 1771.*

IT is one year since Madavarow was pleased to send Madarow Sadasive to Nabob Serajah Dowlah Behauder; who instead of being in friendship, and acting against Hyder Ally Khân, undertook an expedition against Tanjore fort; for which reason Trimbeck Row detached his army towards Salem; but advices came from the Nabob at Madras, that a party of plundering horse had deceitfully plundered the country on that side, wherefore the said army was recalled. A friendship is maintained on our side, of which Appavaya† will write to you. It will be better for the Governor to be sincere on all occasions, and to assist in the affairs of Madavarow, thereby to gain his friendship: you'll explain to His Honour or all these particulars, as it will be a means to contribute to your happiness. It is the practice of the people that are able to do business, to undertake to execute it when time and opportunity may offer for it, and thereby to gain favour; as I reckon you to

\* Vide Extract of letter from Madarow Sadasive to Sir Robert Harland. See Appendix, No. XVIII.  
† The Company's News-writer in the Maratta camp.

be a proper man for such undertakings, I think it is needless to write much to you on that subject: it will be best to cultivate friendship between both parties, and to dispatch Madavarow's business. Formerly the Pondicherry expedition has been accomplished through the friendship of Vissagee Beeny; you'll in like manner be mindful of Madavarow's friendship with regard to the future affairs, and endeavour to dispatch the business.

N. B. One Paunda Rangapa, who is said to be a Paishear, has wrote upon the same subject.

Appavaya, our news-writer in the Maratta camp, writes, that the said Beeny Appazey and Paunda Rangapa sent for him, and told him, that as they had wrote letters upon the subject of a peace and friendship to be maintained between Madavarow and his Masters, meaning the English, and to save their country from the insults of the Maratta army, he, the said News-writer, should also write one himself; and he writes also that the said people are men of influence in the camp.

*Letter from Moodoo Kistnah to Beeny Appazey, dated 8th of January, 1772.*

I HAVE received your letter, wherein you were pleased to say, that it is one year since Pundit Purdhaun was pleased to send Madarow Sadafive to the Nabob Serajah Dowlah Behauder, who acted in friendship; but he, instead of joining against Hyder Ally Khân, undertook an expedition against Tanjore; all which I observe.

What grounds or reasons there may be to expect that Nabob Waulau Jau should act against Hyder Ally Khân, I cannot tell, as I am only concerned in the affairs of the Company; and my opinion is, that the Company assisted the Nabob in the expedition against Tanjore, because the Rajah did not pay the Peshcush, &c. according to an agreement, for the performance of which the Company was security. As to the friendship between the Company and Pundit Purdhaun, I know the Governor is very desirous that it should continue to the end of time, and never had a thought to the contrary; it was therefore a matter of great surprise to hear daily reports, which doubtless must be untrue, that certain threatening words have been circulated in the army of Trimbeck Row, purporting that hostilities would be committed if their forces were not sent. It is well known that the Company wish to carry on their trade in a peaceable manner, without giving offence to any one; it is therefore by no means their inclination to enter into wars and troubles, unless they are forced in their own defence: it follows then of course, that peace and friendship with Pundit Purdhaun is above all things their desire; and that they will do nothing to break it, but on the contrary are much inclined to increase and strengthen it. Their sincerity is well known, of which there cannot be a stronger proof, than the constant and firm friendship they have maintained for more than twenty years with the Nabob of the Carnatic Payenghaut, in peace and war.

Translation

Translation of letter from Trimbeck Row to the Nabob read, expressing his satisfaction at the favours conferred on him by the Nabob, and the friendship subsisting between them, and his desire of increasing it by a personal interview; advising of his having entered the Baramahaul country on account of the expedition against Tanjore, and of his having, on the receipt of the news of the peace, sent orders for the punishment of the people who had plundered some of the Nabob's villages, which he alleges to have been done without his knowledge; desiring the Nabob to represent the affair in a proper light to the Governor and Sardars, as well as the reduced state of Hyder Ally.

*From Trimbeck Row to the Nabob of the Carnatick. Received by the Nabob, 20th December, 1771.*

I HAVE lately, since my arrival in these parts, wrote to you frequent letters, expressing my desire of increasing the old friendship between us, and that you should acquite, in an extensive manner, the good-will of Sercemant; I informed you also that Morarow and I were mediators between you both, and mentioned likewise some other matters. From the happy hours of our interview you have conferred great favours upon me, and my wish is, that the same be increased, and the face of our old regard, by the waters of the fountain of a second friendly interview, acquire fresh strength, and in the eyes of the whole world produce fruit that may be remembered in the annals of fleeting time, and such as, by yielding benefit and advantage to you, may add to your relish of that regard. Impressed with these sentiments, it was my intention to defer 'till late the taking possession of the enemy's country below the Passes, and the settling the district of the Baramahaul, when I learnt of the war against Tanjore; upon which I dispatched a light army into the Naigue's country below the Passes, and came myself afterwards into the Baramahaul; where hearing of your having made peace with the Maha Rajah of Tanjore, I wrote to the Sardars of the light army, advising them thereof: but possibly, before the arrival of these letters, the Pandauras, &c. whose profession is plundering, ran before, and ransacked the Pottah of Calaspauk; I swear however by the Almighty, that immediately upon hearing the news thereof, I dispatched two Sardars *from my presence*, to punish and bring to me under a guard those thieves; and the same Almighty knows, that the Badars, &c. had plundered the places in your country before the arrival of those Sardars; the news of this probably reached you from Trichinopoly and other parts. What I tell you respecting this is the truth; however, lest you, the Governor, &c. Sardars, should construe it in any other manner, reflect only on this;—neither eye nor ear has seen or heard, that where the pen expresses in the milder language the most perfect friendship, the heart should bear ill-will; besides, in a business that Morarow, you, and I have exerted ourselves in, and are in hopes of it's taking effect, how is it possible that I should be guilty of such an unbecoming conduct? You will therefore, by any mode you think best, explain this matter to the Governor, &c. Sardars, and remove from the minds of every one any improper sentiments relative thereto. I know the enemy, clothing the same under a specious but false pretence, writes to the Governor, &c. Sardars, telling them “not to trust us;” and he probably tells and writes to you

likewise that he is in friendship with you, although he is ready to shew his enmity: he colours over also the little valour and exertion he has shewn, by making it appear, that notwithstanding the defeat he met with, his vanity has not yet left him; this secret intelligence respecting him I learned for certain from Syringapatnam. It is most probable that some people however will take this in another sense, and tell you of it; do not you however, on any account, admit any thing in your mind but friendship, and see in what manner the Pandauras, &c. shall be punished for their improper plundering; advices thereof indeed you will receive from other hands, and your mind thereby be satisfied. Further, respecting the promised friendship which, for this some time past, by various modes has been negotiating, and is now ripened, the same continues firm; I am in hopes therefore that you will in the best manner bring others to reason, and send me a proper answer the soonest possible. You will exert yourself also, that, by the mediation of a trusty person, the interview between us may take place; the store of our friendship be enlarged; the key of the door of our wishes come within our hands; and the regard between you and Sercemant Saheb be strengthened, by his satisfaction being carried to the highest pitch. Make no difficulty in thinking that Morarow and I are and shall remain entirely at your pleasure; of this indeed keep your mind at ease, nor admit any contrary thought to occur. On our seeing each other, the truth of what I say will be an hundred times more forcibly impressed in your mind than by letter. I have sent the Circar's horsemen and Bunjauras in the districts belonging to the forts of Malapaddy, Amboor, &c. and have given orders to protect the same.

What can I say more?

For further particulars I refer you to Morarow's letter.

May your time pass agreeable to the wishes of your friends!

The President also lays before the Board a draught of an answer proposed by the Nabob to be wrote by him†; to which the Board see no objection, but only think it necessary to remark, that the Nabob therein expresses his satisfaction at the order given by Trimbeck Row for making restitution to the inhabitants who have been plundered; whereas it does not appear that any such orders have been given, or that it is the intention of Trimbeck Row to cause restitution to the inhabitants.

The Board cannot avoid observing the very apparent difference in the style of the above-mentioned letter from Trimbeck Row to the Nabob with the others received from him, which were filled with remonstrances and threats; whether this change be owing to the favours alluded to, or to any intimation given him, that

† This letter is printed in Appendix, No. XIV. page 226.

threats would have no weight in compelling us into an alliance with the Marattas, or to what other cause, we cannot say.

Jos. Du Pré  
Warren Hastings

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

AT A SELECT COMMITTEE, Tuesday, 31st December, 1771.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.  
Warren Hastings Samuel Ardley.

THE Committee now proceed to read and deliberate on the advices received last night from the Honourable Court of Directors.

It is with the greatest satisfaction the Committee observe the approbation expressed by the Court of Directors, of our conduct with respect to the Marattas, Hyder Ally, the Nabob, and His Majesty's Minister, and the confidence they are pleased to repose in our best endeavours to secure and promote the interests of the Company.

As we are now furnished with the orders of the Court of Directors, which clearly indicate their disapprobation of our interfering in the quarrels of the Country Powers, and earnestly recommend our confining our views solely to the defence of the Carnatick and the Company's possessions, the Committee think it necessary that the Nabob should be made acquainted therewith, and with our final resolution to observe the line prescribed by our Superiors. And as we can no longer have a pretext for declining to give the Marattas a plain and direct answer to their demands of assistance, and as the delaying it can answer no good end, the Committee are of opinion that a letter should be wrote to Trimbeck Row in answer to those received from him, as recited in the minutes of Consultation of this day†; in which he should be informed, that having now received the orders of the Company, in which they earnestly desire to maintain peace and friendship with every one, and expressly forbid us to meddle or interfere in the quarrels of our neighbours, we cannot send the Company's troops to his assistance, nor to the assistance of any one else.

As the whole of our proceedings, with respect to the Marattas, to Hyder Ally, the Nabob, and His Majesty's Minister, are before the Board, RESOLVED, That the sentiments of the Company on these subjects be communicated to the Council, together with these Minutes.

Jos. Du Pré  
Warren Hastings  
Saml. Ardley.

† Vide page 1465.



*Extract of Proceedings of the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Military Department, Monday, 31st December, 1771.*

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

Warren Hastings

Samuel Ardley

John Smith

George Stratton

Henry Brooke

John Whitehill

George Mackay.

*Extract of Letter from the President and Council to General Smith, dated 31st December, 1771.*

WE have been some time past endeavouring to prevail on the Nabob to unite with us in some measure for the protection of the country from the threatened invasion of the Marattas, and for that purpose proposed that the army should move to some central position, to be ready to act as occasion may require; but he is utterly averse to the army's moving, and we can do nothing without him; he has indeed consented that the troops be held in readiness; we can therefore at present give you no further instructions on this subject, than those contained in the President's letter to you on the 8th instant,† which we entirely approve.

Letter from Hyder Ally Khân read, repeating his assurances of not joining the Marattas, advising of their having passed the Ghauts with large quantities of baggage, of his having given orders to his troops to harass them as much as possible, and recommending that our troops be assembled to oppose them.

*From Hyder Ally Khân to Governor Du Pré, dated 13th December, 1771.*

I HAVE lately wrote to you repeated letters of friendship, which I make no doubt you have received and perused. The matter is this;—the Marattas negotiated with me in various modes to give them my assistance, for the purpose of accompanying them in making incursions and raising disturbances in the districts of the Arcot, Payenghaut; and although the dispute about this point lasted for a term of six months, still my answer to them was decisive. They lately, with a view of proceeding into the above country, wanted to pass through the Ghaut of Holcedury, ~~but~~ there they found the Circar's people firm and steady; upon which, after being well beat, they retired from thence, and went to the Ghaut of Teerut, belonging to Morarow, which they passed, and from thence have dispersed themselves in the Arcot country. Trimbeck Row likewise, the Sardar of the Maratta army, has passed the above Ghaut with the whole of the baggage, poor people, attendants on the army, plundering Pandauras, and an innumerable quantity of cattle, making altogether an amazing crowd. The other Sardars of the Maratta army represented to Trimbeck Row the impropriety of taking with him the baggage and cattle aforementioned, and that it was much better the horse should go as light as possible; to which Trimbeck Row replied, that his view in taking them was to shew the crowd

† Vide page 1419.

crowd and multitude; if you will therefore obtain private intelligence from other quarters how many the real army, fighting people, consists of, and how much baggage, and what is the number of Bunjauras, &c. the Marattas have with them, you will see clearly the truth of what I say. The five thousand horse which I sent, under the command of a trusty Sardar, to attack the van and rear of the Maratta army, and to keep moving round it, carried off 300 horse in the plains of Kist-nagherry belonging thereto; and when the said army was passing the Teerut Ghaut my horse plundered a great many of the Bunjauras, Pandauras, and baggage people, bringing off thousands of cattle, and other species of plunder an innumerable quantity; I make no doubt you will hear of this from other hands. In consideration of our mutual friendship and regard, and that our countries are as one, I have given directions to the Sardar of my troops to keep moving round the Maratta army, and to give it constant alarms while it remains in the Arcot country, and also to cut off the dispersed parties of horse and plunderers belonging thereto, together with its forage; you will also at this time send for your troops from Trichinopoly, and assemble a very large body in the plain of Trinomallee, which is in the centre of the Arcot country, and whenever an opportunity offers punish the Marattas. If it is really and truly your fixed intention to unite with me, and that the Company's troops and mine should join, you will acquaint me of it, when I will come myself, with an army and a good train of artillery, into the Baramahaul country; and, by God's blessing, the junction of the Company's forces and mine being effected, the Marattas will with ease be drove out. I mention this conformable to our friendship and for both our good, and flatter myself with soon having the pleasure of receiving a favourable answer thereto, for which I am waiting.

May your happiness and prosperity increase!

Letter from Trimbeck Row read, accusing us of not having sent the Company's troops to his assistance, agreeable to the promise given in letters to him and in conversation with the Vackeel, and censuring us for proceeding against Tanjore; representing the friendship which has long subsisted between the Company and Madavarow, notwithstanding which we have delayed to send the Company's troops under various pretences; advising of his success against Hyder Ally, and setting forth the advantages of cultivating the friendship of Madavarow.

*From Trimbeck Row to Governor Du Pré. Received 30th December, 1771.*

~~THE~~ Sardars of the Company have from former times maintained a friendship with Sercemant Pundit Purdhann, and never since the establishment of the English in this country has any one, by God's blessing, seen the least doubt to arise in the firmness of *that* friendship with Madras.

Within these few years, when your troops went against Hyder Naigue, the Sardars of the Company wrote in various modes to Sercemant Saheb; but he was at that

that time employed in an expedition against Bouncello, and Hyder came down of a sudden as far as Madras; on which, in conformity to the times, you made up matters with him, *and shut your eyes a little*. But the plan on which the Company conduct their engagements is better known than is even the Sun in the Heavens; to wit, that they do not deviate in the breadth of a hair from their old contracted friendship for any representation of self-interested people. This is the third year that the armies of the Circar have staid in this country to punish the Naigue, in which interim letters have been received once or twice from those parts, and answers returned immediately, purporting an increase of friendship; after which, Morarow and I, with a view of doing what would be to the Company's benefit, and to both our reputation, and serve to strengthen the friendship with Sercemant Saheb, dispatched letters expressed in such terms to him, that he in consequence wrote both to the Nabob and you, and sent such a trusty person as Madarow Sadasive, who is one of his learned companions. From that time 'till now you have been writing and saying, that after the arrival of the ships, and the receipt of letters from Europe, "What was to be done you would then do in conjunction." In the course of the last year, aided by the lucky auspices and enemy-crushing fortune of Sercemant Saheb, Hyder Naigue with his whole powers and force were totally defeated; but Hyder himself, having some days longer to live, saved himself by running away. What term however can wise men give to his behaviour subsequent thereto, except that of the highest impudence; when, instead of being ashamed at such a defeat, he writes to you, displaying his valour, and the wisdom of his measures. War of old has been described to have two heads, victory and defeat; and the Sardars whose lot it is to meet with the latter, hides himself through shame; but the leader of all those who are destitute of modesty, instead of being ashamed, glories in it. It is surprising therefore that, notwithstanding this, Sardars of the greatest wisdom and penetration should still entertain any idea of his consequence. This is the man also, who, forgetting his duty, has imprisoned his own Master, and by that means acquired some power; how can his actions prosper from Him that knoweth all things? Your adding fresh strength to the friendship where it has subsisted from old time is most proper, as the same will be of great utility to Sardars, masters both of country and power. Supposing even the son of self-interest, who has advanced his fame as the disturber of mankind to the skies, should at any time agree to terms even innumerable, how can they be approved of in Europe, or be acceded to by you? Weigh this in your friendly mind, to wit, the strength *that* business must possess in which Morarow and I are the mediators. In every large army there are both renowned Sardars, and thieves, who rob on the high-way, so in the army there are Pandauras and others, in great numbers, whose profession is plundering, and who every where run before the army and ravage places; do not however regard those inconsiderate people: I swear moreover by the Almighty that immediately upon hearing of their having ranfacked the Pettah of Calaspauk, I dispatched two Sardars from my presence to bring to me under a guard those plunderers; and you may rest fully assured that to every one of them, each in proportion to his crime, shall effectual punishment be given. Although I have wrote to the Nabob on this subject, still do you also explain this  
matter

matter to him in any way you may think best, and remove far from his mind any doubt on this head; act in such manner also that interviews may take place between us, and measures of importance be resolved on, and agreeable to the promise concerning this business, which was before determined on in several modes, that the Nabob and the Sardars of the Company reap advantage, and acquire reputation throughout the whole country, and their friendship with Sercemant Saheb also be established. I bear nothing in my mind but friendship both for the Nabob and to you; the recalling of my light army was to prevent any harm happening to the Nabob's country; and I have sent the Circar's horse and Bunjauras, with orders to protect the Fort of Malapaddy, &c. places belonging to the Nabob in these parts. In order to settle the Baramahaul country I remain here, and have already reduced four forts upon hills, and, by God's blessing, in a short time shall reduce the remainder. I flatter myself you will send me a favourable answer to this soon, and think there is no difference between us. It would be superfluous to say more.

AGREED to defer coming to any resolution on the above letters 'till to-morrow.

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

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.	
Warren Hastings	Samuel Ardley
John Smith	George Stratton
Henry Brooke	_____
John Whitehill	George Mackay.

THE Select Committee communicate to the Board the sentiments and orders of the Court of Directors, as contained in the letter of 10th April last, † respecting the conduct of this Government towards the Marattas, Hyder Ally, the Nabob, and His Majesty's Minister, together with the Minutes of the Committee of yesterday, regarding the intimation to be given to the Nabob, and the letter to be wrote to Trimbeck Row in consequence; of which the Board approve, and ordered that a letter to Trimbeck Row be prepared accordingly.

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

A A SELECT COMMITTEE, Saturday, 4th January, 1772.

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.	
Warren Hastings	Samuel Ardley.

THE President acquaints the Committee, that having waited on the Nabob, he communicated to him the sentiments of the Company respecting our conduct towards

† Vide page 540.



wards the Marattas and Hyder Ally; who seemed sensible that we could not, consistently with the orders we had received, take any other line than we had hitherto observed.

Draught of a letter to Trimbeck Row is now read and approved, and ordered to be communicated to the Nabob.

AGREED, That a letter be wrote to the Select Committee of Bombay, advising them of the purport of the sentiments and orders we have received from the Court of Directors on our present situation.

Jos. Du Pré  
Warren Hastings  
Saml. Ardley.

*Extract of Proceedings of the Select Committee at Fort St. George, Monday,  
6th January, 1772.*

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

Warren Hastings

Samuel Ardley.

THE following letters were this day signed and dispatched :

*To the Honourable William Hornby Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Gentlemen of  
the Select Committee at Bombay.*

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

IN our letter of the 10th ultimo, a duplicate of which comes herewith, we advised you of the motions of the Marattas, of their demands of assistance, of the Nabob's desire that we should comply therewith, of the expectation we were in of receiving orders from the Company with respect to the measures to be taken, and of our resolution in the mean time to hold ourselves in readiness, but to take no hostile step until those orders arrived, unless the Carnatick were actually attacked. We are now to acquaint you, that the long expected orders are arrived; and it is with pleasure we find, that the temporizing conduct we have observed with respect to the Marattas and Hyder Ally is entirely approved by the Court of Directors; they earnestly recommend that we continue to avoid if possible taking part with either, and confine ourselves solely to the protection of the Carnatick and the Company's possessions in it. Under these circumstances, we have it not in our power to afford any assistance to Hyder Ally; and although we much dread the consequences of his entire reduction by the Marattas, we cannot be justified in interfering in their quarrel.

We hope this letter may reach you before you shall have come to any final determination upon the answer you may receive from Hyder Ally, or at least before you shall have taken any measures, or given him any assurances in consequence; for although the Company's orders to you, and the state of your affairs, might justify your opposing the Marattas by assisting Hyder Ally against them, yet it is possible that you would be obliged to desist after having begun; for we must inform you, that His Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary has communicated to us his intention of averting the distress with which the Marattas threaten this province by a negotiation with them, which may possibly end in a national treaty of peace and friendship; and we are of opinion, that in case such a treaty should take place, the Company cannot lawfully appear in arms against them. We shall advise you constantly of the progress of this negotiation; for if it should not terminate in such a peace, it must end in an invasion of this province: in such an event, as it would be impossible for us to prevent the ravage of this province, even with all our forces, and we cannot from hence carry the war into the Maratta country, we think a respectable part of our forces sent round to you, might, in conjunction with your's, and assisted by His Majesty's Squadron, be employed to advantage. It would be presumption in us to propose a plan, as you must be more competent judges of what may be effected on your side; but we have suffered ourselves to think, that the Marattas might be distressed in their navy and sea-ports; and as their capital is not many days march from your coast, perhaps even that might not be beyond the reach of a vigorous effort: these considerations however we submit to you. If such a plan should take place, as the greatest part of our forces is now at Trichinopoly, we should think it best to march a detachment of four or five hundred Europeans, with two good battalions of Sepoys, to Anjengo, where the Squadron might take them on board and proceed to Bombay.

We are,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient humble servants,

Fort St. George,  
6th January, 1772.

JOS. DU PRE, &c. Committee.

The President informs the Committee, that he communicated to the Nabob the draught of the letter proposed to be wrote to Trimbeck Row, who expressed his apprehensions that it might be attended with one of these two consequences, viz. either that it might induce Hyder Ally to make up matters with the Marattas, in which case they would probably leave 10,000 horse in the Mysore country, and enter the Carnatick in conjunction with him, when neither would acknowledge themselves to be the principals, and the country would be entirely ravaged and laid waste; or that Hyder Ally might be reduced, when we might be assured that the Marattas would take revenge on the Carnatick for our not having sent them any assistance. The Nabob therefore proposed to acquaint Trimbeck Row, that he had done all in his

power to prevail on us to send the Company's troops, but that the orders we had received would not permit it; that, as a proof of his friendship to Madavarow, he was ready to send his own troops, provided he obtained a formal renunciation of all demands of Choure, and a cession of Syringapatnam conformable to agreement. The Nabob further observed, that his troops could be of very little service, and that he did not think Trimbeck Row would accept of the offer of them. To which the President replied, that the Nabob had already been informed of the sentiments of the Board on this subject; but as he now thought proper to resume the same, he would take the opinion of the Committee thereon, and communicate the same to him.

The Committee having taken the above proposal of the Nabob into consideration, are of opinion that they cannot deviate from the line they have laid down for their conduct. They are fully sensible of the many and dangerous consequences to be apprehended from the least appearance of a separation of interests between the Nabob and the Company, and which not only the Marattas, but every other Power, would be ready to avail themselves of; but as we have repeatedly told the Nabob his troops and revenues are his own,—we have not, nor do we pretend to any control over him or them,—he must be left to act as he shall judge best for the security of his own country: all we can do is to advise, to remonstrate, to represent to him the dangerous consequences of such a measure; and if after all the Nabob shall determine to adopt it, and to send his own troops, it will be necessary to request he will return the Company's Officers and Soldiers now doing duty with them.

The Committee cannot avoid observing, that the proposal of the Nabob to stipulate for the cession of Syringapatnam to him, as recited in the foregoing conference, explains a passage in the letter from Trimbeck Row to him received the 4th December, which the Committee did not before comprehend; to wit, "I understood from Morarow it was your fixed intention to join in the Circar's affairs, and to have your revenge on your enemies; and after taking Syringapatnam, &c. places from the enemy, to give them to the Circar". † This is the more worthy of remark, as it is a proof of the secret negotiations carrying on by the Nabob, and in some measure accounts for his earnest solicitations to us to send our troops to the assistance of the Marattas.

Ordered, That the foregoing Minutes be communicated to the Council who are now assembled.

Jos. Du Pré  
Warren Hastings  
Saml. Ardley.

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

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.	
Warren Hastings	Samuel Ardley
John Smith	George Stratton
Henry Brooke	
John Whitehill	George Mackay.

THE Select Committee communicate to the Board their Minutes of this day, containing the substance of the conference with the Nabob respecting his proposal of sending his own troops to the assistance of the Marattas, with the remarks and opinion of the Committee thereon, in which the Board entirely concur.

The draught of the letter to Trimbeck Row is also now laid before the Board and approved.

*From Governor Du Pré to Trimbeck Row, dated 7th January, 1772.*

Within these few days I have had the pleasure to receive two letters from you. In one of them you relate, that last year the Nabob and I wrote you friendly letters, purporting our resolution to send our troops in a short time to join in the affairs of the Circar of Pundit Purdhaun; and that this year, the Nabob and I sitting in private, and consulting together, sent for Madarow Sadafive, and in the most solemn manner told him to write to you, that we would send our forces to your assistance in the space of six weeks time, and desired that the armies which we heard were coming into the Payenghaut country might not be sent; that we both wrote to you also in the same manner by Aunundarow Kishen, and then erected batteries against Tanjore: that you never knew any Company's servant, or indeed any Europeans whatever, from times past, like this, say one thing and do another. In the other letter you speak of the friendship which has been maintained in former times with Sercemant Pundit Purdhaun; that it is well known the English never deviate in the breadth of a hair from their old contracted friendship; that this is the third year the armies of your Circar have staid in those parts; that in consequence of your representation to Sercemant Saheb, he sent Madarow Sadafive, who is one of his trusty and learned companions, to the Nabob and me, and wrote letters to us; that from that time 'till now we have been writing and laying, that after the arrival of the ships, and the receipt of letters from Europe, what was to be done we would do in conjunction; you relate the success of your operations in the Balaghaut, set forth the advantages of cultivating a lasting friendship with Madavarow Pundit Purdhaun, and declare that you bear nothing in your mind but friendship both for the Nabob and me: all which I have duly observed and understood.

Let me inform you, that when, by a longer intercourse of friendship between us, you shall have acquired a certain knowledge of my character, you will then know, that in all my transactions I speak nothing but the language of my nation, which is the language of truth. It is very certain that a long and firm friendship hath



hath subsisted between the Company and the Nabob and Madavarow Pundit Purd-  
 haun, and it is equally certain, that the Nabob and the Company have always been,  
 and continue to be very desirous of continuing and even increasing that friendship;  
 on which account, when Madavarow Pundit Purdhaun first made application to the  
 Nabob and to me, by the means of Bulraum, for assistance of troops, I said that I  
 had not power to send the Company's troops to the assistance of any one in foreign  
 wars without the permission of my Superiors in Europe; that however three Sardas  
 were expected soon to arrive here, who had full powers, and that I would relate  
 to them the friendship of Madavarow Pundit Purdhaun in a proper manner. It  
 pleased God that the Sardars who were expected have never arrived, but by what  
 accident the ship they were in, together with every soul in her, have pe-  
 rished, I cannot tell. As soon as I began to lose hopes of their arrival, I wrote  
 very fully to the Company in England of the proposals that had been made to me  
 on the part of Pundit Purdhaun; but, until these very few days, I received no in-  
 structions from them upon this subject; and the reason every one must under-  
 stand, who knows the distance between this country and England, and the vari-  
 ous accidents and detentions which ships are liable to from winds and weather in so  
 long a voyage. While I have been waiting for these instructions, what I have wrote,  
 and what I have said to Madarow Sadaive and others, was this;—that I could not  
 take upon me to send the Company's forces to the assistance of any one without their  
 permission; that I had wrote to them about it, and if I received their permission, I  
 would then send them, and not before; I am therefore exceedingly astonished at what  
 you write. Friendly letters I have certainly wrote to Serceman Pundit Purdhaun  
 and to you, and friendly letters I hope will pass between us and our successors to  
 the end of time; let me desire you to peruse yourself with attention the letters I  
 have heretofore wrote you, and you will then understand the matter as I now re-  
 late it. As to what passed in a conference with Madarow Sadaive, I cannot tell  
 in what words he may have related it to you; the plain truth is this;—the Rajah  
 of Tanjore had refused to pay the Peshcush which had been due for a considerable  
 time to the Nabob; the Company, who stood engaged as a mutual friend to  
 both parties, were obliged to assist the Nabob in calling the Rajah to an account,  
 and compelling him to perform his engagements; this the Rajah refusing, our  
 armies were preparing to force him to do that which good sense and justice  
 ought to have induced him to do, when it was reported that your army was pre-  
 paring to enter the Baramahaut country: as such a motion would undoubtedly  
 have encouraged the Rajah in his obstinacy and injustice, the Nabob and I there-  
 fore sent for Madarow Sadaive, and represented this to him; adding, withal, that  
 if your intentions towards us were really friendly, as you professed, such a motion  
 with your army would be improper at such a time: upon which he desired that  
 we would give him a precise answer as to the assistance he had desired; my an-  
 swer was the same as before, to wit, that I could not give any positive answer  
 until I should receive letters from the Company; which, as all the Company's ships  
 generally arrived before the beginning of the rains, I expected would be in about  
 six weeks: he replied, but suppose at the end of six weeks you should not have  
 received letters, what then? I answered, why then you must take what measures  
 you think proper, for I cannot send the Company's forces to assist any one with-  
 out their permission. I desire you will send a copy to Madarow Sadaive of what  
 I now

I now write, he will not deny it to be the truth. It has so happened that by contrary winds the ship which should have come to this place is arrived at Bengal, and I did not receive the Company's letters from thence 'till within these very few days; which enable me now to write you clearly and positively, that it is the Company's earnest desire to maintain peace and friendship with every one, but particularly with Pundit Purdhaun; but as it is not their desire to possess more than they already enjoy, neither do they intend to interfere in the affairs of others: their long friendship and connexion with the Nabob Waulau Fau no circumstance can ever break or impair; beyond this they have no view, and to this they therefore will confine themselves: the sum of which is, that I am ready and willing to give you every possible assurance of the true friendship of the Company, but that as I cannot send you any assistance, neither will I give assistance to any one else but the Nabob Waulau Fau, whose country and the Company's are as one, and claim their protection equally; of all this you may be assured.

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

## P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

Warren Hastings

John Smith

Henry Brooke

John Whitehill

Samuel Ardley

George Stratton

George Mackay.

READ a letter from the Nabob, setting forth the necessity of establishing a friendship with the Marattas; that as we cannot send the Company's troops, proposing to send his own, and desiring our opinion thereon; enclosing also draughts of letters proposed to be wrote by him to Trimbeck and Morarow in consequence.

*From the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Du Pré, dated and received 8th Jan. 1772.*

IN my letters of the 7th June, 17th August, and 25th November, 1771, and 7th April, 19th July, and 25th of December last, I related to you, in very particular terms, the friendship shewn by the ancestors of Madavarow to the Company and me, also his (Madavarow's) friendship to us both, his power both in the Indostan and Deckan countries, his desire of an assistance of European troops, &c. from you and me, and the kindness he proposed shewing to us both in return for that assistance. In consequence of the letters we have been writing for years past, and the verbal replies we have sent them, the Marattas, in hopes of receiving assistance from hence, did not commit any hostile act either on mine or the Company's countries. As a great length of time however had passed in expectation, and they in some measure began to despair of assistance, Trimbeck Row, &c. Sardars belonging to Madavarow, under pretence of laying waste Hyder Ally Khan's country, have more than a month since come below the Ghauts, desiring and waiting for a clear answer respecting the giving or the not giving assistance to them. You are acquainted, as well from my repeated letters, as the advices I frequently sent you, in what manner the plundering horse are raising disturbances in my country, in

consequence of the near approach of the Maratta army thereto; should they entirely despair of assistance from us, what I mentioned in my letter of the 7th April last, respecting their negotiating a friendship with Hyder Ally Khân, seems now likely to take place. It was from this consideration I have frequently wrote to you, that the maintaining of friendship with Madavarow was productive of tranquillity to both the Company's and my countries; you however did not approve of my plan. Urged by the motive of protecting my own country, which is quite open and exposed, as an act of necessity, I think it incumbent on me to establish a friendship with Madavarow; and for this purpose, the last scheme I can think of is this;—That I should send Trimbeck Row, &c. Sardars a message, purporting that it is not in the power of the Governor and Council to send assistance without their Master's permission; that they are waiting for orders from Europe, and that there is no difference on this account with respect to their regard for Madavarow; that however, the troops in my service, who receive their pay from me, should be sent if he approved of it, and would agree upon the arrival of my troops to the conditions he had before offered. Although it does not appear to me, that merely by the sending of my own troops, consistent with reason, I can hope that the Marattas will deliver up the country below the Ghauts, still, with a view to the tranquillity of the Company's and my countries, I am desirous of making the trial. In your letter of the 15th ultimo \* you tell me, that you do not oppose my sending my own troops on any account; notwithstanding which, as I am the Company's invariable friend, and regard the good of both as one, I did not think it proper to mention this matter elsewhere, without again asking your sentiments. If you approve of it, by God's blessing, I will begin about it; and should it answer according to my scheme, the Company's and my countries, through the Almighty's favour, will remain in tranquillity, the minds of the inhabitants set at ease, and the cultivation of the country go on, together with the Company's trade. In this case also, supposing the Marattas either to make peace with Hyder Ally Khân, or that they prove victorious over him in war, in either situation, the kindness shewed in sending my troops will certainly operate for the protection of the Payenghaut country from their disturbances. Notwithstanding all this, should you not think it advisable to send even the troops † in my service to the assistance of the Marattas, I shall think that the good fortune of the inhabitants of this country is on the decline.

What can I say more?

P. S. Enclosed are draughts of two letters to Mararow and Trimbeck Row, in which I am to request you will make whatever alterations you may think proper and return them to me, that agreeable thereto I may write to the said Rows.

*Draught of a Letter from the Nabob to Trimbeck Row.*

THE friendship and regard which my family for two generations have borne to Pundit Purdhaun baffle description; I make no doubt but the Great Row and

\* Vide page 1445.

† My servants.

you, who are judges of friendship, are convinced thereof. The great pains which the Governor of Madras and I, ever since Pundit Purdhaun has been stirring for our friendship, that is to say, desiring our assistance to accomplish his objects in view, have been taking to bring about the same, are so well known as to need no explanation. As every thing however has it's allotted time, owing to the intervention of some family affairs, it neither suited the Great Row at that time to come himself, nor to send even his troops. How shall I tell you the loss which the Company and I sustained thereby, with a view of pleasing the Great Row ! The Company, on being informed thereof, sent orders to the Governors of their several Settlements in India, to maintain friendship with every one, to rest satisfied with the *affairs* they are in possession of, and not to undertake any operation without their permission ; the Governors therefore are bound by these orders. They were in great hopes that the Commissioners, that is to say, Mr. Vanfittart, &c. Sardars, who were coming with full powers to these parts, would arrive, and that their powers would extend even to this business ; but owing to the adversity of the times, the ship they were upon was lost, and they never came : after the expiration of a long time, all hope of ever seeing them has been given up. On Madarow Sadafive's arrival here from Pundit Purdhaun, I procured him an interview with the Governor, and he is well acquainted with the sincere friendship there subsists between the said Governor and me. Letters have been repeatedly dispatched to Europe for the accomplishment of the business, agreeable to the wish of the Great Row, but not the least trace of any answer has hitherto been seen. It is well known to the wise, that when a dependant receives an order from his superior, forbidding him to meddle with any business, such dependant, although he thinks he sees advantages in such business, cannot venture to undertake the same. The English Nation particularly are exceeding strict in paying obedience to the orders of their superiors, esteeming a compliance with the same of superior consideration even to their religion, lives, and property. The Gentlemen here therefore are tied ; if it was not so, how could they make any delay in this business, notwithstanding their being assured therein of the friendship of the Great Row, and being sensible of the advantages thereof ? Out of the great regard the Company and I bear to the Great Row, we have not consented to your enemy's request of assistance, which he has been making for years, with various offers to induce us ; nor in future even have we any design to consent thereto. For these thirty years past have I been in amity with the English Nation and the Company, and they have not failed even in the breadth of a hair in assisting me, but therein have sacrificed their lives ; in the same manner I likewise am firm and steady in my friendship and regard to them, so much so that no difference in opinion is admitted by me : it is for this reason that I esteem the sending of my own troops ; as repugnant to the harmony and union between the English and me, and am exerting myself, that, conformable to the old practice, we should be *together* ; and it is Pundit Purdhaun's, and your desire likewise, that there should be the troops and stores of the Europeans, and the same also appears to me proper. I am ready to send my own troops upon the old conditions ; and if the sending of them is agreeable to the Great Row and to you, the Company are my friends and the wishers of my good, they will certainly have in view the increasing and



strengthening of my friendship with Pundit Purdhaun, and will esteem the same in the highest degree as a friendship of their own. I have an entire dependence on Pundit Purdhaun and your friendship, and the proximity of your country to my own, I esteem as tending to the ease and tranquillity of the latter. For three years the army of the Great Row has been employed upon an expedition, and nothing contradictory thereto ever happened. What I am surpris'd at is, that with all this friendship on your part, there is now more than a month past since your arrival in the Payenghaut; and notwithstanding the receipt of my letters respecting the issuing of orders to the plunderers of your army, not to disperse themselves and not plunder in my country, and your writing to me also yourself, that you would not be the cause of my country suffering; even so much as in a seed of oil, relying on which, I am always writing letters of encouragement to the Amuldars and inhabitants of my country; still the plunderers, more even than before, are dispersed by thousands throughout my country, are carrying off the cattle, money, and effects of the inhabitants, kill and wound the husbandmen and Bramins, and lay violent hands on their women, which amongst the Maratta Nation has never been practis'd before; all which has created confusion in the affairs of the country, stopped the collection of it's revenues, dispersed the inhabitants, prevented the cultivation of the land's, and, in the eyes of mere spectators, bear the appearance of a total want of friendship; the same is also contrary to what I have ever hitherto been saying, to wit, the regard of the Great Row. By God's blessing, you are both a wise man and a kind friend, do therefore what will tend to increase the friendship between us. For particular circumstances relative to my regard, I beg leave to refer you to the verbal representation of Madarow Sadasive, who is famous for his wisdom and knowledge. I have sent you a small present, conformable to a separate list, as a token of my friendship; you will give me pleasure in accepting the same.

*Draught of a Letter from the Nabob to Morarow.*

IT was with pleasure I received your three letters, purporting your sincere friendship. The knowledge that I have of your old regard and friendship gives me the same confidence and encouragement at your being with Trimbeck Row as if I was there myself. However, notwithstanding this, the plundering horse from *that side* have lately penetrated into this country, and have plundered and are still plundering it's districts, and the inhabitants thereof, in such a manner, as baffles the pen to give a just description of; in short, in a short space they have contrived to do the work of years. My family, for two descents, have been in friendship with the Great Row Pundit Purdhaun, and I am ever both wishing and studying the good of his affairs; Trimbeck Row also has a regard for me; and the connexion between you and me is *that* of brothers: judge then of my astonishment and surprise, that, notwithstanding all this, the disturbances of the horse, as afore-mentioned, should have happened. As the purport is the same, I have therefore wrote a letter to Trimbeck Row, by which, and the verbal representation of Madarow Sadasive, you will be informed of all particulars. By God's blessing, not even in the breadth of a hair will any thing ever happen contrary to my friendship and regard. Conformable to that freedom which subsists  
between

between us. I have sent you some things as a present, in accepting of which you will give me pleasure. Let me be ever put in mind of you by the receipt of letters advising me of your health.

*Draught of a Letter from the Nabob to Trimbeck Row.*

IT was with pleasure I received your letters, purporting your friendship and regard. Out of the greatness of my regard to you, the 13th of the month I shall dispatch answers to your letters, together with a letter from Governor Du Pré Behauder, wrote in the strongest terms of friendship; they will be accompanied by a trusty person on my part, and by Madarow Sadafive, who is a person confided in by Pundit Purdhaun, and by his long residence here has acquired a perfect knowledge of the friendship and regard subsisting between the Governor and me. My view in sending these persons is, that they may inform you fully of my friendship.

The Board do not see what other answer they can return to the Nabob than that proposed in Committee the 6th instant, and approved by the Board; a draught of a letter to that effect is therefore now prepared.

*From Governor Du Pré to the Nabob of the Carnatick, dated 11th January, 1772.*

I HAVE received your Excellency's letter of the 8th instant: being much pressed with business, I beg leave at present to reply in as concise a manner as possible to the material parts. You refer to several letters, wherein you have stated the friendship shewn by the ancestors of Madavarow, and by Madavarow himself, to you and to the Company. Friendship shewn to you, the Company will always esteem as friendship shewn to themselves; if therefore you have received any great proofs of friendship from Madavarow and his ancestors, in that sense the Company are obliged to them; but I do not know in what they have shewn their friendship to the Company themselves. I have communicated to your Excellency the letter I have wrote to Trimbeck Row, in which I tell him plainly, that I have now, after long expectation, received orders from Europe; and in consequence of those orders I declare to him clearly, that I cannot send the Company's troops to his assistance, or to the assistance of any but your Excellency. The message you propose sending to Trimbeck Row, to wit, that we are waiting for orders from Europe, will be contradictory thereto; and therefore if your Excellency will give me leave to offer my opinion, I think such a message would be improper; I should rather recommend that he be informed by your Excellency, as he is by me, of the plain truth, which is, that he may be assured we can send him no assistance.

To your proposal of sending your own troops to the assistance of the Marattas, what can I say more than I have already said? Your Excellency is not obliged to follow my advice; I take the liberty nevertheless to offer it in the name of your good friend, your unchangeable friend, the Company: 'tis a measure that

Vide page 1470.

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requires

requires deep consideration before it be undertaken. The Company refuse to send their troops; if your Excellency nevertheless resolves to send your's, what appearance will it have in the eyes of the Powers of India? Consider well two such friends as your Excellency and the Company, to the wonder of all India, wherein constancy is the prevailing character, having been inseparable through the course of 25 years, and sustained, with unshaken fidelity to each other, the adverse fortune of war and the prosperous gales of peace, in a fatal moment take different courses; what will be the natural conclusion? will it not be, that the connexion is broken, that the old friendship is given to the winds, and that new and separate systems are adopted? and what may be the consequence of such an opinion I leave to your Excellency's reflexion. After all, if your Excellency should resolve to send your own troops, it only remains for me to request of your Excellency to give me timely notice, that I may withdraw the Company's Officers and people who are with them.

I have perused with attention the draughts of the letters you enclose to me, and which you propose to write to Trimbeck Row and Morarow; it is difficult for me to give an opinion upon them, because their tenor must depend on your plan. If you resolve to desist from the plan of sending your own troops, in that case the intimation of such a design cannot have a place in your letter; but if you resolve to pursue it, then it seems to me that it would be best to propose it in direct terms: but after what I have wrote to Trimbeck Row, it cannot in either case be consistent to give him the least hopes of assistance from us, either of men or stores; and it will be contradictory to my letter to him to say, "That letters have been repeatedly dispatched to Europe for the accomplishment of the business," (meaning assistance) but not the least trace of any answer has hitherto been seen;" because I have wrote to Trimbeck Row, and told Madarow Sadasive, that we have received answers, and in pursuance of them cannot send any assistance. I have only further to recommend to your consideration, whether the mentioning in your own letters the humiliating insults already offered to you, and the cruel devastations committed in your country by the Marattas, while you have remained a passive spectator, and that not even a motion has been made to repel or revenge the affront; I say, whether the reciting it yourself to them is not doubling the disgrace; and whether it may not produce a contrary effect from that which you expect to derive from it, by encouraging them to continue their insults, when they find they may venture to persist in them with impunity: however, if your Excellency think any good can come of it, I have nothing to say.

P. S. Enclosed I have the honour to return the two draughts.

A draught of a letter to Madavarow, in answer to those received from him in December last, is now read and approved.

*From Governor Du Pré to Madavarow, dated 11th January, 1772.*

I HAVE lately had the pleasure to receive two letters, which out of the sincerity of your regard you have wrote to me, referring me for your particular sentiments

iments to Madarow Sadafive. I have in consequence conversed with him in such a manner as is proper where a sincere friendship subsists, and as I find him to be a gentleman of sense, honour, and candour, I have clearly explained to him all matters; I should have done so before, but it was necessary I should receive letters from England concerning those affairs, and I have now received them. It is a great proof of friendship when persons make proposals to each other for mutual advantage; and it is still a stronger proof of that friendship, if such proposals cannot be accomplished, that the reasons are accepted with kindness. I have wrote to Trimbeck Row concerning these affairs, who, as well as Madarow Sadafive, will inform you of the same. Be assured that the Company are sincere in whatever they declare; their unvarying friendship for Waulau Jau, through the course of 25 years, is a proof to all the world nothing can alter or impair it. Since then the Company declare their earnest desire to perpetuate their friendship with you, not a shadow of doubt should ever be suffered to approach your mind.

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

P R E S E N T,

Jofias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

Warren Hastings

John Smith

Henry Brooke

John Whitehill

George Stratton

George Mackay.

THE letter from the Nabob, in reply to the President's, on the subject of his proposal of sending his own troops to the assistance of the Marattas, is now laid before the Board, together with the answer wrote him in consequence, which the Board now approve.

*From the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Du Pré, dated 13th, and received 14th January, 1772.*

I HAVE received your letter of the 11th instant, and observed it's contents.

“ You tell me of the great friendship which has subsisted between the Company and me through the course of 25 years, in which we have sustained, with unshaken fidelity to each other, the adverse fortune of war, and the blessings of peace, to the wonder of all India; that when two such friends therefore, in a fatal moment, take different courses, what will be the natural conclusion? probably, you say, this,—that the connexion is broken; and that if after all I should resolve to send my own troops, it only remains for you to request I will give you such timely notice thereof, that you may withdraw the Company's Officers and people who are with them:” all which I paid due attention to.

Although the Company and I have ever been invariably united like so much milk and sugar, and our correspondence also has been conducted on the same footing,



footing, still it has been my constant desire and request to every Governor, that affairs might be so managed, as to put it out of the power of any one to observe the least distinction between the Company and me; owing to an apprehension of which it was, that in my letter of the 30th January 1770 I mentioned some matters which had happened contrary thereto. The very strong manner therefore you now express yourself on this head gives me the highest pleasure; the same has been my desire for this long time, and there is no satisfaction I esteem equal to it. Indeed I have formerly frequently told the Governor and Council, that I value the friendship and regard of the English Company and Nation superior to being master of the whole world, and that I esteemed my good as included in their's; in my letter to you also of the 7th June 1770, I told you, that it was not in the power of the universe to break my friendship with the Company, or their friendship with me; and in my conversation with you of the 11th instant at night, I mentioned, that supposing I could obtain the Empire of India, I would not accept of the same without the Company's approbation. From all which circumstances it is easy to see how much, how great has been my friendship and regard for the Company and English Nation; by God's blessing, in future also both myself and successors will in the same manner continue in their friendship.

Considering that there was no distinction between us, as the Company's affairs and mine are intermixed, I mentioned in my letter to you of such plans as appeared to me proper; induced thereto as well through apprehension of disturbances from the Marattas, as with a view of taking care of the inhabitants of my country; since you however give it me as your opinion, that the sending even of the troops in my service is taking a separate course, it is by no means my wish, as far as possible, to take any course that may be considered as a separation from the Company, the increase of friendship with them affording me the highest pleasure; indeed they are my protectors, and on whom my reliance has ever been in all things. I have now only one uneasiness remaining, which is this—that in case of the Maratta troubles in this country, I shall not be able, until by God's blessing tranquillity shall be restored, and the country be again in a flourishing state, to supply any thing towards the support of the army, except the provision which has been laid up in store in the several forts, and the sum of very near two Lacks of Pagodas, being the remainder of the sum, something short of four Lacks, the amount of the current charges to the end of last October, agreeable to your letter of the 15th ultimo; you have been advised of this indeed before repeatedly in my letters to you, as likewise of my answer to what you say respecting the Company's Officers, to wit, "That since you would not give them permission to act in the affairs of my own country, what possible hope could I entertain of their being permitted to act *without* my country?"

I have determined on sending Mahomed Aufim Khan Behauder, with Madarow Sadafive, to Trimbeck Row. As you have wrote to the latter that you will not give assistance to any one else, I shall do my utmost, by a proper representation of

of this, to keep off from this country the disturbances of the Marattas as long as I can, the rest must depend on the fortune of my country and it's inhabitants. Enclosed I send for your perusal a draught of a letter from me to Trimbeck Row, curtailed and altered conformable to what you wrote to me; should you approve of it, you will return it to me, that I may write my letter to him agreeable thereto.

What can I say more?

*Draught of a Letter from the Nabob to Trimbeck Row.*

THE friendship and regard which my family for two generations have borne to Pundit Purdhaun baffle all description; I make no doubt but the Great Row and you, who are judges of friendship, are convinced thereof. The great pains which the Governor of Madras and I have taken, ever since Pundit Purdhaun has been seeking our friendship, (that is to say, desiring our assistance to accomplish his objects in view) to bring about the same, are so well known as to need no explanation. As every thing however has it's allotted time, owing to the intervention of some family affairs, it neither suited the Great Row at that time to come himself, nor to send even his troops. How shall I tell you the loss which the Company and I thereby sustained, with a view of pleasing the Great Row! The Company, on being informed thereof, sent orders to the Governors of the several Settlements in India, to maintain friendship with every one, to rest satisfied with the affairs they are in possession of, and not to undertake any operations without their permission; the Governors therefore are tied by these orders. They were in great hopes that the Commissioners, that is to say, Mr. Vansittart, &c. Sardars, who were coming with full powers to these parts, would arrive, and that their powers would extend even to this business; but, owing to the adversity of the times, the ship they were upon was lost, and they never came; and after the expiration of a long time all hope of ever seeing them has been given up. On Madarow Sadafive's arrival here from Pundit Purdhaun, I procured him an interview with the Governor, and he is well acquainted with the sincere friendship there subsists between the said Governor and me.

It is well known to the wise, that when a dependant receives an order from his superior, forbidding him to meddle in any business, such dependant, although he thinks he sees advantages in such business, cannot venture to undertake the same. The English Nation, in particular, are exceedingly strict in paying obedience to the orders of their superiors; esteeming a compliance with the same of superior consideration even to their religion, lives, and property. The Gentlemen here therefore are tied. Out of the great regard the Company and I bear to the Great Row, we have not consented to the request of his enemy for assistance, which he has been making to us for years, with various offers to induce us thereto, nor in future shall we consent. You will find all these matters mentioned in the letter from my invariable friend; and by Syed Mahomed Aufim Khan Behauder, and Madarow Sadafive, who are noted for their wisdom, you will be particularly informed of my friendship and attachment. I have sent you a small present, con-

formable to a separate list, as a token of my friendship, and which you will do me a pleasure in accepting of.

*From Governor Du Pré to the Nabob of the Carnatick, dated 16th January, 1772.*

I HAVE the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th instant; by which I learn, that out of your regard to the Company, and to avoid the appearance of a separation of your interest from their's, you have resolved not to send your troops to join the Marattas; but nevertheless that you propose a continuance of friendship: this is entirely agreeable to the part I am authorised to take on behalf of the Company, and the draught of the letter you propose writing to Trimbeck Row is also conformable thereto; I have therefore the pleasure of returning it to you without any other remark.

Your declaration of firm union with the Company will ever be agreeable to them, and fix their's to you on an immoveable foundation. It is much to be lamented, that where such a perfect inclination to perpetuate friendship exists, there should ever be wanting the means of supporting it with advantage to both; the Company never have been, and never will be wanting on their part. Your country is now threatened by the Marattas, and they declare they have no demand on the Company; I have repeatedly declared to you, that if they should attempt to execute their threats, I shall exert myself to protect it by every means in my power. If the case were reversed, if the Company was in danger, and your Excellency in security, in consideration of past friendship, it would be natural to hope for every assistance from you; but even as the case is, to wit, that your country is in danger and the Company in security, you repeat to me, that I must not expect from you the assistance even of one Pagoda towards bearing the charges of defending it; for the two Lacks of Pagodas, which you promise to pay me, I cannot consider as any assistance on your part; that sum is the Company's own money, already disbursed on your account; and over and above that sum there is now actually due to them the money they have expended on your account for the current charges of the months of November, December, and the present month, besides the charges of the Mysore war, concerning which I shall shortly have occasion to address you. If your Excellency's resolution be really such as you have declared, what can I say to it more than I have already said? I cannot do impossibilities; I have told you all my means of supporting the army, and I have told you the consequence after those means are exhausted; I can only repeat, that whether your Excellency assist me or do not assist me, I will do all I can for the protection of your country; and if after all it should not prove successful, I shall at least have the conscious satisfaction which must ever result from endeavouring well.

*From the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Du Pré, dated and received 23d January, 1772.*

TO-DAY I have received answers to the letters I wrote to Trimbeck Row and Morarow the 10th instant,\* advising of my intention of sending to them, as the 13th,

\* Vide pages 1476, 1477.

Madarow Sadafive, and a trusty person on my own part; the answers are concise, and were brought to me by the same Camel Hircarrahs as carried my letters. By the enclosed copies you will see the concise replies, also purporting friendship, dispatched from hence, and sent to Mahomed Aufim Khân, for him to deliver, if he thinks them proper.

What can I say more?

*Copy of a Letter from the Nabob to Trimbeck Row, dated 23d January, 1772.*

THE receipt of your letter gave me both pleasure and satisfaction; but before it's perusal, relying on your friendship, I had, agreeable to your desire, dispatched Syed Mahomed Aufim Khân Behauder to you, together with Madarow Sadafive: on their arrival, and having the pleasure of seeing you, they will inform you of the friendship the Governor and I bear both to the Great Row and to you.

*Copy of a Letter from the Nabob to Morarow, dated 23d January, 1772.*

It was with pleasure I received your letter; but before it's receipt, relying on the old friendship subsisting between us, I had dispatched, agreeable to your desire, Syed Mahomed Aufim Khân Behauder, together with Madarow Sadafive. I make no doubt, on their seeing Trimbeck Row and you, they will inform you both of the friendship and regard the Governor and I have for a long time borne to the Great Row and to you both; and as you, my Brother, are there, my mind is entirely at ease respecting that quarter.

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

READ a letter from the Nabob, in answer to the President's of 15th December, on the subject of assisting the Marattas, and containing the Nabob's reasons for such a measure; which being only a repetition of the arguments which have been repeatedly urged by him and answered by us, the Board think it unnecessary to make any remarks thereon.

*From the Nabob of the Carnatick to Governor Du Pré, dated 25th, and received 26th December, 1771.*

YOUR letter of the 15th instant, in answer to mine of the 13th, I have received. You tell me of Ruckun-ud-Dowlah's going to Madavarow in the year 1768; of the forming an alliance between them for proceeding against the Carnatick Payengbunt; of Mr. Brome's negotiation; of Madavarow's writing in express terms to the Governor of Bombay, that his design was to demand the Choute from me; of the execution of the same at that time being prevented by his quarrel with Janojee Bouncello; of his (Madavarow's) arrival afterwards with a powerful army in the Myfore country, and of his sending Balraum to demand the Choute from me, and assistance

\* Vide 1445.



from you : all which, together with other circumstances regarding the same, related by you very particularly, I fully observed. In the extracts from the minutes of the Company's Council (Minute the 4th) mention is made, that as the Marattas have no colour of right to require the assistance of the Company's forces, a demand of such assistance (in whatever terms, whether in the form of a proposal, or otherwise, — whether directly, or by intermediation) accompanied with threats of laying waste the Carnatick Payenghaut, and by actual hostility, as in the plundering of Calaspauk and other villages, is a very great insult ; and in Minute the 5th of the said extracts, you say, that such a demand is certainly dishonourable.

If the term “ intermediation ” alludes to me, for your better information I am to acquaint you, that Governor Pigot, in his agreement with me of the 23d June 1760, expresses himself thus : “ By the blessing of God there is no difference between you and the Company ; all affairs of the country, and negotiations with “ Salabat Jung Behauder, Nizam Ally Khán, or other Chiefs, shall be carried on “ with your advice, which I esteem much more than the advice of any others ; ” Governor Bouchier likewise, in his agreement with me of the 11th of April 1768, expresses himself to the same purpose : and, conformable hereto, when Unberut Row, a Sardar of the Maratta army, came to Madras, Governor Pigot conducted the negotiation with him by my means ; and during the siege of Pondicherry, that Bifsaújee, another Sardar of the Marattas, came with an army into the Balaghaut, in consequence of Governor Pigot's letters to me, I kept him from assisting of the other side, although our enemies by various offers endeavoured to draw him thereto ; particular mention of which is made in my letter of the 19th of July last. What you say respecting Mr. Brome's negotiation, and Madavarow's writing to the Governor of Bombay, I make no doubt is true ; but still I did not understand from the letters of Shushrow, who was at that time at Poonah, of any requisition being made of the Choute, or that Madavarow was displeased with either me or the Company ; which, if it had been so, he would have mentioned it to me. On enquiry of Madavarow Sadafive here on this subject, he informs me, that one Mr. Mollyn came from Bombay to Poonah, and negotiated in a proper manner ; that Madavarow talked to him in the warmest terms of friendship, and then dismissed him. That Mr. Brome, who came there, put three questions to Madavarow, to which he desired a clear answer ; to wit, Whether he would assist the English ? assist Hyder Ally Khán ? or remain quiet ? That Madavarow on this thought the design of the Governor of Bombay was to set up Ragonaut Row, his uncle, against him ; surprised therefore thereat, as well as at Mr. Brome's manner of negotiating, he turned to his Council, telling them to observe in what manner Nagorow, who had brought letters from the Nabob and the Governor of Madras, had negotiated, and in what manner that good man Mr. Brome was then talking : that Madavarow's Council in reply represented to him, that his business was with the Nabob and the Governor of Madras ; that after therefore making use of some friendly expressions to Mr. Brome, he should inform that Gentleman of his intention to proceed himself towards the Carnatick, where he should negotiate respecting both country and money. The meaning of which is this ; — that Governor Bouchier and I some time ago made a proposal to Madavarow, by the means of Nagorow, for him to join in repelling and extirpating Hyder Ally Khán ; that

the Rajah of Mysore was to be established in the government of that country, the country belonging to the Payenghaut given to me, the expenses of his and my troops taken from the Rajah of Mysore, and the countries of Biddenure, &c. to be taken possession of by him. The Governor of Bombay probably hearing of this negotiation, carried on through the channel of the Governor of Madras and me, might write to Europe about it. For the proposal which Bulraum brought on the part of Madavarow, I beg leave to refer you to my letter of the 7th of June 1770, where particular mention is made of it. You tell me, "That the Marattas had resolved on coming into the Carnatick in the year 1768:" give me leave, for your information, to recite some transactions preceding that time; I mean the time that Nunderauze, the Delawaure of Mysore, in conjunction with the French and Madavarow, raised disturbances in this country, and Balajee Row, Madavarow's father, with a view of collecting money, arrived near to Syringapatnam; at which time Nunderauze and the French made an offer to Balajee Row of the sum of fifty Lacks of Rupees, provided he would come into the Payenghaut country, and fight against me and the English, and assist in the recovery of the places we had possessed ourselves of; Monsieur Buffly also, at that time in the Deckan, had made Balajee his friend, by procuring for him a country worth a Crore of Rupees, together with the city of Boorhanpore; notwithstanding all which, Balajee, in consideration of his friendship for the English Company and me, and what the Admirals Watfon and Pococke, and Lord Clive, had done out of regard to him, to wit, "The recovery and cession to him of the forts and islands possessed by Angria," would on no account agree to the offer from the French and Nunderauze, but continued his friendship to the English and me. When Monsieur Lally also came against Madras, Bissajee, a Maratta Sardar, who had arrived at Tripetty with an army, dispatched 4000 horse thither to the assistance of the English; accordingly they advanced as far as Trivatore, where they plundered the troops with Ruzau Ally Khan, Chunda's son, and the French horse, and then returned. Neither this desire of assistance on the part of Madavarow, nor yet his friendship for the Company, are merely of to-day. In my letter to the Field Deputies of the 10th of October 1768, a copy of which, together with copies of other letters, were enclosed to Governor Bouchier in a letter under date the 11th of the above month and year, particular mention is made of the sending of Hurry Pundit, a trusty person, during the time of the expedition against Madras, and of his interview with Governor Palk, through my means, on his arrival at Madras; and Madavarow, notwithstanding his expedition in the pursuit of Janojee Bouncello, still, out of his friendship to the Company and me, agreed to send a body of ten thousand horse to our assistance; which Shushrow accordingly advised me of by a letter dispatched by Madavarow's camel Hircarrahs, and a translation of which letter I enclosed to Governor Bouchier in mine to him under date the 26th January 1769. From all these circumstances it is clearly evident, that Madavarow's view was friendship to the Company and me; for if it had not, why were those things done?

You say, "You have read to me a passage of a letter from the Company to the Government of Bombay,—that their orders to you are conformable thereto,—that you shall not deviate therefrom without orders from your Constituents,—and heretofore cannot now, nor in future, unless you should be ordered by your Constituents, give any assistance to the Marattas. That this resolution however only respects the

" Company's forces, and not my own troops. That if I am clearly of opinion, that unit-  
 " ing with and assisting of the Marattas with my own troops will preserve my country  
 " from the present danger, and conduce to it's permanent prosperity and safety, I  
 " am in no wise restrained by your resolution respecting the Company's forces from  
 " sending my own ;" but you tell me, that such a measure is contrary to your ad-  
 " vice, because it is " Contrary to the system which the Company have recommended  
 " to all their Presidencies, and because you think the present tranquillity it will pro-  
 " duce will be but a palliative, and end in certain and utter ruin : that if I should  
 " notwithstanding this adopt the measure, you must in that case recall the Officers the  
 " Company have lent to discipline and command my troops, and shall then put the  
 " Company's troops in the Carnatick in garrison, and observe a neutrality, until you  
 " shall receive the Company's orders : " all which I observed.

True it is, that it is incumbent on dependants to comply with the orders of their  
 superiors ; but here (as my letter of the 25th of November 1770, mentions) the  
 same has in some instances been dispensed with. *Be impartial.* What can be the  
 reason that the apprehension of the laying waste of the country does not strike now,  
 in making an enemy of a Sardar, master of two hundred thousand horse, and of  
 powerful resources, when, in the year before last, the Governor and Council, after  
 the Carnatick had been ravaged a hundred times more than Calaspauk was, thought  
 it proper to conclude, and accordingly did conclude a peace with a Chief of six or  
 seven thousand horse, for the sake of tranquillity, although that Chief had no friend  
 to support him, and although the conclusion of that peace was opposed by me warmly,  
 as well in conversation as by letter ; yet his actions were not considered as insults,  
 nor the making of peace with him as dishonourable. The view of the Marattas in  
 desiring our assistance is not because they of themselves have not the superiority  
 over Hyder Ally Khán, but that by our assistance they may reduce the forts he  
 he has possessed himself of, and soon have done with the expedition ; and should  
 they despair of our assistance, they will ravage my country so effectually as not to  
 leave one single place in repose.

You say, " That if, without the Company's troops, by assisting the Marat-  
 " tas with my own forces, the country can be preserved from the present im-  
 " pending danger, and permanent prosperity and security be thereby obtained,  
 " you by no means oppose the sending of those forces ; but that the same is con-  
 " trary to your advice, and in that case you shall recall the Company's Offi-  
 " cers." I esteem the Company as the perpetual protectors of myself and country ;  
 they have been my invariable friends for this long time, and having tried their  
 friendship, every part of me is impressed with a sense of their obligations ; they  
 also have tried my friendship. As to the Officers, I have honoured them according  
 to the custom in Europe ; and if, notwithstanding they receive what pay from me  
 they desire, the Company recall them in times of service, what can I say to it ?  
 Judge only what distinction our enemies will thereby see subsists between the Com-  
 pany and me. My letter of the 19th July last contained my reply to this subject regard-  
 ing the Officers. As to what you say, " That I am by no means restrained from send-  
 " ing

“ing my own troops, but that it is a measure contrary to your advice ;” I reply, that through the friendship of the Company and the English Nation I am under no apprehensions from any war, either with the French, or any other Power of this country, except the Marattas, convinced that, by God’s blessing, you will punish them well; I must own however I am afraid of the Maratta ravages. Many people there are in the world who remember their ties of friendship with others, and continue steady by their engagements; and many also there are, who, after their purposes are answered, throw their engagements into the grave of forgetfulness. As for instance : when General Caillaud went to Hyderabad, and made a peace with the Deckan power, he thought *that* peace would have lasted for ever; but the Subah’s mind, full of vexation, at last shewed itself. Afterwards however that Ruccun-ud-Dowlah came down here for peace, and that, conformable to the custom of the country, some people of consequence were taken as guarantees thereto, not the least intingement has hitherto happened therein. My motive of mentioning of which is this;—that if, considering the present situation of affairs, now that the Marattas stand in need of assistance, *that* assistance be given, after receiving a treaty from them, (to which they should be bound on oath) and taking some of the principal Sardars of that nation as guarantees thereto, I make no doubt that the engagement so entered into would be lasting. God forbid it should so happen; but should they prove victorious over their enemy without receiving assistance from hence, with their minds full of that assistance not being granted, although desired by them for so long a time, what is the havock, the destruction, that both now and hereafter will not be brought upon this country? and who is there that will agree to the destruction and loss of Lacks of the inhabitants and cattle?

The country that Hyder Ally Khân has possessed himself of in the Balaghaut, and dependency on the Payenghaut, can on no account, either by his own power, or by the assistance of any one else, be protected from the ravages of the Marattas; who possess the same power of laying waste my country at present, as they can have after the removal of Hyder Ally Khân is effected. Allowing however that they should not be guilty of any actual hostility against my country, and only leave their troops in the country belonging to the Payenghaut possessed by Hyder; in that case, even, if they are not *in friendship* with us, the inhabitants of my country, which joins to the country possessed by Hyder Ally Khân, through fear of their incursions, will by no means be persuaded either to attend to the cultivation of the lands, or to remain in the respective villages; indeed they will go to the places possessed by the Marattas, and for this there is no remedy but friendship with the Marattas.

You say, “I have promised at all events to reimburse the Company shortly the current charges expended by them on my account to the end of last October, amounting to very near four Lacks of Pagodas. That if you rightly understood the meaning of my letter, to which your letter was in reply, it amounted to this; that in case the Marattas should invade the country I shall not be able to collect any revenues therefrom; that this gives you the deepest concern, because you  
“ have



" have already assured me verbally you have no means of supporting the military charges besides the said four Lacks of Pagodas ; and therefore, unless I can find some method of procuring further supplies, when that sum is expended, certain ruin must ensue : " all which I duly observed.

The eight Lacks of Rupees, the amount of the two years' Peshcush from the Rajah of Tanjore, were engaged by me to be paid to the creditors, and it was my intention accordingly to pay that sum to them ; in one of your letters however you told me, that the amount of the current charges to the end of last October was very near four Lacks of Pagodas, which you desired might be discharged. Some time ago I paid, on account of the current charges to the end of last April, the sum of five Lacks, thirty-two thousand, two hundred and eight Pagodas ; and although in that sum are included also last year's expenses, still the same was paid by me this year. You tell me likewise, that the charges for six months more, to the end of last October, amount to very near four Lacks of Pagodas ; if therefore to these two sums be added the expenses for the then remaining part of the year (the month of November, and the present month) which may be estimated another Lack, the whole which *has been, and is* to be paid on account of the current charges in the space of one year, may be estimated at more than ten Lacks of Pagodas. If therefore, notwithstanding the payment of so large a sum of money, the protection of my country is not effected, I think it is necessary I should take some mode for it's protection, and lessen my charges, which are more than I can bear. Besides the above money, my creditors likewise have received some ; and exclusive thereof are the expenses of my own troops and other necessary charges to be defrayed, which accordingly, in these critical times, have been defrayed as well from the revenues of the country, as by loans taken up for that purpose. Imagining that the charges of the seven battalions of Sepoys in my service, kept up by means of the Company, would in the course of the year amount to near two Lacks of Pagodas, I promised the payment of ten Lacks to my creditors ; and although I have neither seen a general nor particular account of the charges to the end of last October, still, in consequence of your letter to me, I shall pay you the four Lacks of Pagodas.

From Tanjore there has been received the sum of eight Lacks of Rupees in bills, on account of two years' Peshcush ; besides which the Rajah gave also to Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder a bill for three Lacks of Rupees, and to Mader-ul-Mulk Behauder an obligatory writing for one Lack of Rupees, making in all twelve Lacks of Rupees ; but if the writing in favour of Mader-ul-Mulk be set a one side, the same for the present being mere paper, there are only bills for eleven Lacks of Rupees. I have now paid two Lacks of Pagodas to the Company, *v. z.* one Lack to you in specie, and another I have ordered my Son Omdat-ul-Omrah Behauder to pay to Mr. Hay, the Company's Paymaster at Trichinopoly. You are well acquainted both with my want of money, and the stoppage of the revenues of the country through two causes ;—the first, the want of rain ; and the second, the disturbances of the Marattas ; the same indeed are so evident as to need no explanation. By God's blessing, however, the remaining sum of near two Lacks of Pagodas, on account of the current charges, shall shortly be discharged.

You

You say, " You understand from my letter, that in case the Marattas should invade the country, I shall not be able to collect any revenues therefrom." It is very evident, that in case of their troubles in this country, which is entirely exposed to their ravages, I shall neither be able to collect nor to pay any thing therefrom; for as on this country depends my maintenance and support, if that be ruined what can I do? God forbid it should so happen! but in that case my troops will disband, and I shall be unfit for any thing. If in the present situation of things, to wit, the mere plundering of Calaspauk, &c. by some Pundauras, although the Maratta army has not entered the province, the inhabitants have fled to places of security for protection, carrying with them their wives, children, and cattle with which they plough the lands, without however the necessary provisions for their support; that reapers also cannot be procured for cutting down the grain ripened by water from the wells; that the unripe grain is drying up for want of water being given to it; that the collections from the country are entirely stopt, and in addition thereto the troubles of the Polligars and thieves; I say, if in the present situation of things such are the consequences, in case of the whole Maratta army entering the province, (which God forbid!) what possibility can there be of receiving any thing therefrom? Since the Company therefore have no money ready to avert the disturbances of the Marattas, and I have no ability to furnish any, consider on this subject what is the advantage you have in view in displeasing so principal and powerful a Sardar, on whose friendship depends the tranquillity of the Carnatick, the collection of it's revenues, the payment of money to my creditors, and the Company's trade being on a proper footing; and who may without doubt assist the Company seasonably with a body of cavalry, should they have any business start up. For my own part, on a thorough consideration of this subject, to me it appears clear and evident, that the consequence of disagreeing with the Maratta is certain ruin, to the country. Indeed, in our present destitute situation for money, should an order come from my benefactors the Company (without being accompanied with a force and a treasury from Europe) to make war with the Marattas, as I am the Company's sincere friend, it should not even then be my advice to you to quarrel with him; nor at any rate until we had two or three Crores of Rupees in our treasury, and the King, the Nation in general, and the Company, would undertake his punishment in his own country.

You say " You understood from me in conversation, that there was grain enough in the forts for years; and desire that I would let you know the particular quantity in each fort, that you may calculate the time the army may be subsisted in the Carnatick: and that all you can say on this subject is, that as long as the army can be subsisted, paid, and kept together, the Company will never forsake me; but when all the money, provisions, and resources are gone—all is gone:" all which I observed.

Agreeable to your desire, I now enclose to you an account of provisions laid up in store in some forts for the consumption of the army, to which I beg leave to refer; besides these, there is also in the other forts belonging to the Carnatick a stock sufficient

for their respective garrisons for a term of six months. Formerly, the Company's Representatives, during the wars with the French and their friends, fought as men ought, and after my money was expended, punished their enemies effectually; laying out therein a great sum of the Company's money, and taking upon themselves vast pains to that end. It is true indeed, in times of tranquillity, the whole of the money they had disbursed was repaid, according to the several accounts transmitted to me by the Company; never however was the word "forfake" either thought of or expressed regarding me: the perusal therefore of what you now say, "That as long as the army can be subsisted and paid," (meaning thereby, as long as the four Lacks of Pagodas paid by me, and the provisions in the forts shall last,) "the Company will never forsake me; but when all the money, provisions, and resources are gone—all is gone;" the perusal of this, I say, caused in me the greatest astonishment and uneasiness. When you did me the favour to come to my house the 11th instant, you told me, "That the Council were agreed in this point, to wit, the non-assistance of the Marattas; that the Company had no money here to enable them to fight against the Marattas, nor had they any even either in the Circars or Bengal; that the state of the latter was this,—they had drawn bills on Europe for a Crore of Rupees, and had nothing there but paper; that as long as the four Lacks of Pagodas I was to pay on account of the current charges should last, you would oppose the Marattas, and when that was gone remain quiet." I asked you, what you would do with the troops; you said, "You would send them to the Circars." I replied, "Suppose the Marattas should go to the Circars?" you said, "You would send them to Bengal:" "And suppose, said I, the Marattas should also proceed to Bengal; what would you then do?" you answered, "That ~~then~~ all was gone". From this conversation, as well as from your letter, to which this is in reply, it appears to me certain, that as long as the four Lacks of Pagodas and the provisions in the fort shall last, the Company will fight with the Marattas; but by that fighting the protection of the country cannot be effected; and after that the said money and provisions shall be expended, they will of themselves quit the whole; and in case the Marattas should proceed to the Circars and Bengal, they will also quit those countries.

The consideration of it's being entirely out of my power to furnish any other money or provisions than what are before-mentioned, in case of the Maratta troubles, gives me now the additional apprehension, that besides my own country, the Circars, &c. countries belonging to my friends, will also be lost. My motive before for pressing to have peace with the Marattas was merely with a view to the good of the inhabitants of my own country; but now that I learn, as well from your conversation as your letter, that the Company have no money, the taking care of the tranquillity of both my own and the Company's countries is become more and more incumbent on me. When you did me the favour to come to my house, in company with Mr. Stracey, the 24th instant, after much other discourse, you said, "That in case of the Maratta disturbances, as long as the four Lacks of Pagodas on account of the current charges you was to receive from me should last, you would take care of the forts; but that if the troops received no pay, they would mutiny, and the forts of Amboor, Vellour, &c. be lost." To this I replied, "That during Maratta troubles, the consequence of which was the devastation of the country, where was I to get any money."

" money; and therefore the fort of Vellour even must be lost." You answered, "That if no money was received, the forts of Vellour, Amboor, &c. would be lost," and "taking Syphe-ul-Mulk Behauder as a witness, you said, "Your Father probably thinks I say this to frighten him, but what I say is not with that view, it is the truth." I replied, "Well then, if the Company have no money, nor I any money, nor any ability to procure money during troubles in the country, relying on what support is it we are to quarrel with the Marattas?" better is it we should assist him agreeable to his desire, by which the country will be preserved from their devastations, and the forts remain in security. Your answer was, "That if it was to cost you your life even, you would on no account assist the Marattas." What is it that has taken such root in your mind, that, on account thereof, you neither regard the benefits arising from the Carnatick country remaining in tranquillity, nor the loss of Lacks of the inhabitants or others? Let the Governors of Bengal and Bombay, by supporting of others, raise whatever troubles, and shew whatever enmity they please against the Marattas, I have no objection; but the Governor of Madras, who is the protector of myself and country, on him it is incumbent to consult me in what may be for my good, the good of my country, and the Company's good. It was through an apprehension of this I made the opposition at the time of the peace with Hyder Ally Khân; but my advice was not attended to; and it is this which has been the cause of the Marattas insisting more strenuously for our assistance.

The Company, in their letter of the 4th of March 1767,\* (at which time you were one of the Directors) wrote to me respecting the settling of the Ghauts, and Governor Pigot's promise to me; you know afterwards the Governors Palk and Bouchier also gave me promises in the same manner. If, notwithstanding my firm friendship with the Company for a term of 24 years, all their positive promises are not remembered, to what am I to impute the ruin of my country, but to the pleasing of a man, who, having betrayed his master, has got possession of his country by force, and has nothing to do but to make use of artifices and deceits? If views of advantage however are the cause, whatever kindness *that* man in his distressed condition offers to the Company, the Maratta also, possessed of all his power, will give them in the Biddenure country, as my former letters to you mention. The substance of all, in short, is this: Let Hyder Ally Khân clothe his request for assistance in whatever dress he pleases, I by no means agree thereto; and if, out of the people who, by the cession of a Jaghire, and by the receipt of pay from me in this country, are the support and protectors of myself and country, one man be sent to his assistance, I on no account agree to the taking such a dangerous step. The whole of my views in short are these; to be in firm friendship with the Company and the English Nation, and that the tranquillity of the Company's and my countries be perpetual; and as you are the protector of myself and country, my wish is also that you would assist the Maratta, agreeable to his desire; and in this distressed situation both of the Company and myself for money, that you would protect my forts and country, and thereby extend your reputation to Europe; and the Company, who are both wise and prudent, on seeing our situation at such a juncture as this, will approve and commend the plan of friendship with the Maratta to obtain this end, to wit, the preservation of the forts and country.

\* Vide page 512.



Should this advice of mine however not be conformable to your pleasure, the maintaining of my firm friendship to the Company, and the tranquillity of my country, to the utmost of my power, are above all essential to me; for it is this friendship and this country which are the pillars of my honour and fortune, the means of the Company's receiving their money on account of the current charges, of the creditors likewise receiving their money, and my being enabled to pay my own necessary expenses. As I am the Company's sincere friend, as there is not the least distinction between us, and as you are their Representative here, I have mentioned all these things plainly to you. Had I not wrote an answer to your letter, you would have imputed it to neglect; for before, when, owing to the intervention of business, a little delay arose in my sending answers, I perceived it gave you displeasure, repeatedly coming yourself and sending messages for them; and when I do write to you, as it is necessary to be explicit, I am uneasy lest it should be displeasing to my friends: however, in consequence of your former desire in this respect, and the situation of the country, I thought it proper, in reply to your letters, to mention all these circumstances, which you will accordingly be so good as to excuse.

I am obliged to you for the copy of the resolutions and opinions of the Council you sent me respecting the present state of affairs.

What can I say more?

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

P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

Warren Hastings

John Smith

Henry Brooke

John Whitehill

George Stratton

Richard Brickenden

George Mackay.

READ a letter from Hyder Ally Khân, setting forth the advantages of our joining him against the Marattas, and the measures necessary to be taken by the troops of this Coast and Bombay; representing that there are sufficient supplies of provisions in all his principal forts. To which a draught of an answer is now read and approved, informing him, that the orders we have received from the Company prevent our sending their troops out of the Carnatick to the assistance of any one.

*From Hyder Ally Khân to Governor Du Pré, dated 31st December, 1771. Received 24th January, 1772.*

THE 29th instant I had the pleasure and satisfaction of receiving your letter of the 11th, acquainting me that "The Marattas for these two years past have been soliciting you, with entreaties and with threats, to join them with the Company's forces, which you have refused; and that in the space of a month or six weeks you should receive the Company's instructions, when you should

" comply with my proposal : " all which I duly observed. By God's blessing you are a wise Sardar, and well informed of all circumstances. I am entirely convinced both of your friendship and the sincerity of your engagements, and that you will be conformable to your promise, and to what you wrote to me. The Marattas have by various modes likewise desired my assistance, as you have been advised by several letters lately sent ; and they have not even yet laid aside all thoughts of it, although my answers to them, both before and now, have been and are clear and explicit. Indeed this matter of assistance is now the chief point in dispute between the Marattas and me, and the bar that prevents the adjustment of matters ; considering therefore the keeping of a Vackeel with their army as entirely to no purpose, I sent for him to me, and accordingly he arrived here the 27th instant.

With an eye to the future as well as for both our benefit, I informed you that the Marattas were all deceit, watching their opportunity of taking advantage of others ; that their aim was to spread their ravages as far as possible ; that their coming into this country was attended with various bad consequences, and therefore that the Company's and my troops ought to be joined in the punishing and expelling them therefrom. I now also, conformable to the sincerity of friendship subsisting between us, and with a view to our mutual good in future, beg leave to mention, that by our junction and union, the enemy, impressed with the utmost awe and dread, will desist from their troublesome requisitions and demands, and with shame be expelled from these parts without the attainment of their object. But should it so happen, that the Marattas this time acquire even the smallest thing from the Company's territories, it will be a bad precedent ; for in that case, having once got a taste of the sweets, they will every year, prompted by their insatiableness, invade their country, requiring impossibilities : whereas, should their hopes of this nature be now entirely cut off, they will never dare so cast so much as a look towards the Company's possessions, and both our countries will ever remain in tranquillity and security. The consideration of which, agreeable to the friendship and union between us, induces me to mention, that if, consulting your name and reputation, and the good of affairs in future, you shall positively determine on the junction of our forces to expel the Marattas, and will advise me thereof, I will come myself with my troops and a considerable artillery into the Baramahaul country ; when the junction of our forces being effected, by God's blessing, the expulsion of the Marattas will with the greatest ease be accomplished. I have been informed by my Vackeels, agreeable to what you mentioned to them, that it is most probable I shall be assisted by the Governor of Bombay, as he had wrote to you on this subject ; he has also wrote to me thereon ; and what is consistent with the friendship and engagements subsisting between us is this, that in time of need we should join and assist each other. The plan that occurs to me for the Company's benefit, the extending the reputation of all their Sardars, and the reducing the power of the enemy, is, that the troops dependent on Madras and my troops should go together, and take as their line the opposing and punishing of the Marattas here ; and while this is doing, that the troops dependent upon Bombay begin their operations from thence towards conquering and reducing the several places in the Cocun country, a country worth a Crore of Rupees, and situated near to Bombay. Conformable to this plan, I have lately

wrote to the Governor of Bombay, telling him that the Marattas were engaged in these parts, and had left the Cocun country entirely exposed; that such another opportunity would never offer for the conquest and reduction thereof; that having therefore firmly resolved on the same, he should acquaint me of it, when I would dispatch my fighting ships, with four or five thousand experienced people used to the sea on board, and under the command of a trusty Sardar, to join him; and whatever forts belonging to the Cocun districts, situated either on the hills or on the plain, might be taken, together with whatever money or effects, should belong to the Company, I have nothing to do therewith, my object being "The increase of friendship between us". As this is the time for business, and for acquiring a reputation, you will also write to him separately on this subject whatever may be proper, in consideration of the friendship and freedom of communication (void of ceremony) subsisting between us.

You tell me, "That provision is essentially necessary for the subsistence of the troops, &c. and that as my country has suffered through the incursions of the Marattas, in case of the Company's forces proceeding there, it will be difficult, if not impracticable, to procure the same." The Marattas, it is true, have taken and plundered five or six small weak forts belonging to my country, places of residence for the inhabitants; but, by God's blessing, in the principal forts and places thereof provisions of all sorts are in such quantities as to lay in heaps; indeed I may say, that each place has enough for the consumption of the Company's and my armies for the space of a twelvemonth; make yourself therefore entirely at ease in this respect. By the Almighty's favour, in case of the Company's and my troops joining, not only the Marattas will not be able to remain in this country, but immediately on our said junction they will set off, nor stop even to take breath 'till their arrival at the river Kistnah.

I flatter myself that you will reflect on all these circumstances, and soon let me have the pleasure of receiving a favourable answer to this letter; in expectation of which I shall wait: for further particulars I refer you to my Vackeels. Always let me have the pleasure of receiving letters from you, advising of your health.

May your happiness and prosperity increase!

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

# P R E S E N T,

Josias Du Pré Esquire, Governor, President.

John Smith

George Stratton

Henry Brooke

John Whitehill

Charles Smith

George Mackay.

READ a letter from the Nabob, enclosing extract of one from Mahomed Aufim Khán, advising that matters were made up with the Marattas, who were returned into the Balaghaut.

*Fram*