

mander; nor was it possible to conceive that a man, who himself had tasted the gall of misfortune, should be so totally unmindful of the unbounded and unparalleled grace shewn to him, as to delight in denying a single ray of benevolence to others; such however has been the case; and in due intimation of it I have discharged that which was incumbent on me. I too can say, that the Nabob, as the Agent of oppression, is alone culpable; but whilst all Asia knows that the English gave him the Rod, and whilst they in vain look up to them, as those who ought, if not to direct the application, at least to prevent an ill usage being made of that Rod, will they not reasonably conclude, that the scourges which the Agent gives are connived at? will they not say, 'that every English Chief is another Sujah?' It is not to me what restraints were laid on my Predecessors, none of them were ever in similar circumstances; nor do the grievances which I have represented against him from public views (for I could for a time sacrifice, or at least conceal my own private feelings) appear to me to have been at all without a preventative, nay, an easy and effectual one, and that too without coercive means, or being liable to the objection of any usurpation of the Vizier's authority, which I am as far from desiring as yourself.

In case of his Excellency's failure of paying the Subsidy to the Troops for one month beyond the period at which the payment should have been made, I was instructed to suspend my operations, and to declare, on the part of Administration, "That such failure must be considered as equivalent to a dismissal of the Troops." Now, Sir, I think no man will venture to say, that a month's delay of the payment of 210,000 Rupees arrears is of any consequence, compared to that regard which we ought to have for the honor of the Service, and of the English Name, and which I am persuaded you and all the Members of the Administration possess; yet it is undeniable, that the very same remedy which was prescribed for the lesser would also have full effect against the greater evil; but since this did not occur, or though, for the reasons which I have mentioned, it was not deemed necessary by the Board at the first, there appears no doubt that it is very practicable to provide for future occasions. I am glad you did not address the Vizier concerning the Family of Hafez; your good sense figured circumstances as they really were. I did not mean, nor say, that Hafez's Family should be rendered independent of Sujah Dowla; I wrote to Mr. Hastings, requesting that he would take them under his protection, by "Influencing the Nabob to make provision for them in some degree suitable to their birth." They themselves proposed, that any, or as many of the Sons as the Nabob pleased, should remain in his hands, but prayed him not to dishonor the Begum, and other Women, by dragging them about the Country, to be loaded with the scoffs of his rabble, and otherwise still worse used; but he was deaf maugre all my entreaties, which you will find, by my Letter of the 11th, were also ineffectual with regard to the destruction of the Villages, a circumstance with respect to which I am now sorry I did not undeceive you sooner; but it proceeded from a real disinclination to enlarge upon his excesses, which has also prevented my descending to the particulars of his conduct. I am truly at a loss to understand wherein my powers have been extended by the Honorable Board; I say so most seriously, and without any intention to offend. They have indeed put it in my power to return to Berelly, if the safety of the Troops should be manifestly endangered, but this is a power which I possessed before, or at least which I conceived I possessed; and if I did not, I acted without authority in declining to fight the Rohilla Army in one situation, and engaging them in another, contrary to the Vizier's express desire; but of this the Administration have been pleased to approve, therefore my authority, where the preservation of the Army should be concerned, admitted no longer of doubt; and there seems little wanting to make the line drawn between his Excellency's powers and mine answer all the ends proposed but the salvo above suggested, or some other check to his future misconduct, which I am persuaded my Successors will look for, and which I flatter myself my own moderation might justly entitle me to be entrusted with; but as it is not likely that I shall have the honor of being at the head of your Army another Campaign, I can now be but little solicitous for such a provision in my own favour.

When I addressed the Board on the 11th and 16th past, it occurred to me that the subjects of my Letters required a full discussion of the whole Administration; but I shall

in future leave it entirely to the Committee, or you, to submit my Correspondence to the Board, or not, as may be thought best.

Camp, 15th
June, 1775.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

ALEXANDER CHAMPION.

P. S. I have the pleasure to inform you, that though the Nabob is so much in arrears, the Troops are paid up to the 1st of this month, so that we shall hold out much better than when I began to write this Letter.

TO COLONEL CHAMPION, &c. &c.

DEAR SIR,

I AM favoured with your two Letters of the 11th and 14th instant.

I am sorry to find, by the manner in which you mention the Appointment of Captain Morrison, that it has given you uneasiness; but I must observe, that I made it in consequence of a design formed before there was a probability of your being now at the head of the Army.

With respect to the appointing Officers to the Corps of Light Infantry, my intimation was rather private than official; since, however, you have considered it in a different light, I think it will be better that in future these nominations be made according to the rules established for posting Officers in general Corps.

I am extremely pleased with the intelligence you send me of the Vizier having dismissed Maddoc and Gentil from his Service, but I am still more rejoiced at the good understanding that you say subsists between you and his Excellency. I have not a doubt that you will use your utmost endeavours to cultivate this harmony, on account of the obvious advantage resulting from it to all our measures and interests.

Since writing my Letter of the 28th, in which I offered reasons against your moving from Bissoulee, unless necessity should compel you, I learn from private Letters that you had begun your Cantonments there by the 11th instant. This is so strong an argument, in addition to those I have already urged, that I am sure you will yourself apply it; I will not therefore add any thing to them, but an expression of my wish, that you will use the discretionary power given you by the Board, as your prudence and moderation may induce you to think most eligible.

I am, Dear Sir, with esteem, &c.

Fort-William,
May the 30th, 1774.

(Signed)

WARREN HASTINGS.

TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE the honor to enclose you Translation of a Letter received from his Excellency the Vizier, in consequence of my application to him for the forty Lacks due to the Company for the Conquest of this Country by your Troops.

I am, &c.

Camp, 16th June, 1774.

To

TO the SELECT COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

HEREWITH I transmit you Copy of Shah Allum's Answer to the Address preferred by me to His Majesty, as mentioned in my Letter to you of the 21st May. With it be pleased also to receive Copy of the Engagement the Vizier entered into with His Majesty, relative to the Conquest of this Country, (which Treaty is said to be written on a leaf of the Koran) and likewise duplicate of a Letter from Nudjiff Khan to Somroo.

The Postscript to the Royal Letter is written by His Majesty himself.

I have to observe to you, that in my Address to the King I made no mention of any transactions between him and the Vizier directly nor indirectly. At present I construe Nudjiff Khan's Letter as a snare for Somroo, from the extreme anxiety which runs through it, or perhaps it owes its origin altogether to the machinations of Abdulat Khan; for this very day I had some proof of Nudjiff Khan's fidelity in sending to Camp one of the men who deserted from us.

I am, &c.

Camp, Bissoulee,
17th June, 1774.

DEAR SIR,

THE arrival of the Salisbury upon the Coast has given us information, beyond dispute, that General Clavering is coming out with a principal Seat in Council; and though the Court of Directors at first opposed his nomination as Commander in Chief of the Forces on this Establishment, yet all private Advices agree that he will receive such a Commission before he leaves England. I shall therefore immediately comply with your request, by laying your Letter, desiring permission to come down to the Presidency previous to your resignation, before the Board. Their reply will no doubt leave you the choice of your time for setting off; and if, in the interim, any thing new, or of a different tendency, should occur, I will let you know, that you may act accordingly.

I am, &c.

Fort-William,
June the 1st, 1774.

(Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.

To the Honorable WARREN HASTINGS, Esq. Governor, &c.

DEAR SIR,

IAM favoured with your Letters of the 30th May and 1st instant; and I desire you may rest fully satisfied, that notwithstanding what I have written for the information of the Administration concerning the Vizier, yet I have been extremely studious to cultivate the best possible understanding with him; be assured too that, for the reasons you mention, and which have all along weighed with me, I will uniformly continue to do so whilst in my present capacity. I am much obliged by your early intelligence concerning General Clavering. After receipt of the Board's permission to return to the Presidency, I shall only continue here 'till the Rivers shall have become unfordable, and until an Answer shall arrive to my Letter to you of the 28th past, concerning the offers made by Fyzoolla Khan, and of the 30th, regarding Lieutenant-Colonel Upton's claim on the Nabob,

of which Letters I now enclose you duplicates. I hope you thought the propositions of Fyzoola Khan of such consequence as to demand the consideration of the Board or Committee; they appear to me of high importance to the Company, and I am persuaded, that by proper application of the Board's influence with the Vizier in favour of Fyzoola Khan, our Honorable Employers may derive great advantages, and the Nabob's own interest be much better secured, than it can possibly be by attempting to keep the Country in his own immediate possession. It seems too as if we should not have many opportunities in future of rendering our Honorable Masters essential services, and therefore the last exertions ought to be supported by every nerve; I speak to you, my friend, as yet a Company's Servant.

I have the pleasure to inform you that his Excellency has paid the Subsidy up to the 24th May. Two more Deserters were brought to Camp yesterday, one of them the only artillery-man who left us.

Lieutenant Palmer and Ensign Alexander Murray having particular business at Calcutta, and the latter being also advised by our friend Mr. Graham to take a trip down, in case there was a probability of a respite from service for three months, which being now certain, I have granted him my permission.

I send you Copy of Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Cummings, and am to request you will signify your pleasure to him on the subject thereof.

I am, &c.

Camp, the 19th
June, 1774.

(Signed)

ALEXANDER CHAMPION.

To the SELECT COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

CANDOUR towards the Vizier having induced me to shew him the Copy of the engagement sent down by His Majesty, his Excellency this morning presented to me the original counterpart, of which I enclose you a Translation.

The Vizier says, that, by not coming in person, the King has forfeited any benefits which he could claim under these agreements, and that he received fifty thousand Rupees in part of travelling expenses. The Writings are now before you, and will speak for themselves; and as that sent down by His Majesty seems acknowledged by the Vizier, I beg leave to refer you to the 7th Paragraph of the Board's Letter to me of the 23d May, and to desire you will honor me with your explicit instructions regarding the import thereof, that is, whether, or how far that Treaty is to be at all regarded by you.

I send you a Persian Duplicate of the Nabob's Letter concerning the forty Lacks, and

I am, &c.

Camp, June 20th, 1774.

P p p

To

To COLONEL CHAMPION, &c. &c.

DEAR SIR,

I HAVE received a Letter from the Vizier acquainting me of his intentions to proceed to Fyzabad, for the purpose of raising the stipulated Payment which will be due to the Company, on account of the Cession of Corah and Allahabad Provinces; he also mentions, that he will leave his Sons and his Army at Bissoulee with the Brigade, and only carry a small Guard with himself, and that he will not be absent longer than a month or a month and a half. He expresses himself as very desirous that his journey should occasion no distrust in you, and requests of me to write to you on the subject. As the reasons which the Vizier assigns for his journey are very plausible, and even if they were not, as he must be master of his own conduct in a measure of this kind, I have made no objections to his absence, and I have engaged that you likewise would make none.

It will be proper, however, to settle the measures requisite for the regular payment of the Troops, and the necessary supplies of Provisions during his absence; this done, I can see no inconvenience that will attend his journey.

I have earnestly entreated him to return to the Army in time to recommence your operations early in the next season.

I am, &c.

Fort-William, the
4th June 1774.

(Signed)

WARREN HASTINGS.

To the G O V E R N O R.

DEAR SIR,

I AM favoured with your Letter of the 4th current regarding the Vizier's intentions of going to Fyzabad. They had been hinted to me by one of his principal men, (I supposed at his desire) and my reply was, that I could not possibly have the smallest objection, but that I trusted his Excellency would provide for the due payment of the Company's Troops during his absence; and this I hope, with Mr. Middleton's assistance, may be easily settled.

I am, &c.

Camp, Bissoulee,
22d June 1774.

(Signed)

ALEXANDER CHAMPION.

To the G O V E R N O R and C O U N C I L.

GENTLEMEN,

ENCLOSED I return the Military Regulations which you did me the honor of submitting to my perusal.

The President has been at so much pains in compiling them that very little room was left for observation, and I shall be glad if any of the few which I have offered appear worthy of a place.

Camp, the 23d June.

I am, with great respect, &c.

To the G O V E R N O R.

DEAR SIR,

OF this date I have returned the new Regulations proposed to be established for the better regulating of Military Oeconomy, &c. with a few Remarks, but you left no place for any of moment. I submit to you however, whether, as General Clavering and the other Gentlemen are probably nigh at hand, the publication of the Regulations had not better be deferred till their arrival.

As General Clavering may probably wish to possess the Commander in Chief's House in Town, and as it may be agreeable to you to fit it up properly for him, in that case do me the favour of directing the House in the New Fort to be evacuated for the reception of my furniture, &c. which I will order to be removed from the House in Town.

Camp, Bissoulee,
the 23^d June, 1774.

I am, &c.

To the G O V E R N O R.

DEAR SIR,

ENCLOSED I send you Copy of a Letter which Mr. Taylor received yesterday from the Deforter Redman. One part of it induced me to believe his being with Fyzoolla Khan, to whom I wrote peremptorily to send him in; but I have since been informed that Redman is at Nigibabad, (another name for Pattergur) in the service of the Nabob Koolah Khan, Brother to Zabita Khan. No endeavour shall be untried to get hold of Redman.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

Camp,
24th June, 1774.

ALEXANDER CHAMPION.

Copy of Mr. Redman's Letter to Mr. Taylor.

MY DEAR TAYLOR,

I RECEIVED very safely your Answer to my Letter, as the Medicines also which have been of the greatest efficacy in restoring my lost health.

I now communicate to you the measures I have taken to conduct you safely to me. In the first place I acquaint you that I have settled with the Nabob the terms you shall be upon; five hundred Rupees a month without reserve, and your table with me; and if you choose to take the command of a Battalion of Seapoys under me, it shall be your's, with further allowances and appointments; or if that does not suit your inclinations, you have nothing else to do but to sit quiet and enjoy yourself. I likewise must promise, that you will always receive valuable presents from the Nabob, his Brothers and Family, as likewise from all the Great Men about him, for the least assistance given them in the physical and medical way; and for the better conveyance of your books, instruments, &c. I have sent you two travelling portmanteaus, which fill with all sorts of medicines, nor scruple to bring whatever of the sort you can procure from whatever place or persons; you will be able to reimburse them in a few months, nay even in a few days after your arrival. I send you a Havildar and six Seapoys, all disguised, and two

Hircarrahs.

Hircarrahs. You have got sixty-five Cofs to come, twenty-five to Moradabad and forty here. I have sent one of my horses to Moradabad, and shall come twenty Cofs to meet you and conduct you the rest of the way. I am now busy in getting a Bungalow ready for you. You must go the twenty-five Cofs upon your horse, if you have one, or can procure one. If you stand in need of cash, dispatch a Hircarrah to me, and I will send you what you want. The first twenty five Cofs are short ones, and little better than Sixteen Seapoys of mine shall be laid upon the road, and, if weary, Doolies shall be ready for you. I have taken every precaution I can think of; and indeed there is nothing to fear or to be dreaded, only be secret, and resolute, and steadfast; communicate your design to no one, no not even your servants. All that is to be done is this, put up your things yourself, and that not openly, I mean your books, what relates to physic and surgery only, and your instruments, and what relates to medicines. I have before hinted to you to procure a number of Coolies, and send them loaded off with your liquors, in short, with all the things you have a mind to. Borrow what money you can, and purchase liquors and take up liquors; send them off under the charge of one my Hircarrahs, whose name is Diaram, and with him what servants you want with you; he will in one day arrive at Moradabad. I have sent both Coolies and Bearers all along the road, and sooner than you should want assistance in this affair, which I have so much at heart, I would come myself to conduct you the whole road. Do you get Coolies, load them, pay them some money before hand, and depend on my servants to conduct them in safety. As for yourself, take to your horse in the dusk in the evening, and by nine o'clock the next day you will be at the stage where my horse waits. Give my Seapoy, who waits to attend you, your horse, and mount mine without dread and fear, and proceed to me, who will have every thing ready and needful for your accommodation and repose after a long journey. Whatever person should ask you any questions make this answer to them, "That you are going, sent by the Nabob Vizier and the General on "Vackeelit business, to Fyzoola Khan, nor let them dare to stop you on their perils." Indeed you will not have occasion to give any answer, for the road is open, nor any Guards to stop and question you. At Moradabad, with my horse, is a horseman of mine, whom I have ordered to attend you and conduct you to me. In case of any accident befalling you, he will in haste acquaint me, and I will come to you; but with the blessing of God, and his assistance, I have not the least fear of such a thing. I must again remind you, that nothing in the world else is required but diligence, secrecy, and resolution. You have nothing to dread, and every thing to hope for, and a fair prospect before you of every happiness that this Country can afford. When you are on horse-back look before you, nor ever look or think behind you. You cannot be missed before the morning, when, if you use dispatch, you will be far enough on your way out of the reach either of horse or foot; for, having a whole night's start of them, it is morally impossible, they not knowing the road you have taken how to direct their pursuit, should ever come up to you; and as there are my Seapoys on the road and on the watch, you have nothing to fear, for if they come after you, my people will lead them astray another road, as I have fully instructed them for the purpose. Let no living soul into your secrets; consider a good deal depends on it. After you have perused this, commit it to the flames, that, in case of any unforeseen accident, it may not rear it's front against you; me it cannot hurt, I am out of their power and reach far enough, and so shall you too, if you follow my steps, and the precautions I here give you, which, together with the Divine assistance, will be sufficient. Courage and resolution to face accidents and dangers are the life and soul of all undertakings. I again repeat to you there is nothing to be dreaded or feared. In a few days I hope to embrace you, and in person to assure you how much I am, Dear Taylor, your affectionate and sincere friend,

(Signed)

JAMES REDMAN.

N. B. For some very particular reasons, which I will disclose on our meeting, I must beg and conjure you to bring store of Cantharides, either tincture or other, or otherwise; don't forget this.

A true Copy. (Signed)

JOHN MURRAY,

Neeshumabad,
6th of this Moon.

Secretary to the Commander in Chief.

To the SELECT COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE the honor to transmit to you Copy of a Letter which I have received from Nudjiff Khan, relative to the Letter from him to Somroo, of which I enclosed you a Copy under date the 17th instant; you have also Copy of the Enclosure referred to in Nudjiff's Khan's Letter.

I am, &c.

Camp, 24th
June, 1774.

To the GOVERNOR.

SIR,

IN my Letters of the 17th and 19th instant you was informed that three of the Deferters had been apprehended and brought to Camp. Upon trial they were all condemned to be shot, though I privately resolved to pardon them. I issued orders for their execution as this morning, and gave written instructions to Colonel Galliez, that all the forms should be observed with the usual solemnity excepting actual execution; this was accordingly done, and their pardons intimated to them at the Butt, which, after the recent example of the Deforter who was shot, I am hopeful will have the wished-for effect. There are two, however, who, if apprehended, may probably suffer death, as they were formerly in the Country Service, and were the instigators to the late desertions.

It escaped me to acquaint you, that in consequence of a representation from the Paymaster, that the monthly expenses of the Garrison of Buxar had not been paid for some time, and could not be paid by him, as he had no authority to draw on the Presidency or Patna, and therefore requesting that Lieutenant-Colonel Muir might be directed to pay them, as he has a Credit on the Chief and Council of Patna; and as it appeared to me the most eligible mode that could be adopted, I accordingly signified my desire to Lieutenant-Colonel Muir, under date the 8th current, that he should pay the Buxar Charges to Captain Grant 'till further orders, and am now to request you will signify your pleasure on that head.

I remain, &c.

Camp, 27th
June, 1774.

(Signed)

ALEXANDER CHAMPION.

SIR,

I AM informed from the Vackeel of Rajah Cheyt Sing, by a Letter he has received from his Master, that intercession has been made to Cholly Churn to obtain from the Vizier a Sunnud for Joanpore in the name of Shab Khan. Although, when I was at Benares, I interested myself so far in favour of Shab Khan as to procure him admittance into the Rajah's presence, my intentions in so doing were merely to establish a reconciliation between them, but by no means to second any of Shab Khan's pretensions or views. Joanpore being a part of the Benares Zemindarry, which the Company have guaranteed to Cheyt Sing, it is impossible for them to admit of a partition of it to another; but I am at a loss how to address the Vizier on this subject. Cholly Churn, who bears notoriously the worst of characters, and of whose transactions at Benares I

Q q q

have

have myself had such particular accounts as induce me to believe he deserves it. I find to be the intriguing Agent in this business; and it is with infinite regret that I am at the same time informed he is employed in your service as Dewan, and derives from this station an influence which it is to be feared he will much abuse. I know how delicate a subject this is to be addressed to you, and it is with the utmost reluctance I consider myself as under the necessity of mentioning it; but the idea of your being deceived in the man, the conviction I have of his unworthiness, and the pressing notice of private regard to you, as well as attention to the public good, which may be injured by the secret influence and intrigues of a person of his character and disposition, operate powerfully upon me to lay aside reserve on this occasion, and declare, that I think it dangerous to yourself to entrust such a man with your confidence. I do not pretend to dictate, but to write with candour on this subject; the rest must entirely depend on you.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

Fort-William,
June the 10th, 1774.

WARREN HASTINGS,

To the GOVERNOR.

DEAR SIR,

I Persuade myself that nothing but the sincerity of your regard would have prompted you to address me with your favour of the 10th current. No subject, my good friend, is too delicate for the pen of friendship to treat of; in these sentiments I consider myself indebted to you for this new instance of esteem, and your friendly unreserve merits equal candour in return.

The last Paragraph of my Letter of the 6th might in some measure satisfy you, that the information you received (and which I have cause to suspect went through more than one channel) was unjust. With regard to Shab Khan, the fact is this; that having been recommended to me as a man who deserved well of the Nabob, and whom you had shewn some countenance to at Benares, and having indeed understood that the Vizier himself repeatedly expressed inclinations of serving him, in consideration of a long attendance with some hundred Cavalry, without receiving any pay for himself or his people, I did some time ago consent to assist him. The matter however lay over 'till the beginning of this month, when it was mentioned to the Nabob through my Interpreter, but without specifying any particular employment, and his Excellency, with great readiness, agreed to *recommend* Shab Khan to Cheyt Sing.

A very few days thereafter he gave him a Dress and two Letters, one for the Rajah and one for Hossam Sing, and I was also to have given him a recommendation to the former; but having learned that some misunderstanding has arisen between you and his Excellency concerning certain Villages adjacent to Joanpore, and as the same being told that that place was included in an Agreement granted by the Company, it occurred, that it would be proper to know the contents of the Vizier's Letters to the Rajah and his Minister; and finding that they mentioned Joanpore, and were expressed in terms which I thought too urgent, I withdrew my countenance entirely, and refused to give Shab Khan any Letter at all.

Thus then I have candidly related to you the particulars of that transaction, which was carried on openly, and with the knowledge of the Rajah's Vackeel here.

With regard to Cholly Churn, as he is only employed as my Banyan, he cannot, even if he were inclined, be of the least prejudice to the public service; and since I have not yet found cause to suspect him of dishonesty, it would be injustice in me to discard him. I believe too I can account for some of the representations, which I surmise have with some industry been brought to your ears.

I think it necessary to be on one's guard against most men of Cholly's complexion, and be assured that the moment he is detected in any unjustifiable act I will without hesitation dismiss him.

Camp, 27th
June, 1774.

To the G O V E R N O R.

SIR,

I AM sorry to inform you that Captain Woodman and Lieutenant Blanch died some days ago, and that Mr. Goddard, Deputy-Commissary of Musters, also died this morning after a short illness.

Camp, 27th
June, 1774.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

ALEXANDER CHAMPION.

SIR,

IN compliance with your request of the 10th ultimo, you are permitted to return to the Presidency whenever you think the circumstances of the Campaign as well as your own convenience can allow.

We are with esteem, &c.

(Signed)

Fort-William,
the 6th June, 1774.

WARREN HASTINGS,
P. M. DACRES,
JAMES LAWRELL,
JOHN GRAHAM,
N. GRUEBER.

To the G O V E R N O R.

SIR,

ENCLOSED I send you a List of supernumerary native Officers attached to the second Brigade. As they are a considerable burthen to the Company, and are in the way of the promotion of better men, I submit to your consideration, whether such as have become unfit for duty, from length of service, wounds, or infirmity, ought not to be invalided, and those who are deemed unworthy of promotion discharged, with a consideration of three months pay, to defray their journeys to their respective habitations. The other Brigades have the same incumbrance.

I am &c.

Camp, the
2d July, 1774.

SIR,

THE Letter which you addressed us from Bissoulee of the 16th ultimo was duly received.

It gives us great concern to find a Claim urged by the Army, and supported by you with no inconsiderable degree of warmth, which we deem equally improper, and at this time ill founded. We cannot admit of any right in the Troops to a share of the Treas-

tures which the Vizier may acquire in the Rohilla Country; he is the Principal in the War, and to him every acquisition of right belongs, Treasure and Effects as well as Territory. We know that, by the usage of War, the Plunder that falls immediately under the Soldier's hand, in the storming of any City or Camp, is left with him, but we believe that in no Country or State there is a right acknowledged in the Army to any further share of the fruits of conquest. There are indeed instances where the Sovereign, in particular Services, grants a share of the general Plunder to the Troops, and previously settles the mode of dividing it; but in this case the Vizier made no such Grant, nor did we stipulate for any such from him.

We observe, Sir, that after enumerating the immense spoils which the Vizier is said to have gathered, you testify your belief that we did not foresee those circumstances, otherwise you are persuaded we should have made further conditions for the Company and the Army in our Treaty with him. To this we reply, that we certainly did not foresee what we cannot yet even give credit to upon the strength of reports, although we find they have been sufficient for procuring the implicit belief of the Army. An instance which we think almost demonstrative of the exaggeration of these reports is that respecting Fyzoolla Khan. We cannot conceive that this Nabob, from a Country yielding only a yearly Revenue from six to eight Lacks, which has besides been the Seat of War, or in the close neighbourhood of it for two years past, should be able to amass a Treasure of seventy-five Lacks in ready-money.

But still, were these acquisitions to prove real, and were we to have foreseen them, we do not know that we could have exacted better terms for the Company; at any rate reflexions of this kind are of no use. Arguments introduced in opposition to measures already decided can only be considered as accusations; and we doubt not, in this instance, to justify ourselves fully to our Superiors.

It is however certain, that in no event, either would we or could we have made any Stipulation for the Army. The bad effects of a similar measure were but too plainly felt in a former period; and our Honorable Masters did not fail on that occasion to reprobate with their censure, in the most severe terms, a practice, which they regarded as the source of infinite evils, and which, if established, would, in their judgment, necessarily bring corruption and ruin on their Army.

This being their opinion on the general practice, they doubtless must have stronger objections to a partial distribution among the Troops immediately employed, which could not fail of exciting jealousy in the others, and carry the appearance of injustice to them.

Further, Sir, for your more particular information on a subject, concerning which, it appears, you have widely misunderstood both our motives and sentiments, we think proper to communicate to you, as a Member of the Administration, an Extract of the Paragraph of the General Letter of the 24th December, 1765, in which you will find (what it would seem you did not suspect) a positive prohibition from the Court of Directors against all such Stipulations for the future.

The Paper, independent of argument, must appear conclusive on the point; you will therefore take the proper method to convey a positive and firm declaration to the Troops, that they are not to expect any share of the riches acquired by the Vizier in this Conquest.

Indeed the consequences, which you signify to us are to be apprehended from our refusing this gratification, are sufficiently alarming; but, at the same time, were there no other reason, the very appearance of so dangerous a spirit in the Troops would determine us to oppose it in the beginning; and we rely on your conduct and firmness, and that subordination and strict discipline which, experience has taught us, it has always been your pride to maintain, for enforcing, with the support of your Second in Command and the other Field Officers, these orders, and procuring a complete acquiescence in them from all the Officers and Soldiers of the Army. Indeed we are persuaded that the general disposition is to obedience, however a few unruly spirits and unthinking men may have expressed different sentiments.

We are sorry to find you imagine the Vizier does not entertain a proper sense of the Army in this Campaign. Although he may not have testified it directly to them, we can assure you that he has not been wanting, in his Letters to the President, in expressions of the warmest sort, both as to their behaviour and the services which they have rendered him. It is not in the manners of the Eastern Princes to signify to the Troops their satisfaction in them; and very probably the rumours which prevailed of the Treasures which he had acquired prevented the Vizier from expressing his sense of it in private conversation, lest he should raise expectations which it was not in his power to gratify.

We conclude with recommending, in the warmest manner, that you exert yourself in bringing the Troops to a proper disposition on the subject in question, and that you discourage in future those occasional reports of Riches and Treasure found by the Vizier, which are generally founded on idle rumour and the cupidity of self-interest of individuals, &c. which can only tend to mislead the Soldier into hopes which can never be realized, and instill notions into him very incompatible with his duty and profession.

We are with esteem, &c.

Fort-William, the
3d June, 1774.

(Signed)

WARREN HASTINGS,
P. M. DACRES,
JAMES LAWRELL,
J. GRAHAM,
N. GRUEBER.

S I R,

BY command of the Honorable the Governor I have the honor to enclose herewith a Copy of the Proceedings of the Board concerning Captain Delafield's Memorial to the Court of Directors, which was sent by the Packet of the Resolution; the Governor requests it may be communicated to Captain Delafield.

I have the honor, &c.

Fort William,
14th June, 1774.

(Signed)

ROBERT PATTON,
Aid de Camp.

To the SELECT COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE received a Letter from the Honorable Council dated the 23d ultimo, in answer to one of mine of the 16th May; and as that Letter was sent off before I received their favour of the 23d of the same month, directing me to correspond thereafter only with the Select Committee, or the President, I address myself to you, Gentlemen, in reply.

I have to testify real concern that any part of my Letter appeared to carry too great a degree of warmth; and it gave me still more pain that it should be construed to convey a reflexion, and even to import an impeachment of Administration.

R r r

When

When Gentlemen, practised in thinking, are assembled to deliberate, the ardour, the unreserve of one or more, if such there should happen to be amongst them, will be tempered by the equanimity, circumspection, and political knowledge and experience of their Colleagues.

An individual cannot have these advantages, therefore I must think for myself, must write for myself; this I can say however, that if there has been warmth, it has not been of argument. Excuse me then, Gentlemen, to the Board, if I, who am myself a Soldier, on endeavouring to express my ideas of the merits and eminent services of my followers, have not been able to divest my language of the glow natural to the perceptions of the mind on such occasions.

I have repeatedly perused and considered my Letter of the 16th, without being able to observe the trace of an accusation, even in implication. I do in all sincerity declare that I had not a thought of the kind; and when it is considered that I have not been engaged in any altercation, I think it is, with great submission, impossible to receive the Paragraph alluded to in the manner it has been construed.

With regard to Fyzoola Khan's Treasure, and the Riches acquired by the Vizier in this Country, though the information which I have been able to obtain has carried conviction to my own mind, I do not pretend to prescribe a measure for the belief of others; but allowing, Gentlemen, that I had been as credulous as insinuated, I must be pardoned to say, and I say it feelingly, that I think the disbelief of an information conveyed by the Commander in Chief might have been expressed in terms more delicate.

As to the Extract of the General Letter of the 24th December, 1765, referred to in the Board's Address, if I might do it without offence, which it is in no case my intention to give, I would signify my wish, that I had received earlier communication of a circumstance, which so very nearly and so materially related to the Department I have the honor to direct.

But, Gentlemen, this Order of our Honorable Masters only regards stipulations for Services "*To be performed*;" and the disturbances which produced the Order would never have happened but for a breach of very solemn and repeated promises. At all rates, our Honorable Employers prohibiting such stipulations only amounts to this, that, instead of a certain fixed sum, the usual rights of War (whatever these are) remain to the Army.

Do not let me be misunderstood, Gentlemen, with regard to the consequences alluded to in the conclusion of my Letter of the 16th. Let me not imagine that I have so bad an opinion of the discipline of your Troops as to suppose they would deliberately commit unpardonable enormities. The consequences to which I referred, and which I should ever wish to avoid, are the irregularities and dangers that might ensue from the dispersion of the Troops in search of that Plunder to which the Board themselves agree the Soldier has a right. Believe me, Gentlemen, that if the Rohillas had only made a feigned retreat, and had returned to charge the Nabob's Troops when they got into the Enemy's Camp on the 23d April, his Excellency would have had a bad account of the flower of his Army, which could only have been saved from total destruction by the assistance of our Troops, who kept due order; but if they were also to disperse they would in such a case be in the same predicament.

Whatever may be the practice of Eastern Princes in general, I am to inform you, that his Excellency's Troops not only received his public thanks after the victory, but that his Battalions have been very handsomely rewarded by an increase of pay of three Rupees per month to each Scapoy.

In due observance of the Board's injunctions, I assembled the Second in Command and all the other Field Officers yesterday morning; and communicated to them the Orders of the Administration, regarding the claim of this division of the Army to a share of the Riches acquired by the Vizier in consequence of the Battle of St. George. The Gentlemen unanimously requested of me to assure Government that they will ever prove obedient Soldiers, and of course continue to impress the Officers and Soldiers under their

command with a due sense of good order and subordination; but they also desired that it might be respectfully intimated, that they hope to be excused, if they cannot acquiesce in the opinion which has been delivered regarding the rights and customs of War.

I remain, &c.

Camp, Bissoulee,
3d July, 1774.

I should have been unintentionally guilty of injustice to the Officers and Soldiers of the Army, if it had escaped me to testify here, that I have not discovered any indication of turbulence or avidity amongst them.

To the G O V E R N O R.

S I R,

ENCLOSED I transmit you Copy of a Letter addressed to me by His Majesty Shah Allum, and

I remain, &c.

Camp, the 5th
July, 1774.

S I R,

WE have received your Letters of the 14th, 21st, and 30th May. To the question repeated and explained in your Letter of the 14th, it is become almost unnecessary at this time to reply, for the purpose of instructing you on the measures which you should pursue in case of the event which you suppose, as the Army must of course remain in its present Quarters until the season of the year shall favour its return within our own Frontiers. Nevertheless, to obviate even the possibility of such an event happening at a period in which you may be in doubt, from the Instructions before you, what conduct it may be proper for you to observe, we think it expedient to inform you, that it is our intention to persevere invariably in the prosecution of the design, on which we originally engaged in the present War, to the term of its accomplishment, it being our wish, and consistent with the intentions of our Employers, that our Engagements with the Nabob Sujah Dowla may be successively continued without alteration to the Persons of his lawful Successors, as we hope their interest will ever prompt them to seek and to merit the alliance of the British Nation.

We therefore direct you, notwithstanding any change of circumstances which may happen, steadily to persevere in the line which we have already laid down for your conduct, until you receive our future orders, or those of the Board to the contrary.

Although we do not think ourselves qualified to judge of the differences which have arisen between the two Ministers and the King, we see no ill consequence likely to befall our affairs from any attempts of Nudjiff Khan to lessen the power or influence of his rival Abdul Alled Khan. We are at a loss to account for the concern which the Vizier seems to have taken in these quarrels, which may perhaps be better explained by the tenor of his late engagements with Nudjiff Khan, for the participation which you inform us he had made

made with that Chief, or with the King, of the Territory of the Rohillas. We approve of the countenance which you have shewn Nudjiff Khan, but need not caution you against affording him any aid of our Forces for the execution of his designs.

We are, &c.

(Signed)

Fort-William,
the 15th June, 1774.

WARREN HASTINGS,
WM. ALDERSEY,
P. M. DACRES.

TO COLONEL CHAMPION, &c.

DEAR SIR,

I AM now to reply to your Letter dated the 28th of May. The following are my sentiments on the Propositions which have been made to you by Abdurcem Khan on the part of Fyzoolla Khan. The first is not to be listened to; it would be a direct violation of our Treaty with the Vizier.

The second must depend solely upon the Vizier; and if it is not agreeable to him, we could neither compel nor insist to his acceding to it.

The third is exactly the same with the second, with the difference only of offering money to the Company for influencing the Vizier; for which reason I would of the two prefer the second to the third, because such an Agreement must become public, and a conduct of this kind would breed perpetual distrust in the Vizier against every future advice we should give him.

These are my particular objections to the several Propositions; but I have one general objection to the whole of them, which is, that they are diametrically opposite to the principle on which the Rohilla Expedition was on our part undertaken, which was not merely on account of the pecuniary acquisition of forty Lacks of Rupees to the Company; for although this might be an accessory argument, it was by no means the chief object of the undertaking.

We engaged to assist the Vizier in reducing the Rohilla Country under his dominion, that the Boundary of his Possessions might be completed, by the Ganges forming a Barrier to cover them from the attacks and insults to which they were exposed by his enemies either possessing or having access to the Rohilla Country; this our alliance with him, and the necessity of maintaining this alliance so long as he and his Successors shall deserve our protection, rendered advantageous to the Company's interest, because the security of his Possessions from invasions in that quarter is in fact the security of our's. But if the Rohilla Country is delivered to Fyzoolla Khan, the advantages proposed from this measure will be totally defeated; the same objections from the Vizier will take place against him as against Hafez Rhamut; he will be actuated by the same principles of self defence, and the same impressions of fear, to seek the protection of other Powers against the Vizier, and of course will create the same jealousies and suspicions in the mind of the Vizier, with the additional and strong incentive to a mutual animosity of an enormous Debt, which probably Fyzoolla Khan will find no other means to get clear of but by engaging in hostilities against the Vizier.

I cannot subscribe to your opinion of the Vizier being unable to maintain possession of the conquered Country. It is at least certain that there is a much greater probability of his maintaining possession of it, supported by the resources of his hereditary Dominions, and the credit of the English protection, even without our actual intervention, than

that Fyzoolla Khan should maintain the possession of it; a man of no repute, without natural power or interest, and unprovided with every means of self defence. The Board undertook the Rohilla Expedition on a firm conviction, both that the Vizier would be able to maintain his conquest of it, and that it would make his other Dominions more defensible for the reason before assigned; and with respect to myself, I declare, that if I had not been morally certain of the justness of this reasoning, I would not have consented to enter upon the enterprize at all.

Upon the whole my opinion is, that instead of soliciting the Vizier to relinquish his conquest to Fyzoolla Khan, every argument should be used to dissuade him from such an intention, and it is my desire that you will discourage it as much as is in your power. I make no doubt but, from the explanation I have given, you will be convinced both of the propriety of adhering to the principles laid down, and the necessity of acting with consistency. Excuse me for adding, that if we suffer our attention to be drawn off from our grand and principal design by every adventitious allurements that may present itself, our conduct must prove desultory, and we can adhere to no regular plan, nor propose any certain end to our pursuits.

You mention the necessity the Vizier will be under of constantly having a Brigade of our Troops with him as an argument against his retaining the Rohilla Country, which you have repeated in several of your Letters, but I should be sorry to regard this circumstance in that light. It has always been my wish, it was a principal reason assigned by the Board to the Court of Directors for our joint undertaking with the Vizier, that a third part of our Army should be constantly employed in his Country; because it would keep them from losing discipline and vigor by inaction, would prove an encouragement to the Officers and Soldiers, would save the Company a very considerable expense, and perpetuate the dependence of the Vizier upon our alliance. This circumstance, therefore, cannot operate as an objection, since it is a principal advantage proposed by the Administration to result from the measures they have adopted.

If it would have had any weight against the extension of the Vizier's Territory, it would have prevented the undertaking entirely, and precluded you from the present command and the honor you have acquired in it. I cannot suppose that you mean the reasoning which you have at present adopted on this subject, as a reproach to the Board for having formed a design, which, by your argument, must defeat itself, even with all the success that could attend it; but it is astonishing that this consideration should have escaped you, since, by the frequent reiteration of this argument, you have undoubtedly been casting the severest reflections on the measures of Government, which, right or wrong, we must now maintain, and which I still think founded on the soundest policy, and I trust that the event will prove them so.

The Seiks are at too great a distance, and too much engaged in their own affairs, to give any material or lasting opposition to the Vizier; nor are the Marattas likely to get freed from their own internal divisions, or the effects of them, soon enough to renew their pretensions in the next Season. But even although the reason for expecting a junction of the Seiks and Marattas with Fyzoolla Khan were well founded, neither this alarm on the one hand, nor the temptation of the eighty Lacks on the other, ought to have a moment's influence with us to deviate from the line prescribed for the undertaking.

With respect to Fyzoolla Khan he appeared not to merit our consideration. The petty Sovereign of a Country, estimated at six or eight Lacks, ought not for a moment to prove an impediment to any of our measures, or to affect the consistency of our conduct. I own it was my original wish, that the King, or Nudjiff Cawn on his part, should have been included in the participation which has actually taken place of the Rohilla Dominions, as it would quicken the issue of the War, obviate one source of competition, and still keep up the connexion of interest between us and the King, and between the King and his Vizier. But my next wish was, and is, that the King and Vizier might be induced to accede to a new participation, by an exchange of the Doab to be given to the King in lieu of the Territory of Zabita Cawn.

If my memory does not deceive me, this plan was recommended by me to the Vizier in person, when the Rohilla Expedition was first concerted at Benares, and I own I wish it to take place; this you will observe is but a consequence of the original principle of completing the Boundary of the Vizier's Dominions.

This Letter has been communicated to the Members of the Select Committee, and I am authorized by them to declare their concurrence with the sentiments expressed in it.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

Fort William,
the 17th June, 1774.

WARREN HASTINGS.

S I R,

WE have received your Letters enclosing those addressed to you by the Commanding Officer at Chunargur, and having in consequence reconsidered the Establishment of Staff Allowances and Artificers for that Garrison, we have ultimately fixed the same agreeably to the enclosed Abstracts, which you will be pleased to transmit for the guidance of the Commanding Officer at Chunar.

We are, &c.

(Signed)

Fort-William,
Board of Inspection,
the 23d June, 1774.

WARREN HASTINGS,
WM. ALDERSEY,
P. M. DACRES.
JAMES LAWRELL,
J. GRAHAM,
NICHs. GRUEBER.

Dear S I R,

ON the 10th instant I wrote you upon the subject of a representation which had been made to me by a Vackeel of Cheyt Sing, concerning the endeavours of Kaley Churn to obtain a Sunnud for Juanpore in the name of Shab Khan, and I expressed to you my disapprobation of such solicitations and my objections to the measure.

I am now informed, not only by the Rajah's Vackeel, but by a public Letter from Mr. N. Middleton, that the Vizier has actually put Shab Khan in possession of Juanpore, and publicly presented him with a Khelaut upon the occasion. As this is a direct violation of the Agreement between the Vizier and Cheyt Sing, which is guaranteed by our Administration, I have written to Cheyt Sing to desire that he will not comply with the order issued by the Vizier on this subject, and I have addressed the Vizier, and written to Mr. N. Middleton, to insist upon this Sunnud being revoked, as incompatible with the engagements we are bound to see fulfilled between the Vizier and Cheyt Sing; and I now address you to require that you will also use your most strenuous endeavours to second my requisition to the Vizier, and to dissuade from a measure which is inconsistent with his own honor, and an absolute rejection of our friendship and alliance. I need not add that this transaction strongly enforces the caution I before gave you respecting Kaley Churn.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

Fort William,
24th June, 1773.

WARREN HASTINGS.

To the Honorable WARREN HASTINGS, Esq.

¶ Dear SIR,

ABOUT two hours before the receipt of your Letter of the 17th June, I had, at the request of the Vizier, determined to dismiss Fyzoolla Khan's Vakeel, with a promise of communicating your reply when it should arrive; but as it came before he could set off, I gave him your final answer.

With respect to his proposals, it was my putting a negative on the first that produced the second and third, and I am confident he might have been induced to have enlarged his offers to one Crore of Rupees; nor have I the smallest reason to doubt that the payments would have been punctual, and even a considerable part of the sum got in hand; but as the general objection is deemed unfurmountable, it is unnecessary to dwell on particulars. If strangers, my good Sir, to what has past in these Countries were to read your Letter, they would be led to imagine that the Vizier had been constantly harrassed by the Rohillas, that they had been in use of making continual inroads into his Country, and of calling foreign aid to distress him; in short, that, without reducing them, there could be no safety, no rest for Sujah-ul-Dowla; but I have never heard it alleged, even by the Vizier himself, that these people had ever betrayed any indication of a disposition to encroach on him, or to give him the smallest cause of distrust.

I have not considered the Vizier's being burthened with the expense of a Brigade of our Troops as an objection on our part, on the contrary I have held it as a measure which, at the same time that it does honor to the wisdom and policy of the present Administration, is also advantageous to the Vizier; because it is to me perfectly clear that he could not be at ease, even in his ancient Dominions, without such aid; but if, as you say, his Territories are now more defensible than before, he will of course have less occasion for our Troops than ever, and thus you yourself would overturn one of the principal arguments that has been used in favour of the undertaking. Let us consider this matter as it really is; the line of the Vizier's Frontiers is very far extended; a brace race of men, who lived in friendship with him, are added to the number of his enemies; his Force is but the same as formerly; and whilst the Ganges is fordable in a great number of places, it will serve better as a mark of boundary than as a cover or defence to his Dominions. For these reasons I have said that the Vizier would require two Brigades effectually to protect him from insult and invasion; and I might have added, that if his attention is not diverted from his Infantry, and directed to the formation and improvement of a good Body of Cavalry, he may in the end find all the assistance we can give him insufficient to ensure the collection of his Revenues; first, because it is more than probable the Country Powers will not hereafter venture pitched battles where the English are a party; and secondly, because the Vizier's Cavalry (being far inferior to and less numerous than that of his enemies) cannot prevent Infantry from being harrassed, or his Country from being over-run and laid waste.

Though it is true that Fyzoolla Khan possessed but a small District of eight Lacks per annum, yet it is as true that the whole Rohilla Dominions, said to be worth about two hundred Lacks a year, † belonged to him by birthright, of which Nudjiff Khan, Hafez Ramit, and the other principal Officers of his Father, Ally Mahomed Khan, possessed themselves, under various pretences, at the time of Ally Mahomed's death, when Fyzoolla happened to be prisoner in another Kingdom; therefore this man is not without considerable natural interest. He is now acknowledged the principal Chief of the Rohillas; is known to be a man of prudence, and if not an enterprising genius, so much the better Vassal would he have made to the Vizier. But the question is not how far Fyzoolla Khan himself could maintain possession of this Country, it is, whether the Vizier, with the assistance of forty or fifty thousand fighting men, (who, by an agreement of the nature proposed, would have become subject to him) could better defend himself against the common enemy, than he can when the Rohillas, instead of being his friends, add so greatly to the strength of his foes?

The

† Corrected in the Colonel's Letter of the 16th to one hundred Lacks.

The principle upon which the Rohilla Expedition was undertaken having never been communicated to me, excepting so far as regarded the forty Lacks stipulated for the Company, which I confess I must consider as the most weighty reason that has been urged for our concern in the measure. I could not possibly, in any thing I wrote to you, mean reproach to the Administration; most of my Letters being in a familiar stile were intended for Mr. Hastings, not for the Governor; so that whatever I have said must pass for the candid sentiments of one friend to another, without any allusion to the Board, for whom, as a body, I bear the highest respect, as individuals, an unfeigned esteem, and for some of them (of whom Mr. Hastings) an affectionate and permanent friendship.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

Camp, 12th July,
1774.

ALEXANDER CHAMPION.

To the Honorable Warren Hastings, Esquire.

¶¶ Dear S I R,

AT the solicitation of the Deputy Judge-Advocate to the Seapoy Corps of the second Brigade, I wrote to the Judge-Advocate-General, as far back as the 11th of April, desiring him to make the necessary application for having the pay and allowances of the Deputies to the Seapoy Department ascertained in Orders, but I have received no Reply from Mr. Stewart; and Lieutenant Fowler being a good deal distressed, as he cannot draw the allowances of his Office 'till they are settled, I request you will be pleased to have the matter adjusted, as well in the second as in the other Brigades. I am also to observe, that the allowances for Stationary, Writers, Interpreter, Candles, &c. to be drawn by the Deputy Judge-Advocate-General, have not yet been mentioned in Orders, and I have therefore to desire that these also may be ascertained at your conveniency.

I have received your Letter of the 24th June, which is sufficiently answered in mine of the 27th of the same month. I never heard that there was any Sunnud; and I am informed that the Nabob had not well got clear of Shab Khan when he wrote by the Dawk to the Rajah, desiring him not to pay any attention to the Letters which Shab Khan would deliver to him.

In a late conversation with the Nabob, he requested I would signify to you his earnest wishes to have European Officers (not holding Commissions in the Company's Service) for his Seapoys.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

Camp,
13th July, 1774.

ALEXANDER CHAMPION.

P. S. I well know the objections to the last paragraph, but I have inserted it agreeably to my promise.

A. C.

S I R,

THIS will be delivered you by Mr. John Henderson, Agent of Supplies under the Commissary-General. I beg leave to recommend him to your civilities and protection in the business in which he is employed.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

Fort-William,
21st March, 1774.

WARREN HASTINGS.

Dear

To COLONEL CHAMPION, &c.

¶ DEAR SIR,

I HAVE now before me your Letters of the following dates, the 22d, 25th, 26th, 30th and 31st of May, and of the 7th June, to all which I shall now reply. To your Letter of the 17th May I shall give a separate answer.

Your Letter of the 22d May accompanied a paper of news, without treating of any other subject. That of the 25th was very acceptable, as it expressed a sense of private friendship, which I wish our correspondence to strengthen and support. I shall wait your remarks on the Military Regulations, and the Proposals for furnishing Camp Equipage to the Army. The indulgence of leave of absence to Lieutenant-Colonel Tottingham, Major Eyres, and Captain Delafield, which you have granted, must be approved by me; you are the judge how far they can be spared, and how much they deserve indulgence. The Board's resolution upon Captain Delafield's memorial I ordered to be transmitted to you for that Officer's information.

The subject of your Letter of the 26th is Major Hannay's acceptance of the Agency for Nudjiff Khan's Jaghire. As I have the same opinion you express of Major Hannay's merit, it would afford me satisfaction to see him benefited; but his present appointment will answer no purpose, because I do not think that any payment will be due to Nudjiff Cawn before next October, and we shall probably then have received the Company's Orders on this subject, which must determine whether this Stipend is to be continued to him or not. Without their Orders on this subject no further payments can be made; and a principal objection with me to the immediate appointment of any person as Agent in this business, is the temptation they may be under of making advances before the payments are authorized by the Court of Directors, and the consequent applications to me, which I must be under the necessity of rejecting, as I hold the Company's Cash to be a sacred deposit, not on any personal account to be touched without the Sanction of their Orders.

In your Letter of the 30th you request my intercession with the Vizier in behalf of Lieutenant-Colonel Upton's demand on him; but this is a measure to which I am very averse, as I think there is an impropriety in my interfering in matters of this kind. I have no objection to your using your influence, but I must decline soliciting the Vizier myself on this subject.

I am sorry to be acquainted by your Letter of the 21st of the desertion of five Europeans; I hope they will be apprehended, and others deterred from this crime by their punishment; otherwise it will be very necessary to take effectual means for preventing the contagious effects of their example among the Troops, desertion being a crime which, if not checked by the utmost severity, I have observed to spread its influence powerfully and rapidly in an Army.

It affords me pleasure to be informed in your Letter of the 7th June, that you are no longer under apprehensions on the subject of provisions for the Army. About Prize-Money I have already written very fully, as also my sentiments concerning Zabita Khan's Country.

I inclose an Extract from a Letter I have written to the Vizier concerning the seizure of Sumroo's person. The subjects of the 4th and 5th Paragraphs of your Letter dated the 17th April were fully answered from the Board in the first Letter you received from them. Your 4th and 5th Paragraphs of your Letter of the 26th I replied to in my Letter dated the 28th May; the 8th Paragraph obtained my full acquiescence.

Your Letter dated the 28th April is fully answered. I have not received any Letter from you dated the 24th.

I have received a Letter from the Vizier, requesting that Colonel Galliez and Major Hannay may be permitted to visit him at their pleasure. You know my motives for the restriction of visits to the Vizier. I am at a loss how to reply to the Vizier on this subject, or how to grant his request. I have informed him, that the intention of the

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Order

Order was to prevent his being subjected to intrusive or improper visits; but as the real motive only respected you, I must leave it to you to acquiesce in his request; for at the same time that I declare I would wish to oblige the Vizier by complying with a request of this kind, I cannot think of removing from you the authority of objecting to such visits as you may think improper. You have yourself declared that you think Colonel Galliez might be exempted from the restriction, and considering him individually I am entirely of the same opinion. With respect to any of the other Officers whom the Vizier particularizes, you may privately give them such latitude on this subject as you think proper.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

WARREN HASTINGS.

Fort William,
25th June, 1774.

Extract from a Letter of Mr. Hastings to the Vizier.

INDEPENDENTLY of the reasons, with which your Excellency is well acquainted, which forbid me to employ any of the English Forces in the neighbourhood of Delhi, the apprehensions of Somero is not so difficult a matter as to require any extraordinary aid; and it would only put him upon his guard, and prompt him to secure himself by flight, were Seapoys to be sent on this Service. A small Detachment from your own Forces, or a hint to the Nabob Nudjiff Khan, who I am pleased to hear is on terms of friendship with your Excellency, would effect such a purpose without other intervention, and without trouble or suspicion. Let me add, that the name of Somero is held in detestation by the whole English Nation, and if your Excellency should fortunately prove the instrument of bringing this murderer to justice, it will redound in the highest manner to your honor, and lay this Government under the greatest obligations.

TO COLONEL CHAMPION, &c. &c.

¶ ¶ Dear SIR,

WHEN I was at Benares, and the present Expedition was concluded with the Vizier, I made him a promise that in the conducting of it he should constantly be regarded as the principal; that no negotiation or correspondence with the Country Powers, which could any way relate to the enterprize, or the arrangements to be made in consequence of it, should be carried on without his privity and concurrence. This I thought but proper, as well with respect to ourselves as with respect to him, because I did not wish we should appear otherwise than as only seconds in the undertaking, and of course we could have no concern in it, but as our Alliance or Treaty engaged us to support and assist him. For this reason, which I thought so necessary to promote harmony in our mutual operations and measures, and to obviate the effects of jealousy and suspicion, to which the minds of all the Natives of this Country are prone, I have made it a rule myself to communicate to the Vizier any correspondence I have held with the King, and the other Country Powers, relating to the affairs wherein we are associated with him. The Vizier has complained to me that the same observance has not been paid to him by you. I am perhaps the only person to blame for this, by not having before communicated my intentions on this subject; but in future I must request, and indeed require of you, (as you cannot possibly have any correspondence with the King, or any of the Country Powers, but what must relate to the Vizier's affairs, for we are at present quite unconnected with any of them but through our alliance with him) that you will remove every cause of jealousy and suspicion from his mind, and establish perfect harmony between you, by a free and immediate communication to him of the Letters you either write or receive to or from

from the King, or any of the other Country Powers. I have endeavoured to explain this matter in a light that will obviate any idea of distrust in you. If an enterprize, where we are not only seconds, but it is necessary we should appear seconds, and where the Vizier's interest is only concerned, after setting the example myself, I have required of you to communicate all your Country Correspondences to him, which cannot possibly relate to any other subject than his affairs; and I doubt not but my motives will be clearly understood and chearfully enforced by you.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

Fort William,
27th June, 1774.

WARREN HASTINGS.

To the GOVERNOR.

¶ ¶ S I R,

HEREWITH I have the honor to transmit you an Indent to the Calcutta Magazine for Stores for the use of the Troops in the field, and also a general Return of Accoutrements, by which you will observe there is a very great deficiency. The Cartouch Boxes are entirely uselefs, as they were made for Fuzee Cartridges and cannot be altered.

I trouble you with this Indent and Return, because I am extremely desirous to have the supply of Stores up as early as possible, and because the interposition of your authority will most effectually expedite their dispatch. The person sent in charge of them ought to be directed to advise me of his arrival at Konuge, and to wait there for orders.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

Camp near Biffoulee,
17th July, 1774.

ALEXANDER CHAMPION.

A General

A General Review Return of the Deficiencies of Cartouch Boxes and Accoutrements of the 2d Brigade, &c. the 19th June, 1774.

CORPS.	Fuzes	Gunners Horns	Swords	Sword Scabbards	Bayonets Ramrods	Bayonet Scabbards	Waist Bits and Frogs	Turn Screws	Worms	Brushes and Wires	Wax Cloths	Pouches																					
	Wanting	Unserviceable	Wanting Repairable Unserviceable	Wanting Repairable Unserviceable	Wanting Repairable Unserviceable	Wanting Repairable Unserviceable	Wanting Repairable Unserviceable	Wanting Repairable Unserviceable	Wanting Repairable Unserviceable	Wanting Repairable Unserviceable	Wanting Repairable Unserviceable	Wanting Repairable Unserviceable																					
Artillery	—	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	85	—	28																					
Gentlemen Cadets	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	41	—	41																					
Regiment	—	—	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	176	354	173																					
8 Battalion	—	—	—	—	—	120	3	111	—	32	—	450																					
10 Ditto	—	—	—	—	—	600	—	700	—	725	—	241																					
15 Ditto	—	—	—	—	—	251	30	—	—	349	—	150																					
16 Ditto	—	—	—	—	—	675	—	—	—	359	—	700																					
18 Ditto	—	—	—	—	—	500	—	—	—	200	—	075																					
20 Ditto	—	—	—	—	—	595	105	550	—	478	—	25																					
	—	—	—	—	—	780	—	780	780	780	—	780																					
Total	8	4	3	—	—	2	3	—	3	2	—	6	3521	—	138	2141	—	1706	1188	—	1368	780	—	1814	780	—	2064	—	—	354	—	3197	82

N. B. 2430 Firelock Slings unserviceable in the different Battalions of Sepoys, and 646 wanting not included above. The Pouches returned unserviceable is owing to the Holes being too small to receive Ball Cartridges.

(Signed)

P. G A I L L E Z, Col.

Commanding the 2d Brigade.

To the Honorable WARREN HASTINGS, Esquire.

¶ DEAR SIR,

AT the request of Colonel Galliez, Commanding Officer of the 2d Brigade, and the Officers of the 2d Regiment, in favour of Mr. William Elliot, who was dismissed the Service for challenging Captain William Thomson after he had resigned the command of the Picquet, I trouble you with the enclosed Address.

The unanimous voice of all the Officers of the Corps in which Mr. Elliot served, that he should be re-admitted amongst them, appears to make greatly for that young Gentleman; and as Colonel Galliez has personally solicited me in his behalf, I should be glad he were re-instated, if you have no particular objection.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

Biffoulee Camp,
18th July, 1774.

ALEXANDER CHAMPION.

+ To Colonel Primrose Galliez, commanding the 2d Brigade.

SIR,

CONVINCED, as we are, of the humanity of your disposition, the Officers of the 1st Battalion in the 2d Regiment request your intercession with the Commander in Chief in favour of Mr. William Elliot, it being the general wish of our Corps that he may be restored to the Service, from the many opportunities we have had of observing his merit, and the attention he always paid to his duty, which we make no doubt Lieutenant-Colonel Muir, who commanded the Battalion at the time Mr. Elliot served in it, will readily confirm. The rashness of youth, added to the regret Mr. Elliot seems to have for the imprudence of his conduct, will we hope be admitted as in some measure alleviating his error.

We are, &c.

(Signed)

PETER COMELLAN,	} Lieuts.	T. BARTON,	} Captains.
PAT. ROBERTSON,		JOHNSON,	
JOHN BERT,		JOHN WEDDERBURN,	
THO ^s . SPARK,		W. WOODMAN,	
W. DENBY,	} Ensigns.	CHAS. HAY,	} Lieuts.
THO ^s . EDWARDS,		JOHN LUMSDAINE,	
R. GILLESPIE,		W. WATSON,	
CHAS. MURRAY,		T. CAMAC,	} Lieuts.
GEO. WOOD,		SAM ^l . WATSON,	
THO ^s . KEARNAN.		JAS. M ^r . NIBART,	

¶ DEAR SIR,

YOUR Letters of the 25th and 27th June are now before me. I clearly perceive all the advantages that might be derived from the Cession of the Doab to the King, and would gladly see the measure adopted.

I have had no correspondence with his Majesty, or any other Native, but what you are fully advised of. The propriety of communicating matters of that kind to the Vizier having

X x x

occur-

+ This Address is not entered in the Copy of Correspondence delivered in to the Board by Colonel Champion.

occurred to myself, I did so regularly and without reserve; and you will perhaps be surprized to learn, that his Excellency, in the most positive terms, denies having ever written a single line to you on the subject, which is also affirmed by his Minister; so that he would leave me to suppose that your Letter of the 27th was dictated by mere suspicion; but I know him too well to put his veracity in competition with your's, my Friend, and you may therefore be assured that his insidious allegation goes for nothing; I really wish he would not thus persevere in wantonly creating me uneasiness. On reading copies of some of my Letters I have found two or three accidental mistakes in my last private Letter to you (under date the 12th current) speaking of the value of the Rohilla Dominions, instead of "two hundred Lacks" it should have been about one hundred Lacks. In a Letter to the Select Committee, 20th June, in place of 50,000 Rupees said to have been received by his Majesty in part of travelling charges, I ought to have said three Lacks fifty thousand Rupees for travelling expenses.

A belief which I was induced to entertain, that the largest share of Zabita Khan's Country lay on this side of the Ganges has misled me in several Letters, particularly that of the 4th May to the Board, and those of the 24th May and 11th of June to the Committee; for I find that the chief part of Zabita Khan's Dominions, viz. that which the King and the Seiks seized when the Marattas abandoned the Country, is beyond the Ganges, and that his Country on this side is only worth about 10 or 12 Lacks, and the Vizier's advanced Troops command several Pergunnahs of it; so that his Excellency is already in actual possession of seven-eighths of all the Country which we undertook to conquer for him, and no interruption can be expected from the King in subduing the residue, unless it should be in consequence of the breach of Treaty with which his Majesty charges the Vizier. You will do me a favour by correcting my Letters in the above particulars.

I remain, &c.

(Signed)

ALEXANDER CHAMPION.

Bissoulee Camp,
17th June, 1774.

DEAR SIR,

I AM now to reply to your Letter dated the 17th of May. I have ordered Colonel Grant to send all the serviceable Markees with the Troops at Berhampore along with the Draughts which are likewise ordered from the first and third Regiments, and the fourth Company of Artillery, to recruit the second Brigade; they will be dispatched as soon as possible; the Rivers would not admit of their being sent earlier. I enclose a copy of the General Order respecting the Draughts; you will be pleased to order the Officers for taking charge of them to proceed to Patna, to relieve those from the first and third Brigades.

Colonel Grant will address you on the subject of the Camp-Equipage, that you may direct measures to be taken for making up the deficiency in the best manner you can, in case he should not be able to send you a sufficient supply, which I fear will be the case. I approve of the charges made for Camp-Equipage to your Family.

The Cloathing for the second Brigade is in readiness, excepting the Hats, which were omitted to be sent out last year by the Company, and the Agent has not been able to purchase any that could answer. I have ordered the Cloathing however to be sent off immediately, and given the instructions you require to the Agent; the Hats shall follow as soon as they can be procured after the arrival of the first Ships from Europe.

The Board have issued an Order to the Chief and Council at Patna, to honor such bills as the Pay-master of the second Brigade may draw upon them for the expense of the Dinapore Hospital and the subsistence of the men in it.

The

The Field Allowance to the Quarter-Master and Adjutant-General is intended in general to be drawn by them whenever they are employed with Troops in the field, without any limitation to the Provinces; of course no additional allowance can be given out of the Provinces.

If the four 18 pounders should not be wanted for the Service carried on within the line of your command, and the Vizier should have occasion for them in the prosecution of his other operations, you may deliver them over to him.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

Fort-William, the
28th June, 1774.

WARREN HASTINGS.

To the SELECT COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

IN a conversation which I had with the Vizier two days ago, in consequence of a message received through Mr. Middleton, he expressed wishes that I would march the Army towards Fyzoolla Khan, saying, "That it had been hinted to him to effectually settle this Country as soon as he possibly can;" that is, in case another enemy should appear after the rains, (and perhaps, observed he, both the Marattas and Tinnur Shamay) he might be able to withdraw his Troops from this Country without any risk of it's being attacked.

I replied, that the Country being all under water, and my Troops without Camp-Equipage, I wished to remain in Cantonments at least 'till towards the taking off the rains, as any movement, especially towards the Mountains, must at this season be attended with the loss of a considerable number of men without any apparent advantage, since Fyzoolla Khan has only to retire a little further into the Hills to baffle all our attempts.

I advised his Excellency to satisfy himself at present with covering his conquests somewhat better by advancing more Troops to Maradabad, informing him at the same time that I would order two Battalions of Seapoys to be in readiness to march at his pleasure, and that if the enemy threatened any general movement towards us (which I did not at all think probable) I would lead the Army to oppose them. His Excellency seemed perfectly satisfied with this advice; but I find that he has since given orders to put almost his whole Army in motion, and I am therefore apprehensive, that, dangerous as it may be to the health of your Troops, I shall also be under the necessity of moving; for however much I disapprove of this measure, yet the Vizier must, in case of emergency, be supported, lest the enemy should lay hold of the advantages that might be derived from our leaving him too much to himself.

I am making every preparation, and taking every precaution in my power, to prevent ill consequences from our taking the Field at this unfavourable season; but I own, that, if we do march, it will for many reasons be with the greatest reluctance on my part.

I am really in an embarrassed situation; the Vizier adopts measures without consulting me, and how undigested soever his plans, I am under the necessity of subscribing to them; that is, I must act in consequence of them, and I will do so, Gentlemen, according to the best of my discernment and understanding, trusting to your candour for approbation, and desiring only that you may judge from motives, not from effects.

The News-Papers inform us that the King has sent Dreffes to Cossim Ally and Ghazyudeen Khan, and invited them to the Presence. This seems to alarm the Vizier. I must confess that I most heartily wish some measures were used to conciliate his Majesty both

to us and to the Vizier; and I am very anxious to receive an answer to the Letters which I had the honor of addressing to you on the 17th and 20th past, that I may clearly know whether any regard is to be paid to his Majesty's Claim to the half of this Conquest.

I am with respect, &c.

Cantonments, near Biffoulee,
19th July.

S I R,

YOU will herewith receive a continuation of the Military Regulations proposed to be made public, on which we also desire your opinion before they are carried into execution.

We are with esteem, &c.

(Signed)

WARREN HASTINGS,
P. M. DACRES,
JAMES LAWRELL,
N. GRUEBER.

Fort-William, the
27th June, 1774.

TO COLONEL CHAMPION, &c.

DEAR S I R,

I HAVE already replied to your Letter of the 7th, and I am now to acknowledge the receipt of your Letters dated 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th instant.

Your Letter of the 6th accompanied your remarks on the proposed Regulations for providing Camp-Equipage to the Army. The proposal which you have therein repeated, of fixing Officers to be promoted in separate Corps after the manner of the King's Service, I can by no means approve of, because it is neither so equitable to individuals, nor so advantageous to the Service as the present mode, where Officers rise regularly and progressively to superior stations in the Army. Besides an innovation of such importance to so numerous a Body of the Company's Servants, amounting almost to a revolution of their Military System, the Company would expect to be consulted in themselves.

I have written to you repeatedly on the subject of Shab Cawn, and I now enclose with this a duplicate of my last Letter relative to him.

Your Letters of the 8th and 12th are on the subject of deserters. I hope the example which has been made, and the apprehending of so many of them, will put a stop to the crime. The reward you have conferred on Mr. Taylor I think well bestowed, and I hope his information will be the means of apprehending Lieutenant Redman, whose conduct seems to merit the severity of the Law.

In one of your late Letters to the Select Committee you have referred them to your Letter to me dated the 28th May. I must request that your Letters to me may not be made the channel of communication to the Select Committee, but that such subjects as are intended for their information be addressed to themselves, as there is an impropriety in partial references; and I must therefore be under the necessity of laying the whole of your Correspondence before them, which I would much rather chuse to avoid; at any rate I ought to have an option in such references.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

Fort-William, June
the 30th, 1774.

WARREN HASTINGS.
S I R,

S I R,

WE have taken into consideration the Letter addressed to you by the Commanding Officer at Buxar, and we in consequence agree to allow a Tindal and twelve Lascars and a Cooper in addition to the late Establishment appointed for that Garrison. You will give intimation to the Commanding Officer at Buxar accordingly, and acquaint him that he may supply himself with a piece of Purpets, which he mentions to stand in need of.

We are, &c.

(Signed)

Fort-William,
Board of Inspection,
30th June, 1774.

WARREN HASTINGS,
COUNCIL, &c.

TO COLONEL CHAMPION, &c.

¶ ¶ DEAR S I R,

TAKING into consideration that, by sending the draughts now from the 1st and 3d Brigades to reinforce the 2d, we shall be obliged to break through our Boat Regulations, which it is particularly necessary we should adhere rigidly to, at least in the first year, and being also informed, that in transporting Troops on the River in the beginning of the rains accidents unavoidably happen, which are commonly attended with the loss of many of the men, added to the advice I have lately received from the Westward, assuring me of the continuance of the intestine divisions and dissensions among the Marattas, which must prevent them from giving any disturbance to our operations, at least in the commencement of the active season; these, and many other considerations have determined me to countermand the draughts for the present, and to postpone sending you the required reinforcement until the month of October, or the very first of the dry season, when I propose they shall march up the Country; and I make no doubt but the Europeans you have at present with the Army will be sufficient for any operations you will have occasion to carry on in the ensuing Campaign, or at least until they can join you.

I am, Dear Sir, &c.

(Signed)

Fort William,
2d July, 1774.

WARREN HASTINGS.

TO COLONEL CHAMPION, &c.

¶ ¶ DEAR S I R,

YOUR two Letters dated the 14th June I have received, to one of which I must reply somewhat particularly; the other will require no answer, being upon a subject which is already passed, and it is not my intention to use arguments for the sake of disputation; suffice it to say, that I am very glad you did canton at Bissoulee.

¶ ¶ The representation which the Vizier made to me respecting the conference at Pelebut, was not contradictory to any information you had given me, but it mentioned additional circumstances, which put the matter into a different light, and upon which it became necessary I should give my opinion, if I only supposed there might be some foundation for what he said; and as this led me to express myself in a manner which might have been construed inconsistent with my former Letter, it was necessary I should obviate any appearance of inconsistency.

Y y y

I never

¶ ¶ I never called in question the veracity of any fact you related, and I only admitted the possibility of some foundation for what the Vizier did assert; so that your expressions of *distrust in you*, and *superlative degree of confidence in him*, are equally improperly applied, and all that you have written upon this position unnecessary. Your general expression of the Vizier being *the most faithless man on earth* may sway in your own mind, where no doubt you have circumstances to support such a belief; but you cannot expect that I should conclude whatever he asserts to be false, only because you declare him to be *the most faithless man on earth*. It is a maxim in my public conduct, to which I have invariably adhered, not to form any judgment upon general assertions but on facts. Throughout the whole of your correspondence to the Select Committee, the Board, and myself, the subjects you have been most earnest to affirm you have advanced only by general assertions and pathetic declamations. I allude particularly to what you have said respecting the Vizier. You have been desired by the Board to mention facts, and your answer has been that they were too horrid to be written; all this must be inconclusive with us, until we are enabled to form our own judgment from the facts themselves. Your narratives will have the fullest credit, but you must not expect your opinions to be equally decisive; we must claim the privilege of judging for ourselves.

¶ ¶ In compliance with your request I enclose a Copy of the Vizier's Letter in the original Persian. My intentions and endeavours have hitherto been, both with respect to the Vizier and yourself, to conciliate matters between you, by the suppression of such representations as might have heightened your disagreement, and by only attending to those which could not consistently be passed over. In such cases I have given what appeared to me the necessary directions to you, and I have expressed my sentiments to the Vizier, but in both cases I find myself disappointed; in place of conciliating, my endeavours have aggravated your differences, and from you they have been returned with reproaches. I shall in future pursue a different and a less embarrassing conduct.

When I receive the Letter you promise in justification of Mr. Murray, I shall be able to judge how far the Vizier may have misrepresented his conduct.

¶ ¶ Before I conclude, I cannot avoid remarking, that in all accounts you have given, either to the Board, the Select Committee, or myself, of your conferences with the Vizier on subjects where your opinions have differed, you have fully and at large stated all the arguments made use of by yourself, without mentioning any of the reasons assigned by the Vizier for persisting in an opposite opinion. It is impossible for me, from my knowledge of the man, to suppose that he would sit silent without offering any argument in support of his opinion, for I have always found him, on the contrary, specious, and ready with very plausible reasoning, even when he was in the wrong; I have therefore been obliged to admit the reasons he has himself assigned in his correspondence, and to form my judgment from a comparison of his arguments and yours.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

Fort William,
the 3d July, 1774.

WARREN HASTINGS.

To the GOVERNOR.

¶ ¶ SIR,

BEFORE I left Calcutta the Contractor proposed to send 100 draught Bullocks from Berhampore to the second Brigade, in order that he might discharge an equal number which he thought less fit for the Service. I agreed to his proposal, but the cattle did not overtake us 'till about the 20th April, after which they were used to drag the enemies guns; and it was not 'till after the Army had been some time at this place, that I could command leisure to look minutely into the œconomy of the Brigade; when I did, it gave me concern to find, that a considerable number more of the draught cattle had been supplied by the Chief of Patna, and taken into the Service, but never regularly reported to me as beyond the Establishment. So soon as I discovered

the mistake, I ordered all the supernumerary draught cattle to be discharged, excepting fifty, which I directed to be retained, because I am of opinion that we have hitherto always had too little ammunition in the field, which I wish to provide against in future, having two extra tumbrells of shot, and some haccaries for loose balls, and I hope the measure will meet with your approbation.

Enclosed I transmit an Address † which I received yesterday from Captain James Crawford, with the Enclosures therein referred to, and am to request you will signify to him your pleasure concerning them.

I remain, &c.

(Signed)

Bissoulee Cantonments,
22d July, 1774.

ALEXANDER CHAMPION.

To the SELECT COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I HAD the honor of addressing you under date the 19th, and am now to advise you of the march of the greatest part of the Vizier's Army. All his Infantry left this place on the 22d and 23d, and his Cavalry are preparing to follow without delay.

In this business the Nabob did not consult me from the 17th (when he seemed to have laid aside all thoughts of the kind) till yesterday that he sent me a Letter, importing, that it is necessary to punish Fyzoolla Khan ere the rains are over, lest other enemies should then appear; that it has been recommended to him to finish whatever is to be done with the utmost expedition, and therefore requesting me to march with the Brigade; adding, that as he cannot accompany me himself, he will commit the command of his Army to his Son.

Last night I sent the Persian Interpreter to his Excellency with my reasons in writing against a movement of the Troops at this Season, but he would not listen to them; and though I went in person this morning, I could not persuade him to desist from the enterprize.

According to his account of the general disposition of other Powers appearances are alarming enough. He avows expectations of being attacked by the Marrattas on one hand, and Timur Shah on the other. He is under considerable apprehensions from the King, whose distresses seem to render him desperate, and to have determined him, as he thinks himself deserted by us and the Vizier, to try every possible effort to extricate himself. Fyzoolla Khan having large sums of money, and no alternative being left to himself or his followers, they appear resolved to give all the trouble they can, and their numbers are said to be equally increased by reinforcements of Afghans from different parts.

These are matters which I think worthy of your consideration, in the mean time I am to inform you, that as his Excellency is so very desirous of my taking the field, as he has the sole authority of prescribing the Service to be undertaken, and has quoted the President's advice for using the utmost expedition, I am constrained to break ground with all the Seapoys of the Brigade and the European Grenadiers.

The Regiment will be left here at least 'till the Nabob himself is in condition to move after us, by which time they will be better supplied with Camp Equipage. I mean also to leave the Hospital at this place.

I must beg, Gentlemen, that I may be favoured with regular answers to my Letters. I wish not to be left to myself in any matter of moment, because, though I will most certainly

† This Address is contained in a former Part of this Appendix, Page 212.

tainly act for the best, yet I may not foresee the measures that might be most consonant with the wishes of Administration,

July 24th, 1774.

I have the honor, &c.

DEAR SIR,

RAJAH Cheyt Sing having frequently business relating to his Zemindary to settle with the Vizier, in which you may be of service to him, permit me to recommend him to your favour and good offices, and to request that you will give admittance to his Vakeel whenever he may have any representations to make.

I am, &c.

Fort William, the
12th May, 1774.

(Signed)

WARREN HASTINGS.

TO COLONEL CHAMPION, &c.

¶ ¶ DEAR SIR,

THE Military Regulations which I formerly transmitted for your examination have differed but little from the established custom of the Service. I now enclose some others, where material alterations have been proposed, and although the Members of the Board have individually approved of them, and think them advantageous, yet they have suspended coming to any public resolution until you should be consulted, for which purpose I now transmit them; you may either return them with your approbation or disapprobation to the Board, or propose such corrections and additions as you may think necessary.

I am, &c.

Fort William, the
8th July, 1774.

(Signed)

WARREN HASTINGS.

TO COLONEL CHAMPION, &c.

¶ ¶ DEAR SIR,

OF this date I have returned the new Regulations proposed to be established for the better regulating of military œconomy, &c. with a few remarks, but you left no place for any of moment. I submit to you, however, whether, as General Clavering and the other Gentleman are probably nigh at hand, the publication of the Regulations had not better be deferred 'till their arrival.

As General Clavering may perhaps wish to possess the Commander in Chief's house in town, and as it may be agreeable to you to fit it up properly for him, in that case do me the favour of directing the house in the new Fort to be vacated for the reception of my furniture, &c. which I shall order to be removed from the house in town.

I am, &c.

Camp, Bissoulee,
23 July, 1774.
June

(Signed)

ALEXANDER CHAMPION.

¶ ¶ DEAR

TO COLONEL CHAMPION, &c.

DEAR SIR,

I HAVE received your Letters dated the 15th, 19th, and 22d ultimo.

In the first of these you have pointed out a means, which you deem easy and effectual, for preventing the grievances you represented in a former Letter concerning the conduct of the Vizier; but when the extent and effects of your proposal are considered, it is obviously inadmissible, and in no respect corresponds with the instance you have produced in support of it.

It is not officially necessary that reasons should be assigned for the Administration's withholding an authority which they deem improper to be vested in you, but I will enter into the subject, because I think I can convince yourself that such an authority would be improper. In the instance of the pay of the Troops the point is fixed and certain; it respects only ourselves, and is one of the positive conditions on our part of the Treaty; a failure is a direct breach of the Treaty, and we have a right to enforce it's observance; but where is our authority to judge or control the conduct of the Vizier farther than respects his engagements with us?

If we had such a right, how shall we ascertain the exact line that divides the reprehensible part of his conduct from what may be vindicated? How shall we distinguish facts from misrepresentations? And where is the man to whose discernment such a trust might be confided without danger of error or mistake? In short, even granting we had an authority to control the Vizier's conduct in the manner you propose, which we have not, we must have demonstration of the infallibility of the person we entrusted with such an authority, before we could be vindicated in the delegation of it.

If the Commander of our Army had the power of withdrawing our Troops whenever he should deem the conduct of the Vizier improper, he would become the absolute master of the Enterprize; the Vizier could only act at his pleasure, and he would be fully vested with that authority which in your Letter you disclaim any desire of attaining. All the Country which is subdued on the present occasion becomes absolutely the Vizier's, and the Inhabitants equally his Subjects with the Inhabitants of his hereditary Dominions. On the terms that you propose, while the English Army was necessary for the support of his Conquests, the English Commander would supersede his authority in the government of his new Possessions, and, in my opinion, he might with equal propriety demand a right to control him in the government of the Province of Oude, which he also obtained, and has been supported in by the influence of the English Army. Upon the whole, it appears evidently to me in the first place, that we have no authority, either from Treaty or otherwise, to control the conduct of the Vizier in the treatment of his Subjects; and secondly, that if we had, we could not answer for the delegation of such authority, in the manner you propose, to any person whatever in the command of our Army.

I cannot conclude this subject without adding, that every authority the Board could consistently bestow upon you has in my opinion been given; and I will for myself affirm, that I have consented to an extent of power in some points to you, which I should have objected to in many other Commanders. The circumstance you yourself have mentioned, of suspending the operations of the Army in case of non-payment of the Troops, is I think an instance of extraordinary confidence in your moderation and discretion, because an abuse, or an indiscreet exertion of this authority, might be attended with very important and disagreeable consequences.

With respect to Hafez Rhamut's Family, if you only meant that I should intercede with the Vizier to make some provision for them suitable to their birth, your wish has already been complied with; and I have the pleasure to be informed by Mr. Middleton that such provision is made for them by the Vizier.

The power which was expressly given you, in your first Instructions for conducting the operations in the field, fully authorized your conduct in engaging or declining to engage the enemy under what circumstances you approved or disapproved, but it did not invest you with the power of quitting the Vizier, and choosing your own Cantonments separate from his; neither is there any inherent authority not expressed in your Instructions; therefore the subsequent Letter of the Board, which invested you with authority

to make the election of your own Cantonments, in case you should deem it necessary for the safety of the Army, did certainly extend your authority.

My Letter to you of the 17th June conveyed the sentiments of the Select Committee on the subject of Fyzoolla Khan's propositions, and I am now glad that I consulted them on the occasion, as it will put the matter out of all sort of uncertainty.

I am with esteem,

Dear Sir, &c.

Fort William, the
11th July, 1774.

(Signed)

WARREN HASTINGS,

S I R,

WE have received your favours of the 9th and 11th ultimo since we wrote you last.

With regard to Meer Futte Ally Cawn, said to be the Son of the Nabob Saddoc Ally Cawn, we desire that he may be suffered to remain in your Camp until you may receive further orders concerning him, with an allowance of Rupees 200 per month, which you are hereby authorized to pay him; and in the mean time we recommend that you make the proper enquiries for ascertaining his identity, as being the real Son of Saddoc Ally.

We observe what you write on the subject of the instructions conveyed to you in a Letter from the Board of the 23d May, and in reply we will venture to say, without stopping to examine what are the powers inherent in your Command, that it was not so much the intention of the Board to alter or extend those they formerly granted to you, as to instruct you on the points concerning which, in your Letter of the 4th, you requested their special direction, which they have accordingly given in the most distinct and explicit manner, both in the particular cases specified by you, and by describing the general circumstances on which they were willing to allow you a latitude to deviate from the line laid down by your Instructions.

Had they understood your Letter to contain an application for such powers as you have explained in your last, they could not have hesitated an instant to deny their assent. So absolute a control over the actions of the Vizier we conceive does not reside in the Administration itself, much less can it be delegated to the Commander of the Army. "A full authority effectually to prevent his perpetrating any enormities under the Shield of your Force," would have been in fact to have rendered him totally subject to that Force, and to the person who directed it, and we would have become his Masters instead of his Allies. The Commander in Chief, in such a situation, would also become the Arbitrer of Peace and War with the Vizier, since a case might occur where Force alone could turn the matter aside from some favourite project of which the other disapproved, and his power would leave him at liberty to employ it. At present we stand thus with the Vizier: We have engaged to support and assist him in a specific Service, and stipulated for a certain compensation to the Company when that Service shall be performed. The conquered Country, its riches and inhabitants, and all other acquisitions, must be at his disposal, nor have we a right by our Agreement to interfere. If indeed it should happen, that elevated by success, and secure under our protection, he should, in the exercise of his authority, commit such enormities as we should deem unworthy the character of our Ally, we would not fail in that case to remonstrate against them, and take such other steps as should appear best adapted for bringing him to a more just sense of propriety in his conduct; but we should not esteem ourselves either obliged or entitled to interfere with authority, or to put power into the hands of our Commander in Chief effectually to prevent any measure in the management of his own affairs which he should think fit to pursue.

After this plain exposition of our sentiments respecting your situation with the Vizier, together with the Instructions, both general and particular, which you already possess, we flatter ourselves that few circumstances will occur hereafter wherein a more immediate reference to us will be wanting for the rule of your conduct; however, when such happens, we shall be ready to afford whatever further explanation you may deem necessary.

The intemperate and tyrannical conduct of the Vizier after his Conquests, as you have represented it, cannot fail to prove highly dissatisfactory to us, and although we do not regard ourselves either as answerable for his actions, or obliged absolutely to interfere for restraining them, yet we should have been glad to have been furnished with such materials, as would enable us upon good grounds to expostulate with him on the injustice and impropriety of such a conduct. It was in this view that we requested you to acquaint us with the instances of his cruelties; but we confess ourselves exceedingly disappointed in receiving, instead of a precise account of facts, only three Letters of loose declamation, which, however pathetically written, contain not one single instance of the Vizier's particular cruelty towards the Family of Hafez, and indeed express only such sentiments as we can easily conceive to exist in the breasts of that unfortunate Family, from reflecting on the sad reverse of fortune alone, without supposing any peculiar hardships in their case, or uncommon act of oppression in the Vizier. For this reason we repeat our desire to be furnished with a particular account of the treatment which the Family of Hafez Rhamur has received, and we shall then take such steps for their relief as the circumstances shall require; in the mean time we hope that the remonstrances which, the President informs us, he has directed the Resident to make to the Vizier on this subject, will be sufficient to render any more direct interposition needless.

We cannot conclude without taking notice of an Expression in your Letter which, in our judgment, conveys a reflection equally improper and unjust. It is that in which you say, "the Reputation of the British Name is in the hands of the Vizier." If this were the case, we, who put it into his hands, would undoubtedly stand responsible to our Country and Employers for the wanton prostitution of so precious a trust; but we do not agree that we have in any shape left the National Honor at his disposal, or that the British Name can be affected by any of his actions independent of us. Our Engagements with the Vizier are clearly defined, and such as we can justify on principles of sound policy and attention to the Company's Interest. We afford him our assistance, our Honor we commit into no hands but your's, where we trust it is perfectly safe, and that by your conduct in the Field, and by maintaining order and discipline among the Troops, the British Name will acquire new lustre, and this Campaign be the means of spreading more wide our national reputation unconnected with that of the Vizier.

We further must observe on this head, that if the British Honor is, in the present case, in any manner committed, it must be from the Treaty itself, and not from the subsequent operations in execution of it. It then would have been more candid, as it would certainly have been more likely to prove effectual, if you, who as a Member of the Board, had full communication of the purport and extent of our Engagement with the Vizier, had started that reflection before you undertook the conduct of a Business so likely to bring disgrace on our Name; a consequence which, we believe, never entered into the imagination of any other Member of the Board at the time, nor can we now see any cause to apprehend it.

We are, &c.

(Signed)

Fort William, the
1st July, 1774.

WARREN HASTINGS.
WM. ALDERSEY.
P. M. DACRES.

TO the SELECT COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

MY Letters of the 19th and 24th advised you that I had, in consequence of the Vizier's repeated requisitions, agreed to take the Field with the Seapoy Corps, the European Grenadiers, &c.

When my intentions of leaving the Regiment in Cantonments were signified to the Nabob, he most earnestly desired that I would march the whole Brigade.

The precaution of having given early orders for making up private Tents, and the industry which has been used, together with a little assistance given by his Excellency, has enabled me to comply with his desire; consequently no part of the Troops will be left behind, excepting the Sick, who are to remain in the Hospital in the Fort of Bissoulee, under a cover of a Body of Troops to be left as a Guard for his Excellency's Family.

The weather has been remarkably favourable for several days, and having now got the necessary Ammunition and Stores from the Boats, I will march to-morrow morning. The design of the Enterprize, as formerly mentioned, is to reduce Fyzoolla Khan, or oblige his Forces to disperse, which it is hoped will be effected by our endeavours to cut off their supplies of provisions; for that purpose I have recommended to his Excellency to make the necessary Detachments, and also to endeavour to induce the neighbouring Rajahs to harra's the Enemy.

Now that I have got Equipage for the Europeans, and have taken every precaution to secure our Ammunition, several of the objections which I had to this Expedition are removed, and I am less fearful of bad consequences to the Troops; but I thought it notwithstanding more advisable to endeavour to dissuade his Excellency from prosecuting the measure so early in the season, and accordingly wrote him a Letter, of which I send you a Copy, wherein I made use of reasons that appeared the most probable to influence him.

The Rohillas are encamped about eighteen Coss beyond Nigibgur, in the Country of the Rajah of Syrinagur, who, and the Rajah of Cammow and others, can bring a very respectable Force to the Field. Their Dominions, I am informed, extend considerably into the Plains which run along this (the South) side of the Range of Mountains mentioned in the Instructions under which I act, and the Country to the Westward of Nigibgur on this side of the Ganges is also in possession of Gentoos. I have indeed been told that the Rajahpoots have at times been overpowered by the Rohillas, and obliged to make them pecuniary acknowledgements.

From his Excellency's Answer, you will perceive that he considers the Company bound to put him in possession of all the Country between the Ganges and the Mountains, as well that belonging to the Rajahpoots as the remainder of what was possessed by the Rohillas, whom he seems to expect I am to chase from the Districts of the Rajahs, some of whom have already shewn inclinations of favouring the Rohillas, by supplying them with light Artillery, Grain, and other necessaries.

I shall suppose, however, that they are impelled to this by the awe in which it is possible they stand of the Rohillas, and that, upon our approach, they may perhaps, through the management of the Vizier, at least withhold future assistance, if not even distress the Enemy in the rear.

In answer to this proposition, it is sufficient for me to say, that I cannot take upon me, at hap-hazard, to exceed the Board's Instructions in a point of such importance, as that of entering into hostilities with, or over-running any part of the Country of a people against whom I have no authority to war, unless in self-defence.

For these, and other powerful reasons which might be urged, I am determined not to enter the Districts of the Rajahs without your injunctions.

I cannot

I cannot help thinking the style of the Vizier's Address somewhat extraordinary, as well regarding his Engagements with the Company as in other respects. I have thought it most prudent to leave it to you, Gentlemen, to make such reply to his Excellency through the President as may be judged expedient, and I hope to be favoured with a copy of it.

I am very desirous of receiving a reply to my Letters of the 17th and 20th, relative to the Agreement between his Majesty and the Vizier concerning his Conquest. I deliberately weighed in my mind whether I should acquiesce in the Nabob's request of moving higher up; I discovered that my hesitation gave him much dissatisfaction, and it was very perceptible, that if I had persisted in remaining here, he would have been impressed with doubts and jealousies of the sincerity of our attachment towards him, which I was apprehensive could never be effectually effaced; but indeed his conduct in advancing his Army above thirty Cols in front of our Troops, without my concurrence, rendered a movement on my part absolutely necessary, for the reason mentioned in my Address of the 19th. Moreover I am not acquainted that his Majesty has made any formal declaration to the Administration or to the Vizier, nor has he hitherto attempted to support this claim by force of arms, although the Vizier has been in possession of seven-eighths of the Rohilla Country about three months; and I hope therefore that the motives which prevailed with me to comply with his Excellency's requisition will secure to me the honor of your approbation.

Should I find that the Europeans are likely to suffer much from this movement, I mean to leave them at Meradabad or Sembol, where, according to the report of Officers whom I sent to examine these Towns, there is good accommodation.

If from the intelligence which you receive of the transactions of the Powers, by whom the Vizier declares his expectations of being attacked after the rains, you think there is a probability of it's so happening, and if you are determined to support him at this distance from the Company's Provinces, I consider it incumbent on me to recommend that another Brigade be ordered to proceed in due time to the Frontiers.

I wrote to the President some time ago for a partial supply of Camp Equipage, but in consequence of our taking the Field I must request that all possible dispatch be made in sending up a compleat Set of Tents (or canvas and twine to make them) for the Brigade, as it is probable the Troops will not otherwise have a Tent to cover them in the cold season.

29th July, 1774.

I remain with respect, &c.

DEAR SIR,

I HAVE received your Letters dated the 23d and 24th of June, the first returning the Regulations with your remarks, and the latter enclosing the copy of a Letter from Lieutenant Redman to Mr. Taylor.

I ought to have mentioned to you when I transmitted the Regulations, that the Board, in their resolution to compile them, had done it with the express intention of reserving them for the consideration and approbation of the new Council; but nevertheless they thought it necessary and proper that you should be particularly consulted in the preparation of materials of this kind, both in consideration of your Station as the Commander of their Forces, and because your long experience in the Military Service qualified you to be a more competent judge than they on subjects of this nature. As soon as you shall have returned the Proposals which I lately transmitted, and which have not yet been publicly considered, with your sentiments upon them, we will finish our arrangement of the whole, and have them in readiness to be laid before the Superior Council.

I consider myself as obliged by your polite attention to General Clavering, in the offer of the house in town to him. I was somewhat distressed on this subject, as the intimation we had of his Appointment was from the highest authority, and at the same time I was averse to make a proposal which might not be agreeable to you; but your own consideration has entirely relieved me; I accept of your offer with pleasure, and shall order the house in the Fort to be prepared for your reception.

Captain Delafield has acquainted me of a representation he has made to you concerning the interruption of his tour in the Chunargur Station, to make room for the first Battalion which was reported unfit for service. That Battalion having now had ample time to recruit and complete itself, and the Service being over for which his was ordered into the Field, he requests that his Battalion may return to its Station at Chunar. I am inclined to think there is justice in Captain Delafield's pretensions, but as you must be the best judge both of the propriety and practicability of the exchange, I can only recommend a compliance with his request so far as the execution of it may be approved by yourself.

I am, &c.

Fort William,
the 13th July, 1774.

(Signed)

WARREN HASTINGS.

To the SELECT COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

AGREEABLY to the intention expressed in my Letter of the 20th I marched from Bissoulee on the 30th.

His Excellency also left his Cantonments, and is to proceed on the Expedition. The weather has continued favourable since my last. Fyzoolla Khan is said to be in the same situation.

I expect to have a conference with his Excellency to-morrow, after which I shall do myself the pleasure of addressing you at greater length; in the mean time

Camp near Sembol,
August the 3d, 1774.

I remain, &c.

To the SELECT COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

YESTERDAY I had the favour of a visit from the Vizier, who informed me, that his reasons for expecting to be attacked by the Marattas after the rains are founded on these two facts; first, their being invited by the King, and secondly, their having settled all intestine differences.

According to the Nabob's intelligence a great number of Fyzoolla Khan's people have crossed the Ganges, and Zabita Cawn has withdrawn his Family from Nigebgur, into which a body of several thousands of the Enemy (said to be Cavalry) have thrown themselves. If they do not retire before we get up, 'tis probable they will soon thereafter be obliged to surrender for want of provisions.

We had a good deal of rain on the march this morning, but I have the pleasure to inform you that the Regiment came on very well and in good spirits. His Excellency is collecting Cotts for all the Europeans, which, with a little extra-allowance of arrack, will I hope contribute greatly to the preservation of their healths.

Camp near Bellah,
about 24 Cofs from Bissoulee,
August the 5th, 1774.

I am, &c.

To Mr. HASTINGS.

DEAR SIR,

IHAVE received your favours of the 21st March, 12th May, 25th and 30th June, 2d and 3d July.

Mr. Henderfon may rely on my countenance and protection, and I shall be glad of an opportunity to render service to the Rajah Cheyt Sing; his Vakeel has always free access to me.

I shall be sorry if Nudziff Khan's Jaghire is discontinued; he is a man of enterprize, and I wish no cause of disaffection towards us may be given him.

The Order regarding visits to the Vizier only required that they should be paid with my leave. Major Hannay had been there several times before I received your Letter, but Colonel Galliez has indicated no inclination of going; I am sorry to acquaint you that the Colonel has been greatly indisposed for some time. Indeed it is owing to my having been so much so myself that I did not acknowledge your Letters earlier, nor could any thing but necessity have made me venture abroad.

I did not suppose that the plan of fixing Officers to Corps could take place without consulting the Company; I know there sanction is necessary to matters of less importance; and since you are of opinion that the present mode of promotion in the Company's Army is preferable, I am satisfied.

As the Army has taken the Field at this season, we shall stand the more in need of the reinforcement of Europeans, to continue the operations in the cold weather. My Letter to you regarding the movement from Berelly speaks for itself; the true motive for writing it "not for sake of disputation", but to shew you how perfectly I was disposed to gratify your wishes expressed at parting, by acquiescing as much as possible with the desires of the Vizier.

As to the Peelebut Affair I will pass it over, lest what I should say regarding the Vizier's Letters, and others which have passed upon the subject, might not be perfectly agreeable. You seem to take pleasure in dwelling upon the Expression *most faithless man on earth*. Fown it is a difficult matter to single out the Sirdar of the cast, and therefore perhaps it would have been more proper to have said *one of the most faithless*, &c. I really have, as you surmise, full conviction that the application is just, and I believe that more than one or two material facts may be found in my correspondence to support it. The claim you make for yourself and others to the privilege of judging for yourselves is equally reasonable and unnecessary, an attempt to restrain it would have been too extraordinary. I am entirely satisfied of your good intentions with respect to myself, because I have not for a moment ceased to flatter me that I hold a place in your esteem; and I do with great truth say, that it has always been my wish to approve myself

Your faithful Friend, &c.

Camp, near Amroah,
6th August, 1774.

(Signed)

ALEXANDER CHAMPION,

TO COLONEL CHAMPION, &c.

DEAR SIR,

I HAVE written again to the Vizier on the subject of immediate payment of the forty Lacks, and I have sent particular instructions to Mr. Middleton concerning the negotiation of this Business. If he should find it necessary I have desired him to apply to you, that you may urge the Vizier to a compliance; and I enclose for your information a Copy of the Letter I have written to the Vizier on this occasion.

The negotiation of this Business is left to Mr. Middleton, and if the Vizier should agree to the requisition made by him, it will be unnecessary for you to interfere, but if he persists in refusing the claim, it will then be proper for you to insist upon his fulfilling the Agreement. An Acknowledgement that the forty Lacks are now due, and an Assurance of the payment, you must obtain from the Vizier. It will then rest with you, after receiving full satisfaction on these heads, to relax in the article of immediate payment, and to agree to a more distant discharge of the debt, by the partial payment of fixed sums at stated periods, in the manner that you may judge best for the interest of the Company, without pressing too hard on the necessities of the Vizier. I should think, however, that his present circumstances might enable him, without any inconvenience, to consent to the immediate payment of part of the demand. What further information you may require on this subject will be communicated to you by Mr. Middleton.

I am, &c.

Fort William,
the 16th July, 1774.

(Signed)

WARREN HASTINGS.

S I R,

WE have received your Letters of the 16th, 17th, 20th, and 24th June, with the several Enclosures mentioned in them.

The Nabob has not properly stated the condition of the payment of the forty Lacks; the President has written to him, and given fresh Instructions to Mr. Middleton to explain the nature of his Agreement, and to insist on the right of payment. This we hope will prove effectual. We desire you will also urge it if necessary.

With respect to the Treaties mutually interchanged between the King and the Vizier, as the latter insists on secret Conditions which invalidate the King's apparent Right, as the Treaties were formed without the knowledge or participation of this Government, which could have no right or plea to interfere but that of being Guarantee to them, and as our interposition would be productive of much inconvenience and embarrassment, without the possibility of deriving either credit or advantage from it, we again recur to the answer which you received from the Board on this very subject in their Letter of the 3d May, declaring we will have no concern in these Engagements, the execution of which we leave entirely to the parties themselves.

It is our intention to persevere in pursuit of the object which originally engaged us in the present Enterprize, and to adhere strictly to our engagements with the Vizier, without suffering our attention to be diverted by foreign incidents or occurrences.

We are, S I R,

Your most obedient humble Servants,

WARREN HASTINGS.
WM. ALDERSEY.
P. M. DACRES.

Fort William,
the 14th July, 1774.

To the G O V E R N O R.

¶ DEAR S I R,

ENCLOSED I have the pleasure of sending you a Copy of a Letter from his Excellency the Vizier, intimating his intentions of making a present of seven Lacks of Rupees to the Army in the Field, in proof of the grateful sense he has of their services. I cannot help expressing much satisfaction at this instance of his Excellency's bounty, which is much the more princely, that it has proceeded entirely from his own free will and liberality, and that too at a time when there was no hope or expectation of the kind. His Excellency having himself made his intentions public, I signified them to the Field Officers, agreeably to his wishes, for the encouragement of the Troops, but I at the same time gave to understand that your assent is necessary; and I flatter me it will be given with much cheerfulness, as it will be very agreeable to his Excellency, a proper mark of favour towards the Brigade, and at the same time a lasting obligation conferred on,

Camp, Sual, twenty
Cofs from Pattergur,
8th August, 1774.

Dear Sir, &c.

Translation of a Letter from his Excellency the Nawab Vizier to Colonel Champion, Commander in Chief, received August 8, 1774.

THE Brigade having come from Calcutta on my account, and both Officers and Men having undergone much inconvenience and trouble, without having received or even asked for the smallest recompence from me; regarding this, I will give the Sum of seven Lacks of Rupees as a present and entertainment to the Officers and Men of the Brigade; and I give this Letter as my Bond, that, from this last day of Jemmawdul Awil 1188, the said Sum of seven Lacks of Rupees shall be paid in six months. I acquaint you of this,

that if you think proper you may advise Mr. Hastings of it ; but this sum I have determined to and will undoubtedly give.

(Signed)

8th August, 1774.

E. E. ROBERTS.
Pn. Ir.

To Mr. HASTINGS.

DEAR SIR,

MR. Roberts, Persian Interpreter, has signified to me a desire of resigning his Employment. As I took that Gentleman into my family chiefly on your recommendation, and as Mr. Roberts's conduct in his Office has by no means been dissatisfactory to me, though I think myself the best judge how far to confide in any one regarding my own affairs, I requested he would seriously think of the matter, before he determined relinquishing a place of such importance to a person of his standing in the Service ; but he persisted in his resolution, and yesterday requested permission to address you for leave to resign. I am therefore to advise you that I have no objection to your granting his request, because I cannot possibly wish to have any Gentleman in my family to whom it is not perfectly agreeable.

I am, dear Sir,

August the 9th, 1774.

Your most obedient Servant, &c,

To the SELECT COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

IHAVE the pleasure to inform you that I am now within four short marches of Pattergur. I have moved on leisurely, and given frequent resting days, as well for the ease of the Seapoys as that we might be the better supplied with provisions. The weather upon the whole has been very favourable, and the Troops in good health and spirits. The Rohillas it is said are retiring into the hills, but, by my latest intelligence, there is a body of them posted near Pattergur under Mustichim Khan ; I think it is however probable they will give way when we approach a little nearer. When I shall have put the Vizier in possession of Pattergur, the conquest of the whole Rohilla Dominions will be compleated, and I therefore desire to be favoured with further instructions, as to the future services on which it is your pleasure the Company's Arms should be employed.

Camp, near Champore,
10th August, 1774.

I have the honor to be, &c.

To the GOVERNOR.

¶ SIR,

ENCLOSED I transmit you copy of a bill of costs of 200 Bolts of Canvas purchased from Mr. Burgh for the use of the Troops in the field, at fifty Rupees per Bolt, as mentioned in my Letter to you of the 3d June, and I am to request you will be pleased to direct payment to be made of the amount without delay agreeable to my promise.

I am, &c.

Near Camp Champore,
10th August, 1774.

(Signed)

ALEXANDER CHAMPION.

The Honorable C O M P A N Y	Dr.
To 200 Bolts of Europe Canvas, at 50 Rupees per Bolt,	— — 10,000
	Sonat Rupees 10,000

E. E.

(Signed)

24th July, 1774.

ROBERT BURGH,
Paymaster to the 2d Brigade.

A true Copy.

JOHN MURRAY,
Secretary to the Commander in Chief,
10th August, 1774.

To the SELECT COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I HAD the honor of addressing you under date the 10th instant, and I have now the pleasure to acquaint you that I shall to-morrow be within seven or eight Cofs of Pattergur. The body of the enemy which was advanced to that place has retired into the Hills, as I conjectured in former Letters. His Excellency the Vizier, foreseeing difficulties in settling his Conquest whilst the Rohillas are at variance with him, has made overtures of an accommodation with Fyzoolla Khan by an offer of part of the Doab, you, Gentlemen, shall be advised of the result. It gives me much satisfaction to inform you that the Troops enjoy as good health as they did in Cantonments.

Camp near Goura,
August the 14th, 1774.

I remain, &c.

To Mr. HASTINGS.

¶ ¶ DEAR SIR,

I RECEIVED your Letter of the 8th of July, and now return the continuation of the Military Regulations. I really have not been able to command time sufficient to examine any part of them so minutely as I could wish, but it is of very little consequence, as you inform me that they have been previously approved of by every Member of the Board, and that they are yet to undergo the revision of General Clavering.

I am, &c.

Camp near Goura,
14th August, 1774.

(Signed) ALEXANDER CHAMPION.

To the SELECT COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

YESTERDAY the allied Armies arrived at this place, and the Vizier is now in possession of the Fort of Pattergur. This morning I saluted his Excellency on the completion of the Rohilla Conquest, and he was pleased to acknowledge it by repeated discharges of his whole Artillery. Give me leave now, Gentlemen, through you to offer my congratulations to the Honorable Board on the occasion. The satisfaction which I derive from the success of the Expedition is greatly heightened by the healthful state of the Troops. The main Body of the Rohillas, said still to consist of about 40,000, are penned up at Lall-dang, within about 16 Cofs of us, where they are already in great distress for provisions, having only three seer of grain for a Rupee. They must of necessity without delay either submit to such terms as the Vizier shall grant them, or push into the Hills, and endeavour to purchase or wrest a Settlement from the Rajahs 'till a more convenient

venient season offer for making incursions into this Country; but as his Excellency seems desirous of an accommodation with Fyzoolla Khan, it is probable an agreement may take place.

Camp near Pattergur,
August 17th, 1774.

I am, &c.

To Mr. HASTINGS.

¶ DEAR SIR,

I AM to acknowledge your Letters of the 13th and 16th of July. It gives me real satisfaction that I anticipated your wishes with regard to General Clavering, and I assure you it would give me pleasure to do it in every instance. With regard to Captain Delafield's request, I am inclined to comply with it, but the exchange will not be practicable 'till the Army is further down the Country, and indeed I am satisfied that Captain Delafield would not chuse it should take place 'till there is a respite from service. With regard to the forty Lacks I think your Letter to the Vizier extremely proper. Mr. Middleton has conversed on the subject with his Excellency, who says he will pay the money so soon as matters are settled, one way or other, with Fyzoolla Khan. The whole Country is now in the Nabob's possession, and he has even got the key of it, the Fort of Pattergur, so that our engagement is most completely fulfilled; but as his Excellency puts the delay of payment on the footing of Fyzoolla Khan's being still in arms, I am the more desirous that the Settlement he proposes in the Doab may be accepted of; there will then be no shadow of pretence for delay. Several Letters have passed on the subject, and yesterday Fyzoolla Khan requested that Mr. Murray might be sent to him, that he might fully explain all matters to him; and the Vizier having desired that Mr. Murray might be accordingly sent, and committed his Excellency's instructions to writing, I have consented, otherwise I should have sent the Interpreter with Mr. Murray. I take the opportunity of sending Mr. Bruce, the Engineer, that he may make all the observation he can on the road to the Enemy's Camp, and their situation, and I hope you will be of opinion that what I have done in this matter is proper. I will be no way ostensibly concerned in the Treaty should it take place.

I am, &c.

Camp near Pattergur,
20th August, 1774.

(Signed)

ALEXANDER CHAMPION.

To Mr. HASTINGS.

¶ DEAR SIR,

I HAVE your favour of the 11th ultimo before me, and am sorry the suggestions which I offered in my Letter of the 15th June appeared so exceptionable.

I own it is not necessary officially to assign reasons for withholding an authority which it is deemed improper to delegate, I therefore thank you for entering privately into the discussion, and am sorry it has not carried to my mind that conviction which you proposed to convey; it must be confessed, however, that it is impossible to offer a more forcible reason, than that there must be "*Demonstration of the infallibility of the person to be entrusted.*"

I observe you have been pleased to argue throughout upon an hypothesis of your own. I have not been extravagant enough to desire control over the Vizier in the government of his Dominions or of his Forces; I only wished to have due authority in my own province, the Command of the Company's Troops. Perhaps I might not have influence enough to restrain his Excellency from excesses, nor should I ever think of coercive means, but I would certainly deny him the countenance or assistance of the British Troops in the commission of palpable enormity, even in the Province of Oude.

You say, that in the instance of the pay of the Troops, the point is fixed and certain; so was the destruction of the Villages, which, according to the sentiments of a Friend, for whose opinion I have great veneration, brought "Disonor on our Arms;" and I believe it

it would be thought uncommon reasoning to maintain, that whilst the Commander in Chief has authority to stop the operations of the Company's Army for the detention of a trifle of money, he should be denied it in cases where the Honor of our Nation is concerned.

I should be sorry to interrupt the pleasure you enjoy in the persuasion that the Families of Hafez and Mabulah Khan have been suitably provided for; if so, that cause of complaint ceased from the time the provision took place; but I have good reason to believe your information has been premature.

I would be much more particular in my Answer to your Letter, but that I am apprehensive of having already run some risk of displeasing by perhaps a too free communication of sentiments; I will therefore drop the subject entirely, and only add this truth, that I wish for nothing more sincerely than to approve myself

Your's, &c.

Camp near Pattergur,
21st August, 1774.

(Signed) ALEXANDER CHAMPION.

† Copy Answer to the proceeding Letter, August 21st.

I HAVE received your Letter, and, agreeable thereto, I will endeavour with all my influence to get the Vizier to settle with Fyzoolla Khan; therefore by all means recommend that he comes into me, for nothing can be done 'till this happens; he may rely on the protection of the English Flag for his safe return. Should he not immediately consent to this, take your leave. As to a complimentary present to yourself, I think there will be no harm in receiving it, but for me there will be an impropriety in it, and therefore wish to avoid it 'till he settles with the Vizier, whose consent on such an occasion I could wish to receive. If you can bring him with you, do, and advise me the time you set out. I have received Lieutenant Bruce's Letter.

Translate of a Letter from Fyzoolla Khan to Col. Champion, received 23d August.

MR. John Murray is arrived here. Having heard all particulars from him, I found that Assignments for 15,000 men would be given in the Doab Country; this condition my people would not accept. Mr. Murray then said, Do ye go along with me to the General; I conversed, in company of the Nabob Vizier, on the subject of an Assignment for 15,000 men of your former Country, the General may assist in this measure; and if the Nabob Vizier agrees to this, it is well, if not you will be conducted to the place whence you came. I was ready, when my people said, you are but one person, we are many, and we will not let you go. On this Mr. Murray and I agreed, that if the General consented, my Son, Ally Mahomed Khan, should be sent in my place. For this purpose, if you give your promise, that if the Nabob Vizier does not admit of the proposal for my former Country, my said Son be reconducted hither, in which God, the Prophet, &c. be called to witness.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Murray to Colonel Champion, 22d August, 1774.

I HAVE received your favour of yesterday. Fyzoolla Khan and his Sirdars have had long and frequent Councils. I have every reason to believe, that if the matter depended on his own inclinations he would comply with your wish, by accompanying me to your presence; but his Sirdars are all, or at least the majority, positively against his leaving his people. Every man seems his own master, and gives his opinion as such. I was several hours with them this night, the result is, that he proposes to send his eldest Son, provided you permit me to take him with me, and promise to reconvey him, and such Chiefs as may accompany him, in safety to this Camp, in case the Vizier does not agree to their petition. I think that the next best to carrying Fyzoolla himself, and I hope you will approve of my waiting

† The title to this Letter seems improper, or imperfect. It is an exact copy of that laid before the Board by the Governor-General, but is not found in the copy produced by Col. Champion.

waiting your reply ; I will set off the instant I receive it, and the Rohilla Sirdars will be ready to go with me. The Vizier has hurt my negotiation by sending or suffering Elich Khan to send a Vackeel ; this shews an anxiety which his Excellency ought not to betray, especially whilst the matter was entrusted to your interposition. I have had much trouble with these stubborn people, but if my endeavours should prove in any degree satisfactory to you, it will render me very happy, as I desire nothing more than to acquit myself on all occasions, &c. I send you the Letter which he addressed to me, offering to send his Son, which be pleased to keep.

Translate of a Letter from Fyzoolla Khan to Ensign John Murray, dated 23d August, 1774.

TO the Letter I have written the General, do you from friendship desire a reply to this purport may be returned, that GOD and his Son Jesus are called to witness between us ; after that I will send my Eldest Son, Ali Mahomed Khan, with you to the General to treat with the Nabob Vizier. If what I desire be obtained of the Nabob Vizier, it is well, if not, my said Son shall be conducted to the place whence he came.

Translate of Colonel Champion's Answer to Fyzoolla Khan's Letter of the 23d August.

IHAVE received your Letter, and understand the particulars you write, that your people will not let you come to me ; that therefore you will send your Son, Ali Mahomed Khan, in your room, if I will promise by GOD, his Prophet, &c. that if this business should not be concluded, he be safely sent back to the place from whence he came. Sir, it is the Nabob Vizier's opinion, and also my own, that the sending your Son cannot be attended with any advantage, but if yourself will come, perhaps, by debating on this matter with the Nabob Vizier, it may be concluded. If you chuse to come, accompany Mr. Murray without hesitation, for I promise by GOD, the Prophet, &c. that if this business be not adjusted between the Nabob Vizier and you, though it will be better if it is, that you shall be faithfully conducted to whence you came. If you do not think proper to come you will dismiss Mr. Murray, as the sending your Son cannot be attended with any advantage.

Translate of a Letter from Colonel Champion to Fyzoolla Khan 13th August, 1774.

FROM the first I have not been neglectful for your service, nor now, in whatever may be for the benefit of your affairs, will I be ; accordingly having received a Letter from the Nabob Vizier on the subject, I immediately enclose it for your perusal, from which my endeavours for your service will be apparent. It is my advice and my wish that you close with the Nabob Vizier's proposal, and come here, which is very advisable, that, conformably to the Nabob's Letter to me, your concerns may be concluded ; but in case you do not accept of the proposal, but wish to come to me to converse on the subject, acquaint me directly, that, at sending persons to conduct you, they may attend you hither ; whenever you come to me, and should not accept of the Nabob Vizier's offers, ye shall be conducted to whence you came safely and faithfully. In this matter let your reply be speedy.

Translate of a Letter from the Nabob Vizier to Colonel Champion, received August 13th, 1774.

HEARING now that Fyzoolla Khan is willing to come in by your means if you send for him, I therefore write you, that if you will write to this purport, and he accept of it, it is well and proper to send for him. The condition is this, that, of whatever Effects he may be possessed, he shall give me one half and retain the other ; and shewing him friendship, I will give him separately Country for the support of fifteen thousand men ; but this Country is among that I took from the Marattas in the Doab, from which sufficient for the support of fifteen thousand men shall be given. If Fyzoolla Khan agrees to these terms, and you will interfere, so that this being firmly concluded, the Agreement shall never in future be broke through, our friendship be firm, and never at any time he shall meditate

war and disturbance, but in a proper manner, through your mediation, shall bind himself to this, it is very well and advisable to send for him. I will abide by what I have written, and if after his coming hither he should not agree to this proposal, he shall be conducted to the place whence he came with safety and security.

Translate of a Letter from the Nabob Vizier to Colonel Champion, received
17th August, 1774.

COPY of the Letter that Fyzoolla Khan wrote you, and you sent to me, I have perused, and understand the particulars. In reply do you write him to this purport; that of whatever Effects he be possessed he gives me half, and that I will give him a Tunkah for Country in the Province of Doab, which I took from the Marattas, for fifteen thousand men; and that between us there shall be mutual Agreements, to which the English Gentlemen shall be witnesses, that if the Marattas make incursions on the said Country, I will join him to repel them. This matter properly agreed on and confirmed, I, by means of the English Gentlemen, bind myself for. Do you write to this purport to Fyzoolla Khan that he may be at ease. I am ready to confer the aforesaid quantity of Country, and in future to aid and assist him against the Marattas; never, never will I be neglectful in this matter.

Translate of a Letter from Colonel Champion to Fyzoolla Khan, Camp near
Pattergur, 17th August, 1774.

YOUR friendly Letter in reply to mine I have received; Copy of it is sent to the Nabob Vizier, and at the same time urged whatever was proper and necessary. Copy of the Nabob's reply is enclosed with this, from which all particulars will be known to you. What the Nabob Vizier proposes is very advisable for you to accept; he writes, that when firm Agreements have passed between you, there will be nothing to apprehend from the Marattas, as he will join and assist you to repel them conformably to his engagements. In this you have nothing to apprehend, therefore accept of the Vizier's proposals and come here. I have never been neglectful of your benefit, or will be, but will serve you as far as I am able.

Reply to the Above.

YOUR favouring Letter, covering Copy of the Nabob Vizier's is arrived, and the particulars understood. I am highly obliged by the endeavours you have exerted for my service. Having many things to say which cannot be written, I give this trouble that you may send Mr. Murray to me for one day, when we will converse on all matters, which on his return he will render you. Certainly you will exert yourself in my favour; I will be obedient to your pleasure, nor depart from your advice.

Translate of the Nabob Vizier's Letter, received 20th August, 1774.

FYZOOLLA Khan's Letter, which came to you and was sent to me, I have perused, and clearly understand the particulars. As Fyzoolla Khan has sent for Mr. Murray, it is well and advisable to send him. Agreeably to what I have written, a Tunkah for fifteen thousand men of any part of the Country in the Doab, which I took from the Marattas, that Fyzoolla Khan may chuse, shall be given; of whatever Effects Fyzoolla Khan may be possessed I will take half. It is necessary to acquaint Mr. Murray of these particulars, that, conversing to this purport, he may quickly come, and that afterwards whatever I and you may think necessary to be done we may do.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Murray to Colonel Champion, 21st August, 1774:

MR. Bruce and I arrived here about sun-set. We were met about four Cofs from hence by some of the Sirdars. Last night only compliments passed. The Nabob has been two hours with me, and is this moment gone; all he said amounted to no more than what passed in your correspondence with him, excepting his distrust in the Vizier, and his resolution, at least pretended resolution, of entering into engagements in which the English are not guarantee for the performance. He says, and I believe it is mere words,

words, that he has three months provisions; that when the Ganges is fordable he will cross it with all his people; that it was his original intention to have done so, but was prevented by the hopes of an accommodation through your means, in consequence of your writing to Calcutta; that if the Vizier made him a present of the Country, he would not accept of it unless the English were concerned; he distantly hinted as much, however, as that he would go in to you, if you would seriously promise to exert your influence with the Vizier to give him a Settlement in part of the conquered Country. I imagine, that from the report which Mr. Bruce will make, you will find it more advisable than ever to use every endeavour that can be attempted, in consistence with the Vizier's honor, to bring an accommodation to bear. If you please on receipt to favour me with a Letter, hinting, in order at any rate to bring on an interview with the Vizier, that you will use your influence with the Vizier to grant him part of this Country, I will deliver it or not as I shall find him disposed. I believe it probable that they would cross now if they were supplied with conveyance, and suffered to do it undisturbed; let me know if this would be agreeable. I think, from what you told me yesterday regarding the Vizier's desire of publishing a declaration to that purpose, he would gladly have them out of the Country at all rates; but perhaps he only meant to encourage disaffection, and, by thinning the numbers of Fyzoolla Khan's Followers, make himself and his Treasure the easier prey, for I much doubt if his Excellency will agree to let all the money cross on any account. If the Vizier has any particular instructions, or wishes to send any person of his own in whom he has entire confidence, to communicate his Excellency's intentions and pleasure to me fully, I should be glad he were sent, and not as from the Vizier, which I think indeed would at present be improper. Let the person take my name, and come as an Attendant; for in this business I could wish to proceed entirely agreeably to his pleasure, and I know it is also your desire; but as I have not had any conversation with his Excellency, it is impossible I can so well talk on the subject, or remove the doubts which are started. The Nabob Fyzoolla desired 'till the evening to consider and determine, he is then to be with me again, but I will not set off in the morning 'till I shall receive your commands, which I hope you will do me the favour of dispatching with all convenient speed. If he should offer me the usual compliment of a present, do you not think I should reject any thing of the kind unless he comes to terms?

TO MR. HASTINGS.

DEAR SIR,

I HAVE received from Mr. Roberts a Copy of a Letter addressed to you for an appeal to some part of my conduct towards him. As I cannot help thinking I am at liberty to employ whom I please, more especially with the concurrence of the Vizier, and being answerable at the same time for my conduct to Administration, that he has no right to complain; and I am concerned to observe, that this Gentleman has, from the beginning of the Campaign, searched for subjects which he might turn to a grievance, notwithstanding I have endeavoured several times to put him to rights, assuring him that I was on all occasions to serve him, and that nothing was meant on my part to give the least offence. This last affair, of his not having a fair chance of being sent to Fyzoolla Khan's Camp, has proceeded from a general mistake; and I can assure you, that had Mr. Roberts gone, it would have been equally agreeable to me as Mr. Murray's going. My inclination at all times is to do justice to every person's merit, and to make those about me happy; but his having expressed this day his great desire for quitting my Family, puts me under the disagreeable necessity to request some other person may be appointed to his Office, to which I beg leave to request you will nominate whom you shall think proper. I will acknowledge to you, Sir, that I have reason to believe Cholly Churn has been the cause of this disgust, and on which account three days ago I gave him a promise, that when I returned to Calcutta he should never come another Campaign; that could I have foreseen that he was disagreeable before he left Calcutta, I would never have brought him, but at present that I could not discharge him without a cause but to the prejudice of his character, and indeed it would be necessary for me to have some one to attend me; his general reply was, that he had no particular objections to Cholly Churn, but thought himself aggrieved, and must seek redress. The supercilious manner in which he spoke this hurt me much, besides his observation, and which has been frequent, that he thought I had no right to employ any person but himself on public business.

Without

Without entering into a further discussion on this matter, which I am afraid will only give you uneasiness, therefore shall conclude with assuring

I am, &c.

You have no doubt received the Vizier's reply to Mr. Middleton's demand, in consequence of your Order for the payment of the forty Lacks, therefore it will be unnecessary in me to mention any thing about it, as I hope it will be satisfactory to you. In a few days I expect to write you of an accommodation between the Vizier and the Rohillas.

August 21st, 1774.

To Mr. HASTINGS.

DEAR SIR,

ENCLOSED I send you the Correspondence between Fyzoolla Khan and myself, with the substance of the conversation which passed between Fyzoolla Khan and Mr. Murray, from which last you will clearly observe Fyzoolla is not his own master. I am just now, my good Sir, in a situation truly perplexing; the Rohilla Country is entirely and completely conquered; the fugitives are posted in a very strong situation within the Districts of the Rajahs; they have their all to combat for. Perhaps the success of the event might make Government overlook my going to Lall-Dang, but such approbation depends on chance; the matter is very weighty, and there is more risk than I should chuse to run without a necessity; yet it is grating to have an enemy so near, and it will be dangerous should they not be reduced, or no accommodation take place, because so soon as any other enemy is in motion to attack the Vizier lower down, we shall have troublesome doings. The Nabob I surmise is privately disposed to give Fyzoolla a part of the conquered Country, nay to have a family connexion, by accepting of Fyzoolla's Daughter as a Wife for one of his Sons, yet he will not give sufficient authority to bring matters to the amicable decision he wishes for. I would have less difficulty in the matter, but for your desire that I should dissuade the Vizier from giving any of the Rohilla Country to Fyzoolla. I am perfectly firm in the opinion I before signified to you on that subject, but I must not put it in competition with your's. The Vizier says he cannot pay the forty Lacks 'till he quits the field, he tells us that in a short time the Marattas will be in motion, they will call our attention from hence. The Rohillas, if matters are not decided, will take an advantage of our absence, and if we are obliged to go far down they may perhaps recover their Country; thus the forty Lacks will become precarious; the Vizier will either deny payment, on pretence that the Rohilla War is not finished, or he will at least delay it, on pretence he cannot leave the field. I wish, Sir, to act in every respect so as to give the Administration and you all possible satisfaction, and my every endeavour shall be used, but I cannot help being uneasy, lest I should happen, even undesignedly, to depart from the path I ought to walk in. If the Committee's Answer to my Letter of the 29th of July was arrived, I should know how to proceed with certainty. I am hourly importuned by the Nabob, and I wish to give way to his inclinations as far as I can; it is therefore resolved to move five Cos further on, in order more effectually to distress the Enemy, but I will if possible delay an attack 'till I receive the Committee's Answer to my said Letter. If I am forbid to proceed, the Vizier must come to terms, and the ready money which he will get will pay a considerable part of our forty Lacks; if I am desired to go on, I will not hesitate, but, whatever happens, be assured that all is well intended by

August 26th, 1774.

Dear Sir, &c.

To the SELECT COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

ON the 17th instant I had the pleasure of informing you of the Vizier's being in possession of the Fort of Pattergur and of all the Rohilla Country, and that it was probable an accommodation would take place between him and the enemy. His Excellency offered Fyzoolla Khan a Jaydad for 15,000 men in that part of the Doab lately taken from the Marattas, on condition of receiving from Fyzoolla the half of his Treasure and Effects. The Rohilla Chief, dreading the power of the Marattas, declined accepting of a Settlement in the Doab, but offered half his Treasure and Effects if the Vizier would give him a Settlement in the conquered Country. The Vizier dissented to this proposition,

but assured Fyzoolla Khan that he would at all times support him in the Doab against the Marattas. Fyzoolla then addressed me, saying, that he had some things to communicate, which he did not think proper to commit to writing, and requested I would send my Secretary to hear what he had to say. Being extremely desirous to take away all pretence for further delaying the sum stipulated for the conquest of the Country, which his Excellency alleges he cannot discharge 'till he is at liberty to quit the field, I directed Mr. Murray (with the written approbation of the Vizier) to proceed to the Rohilla Camp, and I took the opportunity of sending the Field Engineer in company with him, that in case no agreement should take place, and we should be obliged to attack the Enemy, we might benefit by the Engineer's observations. When Mr. Murray had heard what Fyzoolla had to say, he found it little else than declamation on past hardships, with expressions of great distrust in the Vizier, and earnest wishes that I would intercede with his Excellency and the Administration to obtain a Settlement for himself and his followers in some part of the conquered Country. Mr. Murray was commissioned to endeavour to bring Fyzoolla Khan to Camp with him, in order personally to pay his respects to the Vizier, and endeavour to settle all disputes. Mr. Murray was so far successful as to obtain Fyzoolla's entire consent to accompany him, but their Councils (in which every petty Sirdar must be heard) being distracted, a majority of the Chiefs denied Fyzoolla Khan the power of putting his intention in execution. They however proposed that Ali Mahomed Khan, Fyzoolla's eldest Son, aged about 25, should be sent to treat with the Vizier. This proposition being communicated to the Vizier, was rejected, and Mr. Murray recalled. The Nabob did me the favour of a visit yesterday morning, and importuned me to advance upon the Enemy, in consequence of which I moved to this ground, but signified to his Excellency that I could not proceed beyond the acknowledged Bounds of the Rohilla Dominions. He strongly urged that Lall-Dang is in the Rohilla Country, and affirmed that the Inhabitants of the Villages close to Lall-Dang had always paid Rents to Zabita Cawn and his Father. The truth with regard to these Villages, as far as I have been able to learn, is, that they belong to the Rajahs, but that the Rohillas have often collected the Rents; be this however as it may, the Enemy being actually encamped in the Hills, they are beyond the utmost limits of the Country I was instructed to conquer; and although I most heartily wish to comply with the Vizier's request of reducing Fyzoolla Khan, yet I am extremely scrupulous of running any risk of disapprobation. If, in answer to the Letter which I had the honor of addressing you on the 29th ultimo, I should be ordered to proceed no further, the Vizier must accept of Fyzoolla Khan's offer, by which, if his Excellency's information is just, he will receive above thirty Lacks of Rupees; and, if on the contrary, I should be authorized to attack the Enemy at Lall-Dang, I will do it; but I have thought it necessary to desire his Excellency to consider, that if the Enemy's Camp is stormed their Treasure will fall to the Captors, and advised him to continue the blockade sometime longer. We are now within ten Cos of the Enemy, whose communication with the Ganges and the Rohilla Country is completely cut off, so that they can neither retreat to nor receive supplies from any place excepting the Country between the Hills. In case peace should be concluded between the Rohillas and the Vizier, I request you will do me the favour of instructing me, whether, and how far I may concern myself, on the part of Administration, in such Treaty as may be agreed upon, either regarding the Doab or the Rohilla Country. His Excellency informed me that he has received Advices of the Marattas having moved to the Southward, but that he doubts not they will pay him a visit in the course of the next season.

August the 28th, 1774.
Camp near Mohampore.

I am, &c.

TO MR. HASTINGS.

DEAR SIR,

I HAVE received two Addresses from Captain William Thompson, by which I learn that he has incurred the displeasure of Administration. He has sent me Copies of two Letters which he wrote to you, but has omitted sending duplicates of your answers, and of the crime for which he was directed to be brought to trial; I am therefore not well acquainted with the state of matters, but if his cause admits of lenity, I hope it will be shewn. I own I think Captain Thompson's unpopularity renders a military life ineligible for him, and unprofitable to the Army, do, however, my friend, endeavour to provide for

him in some shape or other, at least out of the active military line; or, if you cannot do this, indulge him with leave to retire on half pay, and in so doing you will oblige

Your faithful, &c.

Camp, near Mohampore,
the 29th of August, 1774.

(Signed) ALEXANDER CHAMPION.

TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I WAS duly favoured with your Letters of the 1st and 14th July. To the first I would have replied earlier, but that I wished to comply with your desire of obtaining information concerning the identity of Meer Fettee Ally, and I now enclose the Declarations of several persons, particularly that of the Nurse who suckled him, in testimony of his being the real Son of Sadoc Ally. The sum which you have been pleased to allot for his expenses is by no means adequate to his most necessary disbursements; besides furnishing him with Tents and other necessaries, I had given him 500 Rupees monthly before the receipt of your Letter; this being a very moderate allowance, especially whilst he is moving about with the Army, I have taken upon me to continue it, and I flatter myself it will meet with your approbation. I wish to receive further instructions concerning him.

Regarding my Letter of the 11th of June, I am to observe, with all due submission, Gentlemen, that you must have greatly misapprehended it; I never wished, nor expressed a wish, to be the Arbitrer of Peace or War with the Vizier, neither to have the power of correcting his excesses by force. "A full authority effectually to prevent his perpetrating any enormity" under the *Shield* of our Strength, &c." is no more or less than denying to countenance or second such proceedings, and has the Administration no such authority over the Company's Troops? if not, Gentlemen, I am afraid the expression which has been excepted against, "That the British Name is in the hands of the Vizier," is but too much justified.

It is said, that if the British Name is in any manner committed, it must be from the Treaty itself, and I am charged with want of candour for not having started the reflection earlier. After my acknowledgments for this compliment, I answer, that had I seen the Treaty (which I do not recollect to have done) it would be vanity in me to imagine that I could discover faults in it, which had escaped the notice of so many Gentlemen of nicer discernment. If I did not foresee the evil, it is enough on my part that I complained so soon as I was sensible of it's effects; the power of administering a remedy lay elsewhere. It is true, Gentlemen, that declamation is usual in representing distress, and therefore I should not have been surprized that the Letters which I transmitted to you had but little effect on your perceptions, if I had not at the same time attested the truth of the complaints, which, I will venture to say, bear more than one or two instances of cruelty; I might add others, such as these unhappy Captives being driven to the necessity of supplicating and receiving alms from myself and Gentlemen of my Family to purchase sustenance, their even begging for water to drink, their struggling who should first be served with it, &c. In short, the proofs of the gross maltreatment of these Families amounts to an axiom to the minds of the English Army, and even in those of the Vizier's own Troops. Mr. Middleton I presume has informed the President of the result of his application to the Vizier concerning the forty Lacks. The Troops continue to enjoy good health. No remarkable occurrence since my last.

Camp, near Mohampore,
September 3d, 1774.

I remain, &c.

TO MR. HASTINGS.

DEAR SIR,

I WISH much for some of your Europe intelligence, and hope you will favour me with all that may with propriety be communicated. A number of Letters have at different times come by our Dawks addressed to people who neither belong to nor have been seen in Camp. One Waggoner, a Dutchman belonging to the Factory of his Nation at Cossimbuzar, made his appearance at Bissoulee, and, 'tis said, had some things for sale; he is since gone to Delhi. It occurs to me that we ought for many reasons to discourage all intercourse between Europeans and the Country Powers; if you should be of the same opinion,

opinion, the passage up the Ganges might easily be shut by his Excellency against every person who does not carry with him a proper License from you, and all Boats might be examined at Chunar, to prevent transfers of such Licenses to foreigners and other impositions. When I mentioned to you the application made by the Quarter-Master-General for extra-contingencies in the field, I should also have informed you that he and his Deputy drew for Budgerows and Boats; I have hitherto countersigned their bills, because their predecessors in office had an allowance of the same kind. I am now, my good friend, through Mr. Hastings, to submit a few particulars to the consideration of the Governor. I nominated an Officer to command the Invalids at Chunar; there was at the same time an Artillery Appointment vacant there; and though I wished to name a deserving young Officer of that Corps, yet, because I had posted a Gentleman to the Invalids, I thought it a compliment due to the Governor to leave it to him to fill up the other vacancy. The Officer whom I appointed to the Invalids was displaced on account of a prior promise, yet it had been better if I had been made acquainted with the prior engagement, that I might have avoided my orders being exposed to a countermand, or that the former promise had been mentioned in the Occurrences as the reason of superseding my appointment; and, at any rate, I would have taken it kind, that, by way of ballancing matters in some sort, the Artillery Vacancy had been filled up with the Officer whom I had signified a wish of putting into that station, or that I had been told it was left at my disposal, instead of which no notice was taken of that part of my Letter. Before I left Calcutta, I asked the Chief Engineer what Officer of his Corps he could recommend to do the duty in the field; he answered, that Lieutenant Gardiner was the only one then in capacity, and you objected to Mr. Gardiner; I therefore appointed a Gentleman whose knowledge is most amply certified by Mr. Muller; he was superseded, and it may be proper that the Office should be held by a Gentleman actually in the Corps of Engineers; but when the assistant Field Engineer was otherwise provided for, it would have been pleasing that it had been left to me to offer Lieutenant Bruce the Office of Assistant to Captain Penman. Not long ago an Artillery Staff-Office, if I am not mistaken, one of those included in the division of appointments allotted to me, as adjusted before I left Calcutta, fell vacant, and was given away without my knowledge. Commanding Officers of Corps can appoint an Officer to do duty as a Staff Officer till further orders, and therefore no inconvenience could have arisen from the nomination having been left to me even at this distance. I know how much you are importuned, and though these little matters may be misconstrued by others, and do not escape my notice, yet be assured I am perfectly satisfied they are not done with any intention of giving me dissatisfaction, and for that reason I mention them to you in this familiar manner. I have particular reasons for requesting, that you may put Mr. N. Middleton under injunctions not to speak to the Vizier on any military matter or operation whatsoever, nor convey, directly nor indirectly, to him the sentiments of any Officer respecting such affairs. You will oblige me by doing this delicately, but in such expression as may convey your positive orders.

Camp, near Mohanpore,
Sept. 6th, 1774.

I am, &c.

TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

SINCE my last nothing remarkable has happened; we have however accounts of the increasing distress of the Enemy. I have received several Letters from the Nabob Zabita Khan, representing that the Vizier is under the most solemn engagements not to deprive him of the Districts or Fort of Pattergur, and though it may not be thought advisable to interfere, I deem it incumbent on me to make you acquainted with the circumstance. I should be glad to have instructions how to answer the King's Letters formerly sent to you, as you will observe, from the accompanying one from his Prime Minister, that he supposes the replies are come. If it is your pleasure that the President address his Majesty in answer to these Letters, I have to request the favour of a Duplicate of what he may write, that I may conform my conduct thereto.

I have the honor, &c.

Camp, near Mohanpore,
September 7th, 1774.

To

To the G O V E R N O R.

¶ ¶ S I R,

I SEND you two Letters from Mr. Bird, Cadet, requesting permission to resign the Service; the first was written on the eve of our march from Biffoulee, where Mr. Bird, who bears a most ungentlemanly character, remained behind, and is still skulking, as you will see by the second Letter. I have put him in Orders to proceed to the Presidency, and would have dismissed him the Service without hesitation, if I did not apprehend you might probably think I had ventured too far. The unsoldier-like request of desiring to resign in the face of an enemy, is, in my opinion, not to be overlooked in any military man, and it is particularly ungraceful in a Volunteer; I recommend therefore that he be dismissed the Service, and that you be pleased to express your sentiments to the Army on the occasion.

It escaped me to advise you that I some time ago gave permission to Ensign John Baker to go to the Presidency in order to return to England, where I am informed the succession to an estate has devolved to him.

I have the pleasure to inform you that the Season has proved very favourable to our Expedition, and that the Troops continue healthful.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

Camp, near Mohanpore,
7th September, 1774.

ALEXANDER CHAMPION.

† To Captain ——— †

¶ ¶ S I R,

I SHOULD be glad you would give me your permission to apply to the Commander in Chief in order to resign the Honorable Company's Service.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

G. BIRD.

To Colonel G A I L L E Z.

¶ ¶ S I R,

SOME two or three days before the Brigade marched I applied to resign the Honorable Company's Service, but have not received any answer, therefore should esteem it a singular favour if you would be pleased to acquaint me if I am in Orders to proceed to the Presidency.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

Biffoulee,
28th August, 1774.

G. BIRD,
Cadet.

S I R,

THE Season for publicly inviting Proposals for the Army Contract being arrived, we have issued the usual Advertisements for that purpose at the Presidency and Subordinate Factories, of which the enclosed is a Copy; we desire you will also please to publish it where you are. In a General Letter from the Honorable the Court of Directors, under date the 10th December, 1773, we are advised of their intention to send out no Cadets for the Bengal Establishment this Season, and that the whole number of Recruits engaged for

† The Captain's Name is omitted.

‡ This and the following Letter are contained in the Copy given in by the Governor-General.

for our Military Service amounts to 550, who will be distributed in equal proportions on the Ships for this Port.

We are with esteem,

S I R,

Your most obedient humble Servants,

(Signed)

Fort-William,
the 15th August, 1774.

Received September the 7th.

WARREN HASTINGS.
WM. ALDERSEY.
P. M. DACRES.
JAMES LAWRELL.
J. GRAHAM.
N. GRUEBER.

To the GOVERNOR and COUNCIL.

Honorable SIR and GENTLEMEN,

YESTERDAY I received your favour of the 15th of August, and, agreeably to your desire, the Advertisement inviting Proposals for the Victualling Contract has been duly published.

I have the honor, &c.

Sept. 8th 1774.

To the SELECT COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

IN my last I transmitted to you a Letter from Mejidul Dowlah, the King's Minister, and I have now the honor to enclose translate draft of a Letter which the Vizier suggested should be written in reply, proposing a meeting with his Majesty to consult for the general good of the Empire, and to adjust one matter in particular; also, translate of a Letter addressed by his Excellency to me, on my having desired to know what he meant to settle with the King; and translation of the Answer which I wrote to Mejidul Dowlah, in consequence of the Vizier's explanation of his intentions. The Vizier has actually addressed His Majesty, proposing an interview on the Banks of the Ganges; and on the supposition that a meeting will take place, I am to request I may be honored with instructions, whether to interfere, on the part of the Company, in any transactions or agreement between His Majesty and the Vizier regarding the Doab and Rohilla Country, and whether it is your desire that I should make any mention to his Majesty what his Excellency calls the Bengal Treasure. If a coalition should be the result of this meeting, which (if the Vizier is sincere in his professions) I think very probable, I could wish to know what reply to make to his Majesty and the Nabob, concerning the supporting His Majesty for a season with a Brigade in order to bring his Subjects to obedience, a measure which I imagine will be earnestly urged. Let me beg that your pleasure may be signified as soon as possible regarding these and such other matters as you wish should be mentioned to or adjusted with His Majesty. As I have permission from the Board to return to the Presidency, I mean to avail myself of it so soon as I can with propriety leave the Army; it is therefore probable that I may be on my way down before the Answer to this Address can arrive, and I would recommend that a sealed duplicate of your reply to this may be sent under cover to Colonel Galliez, with instructions to deliver it to me if with the Army, if not, to open and act in obedience to it. I trust you have given such orders regarding the supply of Camp-Equipage as that it will be up as early as possible. I am very anxious to receive Answers to the several Letters which I have had the honor of addressing you; replies to all those of July are now due. Fyzoola Khan and the Rohilla Chiefs have removed their Families further into the Country between the Hills. No other occurrences since my last.

Camp, near Mohanpore,
Sept. 10th, 1774.

I remain, &c.

S I R,

WE have duly received your Letters of the 3d, 19th, and 24th July. Notwithstanding our wish to have deferred the renewal of our operations till the conclusion of the rains, had circumstances permitted it, yet, as the Vizier had resolved on taking the field with his own Forces, we much approve and commend your resolution to accompany him, since it might have been productive of fatal consequences, if his Army, acting without our support, were to meet with a defeat; and the appearance of his acting by his own strength might give rise to public constructions prejudicial to the common cause. We think it very probable that the Marattas may endeavour to interrupt your operations the next season, as we are informed their domestic troubles are appeased by the imprisonment of Ragonaut Row; we therefore recommend to you to co-operate with the Vizier, in adopting such measures as may crush the remains of the Rohilla Power before the arrival of a new enemy, and hope that this premature movement of the Vizier may at least serve to effect that good purpose. The conduct of the King appears more calculated to manifest his indisposition towards this Government, and the interest of his Vizier, than to affect either materially; you have better opportunities of foreseeing the consequences of it, and we trust to your judgment and vigilance to obviate or remove them; we cannot alter the line of our conduct towards him. The interest of the Honorable Company, and their present engagements with the Nabob Sujah Dowla, bind them to a close attachment to him during the course of the War in which we have embarked with him, and to prosecute it with vigour, steadiness, and consistency against all opponents whoever they may be. The King has forfeited every claim to our assistance which compassion, or the habit of attachment, might have given him independent of more weighty considerations. From the latest Advices of the Vizier, corroborated by many circumstances of your Letters, we are inclined to attribute the late instance of ill-judged policy in the King to the counsels of his Minister Abdul Ahed Cawn, given perhaps in opposition to his rival Nudjiff Khan, whom he has seen supported by the Vizier and this Government. In this light Nudjiff Khan appears to us the fittest instrument to counteract such measures of the King as may be calculated to embarrass your operations. If you see the necessity of such a precaution, which we only suppose on the grounds which have been afforded us, we recommend to you to engage the services of Nudjiff Khan for this purpose, and to advise with the Vizier concerning such other measures as may be advisable on the same subject. We believe it unnecessary to caution you not to engage personally in any design, which may bear the appearance of an adverse disposition towards the King, unless he should openly declare or act against us. We have already replied in duplicate, by a Letter dated the 14th of July, to your Letters of the 17th and 20th of June, and conclude that you have received it.

We are, S I R,

Your most obedient humble Servants,

Fort William,
the 18th August, 1774.
Received September 11th.

(Signed)

WARREN HASTINGS.
Wm. ALDERSEY.
P. M. DACRES.

To the GOVERNOR.

S I R,

THE Quarter-Master and Adjutant-General having furnished their own Camp-Equipage since the Army has been in the field, they presented Bills for my Signature, but as there is yet no sum fixed as the allowance to be made to the several classes of Officers, I have declined signing their Bills till I hear from you what they ought to draw.

I am informed that a number of other Gentlemen are in the same predicament, and am apprehensive that many similar Bills will be presented. Mr. Campbell, Surgeon-Major, and Mr. Pipon, Deputy Paymaster, have drawn their allowance at 275 Rupees; they have been told that they must find themselves in Tents for two years. The necessity under which we are of having Hospitals at different places renders a greater number of Surgeons and Assistants necessary for the Troops in the field, and I am there-
fore

fore to request that you will be pleased to order one Surgeon and three or four Assistants up with the Draughts. It is much to be wished, Sir, that the Gentlemen desiring to be appointed Surgeons Assistants passed the strictest examination at Calcutta before their admission into the Service; their examination in London is, I am afraid, in many instances passed over in a very slovenly manner. Mr. Smith, Surgeon, I am informed is incapable of the fatigues of field duty.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

Camp near Mohanpore,
11th Sept. 1774.

ALEXANDER CHAMPION.

To the GOVERNOR.

DEAR SIR,

ENCLOSED I send for your amusement Copies of some late Rohilla News-Papers. Last night I received the Committee's Letter of the 18th of August, which I assure you afforded me much satisfaction; I will acknowledge the receipt to-morrow or next day; in the mean time preparations are making to storm the Rohilla Camp. Their post is strong and difficult of access, but our Troops are well disposed to the business, and all the assistance in my power shall be added to their good inclinations, so that I hope to give accounts of the total overthrow of Fyzoolla Khan in a short time. I only wait an answer to my Letter of the 29th July, and, by the time it arrives, we shall be quite ready to press on the Enemy, should the Vizier think it necessary to make the requisition, which yet seems somewhat doubtful.

Camp near Mohanpore, September 12th, 1774.

To Mr. HASTINGS.

DEAR SIR,

AGREEABLE to my promise I send you an Estimate of my expenses in the field, and I beg leave to assure you that all possible pains have been taken both to moderate and to keep an exact account of them. I can with truth say, that I have ordered the Estimate to be rather under than above my outlays. Having thus given you, with all the confidence due to your friendship, the real state of matters, and having confined my drawings to these actual disbursements, it is my hope that you will assist me in obtaining such consideration, in lieu of Pay and Batta, as may be consistent with propriety; but of these matters at meeting.

I remain, &c.

Camp near Mohanpore, September 13th, 1774.

SIR,

WE have received your favour of the 29th ultimo with its enclosures. We can only approve of the steps you have taken in consequence of the requisition of the Vizier; the distance precludes us from giving any instructions for preventing the illeffects which may be occasioned by the march of our Forces at so unseasonable a time. We rely implicitly on your care to the health of the men, the Europeans especially, which we regard as the object most requiring your attention in the present Campaign. We are very happy to learn that the weather has been so favourable to this movement; should it however prove otherwise after you have received this Letter, and the Europeans become sickly, we would rather approve of your hazarding something more in the field without them than expose them to the fatal effects of a dangerous season, and advise their being again cantoned in the most elevated and healthy spot you can make choice of. When the Board, in the Instructions given to you, described the Line of your Operations, and of the Territory which they intended to reduce for the Vizier, they had no idea of any Government subsisting within the Line of that description but that of the Rohillas. If however, as appears to be the case from your Letter, there are doubts upon this subject, we know not

on what grounds we can decide upon them. As the shortest expedient, we must recur to our original intentions, and declare, that we regard the whole plain Country between the Ganges and the Hills to be the object of the present War, both such parts as form an uncontested part of the Rohilla Territory, and such as have occasionally been held in a state of independence. It would not answer our purpose to leave a mixed Dominion within that space, and it would afford an insuperable obstacle to the prosecution of the War, were we to admit of the privilege of any place whatever within it to afford an asylum to the Enemy. If therefore the Vizier shall require your aid in reducing the frontier Zemindars, it is our desire that you do afford him your assistance; if it should be found necessary even to pursue the Enemy within the skirts of the Hills, in order to prevent their collecting fresh strength, we would advise the measure, although we must leave you the judge of that necessity. The letter of our Agreement with the Vizier requiring us to proceed no further than the skirts of the Mountains, at the same time that we assent to the Vizier's requisition of our assistance thus far, yet we should be better pleased that he chose the mode of accommodation with the Zemindars rather than to engage in hostilities against them, when they may be by such means avoided. We have read over the Vizier's Letter, but do not remark any passage in it liable to exception, excepting only the allusion repeatedly made to his own construction of his Engagement for the payment of the forty Lacks stipulated for the present Service. This we think requires no comment or animadversion, as the Letter addressed to him by the President on — ultimo will we hope remove all his doubts and objections on this subject. Concerning the movement of another Brigade to the Frontier of Bahar, we shall wait the conclusion of the rains before we take this point into consideration, as there is no probability of your being disturbed by any other enemy than that you have now on your hands 'till long after the setting in of the fair weather. The President informs us, that he has already given orders for the Camp-Equipage of the third Brigade to be forwarded to you, and a further supply to complete the number which may be required for your Brigade shall also follow with all possible dispatch.

We are, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servants,

(Signed)

Fort-William,
23d of August, 1774.
Received September 15th.

WARREN HASTINGS.
WM. ALDERSLEY.
P. M. DACRES.

To the SELECT COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE derived much satisfaction from the receipt of your favour of the 18th August approving of the movement from Bissoulee. An anxiety for the preservation of the Troops increased my apprehensions of approaching the Hills in the rainy season, but you are already informed that I have been agreeably disappointed, the weather having proved remarkably favourable; 'Tis true indeed, had his Excellency delayed marching 'till the time I proposed, we should not have had the mortification of lying thus long in inactivity so near the Enemy; I am however hopeful that all the purposes of the Expedition will be fully answered. I know not whether the King's conduct may not, in some instances, have been misrepresented, for neither *Ghezyudun Khan*, *Cosim Ally*, nor *Somroo* are with him. I am satisfied that His Majesty is fully sensible of the advantages to be derived from the friendship of our Government and the Vizier, nor can I doubt that a due sense of his own interest makes him sincere in his wishes to effect such an alliance. I agree with you, Gentlemen, that it is the Honorable Company's interest at all rates to maintain the connexion with the Vizier, yet I am at the same time, for several obvious reasons, of opinion with his Excellency, that it would be greatly to the advantage of all parties that a coalition took place between the King, the Company, Sujah Dowlah, and Nudziff Khan, whom last I have considered and treated in the light you pointed out. The Vizier and he are in the strictest friendship at present. His Excellency is desirous of making Nudziff his Naib in the Nizamut, but the King denies his consent; however, if the interview proposed by his Excellency takes place, it is probable all differences will be done away. I send Nudziff

Khan

Khan a Copy of Mijidul Dowlah's Letter, and when I receive his Answer you shall be duly advised of the contents. The Nabob declares, that so soon as the Marattas shew a disposition to act against him, he will cross the Jumna and carry the War into their Dominions. His Excellency expresses most earnest wishes that they were attacked at once from our three Settlements, that so these disturbers of the peace of the Empire might be totally crushed. I endeavoured to obtain a full knowledge of his Excellency's plan for adjusting matters with the King, but all he says is, that he is ready to compleat his engagements to His Majesty. I was desirous of knowing the particulars of his real intentions, from a wish to communicate them to you, Gentlemen, that so your instructions to me, or to my Successor, might be the more explicit and conclusive. On the receipt of your Letter I informed his Excellency, that I should be ready in two or three days to co-operate with him in the reduction of Fyzoolla Khan; and indeed I intended to have given the Enemy's advanced post an alert yesterday morning, but his Excellency requested I would delay coming to extremities for a few days longer, and I have accordingly assented. I perceive that he is exceedingly desirous of an amicable decision, apprehending, that in the event of the Enemy's Camp being stormed, or of their retreating further into the Country between the Hills, he will get hold of little or no part of their Treasure. His Excellency has several persons employed in endeavouring to settle with Fyzoolla, or to detach the Rohilla Sirdars from the common cause; but I am afraid that he discovers too much anxiety, and renders the Enemy more backward in coming to terms than they otherwise would be.

Camp near Mohanpore, Sept. the 15th, 1774.

I remain, &c.

To the GOVERNOR.

¶ DEAR SIR,

I ENCLOSE you a continuation of the Rohilla News. The Vizier and Fyzoolla are still treating, but I cannot say that I perfectly know what is going on. His Excellency but a few days ago refused to see the Son of Fyzoolla, accompanied with such Sirdars as should be pitched upon, and yet he has since received two Chiefs of inferior note without the Son, and sent a person to bring them. The service of the Troops has been offered, so that the delay is now entirely his own. I very much wish for some conclusion to the Business, both because it is necessary to prepare for the reception of the Marattas, by posting the Brigade centrally, and putting their Stores, &c. in proper order; and also because I am very desirous of paying my compliments to my friends at the Presidency.

I am, &c.

Camp, near Mohanpore,
17th Sept. 1774.

(Signed)

ALEXANDER CHAMPION.

† Substance of the Conversations which passed between Fyzoolla Khan and Mr. Murray. That which passed on the 21st August, taken down by Sentences as they were spoken; that of the Night of the 22d, committed to writing early the Morning of the 23d.

Mr. Murray. **A** GREEABLY to your request signified to the General, I am come according to his orders to do myself the pleasure of waiting of you; it is necessary you should do me the favour of informing wherefore you desired this meeting.

Fyzoolla. The case is this. In consequence of the Battle of Bogah I quitted my own Country, and came to this place, which is in the District of the Rajah of Gurnal, subject to the Rajah of Syranagur. My intention was to have crossed the Ganges, but I was desirous, if possible, of coming to an accommodation with the Nabob Vizier, through the mediation of the General. For two months I entertained hopes that friendship would have been reestablished at the General's request; I refused all the proposals which the King, Seiks, and others made to me; at last the General sent notice that his endeavours proved unsuccessful. By this time the River Ganges had become unfordable, I was therefore obliged to remain here. When I heard of the march of the English and Vizier's Armies from Bissoulee towards Pattergur, I withdrew the parties I had in Zabita Khan's District, having first collected all the Grain which could be found in that Country,

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by

† This paper is contained in the Governor General's Copy, but is not in that presented to the Council by Col. Champion.

by which means I secured three months provisions for my people *. About seven days ago, the day the General's Army arrived at Pattergur, I received a Letter from him, with Copy of one from his Excellency the Vizier of the Empire, offering me a Jaydad for 15,000 men in the Doab, on condition of giving his Excellency half of my Effects. The General advised me to accept of this offer.

I answered, — The Country in the Doab belongs to the Marattas, who are powerful. If they come to-morrow, they will either dispossess me, or oblige me to join them; thus I should be unable to keep my promise with his Excellency; therefore it is not fit that I should enter into any, knowing this must be the case; but if the Vizier will be pleased to give me a Settlement in my own Country, the half of all my Effects shall be delivered to his Excellency, and whilst I live I will faithfully adhere to the English and Vizier against what Power soever. In reply, I received another Letter from the General, covering Copy of one from the Vizier, wherein his Excellency promised to support me whenever I should be attacked by the Marattas. The General strongly advised me to accept of the terms proposed; in consequence of this I signified to the General, that there were many things which it was not proper to commit to writing, and requested he would do me the favour of sending you to hold a conference with me.

Mr. Murray. It is therefore fit you should now, Sir, be pleased to inform me what you have to say why you have sent for me.

Fyzoolla. I wished to see an English Gentleman for this reason, that I understood, from the purport of the General's Letters, and from the Copies of the Vizier's Letters sent to me, that whatever I wrote would be shewn to him; and I mentioned you from a belief that you are well acquainted with all matters, as my Vakeel informed me that the General employed you in his correspondence with the Gentlemen at Calcutta, who are at the head of all affairs. What I have to say is this, that if the Vizier would make me a free gift of my Country, and would swear to maintain me in possession of it, I would reject the offer. His Father exchanged Turbans with my Father, he himself exchanged Turbans with my elder brother, with me he was in intimate friendship; what have I done? I have broke no Agreement with him; he was sworn Brother to my nearest Relation; his conduct in this Country is manifest; how has he treated the Sons of Dundy Khan? what shall I say of it, or how bring myself to put any trust or confidence in him? in short, Sir, I have no reliance on his word, and, unless the English are a party, I will enter into no Treaty with the Vizier. As for the Doab, it is not for me; either my own Country or nothing.

Mr. Murray. Suffer me to tell you that this conversation is not to the purpose; it is not proper thus to speak to the reproach of the Vizier in the presence of a person in my capacity. His Excellency you know is in the strictest friendship with the English; with them he has uniformly held his promise sacred. His conduct towards the Sons of Dundy Khan has been misrepresented, and be assured that whatever engagements he may enter into with you he will duly observe. But, Sir, your language sounds not like that of the vanquished. If I might advise, I would on the sincerity of friendship recommend it to you to consider your own situation, that of your Family, your Relations, your Dependents, your People, and to determine what is best to be done; whether to be in this jungle, stinted of the necessaries of life; to be released from this confinement, and placed in a more respectable situation than ever.

Fyzoolla. If I did not acknowledge myself the weakest, wherefore should I take refuge in this jungle? My dependence on the friendship of the Vizier was great. Hafez was the only person in authority till his death; if there was any cause of offence, he alone gave it. I begged to see you, that I might personally, through you, intreat the General to use his influence with the Gentlemen at Calcutta and the Vizier to grant me a Settlement in my own Country, the Country of my Father; we wish to live and die in it; we will be faithful Servants to the Vizier.

Mr. Murray. All this has been already the subject of correspondence between you and the General, who has given great proofs of his wishes to effect a reconciliation between the Vizier and you, by endeavouring to bring you face to face; and if you choose to follow his advice, it is most probable the flame will be extinguished. The Answer from Calcutta has already been communicated to you by the General.

Fyzoolla

* Two Seer of coarse flour for a Rupee in Camp.

Fyzoolla. I am perfectly sensible of the General's sincerity and friendship, and am sorry he has been unsuccessful in his endeavours. If the Vizier would promise me a Settlement in my own Country, I would then go without scruple to the General, but he has not even said that he would assist me in such an application. † I am now much fatigued, I shall therefore retire 'till the evening, when I will again do myself the pleasure of waiting of you.

† This Sentence induced Mr. Murray to write to Col. Champion. 21st August.

Mr. Murray. I shall be glad to be honored with your company. I hope you will duly weigh all circumstances; and lest you should think that I am invested with powers to give other terms, it is necessary to tell you, that I have no authority to depart in any respect from the offers which have been already made through the Nabob Vizier's condescension. In the evening Fyzoolla Khan sent his brother-in-law Bahadar Khan to inform me that he was much indisposed and could not come abroad, but that he would either request my company at his Quarters, or come to my Tent to-morrow morning.

22d August.

In the morning Omin Khan, one of the Rohilla Sirdars, paid me a visit, and in the course of conversation, from the warmth of his confidence, told me, that the Nabob was willing to rely on the General, and go with me, but that the Chiefs would not permit him; that they were independent turbulent men, and could not be governed.

Omin Khan then went away, and in a little time returned, accompanied by Musky Chym Khan and Bahadar Khan. Musky Chym Khan then said, heretofore the Vizier entered into a War with the English unprovoked; the English conquered, and generously returned him his Country; the Afghans are a People not less worthy of the friendship of the English, wherefore not restore us to our Possessions, and receive us under their protection?

I replied, that the Vizier was the Principal in this War, that we were only concerned as Allies; that the conquered Country therefore belonged to his Excellency the Vizier, and was at his disposal. When they took their leave, I requested they would inform Fyzoolla Khan that I was under orders to return without delay, and that therefore I was desirous of hearing what else he had to say. They requested I would have patience 'till the evening, that they might yet further deliberate.

In the evening Fyzoolla Khan sent his compliments, saying he would either come to my Tent, or be glad to see me at his Quarters. Mr. Bruce and I went to Fyzoolla's Bungalow. After conversing a little time on indifferent subjects, he addressed himself to this purport.

Fyzoolla. Ever since the defeat of Hafez our hardships have multiplied upon us; but, whatever my present situation is, I have a name to support in Indostan; my Father was a person well known in it; I must have some regard to my reputation; I am certain the General wishes not that I should dishonor myself. The General has not been able to effect any thing either at Calcutta, or with the Vizier; if I should go to wait of the Vizier, and return without success, how much would it redound to my discredit in the eyes of my people, and prove the General's want of influence. But though I might perhaps get the better of these scruples, the Chiefs are of such a disposition that they will not suffer me to go. The People hold themselves more on the footing of my friends and companions than as my Servants. If I returned unsuccessful they would ever entertain me with disesteem and little-ness of opinion; nay, the Chiefs have told me, that if I go each of them will shift for himself. It is not then fit or practicable for me to accompany you myself, take therefore one or more of the Chiefs to treat for me with the Vizier, whose friendship I acknowledge in offering the Doab; but the Marattas are, I am certain, preparing to come, and would be in the Doab almost as soon as I should be able to cross with such a number of Followers; this would be only to expose my Family and People to more certain danger, and involving us in a continual War with a restless enemy, who would at all rates destroy my Country, and most probably dispossess me. Tell me truly, is not this your own opinion?

Mr. Murray. All this, or the substance of it, you wrote to the General, and it had been much better you had not desired this meeting. I can't pretend to advise you, both because you yourself are wiser, and because the connexion between the English and the Vizier might perhaps induce you to give less than it's due weight to what I should say; but as the General's desire to suppress the flame between the Vizier and you is manifest, and has prevailed with him to send me here, I will take the liberty of recommending to you to consider, that the Vizier himself has two Provinces in

the Doab exclusive of the Country lately taken from the Marattas; that Mirza Nudjiff Khan is in possession of Agra and a large District; that Muzaffer Jung holds Furruckabad and another part of the Country, and can raise a very respectable Body of Pattans, who are of the same Tribe with your own people. Consider whether the Vizier, &c. will tamely give up those Countries to the Marattas; a quadruple alliance would naturally take place; the Maratta Force could make no impression on the combined Armies of the Vizier, Nudjiff Khan, Muzaffer Jung, and yourself. Recollect too that the Ganges has not bounded the inroads of the Marattas; it is not long since they found their way into the Rohilla Country, and, but for the assistance of the English and Vizier, they would have desolated the whole in the same manner they did Zabita Khan's, which is to this day a perfect waste. However I came not here to persuade; thus far I have ventured to say, that matters might appear clearly before you; so that by weighing these advantages with the perilous situation to which you are reduced, you may the better judge how to determine.

Fyzoolla. It is not well that the English should discard me and my people from their protection. We are faithful Allies, and two Allies are better than one; why should they take the Vizier alone by the hand against all Indostan? The Vizier has conquered this Country, or rather the English have conquered it for him, let him keep it, and, if he will entertain us, we will be faithful servants to him; but was there ever an instance of the whole Inhabitants of a Country being banished? I was deprived of my birth-right by the very same person, who, by breach of his engagements, brought these misfortunes on his Country and kindred. I bear the Nabob Vizier no enmity, I wish to be in friendship with him. If he suffers me to live in the Land of my nativity, well, if not, I will, if it is his pleasure, cross the River when it is fordable; and either I will return to the Country from which we emigrated, or I will accept of respectable service wherever I can find it.

Mr. Murray. What you have said, that two friends are better than one, may be true, and the English, by endeavouring to establish amity between the Vizier and you, shew that they wish to receive you as their friend; and if you petition the Vizier in person, the General gives me leave to assure you he will do all in his power to obtain your request. As for crossing the River, it is not to be done without leave, you are hemmed in on all sides. Let you and your Sirdars, I speak it before you all, and I speak it in friendship, which you will hereafter acknowledge, the English are not boasters, but let me desire you to reflect on what befel your Army, when led by a warlike and experienced Sirdar, with a large Train of Artillery and plenty of provisions. Divested of all these, and cooped up as in a prison, consider the imminent danger which impends, nor let obstinacy be your ruin. But it is not for me to say more, I must obey my instructions, and take my leave, and the General bids me carry his friendship with me. Then one of the Sirdars whispered in my ear, that they had agreed the Nabob's eldest Son and some Sirdars should be sent to treat with the Vizier instead of Fyzoolla himself; I replied, that this would cause unnecessary delays in correspondence, but being desirous of bringing matters to an issue, which I know Colonel Champion wished for, so that all excuses for delaying payment of the forty Lacks due by the Vizier for the Conquest might be removed, I desired Fyzoolla Khan to address me in writing, requesting his Son might be admitted to negotiate; this he accordingly did, and I transmitted the Letter to the Commander in Chief, who, after consulting the Nabob Vizier, dissented to Fyzoolla's proposals, but again repeated his desire that he would come in himself, hinted some hopes of success, and assured him of protection and safety. I received the Colonel's Letter on the night of the 23d, and sent it to Fyzoolla Khan with a message, importing, that if he wished to say any thing in consequence of that Letter I would wait of him, or be glad to have the pleasure of his company at my Tent; he answered, that there was nothing new, nothing certain in the Letter, that therefore the Chiefs would on no account suffer him to go.

I was informed that the eldest Ahmet Khan and Fyzoolla's Bukshy are the two whose influence inflamed the minds of the rest. I had also reason to believe that Fyzoolla Khan would have gladly purchased terms, if he could separate himself from them, and that his scruples at coming in would have been easily removed, if he did not dread that the rest of the Rohillas would plunder his Treasury in his absence.

A person, under the character of Elich Khan's Vakeel, waited of Fyzoolla, whilst I was there, with offers of intercession and advices of accepting terms. This betrayed an anxiety in his Excellency which gave the Enemy greater confidence. His Excellency has since declared that he had sent no such person, and that it must have been done by the young

Ahmet

Ahmet Khan, in whose Suite there is a Writer of the Vizier's for the purpose of giving intelligence.

Lieutenant Bruce, the Engineer, was recognized in the Rohilla Camp by persons who knew his profession, a circumstance which I am afraid created considerable distrust in the Rohilla Chiefs; we however denied his being an Engineer, and his Compass passed for a kind of a Watch or Time-Piece. There is a close correspondence carried on between the King, the Marattas, the Seiks, and Fyzoolla Khan, and I was also informed, the night before I left the Rohilla Camp, that there was a Letter from Timur Shah promising succour, and recommending to Fyzoolla, amongst other matters, that he would pay his people regularly, as the most effectual method of keeping them in a body. Lieutenant Bruce was present at all the conversations by permission of the Commander in Chief. Lieutenant Bruce and I left their Camp the morning of the 24th.

TO COLONEL CHAMPION, &c.

¶ DEAR SIR,

I HAVE now received certain Advices that the intestine dissensions among the Marattas have at length entirely ceased. Ragonaut Row is in confinement, and his party dispersed; Mahdewjee, the infant Son of the late Peshwah, Narrain Row, is proclaimed and acknowledged Peshwah. It is now natural to suppose that the Marattas will turn their attention to foreign affairs, and in particular that they will be solicitous to recover their Conquest of the Doab from the Vizier. When the Vizier first mentioned to me his intention of extending his Conquest to the Doab, I forewarned him, that whatever Country he might attempt to subdue beyond the limit of our Agreement in the Conquest to be made by our assistance, he must depend entirely on his own Forces to conquer and hold in subjection, because no part of our Army would be allowed to extend their operations on the other side of the Ganges; and so well is he assured of the fixed determination of our present Administration on this subject, that I am persuaded his present motive for ordering the Army to take the field against Fyzoolla Khan, proceeds from his apprehension that a Maratta Army will march against him in the Doab, and he wishes by our assistance to bring the Rohilla War to a speedy conclusion, that he may be able, before the dry season advances, to act with his whole Force against the Marattas. Although I consider Sujah Dowlah's Conquest of the Doab as a matter totally unconnected with any Agreement subsisting between him and us, and am therefore determined that we shall not openly appear in the defence of it, yet undoubtedly it was owing to the influence of our Arms that he so easily obtained the possession of that Country, and our reputation might in some degree suffer if he were to be forcibly expelled from it. I could therefore wish, without taking any open measure, or employing any part of our Forces, to contribute to his support and assistance in making a stand against the Marattas, in case they should attempt to recover the Doab in the approaching season, and for this purpose I recommend your best advice and counsel to him if such an event should happen. Upon this consideration also I have approved of a plan laid before me by Captain Brooke, wherein he has offered his services to the Vizier, to be entrusted with the command of a proper partizan party of the Vizier's Troops, composed of two or more Battalions of Seapoys, and a sufficient Body of Cavalry, to act separately against the Marattas, and in the manner Captain Brooke proposes; I think there is a strong probability he will employ them to very good effect. I refer you to Captain Brooke's plan, which he will himself lay before you, as I have directed him to proceed immediately to the Army to carry it into execution. My confidence in Captain Brooke's particular talents and abilities has determined my choice of him for this Service, and I beg leave to recommend both the man and the measure, in the strongest terms, to your support. I have written to the Vizier on this subject, in recommendation of the plan and the person I have chosen to execute it; I make no doubt but he will approve of both. However it may be proper to add, that an option rests with him in the first point only, he may adopt the measure, or not, as he thinks proper, but I will admit of no alteration of the person I have chosen to conduct it. In case he chooses to accept of the offer I have made him of an English Officer to act on this occasion, I request you will second my recommendation of Brooke's plan to the Vizier, which I think well calculated to render service. I must also repeat my recommendation of Brooke to you, and, both in a public and private capacity, request that he may meet with every encouragement and assistance you can give him. The distance which separates us rendering it impossible for me to consult your opinion, as I could wish, on subjects of this nature, because the time for execution would be elapsed before I could receive