



## AT A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COURT,

The 2d August, 1787.

Read a letter from Gilbert Slater, Esq. stating his reasons for expecting £21. 10s. per ton to China, and an increased demorage for his ship proposed to be increased to 1150 tons, or will tender her at 1040 tons for China at £22. per ton, or will increase her tonnage to 1150 tons at £21. 10s. per ton for China, with proportionable demorage.

Vide App.  
No. 901.

Messrs. Cameron, Slater, and Royds attending, were called in, and Mr. Cameron acquainted the Committee they were willing to let the ships building on the bottoms of the Ceres and Pacific at £22. per ton for Coast and China, and to be paid demorage in the same proportion as was allowed to the Owners of the Nottingham; they then withdrew;

And the Committee taking the same into consideration,

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that it be recommended to the Court to take up the ships Ceres and Pacific at £22. per ton for Coast and China, and to be allowed demorage in the same proportion as was made to the Owners of the Nottingham.

Messrs. Cameron and Slater were called in, and acquainted with the above resolution.

Mr. Boddam attending, was called in, and was acquainted with the terms on which the Committee had agreed to take up the ship building in the room of the Morfe.

## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Thursday the 2d August, 1787.

The Court now proceeding to take into consideration the state of the shipping employed in the Company's service;

And reports from the Committee of Shipping, dated the 8th November, 1785, and 2d May, 1787, being read,

It was, on a motion,

Resolved, That leave be given to build on the bottoms of the ships Rochford, Royal Henry, Major, and Norfolk.

On another motion,

Resolved, That the permission for building on the Norfolk's bottom be extended to next season.

Amended tenders of the ships Pacific, Ceres, Morfe, and Stormont being laid before the Court, the two first being tendered at £21. per ton for China, and at £22. for Coast and China, with demorage in proportion as the Nottingham was allowed last season, and the two latter at £22. per ton for China, and at £23. per ton for Coast and China, with demorage at £20. 16s. 8d. per day.

Vide App.  
No. 902.

It was

Resolved by the ballot unanimously, That the ships Ceres and Pacific be taken up for a voyage to the East-Indies, at the following freights, viz. to China at £21. per ton, or to Coast and China

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at £22. with demorage in proportion as the Nottingham was allowed last season.

That the ships Morfe and Stormont be taken up for a voyage to India at £22. per ton for China direct, or £23. per ton for Coast and China, with demorage at £20. 16s. 8d. per day, provided they can be got ready in time to go to Coast and China.

On a motion,

Ordered, That it be referred to the Committee of Correspondence, to consider what quantity of tonnage will be necessary for the ensuing season for India and China, and to report.

On another motion,

Resolved, That no ship above the burthen of 820 tons be taken up for Bengal.

Vide App.  
No. 889.

The Court now taking into consideration a letter from Robert Preston, Esq. read in Court the 19th ult. tendering the ship Southampton for a fourth voyage to India, and signifying his intention to defer requesting the Court's leave to build on her bottom, till entitled so to do under the regulations for ships proceeding on a fourth voyage.

Resolved, That Mr. Preston's tender of the Southampton, for a fourth voyage, be not accepted.

#### AT A COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE,

The 7th August, 1787.

Pursuant to a reference of Court of the 2d inst. the Committee took into consideration the proper number of ships to be entertained in the Company's service the ensuing season;

And the Committee offer to the Court as their opinion, that 27 ships (including the Company's ship Sir Edward Hughes) be entertained for the ensuing season.

#### AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 8th August, 1787.

A report from the Committee of Correspondence, dated the 7th inst. being read,

Resolved, That 27 ships, including the Company's ship Sir Edward Hughes, be entertained for the ensuing season.

Vide App.  
No. 903.

On reading a letter from Mr. G. Slater, tendering the new ship in the room of the Major, Captain William Agnew, burthen 800 tons, for China direct, at £23. 10s. per ton; St. Helena and China, Bencoolen and China, and Fort St. George and China, £24. 10s. Bombay £25. 10s. and for Coast and Bay £26. 10s. per ton; also

Vide App.  
No. 904.

Letter from Mr. Abel Chapman, amending his former tender of the Chapman, by offering that ship for one voyage to India or China at £20. per ton.

Ordered,





Ordered, That the said letters be referred to the consideration of a Committee of the whole Court.

On a motion,

Ordered, That the proper officer do prepare and lay before this Court a state of the ships next in turn to be built; also  
A state of the Company's ships now out and building.

### AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 15th August, 1787.

The proper Officer, pursuant to order of the last Court, laid before the Court the following papers, viz.

State of the regular ships in the Company's service; and  
List of ships in turn to build.

Vide App.

No. 905.

No. 906.

The tenders of the following ships being now opened and read, viz.

Vide App.

No. 907.

Afia	-	-	-	-	Capt. John Davy Foulkes
Winterton	-	-	-	-	Raymond Snow
Valentine	-	-	-	-	Thomas Wall
Berrington	-	-	-	-	Thomas Ley
Earl Talbot	-	-	-	-	Robert Taylor
Deptford	-	-	-	-	John Gerrard
Earl Cornwallis	-	-	-	-	Thomas Hodgson
Dublin	-	-	-	-	John Cotton
Manship	-	-	-	-	Charles Gregorie
Phoenix	-	-	-	-	James Rattray
Neptune	-	-	-	-	George Scott
Kent	-	-	-	-	Richard Hardinge
Effex	-	-	-	-	John Strover
Raymond	-	-	-	-	Henry Smedley
Contractor	-	-	-	-	William Mackintosh
Lord North	-	-	-	-	John Bartlett
Walpole	-	-	-	-	Henry Churchill
Barwell	-	-	-	-	Thomas Welladvice
General Coote	-	-	-	-	James Baldwin
Duke of Montrose	-	-	-	-	Joseph Dorin
Bridgewater	-	-	-	-	William Parker
Northumberland	-	-	-	-	James Rees
Dutton	-	-	-	-	James Hunt
Vanfittart	-	-	-	-	Richard Lewin
Rochford	-	-	-	-	James Tod
Ganges	-	-	-	-	Joseph Garnault
William Pitt	-	-	-	-	Charles Mitchell
Bellmont	-	-	-	-	William Dick Gamage
Lord Macartney	-	-	-	-	James Hay
New ship in the room of the Duke of Grafton					John Barkley
Ditto Royal Henry	-	-	-	-	Ralph Dundas

each ship being proposed to be let at builders measurement, on the following terms of freight, provided peace continues; but in case of a war before the ship leaves England, the Owners to have

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an advance of freight adequate to what the insurance may be, as well as the advanced price of cordage and other stores.

To China direct - - - - - £23. 10s. per ton.

To St. Helena and China, Bencoolen and }  
China, and Coast and China } 24. 10s.

To Bombay - - - - - 25. 10s.

To Coast and Bay - - - - - 26. 10s.

and in all other respects on the same terms and conditions as the regular ships of last season; also

Vide App. A letter from Mr. John Baird, advising that the new ship in  
No. 908. the room of the Rochford can be launched next month; and

Vide App. The request of William Frazer, Esq. on behalf of himself and  
No. 909. the Owners of the Resolution, for permission to build a new ship on her bottom.

Ordered, That the said tenders, letter, and request be referred to the consideration of a Committee of the whole Court.

#### AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 22d August, 1787.

Vide App. Letter from Mr. Abel Chapman, dated this day, being read,  
No. 910. renewing his tender of the ship Chapman.

Ordered, That it be referred to the consideration of a Committee of the whole Court.

On a motion,

Ordered, That the Owners of the three ships next in turn to build, viz.

The Norfolk, Fox, and Earl of Sandwich,  
be called upon to inform this Court, on or before Wednesday next, whether they will agree to build ships of 1160 tons burthen for the year 1788, to be freighted for China at £21. per ton.

#### AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Friday the 24th August, 1787.

Vide App. On reading the request of Mr. H. Rice, that the sheathing of  
No. 911, the ship Dutton may be permitted to remain for another voyage.  
912.

Ordered, That the said request be referred to the Committee of Shipping to examine and report.

#### AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 29th August, 1787.

On a motion,

Ordered, That it be referred to the Committee of Shipping to consider whether the ship Southampton, which was condemned on





on her second voyage, stands as the fourth in turn to build on that ship's bottom, and to report.

Letter from Alexander Hume, Esq. dated the 29th, in reply to the Secretary's letter of the 22d inst. was read. Vide App.  
No. 914,  
913.

On reading a letter from Henry Boulton, Esq. dated the 23d inst. signifying that he is building a new ship, burthen 799 tons, on the bottom of the Norfolk; and Vide App.  
No. 915.

Letter from John Robinson, Esq. dated this day, requesting an explanation of several matters necessary to be settled before the Owners of the late ship Earl of Sandwich can fully answer the Court's proposal for them to build a ship, for the season 1788, on the terms mentioned in the Secretary's letter of the 22d inst. Vide App.  
No. 916.

Ordered, That the said letters be referred to the consideration of a Committee of the whole Court. Vide App.  
No. 913.

#### AT A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COURT,

The 29th August, 1787.

The Committee took into consideration the following tenders, viz.

From Abel Chapman, Esq. dated 19th July last, offering the ship Chapman for two or more voyages to India or China at £20. per ton; or offering to build a new ship from 800 to 1000 tons to go to any part of India for £24. per ton, the four first voyages, and for a fifth at £19. per ton, kintledge and demorage as customary; and in case of war, on a fair and equitable freight; also, two other tenders from Mr. Chapman, dated 8th and 22d instant, renewing his former tender, offering the Chapman for one voyage to India or China at £20. per ton Vide App.  
No. 892.

From Timothy and William Curtis, Esqrs. offering the Stormont for another voyage to China, on the same terms of freight as the Company may take up their ships for this season; also Vide App.  
No. 893.

Letter from John Clements, Esq. dated the 25th ult. tendering the Royal Charlotte for another voyage to China, upon the same terms of freight as the ships to be taken up this season; and Vide App.  
No. 895.

Letter from Mr. George Burnett, dated 18th July last, enclosing a tender from Mr. Robert Donald, dated at Calcutta, the 10th November, 1786, proposing to pay into the Company's Treasury at Canton, the amount of a cargo of tea for bills of exchange on the Court of Directors, provided they will take up the ship Hornby of 1100 tons, to bring home the tea at £20. per ton. Vide App.  
No. 890,  
891.

And the Committee considering the number of ships at present at home, and expected next season, the Committee do not think it proper to take up any extra ships, or give leave to build on new bottoms.





Resolved, That the before-mentioned several tenders be not accepted.

Vide App.  
No. 915.

The Committee, pursuant to a reference of Court of this day, took into consideration a letter from Henry Boulton, Esq. dated the 23d inst. stating that he had received the directions of the gentlemen who are to be concerned with him in the new ship building on the bottom of the Norfolk, to agree with Mr. Perry for building a ship of 800 tons burthen.

Ordered, That the Secretary do acquaint Mr. Boulton, that if he does not intend to build a ship of 1160 tons, it is the Court's desire that he do not proceed at present in building a ship of 800 tons, until he receives the Court's further opinion thereon.

Vide App.  
No. 916.

The Committee also considered the reference of Court of this day, on a letter from John Robinson, Esq. dated this day, requesting, on behalf of the Owners of the late ship Earl of Sandwich, to be informed, that if they agree to build such a ship as described in the Secretary's letter to Mr. Dent of the 22d instant, whether she is to be of such scantlings and timbers as to be of sufficient strength to carry heavy metal on one deck, and to be thereby converted, on occasion of necessity, into a ship of force, and what weight of metal the Directors wish her to be fitted for;

Vide App.  
No. 913.

Also requesting to be informed, whether in case of the ship's being converted into an armed ship, the Directors propose that the same freight only shall continue during the time of such service, as the wear and tear will so considerably differ in that respect;

And whether, in case of her being made use of as an armed vessel, the Directors mean to have a covenant inserted in the Charter-Party, that the Company shall bear and pay for the loss and destruction of the ship.

Ordered, That the Secretary do acquaint Mr. Robinson, that he has written to Mr. Dent, desiring an answer to his letter of the 22d inst. by Tuesday, and any further information the Owners wish to receive, Mr. Coggan will acquaint them therewith; and

That the Secretary do write again to Mr. Dent, desiring an answer to his letter of 22d inst. by Tuesday next.

#### AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Wednesday the 29th August, 1787.

The Committee having, agreeably to the order of Court of this day, taken into consideration, whether the ship Southampton, which was condemned on her second voyage, stands as the fourth in turn to build.

The Committee reported, that under the circumstances above-mentioned, the Southampton stands the fourth ship, being next in turn to build immediately after the Earl of Sandwich.

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## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 29th August, 1787.

The Committee of the whole Court, in a report dated this day, now read, offering to the Court as their opinion, that considering the number of ships at present at home, and expected next season, they do not think it proper to take up any extra ships, or to give leave to build on new bottoms;

That the several tenders of Abel Chapman, Esq. of the ship Chapman.

Messrs. Timothy and William Curtis, of the Stormont; and John Clements, Esq. of the ship Royal Charlotte.

Mr. Robert Donald proposing to pay into the Company's Treasury at Canton, the amount of a cargo of tea for bills of exchange on the Court, provided they will take up the ship Hornby of 1100 tons, to bring home the tea at £20. per ton, be not accepted.

That the Secretary do acquaint Mr. Henry Boulton, in reply to his letter of the 23d inst. that if he does not intend to build a ship of 1160 tons, it is the Court's desire that he do not proceed at present in building a ship of 800 tons, until he receives the Court's further opinion thereon.

That the Secretary do acquaint John Robinson, Esq. in reply to his letter dated this day, that he has written to Mr. Dent, desiring an answer to his letter of the 22d instant, by Tuesday; and that Mr. Coggan will furnish the Owners with any further information they may wish to receive; and

That the Secretary do write again to William Dent, Esq. desiring an answer to his letter of the 22d inst. by Tuesday next.

Resolved, That this Court do approve the said report.

Draughts of letters to Henry Boulton, and  
William Dent, Esquires,  
were read and approved.

Vide App.  
No. 917.  
No. 918.

The Committee of Shipping, in a report dated this day, now read, offering to the Court, as their opinion, that the Southampton stands the fourth ship, being next in turn to build immediately after the Earl of Sandwich.

Resolved, That this Court do approve the said report.

## AT A COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE,

The 31st August, 1787.

The Committee submit to the Court, as their opinion, that the following 28 ships be taken up for the Company's service, including the Company's ship Admiral Hughes, the ensuing season;

Phoenix	-	-	-	Capt. Rattray
Kent	-	-	-	Hardinge
Manship	-	-	-	Gregorie
Lord Macartney	-	-	-	Hay

William





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William Pitt	-	-	-	Capt. Mitchell
New ship (Major)	-	-	-	Agnew
Northumberland	-	-	-	Rees
New ship (Royal Henry)	-	-	-	Dundas
Dublin	-	-	-	Smith
New ship (Rochford)	-	-	-	Tod
Deptford	-	-	-	Gerrard
Dutton	-	-	-	Hunt
Bellmont	-	-	-	Gamage
Winterton	-	-	-	Snow
New ship (D. of Grafton)	-	-	-	Barkley
Earl Cornwallis	-	-	-	Hodgson
Pacific	-	-	-	
Ceres	-	-	-	
Barwell	-	-	-	Welladvice
New ship (Stormont)	-	-	-	Allen
Contractor	-	-	-	Mackintosh
Morfe	-	-	-	Elliott
General Coote	-	-	-	Baldwin
Essex	-	-	-	Strover
Asia	-	-	-	Foulkes
Raymond	-	-	-	Smedley
Duke of Montrose	-	-	-	Dorin

## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Friday the 31st August, 1787.

On a motion,

Ordered, That it be referred to the Committee of Shipping to consider whether the Owners of the late ship Resolution have a right to build, at any future time, on the bottom of that ship, under the circumstance of Captain Thomas Poynting, the Commander, having died on the fourth voyage; and if it should appear to the Committee the Owners have such right, what will be her proper order of turn in the list of ships to build, and to report their opinion to the Court.

A report from the Committee of Correspondence, dated this day, being read,

Resolved by the ballot, That the following 28 ships, including the Company's ship Admiral Hughes, be taken up for the Company's service the ensuing season:

Phoenix	-	-	-	Capt. Rattray
Kent	-	-	-	Hardinge
Manship	-	-	-	Gregorie
Lord Macartney	-	-	-	Hay
William Pitt	-	-	-	Mitchell
New ship (Major)	-	-	-	Agnew
Northumberland	-	-	-	Rees
Dublin	-	-	-	Smith
New ship (Royal Henry)	-	-	-	Dundas
New ship (Rochford)	-	-	-	Tod
Deptford	-	-	-	Gerrard

Dutton

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Dutton	-	-	Capt. Hunt
Bellmont	-	-	Gamage
Winterton	-	-	Snow
New ship (D. of Grafton)	-	-	Barkley
Earl Cornwallis	-	-	Hodgson
Pacific	-	-	
Ceres	-	-	
Barwell	-	-	Welladvice
New ship (Stormont)	-	-	Allen
Contractor	-	-	Mackintosh
Morfe	-	-	Elliott
General Coote	-	-	Baldwin
Essex	-	-	Strover
Afia	-	-	Foulkes
Raymond	-	-	Smedley
Duke of Montrose	-	-	Dorin

On reading a letter from Robert Preston, Esq. dated this day, in reply to the Secretary's letter of yesterday, and requesting the ship Southampton may be taken up in turn according to her arrival in the Downs homeward bound;

Ordered, That it be referred to the consideration of a Committee of the whole Court.

#### AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Tuesday the 4th September, 1787.

Pursuant to reference of Court of the 9th July last, the Committee considered the letter from Robert Williams, Esq. representing, that after the strictest examination of the bottom of the General Coote, by taking off her sheathing in many places, and cutting out some pieces of her planks, it appears to be such as to induce him to request that the stripping off the sheathing of the said ship may be deferred till a future voyage; and Mr. Barnard having represented, in a letter to Mr. Williams dated the 5th of that month, that the sheathing under the light water mark, and the seams of the bottom under it appear in very good order, and that he is of opinion that the usual quantity of new nails being drove therein, the ship may perform another voyage with safety without stripping; and Mr. Snodgrafs, on being examined by the Committee, having concurred in the above representation and opinion, the Committee recommended to the Court, that Mr. Williams's request be complied with, subject to the conditions mentioned in Mr. Barnard's letter as to the usual quantity of new nails being drove into the sheathing.

Vide App.  
No. 887.

Vide App.  
No. 888.

The Committee having taken into consideration the reference of Court of the 31st ult. whether the Owners of the Resolution have a right to build on that ship's bottom, under the circumstance of Capt. Poynting having died on the ship's last voyage; and, if the Owners have such right, what will be her proper order of turn for building, reported to the Court,

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That





That by the 41st By-Law, it was ordained,

“That if after the quantity of shipping in the Company’s service should be reduced to 45000 tons, a ship should be unavoidably taken or lost, the Owners of such ship should have the preference of building a new one, without waiting her turn in rotation; but in case of the death of the Commander on her fourth voyage, then the bottom to drop.”

That the above By-Law was repealed on the 23d March, 1785, subject to the confirmation of a future General Court.

That on the 22d June, 1785, the General Court confirmed the repeal of the above By-Law.

That Captain Thomas Poynting died, in the command of the Resolution, the 27th August, 1783, the ship being then on her fourth voyage.

That the Resolution arrived in the Downs on the 19th June, 1785.

That it appears by the above dates, that the Resolution did not arrive till near three months after the By-Law was agreed to be repealed, though three days before the repeal was actually confirmed.

The Committee further reported, as their opinion, that the Owners have a claim, under such repeal, to build on the bottom of the Resolution, and

That the Resolution, from her arrival in the Downs, stands the fifth ship in turn to build, being next below the Southampton.

#### AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Wednesday the 5th September, 1787.

Vide App.  
No. 911.

Vide App.  
No. 912.

Pursuant to reference of Court of the 24th ult. the Committee considered the letter from Henry Rice, Esq. requesting that the sheathing of the Dutton may remain on another voyage; and enclosing, in support of such application, a letter from Mr. Barnard, dated the 16th of that month, stating that on a survey of that ship by the Company’s officers and himself, the sheathing was found in good condition, the seams and butts of the bottom under it very good, and the oakum in them so found, that he is of opinion the ship may perform another voyage with safety without stripping, if a proper quantity of nails of sufficient length are drove therein; and Mr. Snodgrafs, on being examined by the Committee, having concurred in the above representation and opinion, the Committee recommended to the Court, that Mr. Rices’s request be complied with, subject to the condition mentioned in Mr. Barnard’s letter, as to a proper quantity of nails being drove into the sheathing.

#### AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 5th September, 1787.

Vide App.  
No. 919.

On reading a letter from Alexander Hume, Esq. dated this day, signifying the consent of the Owners of the Fox to build a ship on her bottom for the season 1788, agreeably to the dimensions proposed





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proposed by the Court, with demorage in proportion to her size, and in all other respects subject to the same terms as the ships of that season;

Resolved, That this Court do agree to the Owners of the Fox building a ship on her bottom, according to the terms proposed by the Court on the 22d ult.

On reading a letter from Mr. William Dent, stating the terms upon which the Owners of the late ship Earl of Sandwich are ready to build a ship of the burthen of 1160 tons, for the season 1788; Vide App. No. 920.

Ordered, That it be referred to the consideration of a Committee of the whole Court.

The Committee of Shipping in a report, dated the 4th inst. now read, submitting to the Court, that the Owners of the Resolution have a claim under the repeal of the 41st By-Law, on the 22d June, 1785, to build on that ship's bottom; and

That the Resolution, from her arrival in the Downs, stands the fifth ship in turn to build, being next below the Southampton.

Resolved, That this Court do agree in opinion with the said Committee.

Two other reports from the Committee of Shipping, dated the 4th inst. and this day, being read,

Resolved, That the stripping off the sheathing from the ships General Coote and Dutton be deferred till a future voyage, subject to the conditions mentioned in Mr. Barnard's letters, as to the quantity of new nails to be driven into the sheathing.

On reading a letter from Mr. James Farquharson, dated this day, requesting that the stripping off the sheathing from the ship Earl Cornwallis may be deferred till a future voyage; Vide App. No. 921, 922.

Ordered, That the said letter be deferred to the Committee of Shipping, to examine and report.

#### AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Friday the 7th September, 1787.

Pursuant to reference of Court of the 5th inst. the Committee considered the letter from James Farquharson, Esq. requesting that the stripping off the sheathing of the Earl Cornwallis may be deferred till a future voyage, and enclosing, in support of such claim, a letter from Messrs. John and William Wells, stating that on a survey of that ship, by the Company's officers and themselves, the sheathing was found in perfect condition, and the seams of the plank in so good a state, that the ship having been built only four years, they are of opinion, she may perform another voyage with safety without stripping; and Mr. Snodgrafs, on being examined by the Committee, having concurred in the above representation and opinion; the Committee recommended to the Court, that Mr. Farquharson's request be complied with. Vide App. No. 921. Vide App. No. 922.

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## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Friday the 7th September, 1787.

On a motion,

Resolved, That Alexander Hume, Esq. be desired to lay before the Court, on Wednesday the 12th inst. the consent, in writing, of the majority of living Owners for his building on the bottom of the Fox, and that Mr. Hume be acquainted, that upon the same being approved by the Court, permission will be immediately given him for building for the season 1788, subject to the following conditions, viz.

That the new ship be of the burthen of 1160 tons, and freighted for China at £21. per ton;

That the keel be laid within four months after leave is given to build, and the ship ready for launching within one year after the expiration of the said four months, or else such ship to lose her turn to all the ships which may arrive in the season 1788;

That should not the keel be laid within one year after leave is given to build, and the ship launched within one year after the expiration of the first, the ship will be pronounced a lapsed bottom, and thrown entirely out of the service.

A report from the Committee of Shipping, dated this day, being read,

Resolved, That the stripping off the sheathing from the ship Earl Cornwallis, be deferred till a future voyage.

## AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Tuesday the 11th September, 1787.

Vide App.  
No. 923. Mr. Ferguson's report of the progress of ships building for the Company's service, dated the 7th inst. was laid before the Committee.

## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Thursday the 13th September, 1787.

Vide App.  
No. 924. Letter from Alexander Hume, Esq. dated the 12th inst. being read, signifying that in a few days he shall lay before the Court the consent, in writing, of the Owners of the late ship Fox, for him to build a new ship on her bottom;

Ordered, That it be referred to the consideration of a Committee of the whole Court.

## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 10th October, 1787.

Vide App.  
No. 925. On reading the request of Mr. William Money, for leave to build a new ship on the bottom of the True Briton;

Ordered,





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Ordered, That it be referred to the consideration of a Committee of the whole Court.

#### AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Friday the 12th October, 1787.

The report of Mr. Gilbert Ferguson of the progress of ships building for the Company's service, dated the 10th inst, being laid before the Committee; Vide App. No. 926.

Ordered, That the Master-Attendant and Surveyor of Shipping do recommend to the builders to expedite the launching of the ships with all convenient dispatch.

#### AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 17th October, 1787.

Letter from Mr. Jeremiah Royds, dated this day, signifying that he has resigned the management of the new ship building on the bottom of the Stormont to Richard Lewin, Esq. also Vide App. No. 927.

Letter from a majority of the Owners of that ship, acknowledging Mr. Lewin as the Managing Owner, were read. Vide App. No. 928.

#### AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Friday the 19th October, 1787.

On reading a letter from Abel Chapman, Esq. tendering the ship Chapman either for the Company's regular service, or as a storeship; also Vide App. No. 929.

Letter from George M. Macaulay, Esq. tendering the ship Pitt on the terms therein-mentioned; Vide App. No. 930.

Ordered, That the said letters be referred to the consideration of a Committee of the whole Court.

#### AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Tuesday the 23d October, 1787.

Letter from Mr. John Baird, dated the 19th inst. signifying that he has resigned his appointment as Managing Owner of the new ship in the room of the Rochford, to Mr. Robert Williams, was read. Vide App. No. 931.

On reading a letter from Mr. Abel Chapman, dated this day, explaining the terms of his tender of the ship Chapman; Vide App. No. 932.

Ordered, That it be referred to the consideration of a Committee of the whole Court.





## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 24th October, 1787.

Vide App. No. 933. Letter from Mr. William Palmer, tendering the ship Carnatic for the Company's service this season, either upon the same terms as the ships already taken up, or for a voyage outward only, to be sold on her arrival in India, being read; also

Vide App. No. 934. Letter from Messrs. Timothy and William Curtis, tendering the ship Stormont on the same terms;

Vide App. No. 935. Letter from Mr. Samuel Hurry, jun. offering to sell two ships to the Company, to carry troops to the East-Indies; and

Vide App. No. 936. Letter from the Managing Owners of Shipping, dated the 23d inst. laying before the Court their requisition, that a provisional clause may be inserted in the Charter-Parties, that the difference of insurance, over and above seven guineas per cent. (on the voyage out and home) taken from the day each ship has been twenty days at Gravesend, be allowed by the said Company to the said Owners; also that the Company do pay whatever bounty-money will be necessary to be given as encouragement to seamen to enter on board their ships, extra wages, and all other expences incurred relative to manning the ships, and the difference in price of all stores whatever, that are increased in consequence of the present troubles since the 22d day of February, 1787, being the day of agreement betwixt the contracting parties; that as the freights are to continue on the peace establishments, the Owners do further request, that the Company will agree to maintain (during their stay in England) and to pay the passage back to India of all Lascars, Chinese, or other Indian seamen who shall unavoidably be hired in India to supply the place of seamen pressed out of their ships in India by the King's commanding officers; and that after the departure of each ship from the river Thames, each Managing Owner shall lay before the Court a fair and exact account of his demands for all increased prices of insurance, stores, bounty, and whatever expence is incurred, as soon as may be; and that the Court will attend to agree with and discharge such sum or sums of money as shall be adjusted between the Court and each particular ship, three months after the departure of each ship from the Downs; and the Owners further submitting, whether it would not be proper for the Court to apply to Government, on behalf of the Company and the Owners, to obtain an indemnification for all losses that they may sustain while the ships are on public service.

Ordered, That the said letters be referred to the consideration of a Committee of the whole Court.

## AT A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COURT,

The 26th October, 1787.

Vide App. No. 936. The Committee took into consideration the reference of Court of the 24th inst. on reading a letter from the Managing Owners of Shipping, dated the preceding day, laying before the Court their requisition, that a provisional clause may be inserted in the Charter-





Charter-Parties, that the difference of insurance, over and above £7. 7s. per cent. (on the voyage out and home) taken from the day each ship has been twenty days at Gravesend, be allowed by the said Company to the said Owners; also that the Company do pay whatever bounty-money will be necessary to be given as encouragement to seamen to enter on board their ships, extra wages, and all other expences incurred relative to manning the ships, and the difference in price of all stores whatever that are encreased in consequence of the present troubles, since the 22d day of February, 1787, being the day of the agreement betwixt the contracting parties; that as the freights are to continue on the peace establishments, the Owners do further request, that the Company will agree to maintain (during their stay in England) and to pay the passage back to India of all Lascars, Chinese, or other India seamen, who shall unavoidably be hired in India to supply the place of seamen pressed out of their ships in India, by the King's commanding officers; and that after the departure of each ship from the river Thames, each Managing Owner shall lay before the Court a fair and exact account of his demand for all encreased prices of insurances, stores, bounty, and whatever expence is incurred, as soon as may be, and that the Court will attend to agree with and discharge such sum or sums of money as shall be adjusted between the Court and each particular ship three months after the departure of each ship from the Downs; and the Owners further submitting, whether it would not be proper for the Court to apply to Government, on behalf of the Company and the Owners, to obtain an indemnification for all losses they may sustain while the ships are on public service;

And the Committee having prepared draught of a letter in reply thereto, the same was read, approved, and ordered to be reported to the Court. Vide App.  
No. 937.

#### AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Friday the 26th October, 1787.

Letter from Mr. William Foster, tendering the ship Charlotte for India and China, being read; also Vide App.  
No. 938.

Letter from John Durand, Esq. and Captain John Bartlet, tendering the ship Lord North, for a voyage to India (and to be discharged there for sale) at the freight of £12,000. for the run; and Vide App.  
No. 939.

Letter from Mr. Anthony Calvert, tendering the ship Ranger to carry troops to India, the ship to be either sold there, or loaded home from China; Vide App.  
No. 940.

Ordered, That the said letters be referred to the consideration of a Committee of the whole Court;

The Chairman, from the Committee of the whole Court, reported that the Committee had taken into consideration the letter from the Managing Owners of Shipping, dated the 23d inst. and had prepared draught of a letter in reply thereto,

And the said draught being then read, was unanimously approved. Vide App.  
No. 937.

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## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 31st October, 1787.

Vide App.  
No. 941.

On reading a letter from Mr. Alexander Hume, dated this day, enclosing the consent, in writing, of the majority of Owners of the late ship Fox, for his building a new one on her bottom;

Ordered, That it be referred to the Committee of Shipping, to examine and report.

## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Thursday the 1st November, 1787.

Vide App.  
No. 942.

On reading a letter from Messrs. Timothy and William Curtis, tendering the ship Stormont, Captain John Barfoot, for a voyage to India, China, and back; if to China direct, at £20. per ton, and in proportion as other ships have, in case sent to any of the settlements in India;

Ordered, That it be referred to the consideration of a Committee of the whole Court.

## AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Wednesday the 7th November, 1787.

Vide App.  
No. 941.

The following report was made to the Court, viz.

The Committee have considered the reference of Court of the 31st ult. on the letter from Alexander Hume, Esq. enclosing the consent, in writing, of the majority of Owners of the late ship Fox, for his building a new one on her bottom; and as Mr. Hume has, by the above letter, complied with the requisition of the Court of Directors on the 7th September last; the Committee presume there can be no objection to his building a ship on the bottom of the Fox, subject to the conditions stated on the minutes of Court of that date.

## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 7th November, 1787.

A report from the Committee of Shipping, dated this day, being read;

Resolved, That Alexander Hume, Esq. be permitted to build a new ship on the bottom of the Fox, subject to the conditions stated in the minutes of Court of the 7th September last.

## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Tuesday the 13th November, 1787.

Vide App.  
No. 943.

On reading a letter from Mr. Gilbert Slater, stating an error in the draught of Charter-Party of the ship Carnatic, and requesting that the same may be corrected;

Ordered,





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Ordered, That it be referred to the consideration of a Committee of the whole Court.

AT A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COURT,

The 14th November, 1787.

The Committee, pursuant to the references of Court, upon the letter from Gilbert Slater, Esq. Charter-Party Owner of the ship Carnatic, to the Secretary, dated 12th inst, stating that he was sorry to find the Charter-Party differ from the agreement made with the Company, referring to the Secretary's letter in answer to his tender, which expressly says, demorage to be in the same proportion as was allowed the Nottingham last season; whereas it is stated in the Charter-Party, demorage not to commence till after six months and four days, and desiring the same may be corrected.

Vide App.  
No. 943.

Resolved, That this Committee having considered the said letter, and read the clause allowing demorage in the new Charter-Party settled last January with the Managing Owners; also Mr. Slater's letter of the 26th January last, approving and agreeing to the same, his tender of the ship Pacific 2d August last, the Company's resolution thereon, and the Secretary's letter of the 3d August, agreeing to such tender, and that the demorage should be in proportion to the Nottingham's demorage in last season, are of opinion, that no variation was thereby made, or intended to be made, in the general terms of the Charter-Party as to the time demorage should commence, but that the stipulation respecting the proportion of demorage merely related to the amount of demorage to be paid daily for this ship, and therefore,

Vide App.  
No. 851.  
No. 901.  
No. 944.

Resolved unanimously, That Mr. Slater be required to execute the Charter-Party in the way it is prepared, allowing six months and four days for the ship's laying in India or China before demorage commences, the same being conformable to the Charter-Party agreed to as aforesaid, upon the footing of which Charter-Party the ship was tendered.

The Committee also considered a letter from William Dent, Esq. dated the 5th September last, advising that the Owners of the late ship Earl of Sandwich, are ready to agree to build on the terms proposed to them on 22d August last, provided war should not arise, and provided the Owners can any way be properly insured in their risk and damage against loss, in case of her being converted at any time into an armed ship, which the Owners are informed may be a very serious difficulty, and the Committee being of opinion, that the apprehensions expressed in Mr. Dent's letter are not well founded, and that the Company ought not to submit to the conditions proposed;

Vide App.  
No. 920.

Vide App.  
No. 913.

Resolved, That the Secretary do write to Mr. Dent for his answer, on or before Tuesday next, whether the Owners are ready to build upon the bottom of the late ship Earl of Sandwich upon the terms proposed in the Secretary's letter of the 22d August last.

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Read





Vide App.  
No. 915.

Read a letter from Henry Boulton, Esq. dated 23d August last, advising that in consequence of the Court's permission of the second of that month, he had, on behalf of the Owners of the late ship Norfolk, agreed with Mr. Perry for building a ship 116 feet keel, and 36 beam, amounting in burthen to 799 tons.

On several motions,

Resolved, That the Owner of the ship next in turn, be wrote to for his answer, whether he will build a ship for next season of 1160 tons, at £21. per ton for China.

Ordered, That the Secretary do write to Robert Preston, Esq. desiring he will deliver in, on or before Tuesday next, the authority of the Owners of the late ship Southampton, for his building a new ship in her room.

#### AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 14th November, 1787.

The Chairman, from the Committee of the whole Court, reported that they have this day taken into consideration the letter from Gilbert Slater, Esq. dated the 12th inst, and that they have

“Resolved unanimously, That Mr. Slater be required to execute the Charter-Party of the ship Carnatic in the way it is prepared, allowing six months and four days for the ship's lying in India or China, before demorage commences, the same being conformable to the Charter-Party agreed to as aforesaid, upon the footing of which Charter-Party the ship was tendered.”

The Committee likewise stating, that having taken into consideration a letter from William Dent, Esq. dated the 5th September last, they have

“Resolved, That the Secretary do write to Mr. Dent for his answer, on or before Tuesday next, whether the Owners are ready to build on the bottom of the late ship Earl of Sandwich, upon the terms proposed in the Secretary's letter of the 22d August last.”

And the Committee further reporting their proceedings as follows, viz.

“Read a letter from Henry Boulton, Esq. dated the 23d August last, advising that in consequence of the Court's permission of the 2d of that month he had, on behalf of the Owners of the late ship Norfolk, agreed with Mr. Perry for building a new ship of 116 feet keel, and 36 beam, amounting in burthen to 799 tons.”

“On several motions.

“Resolved, That the Owner of the ship next in turn be written to for his answer, whether he will build a ship for next season of 1160 tons, at £21. per ton for China.”

“Ordered, That the Secretary do write to Robert Preston, Esq. desiring he will deliver in, on or before Tuesday next, the authority of the Owners of the late ship Southampton, for his building a new ship in her room.”

Resolved, That this Court do approve the said report.





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## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Tuesday the 20th November, 1787.

Letter from Mr. Gilbert Slater, dated the 14th inst. being read, requesting the Court to reconsider their resolution of the 14th inst. respecting the clause inserted in the Charter-Party of the Carnatic, as to the period when the demorage is to commence;

Vide App.  
No. 945.

Resolved, That this Court see no reason to depart from the opinion expressed in their resolution of the 14th inst. as to the period fixed for the demorage of the ship Carnatic to commence.

On reading a letter from Robert Preston, Esq. enclosing an instrument, signed by a majority of Owners of the late ship, Southampton, empowering him to build a new ship in her room; also

Vide App.  
No. 946,  
947.

Letter from Mr. William Dent, dated this day, signifying that as soon as he can consult the Owners of the Earl of Sandwich, he will reply to the Secretary's letter of the 15th inst.

Vide App.  
No. 948.

Ordered, That the said letters be referred to the consideration of a Committee of the whole Court.

Letter from Mr. Gilbert Slater, dated this day, requesting the Court to consider their resolution of the 14th inst. respecting the demorage of the ship Carnatic, was read.

Vide App.  
No. 949.

## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 21st November, 1787.

On reading a letter from Mr. William Palmer, dated this day, resigning his appointment as Managing Owner of the Carnatic, to Captain Lestock Wilson; also

Vide App.  
No. 950.

Letter from Captain Wilson, tendering that ship for this season on the terms therein-mentioned;

Vide App.  
No. 951.

Ordered, That the said letters be referred to the consideration of a Committee of the whole Court.

## AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Thursday the 22d November, 1787.

The Committee took into consideration the number of military intended to be sent this season to India, and the means necessary for their accommodation, and submitted, as their opinion, in a report to the Court, that two more ships be taken up for conveying the troops to India, and to proceed afterwards to China.

## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 28th November, 1787.

Letter from Mr. William Dent. dated this day, being read, signifying that the Owners of the late ship Earl of Sandwich are ready to build on the bottom of that ship, on the terms and of the

Vide App.  
No. 952.





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the size specified in the Secretary's letter to him of the 22d August last.

Resolved, That Mr. Dent be permitted to build a new ship in the room of the Earl of Sandwich accordingly.

Vide App. No. 953. On reading a letter from Mr. Anthony Calvert, tendering the ship Ranger to carry troops to India at £15. per head; also

Vide App. No. 954. Letter from Messrs. Thomas Newte and Gilbert Slater, stating their objections to the clause in the Charter-Party, specifying that no teas are to be stowed in the lower decks of the ships before the well; and

Vide App. No. 955. Letter from Mr. Richard Lewin, requesting that the ship Albion may be placed on an equality with the other ships of this season, in respect to the article of demorage.

Ordered, That the said letters be referred to the consideration of a Committee of the whole Court.

A report from the Committee of Shipping, dated the 22d inst. being read,

Resolved, That two more ships be taken up for conveying troops to India, and to proceed afterwards to China.

#### AT A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COURT,

The 28th November, 1787.

The Committee took into consideration the reference of Court of this day, upon reading a report from the Committee of Shipping, dated the 22d inst. recommending that two more ships be taken up for conveying troops to India, and to proceed afterwards to China, and are of opinion, that the two regular ships next in rotation be taken up.

The Committee also considered the reference of Court of the 31st August, on the letter from Robert Preston, Esq. requesting that the Southampton may be taken up in turn according to her arrival in the Downs homeward bound, and are of opinion to recommend it to the Court, that the Southampton be returned to the service as a regular ship.

And that the Owners of the Resolution, being the next ship in turn to build, be called upon to know if they will build a ship 1160 tons burthen, on the terms of £21. per ton to China, for the season 1788.

Vide App. No. 955. The Committee also considered a letter from Richard Lewin, Esq. Charter-Party Owner of the ship Albion, dated the 27th inst. stating that he observes the demorage of the said ship does not commence until five months after her arrival in India, instead of four months as usual, and hoping the Court will consider the singular predicament in which this ship stands, and place her upon an equality with the rest of the ships of this season, and

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are of opinion that the same be not complied with, and that the Secretary do, by letter, acquaint him therewith, and call upon him to execute the Charter-Party as it stands at present.

#### AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 28th November, 1787.

The Chairman, from the Committee of the whole Court, reported their opinion, "that the two ships next in turn be taken up for a voyage to India and China this season."

Resolved, That this Court do agree in opinion with the said Committee.

It was then moved, and on the question,

Resolved by the ballot, That the Southampton be considered as a regular ship to proceed on a fourth voyage.

Another motion being then made, it was

Resolved by the ballot, That the ships Southampton and Bridgewater be taken up for a voyage to India this season, provided they can be sufficiently repaired in time.

Resolved, That the Owners of the Resolution, being the next ship in turn to build, be called upon to know if they will build a ship of about the burthen of 1160 tons, on the terms of £21. per ton for China.

The Chairman further reporting, from the Committee of the whole Court, their opinion, that the request of Richard Lewin, Esq. for certain alterations therein-mentioned, respecting demorage to be made in the Albion's Charter-Party, be not complied with.

Resolved, That this Court do agree in opinion with the said Committee.

Draught of a letter to Mr. Lewin, was then read and approved.

Vide App.  
No. 956.

#### AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Tuesday the 4th December, 1787.

Letter from Nicholas Skottowe, Esq. dated the 1st inst. signifying that the ship Bridgewater can be got ready in time to proceed to India this season, was read.

Vide App.  
No. 957.

Letter from Richard Lewin, Esq. dated the 29th ult. being read, signifying he shall sign the Albion's Charter-Party, and leave it to the Court to determine the situation of that ship as they shall see proper;

Vide App.  
No. 958,  
959.

Resolved, That this Court see no reason to alter the opinion expressed in their resolution of the 28th ult. respecting the demorage of the ship Albion.





## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 5th December, 1787.

Vide App.  
No. 960.

Letter from Robert Preston, Esq. dated the 4th inst. advising that the ship Southampton will be compleatly repaired in every respect whatever, with the utmost dispatch possible; and

Letter from William Dent, Esq. dated this day, enclosing the consent, in writing, of a majority of the living Owners of the late ship Earl of Sandwich, to build on the bottom of that ship, were read.

On reading a letter from Mr. William Frazer, signifying that the Owners of the late ship Resolution are willing to build a ship in her room, for the season 1788, of the burthen of 1160 tons for China, at the freight of £21. per ton;

Ordered, That it be referred to the consideration of a Committee of the whole Court.

Vide App.  
No. 961.

On reading the request of Mr. William Dent, for leave to build the new ship in the room of the Earl of Sandwich, in the King's yard at Harwich;

Ordered, That it be referred to the consideration of the Committee of Shipping.

## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Tuesday the 11th December, 1787.

Vide App.  
No. 962.

Letter from Robert Preston, Esq. dated the 7th inst. signifying that the ship Southampton cannot be properly repaired by the 8th of next month, was read.

On reading a letter from George M. Macaulay, Esq. tendering the ship Pitt for the Company's service, upon the terms therein-mentioned;

Ordered, That it be referred to the consideration of a Committee of the whole Court.

## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 12th December, 1787.

On reading a letter from Robert Preston, Esq. signifying that he has given up all the thoughts of repairing the Southampton for one voyage, and that he will be ready to build a new ship on her bottom;

Ordered, That the said letter be referred to the consideration of a Committee of the whole Court.

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## AT A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COURT,

The 12th December, 1787.

The Committee took into consideration the reference of Court of the 5th inst. on reading a letter from William Frazer, Esq. dated the same day, signifying that the Owners of the late ship Resolution are willing to build a ship in her room for the season of 1788, of the burthen of 1160 tons, for China, at the freight of £21. per ton; and are of opinion, that Mr. Frazer have permission to build a ship accordingly, on the terms of the new Charter-Party, on his producing proof of the right of the late ship Resolution's bottom being with him.

Letter from Robert Preston, Esq. dated this day, acquainting the Court of Directors, that as he finds the expence of repairing the Southampton for one voyage will considerably exceed the freight, and therefore gives up all thoughts of it whatever, was read;

It was then, on a motion,

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Court of Directors to take up the two ships next in turn, for a voyage to the East-Indies and China.

The Committee considered the reference of Court of the 11th inst. on the letter from George Mackenzie Macaulay, Esq. renewing his tender of the ship Pitt, burthen about 779 tons, for a voyage to the East-Indies, upon the precise conditions of other ships of the season, and sent to such parts of India or China, as the service may require; and upon her return, he agrees to deduct from her freight £3500.

The following particulars being called for were read, viz. minutes of the Committee of the whole Court of the 21st of February last; and minutes of the Court of Directors of the 28th of the same month, and of the 29th August last.

The following motion was made and seconded, and the question thereon being put by the ballot, it was

Resolved, That this Committee are of opinion, that when the body of Ship Owners receded from their demand of £24. per ton, on the 28th of February last, it was on the understood condition that the ships already in the service should be preferred; and therefore it will not be proper to employ extra ships, if the present Owners can supply the Company at the agreed price.

## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 12th December, 1787.

The Chairman, from a Committee of the whole Court, reporting that they had come to the following resolution, viz.

That this Committee are of opinion, that when the body of Ship Owners receded from their demand of £24. per ton on the 28th February last, it was on the understood condition that the ships already in the service should be preferred; and therefore it will





will not be proper to employ extra ships, if the present Owners can supply the Company at the agreed price.

Resolved, That this Court do agree in opinion with the said Committee.

The Chairman further reporting, that the Committee of the whole Court had come to the following resolution, viz.

That it be recommended to the Court of Directors to take up the two ships next in turn for a voyage to the East-Indies and China,

It was moved, and

Resolved by the ballot, That the ships Neptune and Earl Talbot, being the two ships next in turn, be taken up for a voyage to the East-Indies or China this season.

On a motion,

Vide App.  
No. 954.

Ordered, That the Committee of the whole Court be discharged from the reference made to them on the 28th of November last, on the letter from Messrs. Newte and Slater, and that the same be referred to the Committee of Shipping, to examine and report.

#### AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Friday the 14th December, 1787.

The following report was made to the Court.

Vide App.  
No. 954.

The Committee having, in pursuance of the reference of Court of the 12th inst. taken into consideration the letter from Thomas Newte and Gilbert Slater, Esqrs. stating their objections to the clause in the Charter-Party, specifying that no teas are to be stowed on the lower decks of the ships before the well; the Committee are of opinion, that as the holds of the ships Ceres and Carnatic are not deep in proportion to their increased dimensions, while their height between the lower and middle decks greatly exceed that of the ships of 800 tons burthen, the Owners of these two ships must suffer very materially if confined to the clause in the Charter-Party restricting them from stowing before the well; that the increased quantity of surplus tonnage will prove equally beneficial to the Company and Owners, provided the teas are so stowed as not to be in danger of damage, and that to guard against such accidents must be an object of great consequence to the Owners, and doubtless will engage their particular attention; that the Committee are of opinion, goods, if properly secured, may be safely and conveniently stowed on some parts of the lower deck; and under these several circumstances do recommend, that the Court accede to the plan suggested by Mr. Newte and Mr. Slater of stowing teas, on the lower deck as far forward as the after-part of the well, and from the fore-part of the main-hatchway to the after-part of the fore-hatchway, strong and sufficient bulkheads being carried up from side to side on the after-part of the well, the fore-part of the main-hatchway and after-part of the fore-hatchway, every part of the deck where goods are to be stowed being sufficiently dunnaged with billet wood, or with battens of  
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one inch and an half thick, with such other precautions as in the discretion of the Commanders may appear necessary.

### AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Tuesday the 18th December, 1787.

The Committee having taken into consideration the reference of Court of the 5th inst. on a letter from William Dent, Esq. requesting that the ship he is allowed to build on the bottom of the Earl of Sandwich, may be built at the King's yard at Harwich, reported their opinion that he have leave accordingly, the ship being surveyed from time to time by the Company's officers, and the Owners paying the expence of their journies on this service. Vide App. No. 961.

### AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 19th December, 1787.

A report from the Committee of Shipping, dated the 14th inst. being read,

Resolved, That this Court do accede to the plan suggested by Mr. Newte and Mr. Slater, of stowing teas on the lower decks of the ships Ceres and Carnatic, as far forward as the after-part of the well, and from the fore-part of the main-hatchway, to the after-part of the fore-hatchway, strong and sufficient bulk heads being carried up from side to side on the after-part of the well, the fore-part of the main-hatchway, and after-part of the main-hatchway, every part of the deck where goods are to be stowed being sufficiently dunnaged with billet wood, or with battens of one inch and a half thick, with such other precautions as in the discretion of the Commanders may appear necessary.

On reading a report from the Committee of Shipping, dated the 18th inst.

Resolved, That the ship which Mr. Dent is allowed to build on the bottom of the Earl of Sandwich, be built at the King's yard at Harwich, the ship being surveyed from time to time by the Company's officers, and the Owners paying the expence of their journies on this service.

The request of Mr. Robert Williams, for leave to build a new ship in the room of the Nassau, being read, Vide App. No. 963.

Ordered, That it be referred to the Committee of Shipping, to examine and report.

On reading a letter from Mr. William Frazer, enclosing the consent, in writing, of the majority of Owners of the late ship Resolution for his building a ship on her bottom, and signifying his intention of fulfilling the several conditions contained in the Secretary's letter of the 13th inst. as nearly as possible; Vide App. No. 964, 965.

Ordered, That it be referred to the said Committee to do therein as they shall think fit.

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## AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Thursday the 20th December, 1787.

Vide App.  
No. 964,  
965.

The Committee having considered the reference of Court of the 19th inst. on a letter from William Frazer, Esq. enclosing the consent, in writing, of the majority of Owners of the late ship Resolution, for his building a new one on her bottom; and Mr. Frazer having, by the above letter, complied with the requisition of the Court of Directors on the 28th November last, the Committee reported to the Court, that they presume there can be no objection to his building a ship on the bottom of the Resolution, subject to the conditions stated on the minutes of Court of that date.

## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Friday the 21st December, 1787.

A report from the Committee of Shipping, dated the 20th inst. being read,

Resolved, That William Frazer, Esq. be permitted to build a new ship on the bottom of the Resolution, subject to the conditions stated in the resolutions of Court of the 28th November last.

## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 9th January, 1788.

Vide App.  
No. 966.

On reading a letter from Mr. Robert Williams, requesting that the usual freight for a Bengal ship may be allowed to the Owners of the Airly Castle, in consequence of her loading at Bencoolen, after having been to Bengal, as her first consigned port;

Ordered, That it be referred to the Committee of Correspondence, to examine and report.

## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 16th January, 1788.

On a motion,

Resolved, That this Court will on Wednesday next, the 23d inst. take into consideration the state of the Company's shipping, and consider whether leave may not be given for three or more ships to be built for the season 1789.

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## AT A COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE,

The 18th January, 1788.

Pursuant to a reference of Court of the 9th inst. the Committee considered a letter from Robert Williams, Esq. requesting that the usual freight for a Bengal ship may be allowed to the Owners of the ship Airly Castle, in consequence of her loading for Europe at Bencoolen, after having been at Bengal as her first consigned port.

Vide App.  
No. 966.

And the Committee having heard Mr. Williams on the subject of his said letter, they offer it to the Court as their opinion, that the Owners of the Airly Castle be allowed the freight of £25. 10s. instead of the sum £24. 10s. per ton, as inserted in the draught of that ship's Charter-Party, being 20s. per ton more than the freight of ships of this season loading home from the Coast of Sumatra.

## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 23d January, 1788.

A report from the Committee of Correspondence, dated the 18th inst. being read,

Resolved, That the Owners of the Airly Castle be allowed the freight of £25. 10s. instead of the sum of £24. 10s. per ton, as inserted in the draught of that ship's Charter-Party, being 20s. per ton more than the freight of ships of this season loading home from the Coast of Sumatra.

On a motion,

Ordered, That the consideration of the motion made on the 16th inst. respecting the state of the Company's shipping, be postponed till next Court.

## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Tuesday the 29th January, 1788.

The request of John Clements, Esq. for leave to build a new ship on the bottom of the Royal Charlotte, to be commanded by Captain Josiah Pryce, being read,

Vide App.  
No. 967.

Ordered, That the said request be referred to the Committee of Shipping, to examine and report.

## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 30th January, 1788.

On a motion,

Ordered, That the consideration of the motion respecting the state of the Company's shipping, be postponed until Wednesday next, the 6th February.

AT





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## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 6th February, 1788.

On a motion,

Ordered, That the consideration of the motion, respecting the state of the Company's shipping, be postponed till Friday next.

## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Friday the 8th February, 1788.

Vide App.  
No. 968.

On reading the request of Mr. William Palmer, that the teas may be stowed on board the Boddam in the same manner as the Court have permitted the Owners of the Ceres and Carnatic to stow teas on board those ships;

Ordered, That the said request be referred to the Committee of Shipping, to examine and report.

The Court proceeding according to order of the 6th inst. to take into consideration the motion respecting the state of the Company's shipping.

Vide App.  
No. 969.

And, "An account of all ships, with their tonnage, which are employed in the trade of the East-India Company, between England and the East-Indies," being read,

It was moved, and

Resolved by the ballot, That leave be given to build three ships of about 1160 tons, for China, for the service of the season 1789.

A motion was then made,

"That the time of building upon the bottom of the late ship Southampton, be reckoned from the completion of her second voyage."

And the question thereon being put by the ballot,  
The same passed in the negative.

It was then moved, and on the question;

Resolved unanimously, That the time of building upon the bottom of the late ship Southampton, be reckoned from the completion of her third voyage.

Ordered, That the Owners of the ships Norfolk, Calcutta, and Nassau, (being the three ships next in turn) be written to accordingly.

## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Tuesday the 12th February, 1788.

Vide App.  
No. 970.

Letter from Henry Boulton, Esq. dated this day, being read, requesting the Court will not insist on the Owners of the Norfolk building a ship on her bottom of so large dimensions as 1160 tons.

Ordered, That the Secretary do apply to the Owners of the Royal Charlotte, to know if they are willing to build a ship of about 1160 tons burthen, for the season 1789.





On reading a letter from Mr. Robert Williams, dated this day. Vide App.  
No. 971.  
Resolved, That he be permitted to build a ship on the bottom of the Nassau, for the season 1789, upon the following conditions, viz.

That Mr. Williams do lay before this Court, on the 20th inst. the consent in writing of the majority of living Owners, for his building on the bottom of the said ship;

That the ship be of the burthen of 1160 tons, and freighted for China at £21. per ton;

That the keel be laid within four months after leave is given to build, and that the ship be ready for launching within one year after the expiration of the said four months; or else such ship to lose her turn to all the ships that may arrive in the season 1789;

That should not the keel be laid within one year after leave is given to build, and the ship launched within one year after the expiration of the first, the ship will be pronounced a lapsed bottom, and thrown entirely out of the service.

Draft of a letter to Mr. Williams, was read and approved. Vide App.  
No. 972.

On reading a letter from Mr. William Moffat, dated this day, signifying that the Owners of the late ship Calcutta, are willing to build a ship on the terms proposed by the Court; but having a ship of 800 tons already built, they request the same may be accepted as built on the bottom of the Calcutta; Vide App.  
No. 973.

Ordered, That the said letter be referred to the Committee of Shipping, to examine and report.

#### AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Tuesday the 12th February, 1788.

Letter from Mr. William Moffat, Esq. dated and referred this day, signifying that the Owners of the late ship Calcutta, are willing to build a ship on the terms proposed by the Court; but having a ship of 800 tons already built, they request the same may be accepted as built on the bottom of the Calcutta, was read, and a debate ensued thereon of some length, in the course of which the following transactions respecting the late ship Duke of Grafton, were read, viz. Vide App.  
No. 973.

Minutes of Court, 1st March, 1782.

21st August

13th September, 1786.

Minutes of this Committee, 24th July, 1783.

24th February, 1785.

19th July

24th August

13th September

20th Ditto

7th September, 1786.

12th December

2d May, 1787.

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## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Friday the 15th February, 1788.

Letter from John Clements, Esq. dated the 14th inst. signifying that the Owners of the late ship Royal Charlotte, are willing to build a ship for the season 1789, of the burthen of about 1160 tons, being read,

Vide App.  
No. 972.

Draft of a letter in reply thereto, was read and approved.

## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 20th February, 1788.

Vide App.  
No. 974,  
975.

On reading a letter from J. Clements, Esq. dated the 19th inst. enclosing the consent of the majority of the Owners of the late ship Royal Charlotte to his building a new ship on her bottom, which ship shall not be of less burthen than 1160 tons, nor more than 1240 tons, and signifying his consent to all the other conditions and stipulations in the Secretary's letter of the 15th inst. during the present freights and the continuance of peace; also

Vide App.  
No. 976,  
977.

Letter from Mr. Robert Williams, dated the same day, enclosing the consent of the majority of the Owners of the late ship Nassau, for his building a new ship on her bottom, on the same terms and conditions as are mentioned in the above letter from Mr. Clements;

Ordered, That the said letters be referred to the Committee of Shipping, to examine and report.

## AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Wednesday the 27th February, 1788.

The Committee took into consideration several references of Court, and reported their opinion thereon, as follows, viz.

Vide App.  
No. 976,  
977.

The Committee have considered the reference of Court of the 20th inst. on a letter from Robert Williams, Esq. enclosing the consent, in writing, of the majority of Owners of the late ship Nassau, for his building a new one on that ship's bottom; and as Mr. Williams has, in this instance, complied with the requisition of the Court of Directors on the 12th inst. the Committee presume there can be no objection to his building a ship on the bottom of the Nassau, subject to the conditions stated on the minutes of the Court of that date.

Vide App.  
No. 974,  
975.

The Committee have considered the reference of Court of the 20th inst. on a letter from John Clements, Esq. enclosing the consent, in writing, of the majority of Owners of the late ship Royal Charlotte, for his building a new one on her bottom; and as Mr. Clements has, in this instance, complied with the requisition of the Court of Directors on the 15th inst. the Committee presume there can be no objection to his building a ship on the  
bottom





bottom of the Royal Charlotte, subject to the conditions stated on the minutes of Court of that date.

#### AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 27th February, 1788.

The Committee of Shipping, in a report dated this day, now read, stating to the Court that they presume there can be no objection to Mr. John Clements building a ship on the bottom of the Royal Charlotte, subject to the conditions stated on the minutes of Court of the 15th inst.

Ordered, That the said report be recommitted.

The said Committee, in another report dated this day, now read, stating to the Court, that they presume there can be no objection to Mr. Robert Williams building a ship on the bottom of the Nassau, subject to the conditions stated on the minutes of Court of the 12th inst.

Ordered, That the said report be recommitted.

#### AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Friday the 29th February, 1788.

Pursuant to reference of Court of the 8th inst. the Committee considered the request of William Palmer, Esq. that the teas may be stowed on board the Boddam, in the same manner as the Court have permitted the Owners of the Ceres and Carnatic to stow teas on board those ships, and the Committee reported their opinion to the Court, that Mr. Palmer's request be complied with.

Vide App.  
No. 968.

#### AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Saturday the 1st March, 1788.

A report from the Committee of Shipping, dated the 29th ult. being read,

Resolved, That permission be given for the teas being stowed on board the Boddam, in the same manner as the Owners of the Ceres and Carnatic have been permitted to stow teas on board those ships.

#### AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Thursday the 27th March, 1788.

The following reports were made to the Court.

The Committee having resumed the consideration of their report of the 27th ult. on the letter from John Clements, Esq. re-committed by order of Court the same day, and having consulted the Company's Surveyor of Shipping on that part which relates





relates to the proposed increased tonnage, do submit as their opinion, that a ship of the burthen of between 1160 and 1240 tons, is a very proper ship for the Company's service; on the other parts of the Committee's said report of the 27th ult. the Committee beg leave to abide by their former opinion, that as Mr. Clements has delivered in the consent of the majority of Owners, there can be no objection to his building on the bottom of the Royal Charlotte, subject to the conditions stated in the minutes of Court of the 15th February.

The Committee having resumed the consideration of their report of the 27th ult. on the letter from Robert Williams, Esq. recommitted by order of Court the same day, and having consulted the Company's Surveyor of Shipping on that part which relates to the proposed increased tonnage, do submit as their opinion, that a ship of the burthen of between 1160 and 1240 tons, is a very proper ship for the Company's service; on the other parts of the Committee's said report of the 27th ult. the Committee beg leave to abide by their former opinion, that as Mr. Williams has delivered in the consent of the majority of Owners, there can be no objection to his building on the bottom of the Nassau, subject to the conditions stated in the minutes of Court of the 12th of last month.

#### AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Thursday the 27th March, 1788.

The Committee of Shipping, in a report dated this day, now read, submitting to the Court as their opinion, that a ship of the burthen of between 1160 and 1240 tons, is a very proper ship for the Company's service; and that on the other parts of the Committee's report of the 27th ult. on the letter from John Clements, Esq. they abide by their former opinion, that as Mr. Clements has delivered in the consent of the majority of Owners, there can be no objection to his building on the bottom of the Royal Charlotte, subject to the conditions stated in the minutes of Court of the 15th February.

Resolved, That this Court do approve the said report.

The Committee of Shipping, in another report dated this day, now read, stating the same opinion, respecting the burthen of a ship proper for the Company's service; and also that they abide by their former opinion, that as Mr. Robert Williams has delivered in the consent of the majority of Owners, there can be no objection to his building on the bottom of the Nassau, subject to the conditions stated in the minutes of Court of the 12th of last month.

Resolved, That this Court do approve the said report.

AT





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## AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Friday the 2d May, 1788.

Letter from Captain Coggan, dated the 1st inst. was read, accompanying an estimate of the expence of building, outfit, and other charges of an East-India ship; and an account of the difference of the expence of building and fitting out a ship between the years 1787 and 1788, being laid before the Committee, the following report was made to the Court, viz.

Vide App.  
No. 978,  
979, 980.

The Court having, on the 4th September, 1783, Ordered, " That the Committee of Shipping do prepare an estimate of the expence of building, outfit, and other charges of an East-India ship fit for sea, and that the same be laid before the Court the first week in May every year." The Committee, in consequence thereof do report, that an estimate has been prepared accordingly by the Deputy Master-Attendant, and that the same, upon the present prices, amounts to £19,904.

The present estimate, dated the 1st inst. and signed by the Assistant Master-Attendant, accompanies this report, and is submitted to the consideration of the Court.

Vide App.  
No. 979.

## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Friday the 2d May, 1788.

The Committee of Shipping, by a report dated this day, now read, laying before the Court the annual estimate of the expence of building, outfit and other charges of an East-India ship fit for sea;

The same was read.

## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 7th May, 1788.

The Chairman laying before the Court some memorandums which he had received from the Managing Owners of Shipping, respecting certain proposed alterations in several of the Company's By-Laws, which they are desirous of submitting to the General Court;

Vide App.  
No. 981.

Ordered, That the same be referred to the consideration of the Committee of Shipping.

On reading the memorial of Mr. George Thomson, praying the Court to defer granting leave to Mr. William Moffat, to build or tender any ship instead of the Calcutta;

Vide App.  
No. 982.

Ordered, That the said memorial be referred to the Committee of Shipping, to examine and report.

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AT





## AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Friday the 16th May, 1788.

Vide App.  
No. 982.

The Committee having, in pursuance of the reference of Court of the 7th inst. considered a paper from the Owners of Shipping, containing several regulations proposed by them to be established as By-Laws of this Company, the Committee submitted to the Court the said Regulations as proposed by the Owners, and such Amendments, as appear in this Committee's opinion, proper to be made therein.

REGULATIONS	AMENDMENTS
Proposed by the OWNERS.	Proposed by the COMMITTEE.

Vide App.  
No. 983.

That the 30th By-Law, for restraining the tonnage of all ships employed, or to be employed, in the service of the Company, on freight to and from the East-Indies, to 45000 tons, builders measurement; and

Vide App.  
No. 984.

also the 40th By-Law, for the employment of ships in rotation, as it now stands limited and restricted, shall be, and the same respectively are hereby repealed and utterly made void; and that the under-mentioned articles for the better regulation and security of shipping employed, and to be employed, on freight in the service and trade of the Company to and from the East-Indies, shall from henceforth become and be established as By-Laws, and be recorded as such among the other By-Laws of the Company.

This clause approved without any alteration.

## ARTICLE I.

That the ship which has been first worn out, or condemned, shall be the first rebuilt and employed, and so in rotation; the Owners of each ship tendering the same on as low freight as any others of equal dimensions, scantlings, thickness of plank, number of guns, strength, and quality.

## ARTICLE I.

That the ship which has been first worn out, or condemned, shall be the first rebuilt and employed, and so in rotation, unless it should hereafter appear necessary in the opinion of the Court of Directors to reduce the tonnage of the ships in the Company's service; in which case, a Commander dying on the ship's last voyage, not being the first, second, or third voyage, the bottom of such ship shall drop.

ARTICLE





## ARTICLE II.

That if the ship shall be unavoidably either taken or lost, the Owners of such ship shall have the preference of building a new ship, without waiting for her turn in rotation.

## ARTICLE III.

That no ship shall hereafter be built for, or employed on freight in the trade of the Company to and from the East-Indies or China, of less burthen than 800 tons, builders measurement, or with timbers of smaller scantling, or with thinner plank, or any materials of dimensions or quality worse than those now used and approved, and specified in the contracts for the ships of 800 tons, built with the leave of the Company, and so in proportion for ships of larger size; and that orders shall be given by the Court of Directors for the building of each ship in rotation, allowing 18 months from the time of laying the keel to the launching, and specifying particularly the dimensions, scantlings, thickness of plank, and number of guns.

## ARTICLE IV.

That if any new ships, not upon bottoms already in the service, shall be built or taken  
s up

## ARTICLE II.

That if a ship shall, in the judgment of the Court of Directors, be unavoidably either taken or lost, on her first, second, or third voyage, the Owners of such ship shall have the preference of building a new ship, without waiting for her turn in rotation.

## ARTICLE III.

That no ship shall hereafter be built for the trade of the Company, or employed therein to and from the East-Indies or China of less burthen than 800 tons, builders measurement; the ships to be so employed shall not be built with timbers of smaller scantling, or with any other materials (the planks of the bottom excepted) of inferior dimensions to those now used for the ships of 800 tons, built with the leave of the Company, and so in proportion for ships of larger size; and that orders shall be given by the Court of Directors for the building of each ship in rotation, allowing 18 months from the time of laying the keel to the launching, and specifying particularly the dimensions, scantlings, thickness of plank, and number of guns; provided always, that it be understood that the Owners shall consent to let their respective ships to the Company upon each voyage at as low freight as any other ships can be obtained by the Court of Directors, which have been, or may be constructed and fitted in the same manner with the regular ships at this time employed in the service.

## ARTICLE IV.

That if any new ship or ships shall be built or taken up on freight for the use of the Company,  
pany,





up on freight for the use of the Company, the Commanders who have been regularly bred and employed in the Company's service, and have faithfully and honorably discharged their duty, shall have the preference of all others to command such new ships.

pany, the command of such ships shall be given to Captains out of employ from their ships being worn out, or if none in that predicament, to officers properly qualified for a command, under the established regulations for the service, and who shall be found upon enquiry to have faithfully and honorably discharged their duty in their several stations; the Owners being restrained from removing any Commander after he shall have been regularly appointed or confirmed by them, without producing such reasons for his removal as shall appear satisfactory to the Court of Directors.

#### AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Friday the 16th May, 1788.

The Committee of Shipping, in a report dated this day, now read, submitting to the Court such amendments as they deem proper to be made to the regulations proposed by the Owners of shipping, to be established as By-Laws of this Company.

Ordered, That the further consideration of the said report be postponed until Wednesday next, the 21st inst.

#### AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 21st May, 1788.

The Court now, according to order of the 16th inst. proceeding to take into consideration a report from the Committee of Shipping, submitting to the Court such amendments as they deem proper to be made to the regulations proposed by the Owners of shipping, to be established as By-Laws of this Company.

And the 30th and 40th By-Laws being read,

And a debate ensuing thereon,

It was moved, and on the question

Resolved, That the said report be recommitted to the consideration of an open Committee of Shipping, and that each member of this Court, who shall attend the Committee, shall have a voice at the same.

Vide App.  
No. 983,  
984.

AT





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## AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Wednesday the 21st May, 1788.

The Committee having, in pursuance of the order of Court of this day, reconsidered their report of the 16th inst. offered as their opinion, that the following alterations be made in the amendments then submitted to the Court on the regulations proposed by the Owners of shipping, viz.

That in the third article after the word "China," be added "(ships employed on home freights, those immediately belonging to the Company, and the ships already built for the Company's service excepted)."

## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 21st May, 1788.

The Committee of Shipping, in a report now read, stating that having, in pursuance of the order of Court of this day, reconsidered their report of the 16th inst. they offer as their opinion, that the alterations therein-mentioned be made in the amendments then submitted to the Court, on the regulations proposed by the Owners of shipping.

Resolved, That this Court do approve the said amendments as now altered by the Committee of Shipping.

## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 4th June, 1788.

On a motion,

Resolved, That as the Supra-Cargoes, at Canton, in their letter by the Lafcelles, have made some remarks on the unusual manner in which the Nottingham has been stowed, a deputation of the Gentlemen in the Direction, be requested to visit that ship, on her arrival at Long-Reach, previous to any of the Company's goods, private-trade, or ships stores being taken out, (the gunpowder only excepted) in order to examine into the manner of stowage of that ship in general.

That the Court's intentions herein be signified to the Managing Owner, and that he be desired not to land any of the stores (the gunpowder excepted) till the above deputation from the Court have been on board.

That the Master-Attendant, or his first Assistant, do repair on board the ship on the first advice of her arrival in the Downs, and that he do examine and report the state of the ship as she shall then appear to him.

## AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Tuesday the 17th June, 1788.

On a motion,

Ordered, That the proper officer do lay before this Court, an account of the average value of a Bengal cargo for a ship of 800 tons to be fully loaded.

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On





Vide App.  
No. 985.

On reading a letter from Robert Preston, Esquire, dated the 11th instant, signifying that the Managing Owners accede to the propositions for certain By-Laws relative to the East-India shipping, as altered by the Court, leaving out the words "the planks of the bottoms excepted," in the third of the said propositions; and request, that the next Quarterly Court, advertised for the 25th inst. may be made special, for the purpose of carrying the same into effect.

Vide App.  
No. 986.

Resolved, That the words objected to in Mr. Preston's letter be omitted in the said propositions for By-Laws respecting East-India shipping, and that the next Quarterly General Court be made special, for the purpose of taking the same into consideration.

Vide App.  
No. 986.\*

The Company's Accountant laid before the Court, an account of the average value of a Bengal cargo for a ship of 800 tons, prepared in obedience to an order of Court of this day.

### AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 18th June, 1788.

William Devaynes, Esq. delivered in the following dissent, viz.

To the Honorable Court of Directors of the United East-India Company.

GENTLEMEN,

Vide App.  
No. 986.\*

I AM sorry to trouble you with the following dissent to the resolution of Court, for recommending to the Proprietors the passing of a By-Law for restraining the Company in the permission for building of ships under 800 tons burthen: because I am of opinion, that ships of 800 tons burthen are of too large a size for the importation of the Company's cargoes from Bengal; as a ship of that burthen, according to the account delivered in by the proper officers, will carry, upon an average, more than 18 lacks, which has always been esteemed by the Court of too great a value for the Company, who are their own insurers, to risk upon one bottom; and, if not fully loaded, the Company must lose two, three, or four thousand pounds per ship: and because I have been led to believe, by repeated assertions given to this Court, from gentlemen conversant in the navigation of the river of Bengal, that ships of that size are of too great a draught of water for the safe navigation of that river: therefore, I am of opinion, that the resolution the Court of Directors have come to, not to grant permission to build ships under 800 tons burthen, is contrary to the true interests of the Company.

I am,

GENTLEMEN,

your most obedient servant,

East-India House,  
the 18th June, 1788.

W. DEVAYNES.

AT