



fidavit, and copies of such letters as have been sent relative to the prejudice of Captain Baird's right to build on the bottom of the Rochford, was read.

The Committee proceeding further in their enquiry respecting the disputed claims to build on the bottom of the Rochford, Mr. Henry Joseph was called in, and being examined respecting the sum of £200. standing as a credit in Captain Baird's account with him, he said it was a sum presented him by Captain Baird, as a compliment for having voted for his appointment to the command, that when it was in contemplation to dispose of his shares to Captain Baird, it was insisted, that the above sum should be considered as so much paid on account; that having frequently pressed Captain Baird to settle the business, and having only received evasive answers, he disposed of his property in the ship to Mrs. Willson.

AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Wednesday the 28th September, 1785.

The following report was made to the Court, viz.

The Committee taking into consideration the several references of Court on the request to build on the bottom of the ship Rochford, and having had the parties before them, and received several papers in support of their different claims, the Committee meet with so many difficulties and intricacies in the investigation of this business, that they are induced to report, as their opinion, that the Court do with-hold their permission for building on the bottom of the ship Rochford till the dispute is settled between the contending parties.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 28th September, 1785.

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

Resolved, That this Court will with-hold their permission for building on the bottom of the ship Rochford, until the dispute between the contending parties claiming to build thereon shall be settled.

Vide App.
No. 537.

On reading a letter from William Moffat, Esq. dated this day, stating that the Calcutta is in so bad a state that the Owners decline fitting her for a voyage to India, therefore desiring to withdraw her tender, and offering a new ship on her bottom, which will be launched in January next, for the Company's service, on the terms of the other ships of this season.

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

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Thursday the 29th September, 1785.

Vide App.
No. 538.

Letter from Mr. Coll. Roddam, tendering the ship Ravensworth for the Company's service, being read,

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

23



AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 5th October, 1785.

On reading the request of Mr. Gilbert Slater, that the Court would re-consider the decision by which the Owners of the late ship Pacifick are precluded from building on that ship's bottom, Vide App. No. 539.

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

AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Wednesday the 19th October, 1785.

Report of the progress of ships building for the Company's service, dated 12th instant, and signed by Mr. Gilbert Ferguson, was laid before the Committee. Vide App. No. 540.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 19th October, 1785.

On reading a letter from the Owners of the Royal Bishop, tendering that ship for a second voyage to India or China, Vide App. No. 541.

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

On reading the memorial of Mr. George Thomson, praying the Court to suspend giving permission to build on the bottom of the Calcutta, or employing any other ship in her stead, until the decision of the Court of Chancery on the claims of the memorialist, respecting his right to the bottom of that ship, shall be known; also Vide App. No. 542.

Letter from Sir Richard Hotham, dated the 12th inst. submitting to the Court the justice of taking up the ship York, at her builders measurement, Vide App. No. 543.

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

AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Thursday the 20th October, 1785.

Letter from John Cowan, Esq. and Captain William Mears, referred the 19th inst. stating that the ship Royal Bishop has been sold at public sale, and again bought by several of the Owners who before held shares in that ship, and offering her for a voyage to India on the same terms as the other ships of this season, was read. Vide App. No. 544.

The Committee took into consideration the reference of Court of the 28th of last month, on the letter from William Moffat, Esq. representing that the Calcutta is so bad that the Owners decline fitting. Vide App. No. 537.



Vide App.
No. 542.

fitting her for a voyage to India, and offering a new ship on that bottom, to be launched in the month of January next. The Committee likewise considered the request of Captain George Thomson, referred the 19th inst. stating that the husbanding the old ship was held in trust for him, and desiring that leave to build may be suspended for the present.

Vide App.
No. 544,
545.

Mr. Moffat having also laid before the Committee the consent of the majority of Owners for his building on the Calcutta. The Committee, on consulting the Company's Solicitor thereon, reported their opinion to the Court, that upon Mr. Moffat's engaging that the ship shall be launched in the month of January next, she be taken up for one voyage only; and, if the present claim should be adjusted, that the Calcutta be then grafted on the general list of ships in the service.

AT A COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE,

The 26th October, 1785.

The Committee offer it to the Court, as their opinion, that the following ships be taken up, viz.

| Ships. | Tons. | Commanders. |
|--------------------------------------|-------|--------------------------|
| The Earl Cornwallis | 755 | Capt. Burnet Abercrombie |
| Pigot | 758 | Robert Morgan |
| Royal Charlotte | 758 | Josiah Pryce |
| New ship in the room of the Calcutta | 755 | William Thomson |

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 26th October, 1785.

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

Resolved, That upon Mr. William Moffat's engaging that the new ship in the room of the Calcutta shall be launched in the month of January next, she be taken up for one voyage only; and, if the present claim should be adjusted, that the Calcutta be then grafted on the general list of ships in the service.

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

Resolved by the ballot, That the following ships be taken up and stationed for China, viz.

| Ships. | Tons. | Commanders. |
|--------------------------------------|-------|--------------------------|
| The Earl Cornwallis | 755 | Capt. Burnet Abercrombie |
| Pigot | 758 | Robert Morgan |
| Royal Charlotte | 758 | Josiah Pryce |
| New ship in the room of the Calcutta | 755 | William Thomson |

AT

232



AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 2d November, 1785.

Letter from Mr. William Moffat, signifying that the new ship in the room of the Calcutta, cannot be got ready for this season, was read. Vide App. No. 546.

Letter from Mr. James Farquharson, stating his reasons for requesting that the Court will consider him as the Managing Owner of the new ship, building in the room of the Prime, being read. Vide App. No. 547.

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

AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Tuesday the 8th November, 1785.

The following reports were made to the Court.

The Committee having taken into consideration the reference of Court of the 5th last month, on the request of Gilbert Slater, Esq. that the Court would re-consider their decision, whereby the Owners are precluded from building on the bottom of the Pacifick; and, having examined the several transactions respecting this ship, do find that by the 41st By-Law it was ordained, that if after the reduction of the tonnage to 45,000 tons, a Commander should die on the ship's fourth voyage, the bottom to drop. Vide App. No. 539.

That Captain Barclay, of the Pacifick, died the 14th August, 1774, the ship being then abroad on her fourth voyage, and the tonnage, at that period in the service, about 50,000 tons. Vide App. No. 469*.

That immediately preceding the arrival of the Pacifick, which was on the 17th September, 1775, the tonnage was reduced to between 44 and 45,000 tons.

That on the late Mr. Slater's application to build on the bottom, it was pronounced by a report from this Committee on the 3d May, 1780, and confirmed by another report on the 17th of that month, that the said ship under the 41st By-Law, was a lapsed bottom.

That the ship Deptford, which Mr. Slater mentions as a precedent in favour of his present request, was on the 8th November, 1776, pronounced a lapsed bottom, in consequence of the death of Captain Tryon, who commanded her on her fourth voyage, but on re-considering that resolution on the 10th December, 1779, the Owners were allowed to build a ship in her room.

That the Grofvenor, another ship alluded to by Mr. Slater, was lost on her last voyage, and the Commander, it is supposed, did not long survive that misfortune; the Owners of which ship experienced the Court's indulgence, by being permitted, on the 21st December, 1784, to build on that bottom.

That the 41st By-Law was repealed on the 23d March, and 22d June last, and

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That



That the *Pacifick* is the only bottom which is now pronounced lapsed under that By-Law.

The Committee, after stating these facts, beg leave to observe, that as the reduction of the tonnage when this By-Law was made, was an object with the Legislature as well as the Company, it is possible the spirit of the By-Law might be more considered than the strict letter of it; this By-Law is now repealed, and as the present extension of the Company's trade must necessarily employ a greater number of ships, the Committee apprehend this consideration, in addition to the facts before stated, may induce the Court to comply with Mr. Slater's request, and permit him to build a ship on the *Pacifick's* bottom, to be considered in turn to be taken up for the season 1787.

The Committee in consequence of the reference of Court of 10th August last, have examined into the loss of the ship *Major*, by fire off *Culpec*, 22d April 1784, and having had before them the copy of the examination by a Board of Enquiry, held at *Calcutta* on 29th November, 1784, by order of the Governor General and Council, with the Board's unanimous opinion thereon. It appears, that in the act of fumigating the ship, to destroy the vermin, with which the ship was greatly infested, the saltpetre took fire, by which means the ship blew up and was entirely destroyed. It likewise appears, that Mr. John Barfoot, the Chief Mate, was the commanding officer on board at that time, and the act of fumigating the ship was carried on under his directions, in consequence of orders he had received before from his commander; and, that neither Captain Arthur, Mr. Barfoot, or the Surgeon, appear to have been acquainted with the inflammable properties of saltpetre in its crude state.

In regard to the Owners building on the bottom of the *Major*, the Committee offer to the Court, as their opinion, that this ship should be among the first which may have leave to build for 1787.

As the tonnage taken up this season for the imports from China greatly exceed what this Committee could have had in contemplation on the 12th October, 1784, when they submitted to the Court, that not less than seventy ships were at that time necessary for the Company's service; and as it will be prudent to avoid, in future, the inconveniencies which may result from employing ships, after they have performed their four regular voyages, or taking up others not built purposely for the service.

The Committee with this view offer, as their opinion, that it will be proper to have three sets of shipping of about thirty each set.

That the number of ships building for 1786, with those expected to arrive, will be sufficient for the exports of next season.

And that it may be proper for the Court to give leave to the next eight ships to build, and to be considered in turn for the year 1787, in this number the Committee mean to include the *Pacifick*; also the *Rochford*, if the disputed claim for building on the latter should be determined between the different parties in time. The ship *Duke of Grafton*, partly under the same description will, if that contested point is settled, be considered under the Court's present orders as a ship of 1786.

234



The Committee having, pursuant to reference of Court of the 19th October last, considered the letter from Sir Richard Hotham; submitting to the Court the justice of chartering the York, at 867 tons, her builders measurement; do report, that the York is precisely under the same predicament with the ships Lord North, Royal Charlotte, Southampton and Stormont, which ships having compleated their voyages, or been sold out of the service, are this year, under the pressing demand for tonnage, again taken into the service, and chartered at the same tonnage as on former voyages, notwithstanding it falls greatly short of their actual measurement. That the new ships which are built under the dimensions settled by the Court, measure near 800 tons, and are nevertheless constantly chartered at 755 tons. For these reasons, and the consideration that the Court's acquiescence in Sir Richard's request, would be introducing a precedent which might operate much against the interest of the Company, the Committee offer, as their opinion, that his request be not complied with.

Vide App
No. 543.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Tuesday the 8th November, 1785.

A certificate that the attachment lately made in the Company's hands of the monies and effects of William Thomson, William Moffat, and others, Owners of the Calcutta, at the suit of Sir Charles Raymond, Bart. was withdrawn on the 5th inst. being laid before the Court,

Ordered, That the proper officers do take the necessary care therein.

Two reports from the Committee of Shipping, dated this day, being read,

Resolved, That the request of Sir Richard Hotham for the ship York, to be chartered at 867 tons, her builders measurement, be not complied with.

Resolved, That Gilbert Slater, Esq. be permitted to build a ship on the bottom of the Pacifick, to be considered in turn, to be taken up for the season 1787.

The Committee of Shipping in another report, also dated this day, and now read, stating to the Court, that having examined into the loss of the ship Major, by fire off Culpee, the 22d April, 1784, it appears that in the act of fumigating the ship, to destroy the vermin, with which she was greatly infested, the saltpetre took fire, by which means the ship blew up, and was entirely destroyed. That Mr. John Barfoot, the Chief Mate, was the commanding officer on board, at that time, and the act of fumigating the ship was carried on under his directions, in consequence of orders he had received before from his commander, and that neither Captain Arthur, Mr. Barfoot, nor the Surgeon, appear to have been acquainted with the inflammable properties of saltpetre in its crude state.

Resolved,



Resolved, That this Court do approve the said report, and that conformably to the latter part thereof, the ship Major be among the first which may have leave to build for 1787.

The Committee of Shipping, in a further report, likewise dated this day, and now read, offering to the Court, as their opinion, that it will be proper to have three sets of shipping, of about thirty each set.

That the number of ships building for 1786, with those expected to arrive, will be sufficient for the exports of next season.

And that it may be proper for the Court to give leave to the next eight ships to build, and to be considered in turn for the year 1787, including in that number the Pacifick; also the Rochford, if the disputed claim for building on the latter should be determined between the different parties in time; and that the ship Duke of Grafton, partly under the same description, will, if that contested point be settled, be considered under the Court's present order, as a ship of 1786.

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

Vide App. No. 548. On reading the request of Alexander Hume, Esq. for leave to build on the bottom of the Fox,

Vide App. No. 549. Letter from Mr. James Dundas, requesting the Court will postpone, for a few days, their determination on Mr. Farquharson's application for leave to build on the bottom of the Prime; and stating, that under the Court's permission, addressed to Charles Dundas, Esq. a keel is now actually laid on the bottom of that ship; also

Vide App. No. 550. Letter from Messrs. Anthony Brough and Thomas Brown, tendering the ships Olive Branch, and Wyndham for the Company's service.

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

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 16th November, 1785.

Vide App. No. 551. On reading a letter from Messrs. Anthony Brough and Thomas Brown, stating the advantages which will arise from the Company's accepting their tender of two ships for China,

Vide App. No. 552. Letter from the Owners of the Tartar, renewing the tender of that ship,

Vide App. No. 553. Letter from Mr. William Curtis, tendering the ship L'Actionnaire, for the Company's service,

Vide App. No. 554. Letter from Messrs. Camden and Calvert, tendering the ship Ranger,

Letter



[233]

Letter from Sir Richard Hotham, stating several reasons in support of his claim for the ship York, to be taken up at her builders measurement; and

Vide App.
No. 555.

Letter from Mr. Charles Dundas, dated the 11th instant, signifying that in consequence of the Court's permission, he has contracted with a builder for a new ship in the room of the Prime, the keel of which is laid;

Vide App.
No. 556.

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

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Tuesday the 22d November, 1785.

On reading a letter from Messrs. Anthony Brough and Thomas Brown, requesting an answer to the late tender of two ships for the Company's service, and offering them for sale to the Company, in case it should be more convenient to purchase them,

Vide App.
No. 557.

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

AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Wednesday the 23d November, 1785.

The Committee having taken into consideration the reference of Court of the 16th inst. on the letter from Sir Richard Hotham, stating several reasons in support of his claim, that the York may be taken up at her builders measurement; and the Committee having likewise very maturely reconsidered their report of the 8th inst. on a former request from Sir Richard Hotham, on the same subject, the Committee reported to the Court, that they see no reason to depart from the opinion which they then submitted to the Court, that Sir Richard's request be not complied with.

Vide App.
No. 555.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 23d November, 1785.

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

Resolved, That this Court see no reason to depart from their opinion, that the request of Sir Richard Hotham for the ship York to be taken up at builders measurement, be not complied with.

AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Friday the 25th November, 1785.

Pursuant to references of Court of the 8th, 16th, and 22d inst. the Committee considered the letters from Messrs. Anthony Brough and Thomas Brown, offering the ships Marquis of Lan-

Vide App.
No. 550,
551, 557.

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down



down of 760 tons, and the Wyndham of 750 tons builders measurement, for a voyage to China, at £22 per ton, to be navigated by the usual number of men, and to be commanded by gentlemen properly qualified according to the rules of the service; and signifying that those ships were built at Archangel in 1783; also requesting an answer to their proposals as soon as can be conveniently determined; and should it be found a greater saving to the Company to buy those ships, they offer them for sale, with all their stores and materials in the state they now are for £4500. each, and stating the saving it would be to the Company, and the advantage gained by the surplus tonnage:

And the Committee reported, as their opinion, to the Court, that the tenders of the ships Marquis of Lansdown and Wyndham be not accepted, being built of fir, and on that account are not so eligible for the Company's employ as ships built of oak, and those purposely for the service.

AT A COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE,

The 25th November, 1785.

The Committee offer it to the Court, as their opinion, that the ship Royal Bishop, 720 tons, Captain William Mears, be taken up for China direct, in the room of the new ship, building on the bottom of the Calcutta, as it appears the latter cannot be got ready in time.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 30th November, 1785.

A report from the Committee of Shipping, dated the 25th inst. being read,

Resolved, That the tenders of the ships Lansdown and Wyndham be not accepted, those ships being built of fir, and on that account not so eligible for the Company's employ as ships built of oak, and those purposely for the service.

A report from the Committee of Correspondence, dated the 25th inst. being also read,

Resolved unanimously, That the ship Royal Bishop, 720 tons, Captain William Mears, be taken up for China direct, in the room of the new ship building on the bottom of the Calcutta, as it appears the latter cannot be got ready in time.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Tuesday the 6th December, 1785.

Vide App.
No. 558.

Letter from Mr. A. Brough, dated the 2d inst. being read, stating that he will undertake to save to the Company £150,000. per annum in freight, and that should his proposal be speedily accepted, he purposes to have 40 sail of ships ready to proceed to India next season;

Ordered,



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

AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Thursday the 7th December, 1785,

The following report was made to the Court.

Pursuant to references of Court of the 6th inst. and this day, the Committee have considered the letters from Anthony Brough, Esq. offering to build in Great Britain, for the Company's service, eighty ships (or as many as the service may require) at the following rates of freight, viz.

Vide App.
No. 558,
559.

| | | |
|------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| To China alone | £22. per ton | } for the 1st and 2d voyages. |
| Madras and China | 23. | |
| All other parts | 24. | |

and

| | | |
|------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| To China alone | £20. per ton | } for the 3d and 4th voyages. |
| Madras and China | 21. | |
| All other parts | 22. | |

by which he states that the Company will make a saving in their freights of £150,000. per annum.

The Committee therefore have directed the proper officers to prepare for their information, the contracts for ships of 755 tons and 1000 tons, particularizing the usual mode of constructing and repairing the said ships, the dimensions of their masts and yards, the sails, rigging, anchors, and cables, with their respective weights and sizes, and the necessary stores of all sorts to be put on board to guard against accidents upon such long voyages, the number of hands by which they are to be navigated, and the officers and tradesmen employed on board according to the established rules of the service.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 7th December, 1785.

The Committee of Shipping, in a report dated this day, now read, stating that they have considered the letter from Anthony Brough, Esq. referred to them on the 6th inst. and that they have directed fundry papers therein-mentioned to be prepared for his information ;

Resolved, That the Committee of Shipping be desired to deliver the said papers to Mr. Brough accordingly.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Tuesday the 13th December, 1785.

On reading several requests,

Ordered, That the papers mentioned in the requests of Mr. William Moffat and Mr. Robert Williams, be produced on the arbitration, as to the right of building on the bottom of the Rochford.

Vide App.
No. 560,
561.

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[236]

Vide App. No. 562. The request of Mr. William Moffat, for leave to build two ships on the bottoms of the Resolution and Calcutta, being read, also

Vide App. No. 563. Letter from Mr. James Margetson, tendering a ship for the Company's service;

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

AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Tuesday the 20th December, 1785.

Vide App. No. 564. An account of the progress of ships building for the Company's service, dated the 13th inst. and signed by Mr. Gilbert Ferguson, was laid before the Committee.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 21st December, 1785.

Vide App. No. 565. On reading a letter signed by the Owners of Shipping, referring to their letter of the 15th June last, and requesting that the Court will comply with the same;

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

Vide App. No. 566. On reading a letter from Mr. A. Brough, offering a ship for the Company's service, on the terms specified in his late tender; also,

Vide App. No. 567. The request of Mr. Charles Dundas, that the Company's Surveyors may be directed to examine the keel of the new ship, building by him, in the room of the Prime, in order that the same may be completed;

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

AT A COMMITTEE OF PRIVATE TRADE,

On Friday the 30th December, 1785.

Vide App. No. 277. The Committee resumed the consideration of the allowances proper to be required from the Owners of the ships taken up in the year 1782 (agreeable to a clause inserted in the Charter-Parties of that season) in respect of the saving in the premium of insurance at the commencement of the peace, and an estimate of the expences of a ship's outfit, which was laid before the Joint Committee of Correspondence and Shipping, at the time of taking up the said ships, in which the insurance is stated at 40 per cent. and to cover the premium being referred to, the said clause in the Charter-Party, being read and considered, and all the circumstances of the case duly weighed,

Resolved,



Resolved, That a report be drawn out, with the assistance of the Solicitor, stating to the Court the particulars of the proceedings on taking up the ships of the season 1782, and of the saving to the Owners in the article of insurance, by the peace taking place, previous to the ships failing; and, that a proposal should be made to the Owners to settle the accounts with the following allowances to the Company, viz.

| | |
|---------|-----------------------------------|
| £. 6000 | for each ship on her first voyage |
| 5000 | ditto - second ditto |
| 3800 | ditto - third ditto |
| 1900 | ditto - fourth ditto |

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Friday the 30th December, 1785.

On reading a letter from Mr. A. Brough, tendering the ship *Madona* for the Company's service; and, Vide App. No. 568.

Letter from Messrs. Timothy and William Curtis, tendering the ship *True Briton* for a voyage to China; Vide App. No. 569.

Ordered, That they be referred to the Joint Committee of Correspondence and Shipping, to examine and report.

AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Wednesday the 4th January, 1786.

The Committee having in a report of the 7th of last month, acquainted the Court that they had considered the letters from Anthony Brough, Esq. offering to build eighty ships for the Company's service, on the terms therein-mentioned, and had directed the proper officers to prepare contracts and other particulars respecting the stores and the number of persons to navigate the ships, according to the established rule of the service; submitted to the Court's consideration the following papers, laid before them by Capt John Oliver, and Mr. Gabriel Snodgrafs, in consequence thereof, viz.

An estimate of the expence of building and fitting out a ship of 1000 tons, for the Company's service; Vide App. No. 570.

An estimate of the difference in the expences of fitting out a ship of 755 tons, and one of 1000 tons; No. 571.

Contract for building a ship of 799 tons, chartered by the Company at 755 tons; and No. 572.

Contract for a ship of 1000 tons. No. 573.

AT A COMMITTEE OF PRIVATE TRADE,

On Wednesday the 4th January, 1786.

Pursuant to references of Court of the 15th June, and 21st December last, on two letters signed by several Managing Owners of Shipping, and addressed to the Chairman; the former stating, that notwithstanding the stipulations in Charter-Party respecting the payment of freight, several large balances remain unliquidated upon ships that have been at home between two and three years Vide App. No. 565.

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or upwards, and desiring that orders may be given for the payment of their demands; and the latter referring to the former letter, and desiring it may be taken into consideration, and that their request may be complied with; the said letters were read, and the Committee finding that several ships accounts are, at this time, unsettled; but that the greatest part of the freight has been paid to the Owners of all the ships, except those which arrived in the year 1785 (none of which have been cleared quite eight months) and that the cause of the accounts not being finally closed, and the balances paid is, that at the death of the late Clerk to the Committee, the business of the freight office was considerably behind; that since his death, not only the business has increased, but there have been fewer persons to conduct it, and only two who have been long enough in the office to acquire such a knowledge in it as to be able to give any assistance in the material part. It also appearing to the Committee that there are several other branches in that office, exclusive of making up the ships freights, but which are so connected with it, as to make it impossible to separate them; and which also, owing to the inexperience of the junior part of the office, have been transacted by the Clerk to the Committee, and the person immediately under him; and, consequently, prevent that progress which he would otherwise be able to make in the ship's accounts. The Committee having considered the above circumstances,

Agreed, To report the same to the Court, and that being desirous of giving the Owners every relief in their power, on the subject of their letters, they have given directions to their Clerk to proceed with the utmost diligence in the business of settling the accounts, and to give it, upon all occasions, the preference to all other business whatever, till they shall be completed; or, at least, brought into as great forwardness as the nature of them will admit.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 4th January, 1786.

The Committee of Shipping, in a report dated this day, submitting to the Court's consideration several papers laid before them by Captain John Oliver and Mr. Gabriel Snodgrafs, in consequence of the letters from Anthony Brough, Esq. offering to build eighty ships for the Company's service,

Ordered, That the said papers do lay for the Court's consideration till next week.

Vide App.
No. 574.

On reading a letter from George M. Macaulay, Esq. requesting the Court's indulgence for a few more days, for the repairs of the Pitt,

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

AT



AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Wednesday the 11th January, 1786.

An account of the progress of ships building for the Company's service, dated the 6th inst. and signed by Mr. Gilbert Ferguson, was laid before the Committee. Vide App. No. 575

The Committee, in consequence of the reference of Court of the 4th instant, considered the letter from George M. Macaulay, Esq. requesting the Court's indulgence for fourteen days more, for the repairs of the Pitt, and reported, as their opinion, to the Court, that Mr. Macaulay's request be complied with; on condition of the Owners being answerable for any inconvenience or bad consequence that may arise to the Company thereby. Vide App. No. 574

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 11th January, 1786.

The Court taking into consideration the papers submitted to them last week from the Committee of Shipping, on the subject of Mr. Brough's proposals;

Ordered, That the Secretary do transmit to Mr. Brough, copies of the Charter-Parties of ships of 755 and 1000 tons, together with an account of the quantity of provisions and stores used in ships of that tonnage.

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

Resolved, That fourteen days more be allowed for the repairs of the Pitt, the Owners being answerable for any inconvenience that may arise to the Company thereby.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 18th January, 1786.

Letter from Anthony Brough, Esq. dated this day, being read, earnestly desiring an answer to his tender of the 7th December; Vide App. No. 576.

Ordered, That it be referred to the consideration of the Committee of the whole Court, to be held on Friday next.

Letter from Messrs. Timothy and William Curtis, dated this day, renewing their tender of the ship True Briton, which is now ready for the Surveyors inspection; and Vide App. No. 577.

Thomas Newby, Esq. dated this day, tendering the ship Prince George, burthen 700 tons, to the Company, being read, Vide App. No. 578.

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

On reading a letter from the Managing Owners of Shipping, dated this day, submitting to the Court, that they should be allowed an increase of freight, if the importation of China-ware is



is to be discontinued, and advising the Court not to discontinue the same.

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

AT A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COURT,

The 20th January, 1786.

The following papers were read, viz.

The order of Court of the 18th instant.

Letters from Mr. Brough of the 2d and 7th ultimo.

Vide App.
No. 558,
559.

A report from the Committee of Shipping, of the 7th ult. and the minutes of Court of the same day.

A report from the Committee of Shipping, of the 4th inst. and the minutes of Court of the 4th and 11th inst.

Vide App.
No. 576.

A letter from Mr. Brough of the 18th inst.

It was then on a motion,

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that an advertisement be drawn up to receive tenders, for ships to be taken up the ensuing season.

The following advertisement was approved, viz.

“ East-India House, 20th January, 1786.”

“ The Court of Directors of the United Company of Merchants of England, trading to the East-Indies, do hereby give notice : That they are ready to receive proposals, in writing, at any time on or before the 3d of February next, from any persons, on what terms and conditions they are willing to let their ships to China and all parts of the East-Indies, for one or more voyages, to be chartered at builders contract tonnage, and the kintledge to be considered as part thereof; and that the same be severally sealed up, and left with the Secretary, in order to be laid before this Court.”

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Friday the 20th January, 1786.

The Chairman reported from the Committee of the whole Court, that they had agreed to the following advertisement, which was read and approved, viz.

“ East-India House, 20th January 1786.

“ The Court of Directors of the United Company of Merchants of England, trading to the East-Indies, do hereby give notice : That they are ready to receive proposals, in writing, at any time on or before the 3d February next, from any persons, on what terms and conditions they are willing to let their ships to China, and all parts of the East-Indies, for one or more voyages, to be chartered at builders contract tonnage, and the kintledge to be considered as part thereof; and that the same may be severally sealed up and left with the Secretary, in order to be laid before this Court.”



AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 25th January, 1786.

On reading a letter from Mr. Godfrey Thornton, dated the 24th inst. tendering a ship, captured from the French, for the Company's service, and desiring to be informed of the dimensions, &c. of new ships to be built, in future, for the Company's service;

Ordered, That the proper officer do furnish Mr. Thornton with the information specified in his letter. Vide App.
No. 579.

AT A JOINT COMMITTEE OF
CORRESPONDENCE AND SHIPPING,

On Friday the 27th January, 1786.

The following tenders of ships being read, viz.

| | Tons. | By Mr. John Piott | Vide App. No. 484, 552. |
|---|-------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Tartar | 494 | Richard Dowding | No. 497. |
| Hammet | 715 | Robert Williams | No. 474. |
| Nassau | 723 | William Barnard | { No. 483, 403. |
| New ship, if length- ened, 658 tons | 571 | Duncan Campbell | No. 505. |
| Britannia | 500 | S. Hartley and Co. | No. 507. |
| A ship of | 764 | Thomas Southcomb | No. 491. |
| Barnstable | 1100 | Abel Chapman | No. 520. |
| Chapman | 538 | Collingwood Roddam | No. 538. |
| Ravenstworth, late Sea Horse frigate | 519 | Timothy and Wm. Curtis | No. 553. |
| L'Actionnaire | 1400 | Camden and Calvert | No. 554. |
| Ranger | 600 | James Margetson | No. 563. |
| A ship of | 720 | Anthony Brough, 1st tender | No. 566. |
| Madona | 530 | Ditto, 2d ditto | No. 568. |
| Ditto | 512 | Timothy and Wm. Curtis | No. 569. |
| True Briton | 758 | Thomas Newby | No. 578. |
| Prince George | 700 | | |

Ordered, That Captain Oliver and Mr. Snodgrafs be directed to survey the above ships, and to make their report to this Committee as soon as they possibly can.

AT A COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE,

The 27th January, 1786.

The Committee offer it to the Court, as their opinion, that two ships be taken up and stationed for Coast and Bay, and three for China; in addition to those taken up for the present season.



AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Friday the 27th January, 1786.

On reading a report from the Committee of Correspondence, dated this day,

Resolved, That two ships be taken up and stationed for Coast and Bay, and three for China; in addition to those taken up for the present season.

Vide App. No. 580. Letter from the Owners of Shipping, on the subject of the Court's late advertisement for tenders, was read.

Vide App. No. 581. Draught of the Secretary's letter in answer thereto, was read and approved.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 1st February, 1786.

Vide App. No. 582, 583, 584. On reading two letters from Mr. Anthony Brough, dated the 28th ultimo, and this day, the former tendering the ships Olive Branch and Wyndham, for China alone, at £22. per ton, and the latter repeating his former tender of two ships on the 7th December last.

Vide App. No. 585. Letter from Mr. Abel Chapman, tendering the ship Chapman to China direct, at £21. per ton; to Madras and China, at £22. per ton, and to Bengal, at £23. per ton.

Vide App. No. 586. Letter from Mr. John Munt, tendering the ship Huffer, for the Company's service, at the same rate as other ships that may be taken up, and,

Vide App. No. 587. Letter from Mr. George Burnett, tendering the ship Barnstable (which will be in Bengal river in April or May) for a voyage from thence to China, at £20. per ton.

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

AT A JOINT COMMITTEE OF
CORRESPONDENCE AND SHIPPING,

On Thursday the 2d February, 1786.

The following letters were read, viz.

Vide App. No. 582. From Anthony Brough, Esq. referred the 1st inst. renewing his tender of the Marquis of Lansdown and Wyndham, for China alone, at £22. per ton :

Vide App. No. 587. From Mr. George Burnett, Attorney to the Owners of the Barnstable, referred the 1st inst. (which ship will be in the river Hooghly in April or the beginning of May) is substantially built, copper bottomed, and can bring home 1000 to 1100 tons, at £20. per ton, and will be ready to sail from China in a reasonable time after

241



after the Governor-General and Council shall signify to the Owners the consent of the Honorable Court to his proposals :

From Abel Chapman, Esq. referred 1st inst. offering the ship Chapman at the following freights, viz. Vide App. No. 585.

| | | |
|-----------------|---|--------------|
| To China direct | - | £21. per ton |
| Coast and China | - | 22. |
| Bengal | - | 23. |

From Mr. John Munt, referred the 1st inst. tendering the ship Huffer, frigate built, about 600 tons, for India or China, at such rate per ton as other ships may be taken up : Vide App. No. 586.

From Mr. Theo. Pritzler, tendering the ships Phoenix, of 620 tons, late a French frigate ; and the Earl of Chatham, river built, 600 tons, on the same terms as have been given this season : and Vide App. No. 588.

From Mr. William Mathews, offering the ship Wylmington, built at Surat, in the East-Indies, burthen 430 tons ; and the ship Charlotte, built in the river, 340 tons, for one voyage to China, at £22. per ton ; or, for two voyages certain, at £21. per ton, subject to the Company's regulations in the outfit. Vide App. No. 589.

A report of the ships inspected by Captain Oliver and Mr. Snodgrafs, in consequence of this Committee's orders of the 27th inst. was also read, and Vide App. No. 590.

Mr. Snodgrafs being called in and examined, respecting the state and condition of the above ships, was directed to survey the under-mentioned ships, and make his report to the Committee to-morrow, viz.

The Marquis of Lansdown
Wyndham
York (not tendered) and
Earl of Chatham

AT A JOINT COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE AND SHIPPING,

On Friday the 3d February, 1786.

The Committee resuming the consideration of the several tenders of ships laid before them on the 27th ult. and 2d inst. came to the following resolutions, viz.

Resolved, That the following ships are proper to be taken up for the Company's service, viz.

| | Tons. |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| True Briton | 758 |
| New ship, tendered by Mr. Barnard | 571 |
| Chapman | 538 |
| Madona | 512 |
| Ravenfworth | 519 |
| Ranger | 600 |

Resolved;

247



Resolved, That £22. per ton is a proper freight to be given for ships to China, and £23. per ton to Bengal, should any ships be sent there.

Resolved, That the Owners of such ships as may be taken up for China, do engage that their ships shall be ready to sail from Gravesend, on or before the 1st of April next, and if they do not then leave Gravesend, they be subject to demorage till 7th April; and should they remain at Gravesend beyond the 7th April, the contract between the Company and Owners be void.

Resolved, That such ships as may be taken up under 755 tons, shall carry kintledge, be allowed demorage, private trade to commanders and officers, and the number of men and guns in proportion to the tonnage of a ship of 755 tons.

And the same were reported to the Court.

The following tenders were opened and read, viz.

Vide App. No. 591. From Mr. Peter Mellish, dated this day, tendering the *Queen Charlotte*, burthen 500 tons, on the terms established this season, and

Vide App. No. 592. From Messrs. Charles Staniforth and Philip Green, under the same date, tendering the ship *York*, of 750 tons, for a voyage to China, at £22. per ton.

Vide App. No. 593. Mr. Solicitor Smith attending the Committee, and being desired to examine the act of parliament relative to fir built ships, declined giving his opinion on an affair of such consequence; the Committee then desired Mr. Smith would, as soon as possible, obtain counsel's opinion thereon.

AT A COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE,

The 3d February, 1786.

The Committee offer to the Court, as their opinion, that the following ships be taken up, on the terms and conditions stated in the report from the Joint Committee of Correspondence and Shipping, under this day's date, viz.

| | Tons. |
|--------------|-------|
| Chapman | 538 |
| Ravenstworth | 519 |
| Ranger | 600 |

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Friday the 3d February, 1786.

Vide App. No. 594. Letter from Mr. William Leighton, tendering the ship *Lord Shelburne* for the Company's service, being read,

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

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

Resolved,



[245]

Resolved, That the following ships are proper to be taken up for the Company's service, viz.

| | Tons. |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| True Briton - - - | 758 |
| New ship, tendered by Mr. Barnard | 571 |
| Chapman - - - | 538 |
| Madona - - - | 512 |
| Ravenfworth - - - | 519 |
| Ranger - - - | 600 |

That £22. per ton freight be given for ships to China, and £23. per ton to Bengal, should any ships be sent thither.

That the Owners of such ships as may be taken up, do engage that their ships shall be ready to sail from Gravesend on or before the 1st of April next, that if they do not then leave Gravesend, they be subject to demorage till the 7th April; and should they remain at Gravesend beyond the 7th April, the contract between the Company and the Owners be void.

That such ships as may be taken up, under 755 tons, shall carry kintledge, be allowed demorage, private trade for commanders and officers, and the number of men and guns in proportion to the tonnage of a ship of 755 tons, and all surplus tonnage at half freight.

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

Resolved by the ballot, That the following ships be taken up, on the terms and conditions stated in the report from the Joint Committee of Correspondence and Shipping, under this day's date, viz.

| | Tons. |
|-------------------|-------|
| Chapman - - - | 538 |
| Ravenfworth - - - | 519 |
| Ranger - - - | 600 |

On reading a letter from Messrs. Timothy and William Curtis, signifying that they have disposed of the ship True Briton to Capt. Lestock Wilfon; also Vide App. No. 595.

Letter from Mr. Wilfon, tendering that ship for a voyage to China, at £22. per ton. Vide App. No. 596.

It was, on a motion,

Resolved by the ballot, That the True Briton, be also taken up for the Company's service, on the terms mentioned in the said report from the Joint Committee of Correspondence and Shipping.

On reading a letter from Mr. Coll. Roddam, dated this day, signifying that should the ship Ravenfworth be stationed for Bengal, and from any unforeseen accident there should not be cargoes for all the ships of this season, he is willing to take the ship on his own account, and free the Company from all expences, till the following season, when a cargo may be provided for her. Vide App. No. 597.

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

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249



Vide App.
No. 598,
599. On reading a letter from the Managing Owners of Shipping, dated the 1st inst. tendering all the ships at present building, by the Court's orders, or any others they may be authorized to build, as well as those which are now returning from India for the ensuing season, at the same freights, and on the same terms, in every respect whatever, as the ships of last season, and enclosing a list of the ships above-mentioned;

Vide App.
No. 600. Letter from Mr. John Julius Angerstein, dated this day, tendering a ship built in Holland five or six years ago, of about 1200 tons; also

Vide App.
No. 601. Letter from Mr. John Thomson, jun. dated this day, tendering a new ship to be built on the river Thames, 799 tons, builders measurement; and

Vide App.
No. 583,
584. The letter from Mr. Anthony Brough, read in Court the 1st instant.
Ordered, That the said letters be referred to the consideration of a Committee of the whole Court, to be held on Tuesday next the 7th instant;

Vide App.
No. 602. On reading the request of Mr. John Cowan, for leave to build a new ship on the bottom of the Royal Bishop;
Ordered, That it be referred to the Committee of Shipping, to examine and report.

Vide App.
No. 603. Letter from Mr. Charles Dundas, dated the 5th ult. withdrawing his claim for building on the bottom of the Prime being read,
Ordered, That it be referred to the consideration of the said Committee.

AT A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COURT,

The 7th February, 1786.

The Committee took into consideration the several tenders delivered to the Court of Directors the 3d instant.

The following particulars were read, viz.

The reference of Court of the 3d instant.

Vide App.
No. 598,
599. Tender from the Managing Owners of the regular shipping in the Company's service.

No. 583-4. Tender from Mr. Anthony Brough.

No. 600. Tender from Mr. John Julius Angerstein, and

No. 601. Tender from Mr. John Thomson, jun.

It was then, on a motion,

Resolved, That Mr. Anthony Brough be desired to attend at a Court of Directors, to be held to-morrow at eleven o'clock.

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50



AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Tuesday the 7th February, 1786.

Letter from Mr. Anthony Brough, dated this day, repeating his tender of the ship Madona, was read. Vide App. No. 604.

Letter from J. Clements, Esq. dated the 6th instant, signifying that he has resigned all his right in the new ship lately tendered by him, to Mr. J. Sneyd, who has agreed to accept the freight and terms offered by the Company; and Vide App. No. 605.

Letter from Jeremy Sneyd, Esq. dated the 4th inst. signifying his acceptance of the Company's terms for the said ship, being read. Vide App. No. 606.

Resolved by the ballot, That the ship tendered by Jeremy Sneyd, Esq. be taken up for the Company's service, on the same terms and conditions as the ships taken up on the 3d instant.

Letter from Mr. Edward Hague, dated this day, being read, tendering the ship Mars, burthen 700 tons, for the Company's service. Vide App. No. 607.

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

AT A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COURT,

The 8th February, 1786.

The Committee took into consideration the tender made by Anthony Brough, Esq. the 7th of December last, and repeated the 1st inst. for building eighty ships for the Company's service, for four voyages, at the freights therein-mentioned. Vide App. No. 559, 584.

The said tender was read,

It was then moved, and on the question being put,

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that if Mr. Brough shall build any number of ships, to be freighted to the Company at the freights mentioned in his proposals, he will be entitled and ought to have such ships employed by the Company as long as they remain in proper condition, not more than four voyages, in like manner as the ships now in the Company's service, are employed at freights to be then agreed upon, not to exceed the rates of freight mentioned in his tender of the 7th December 1785, to be computed upon builders contract measure, agreeably to the established mode with the present Owners, but that the Company ought not to engage, at all events, to employ Mr. Brough's ships for four voyages.

That Mr. Brough be called in and asked, whether he requires an absolute engagement to employ his ships for four voyages, or will be contented with the assurance given by the foregoing resolution.

Messrs. Brough and Hurry were then called in, and the Chairman acquainted them with the above resolutions, as containing the sentiments of the Committee, which they thought Mr. Brough should be informed of, previous to the Committee's taking his tender

tender into consideration; Mr. Brough then informed the Committee, that his plan had been duly considered, and laid before his friends, and, therefore, could not be on an uncertainty, but required the ships should be taken up for four voyages; but if the present Owners came down to his terms, he should have no objection of building a few ships with them. He afterwards said, he would furnish a few ships on the terms stated in the Committee's resolution, and trust to the Company's honor, and did not object to take surplus tonnage at half freight. He then withdrew, and being returned, was asked, if the Committee should require it as a *finis qua non* to have ships built of the present dimensions of the Company's ships, he would withdraw his tender, he replied he should.

Messrs. Brough and Hurry then withdrew.

The advertisement dated the 20th ultimo, for receiving tenders on the 3d inst. was read; also,

Vide App.
No. 608,
576.

The letter from the Secretary to Mr. Brough, dated the 12th January, with Mr. Brough's answer, dated the 18th following.

It was then moved, and on the question,

Resolved unanimously, That it appears to this Committee, from the conversation with Mr. Brough, this day, that he cannot furnish ships agreeably to the particular dimensions transmitted to him by the Secretary, on the 12th January last, upon the terms specified in his letter of the 7th December, 1785, but that the explanation of his proposals only offers a plan for the employment of smaller ships, which was not then a matter under consideration, but must be discussed before any tender for ships of a smaller size can be received.

Vide App.
No. 608,
No. 576.

Resolved, That Mr. Brough be called in, and the Secretary's letter of the 12th January, with his answer of the 18th of the same month, be read to him, and also the above resolution.

Mr. Brough was called in, and the above particulars were read to him, and he then withdrew.

The Committee then adjourned to report their proceedings to the Court.

And being resumed,

The following resolution of the Court of Directors, held this day, was read, viz.

Resolved, That it be referred to a Committee of the whole Court, to consider what size ships it may be proper to employ in the trade to China and to the East-Indies.

The following advertisement was then proposed, and on the question, agreed to.

“ East-India House, 8th February, 1786.

“ The Court of Directors of the United Company of Merchants of England, trading to the East-Indies, do hereby give notice: That they are ready to receive proposals, in writing, at any time on or before Wednesday the 22d instant, from any persons, on what terms and conditions they are willing to build or let ships to China and all parts of the East-Indies, for the ensuing season, the ships to be from 550 tons to 1100 tons burthen, and the kintledge to be considered as part thereof; and that the same be severally sealed up, and left with the Secretary, in order to be laid before the Court.”

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25



AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 8th February, 1786.

On reading a letter from Mr. John Munt, dated this day, stating sundry particulars respecting the ship Hufar, lately tendered by him. Vide App.
No. 609,

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

The Chairman, from the Committee of the whole Court, reported the following resolutions of the Committee to the Court, viz.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that if Mr. Brough shall build any number of ships, to be freighted to the Company at the freights mentioned in his proposal, he will be entitled and ought to have such ships employed by the Company as long as they remain in proper condition; not more than four voyages, in like manner as the ships now in the Company's service are employed, at freights to be then agreed upon, not to exceed the rates of freight mentioned in his tender of the 7th December, 1785, to be computed at builders contract measure, agreeably to the established mode with the present Owners; but, that the Company ought not to engage, at all events, to employ Mr. Brough's ships for four voyages.

That Mr. Brough be called in and asked, whether he requires an absolute engagement to employ his ships for four voyages, or will be contented with the assurance given by the foregoing resolution.

That it appears to this Committee, from the conversation with Mr. Brough this day, that he cannot furnish ships agreeably to the particular dimensions transmitted to him by the Secretary, on the 12th January last, upon the terms specified in his letter of the 7th December, 1785, but that the explanation of his proposal only offers a plan for the employment of smaller ships, which was not then a matter under consideration, but must be discussed before any tenders for ships of a smaller size can be received.

It was then moved, and on the question,

Resolved, That this Court do approve the said resolutions.

On reading the tender of the ship Warren Hastings, Captain Thomas Larkins, at £26. per ton, to China; £27. per ton, to Bencoolen and China, and Coast and China; £28. per ton, to Bombay, and £29. per ton, to Coast and Bay, and in all respects, on the usual conditions; also, Vide App.
No. 610.

Letter from Mr. John Fiott, requesting leave to build a ship for the Company's service, in the room of the Tartar, on the following conditions, viz, £22. per ton, to China; £23. per ton, to Coast and China; £24. per ton, to other parts of India, for the first and second voyages, and at £2. per ton less for the third and fourth voyages. Vide App.
No. 611.

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

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257



It was then moved, and on the question,

Resolved, That it be referred to a Committee of the whole Court, to consider of what sized ships it may be proper to employ, in future, in the trade to China and to the East-Indies.

Another motion was made,

“ That the Chairman do leave the chair,” which was carried in the affirmative.

The Court then adjourned in order to hold a Committee of the whole Court.

And being resumed,

The Chairman, from the Committee, submitted the following advertisement to the Court's consideration, viz.

“ East-India House, 8th February, 1786.

“ The Court of Directors of the United Company of Merchants of England, trading to the East-Indies, do hereby give notice: That they are ready to receive proposals, in writing, at any time on or before Wednesday the 22d instant, from any persons, on what terms and conditions they are willing to build or let ships to China and all parts of India, for the ensuing season, the ships to be from 550 to 1100 tons burthen, and the kintledge to be considered as part thereof; and that the same be severally sealed up, and left with the Secretary, in order to be laid before the Court.”

The said advertisement was approved.

AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Friday the 10th February, 1786.

Vide App.
No. 612.

A report of the progress of ships building for the Company's service, under this day's date, signed by Mr. Gilbert Ferguson, was laid before the Committee.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Friday the 10th February, 1786.

Vide App.
No. 613.

On reading a letter from Mr. Thomas Newby, dated the 9th instant, tendering the ship Prince George, at the terms of the Court's late advertisement.

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

Vide App.
No. 614.

On reading a letter from Captain R. Parks, offering to build a ship for the Company's service, on the following terms of freight, viz. £22. per ton, to China direct; £23. to Coast and China, and £24. to the several parts of India.

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

AT

254



[251]

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Tuesday the 14th February, 1786.

Letter from Mr. William Leighton, being read, tendering the ship Helmsley for the Company's service; Vide App. No. 615.

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

AT A JOINT COMMITTEE OF
CORRESPONDENCE AND SHIPPING,

On Thursday the 16th February, 1786.

The following papers were read, viz.

Tender of the ship Lord Shelburne, burthen 550 tons, by Mr. William Leighton, referred the 3d instant. Vide App. No. 594.

Tender of the Madona, by Anthony Brough, Esq. dated 7th inst. for one voyage, on condition that the ship is employed three voyages afterwards, at the freight that shall be currently given to other ships. Vide App. No. 604.

Letter from Mr. John Munt, dated 7th, and referred by the Court 8th instant, stating several particulars respecting the ship Huffar, lately tendered by him. Vide App. No. 609.

Tender of the ship Mars, burthen 700 tons, built in Holland, (and made free) at £22. per ton, freight to China; and £23. per ton, to all parts of India, by Mr. Edward Hague. Vide App. No. 607.

Certificates signed by Mr. William Barnard, dated at Deptford the 15th inst. that he is clearly of opinion he can perform the works necessary to completely fitting the hull of the Mars for the Company's service, and getting her out of the dock, on or before the 15th day of March next. Vide App. No. 616.

Tender of the ship Helmsley, burthen 500 tons. at £22. per ton freight to China, or to any part of the East-Indies, with the usual additional freight, by Mr. William Leighton. Vide App. No. 615.

Tender of the ship Lord Mulgrave, by Mr. Thomas Hubbert, burthen 500 tons, lately launched, has three decks, and is a complete ship, on the terms of freight the Court have agreed to pay the five ships lately taken up. Vide App. No. 617.

The Committee then made the following report to the Court, viz.

The Committee having taken into consideration the tenders of the several ships laid before them since their report of the 3d inst. are of opinion, that the Mars, of 700 tons burthen, is a proper ship to be taken up for the Company's service, on the same terms and conditions as the ships reported on the 3d inst. with this differ-

6

255



[252]

difference, that the time of her leaving Gravesend be extended to the 10th April next, and the Owners not liable to demorage, as in the case of the other ships.

AT A COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE,

The 17th February, 1786.

The Committee offer to the Court, as their opinion, that the ship Mars, of 700 tons, be taken up on the terms and conditions stated in the report from the Joint Committee of Correspondence and Shipping, under yesterday's date.

Vide App.
No. 597.

Pursuant to a reference of Court of the 3d inst. the Committee considered the letter from Mr. Collingwood Roddam of that date, and they offer it to the Court, as their opinion, that agreeable thereto a clause be inserted in the Ravensworth's Charter-Party, purporting, that should it so happen that there may not be cargoes in Bengal for all the ships of this season, the Owners of that ship shall take her on their own account, and free the Company from all expences, till the following season, when a cargo may be provided for her.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Friday the 17th February, 1786.

The Joint Committee of Correspondence and Shipping, in a report dated the 16th inst. now read, offering to the Court, as their opinion, that the Mars, of 700 tons burthen, is a proper ship to be taken up for the Company's service, on the same terms and conditions as the ships reported on the 3d inst. with this difference, that the time of her leaving Gravesend be extended to the 10th of April next, and the Owners not liable to demorage, as in the case of the other ships.

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

Two reports from the Committee of Correspondence, dated this day, being read,

Resolved by the ballot unanimously, That the ship Mars, 700 tons, be taken up on the terms and conditions stated in the report from the Joint Committee of Correspondence and Shipping, dated yesterday.

Resolved, That a Clause be inserted in the Ravensworth's Charter-Party, purporting, that should it so happen that there may not be cargoes in Bengal for all the ships of this season, the Owners of that ship shall take her on their own account, and free the Company from all expences, till the following season, when a cargo may be provided for her.

Vide App.
No. 618.

On reading the request of Mr. Abel Chapman, that the ship Chapman may carry six-pounder guns, instead of nine-pounders.

Ordered,

256



[253]

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

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Tuesday the 21st February, 1786.

On a motion,

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Court, that as the present Owners have built their ships under the particular directions of the Court of Directors, and under the inspection of their officers, there should be a conference with the old Owners, to consult with them (prior to the opening of the tenders advertised to be received on Wednesday the 22d inst.) to see whether any deviation from the old mode can be adopted, in respect to the building, navigating, manning and fitting out the ships to China and India, so that the freight to the Company may be reduced.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 22d February, 1786.

The Chairman from the Committee of the whole Court reported, that they had held a conference with the Owners of Shipping, on the resolution of Court of yesterday.

It was then moved, and on the question,

Resolved, That the several tenders of ships for the Company's service offered to this Court, in consequence of their advertisement of the 8th instant, be opened on Tuesday next.

The request of Messrs. Camden and Calvert, for leave to continue 14 guns, nine-pounders, on board the Ranger, being read,

Vide App.
No. 619.

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

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Tuesday the 28th February, 1786.

On reading the request of Mr. William Palmer, that the Charter-Party of the Carnatic may express the tonnage of that ship to be 778 tons, instead of 758.

Vide App.
No. 620.

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

On reading two letters from Anthony Brough, Esq. dated the 17th and 21st inst. the former enclosing a plan for saving £260,000. per annum in the freight of ships for India and China, and the latter repeating the tender he made the Court on the 7th December last; also

Vide App.
No. 621,
622, 623.

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Letters

257



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| Letters from the following persons, tendering their ships for the Company's service, on the terms therein-mentioned, viz. | |
| Vide App. No. 624. | Mr. Duncan Cambell, tendering the - Britannia |
| No. 625. | John Munt - - - - - Huffer |
| No. 626. | John Troutbeck - - - - - Two new ships |
| No. 627. | Nathaniel Tanner - - - - - A new ship |
| No. 628. | William Agnew - - - - - Ditto |
| No. 629. | James Margeston - - - - - Sybella |
| No. 630. | Ditto - - - - - Clinton |
| No. 631. | Sir John D'Oyly and others - - - - - A new ship |
| No. 632. | Mr. Thomas Newby - - - - - Prince George |
| No. 633. | Stephen Todd - - - - - A new ship |
| No. 634. | Abel Chapman - - - - - Queen |
| No. 635. | Caleb Crookenden - - - - - A new ship |
| No. 636. | Messrs. Camden and Calvert - - - - - 4000 tons of shipping |

Ordered, That a Committee of the whole Court do take the above letters into consideration, on Tuesday next the 6th March.

On a motion,

Ordered, That it be referred to the Master-Attendant and Surveyor of Shipping to consider, whether a ship of 1000 tons burthen cannot be built nearly of the same scantlings as those which are now used in the ships of 758 tons, or thereabouts.

AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Friday the 3d March, 1786.

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

Vide App.
No. 620.

Pursuant to reference of Court of the 28th ult. the Committee have considered the request of Mr. William Palmer, that the tonnage to be inserted in the Charter-Party of the ship Carnatic, may be 778 tons, the actual measurement, instead of 758 tons; and are of opinion, that as Mr. Curtis, when he was in possession of the True Briton, made a similar request, which the Committee then judged was improper to be granted; the Committee upon the same principle now think Mr. Palmer's request cannot be complied with.

Vide App.
No. 618.

The Committee having considered the petition of Abel Chapman, Esq. referred the 17th ult. that the ship Chapman may carry six-pounder guns, instead of nine-pounders, are of opinion Mr. Chapman's request be complied with.

Vide App.
No. 619.

The Committee having taken into consideration the reference of Court of the 22d ult. on the request of Anthony Calvert, Esq. that 14 guns, nine-pounders, belonging to the Ranger, may be continued on board for her present voyage to China, are of opinion, that Mr. Calvert's request be complied with.

AT

258



AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Friday the 3d March, 1786.

The Chairman presenting to the Court a letter, signed A B, which he had received, and which contained a tender of shipping for the Company's service, accompanied with draught of a contract to be entered into by the Company and the Owner of the Shipping, in the event of his tender being accepted; Vide App. No. 637.

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

On reading a letter from Messrs. John and William Wells, and other builders of shipping, dated this day, objecting to the dimensions of ships mentioned in a letter to them from Captain Oliver, and stating the dimensions on which they recommend the Court to build; and Vide App. No. 638.

Letter from Captain Oliver and Mr. Snodgrafs, dated the 1st inst. stating their opinion, that a ship of 1000 tons would not be sufficiently strong, with the present scantlings, and recommending a trifling increase in the principal timbers. Vide App. No. 639.

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

On reading three reports from the Committee of Shipping, dated this day,

Resolved, That 14 guns, nine-pounders, belonging to the ship Ranger, be continued on board for her present voyage to China.

Resolved, That the ship Chapman do carry six-pounder guns, instead of nine-pounders.

Resolved, That the request of Mr. William Palmer, that the tonnage to be inserted in the Carnatic's Charter-Party may be 778 tons, the actual measurement, instead of 758 tons, be not complied with.

AT A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COURT,

The 7th March, 1786.

The Committee proceeded to take into consideration the several tenders of ships for the ensuing season, delivered the 28th ult. and the letter from Messrs. Oliver and Snodgrafs; also the letter from several builders of ships in the river Thames, read in Court the 3d inst. were read, and after some time having been spent in debate, the Committee adjourned. Vide App. No. 624 to 636. No. 639. No. 638.

AT



AT A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COURT,

The 8th March, 1786.

The Committee took into further consideration the several tenders referred to this Committee by the Court for Shipping for the ensuing season, and a debate arising thereon, the following particulars were read, viz.

Report from the Joint Committee of Correspondence and Shipping, dated 26th May, 1785.

Vide App.
No. 640.

Letter from the Secretary to the several Owners to whom the Court had given permission to build ships, dated 4th March, 1785.

The Committee then adjourned.

AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Friday the 10th March, 1786.

Vide App.
No. 641.

A report of the progress of ships building for the Company's service, dated the 8th inst. and signed by Mr. Gilbert Ferguson, was laid before the Committee.

AT A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COURT,

The 14th March, 1786.

The Committee proceeded to take into consideration the several tenders, delivered in to the Court of Directors, of ships to be taken up for the ensuing season, in pursuance of two advertisements for that purpose, and of several letters relative to the size of ships proper for the Company's employ.

It was moved, and seconded,

That the further consideration of the tenders for new ships be, for the present, postponed.

And the said question being put by the ballot, the votes were equal.

And two lots being prepared agreeably to the directions in the Company's Charter-Party, the Treasurer was called in, and drew the lot, which determined the question in the negative.

The following tenders were then read, viz.

Vide App.
No. 636.

From Messrs. Camden and Calvert, of 4000 tons of shipping for the ensuing season, of ships from 550 to 900 tons, at £22. per ton for China, and £23. per ton for the East-Indies.

Vide App.
No. 611.

Mr. John Fiott, to build a new ship in the room of the Tartar, at £22. per ton for China; £23. per ton for Coast and China; and £24. per ton for other parts of India, for the first and second voyages; and at £2. per ton less for the third and fourth voyages; also

Vide App.
No. 628.

Captain William Agnew, to build a new ship from 750 to 900 tons, to be ready to launch by the middle of October next,



next, at £22. per ton for China direct; £23. per ton for Madras and China, or Bombay; and £24. per ton for Bengal; with half freight for any surplus tonnage.

It was moved, and seconded,

That the tender from Captain William Agnew be accepted.

The previous question on the said motion was also moved and seconded.

It was then moved to adjourn, and the question on the motion of adjournment being put, it passed in the negative.

The previous question was then put,

That the tender received from Captain Agnew be now accepted.

The same also passed in the negative.

It was then, on the question being put,

Resolved, That the further consideration of the different tenders, now before the Court, be postponed.

It was then moved to adjourn, and the question thereon being put, it passed in the affirmative.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Tuesday the 14th March, 1786.

On reading a letter from Mr. Thomas Newby, dated the 13th inst. confirming his former tender of the ship Prince George, and offering her on other terms in case the Court should alter their present mode of freighting the ships.

Vide App.
No. 642.

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

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 15th March, 1786.

On reading the petition of the Owners of the ship Mars, that she may be permitted to remain a longer time in dock.

Vide App.
No. 643.

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

AT A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COURT,

The 16th March, 1786.

The Committee proceeded to take into further consideration the several tenders and papers referred by the Court, relative to the number and size of ships necessary for the Company's service the ensuing season.

The Deputy Chairman delivered in the following papers.

Remarks on the subject of the shipping employed by the East-India Company.

Vide App.
No. 644.

Estimates for building and fitting out ships of different dimensions.

Vide App.
No. 645.

Estimates of ships of different sizes fitted for sea.

Vide App.
No. 646.

T t t

On



On several motions,

Resolved, That a tender be made to the old Owners to take up the ships to China at the actual builders tonnage, including kintledge, provided they will let the ships already built at £23. per ton; and such as are now building, or shall be built hereafter, at £22. per ton, so long as the present prices continue on the several articles for fitting out an East-India ship for sea.

That the lower deck in the China ships be reserved for the stowage of goods as far as the after-part of the well; and in the ships from the different parts of India, to the after-part of the after hatchway.

It was also moved, and seconded,

That no copper bottomed ships be employed in future, because that sort of sheathing is found to be injurious to the ship, and the expence amounts to £100. on every sixteenth share.

The previous question was then moved, and seconded,

That the question be now put; the said question was accordingly put, and passed in the negative.

The following questions were then put, and carried in the affirmative, viz.

Resolved, That every ship after she has performed her four voyages, be, if the Owners desire it, and the Company approve of it, taken up for a fifth voyage to China direct, and be intitled to the same preference in turn, as if the four voyages had not been performed.

Resolved, That the Clause in the Charter-Party, authorizing the Owners to turn out or remove the Commanders of their respective ships, without any reason assigned, be left out in future.

Vide App.
No. 611.

The Committee then took into consideration the tender from John Fiott, Esq. read in Court the 8th February last, offering to build a ship in the room of the late ship Tartar, at £22. per ton to China; £23. per ton to Coast and China; £24. per ton to other parts of India, for the first and second voyages; and at £2. per ton less for the third and fourth voyages.

Resolved, That Mr. Fiott's tender for a new ship of 750 tons or upwards, builders measurement, be accepted, on condition that he have no claim to build upon her bottom in case of loss, or after her having performed her four voyages, and that she be afloat by the 15th January, 1787.

Vide App.
No. 559,
584, 623.

The Committee also considered the tender of Anthony Brough, Esq. of the 7th December, and repeated the 1st and 28th February last, offering to build in Great Britain, for the Company's service, eighty sail of ships, or as many as the service may require, at the following rates of freight; to China alone, at £22. per ton; to Madras and China £23. and to other parts at £24. per ton, for the first and second voyages; and to China alone at £20. per ton; to Madras and China £21. and to other parts £22. for the third and fourth voyages.

Resolved That Mr. Brough's tender be accepted for three ships of 550 tons or upwards, builders measurement, on condition that he have no claim to rebuild on their bottoms in case of loss, or
after



after they may have performed their four voyages; and that all extra expences which shall be incurred by the Company on account of the smallness of the ships, be repaid by the Owners, and that they be afloat by the 15th January, 1787.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Thursday the 16th March, 1786.

The Chairman, from the Committee of the whole Court, reported that they had this day come to the following resolutions, viz.

Resolved, That a tender be made to the old Owners, to take up the ships to China at the actual builders tonnage, including kintledge, provided they will let the ships already built at £23. per ton; and such as are now building, or shall be built hereafter, at £22. per ton, so long as the present prices continue on the several articles for fitting an East-India ship for sea.

That the lower deck in the China ships be reserved for the stowage of goods, as far as the after-part of the well; and in the ships from the different parts of India, to the after-part of the after hatchway.

That every ship, after she has performed her four voyages, be, if the Owners desire it, and the Company approve of it, taken up for a fifth voyage to China direct, and be entitled to the same preference in turn, as if the four voyages had not been performed.

That the clause in the Charter-Party authorizing the Owners to turn out, or remove the Commanders of their respective ships without any reason assigned, be left out in future.

That Mr. Fiott's tender for a new ship of 750 tons or upwards, builders measurement, be accepted, on condition that he have no claim to rebuild upon her bottom in case of loss, or after her having performed her four voyages, and that she be afloat by the 15th January, 1787.

That Mr. Brough's tender be accepted for three ships, of 550 tons or upwards, builders measurement, on condition that he have no claim to rebuild on their bottoms in case of loss, or after they may have performed their four voyages; that all extra expences which shall be incurred by the Company in China, on account of the smallness of the ships, be repaid by the Owners, and that they be afloat by the 15th January, 1787.

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

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AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Tuesday the 21st March, 1786.

Vide App.
No. 643.

The Committee took into consideration the reference of Court of the 15th inst. on the petition of Richard Bush, Esq. and Owners of the ship Mars, representing from the late excessive inclemency of the weather it has been impracticable to get the ship afloat by the time appointed, which was the 15th instant; and as the ship will be in greater forwardness by being kept in dock till next spring tides, they request the Court's permission for that purpose; and the Committee reported to the Court their opinion, that it be left to the Owners to pursue such measures as in their judgment will be most effectual to forward the dispatch of the ship, and whatever means are used for that purpose must be immaterial to the Court, provided the ship leaves Gravesend by the 10th of next month, agreeably to Charter-Party.

AT A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COURT,

The 21st March, 1786.

The Committee being informed some of the Owners desired a conference with the Committee, they were introduced, and Robert Preston, Esq. delivered the following question, viz.

"Will the Court of Directors agree to pay full freight for the whole builders tonnage, whether the ships are filled or not?"

And being asked, if they had any other questions to propose; replied, they had not.

And the Committee taking the said question into consideration, resolved to return the following answer thereto, viz.

That the Company will load their ships to the amount of their builders tonnage, if they will carry it, or pay for the deficiency; and with respect to the proportion of the different sort of teas, they will order their Supra-Cargoes to divide them amongst the different ships of the season as equally as may be, and agree to give every ship of 800 tons, 550 chests of common bohea tea in proportion.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Tuesday the 21st March, 1786.

Vide App.
No. 647.

On reading a letter from John Julius Angerstein, Esq. dated the 20th inst. offering the ship South Carolina to the Company, for two voyages to China, at £21. per ton, builders measurement, and at £20. per ton for two subsequent voyages thither.

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

On a motion,

Ordered, That the proper officer do lay before this Court an estimate of what the Company will have to pay for a ship to China,



at the prices, and upon the conditions, on which the Company took up four ships on the 16th inst. compared with what they will have to pay for a ship at the prices, and upon the conditions, of the ships taken up last year.

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

Resolved, That it be left to the Owners of the Mars, to pursue such measures as in their judgment will be most effectual to forward the dispatch of the ship, it being immaterial to the Court what means are used for that purpose, provided the ship leaves Gravesend by the 10th of next month, agreeably to Charter-Party.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 22d March, 1786.

On reading a letter from the Committee of the Managing Owners of Shipping, dated this day, stating their observations on the Court's resolution of the 17th inst. which was transmitted to them. Vide App. No. 648.

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

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Tuesday the 28th March, 1786.

On reading the request of Mr. William Palmer, that no demorage may be charged on the ship Carnatic, from the 1st to the 7th of next month, provided she fails from Gravesend on or before the latter day, and Vide App. No. 649.

The request of Mr. Peter Esdaile, for leave to build a ship on the bottom of the late ship Halfewell. Vide App. No. 650.

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

AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Wednesday the 29th March, 1786.

The Committee considered the reference of Court of the 28th inst. on the request of Mr. William Palmer, that no demorage may be charged on the ship Carnatic, from the 1st to the 7th of next month, provided she fails from Gravesend on or before the latter day, and reported, as their opinion, to the Court, that Mr. Palmer's request be not complied with. Vide App. No. 649.



AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 29th March, 1786.

On reading a report from the Committee of Shipping, dated this day,

Resolved, That the request of Mr. William Palmer, that no demorage may be charged on the ship Carnatic, from the 1st to the 7th of next month, provided she fails from Gravesend on or before the latter day, be not complied with.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Friday the 31st March, 1786.

Vide App.
No. 651.

On reading a tender from Mr. John Thompson, for building a new ship of 650 tons or upwards, to be launched in March, 1787, on the conditions 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 5th April, 1786.

Vide App.
No. 652.

On reading a letter from Mr. Anthony Brough, dated this day, stating the tonnage and other particulars respecting the three ships belonging to him, which the Court have resolved to employ in the Company's service, offering one of them to perform one voyage, as on her return he shall have a new ship to substitute in her room.

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

AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Monday the 10th April, 1786.

Vide App.
No. 652.

The Court having, on the 5th inst. referred to this Committee, to examine and report on the letter from Anthony Brough, Esq. intimating that of the three ships which he has permission to build for the Company's service, one will be launched in November, and another in December next, and in regard to the third ship, Mr. Brough proposes one of three years old for this season, without regard to her going four voyages, and on her return he will substitute a new ship in her room. The Committee, upon taking the same into consideration, find that the latter part of Mr. Brough's letter differs from the conditions on which he had leave to build three new ships for the Company's service; and as the resolution of Court granting this indulgence to Mr. Brough, the Committee apprehend, must have been the result of very mature deliberation, they see no reason at present to induce them to recommend to the Court to depart from the said resolution in any instance whatever.



AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Tuesday the 2d May, 1786.

Vide App.
No. 658,
659.Vide App.
No. 660.

Letter from Captain Oliver, dated the 1st instant, accompanying an estimate of the expences of building, outfit, and other charges of an East-India ship fit for sea, agreeable to the standing order of Court of the 4th September, 1783; and an account of the expence of fitting out a ship between 1785 and 1786, being read, the Committee made the following report to the Court, viz.

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 in every year." The Committee in consequence thereof do report, that an estimate has been prepared accordingly by the Master-Attendant, and that the same upon the present prices amounts to £19,089. but the Committee beg leave to observe, that probably there will be a difference in several articles of the outfit of a ship, between the present period and the usual time of conferring with the Owners for the freight of their ships.

Vide App.
No. 659.

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

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Tuesday the 2d May, 1786.

Vide App.
No. 659.

The Committee of Shipping in a report, dated this day, now read, submitting to the Court the annual estimate of the expence of building, outfit, and other charges of an East-India ship fit for sea, amounting to £19,089. and remarking that probably there will be a difference in several articles of the outfit of a ship between the present period and the usual time of conferring with the Owners for the freight of their ships.

Resolved, That this Court do approve of the said report.

AT A COMMITTEE OF SHIPPING,

On Wednesday the 17th May, 1786.

Vide App.
No. 661.

Mr. Ferguson's report of the progress of ships building for the Company's service, dated the 15th inst. was laid before the Committee.

AT A COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Held on Wednesday the 17th May, 1786.

Vide App.
No. 662.

On reading a letter from Godfrey Thornton, Esq. dated the 15th inst. tendering a ship for the Company's service,

Letter