REPORT
FROM THE
SELECT COMMITTEE
APPOINTED BY
THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,
ASSEMBLED AT WESTMINSTER IN THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF GREAT BRITAIN,
TO ENQUIRE INTO
THE NATURE, STATE, AND CONDITION
OF THE
EAST INDIA COMPANY,
AND OF THE
BRITISH AFFAIRS IN THE EAST INDIES.

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MDCCLXXIII.
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The Committee have found it impossible, with their utmost diligence, to go through
the multiplicity of matter, which the order of the House comprehends; and they, be-
sides, have thought themselves obliged to depart from the regular course of their en-
quiry, in order to make a distinct and separate report, upon the petition of Gregore Cojamaul,
late of Bengal, in the East-Indies, on behalf of himself and others, which the House referred
to them by a subsequent order.

Notwithstanding the business of your Committee has been by this circumstance, and by the
insufficiency of the time, left incomplete; yet as the President, as they apprehend, is drawing to a
conclusion, and as every part of their enquiry is full of important matter, they thought it right
to report the progress they have hitherto been enabled to make.

Your Committee beg leave to premise, that, for the regularity of their enquiry, and in order
to give the clearest state of it to the House, they thought it expedient to arrange their pro-
ceedings under the following heads:

1st. The several charters granted to the East-India Company, with the acts of Parliament
respecting the same; and also, the grants and treaties which have subsisted between the Com-
pany and the Powers in India, from their first establishment to the present time.

2dly. The Commissions, and other instruments, by which the Company authorized and im-
powered their servants to carry on their affairs in India.

3dly. To pursue, by historical deduction, the state of affairs in India, in the manner in which
the present possessions in that country were acquired, and the different transactions attending
those acquisitions; beginning with the transactions of Bengal, and dividing them into three
periods; viz. from the establishment of the present Company to the completion of the Revo-
lution, in the year 1757; from thence to the assuming the Dewanny in the year 1765; and
from thence to the present time; and in each period respectively to state the situation of the
Company's affairs, and the material parts of the conduct of the Company's servants, with respect
to the powers intrusted with them by the Company, in the civil and military departments; in
the administration of justice; in the accepting of presents; in the management of trade; and
in the revenues and coinage.

4thly. The various disputes with foreign Companies since the year 1755.

5thly. The conduct of the Directors at home, during all the periods comprehended in this
enquiry, respectively, to the different powers exercised at any time by them; to the manner of
keeping and checking public accounts at home and abroad; to the conduct of their servants;
and to the abuses to which the whole, or any part, of the East-India affairs is liable, from
defects in the constitution of the Company, when applied to their present situation at home and
abroad.

Pursuant to the above plan, your Committee proceeded to read such charters and acts of para-
liament as are applicable to their enquiry; all of which are in the possession of the House, and
a schedule of them is annexed, in the Appendix, No. 1.

The copies of commission, and instruments from the Company to their servants, are included
in the above number of the appendix.

Your Committee would not presume to state to the House the constitution of the East-
India Company, without the most critical and minute examination of each charter and act of
Parliament; and they could not, in the space of time allotted them, enter upon to great a
work, which may be taken up hereafter and stated from the materials referred to in the ap-
pendix.
Your Committee proceeded to enquire into the nature and extent of the privileges and powers claimed in Bengal by the Company, under Grants and Firmanas from the Princes of the country; copies of which, for the information of the House, are annexed in the Appendix, No. 2.

Your Committee not finding traces of any very material disturbances in the enjoyment of those privileges and powers in Bengal, from the first establishment of the Company, to the death of Alli Ver di Cawn, in the year 1756, applied themselves to discover the causes of the troubles which ensued soon after that event, and brought on the loss of Calcutta; and for this purpose, your Committee read the communications and correspondence marked in the Appendix, No. 3.

To the same purpose your Committee called Charles Manningham, Esquire.

Your Committee think proper, in this place, to state to the House, that they have not been able for want of time to extract from their minutes the substance of their proceedings, and therefore are under the necessity of laying before the House, in this and every other part of their proceedings, the evidence almost in the manner they received it.

Charles Manningham, Esquire, informed your Committee, That, in the year 1756, he was Third in Council, and Warehouse Keeper at Calcutta, and next to Mr. Drake upon the spot; that he thinks it is not in the power of any man to assign the reason for the origin of the troubles, and knows of no part of the conduct of the Company’s servants at Calcutta, that could incense the government; that the troubles commenced in June 1756. Alli Ver di Cawn, the Predecessor of Serajah Dowla, died about the April preceding; that Serajah Dowla had always the character of a rash, vicious young man; and it was supposed the first occasion of his coming against Calcutta was, that he was tempted by the idea of the place being likely to afford great plunder; that the first account the Factory had of his ill intentions towards them, was the beginning of June 1756.

Being questioned as to what he knew of offence taken by the Nabobs, in regard to protection given by the English to one Kiffinadas; he said, that Mr. Drake was governor of the settlement, and Mr. Watts was chief of Cobimbazar, and believes, that Kiffinadas was at that time in the Dacca part of the country; that Mr. Watts wrote to Mr. Drake, to suffer Kiffinadas to land at Calcutta, in his way to Muxadavad, by way of refreshment, as his family had been useful to the English; that as Mr. Drake was absent at the time Mr. Watts’s letter arrived, the letter was sent under cover to the witnesses to be opened, and he is not quite sure whether that period was before or after the death of Alli Ver di Cawn; that Kiffinadas landed at Calcutta accordingly; that he never saw him, and that when Mr. Drake arrived a few days after, he delivered him the letter.

The witnesses said, He was upon the spot when Serajah Dowla came down, and believes Kiffinadas was not then in the town; he does not recollect, that Serajah Dowla made any demand for the delivering up of Kiffinadas; but that if he did, it would appear upon the public proceedings. Being further questioned, he repeated, That it was impossible to give any rational account of the origin of the troubles; and said, that he was at Muxadavad, at the time Lord Clive was there in July of the same year; that enquiry was then made with all possible attention, but without success, into the motives of Serajah Dowla’s conduct from his principal officers, and likewise from the officers of his predecessor, from the Seats, and every other person from whom information was likely to be obtained.

Being asked, whether Kiffinadas was really protected or not, what time he remained in Calcutta, after Mr. Drake’s return, and whether he knew or heard before the taking of Calcutta, that the Nabob demanded Kiffinadas? he said, Kiffinadas was permitted to land, but how long he staid he could not tell, and that he had heard at that time of his being demanded: he also said, he was reckoned to be very rich, and that he had a number of boats, and it was supposed he had treasure with him.

Being further asked, whether Kiffinadas’s coming to Calcutta, was considered as an escape from Serajah Dowla? he said, it could not be considered as an escape, because he was coming in his way from Dacca to Muxadavad, where the Nabob was; he could not form any opinion, whether Kiffinadas at the time he landed at Calcutta, in his way to Muxadavad or Cobimbazar, knew of the death of Alli Ver di Cawn, or the succession of Serajah Dowla.

Being asked, whether it was in council that he heard the report, that the Nabob had formerly demanded the delivery of Kiffinadas? he said, that he heard at the time that Mr. Drake had received a letter from the Nabob to that purport, and had answered, that no further protection had been given to Kiffinadas, than a permission to land in his way to Muxadavad; that it was either in the form of a letter or committee he had it, but could not say which, and thinks this letter of the demand must have been received while Kiffinadas was in the place; the witnesses knew of no further demand from the Nabob relative to Kiffinadas, nor any demand of any other nature, except a trifling circumstance of a gentleman having erected a summer house in his garden, which had been represented to the Nabob as a fortification, but it was explained to the Nabob, and a desire expressed, that he would send to examine it.

He further said, that the English had no intercourse with the Nabob, and assigned no cause to his knowledge, for coming down against them.

Being asked, whether it is not the custom in Bengal, that the Prime Minister of a preceding Nabob or of his subordinates, should stand forth and be amenable to the power of the reigning Nabob, and not withdraw himself; he said, the nature of the government being arbitrary did natu-
naturally expected, but whether it is the custom he could not say; but that undoubtedly if this is refused, the Nabobs usually endeavour by all means in their power to compel them to be amenable.

The witnesses knew of no cause for any complaint of tenants of the Mogul being protected by the English in Calcutta, nor of any such complaint being transmitted to the factory, either directly from the Nabob or from Mr. Watts.

Notice being taken, that it appeared by certain proceedings of the governor and council of Fort Saint George, that Mr. Manningham had objected to several articles in the various accounts or informations transmitted to them from Bengal, respecting the capture of Calcutta; and it further appearing by the said proceedings, that in consequence of such objections from Mr. Manningham, the several informations were officially delivered to him, in order to state his objections at that time; the witnesses was then asked, whether he had ever delivered in any answer upon the reference so made to him? to which he said, that he was deputed by the governor of Calcutta, to go to Madras, and carried a letter directed to the governor and council at Madras; and was commissioned to give them a further account, by word of mouth, of the Allans the factory.

In regard to a messenger coming from the Nabob to Calcutta, upon the subject of protection given to the Nabob's tenants, and the treatment of that messenger, the witnesses said, he knew of a messenger coming with a letter addressed to the President, and wrote in Persian, and to the best of his remembrance, a part of that letter related, as he mentioned before, to Kifhindafs; he does not recollect whether he saw the letter or not, and believed Mr. Drake, upon the messenger delivering the letter, ordered him to leave the Town; he believes an answer was sent afterwards, and the purport of it was, that Kifhindafs was only allowed to land, and no protection was given him; the messenger, he believed, stayed but a few hours in the Town after he delivered the letter; he was an Hiccarah, by name as he believes Narranzing.

Being asked, Whether the answer to the Nabob's letter was communicated to the Council, or whether it was sent as Mr. Drake's private letter? The Witnesses said, The purport of both the letter and the answer itself were communicated; he does not recollect, who the answer was sent by, nor how long it might be after the receipt of the letter, but believes, it might be the same day or the day following, and did not recollect the whole contents of the letter.

Being a ked, if it was the usual practice, when a messenger brought a letter from the Nabob, to order him to leave the Town without any answer sent with him? he said, it was not, nor could he assign any reason for so doing, for the receipt of the letter was not public, nor was the treatment of the messenger fo.

In regard to the measures the Factory took to pacify the Nabob, after they were informed of his hostile intentions, the Witnesses said, Mr. Drake was repea edly desired to write to the Nabob, to know the cause of his resentment, and that he had no doubt but he did fo, but believed, he received no answer; among other methods, Coja Waifleed, a merchant of considerable rank and substance, and likewise a tenant of several considerable farms, was requested by letters to apply to the Nabob, to know the reason of his resentment, and was desired to act as a mediator upon the occasion; it was also tried to be informed by means of this Coja Waifleed, whether money was the only object in view, and, in general, he was requested to interreat himself as well as he could to appease the Nabob; his answer was, That it was not in his power to be of any use upon the occasion, and that the payment of a sum of money was not the object; the reason of applying to Coja Waifleed, was, that he was supposed to be a man of fums weight, and in favour with the Nabob, from the circumstance of his having entertained him at his house, when he was Chutta Nabob.

The Witnesses being asked, Whether he had any reason to believe, that any sum of money or present was given to Mr. Drake, or any other person by Kifhindafs? he said, he did not know, nor had any reason to believe that any were given to Mr. Drake, or any other person.

Being again questioned, Whether he was sure, that Kifhindafs was not received in Calcutta, before the death of Alli Ver di Cawn? he said, he was not sure—and whether the contents of the letter from Mr. Watts, were not to permit Kifhindafs to remain two months in the Town, and that there was a particular recommendation of Kifhindafs family, as being particularly serviceable to the English? he said, he could not recollect the particular purport of the letter; that in general it was a warm recommendation of Kifhindafs, as the son of Rejah Bullub, a man of power and interest at the Durbar, and who might be of service to the affairs of the India Company at the Durbar.

Your Committee next called Richard Beecher, Esquire, who was desired to relate what he knew of the origin of the troubles in Bengal: And he informed the Committee, That about the end of the year 1755, he was appointed Chief of the subordinate Factory at Dacca; that from that time he did not attend at any of the Councils that were held at Calcutta, and of course could only speak of transactions that passed there, by report from others; that at the time the letter of the 10th of July 1756, was wrote from Dacca, himself and the other gentlemen that signed it, were prisoners to the Nabob, and by his permission allowed to reside in the French Factory; that for some time before the taking of Calcutta, they had no correspondence with the gentlemen of Fort William, but for intelligence were obliged to trud to the natives of the country, or what the French received from their settlement at Chandernagore; that he thought it his duty at that time to forward to the Court of Directors, and to the Governor and Council at Madras, such intelligence as he was able by those means to procure; that he has since had the
the greatest reason to believe, the accounts transmitted to the Governor and Council at Madras, then obtained from the French, were greatly exaggerated, and very fallacious in many particulars; that the report of Kiffinidas's being received and protected in Calcutta, being a cause assigned by Serajah Dowla for his displeasure against the English, he heard from numbers of people where he then was, both French and natives, and he gave credit to it, and therefore assigned it to the Court of Directors as the principal reason.

In relation to the affair of Kiffinidas, the witness said, That he recollected to have heard Kiffinidas was received in Calcutta about the latter end of March 1756, and remained there till the place was taken by Serajah Dowla, on the 20th of June; he and Omichund were both prisoners in the Factory by order of the Governor, as he believed: And the Witness further said, That in the situation the India Company then were, as merchants living under the protection of the country government, he then was, and still is, of opinion, that neither Kiffinidas, nor any other subject of the Nabob, should have been received and protected in the Company's settlement, and he still thinks, that this did give a pretence to Serajah Dowla, to throw his resentment against the English, but at the same time he is now convinced, from the many opportunities he hath since had of conversing with those who were at that time principal officers and in high station about Serajah Dowla, at Muradabad, that even if that pretence had not been given, he would have marched his army down against Calcutta; his object was money, Calcutta was reported to be very rich, and so were the other European settlements of Chanderanagore and Chinsura; Serajah Dowla was a young man, violent, passionate, of great ambition, tainted with avarice, and he expected both wealth and honour, by attacking the European settlements, and by extorting money from them; that this appears from his conduct in attacking Calcutta, and from the sums he extorted from the French, Dutch, and Danes, after that transaction.

The Witness being asked, Whether he ever heard of the Nabob's demanding Kiffinidas after he was received in Calcutta? he said, he did not recollect that he heard it before Calcutta was taken, though he may have done so, but he heard it soon after: That his opinion at that time was, that if Kiffinidas had been delivered up, and a sum of money offered, the Nabob would not have proceeded to the lengths he did in attacking Calcutta; and he grounded this opinion in great measure upon what had been the former custom of the Nabobs and Princes of that country, when they were displeased with the English: That Ali Ver di Cawn, who was a wife Prince, had upon different occasions thrown his displeasure and taken money from them, but appeared always to be so sensible of the benefits accruing to his country, by the trade carried on by the English, that he never proceeded further than to put a stop to the trade of the Company, and to place forces round their Factories, by which means he always brought them to the terms he pleased.

The Witness being asked, Whether he knew of any money unjustly taken from the Company by Ali Ver di Cawn, or any troubles arising from demands of money previous to the cessation of Serajah Dowla? he said, he recollected two instances where sums of money were taken, the first, to the bell of his remembrance in 1744 or 1745, when he made a demand upon all the European settlements in his dominions, and gave as reason for it, the great expense he was obliged to be at in maintaining a very large army to defend his country, and those who lived under his protection, from the Mahrattas, who used at that time almost annually to invade Bengal; that the English Company, at that time, was obliged to pay three Lacks and a half of Rupees, as well as he could remember; and the other European nations in proportion to their trade: That he recollects another instance about the year 1748 or 1749, when the Company's trade was stopped, and forces put round their subordiuate Factories for several months, in consequence of the complaint of an Armenian, who had freighted goods on a ship under Dutch colours, which ship was taken by Commodore Griffin or some of his squadron, and condemned, as he understood, for having French property on board: The Armenian living under the protection of the Nabob of Bengal, made his complaint to the Nabob of the loss of his property, and the Nabob insisted on the English making good to him the loss he had sustained by that capture: At that time orders from home were peremptory, not to comply with the demands made by the country government; in consequence of which, the gentlemen refused to comply with the demand made by the Nabob; but after using their endeavours for several months to pacify him, they were obliged to submit: That he supposes the Company looked upon the demand of the three Lacks and a half by Ali Ver di Cawn as a hostile one, and believed the orders above-mentioned were sent out in consequence of it.

The Witness being asked, Whether he knew, or believed, that Mr. Drake or any other person received money or presents from Kiffinidas, for the protection given him? said, he did not know, nor did he believe that he or any other person did receive either money or presents.

John Cooke, Esquire, who in the year 1756 was secretary to the governor and council at Calcutta, being called to the same point as the above witnesses, gave the following narrative from notes taken by him soon after the transactions of that year, and since copied with his own hand.

Ali Ver di Cawn, Nabob of the three provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, died on the 9th of April 1756, and Serajah Dowla took possession of his government, agreeably to the will and intention of his Grandfather, who had, even in his life time, feated him on the Mufnud, and obliged the officers of his durbar to do him homage as Subah; this paved the way for his being acknowledged and obeyed as such, without hesitation or dispute, immediately on the death of the old Nabob:—The only fiow of opposition that he met with, was from the widow of Nawab-
Nawshirjewan, who had got a body of men together to secure the wealth she was left in possession of by the death of her husband, in case the young Subah should attempt to seize it:—This was soon adjusted, and her troops disbanded, upon promise of being left unmolested in her person and riches, by which means all was quiet at the capital, and Serajah Dowla's authority universally established in the dependent provinces, except in Poornea, the Nabob whereof (a relation) refused to trust himself in the hands of the young Subah, and therefore would not come to Moorshedavad, but kept himself in his province of Poornea, at the head of his army:—This obliged Serajah Dowla to take the field very soon after his accession to the subahship, and march up as far as Raja Maul to intimidate the Poornean, and force him to come to the Dunbar.

Precisely after the death of the old Nabob, President Drake wrote Serajah Dowla a letter of congratulation on his accession, and declared his favour and protection to the English company, which was received very kindly, and promises given our Veach, that he would throw the English greater marks of friendship and esteem than ever his grandfather had done.

About this juncture the company's packet per Delawar was received from Madras, by which we found there was the greatest likelihood imaginable of a rupture between us and France, and the court of directors particularly recommended to the governor and council to be strictly on their guard, and to put their fortifications in the best state of defence they could.—In consequence of these advice the line of your towards the river was repaired and strengthened, and some other trifling works erected, particularly a redoubt at Perrin's garden, which had been planned by Colonel Scott. This circumstance is mentioned, as the Subah made it one of his pretexts for attacking the English.

It is necessary to take notice, that one Kissindafs (who had been in the government's service as deawn and mah of Dacca) had embarked himself, his women and effects, on a large number of boats upon the death of Nawshirjewan (which happened not long before that of old Ali Verdi Oman) and had sheltered himself from the power of Serajah Dowla in the woods below Dacca, till he heard that his father Rashbullabidas was set at liberty, and seemingly restored to favour; then, under pretence of going upon a pilgrimage to Saugers or Jaggernaut, he landed himself and effects in Calcutta on the 15th of March, in his passage down the river, by permission of the presiding member of the board (Mr. Drake being at Ballafore for his health):—This anecdote is likewise mentioned for the same reason as the reparations to our works, because Serajah Dowla made use of his being suffered to live in Calcutta, as another cause of offence, the English giving protection to the servants of the government, by this reception of Kissindafs in the settlement.

As soon as Serajah Dowla found himself pretty well established in the government, he sent a Hircarah (Meffenger) to demand Kissindafs; but as the Hircarah came in a private manner, and dissuaded, into the settlement, the president, Mr. Drake, being then returned from Ballafore, thought it improper to admit him as a messenger from the Nabob, and ordered him to be turned out of the bounds.

Very shortly after this transaction the governor received a letter from the Subah, signifying his displeasure at our repairing our fortifications, or carrying on any new works without first obtaining his permission, and insisted, not only on our putting a stop to such works, but on our destroying what was already done:—The governor's answer not corresponding with the Subah's impiety or temper, and finding that he would not comply with his peremptory orders for destroying our works, he took the sudden resolution of forcing us to a compliance; immediately laid aside his design of crossing the Ganges to bring the Nabob of Poornea to reason, and marched his whole army back to Moorshedavad, having first sent orders to Rajah Doolobart (alias Roy Doolub) to invite our factory at Cossimbuzar, with a body of horsemen:—This flap was followed by a total stoppage of all our business at the Aurungas, and the other subordinate factories.

The 25th of May we received the first advice of the Nabob's orders for invelling Cossimbuzar, and from that time every day brought us fresh intelligence of this factory being surrounded with the Subah's forces; and that Serajah Dowla absolutely threatened to attack them, if we delayed or refused to destroy the works we had erected at Calcutta.

Letter after letter was dispatched to the gentlemen, to order their Veachel toremount to the Dunbar, how unjustly the Subah proceeded against the English, in suffering their enemies to persecute him they were erecting strong fortifications, when nothing was further from the truth; which the Nabob might be satisfied of, if he would send a person that he could confide in to Calcutta to see what we were doing, and report the same as it really was. Our communication with Cossimbuzar began now to be difficult, and in our last advice only served to confirm the report of the Subah's determination to make himself master of that Factory first, and after that to march against the presidency itself, a council of war was summoned on the 5th June, to confer on the situation of Cossimbuzar Factory, and whether it was practicable or advisable to send them a reinforcement. The weakness of our own garrison (which did not then exceed 170 effective men, not above 50 or 60 of which were Europeans) determined the majority of the officers, who subscribed at that Council, to declare in writing, that in their opinion, it was imprudent at that juncture to attempt sending up a detachment for reinforcing Cossimbuzar, surrounded as it was by the Subah's forces.

For the reason already mentioned, as well as many other substantial ones, the President and Council thought it more eligible to promise obedience to the Nabob's orders, than to risk the issue of a quarrel with him, at a time we were ill prepared in every respect, for offence or defence. A letter to that purport was accordingly inclosed to Mr. Watts, to be delivered Serajah Dowla;
Dowlah; but the ingrediens to our Factory being totally put a stop to, the Chief never received this letter.

While this was doing at Cossimbazar, the gentlemen were not idle in Calcutta, but exerted their utmost (as things grew towards a crisis) to put the place in as good a posture of defence as it was capable of, and dispatched several Pattamars to Fort Saint George for assistance. Orders were likewise sent to Dacca and the other Subordinates, to call in as much of the Company's money and effects that were outlying as they could, and to hold themselves in readiness to embark the same upon the first notice, and bring them to Fort William.

On the 6th June it was currently reported [but nobody knew from whence it arose] that Cossimbazar was delivered up to the Nabob. The Governor thereupon ordered a survey of the town to be made, and the works necessary for its defence to be laid before the board by the officers in garrison, which was accordingly done the next day. The plan was to throw up a few batteries fronting the principal avenues in the Town, and a line of intrenchment between, which was immediately set about, and every Cooley employed to get it done: The Militia were summoned and exercised, and every other measure taken to maintain a siege, in case the Nabob carried things to that extremity. As it was impossible to receive any reinforcement in time, if the Subah pursed his march to Calcutta immediately, the French and Dutch were applied to for assistance: The Dutch declined giving us any, and the French only galconized with us, on favoring to join their force with ours, if we would quit our own settlement, and carry our garrison and effects up to Chandernagore.

At One o'clock P. M. of the 7th June, we received the intelligence of Cossimbazar Factory being furrendered up to Serajah Dowla on the 2d of that month. This intelligence came from Mr. Collet and therefore removed all doubts concerning the loss of that place, as he was second upon the spot. By his letter it appeared that the Chief had been afflicted, that if he would wait on the Nabob in person, he might possibly prevent the Factory being attacked, which his Council thought it more advisable for him to do, than to risk the event of a rupture.—Mr. Watts met with a very different reception to what he expected, and he and Meffrs. Collet and Batson were forced to sign a Mutchulka, or obligation, that the Nabob had got prepared; they had been promised their liberty upon signing of it, but found there was no faith to be put on the Subah's word, for instead of obtaining their liberty, Mr. Collet was remanded back to the Factory, and forced to give it up to the commander in chief of the Nabob's troops; after which he was again carried to the camp, and Mr. Watts and he kept close prisoners, and treated in a very indifferentaient manner.

The seizure of Cossimbazar in this treacherous manner, and his subsequent proceeding, plainly indicated the Subah's intention was no less than the attack of the presidency, and expulsion of the Englishe; for immediate orders were given to his Generals to march towards Calcutta, and his whole train of artillery brought into the field:—The other Europeans at Chandernagore and Chintur were called upon to affit his forces in reducing Calcutta, and every body at the Durbar forbid to intercede for the Englishe.

So uncommonly expeditous were the Subah's forces in their march down to Calcutta, that in about 13 days after the surrender of Cossimbazar, they began the attack of the presidency itself, having in that time marched above 160 miles with a heavy train of artillery, in the hottest season of the year.

Hostilities began on our part on the 12th June, by spiking up the cannon at Tannah's fort (a fortification belonging to the Moors, a little below the town) and endeavouring to heat down the walls of that battery, which could not however be effected on account of the prodigious hardness of the Pucca work, and the vast thickness of the masonry.—While our people were upon this enterprise, a party of the Nabob's troops from Hugly, with five pieces of artillery, arrived and obliged our men to return to their ships:—A second attempt was made two days after, to dilodge the Moors from that place, but to no purpose: the cannon from our country ships employed in the attack, being too small to make any impression, or do any mischief.

Several letters and messages passed between the President and Coja Waiffed, in which the latter was desir'd to use his influence with the Nabob in our favour, and authorized to accommodate matters by giving an sum of money, which it was imagined was what the Subah aimed at, according to the custom of his predecessor, who had frequently squeezed large sums from the Europeans under various pretences; but we were disappointed in our judgment of Serajah Dowla's views, and we quickly found he was too much exasperated to be appeased by the ordinary method of a present.

On Wednesday the 16th a firing was heard to the northward, which proved to be an attack made upon the redoubt at Perrins by the van of the Nabob's army who were advanced as far as Mr. Kelfall's garden at Chitpore, and were attempting to enter Calcutta on that side, by forcing the port before mentioned. The reception they met with at this redoubt, obliged them to abandon the design of entering the town at that avenue, and we found their army had wheeled off to the eastward towards Dum dumma, which side of our town was quite ex posed and defenceless: It was hoped however, that the men they lost at Perrins would have cooled their ardour, and have made the Nabob listen to terms of accommodation:—All Thursday we were pretty quiet, excepting the disturbance occasioned by a band of robbers attending the Nabob's camp, who had entered the town in several quarters, and plundered every house they came to:—The enemy had now entirely surrounded the town, and on Friday the 18th June in the morning, attacked the entrenchments on every side with the musqueteers of their army: They had infinitely the advan-
tage over us in this attack, as they could fire upon our men from the tops, windows, and verandahs of the houses which stood close to, and overlooked, our lines and batteries, by which means they did a great deal of mischief, and annoyed our people so terribly, that scarce any body could venture to raise their heads above the cover of the breach works, for fear of being killed or wounded; while, on our part, we were obliged to spend our fire at random, by pointing our cannon at the houses they were lodged in, without being certain of their doing execution, though it is most probable we must have killed many of the enemy.

The firing was very hot on both sides from eight in the morning till noon, when the enemy slackened, and made almost a total cessation of the attack, for what reason we could not tell: In the afternoon they began with more warmth than ever; our people were now extremely fatigued; great numbers had been killed, and a far greater wounded; the enemy poured in multitudes from all quarters; there seemed no hope of defending the lines under the disadvantages already mentioned, the Moors having professed themselves of every lodgment that commanded the entrenchment, and in some places had even penetrated within our works.—In this situation of things, it was judged expedient to spike up all the cannon at the falchine batteries, and withdraw the military and militia stationed there nearer to the fort itself, and to abandon the entrenchment; orders were issued to the several posts for that purpose, and the same put in execution towards the close of the evening.

No sooner was this perceived by the enemy, than they professed themselves of our lines, and turned one of our 18 pounders at the jail battery against the fort; but their little ill in managing artillery prevented their doing much damage with their cannon in any part of the siege; and had they used their mufletry no better, we might have remained very secure within our walls.

They now brought up a few pieces of small cannon to play against the fort, from a little battery or breach work to the south-east, but what annoyed us most of all were the wall pieces and musketry locks, which they fixed upon the tops of several houses that entirely overlooked the fort, and fired such flowers of balls from them, and so incessantly, that it became very dangerous to sit from one part of the factory to another.—This evening (the 18th) it was determined to remove our women on board the Dodgallay, and such other country ships and vessels as were in the river. This embarkation was performed in the dusk of the evening, but with so little order, that many of the ladies (among whom was the governor's wife) were left behind, and some of them obliged to remain even till the next day, for want of boats to carry them off.

It is easy to imagine the confusion and confusion that was discovered in every countenance, when it was known the enemy had in one day obliged us to abandon those works on which we placed our principal dependance, and had flattered ourselves we could have defended till a reinforcement arrived from Madras. The inability of our military officers appeared too evident now to expect much from them; and as the governor was as little qualified to act in such a situation as the officers, it could not but follow, that all command must have been in a manner at an end, for want of a proper confidence in those who were to be obeyed: This was actually the case, and from the time we were confined to the defence of the fort itself, nothing was to be seen but disorder, riot, and confusion; every body was officious in advising, yet no one was properly qualified to give advice:—The factory was so crowded with Portuguese women and unnecessary people, that it would have been impossible to have found provisions enough for one week, even had our walls and garrison been able to repel the efforts of the enemy. In this situation it was lucky for us the Moors (who never fight in the night) suspended their operations as soon as it was dark, and gave us, by that means an opportunity of consulting and debating on what was to be done; the majority of the military officers gave it as their opinion, that it was impracticable to defend the fort with so small a garrison, and so unprovided with stores for a siege, against the numerous army of the enemy; the artillery officers reported, we had not powder and shot enough for three days; our bombs and grenades were of no use, the fuses being spoiled by the dampness of the climate, owing to their being filled some years, and never looked to since afterwards. Thus circumstanced, a retreat to our ships was by every body judged the most eligible step that could be taken; but the dispute was, whether that retreat ought to be made immediately, under favour of the night, or deferred till the next day, and in what manner to conduct a general retreat without confusion or tumult? It was at last resolved to defer the retreat till the next night, and that all the next day should be employed in embarking the Portuguese women and our most valuable effects, by which means we should avoid the disorder we dreaded. Had this plan been strictly adhered to, and rightly executed, a number of lives would have been saved, and all those dreadful and melancholy consequences prevented, which afterwards happened. Mr. William Bailey, one of the council, who exerted himself upon all occasions in a most disinterested and generous manner, undertook to see the women and effects sent away, and began the embarkation of the first early on Saturday morning. The enemy renewed their attack with the break of the day, and cannonaded the fort very briskly from two or three different batteries, besides keeping up a hot fire from the tops of the houses with their wall pieces and musketry; the Moors professed to be close, and in such multitudes, that it was deemed more prudent to call in all the out posts (for we had occupied the church and a few of the adjacent houses all the preceding night) to prevent their being cut off; the party stationed in Mr. Gruttenden's house, upon leaving it, set fire to it, to prevent the enemy from making a lodgment there, as it stood within forty yards of the factory walls, and we had the satisfaction soon after of seeing the company's house likewise in flames (done we imagine by the enemy) which stood as near the walls on the other side.
Unluckily no orders relating to the intended general retreat had been published, and as the revolution of retreating was known by the whole garrison by report, without the method which had been planned for putting it in execution, many of the inhabitants imagined every body was to shift for himself, and endeavour to get on board such vessel as he conveniently could: Upon this presumption several left the factory, and made their retreat to the ships; which being observed, they were followed by many others, some of whom had been even present at the consultation in which the plan of the retreat had been settled, but concluding the former scheme was altered, for considerations to them unknown, they made the best of their way to the ships laying off the fort; to add to the general confusion, between nine and ten o'clock the Doodlay (on board of which ship were Mellis, M. and P.) weighed her anchor, and dropped down to Surman's Garden, the captain of her, it seems, being apprehensive of her being burnt by the fire arrows, or rockets, discharge by the enemy upon the vessels in the river; no sooner was this perceived, than every ship and floor followed the example, and weighing their anchors, left the station they might have held, with the greatest service in, by affording an asylum to the garrison at their retreat. This ill-judged circumstance occasioned all the uproar and misfortunes that followed; for the moment it was observed, many of the gentlemen on shore (who perhaps never dreamt of leaving the factory till every body did) immediately jumped into such boats as were at the Factory Stairs, and rowed to the ships; the Manjees and Dandies of the boats we had secured, seeing the universal confusion that prevailed, and that the ships were dropping down the river, thought the danger much greater than it really was, and began to contest their own safety, by leaving the shore and rowing away as fast as they could, either to the ships or to the other side of the river, maugre all that could be said or done to prevent them.—Among those who left the Factory in this unaccountable manner were the governor, Mr. Drake, Mr. Mackett, Captain Commandant Machein, and Captain Grant.—In less than a quarter of an hour those who persevered in defending the fort found themselves abandoned by all the officers of council, and the principal military officers, and had the mortification likewise to see themselves deprived of the means of retreating by the defection of the ships and boats.—As soon as it was known the Governor had left the Factory, the gate towards the river was immediately locked, to prevent any further defection; and the general voice of the garrison called for Mr. Holwell to take the charge of their defence upon him.—A Council being hastily summoned, Mr. Pearkes, the seniour then on shore, waved his right to the government in favour of Mr. Holwell, who thereupon acted in all respects as commander in chief, and exerted his utmost to encourage every one. Signals were now thrown out from every part of the fort for the ships to come up again to their stations, in hopes they would have reflected (after the first impulse of their panic was over) how cruel, as well as shameful, it was to leave their countrymen to the mercy of a barbarous enemy; and for that reason we made no doubt they would have attempted to cover the retreat of those left behind, now they had secured their own; but we deceived ourselves; and there never was a trerible effort made, in the two days the Fort held out after this defection, to fend a boat or vessel to bring off any part of the garrison.

All the 19th the enemy pushed on their attack with great vigour, and having polished themselves of the church (not thirty yards or forty from the east curtain of the town) they galled the garrison in a terrible manner, and killed and wounded a prodigious number:—In order to prevent this havoc as much as possible, we got up a quantity of broad cloth in bales, with which we made traverses along the curtains and bastions; we fixed up likewise some bales of cotton against the parapets (which were very thin, and of brickwork only) to refit the cannon balls, and did every thing in our power to baffle their attempts, and hold out, if possible, till the Prince George (a company's ship employed in the country) could drop down low enough to give us an opportunity of getting on board.—This ship, had, in the commencement of hostilities (on the 19th) been ordered up to Portsmouth, to affit that redoubt, in case the enemy made a second attack; but after they wheeled their army round towards Dumdumma, the party at that post was withdrawn, as no longer necessary, and the Prince George directed to fall down to her station, opposite the east bastion of the fort:—She was in light about noon of the 19th, and was now the only glimmering of hope left us to escape falling into the hands of the Moors:—Our situation and distress was therefore communicated to the commander of her (Thomas Hague) and he positively directed to bring his ship as near the fort as he could, without losing time. These instructions were transmitted on board by the hands of Mellis, Pearkes and Lewis, and we began to entertain some expectation of making a general retreat, notwithstanding what had happened in the morning; but it was otherwise determined by Providence; for some strange fatality the Prince George ran aground a little above the factory owing to the pilot's misconduct, who left his presence of mind) and was never after got off.

The enemy suspended their attack as usual when it grew dark; but the night was not left dreadful on that account; the Company's house, Mr. Curtenden's, Mr. Nixon's, Doctor Knox's, and the marine yard, were now in flames, and exhibited a spectacle of unpeacable terror. We were surrounded on all sides by the Nabob's forces, which made a retreat by land impracticable; and we had not even the shadow of a prospect to effect a retreat by water, after the Prince George ran aground.

On the first appearance of dawn, on the 20th June, the besiegers renewed their cannonading, having heeded it was selfish on that account; the Company's house, Mr. Curtenden's, Mr. Nixon's, Doctor Knox's, and the marine yard, were now in flames, and exhibited a spectacle of unpeacable terror. We were surrounded on all sides by the Nabob's forces, which made a retreat by land impracticable; and we had not even the shadow of a prospect to effect a retreat by water, after the Prince George ran aground.

— they pushed the siege this morning with much more warmth and vigour than ever they had done; about eight o'clock they attempted to break into the factory by means of some windows in the easterly curtain, which we had neglected to brick up; while every body was intent on regel-
repelling this onset, an alarm was spread, that the enemy were scaling the North Well Battery; part of the garrison were therefore detached to prevent this attempt, and the hottest fire en-
flamed for above an hour, that we had yet seen, on both sides: The besiegers at length gave over
their efforts, and retired with great loss; but they continued to cannonade very briskly from their
batteries, and with their wall pieces and musketry did us infinite mischief.

It was now esteemed most eligible to endeavour to pacify the Nabob's resentment, and sup-
plicate his forgiveness, by the mediation of Monickchund (his principal minister) to whom
Omichund, by Mr. Holwell's direction, wrote a letter, requesting him to intercede in our be-
half, and prevail upon Serajah Dowla to desist from prosecuting the attack, and suffer us to carry
on our business as usual, under his protection: An Armenian undertook to carry the letter to
Monickchund, and was suffered to pass; but we never received any answer.

About noon there was a sudden cessation of firing on the enemy's part, from whence we con-
ceived some hopes, that Omichund's letter had been delivered, and was likely to produce the
effect desired. About four o'clock a forage to the front gate of the factory, came to Mr. Holwell, and informed him, that one of the Nabob's people had kept into the
dstreet, and with his hand made signs for us to desist firing:—This circumstance gave great satis-
faction, and seemed to promise a favourable end of our troubles and difficulties. Orders were ac-
cordingly given for a suspension of hostilities on our part; but in less than half an hour intelli-
gence was brought to Mr. Holwell, that the enemy were crowding in great numbers under the
walls of the fort, to the caffard and caffward, whereupon he haltered himself to the north
caffe baftion to view their motions, directing every one to be at their quarters: By this time the
besiegers had been suffered to advance close up to the foot of the walls, without a single musket
being fired upon them; and Mr. Holwell (thull imagining every thing would be compromised)
forbid all acts of hostility, notwithstanding the enemy professed in such multitudes upon us: By
way of capitulation or conference he waved a flag of truce, which not being understood by the
Moors, no regard was paid to it; and while this was tranacted to the caffard, a body of the en-
emy scaled the north well baftion, as did another party to the caffward (where the wall was
low) and drove our people from their lattions there.—As soon as this was known, a Durban
man of the artillery company broke open the back door of the factory, and with many others at-
ttempted to make their escape that way.—The besiegers now poured in great numbers from all
parts; and Mr. Holwell, finding how things were circumstanced, and how impracticable it
would be to drive the enemy out of the fort, now that so many had penetrated within the
walls, with the west gate of it open, and considering that further opposition would not only be fruitless,
but might be attended with bad consequences to the garrison, he and Captain Buchanan deli-
vered up their swords to a Jemmadur that had scaled the walls, and seemed to act with some au-
tority among the Moors; this example was quickly followed by every body, who threw down
their arms, and by that act surrendered themselves prisoners at discretion. The factory was in
a few minutes filled with the enemy, who, without loss of time, began plundering every thing
they could lay their hands on; we were rifled of our watches, buckles, buttons, &c. but no
further violence used to us persons. —The bales of broad cloth, chests of coral, plate, and trea-
ture, laying in the apartments of the gentlemen who resided in the factory, were broken open;
and the Moors were wholly taken up in plundering till the Subah entered the fort, which was a
little after five in the afternoon, carried in a kind of litter, his younger brother accompanied him
in another. Serajah Dowla seemed astonished to find so small a garrison, and immediately en-
quired for Mr. Drake, with whom he appeared much incensed.—Mr. Holwell was carried to
him with his hands bound, and upon complaining of that usage, the Nabob gave orders for
loosing his hands, and affurred him, upon the faith of a folder, that not a hair of our heads
should be hurt. The Nabob then held a kind of Durbar in the open area, sitting in his litter,
where Kifandahâs [who had been kept a prisoner by us during the siege] was sent for, and pub-
licly presented with a feepaw, or honorary drees. The Armenians and Portuguese were set at
liberty, and suffered to go to their own houses. Between fix and seven Serajah Dowla left the
fort, the charge whereof was given to Monickchund, as governor: They searched every part
of the house, to prevent treachery; and in the dusk of the evening the Multihmen sung a thank-
giving to Allah, for the success they had met with.

Hitherto we had fared extremely well; and as we had been left un molested in our persons to
long, our apprehensions of ill usage and barbarity began to vanish; and we even entertained
hopes, not only of getting our liberty, but being suffered to re-establish our affairs, and carry
on our business upon the terms the Subah had pointed out in the Mutchulka Margirs. Watts and
Collet were made to sign: But these hopes and expectations were very soon changed into as
great a reverse as human creatures ever felt; the circumstance of the black hole affair; with all
the horrors of that night, are so well known, and so much furpafi any description that words can
paint it in, that I shall say no more upon that subject, than that a little before eight we were all
of us directed to withdraw, and remain in a place contiguous to the black hole (where our fol-
diers were usually confined in the flocks.)—While we were wondering what this should mean,
and laughing at the oddity of it, a party of fellows came and ordered us to walk into the place be-
fore mentioned, called the black hole, a room, or rather dungeon, about 18 feet long, and 14
wide, with only two holes, barricaded with iron bars, to let in air, which opened into a low
piazza, wherea guard was set: Into this hole we were forcibly crammed about eight o'clock in
the evening, and the door immediately locked upon us.—The number of souls thrust into this
dungeon were near 150, among whom was one woman, and twelve of the wounded officers:

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The heat and french pretently grew intolerable; some of our company expired very soon after being put in; others grew mad, and having lost their terrors, died in a high delirium. — All we could urge to the guard let over us, could not prevail upon them either to let us at liberty or separate us into different prisons, which we defired, and offered money to obtain, but to no purpose, and when we were released, at eight o'clock the next morning, only 22 came out alive.

The witneses being asked, Whether he remembered the terms of the Mu chulks, signed between Mr. Watts and the Nabob? he said, To the best of his remembrance it was, we should carry on trade as other merchants, and without any exemption by our firman.

Being asked, Whether he had reason to believe, that any money or other present was given or ordered by Kifindas for the protection given him? he said, he did not know or believe that any money or present of any kind was given by Kifindas, or any of his friends, directly or indirectly, to the governor or any other member of the committee: He believed, that Mr. Drake really refused to deliver up Kifindas to the Nabob; and said, that Omichund was a prisoner; but was not sure whether Kifindas was involved in the factory against his content or not; that the reason of Omichund's being a prisoner, was, that Mr. Drake suspected him of being a fomentor of the troubles: That the only offence with which the Nabob charged Kifindas, when he demanded him, was only, that he was a tenant of the Sirear, he did not know of any other tenant or officer of the country government that was protected at Calcutta.

The witneses further said, That he did not believe the Nabob had any intention of a massacre when he confined the English in the black hole; but that his intention was merely to confine them for the night, without knowing whether the prison was great or small; he said, that Mr. Holwell was carried to the Nabob after he was released from the black hole, and that he heard afterwards, that he and three or four other gentlemen were put in prison and sent up the country, and very hardly treated; that those who were not confined with Mr. Holwell were set at liberty; that he never heard the Nabob expressed the least concern at the catastrophe that had happened in the black hole, but always under stood that he received the account with total indifference; he likewise understood, that the Nabob sent for Mr. Holwell before him, to differ what the treasures were, and that he was extremely surprized to find the treasure so low; there was not above £6,500. in the Company's treasury: That at the recapturing of Calcutta every thing found in the settlement was referred to those who could make out their claims: — The army and navy did not touch any part of it; what was found was not of great value; there was a great deal of the Company's broad cloth, but very little private property.

The witneses believed, that upon the loss of Calcutta, there was not a man who was not ruined, excepting one gentleman, who had remitted part of his fortune home; and that the loss of the company was very great; That it was supposed the restitution made afterwards was more than equivalent; a great quantity of the Company's goods were, restored at the re-capture, both at Calcutta and other places; and whatever came into the hands of the Sirear was delivered up again.

The witneses being asked, What answser the Dutch and French factories returned to Serajah Dowla's application for assistance, as mentioned in a former part of his evidence? said, He believed they declined to affiord him.

Richard Becher, Esquire, being again called to inform the Committee what he knew of the state of the company's affairs, after the taking of Calcutta, said, That in the August following he joined the president, and other gentlemen, at Fulta, where soon after they had intelligence that Admiral Watfon, with troops from Madras, was coming to their assistance; and when it was judged they might be nearly expected, the council deputed Mr. Watts, himself, and Mr. Mackens, to meet the Admiral in Balla road; that they met him in the month of December, he not arriving sooner.

Being asked, By whom Calcutta was retaken? he said, That Admiral Watfon, and the men of war, proceeded up the river; and that troops were landed; but whether Admiral Watfon or the force took it, he cannot answer. — That he was on board a ship that was following the equa- dron, and that the ships assisted in taking it; and was no judge whether the place would ever have been retaken if Admiral Watfon had not been there; that the number of troops landed, amounted to 400 or 450 Europeans, and 17 or 100 Sepoys; that the Moors left Calcutta the second of January, 1757; and that there was no capitulation.

In answer to the question, By whom was Calcutta taken possession of? he replied, it was delivered over by Admiral Watfon to Mr. Drake.

Being asked, Whether he remembered the first idea of setting up Meer Jaffier, and depoing Serajah Dowla? he said, he could not be positive; he believed about the month of May, 1757.

And being asked, If he recollected what money was distributed to be given to the Select Committee, in cafe that affair was brought about? he said, That his situation confined him to Calcutta during the years 1757, 1758, and 1759, and therefore could not give any answser about transactions out of Calcutta. — That Mr. Watts, who was agent for the Company at Muxadavadd, wrote word, that Meer Jaffier would make some consideration to the navy, army, and others, who should be instrumental in promoting his advancement to the Subahship, by way of donation. — That by others he understood at that time was Mr. Watts himself, who was upon the spot at Muxadavadd; and that he could not recollect who was upon the spot besides.

He said, he was the first person who mentioned the reasonableness and propriety, that the gentlemen of that committee, who really set the whole machine in motion, should be likewise considered on that occasion; and in consequence, that Mr. Watts was wrote to, to the effect he had
had mentioned, viz. That as there were to be donations to the army, navy, &c. it was but rea-
sonable the other gentlemen should be considered: he said, That this letter does not appear
upon the journals of the 2d of May;—That he should conclude, that on the whole, nothing was
to be entered by the Select Committee; but this letter was not so considered; the Select
Committee consisted of the President, Mr. Drake, Colonel Clive, Mr. Watts, Major Kilpatrick,
and himself; the Committee was appointed by the Court of Directors, and Colonel Clive was
taken in as second.

The Witness further informed your Committee, That so far from any sum being stipulated to
his knowledge, he did not know any thing of the sum till some time after Meer Jaffer was esta-
blished in the Subahship.—That some time after, an account was sent to the Committee, that
Meer Jaffer, thought proper to make presents to some particular gentlemen, and the Company
had wrote word that they should not interfere in any private donations from the Nabob to the
Company’s servants; that the sums he knew of were to the Governor 2 Lack and 85,000 rupees;
Colonel Clive the same; to the rest of the gentlemen 2 lack and 40,000 each.—That he always
understood the Admiral was considered as commander in chief of the navy, in a lump separate,
which he does not know the amount of; that he esteemed Colonel Clive as a member of the
Committee, and did not esteem Admiral Watson as belonging to it; he believes one gentleman
of the council in Bengal (Mr. Bottom) did lend a small sum to the representatives of Admi-
ral Watson, but he does not know what it was;—that he knows of no stipulation for particular
sums, but each of the council, who were not members of the Committee, received a Lack of
Rupees; they were fix or seven in number; an account was sent in writing; it was a letter di-
rected to the governor; he does not know who it was signed by, but believes by Mr. Watts,
Colonel Clive, and Mr. Manningham; he considered it as a private letter, and therefore ap-
prehended it was not entered—he knows of no other private donations, but has heard of such;
he cannot recollect from whom; and never conversed with Mr. Watts upon the subject.

Being questioned, Whether, in the course of the negotiation with Meer Jaffer, he knew any
thing of two transactions of the same date, one real, and the other fictitious? the witness said, That
he apprehended the only treaty flood publicly upon the Company’s records; that while this affair
was upon the winkle, Mr. Watts employed a black merchant, residing at Calcutta (by name Omi-
chund) who insisted on having no less a sum than 20 Lack of rupees from Meer Jaffer, in case
of success; that Mr. Watts represented to the gentlemen in Calcutta, that Meer Jaffer was so
averse to the allowing that sum to Omichund, that he would rather all treaties should be broke
off, than consent to it, or something to that effect; and further represented, that he himself be-
lieved that Omichund was acting a double part; and would deceive both the English and Jaffer.
In consequence of these representations, it was judged by the gentlemen, that Omichund was no
way meaning that reward, and therefore they did not insist on it, but thought it necessary, for
the security and safety of the Company, to keep Omichund from the knowledge of their sen-
iments, in consequence of which two papers were transmitted to Mr. Watts; in one of which
Omichund was mentioned, and in the other not; the design being to prevent the ill con-
sequences which might have ensued, if Omichund got a notion that he was not to have the money.
—The witness believes the two papers were signed by Admiral Watson and the gentlemen of
the Committee.

Being asked, Whether Admiral Watson signed the fictitious agreement, or whether he, at
that time, heard of Admiral Watson’s ferreting, or refusing to sign? he said, He thinks the
fictitious treaty was sent to him to be signed, but does not recollect whether that and the other
treaty were transmitted to him by writing, or by messenger, or by whom; neither does he know
whether he signed it or not, nor does he recollect that he heard of his refusing to sign it.

The witness further said, in relation to the transaction with Omichund, That he thinks he
heard that Omichund insisted upon the sum of 5 per cent. on all the late Nabob’s treasuries, exclu-
sive of the sum of 20 Lack; and threatened to betray the whole negotiation, if his demands
were not complied with; that Mr. Watts represented the apprehensions he had of his doing so, if
he was not kept in the dark.

The Witness knows of no letter from Mr. Watts saying, he believed the Nabob’s treasuries
amounted to 45,000,000, and therefore dilapidating the Committee from agreeing to give 5 per
cent. upon that sum, but rather to give a specified sum.

The Witness being asked, Whether he knew any thing of the additional article to the treaty
with Jaffer Aly Khan, said, he believed the 17th article, or something similar, was added; and
do not recollect the circumstances of transmitting the articles to the Directors.

It is 29 years since the Witness left England in the Company’s service.

The next Witness your Committee called, was Francis Sykes, Esquire, who being requested
to inform the Committee what he knew of the transaction with Omichund, said, That in the
year 1757 he was stationed at the subordinate factory, called Glassibazar, in council; that he
does not know particularly the terms demanded by Omichund; but being on a visit to Mr.
Watts, he found him under great anxiety; that he took him aside, and told him Omichund had
been threatening to betray them to Serajah Dowla, and would have them all murdered that
night, unless he would give some assurances that the sum promised him (by Mr. Watts) should
be made good;—that upon this visit Mr. Watts further said, That he was under the greatest
anxiety how to counteract the design of Omichund; the Witness could so far say, on his own part, that Omichund’s conduct in the whole scene of that busi-
ness was always suspected, and that he had spies upon Mr. Watts’s conduct—he apprehends

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that nothing was reduced to paper at that time; that it was only talked of between Omichund and Mr. Watts, and believes it was at that time, and was visited frequently by Mr. Watts—that he (the Witness) was in the service about 20 years, from 1749 to 1769.

Your Committee next called upon

Sir George Pocock, to state what circumstances he knew concerning the attack upon Chandernagore. —Who informed your Committee, That he did not enter the river Bengal with Admiral Watson, but that the place surrendered to that Admiral; that it was afterwards Garrisoned by officers and seamen: And in June a detachment, of a lieutenant, 7 midshipmen, and 50 private men, was sent to Lord Clive.

The Witness was clearly of opinion, That the revolution could not have been brought about without the assistance of the King's ships then in the river; he does not recollect the number of the King's troops, but thinks there might be about 300. —The Company's troops, affixed in taking the place.

The right honourable Lord Clive, being desired to relate to your Committee what he knew of the transmigration of the above period, said, That when he returned to England in 1755, the first time, the Court of Directors solicited him to go out again; they obtained for him his Majesty's commission of Lieutenant Colonel, and appointed him deputy governor of Fort Saint David, and to succeed to the government of Madras; but before he went to his government they wished him to undertake an expedition of great importance, provided Colonel Scott (who had been strongly recommended by the Duke of Cumberland) did not chuse to undertake the expedition himself. —The intent of the expedition was to join the Mharatooes at Bombay, and in conjunction with them to attack the French, in the Subah of the D-con; for which he carried out three companies of the King's artillery, and 3 or 400 of the King's troops. That when he arrived at Bombay, in the beginning of the year 1756, there was a truce between the two nations, and Colonel Scott was dead. —He found there Admiral Watson and Sir George Pocock with his squadron. —It was thought advisable that these troops should not be idle, and that there was a fair opportunity of taking Gheryah, a strong fort, presented by an Eastern Prince (Angri) and who, upon all occasions, very much disfavored the Company. —That he commanded the land troops on that expedition; and Mr. Watson commanded by sea. —The enterprise succeeded, and the prize money amounted to 4, 150,000. That although he commanded the land forces, by virtue of his rank, he shared only as a captain of a man of war. Admiral Watson thought his cafe so hard, that he very generously offered to make his share equal to Sir George Pocock's; he thought himself as much obliged to him for the offer as if he had accepted it, but he declined the offer. —That after that he went to his deputy government at Fort Saint David, about April 1756; that in August 1756, he was called from thence to Madras, on the news of the capture of Calcutta. —It was long debated by the council what force should be sent to retake Calcutta, and who should command it; it was decided in his favour, and the wish of every officer that he should go upon that expedition.

In the beginning of October the troops were ready, and there was received on board Admiral Watson's squadron, and other transports, about 700 Europeans belonging to the Company, and 1,200 Sepoys. —There was likewise a detachment of 250 of Adheron's regiment, to serve as marines. —That they embarked about the 15th of October; and after they had been some time at sea, a council was held on board Admiral Watson's ship, to settle the distribution of prize money; and it was proposed it should be settled upon the same plan as it was at Gheryah. —That he objected to it, because he thought it bore too hard upon the military; and would not content a division of prize money upon any other division than of two equal parts, that one half should go to the military, and the other to the navy. —This was agreed to; and they arrived in Balli-bire road early in December; and it was agreed that the squadron should go up the river to Calcutta; and he looks upon that attempt to be as daring and meritorious an attempt as ever was made in his Majesty's sea service. That they met with some flight obstructions till they approached near Calcutta. —When the squadron came within a few miles of Calcutta, he defined Admiral Watson would give orders for landing the company's troops; accordingly they were landed; and at the same time the ships went by water, the troops went by land. —The garrison of Calcutta, upon the approach of the ships, and of the land forces, abandoned the fort after a few shots fired by the squadron, and a few returned by the fort. —That when he entered the fort at the head of the company's troops, Captain Coote presented to him a commission from Admiral Watson, appointing him the governor of the fort. —That he denied any authority Admiral Watson had to appoint an inferior officer in the King's service governor of the fort, and told Captain Coote, if he disobeyed his orders, he would put him under an arrest. —Captain Coote obeyed, and desired leave to acquaint Admiral Watson with these particular; upon which Admiral Watson sent Captain Speke to him, to know by what authority he took upon himself the command of that fort. —He answered, By the authority of his Majesty's commission, as Lieutenant Colonel, and being commander in chief of the land forces. —Captain Speke went on board with that message; he returned, and brought for answer, That if he did not abandon the fort he should be fired out. —In answer, he said, he could not answer for the consequences; but that he would not abandon the fort, upon which Captain Latham was sent; and when the matter was talked over coolly, it was soon settled; for he told Captain Speke and Captain Latham repeatedly, that if Admiral Watson would come and command himself, he had no manner of objection. —That Admiral
Miral Watfon did come on shore; he delivered the keys of the garrison into his hands, and he delivered them to the governor and council of Calcutta.

His Lordship further said, that he was sent from Madras with a power independant of the governor and council of Calcutta. — He commanded in Bengal as the King's officer and the Company's both. — The King's troops, when on shore, were under him; he was commander in chief of the Company's forces in Bengal, by a commission from the governor and council of Madras, on his setting out on that expedition. — The governor and council of Madras looked on the government of Bengal as annihilated. — They thought, if he had not the independant command, the governor and council of Bengal would retain the troops which they thought necessity should return to Madras. — He took the command as a military officer. — The governor and council of Calcutta put their troops under his orders.

That when he came to examine into the state of the fort, he found it was not defendable; it had no ditch; the bastions did not cover the name of bastions; the fort was surrounded by houses, within 40 yards of the wall, which commanded the fortifications. — That he suggested to the governor and council the necessity of destroying them, and making a ditch round the fort without delay. — That he was convinced that a defensive war would prove destructive. — He declared Admiral Watfon would land the King's troops, to reinforce those of the Company. — Great part of the forces that went out from Madras upon this expedition were not arrived. The Admiral landed the King's forces, amounting to 250 men; and those, added to the Company's, might make 700 Europeans and 1200 Sepoys. — That with those troops they took the field, at about four miles from Calcutta, and encamped in a strong situation, and entrenched themselves in expectation of Serajah Dowla and his army, who were upon their march to Calcutta. — Serajah Dowla in a few days arrived; passed within about half a mile of their camp, and encamped his army at the back of Calcutta. — At the same time that he was marching to this ground, he made a project of treaty, and intimated to him by letters, that he wished to conclude a peace with the East India Company. — He encamped about six o'clock in the evening, at the back of Calcutta. — By this time, the terror of his march had frightened all the natives, and his Lordship saw, that if something was not done, the squadron and land forces would soon be forced out of the country. — That he sent Mr. Wallis and Mr. Serafon to the Nabob, about seven that evening; they returned about eleven, and assured him, they thought the Nabob was not sincere in his intentions for peace, and that he meant treachery. — That he went immediately on board Admiral Watfon's ship, and represented to him the necessity of attacking the Nabob without delay; and declared the assistance of 4 or 500 sailors to carry the ammunition, which he allented to: The sailors were landed about one o'clock in the morning, about two the troops were under arms, and about four they marched to the attack of the Nabob's camp. — It was his intention to have seized his cannon, and attacked his head quarters, but when day light appeared, there arose a thick a fog, that it was impossible for the army to see three yards before them, which continued till they had marched through the whole army. — He cannot ascertain the losses the enemy suffered, but it was reported very considerable. — Our losses amounted to about 150 killed and wounded. — That they continued their march to the fort, where the troops were allowed an hour to rest, and ordered back to camp. — In the evening Serajah Dowla and his army got to about 8 or 10 miles from them; he sent a letter to him and Admiral Watfon, that he defied to treat with them; upon which he was agreed to receive his proposals without delay; and a treaty was concluded, which was upon the Company's records. — The reason that it was not more advantageous than it was, was that they had just received advice of a war with France, and the French had within the garrison of Chandernagore almost as many Europeans as they had in the field; and if they had joined Serajah Dowla before the conclusion of the peace, they must have been undone; for there wanted only some intelligent person to advise him not to fight at all, and they should have been ruined. — The council did not seem to wish the carrying on the French trade, and the proposition of neutrality, it being long debated, whether a neutrality should be accepted. — Serajah Dowla had from his Lordship's last time, to attack the French, and declared if they did, he would become their enemy. — That he had no doubt but he would become their enemy the first opportunity that offered, and that he meant, with their assistance, to drive them out of Bengal. — He supplied them with money publicly, and sent 1500 men to be ready to give them their assistance. — During this time, a reinforcement of troops was received from Bombay; and it was taken into consideration by the Committee, whether they should undertake the attack of Chandernagore, at the risk of displeasing the Nabob, and having his army to encounter. — That the members of this Committee were, Mr. Drake, himself, Major Kilpatrick, and Mr. Becher. — Mr. Becher gave his opinion for a neutrality, Major Kilpatrick for a neutrality; his Lordship gave his opinion for the attack of the place; Mr. Drake gave an opinion that nobody could make any thing of; Major Kilpatrick then asked him, Whether he thought the forces and squadron could attack Chandernagore, and the Nabob's army, at the same time? he said, he thought they could; upon which Major Kilpatrick desired to withdraw his opinion, and to be of his Lordship's. — They voted Mr. Drake's no opinion at all; and Major Kilpatrick and he, being the majority, a letter was wrote to Admiral Watfon, detaining him to co-operate in the attack on Chandernagore. — The land forces marched first, and before the place, made themselves masters of the out-works, and erected two batteries, one about 120 yards off the walls, of fix 32 pounders, and another of those 32 pounders, about 150 yards off the walls. — By this time the squadron came up the river; — That they surmounted difficulties, which he believed no other ships could have done; and it is impossible for him to do the officers of the squadron justice upon that occasion: — The place surrendered to them, and it was in a great
great measure taken by them; but his Lordship does believe, that the place would have been taken by the army, as the squadron had not come up: It must have fallen into their hands, but not so soon.—And he must say, That he thinks, if the land forces and Sepoys could have been landed in Calcutta, every event which has happened would have happened without the assistance of the fleet. That after the squadron was resolved to be attacked, he repeatedly said to the Committee, as well as to others, That they could not stop there, but must go farther:

That having established themselves by force, and not by consent of the Nabob, he would endeavour by force to drive them out again.—That they had numberless proofs of his intentions; upon many records; and his lordship said, He did suggest to Admiral Watson and Sir George Pocock, as well as to the Committee, the necessity of a revolution;—Mr. Watson and the gentlemen of the Committee agreed upon the necessity of it; and the management of that revolution was, with consent of the Committee, left to Mr. Watts and him.—Mr. Watts was resident at Muxadavat; he corresponded with him in cypher; and his lordship sent the intelligence to the governor and committee; and Mr. Watson was always bufied, but declined being a member of that Committee.—Great dissatisfaction arising among Serajah Dowla's troops, a favourable opportunity offered, and Meer Jaffier was pitched upon to be the person to place in the room of Serajah Dowla; in consequence of which, a treaty was formed, which, amongst others, contained the following articles: That £4,200,000 should be given to the Company; £2,500,000 to the European outnumberers; £600,000 to the navy and army; about £1,200,000 to the natives of the country; and about £100,000 to the Armenians.—When this was settled, his lordship remembers, that Mr. Becher suggested to the Committee, that he thought that Committee, who managed the great machine of government, was entitled to some consideration, as well as the navy, and army.—In consequence of which, Mr. Watts was wrote upon the subject; but what that consideration was, he never knew till after the battle of Plassey; and when he was informed of it by Mr. Watts, he thought it too much, and proposed that the Council should have a share in it; the sums received were, he believed as Mr. Becher had stated.—Upon this being known, Mr. Watson applied, that he was entitled to a share in that money.—He agreed in opinion with the gentlemen, when this application was made: That Mr. Watson was not one of the Committee; but at the same time did justice to his services; and proposed to the gentlemen, to contribute as much as would make his share equal to the governor's and his own: About 3 or 4, confounded to it, but the rest would not. That he sent the proportion of the shire he had received.—Some years ago the heirs of Admiral Watson filed a bill in chancery, wherein it was set forth as a right; he denied that right, but never had any objection to add his proportion to the rest, if that claim was withdrawn.—The money was paid by installments, in the same proportion as to the army and navy; and he sent his proportion of the first installment to Mr. Pocock, for Admiral Watson.—The law suit dropt, and he has heard no more of it since.—His Lordship observed, That at that time there were no covenants existing; the Company's servants were at liberty to receive presents; they always had received presents; and his idea of presents is as follows: When presents are received as the price of services to the nation, to the Company, and to that Prince who bestowed those presents; when they are not exacted from him by compulsion; when he is in a state of independence, and can do with his money what he pleases; and when they are not received to the disadvantage of the Company; he holds presents so received not dishonourable; But when they are received from a dependent Prince; when they are received for no services whatever; and when they are received not voluntarily; he holds the receipt of such presents dishonourable.—He never made the least secret of the presents he had received; he acquainted the Court of Directors with it; and they, who are his masters, and were the only persons who had a right to object to his receiving those presents, approved of it.

His Lordship then read to the Committee the following extract from a printed pamphlet, intituled, "A letter to the proprietors of the East India Stock, from Lord Clive," together with two letters thereunto annexed.

Every thing being agreed on between Meer Jaffier and the secret Committee, we marched the army to meet the Nabob, whom we entirely defeated:—His death followed soon after, and Meer Jaffier was in a few days in possession of the government, and of a revenue of three millions and a half ailing per annum.—The one half of the secret Committee being then present at the capital, and a report made by the Nabob's ministers of the state of the country, it was attested, that half the forts declared by treaty should be paid in three months, and the other half in three years; all conditionally, that we supported him in the government.—The Nabob then, agreeable to the known and usual custom of Eastern princes, made presents, both to those of his own court, and such of the English who by their rank and abilities had been instrumental in the happy success of so hazardous an enterprise, suitable to the rank and dignity of a great prince.—I was one among the many who benefited by his favour; I never fought to conceal it; but declared publicly in my letters to the secret Committee of the India directors, that the Nabob's generosity had made me fortunate early, and that the Company's welfare was now my only motive for living in India. What injustice was this to the Company? They could expeét no more than what was stipulated in the treaty: Or what injustice was I under to refuse my patronage to him, who had his power to make me one, and the reward of honourable services? I know of none; I had freely myself a particular claim, by having devoted myself to the Company's military service, and neglected all commercial advantages. What reason can then be given, or what pretence could the Company have to expect, that I, after having risked my life so often in their service, should deny myself the only honourable opportunity that ever offered, of acquiring a fortune without...
out prejudice to them, who, it is evident, would not have had more for my having had left. When the Company had acquired a million and a half Sterling, and a revenue of near £, 100,000 per annum, from the success of their forces under my command; when ample reparation had been made to those whole fortunes suffered by the calamity of Calcutta; and when individuals had, in consequence of that success, acquired large estates; what would the world have said, had I come home, and rested upon the generosity of the present Court of Directors? — It is well known to every gentleman in Bengal, that the honour of my country, and the interest of the Company, were the principles that governed all my actions; and that, had I only taken the advantageous opportunities that presented themselves, by my being commander in chief, and at the head of a victorious army, and what by the custom of that country I was initiated to, the Jaghire itself, great as it is, would have been an object scarce worth my consideration.

The city of Muckador is as extensive, populous, and rich, as the city of London; with this difference, that there are individuals in the first, poising infinitely greater property than any in the last city. The, as well as other men of property, made me the greatest offers (which nevertheless are usual upon such occasions, and what they expected would have been required) and had I accepted these offers, I might have been in possession of millions, which the present Court of Directors could not have disappointed me of: but preferring the reputation of the English nation, the interest of the Nabob, and the advantage of the Company, to all pecuniary considerations, I refused all offers that were made me, not only then, but to the last hour of my continuance in the Company's service in Bengal; and do challenge friend or enemy to bring one single instance of my being influenced by interested motives to the Company's disadvantage, or to do any act that could reflect dishonour to my country, or the Company, in any one action of my administration, either as governor or commanding officer. — I little expected ever to have had my conduct impeached, or to have received such treatment from the Court of Directors, especially after the many public and honourable testimonies of approbation I had received.

Copy of Company's letter to Colonel Clive, March 8, 1752.

SIR,

Our sentiments of gratitude, for the many great services you have rendered to this Company, together with the thanks of the general court, have been hitherto conveyed through the channel of our general letters; but the late extraordinary and unexpected revolution in Bengal, in which you had so greatly a share of action, both in the cabinet and in the field, merits our more particular regard; and we do accordingly embrace this opportunity of returning you our most sincere and hearty thanks for the zeal, good conduct, and incorruptibility, which you have so eminently evinced on this glorious occasion, as well as for the great and solid advantages resulting therefrom to the East India Company. We earnestly wish your health may permit your continuance in India, for such further term as will give you an opportunity of securing the foundation you have laid; as likewise to give your assistance in putting the Company's mercantile and civil affairs on a proper and advantageous footing, upon the plans now transmitted. For this purpose, as well as in consideration of your eminent services, we have appointed you governor and president of Fort William in Bengal, and its dependencies, in the manner mentioned in the general letter, by this conveyance; to which we have annexed an additional allowance of £, 1,000 a year, as a testimony of our great regard for you.

Company's General Letter to Bengal, dated March 8, 1758.

Paragraph the 23d. In our letter of the 3d instant, we lamented the situation of the many unhappy people who had lost their property on the capture of Fort William, and had no relief from the treaty concluded with the late Nabob: In compulsion to their sufferings, we recommended your applying to him on their behalf for relief, if you had the least probability of succeeding. It is with great pleasure we find that the late happy revolution, and your care, have produced what we had very little reason to expect from the late Nabob, a grant from the present Nabob of such large sums, to make good the losses of the several inhabitants, as we are satisfied are much more than sufficient to indemnify them, even with interest thereon. Although the Nabob gives the Company a crore of rupees, yet, when the immense expense of maintaining the settlement at Fulta, the military charges of our troops from Fort Saint George and Bombay, and the hazard those presidencies have been exposted to by drawing them off from thence: the charges of fortifications and rebuildings, replacing shores, increase of our garrisons, the loss of a seapron's investments, if not more, and many other obvious particulars, are taken into the account, it will appear that the Company will still be considerable sufferers. It is highly reasonable therefore, if the several inhabitants are paid out of the money stipulated in the treaty with the Nabob for that purpose, the full amount of their respective losses, together with interest thereon, that all the surplus should be applied to the Company's use: We shall expect to hear you have added in this manner, and that such surplus has been accordingly deposited in our caffs; and we direct that you observe this as a rule for your conduct in the distribution of any further sums of money on this account. We do not intend by this to break in upon any sums of money which may have been given by the Nabob to particular persons, by way of free gift, or gratuity, for their services. It is the surplus of the sums we mean, which are agreed to be paid by the Nabob in the 5th, 6th, and 7th articles of the treaty with him. It is thought proper here to acquaint you, that such surpluses, whatever they are, we propose to expend in such manner, as will tend to the general utility and security of the settlement; they are therefore to be referred for our further orders.
orders; and you are hereby directed to transmit us, for our information, exact accounts of every person's loss, whether English or other inhabitants, on the late capture of Fort William, and what has been paid to each of them in particular, by way of indemnification for the fame, out of the monies granted by the Nabob for that purpose.

As to the fictitious treaty, Lord Clive informed your Committee, That when Mr. Watts had nearly accomplished the means of carrying that revolution into execution, he acquainted him, by letter, that a fresh difficulty had started; that Omichund had inflamed upon 5 per cent. on all the Nabob's treasuries, and 30 lack in money; and threatened, if he did not comply with that demand, he would immediately acquaint Serajah Dowla with what was going on; and Mr. Watts should be put to death.—That when he received this advice, he thought art and policy warrantable in defeating the purposed of such a villain; and that his Lordship himself formed the plan of the fictitious treaty, to which the Committee consented; it was sent to Admiral Watson, who objected to the signing of it; but to the bent of his remembrance gave the gentleman who carried it (Mr. Luffington) leave to sign his name upon it.—That his Lordship never made any secret of it; he thinks it warrantable in such a case, and would do it again a hundred times. He had no intertled motive in doing it, and did it with a design of disappoiting the expectations of a rapacious man.—That he never heard that Mr. Watts had made a promise to Omichund of any money, directly or indirectly.—That when he was fully abroad, he had given the same account, which is entered in the public proceedings.—That Omichund was employed only as an agent to Mr. Watts, as having most knowledge of Serajah Dowla's Court; and had commotion to deal with 3 or 4 more of the Court.—Omichund's only chance of obtaining retribution was dependent on this treaty.—He did not believe that Omichund was personally known to Meer Jaffier, but through Mr. Watts.

When the army marched, Meer Jaffier promised that he and his son would join them with a large force at Cutwe:—When they arrived there, they saw no appearance of forces to join them; but received letters from Meer Jaffier, informing him, that the Nabob had inspected his design, and made him wear on the Koran, that he would not act against him; and therefore he could not give the promided assistance; but that when they met Serajah Dowla in the field, he would then act.—At the same time Omichund received two or three letters from the Nabob's camp, that the affair was discovered, and that Meer Jaffier and the Nabob were one.—That his Lordship was much puzzled; for he thought it extremely hazardous to pass a river, which is only fordable in one place, march 150 miles up the country, and risk a battle, when, in a defeat enclosed, one man would he had returned to tell it. In this situation he called a council of war; and the question he put was, Whether they should cross the river, and attack Serajah Dowla with their own force alone; or wait for further intelligence? Every member gave their opinions to againt the attack, till they had received further intelligence, except Captains Coote and Grant. His Lordship observed, this was the only council of war that ever he held, and if he had abided by that council, it would have been the ruin of the East-India Company. After about 24 hours mature consideration, his Lordship said, he took upon himself to break through the opinion of the council, and ordered the army to cross the river;—He did not recollect any memorial from Captain Coote upon that occasion, nor was he of rank sufficient at that time to have any influence upon his conduct; and whatever he did upon that occasion, he did without receiving advice from any one.

Lord Clive farther said, in explanation of the foregoing evidence, That Calcutta was taken by Serajah Dowla in June 1756, upon the pretence of a black merchant being protected by the English: That Mr. Watts was two or three months employed in the negociation of the revolution, and the correspondence was carried between himself and Mr. Watts, that he did not know exactly the amount of the treasure of Serajah Dowla, but believed about three or four millions; that the final terms of the agreement between Meer Jaffier and Mr. Watts were not agreed on till a few days before the march of the army; that Mr. Luffington was the person who signed Admiral Watson's name, by his Lordship's order.

John Walch, Esquire, being here called to give an account of what he knew of the fictitious treaty, said, That he and Mr. Luffington went together to Calcutta, with the treaty; a letter from Colonel Clive was carried by him and Mr. Luffington from the French gardens, where the army then lay, to the Committee, and he returned with the treaties signed in the evening; that he cannot recollect whether he went to Admiral Watson, nor now recollect the whole transaction;—He only recollects that the treaties were sent and brought back again. That his idea has always been, that Mr. Waton refused to sign the fictitious treaty, but permitted Mr. Luffington to do it for him. That the fictitious treaty was called Lol Coggrave, from being wrote on red paper, and he remembered Omichund was very earnt in his enquiry after that particular paper, after the Nabob was put upon the Mufnud.

Lord Clive further acquainted the Committee, That all the letters in cypher, which passed between Mr. Watts and himself, are not entered in the country correspondence, or any where else; that he had got some of the letters, but did not know whether he had the letter wherein mention is made of Omichund's demand of 5 per cent. on the treasuries, and 30 lack; that the fictitious treaty, to the heft of his remembrance, rated 30 lack and 5 per cent. upon the treasuries.—It might be 50 lack for ought he knows. That he believes the letter relating to the donation to the army and navy is entered or mentioned in one of his letters:—He did not recollect what he paid to the heirs of Admiral Waton. That he wrote to the secret Committee in
in England, flating donations to the navy and army, but not the donations to the Committee.—He wrote a private letter to Mr. Paine then chairman, in which he mentioned the donations to the Committee; that he mentioned in his general letter, that the Nabob's bounty had made his fortune easy:—He knew of no flotation by Mr. Watts, for 50 lack, or any other sum besides the donation to the army and navy and select Committee; if there was any such thing, it was without his consent or knowledge.

In regard to the fate of Serajah Dowla, his Lordship said, He had been informed, that he fled and took shelter in a fackier's house, whole note and ears he had cut off upon a former occasion. That there was a brother of Meer Jaffier's at Hajiamaud (a small distance from the place where he took refuge) that this fackier sent immediate notice to, that he had Serajah Dowla in his house, and he should keep him till he could seize him; that the Nabob's brother immediately set out with a few attendants, and seized him; and that he was brought from thence to the city, and immediately put to death by Meermah, Meer Jaffier's son; it is said, without the father's knowledge; that his Lordship knew nothing of it till the next day, when the Nabob made him acquainted with it, and apologized for his conduct, by saying that he had raised a mutiny among his troops; and this was all his Lordship knew of the matter.

Lord Clive further said, in regard to the fictitious treaty, That he did not recollect whether Mr. Lutfhington brought it back with Mr. Watlon's name to it; to the belt of his remembrance, Mr. Lutfhington told him, that Admiral Watson gave him leave to sign his name to the fictitious treaty; he did not recollect whether Mr. Watton's seal was put to it, but believes that Mr. Watton's name and a seal were put to both the treaties before they were dispatched to Mr. Watts; he is not certain whether Mr. Lutfhington signed in his presence at Calcutta or the French Gardens. Roy Doutub did not receive 5 per cent. on all the money paid, but on some of it, particularly not on that which was paid to the army and navy. —Roy Doutub was one of the Nabob's Generals.

His Lordship being asked, What might be the particular value in money or jewels received by him and such other gentlemen as he may recollect? said, He received about 16 lack of rupees clear, after deducting commission and all other articles; that he received no jewels, but all in money; that he believed Mr. Watts might receive altogether about 8 lack; Mr. Walh about 5, there were 3 or 4 more, but could not recollect the sums; that he think Mr. Scaifton had 2 lack, but is not certain: These donations were given exclusive of the sums stipulated for the gentlemen of the Committee, council, army, and navy.—That the share he received as commander in chief, amounted to about 2 lack; Major Kilpatrick, he believed, had about 3 or 4 lack, exclusive of the 50,000 rupees stipulated for the army and Committee; Mr. Lutfhington had something very trifling, about 50,000 rupees; Captain Grant of Adlereaun's regiment had one lack.

His Lordship also said, That these presents were not paid down at the time, but by installments, and in a subje& matter of his Lordship's evidence (which is placed here in order to lay the subjed matter more connectedly before the house) being affed, by what installments the presents, over and above those stipulated for the army, navy, council, and committee, were paid? he said, That he knew of no agreement, but they were paid half down, and half in about 15 months, to the belt of his remembrance:—And being further questioned, whether, when the first half was paid down, his Lordship had any expectation of the remainder? he said, he had, from the intelligence of Mr. Watts, who acquainted him that the present for his share would amount to 20 lack, but he received only 16. That lands to the amount of 2,700,000 a year were mortgaged for payment of the remainder of the money stipulated for by treaty; the mortgage he believed was made about December 1757, or the January following: That Sir George Percok applied to the Governor and Council by letter, to inform them they would advance to the navy their remaining half of the 50 lack given to the navy and army, defining that the Governor and Council would make such a deduction as they thought reasonable for the risk of advancing the money;—That some sharp letters passed upon the occasion; and to the belt of his remembrance, he was the only person of that Council who objected to that request being complied with; and then, after it had been complied with, he made the same request in favour of the army, and not before; that the money deducted, to the belt of his remembrance, was 5 lack, the remaining 20 lack was paid down by the Company for the navy and army.

As to the 13th article of the treaty with Meer Jaffier, his Lordship never recollected till he was in India, that there was a 13th article, 12 only appearing in the directors books; that he saw no more on the India house or in Mr. Scaifton's book, and understood that particular article had been suppressed by Mr. Vanfittart, in order, as his Lordship apprehended, that Mr. Vanfittart might justify his proceedings in the second revolution, as the Company found bound, by that article, in alliance with Meer Jaffier; and his Lordship acknowledged writing to the Directors on the 15th December 1762, that there was no such article to the belt of his knowledge.

—And being asked at what time he became necessary for Mr. Vanfittart to suppress the 13th article? he said, Upon the affair of the Dutch, the Court of Directors enquired whether there was a 13th article, and Mr. Vanfittart suppressed it as he supposes.

John Walh, Esquire, being again called upon to explain further the affair of the 13th article, said, That it is only one in the treaty binding upon the English, and the only thing that could properly have been signed by them; that he imagines the copy of it was neglected to be taken in the treaty sent home; the treaty without it is interred in the select Committee proceedings, as a transcribe from the Persian, the 12 articles are all in Persian, and only the 13th in English. The English signed Persian articles as far as 12, which were prefixed to the English article.
The witness further said, That some little time after a publication of Mr. Vanfittart's, in which he had treated the 13th article as never to have subsisted; he had a conversation with that gentleman, and at that time shewed him the words of that 13th article, and he confessed his knowledge, that that article did subsist:—That he by no means charged Mr. Vanfittart with having suppreffed that article, for he believed no copy of it remained among the Company's papers at Calcutta: That he looked over Lord Clive's papers, and there saw a copy of the treaty with the 13th article, in Mr. Lufhington's writing; and that he acquainted Mr. Rous, the deputy chairman, with the 13th article.

Mr. Holt (from the East India house) being called upon to relate what he knew relative to this treaty, and the concealment of the 13th article, said, That Mr. Gillam, who had the collecting those treaties for parliament, is dead, but that he found a paper in his hand writing containing as follows:

"In the treaty here referred to, was an article containing the condition of the part of the Company; it was not transmitted from India to the Company, but is to be found in the 12th page of the appendix to the D. memorial; and as there is no reason to doubt the authenticity of it, it is subjoined to the treaty with the Nabob Meer Jaffier."

The witness further said, That the treaty now upon the table was copied by Mr. Gray, a clerk in the office about the year 1767:—And being asked, whether the original, from which it was copied, was lodged among the Company's papers? he said, That in the year 1756, a treaty, consisting of 12 articles, and dated the 5th of July 1757, was received by the Company in a letter from the select Committee at Bengal, to the secret Committee of the Court of Directors, bearing date the 14th of July 1757; and the 13th article was added when the treaties were called for by the House of Commons in 1767.

The witness produced the minutes of the English and Dutch commodities in 1762, out of which were read the entries marked in the appendix, No. 4.

Mr. Walsh was then called upon to explain further the fact, respecting his having found a copy of the treaty with Meer Jaffier, wrote in Mr. Lufhington's hand writing (who was, at the time of making the treaty, secretary to Lord Clive) to which there was a 13th article, and what he did in consequence; and said, that he certainly saw among Lord Clive's papers a copy of this treaty, and is very well convinced it was in Mr. Lufhington's hand writing:—It contained the 13th article:—That he thought likewise that he took a copy of that 13th article, and shewed it to the then chairman and deputy chairman, who he believed were Mr. Rous, and Mr. Dudley, but was not very clear; he could not say whether this was before the papers were laid before the House of Commons, nor upon what occasion he carried it to the chairman and deputy chairman; he believed it was whilst Lord Clive was abroad, and was certain it was not shewed the chairman and deputy chairman in their public capacity.

The witness further said, That in the copy in Mr. Lufhington's hand writing, the 13th article was by no means distinguiished from the 12 others—it was numbered 13th:—What facilitated him to recollect that, he said, was by having recurred to a copy in his hands of that copy, which he supposed to be Mr. Lufhington's.

The witness being asked, Whether the first time he saw the 13th article was the time when he carried it to the chairman and deputy chairman? he said, He certainly had seen it before; he never had an idea, but that that article existed:—He could only speak upon supposition why it was not transmitted with the other 12 articles:—The treaty being sent down to Calcutta to be returned with great dispatch, it is likely that after the signing, no copy was taken of it by the gentlemen at Calcutta, who had the transmitting of these papers to the Company.

Being asked, Whether he recollected any other instance of an instrument of such importance being delivered over without a copy taken? he said, He recollected many instances of omissions:—And in answer to whether he knew how Mr. Lufhington came by his copy? he said, Because he was not so negligent as others; and that he supposes Mr. Lufhington took his copy before it was transmitted to the Nabob:—He believed Lord Clive certainly transmitted to the Company accounts of that treaty, but not a copy.

Being asked, If he recollected from what paper Lord Clive copied the 13th article that was sent to Mr. Biddulph? he said, He had no doubt from that copy which he supposed to be Mr. Lufhington's.

Being further questioned as to the manner of executing these instruments, and of exchanging them between the contracting parties; he said, He concluded only one instrument was signed by the gentlemen at Calcutta, which was that delivered to the Nabob; and he imagined that instrument contained 13 articles, and that delivered by the Nabob to the Company contained only 12; and that the instrument containing the 13 articles was signed by the Company alone, and not by the Nabob; and that of 12 articles by the Nabob alone. He further said, That he imagined Lord Clive's letter to the Dutch governor, respecting the 13th article, was not entered in the public proceedings at Calcutta:—And being asked why not, it being a public proceeding of a very important nature? he answered, That all he could say was, that Lord Clive having an independent command from the Gentlemen of Calcutta, did not in every circumstance transmit the particulars of his proceedings to them; and that in those times there might have been great irregularity in the offices, there being few servants:—He further said, That he did not know that this transaction was not entered upon the books of the Company.

In the course of the above preceding year Committee read the several letters, and other papers marked in the appendix, No. 5.
The next witness your Committee called upon was

Captain Breton, who was lieutenant with Admiral Watson in the Kent, in the year 1757: and being asked, Whether he had heard Admiral Watson make any declarations concerning the treaty that was to deceive Omichund? said, That he had often heard the Admiral speak of it; that it was proposed to him to sign a fictitious treaty to deceive Omichund of 30 lack, which he refused to do, as dishonourable to him as an officer, and an affront to propose it to him: That it was then proposed somebody should sign it for him, which he also refused, and said, he would wash his hands of it, he would have nothing to do with it, he was a stranger to deception, they might do as they pleased.

Being asked, Whether in the conversation he had had with the Admiral on that subject, he had ever heard him say, that he authorized any person to sign the treaty for him? the witness said, he believed not; that he had often heard him say, he had not; and would not authorize any body to do it.

And being further asked, whether he believed Admiral Watson ever put his seal to it? he said, He believed not; he was sure he had too good a heart.

Being further asked, if he knew whether Admiral Watson, before his death, had ever heard of his name being put to the fictitious treaty? he said, He had; it was communicated to him by Captain Martin, on his death bed; and that the secret Committee had agreed to share the 30 lack, stipulated in the agreement for Omichund, among themselves, and excluding the Admiral of his share, because he had not signed the treaty.—The Admiral said, that he always thought the transaction dishonourable, and as there was so much iniquity among mankind, he did not wish to lay any longer among them; this was just before his death, which he believed was the 16th of August 1757.—The witness said, He was not present at this conversation, but in the next room; and that it was communicated to him by Captain Martin (who is now dead) the moment he came out of the room.

Being asked, if he was sure Admiral Watson did not put his seal to it? he answered, That he had heard him say so in repeated conversations:—He further said, That he never heard that Admiral Watson applied to the select Committee for a part of this money; but that after his death, his executors did.

Being asked, if he ever heard Admiral Watson mention who was the person that proposed to him to sign the fictitious treaty? said, The Admiral did not mention the gentleman’s name; but said (with a leer) it was a member of the secret Committee.

As to the Admiral’s signing the real treaty, he never heard him mention it particularly; that he had heard him say he thought it an extraordinary measure to depose a man they had so lately made a solemn treaty with; but that as he was instructed by the King to afford the East India Company assistance in their affairs, he affidled them with his forces according to his duty; and he always understood, from the Admiral’s conversation, that he did sign the real treaty, but never heard him say whether he approved it or not.

The witness further said, That he heard of this treaty immediately after the attack of Cutten, which was the beginning of June, and before the battle of Phylly, and it was then talked of, that Admiral Watson’s name was put to the fictitious treaty; that the Admiral was then at Calcutta, and that he took to his bed about the 8th of August following, as he believed.—That the time when Admiral Watson made the declaration “that it was extraordinary to depose the Nabob” was at breakfast, about the latter end of May, when he gave the witness orders to prepare the men who were to act with the artillery on shore; the men who formed the detachment on that occasion were from the King’s ships, and were sent on board the Bridgewater to Chandernagore, to join the army; and, as the witness understood, they acted as artillery during all that campaign.

The witness being asked, whether he was with the Admiral when he first heard the report of his name being put to the fictitious treaty? said, He was every other day upon duty with the Admiral, as the officer who received his orders; that he never took the liberty with the Admiral to mention the report to him, but that he had heard the Admiral say it had been put.

Being asked, whether, between the report of the Admiral’s name being put, and his taking to his bed, it was not nearly two months, and whether he believed that the first time the Admiral heard of it was in the conversation referred to with Captain Martin? he said, He believed it was about two months, and that the Admiral might know it before that conversation, but then he was sure he knew it: That it is impossible he can recollect for 15 years distance the precise time of the conversation, when the Admiral said he knew his name had been put to the fictitious treaty.

Being further asked, whether when he used the words of the Admiral, that he declared he always thought the transaction dishonourable; he meant that it was dishonourable to make a false treaty to deceive Omichund, or to use the Admiral’s hand and seal to the treaty when he did not put it himself? he said, He understood it that it was dishonourable to make a false treaty to deceive Omichund.—And being further asked, whether before Captain Martin communicated the subject of Admiral Watson’s name being put to that treaty, it was not a matter of suspicion only? said, He believed it might.

Being also asked, what he understood the Admiral to mean when he said “he was a stranger to deception, they might do as they pleased?” he said, In the transaction of the Company’s affairs:—And if he understood Admiral Watson to mean by those words that they might put his name to the fictitious treaty if they pleased, he said, He did not; he could not conceive that the

Admiral.
Admiral would give his consent to any transaction that he held dishonourable, that should intimate his approbation of deception.

In the course of the above examination the witness was questioned as to the following points, which the Committee referred to the last to avoid confusion in the state of the evidence; viz. If it had not been for the assistance of His Majesty's ships and troops he thought the East India Company could have succeeded in their different enterprizes, and particularly in effecting the revolution in favour of Meer Jaffier? He believed not. Whether the witness was not, at the time of Admiral Watson's illness, suspended his Majesty's service? He never was suspended.

By what accident he became commanding officer under the Admiral? Captain Speke was wounded in the attack of Chandernagore, the first lieutenant was killed, the second lieutenant was appointed governor of Chandernagore after the capture, the third lieutenant was wounded and he died of his wounds, the fourth lieutenant was wounded and fick above, the witness was fifth, and then became commanding officer.

The next evidence that relates to the fictitious treaty, and which your Committee therefore think proper to lay before the house in this place, is that of

John Cooke, Esquire, who was before mentioned to have been secretary to the select Committee in Bengal, in the year 1757; and he informed the Committee, that he knew there was such a treaty; that after the battle of Plassey he waited upon Admiral Watson with a message from the select Committee; that among other things this fictitious treaty was mentioned in conversation; that the Admiral said he had not signed it (shrugging up his shoulders) but had left them to do as they pleased, alluding, as the witness supposed, to Colonel Clive and the select Committee. This conversation, as the witness thought, was in July, and the Admiral was then in good health and spirits.

The witness further said, That he had no doubt that the Admiral knew his name was to it; and he understood, from what dropped from him, that he had secretly permitted his name to be used; he believed he did not publicly give his consent, but had known of it, and made no objection; he did not conceive his name could have been put without his permission: The conversation was only between the Admiral and himself; the Admiral, in that conversation, certainly did not express any resentment or surprize that his name was put. And being questioned again, as to the purport of that conversation? he said, If he remembered right, when the circumstance of the fictitious treaty was mentioned, he shrugged up his shoulders, and said (laughingly) that he had not signed it, but that he had left it to them to do as they pleased.

Being asked, whether it was from this circumstance that he collected the Admiral knew of his name being put? he said, it was, and from this circumstance only: And he further said, It gave him no surprize that an officer of Admiral Watson's rank had agreed to have his name put to a treaty he could not sign, because he was convinced the Admiral knew the motives for which such a fictitious treaty was made; and that, though he would not sign it, he had no objection to Omichund being lulled into a security, and preventing the whole design from being discovered and defeated.

Being asked, if Admiral Watson told him so much? he said, By no means; there were his reasons why he was not surprized.—He further said, That the Admiral's consent to having his name put to the fictitious treaty was never communicated to the select Committee.

As to the real treaty, the witness said, He had no doubt that the Admiral signed it; and if he remembered right, he sealed it; he was sure he signed it, but to the extent of his memory he was not present; but he was certain, because the treaty was sent down by Mr. Watts, for the Admiral and Committee to execute, and then to be returned to him with all imaginable dispatch; and the treaty was executed by the Committee and Admiral, and returned accordingly: To the extent of his remembrance he did not see the real treaty after the Admiral had signed it, but thought he did see it after the Committee had signed it, before it was sent to the Admiral; and that, to the best of his recollection, there was one article in that which was returned to Meer Jaffier, which was not in the treaty which Meer Jaffier had executed and sent to the Committee, to be kept by them: That it occurs to him the treaties were in Persian and English, in one he is sure there were both Persian and English articles:—That there was an additional article in one of the treaties, which the Committee and the Admiral signed, and that article was in English; that he believed only one copy of the treaty was signed by Meer Jaffier, which was left with the Committee, and the other copy was signed by the Committee, and sent to the Nabob, and that he understood the difference in the treaties were known, and really thought that a copy of the treaty sent to Meer Jaffier was kept; he knew no reason why it was not sent to the Company; he imagined it was:—That he was Secretary, but that there were clerks to make copies; that it was his business to give the clerks orders what to copy, and to keep the copies; and that if there had been a copy, it would naturally have been in the Secretary's office, under his management.

The witness being flown the proceedings of the Select Committee, 19 May 1757, in which it is ordered, that the treaty with Meer Jaffier, then signed by the Committee and Admiral Watson, should be entered after the proceedings; and being asked, if he apprehended he could have allowed his clerks to omit entering the 13th article, when it appeared all the other articles were entered after the proceedings? he said, it appeared to him that the transciption entered there was of that treaty which Meer Jaffier signed, in which the additional article was not inserted—he could account for it no other way.

Being
Being asked, if that treaty, signed by Meer Jaffier, was in his custody? he said, it was in the office.—He further said, the treaties were sent to Admiral Watson immediately after they were signed, and thought only one part came back to the office, and the other was immediately dispatched up the country.

Being asked, How often, in the course of his office, he thought he copied the treaty as it now stands in the books? He said, he did not know, nor did he think he ever copied it himself.

In regard to Admiral Watson's expressing any displeasure at the measure taken for depositing Serajah Dowla, he recollects no such conversation, nor did he ever hear he was displeased on that account.

Sir Eyre Coote being called upon to give an account of the transactions in Bengal, in the year 1757, that came within his knowledge, said; That he was at that time Captain of the 39th regiment doing duty on board the fleet commanded by Admiral Watson; that he was a member of the council of war, previous to the battle of Plassey, upon the 23rd of June 1757; that Colonel Clive informed the Council he found he could not depend on Meer Jaffier for any thing more than standing neuter, in case the army came to an action with the Nabob; that Monseur Law, with a body of French was then within three days march of joining the Nabob, whose army, by the best intelligence he could get, was about 50,000 men; and that he called the Council together for their opinion, whether, in those circumstances, it would be prudent to come to an immediate action with the Nabob, or fortify themselves where they were, and remain till the monsoon was over, and the Mahrattas could be brought into the country to join us; the question being then put, began with the president and elder members, whose opinions were, against coming to an immediate action.

Lieu. Colonel Clive.
Major James Fitzpatrick.
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Captain Frederick Gasp.</p><p>Captain Clive informed the Council he found he could not depend on Meer Jaffier for any thing more than standing neuter, in case the army came to an action with the Nabob; that Monseur Law, with a body of French was then within three days march of joining the Nabob, whose army, by the best intelligence he could get, was about 50,000 men; and that he called the Council together for their opinion, whether, in those circumstances, it would be prudent to come to an immediate action with the Nabob, or fortify themselves where they were, and remain till the monsoon was over, and the Mahrattas could be brought into the country to join us; the question being then put, began with the president and elder members, whose opinions were, against coming to an immediate action. For coming to an immediate action.

Lieu. Colonel Clive.
Major J. Fitzpatrick.
Major Archibald Grant.
Captain Frederick Gasp.
were with the army on the expedition to Muxadavad, were not to share with the army in the

prime monev, but with the navy.

The witness being desired to give his opinion, whether, without the assistance of the King's
troops and ships in the whole of the transactions in 1757, the enterprises would have succeeded?

He said, He had no idea that they could:—And whether the army under Colonel Clive alone
could have taken Chandernagore without the assistance of the navy and King's troops? he said,
He thought the probability was against them.

Several letters and other papers relative to the above transactions were read, for which the house
is referred to the appendix, No. 6.

Lord Clive observed, that in a former part of his evidence he had made a mistake in respect to
the number of the council of war, who on the 21st of June voted for the immediate attack
of Serajah Dowla, and said, He might very easily have been led into that mistake, the event
having happened 15 years ago, and he not having consulted a single record from that time to
this:—that although he might have informed Captain Coote of his resolution to attack Ser-
jah Dowla, notwithstanding the opinion of that council of war, he did imagine that he had
not concluded upon the whole plan till 24 hours after, because the troops did not cross the
river to make that attack till the 22d of June in the evening, and the discourse between
Captain Coote and him was the 21st in the morning.—His Lordship also observed, with
regard to another part of his evidence, that he certainly should not have declared that Ad-
miral Watfon had conferred to have his name put to the fictitious treaty, if he had not un-
derstood so from Mr. Luffington, but that he would have ordered his name to be put, whe-
ther he had conferred or not.

Your Committee take the same occasion to insert the following extract of a letter, which a
member of the Committee informed the Committee he had lately read in Lord Clive's letter
book, from his Lordship to the select Committee at Fort Saint George, the 12th of September
1757,—

"It is with the deepest concern I acquaint you of Admiral Watfon's death; his zeal for the
service of the Company, and the extraordinary success it was crowned with, both at Gheria
and in the expedition, will make his memory, particularly in India, survive to latest ages."

The next point of evidence to which your Committee proceeded, was the manner in which
Meer Jaffier gave Lord Clive his Jaghire. And,

Francis Sykes, Esquire, a member of the house, being requested to relate what he knew of that
transaction, informed your Committee. That he was appointed resident at the Nabob's court on
the leave of absence of Mr. Haflings; to the best of his remembrance it was in June or July
1758; that he was with the Nabob upon business relative to the Company, when the Nabob
speaking to him of Lord Clive's expedition against the Shawzadda, mentioned the feme he en-
tertained of Lord Clive's conduct towards him, and likewise in reducing the Shawzadda to
necessity as to apply to his Lordship to put him under the English protection:—He mentioned
also, that he owed his government to Colonel Clive before, and this was the second time he
was indebted to him for it; that he had been a means of having honours conferred on Colonel
Clive, in creating him an Omrah of the empire, but that he had given him nothing to support
those honours; he had frequently had it in his thoughts, but had never entered upon it seriou-
sly till now; that he had thoughts of giving him a Jaghire in the Patna province, but found it
would be attended with inconvenience to the officers of his government, and that Jugguteat had
fallen upon a method of obviating those difficulties, by giving him the quit rent arising from
the lands ceded to the Company to the Southward of Calcutta; that he thought it would interfere
the least with his government, and fend the clearest in relation to the Company's affairs.

The witness said, That in the best of his remembrance he mentioned to the Nabob, that he
thought it was a large sum, but the Nabob told him, that he was very little adequate to what
transactions he had received from the Colonel, but more especially for his behaviour upon the capture
of Muxadavad, when the whole inhabitants expected to be put under contribution, and that none
of them had experienced a conduct of that kind, for that their persons, as well as their properties,
were entirely secur'd to them, that the Nabob also desired at that meeting, that the witness
would acquaint him when he heard of the Colonel's coming down the country, and in the mean-
time he would prepare an instrument called the Jaghire; that he would give the Colonel the
meeting, and desired the witness's attendance at the time it was to be presented; that the witness
did attend him, in company with Jugguteat and other persons, and met the Colonel two miles
to the north of the city, when, after some conversation betwixt the Nabob and Colonel Clive,
the Nabob retired, and Jugguteat, in the presence of the witness, and he thinks of Mr. Scrafton,
presented him, from the Nabob, with the Jaghire.

The witness did not mention who was present at this conversation, nor did he take any notes
of it at the time:—No English were present except himself; the conversation was in the Moorish
language, which he thought he understood sufficient for most conversations.—He further said,
He did not acquaint any person, by letter or otherwise, about that time, nor does he know of
any notification given to the Company of this grant.

Being asked, whether the quit rent, granted by this Jaghire, was not payable by the Company?
he said, It was payable by the Company to the Nabob, and he did not know how it was paid
after the grant.—He further said, That he had frequently mentioned this conversation with the
Nabob since he came to England, and undoubtedly did the same in India; it was a public act,
and he believed was shown to Mr. Haflings to translate into English.—The amount of the Jag-
hire was reckoned about £130,000 a year; that he had never any instructions from Lord Clive,
or
nor any other in his name, directly or indirectly, to apply for this Jaghire, nor did he ever hear, till of late, that Lord Clive ever made application to the Nabob for this Jaghire; he said, at the same time he must undoubtedly have read Lord Clive's letter to the proprietors upon that subject.

Being asked, whether he conceived the instrument delivered by Juggutee to Lord Clive to be the Deewan's Summut, or an order from the Nabob to the Company to pay the quit rent? he said, whether it was one or the other he could not answer; that he only saw it included in a fikken bag, and it was not opened at the time it was presented to Colonel Clive, and he never saw it opened.

For further letters and papers relating to the above transactions, your Committee refer to the appendix, No. 7.

Lord Clive, in evidence to the same point, informed your Committee, that the first letter he ever wrote about a Jaghire, was, to the effect of his remembrance, on the 31st of January 1759, to Juggutee, informing him that the Nabob had made him an Omrah without a Jaghire; in answer to which, he replied, that the Nabob never granted Jaghires in Bengal; that Orissa was too poor, but that he might have one in Bahar; and his Lordship desir'd, upon his honour, that he never applied for any Jaghires, directly or indirectly, after that period; and that when the Nabob presented him the Jaghires (which was near six months afterwards) he did not know what that Jaghires was, nor had he any idea of the amount of it, nor of its being the quit rent upon the Company's lands; and that he did believe the Nabob gave him that Jaghires in consequence of the services he had rendered him, which have been stated by Mr. Sykes.

That having looked upon the Nabob's answer as an evasive one, and that he was not inclined to comply with his request he never wrote or thought more upon the subject, until he received a second letter from Juggutee, in answer to his letter, after the success against the King's fan, mentioning that the Nabob had turned the thing in his mind, and was willing to grant him a Jaghire in Bengal, but the nature of it, where or what value it was to be, he was entirely ignorant of, till the patent explained it; Juggutee was a banker, and a man of great influence and weight with the Nabob.

Your Committee here read a letter from the Seats to Lord Clive, received 4 June 1759, which is annexed in the appendix, No. 8.

His Lordship being asked, whether he received the benefit of the Jaghires from the time it was granted? he said, He had received it from July 1759 to this day.

Being further asked, whether application was not made to the Nabob Meer Jaffier, for a grant of lands, to the northward of Calcutta, to the amount of £12,000 a year, for the behoof of the Company; and that the Nabob refused this grant till the Company complied with his request, to lend him two lack of rupees, and that the Company were also obliged to make presents to several of the principal officers about him; he said, it was so; and he believed that transaction was not above six, eight, or ten, months after the battle of Plaisy.

Being further asked, if he knew that Meer Jaffier about the time of granting the Jaghires was surrounded by his troops, who had mutinied, because he could not pay them? he said, He certainly knew it.—That the matter of fact was, there were great airmars due to the army by Serajah Dowla, as well as by Meer Jaffier, amounting to three or four millions sterling; that it is the custom of that country, never to pay the army a fourth part of what is promised them, and it is only in time of distress they can get paid at all, and for that reason the troops always behave so ill.

Being asked, Whether he recollected that before the grant of the jaghires, the Nabob's jewels, goods, and furniture, were publicly fold in order to make good the money he had agreed by treaty to pay the Company? he said, he had been informed, that the Nabob's jewels amounted to near a million sterling; about £5,50,000, worth of the worth of them were sent to Calcutta, and fold there as part of the treaty money; that some goods were also to be fold, but the parties differing as to the value, the Nabob took the goods back again, and paid for them in money.

Being asked, Whether the Nabob had not granted assignments upon his revenues, particularly the revenues of Bardwan, for payment of the money to the Company, and to the Select Committee, as settled by the treaty? he said, The Nabob made assignments of lands for fulfilling all the articles of the treaty, and also for the Company money, and that there were other lands assigned likewise in the nature of a mortgage.

His Lordship being asked, On whose application he was made an Omrah? he said, at Meer Jaffier's; but he applied to Meer Jaffier to make the application to the Mogul.

Some days after this evidence was given, Lord Clive acquainted the Committee, That upon recollection he finds he was mistaken in the answer he made to the above question, and his answer to it now is, "By Meer Jaffier's to the Mogul, and without any application on his Lordship's part."

Lord Clive, in further explanation of the evidence of Sir Eyre Coote, stated in a former part of the report, went on to relate; that on the 22d June 1757, in the evening, the army crossed the river, and marched all night, amidst incessant rains, until they reached Plaisy Grove; and early in the morning the army of Serajah Dowla attacked them in that situation.—That as the description of the battle had been already given in part by Sir Eyre Coote, he should only observe, that its being attended with so little bloodshed, arose from two causes: First, The army was sheltered by so high a bank, that the heavy artillery of the enemy could not possibly do them much mischief; the other was, That Serajah Dowla had no confidence in his army, nor his army any
confidence in him, and therefore they did not do their duty upon that occasion.—His Lordship proceeded to relate, that after the army was routed, Serajah Dowla, for the sake of expedition, fled to the city upon an elephant, which he reached that night thirty miles from the field of battle.—That the troops pursuèd the routed army about nine miles, to a place called Doulpour; and in the evening Meer Jaffier sent him word, that he, and many more of the great officers and a very considerable part of the army, were in expectation of his orders.—That he sent Mollis, Watts and Scramton to wait upon him; and he came to him the next morning, accompanied by his forces, made many apologies to him for the non-performance of his agreement to join him, and said, his fate was in his hands. That he assured Meer Jaffier that the English would most religiously perform their treaty, and advised him to pursue Serajah Dowla without delay, and he would follow with the English army. That when Serajah Dowla arrived at the city, his palace was full of treaure; but with all that treasure, he could not purchase the confidence of his army; he was employed in baffling considerable sums among his troops, to engage them to another battle, but to no purpose.—About twelve at night the fatal news was brought him of Meer Jaffier's arrival at the city, closely followed by the English army; he then in despair gave up all for lost, and made his escape out of one of the palace windows, with only two or three attendants and took refuge in th. Facker's house, as mentioned in a former part of this evidence.

That the English army having encamped within about six miles of Musswadam; his Lordship sent Mollis, Watts and Wallin to congratulate Meer Jaffier upon his success, and to know the time when he should enter the city; in consequence of which, the day was fixed upon, and he entered the city at the head of 200 Europeans and 500 Sepoys.—That the inhabitants, who were speculators upon that occasion, must have amounted to some hundred thousands; and if they had had an inclination to have destroyed the Europeans, they might have done it with ficks and stones. On that day, continued his Lordship, being under no kind of restraint, but that of my own confidence, I might have become too rich for a subject; but I had fixed upon that period to accomplish all my views whatever, and from that period to this hour, which is a space of fifteen years, I have not benefitted myself directly or indirectly the value of one shilling, the Jaffier excepted; I have been placed in great and eminent stations, surrounded with temptations; the civil and military power were united in me; a circumstance which has never happened to any other man before that time, or since: The Committee will therefore judge whether I have been moderate or immoderate in the pursuit of riches.

Lord Clive went on to relate that a few days after his arrival at the city, Meer Jaffier was placed on the muñfet, and proclaimed Nabob of Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa, and a day was then fixed upon to consider the fate of the Nabob's treasures, and to see how far he could comply with the treaty immediately; and after that state was known, this matter was left to be decided by the Scuts, two men of immense wealth, and great influence, and it was agreed that half should be paid down, and the other half in three years.—That at this meeting was Omichund; and when the real treaty came to be read, the indignation and resentment expressed in that man's countenance, bars all description—he said, "This cannot be the treaty, it was a red treaty that I saw."—That his Lordship replied, "Yes, Omichund, but this is a white treaty."—That this important business being accomplished, he returned to Calcutta with the army, and the Nabob soon began to feel his own greatness, and manifested evident designs of shaking off all dependence upon the English, and of evading the fulfilling the rest of the treaty. That he diffused from his service those great men who had been the instruments of his greatness, and he put to death the only brother of Serajah Dowla.—That as soon as the rains were over, he took the field without the Company's assistance to quaff three rebellions; but when he came seriously to consider of his situation, he thought proper to call upon the English for their assistance; and that the witnens marched immediately to join him.—That at the city he had a meeting with the discontented chiefs, when he engaged to protect them in their persons, and to use his influence to get them refor^ed to favour. That this was easily accomplished, and he then instified that he should immediately pay down that part of the treaty money, which was then due, and that he should assign over lands sufficient in mortgage to secure the rest. That no difficulty was found in subduing all his enemies, except Ramparram, who was the Nabob of Bahar; and at the head of a great army, and would not acknowledge Meer Jaffier without the English security; which being given, and a promise made, that he should remain in his government, he came to the Nabob, and paid his obedience. That the country being now just settled, he returned to Calcutta, with an intention to embark for the Carnatick, and taking the first honourable opportunity of returning to his native country; but in the interim the ships arrived from Europe, which brought out the very strange appointment of four governors, which was called a rotation government, because one governor was only to be as such for three months.—He had not the honour to be appointed one of those governors.—Upon which, the gentleman who had that honour, as well as the rest of the council, sent him the following letter.

SIR,

Our most serious attention has been devoted to the commands of our honourable employers per Hardwick, naming a rotation of governors for the future management of their affairs at this settlement, and having duly weighed the nature of this regulation, with all its attending circumstances, a sincere conviction of its being, in our present situation and circumstances, repugnant to the true interest of our honourable masters, and the welfare of the settlement in general, obliges us (though with the utmost respect and deference) to believe, that had our employers been ap-
prized of the present state of their affairs in this kingdom, they would have placed the presidency in one person, as the clearest and easiest method of conducting their concerns, as well as preserving and maintaining the weight and influence the late happy revolution has given us, with the Soubah of these provinces, on which influence, at the present period, the interest and welfare of the Company depends in the highest degree at this settlement. The difficulties we may be liable to by a rotation in the executive part of government, with its consequent, are sufficiently obvious in our present state of affairs; we will however mention only a few points.

The treaty of the Nabob not perfected in all its branches, the rebellions of the lands incomplete, the settlement in no posture of defence, the French considerably reinforced with military and a fleet, their designs with respect to Bengal hitherto unknown, and the impossibility of impressing a proper idea of this divided power in the minds of the Soubah and others, of this kingdom, who have, at all times, been accustomed to the government of a single person; a little reflection will introduce many more, and clearly evince the necessity of this address.

The gentlemen nominated governors in the honourable Company's commands pur Hardwick, have the highest tenor of gratitude for the honour conferred on them by our employers in their appointment, but deem themselves in duty bound at this juncture of affairs to waive all personal honours and advantages, and declare all their sentiments, that a rotation in the executive part of government, for the foregoing reasons, would be extremely prejudicial to the real interest of the Company; in which opinion we unanimously concur, and judge it for the welfare of our honourable employers, and of the settlement in general, to deviate in this instance from the commands of our honourable masters, and the presidency in a single person, till we hear further from Europe.

Your being named as head of the general Committee (in the letter of the 3d of August last) establishing at that time, for conducting the Company's affairs in Bengal, your eminent services, abilities, and merit, together with your superior weight and influence with the present Soubah and his officers, are motives which have great force with us on this occasion, and all concur in pointing out you, at the present, best able to render our honourable employers necessary service at this juncture, till they shall make their further pleasure known by the appointment of a president for their affairs here.

These reasons urge us to make you an offer of being president of the Company's affairs in Bengal, till a person is appointed by the honourable Company; and we flatter ourselves you will be induced to accept of our offer from your wonted regard to the interest of our honourable employers, and zeal for the welfare of their affairs, which we doubt not you are as well as ourselves convinced, will be much prejudiced by a rotation in the executive part of government.

We wait your reply, and have the honour to be,

S I R,

Your most obedient,

and most humble servants,

Wm. Watts,

C. Manningham,

Rich. Becher,

M. Collet,

M. Mackett,

Tho. Bodden,

Fort William,

25 June, 1758.

Lord Clive said, He did not hesitate one moment to accept of this request; and soon after he received his appointment from the Court of Directors themselves, in consequence of the success at Plassey. That from after this appointment, he took into the most serious consideration the situation of affairs upon the coast of Coromandel: Mr. Lally was arrived with such a force as threatened not only the ostent of all the settlements there, but of all the East India Company's possessions, and nothing saved Madras from sharing the fate of Fort St. David, at that time, but their want of money, which gave time for strengthening and reinforcing the place. That however Madras was besieged, and no words that he can command can do justice to the gallant behaviour of Lord Pigot, General Lawrence, Colonel Draper, General Caillaud, Major Breerton, &c.—That he thought it was his duty to contribute his aid towards the destruction of the French, and therefore he projected the scheme of depriving the French of the eastern Sinks (whose revenues were computed to amount to l. 400,000 a year) contrary to the inclinations of his whole council.—That this expedition succeeded completely, for the French were totally driven out by Colonel Foid, with the Company's troops, whole conduct and gallantry upon that occasion was equal, if not superior, to any thing that had happened during the whole course of the war.—That in the mean time he was called up the country with the remaining part of the forces left behind, to raise the siege of Panta, which was besieged by the King's son.—The siege being raised, and the King's son being drove out of the country, he returned to his government in Calcutta, where he had been but a very short time before he received intelligence that the Dutch were forming a great armament from Batavia.—It was thought to be definite for Bengal; and it was reported that the Nabob had given them encouragement to come there; that in the month of August 1759, a Dutch ship arrived in the river full of troops, which circumstance brought matters to a certainty. And here his Lordship observed will be seen the use of the double government; for soon after arrived six other Dutch ships, having on board in all 700 Europeans, and 800 Mallays.—His Lordship said, he was sensible how very critical his situation was at that time
time; that he rished his life and fortune in taking upon himself to commence hostilities against a nation, with whom we were at peace; but that he knew the fate of Bengal and of the Company depended upon it, and therefore he ran that risk; that he called upon the Nabob to fulfill his agreement, and to order the Dutch to leave the river, and if they did not comply with his orders, he resolved under his command to attack them: The seven ships came within a few miles of Calcutta, and then landed near 700 Europeans and 800 Mallays; that he ordered that gallant officer Colonel Ford, who was returned from the expedition of the Decan, to intercept them in their march to Chiniura (the Dutch factory) which he did so effectually that of their 700 Europeans not above 24 got to Chiniura, the rest were either killed, or taken prisoners; this he did with a force of 300 men, 800 Sepoys, and about 150 of the Nabob’s cavalry; that he ordered at the same time three English East-Indiamen, fitted out and manned for the purpose, under the command of Captain Wilson, to attack the seven Dutch East-Indiamen; and after an engagement of two hours, they took fix of them, and the seventh was intercepted by two of our ships that laid lower down in the river, and that they took three times the number of men that our ships contained.—That after this, two treaties were concluded, the one between the English East-India Company, and the Dutch East-India Company; where they agreed to pay to the East-India Company all the expenses of that war: With the Nabob they made the other treaty, by which they agreed never to introduce forces into his country without his consent, and that they would never keep at Chiniura, and all their other settlements together, more than 125 European soldiers. The Writels observed, that at this time by much the greatest part of his fortune was in the hands of the Dutch; the Company’s treasury was in full in consequence of his successes, that the governor and council declined, giving their servants any bills in their favour, and he was reduced to the necessity of sending his fortune home by bills upon the Dutch; that these bills were made payable by installments, one third part every year, so that he was morally certain that two thirds of the sum tent, to which he had contributed was about £180,000, would remain in the hands of the Dutch, when they heard the news of their ill success in Bengal; but the Dutch Company refusing to accept of those bills in the manner drawn, and inquiring upon a deduction of near £15,000 for prompt payment, or else refusing to pay them at all; his attorneys thought proper, considering the critical situation of the two nations at that time, to accept payment upon those terms; his Lordship said, That this design of the Dutch being frustrated, he resigned his government to Mr. Holwell, embarked on board a ship in February 1760, and arrived in England in July.

His Lordship then read to the Committee the following minutes of the East-India Company.

At a Court of Directors, held on Wednesday, February 6, 1754, minutes of the Committee of correspondence, dated the 5th instant, being read, it was unanimously Resolved, That a sword set with diamonds, to the value of £500, be presented by the Court to Captain Robert Clive, as a token of their esteem for him, and senice of his singular services to the Company upon the coast of Coromandel.

At a General Court, held on Wednesday, December 21, 1757, on a motion, and the question being put, it was Resolved, That the thanks of this General Court be given to Lieutenant Colonel Robert Clive, for his eminent and signal services to this Company.

At a General Court, held on Wednesday, September 24, 1760, the Chairman from the Court of Directors informed this Court, That such important services had been rendered to the Company in the East-Indies by Vice Admiral Pocock, and the Colonels Clive and Lawrence, as appears from the accounts formerly laid before this Court, and lately received, to demand some further marks of the Court’s senice thereof, than had been already expressed; and moving the Court thereupon, it was, on the question,

Resolved, unanimously, That the thanks of this court be given to Vice Admiral Pocock, Colonel Robert Clive, and Colonel Stringer Lawrence, for their most eminent and signal services to this Company.

And another motion being made; Ordered, That the chairman and deputy chairman wait upon those gentlemen, and acquaint them with this mark of this Court’s great regard for their services. And another being made, it was, on the question,

Resolved, unanimously, That the chairman and deputy, when they wait upon Vice Admiral Pococke, Colonel Clive, and Colonel Lawrence, will defire those gentlemen to give their consent that their portraits or statues be taken, in order to be placed in some conspicuous parts of this house, that their eminent and signal services to this Company may be ever had in remembrance. His Lordship likewise read the following letter.

To Robert Clive, Esquire,

S I R,

We have received your several letters of the 23d, 24th, 25th, and 26th instant, and with great pleasure observe and congratulate you on the rapid successes therein mentioned — The resolution effectuated by your gallant conduct, and the bravery of the officers and soldiers under you, is of extraordinary importance, not only to the Company but to the British nation in general; that we think it incumbent to return you and your officers our sincere thanks on behalf of his Britannic
Britannic Majesty, and the East India Company, for your behaviour on this critical and important occasion.

Although in your last letter Jaffer Ally Khan is filed Nabob, yet we have not ventured on that authority to make any public rejoicings for him, as Subah of these provinces; we should be glad therefore to be informed in your next letter, if he has been proclaimed in form, and is in possession of the government. This will very much add to our satisfaction, and give us a proper opening to addresst him as the Subah, proclaim him such in our town, and salute his accession.—We have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient, and most humble servants,

Cha't. Watson,

G. Pocock,

Roger Drake, junior,

C. Manningham,


Fort William,

29 June, 1757.

His Lordship being asked, whether from a review of all the transactions of the period when the Dutch armament came to Bengal in 1759, he believes they were invited by Meer Jaffer, or not? He said, He had no proof for what he was going to offer to the Committee, but that he believed, when from political motives, he found himself obliged to lay the Nabob under restraints, which were by no means agreeable to him, that he did by some means or other, give encouragement to the Dutch, to lend for those forces; but he believed at the same time, that, after the services which he had rendered him, by raising the siege of Patna, and when his life was saved from the mutiny of his own army, that he repented of what he had done; for he was down with him at Calcutta, to the beft of his remembrance, at the time the Dutch armament arrived, and seemed very ready to fall into every measure which he recommended; that however, from his timid conduct towards the Dutch, even at that time, he was confirmed in his suspicions of his having given the Dutch some such invitation.

Some days after this evidence was given, Lord Clive acquainted the Committee, that having recollected an omission in his evidence; he desired the following words to be inserted after his account of the transactions with the Dutch—

"After these two treaties were concluded, one between the English East India Company, and the Dutch East India Company, wherein the Dutch acknowledged themselves to have been the aggressors, and agreed to pay to the English Company all the expenses of the war; we returned to them all their ships, together with all the treasures, which had been taken on board, amounting by computation to about half a million sterling."

Being further questioned, whether from any subsequent negotiations of the Dutch East India Company, his Lordship was confirmed in the opinion of Meer Jaffer's having encouraged them to come to Bengal?

He said, He did believe the Nabob had invited the Dutch from this circumstance; that upon his return to his capital, he either paid them a visit, or received a visit from them, and treated them with such civility as served to confirm his suspicion; that there is reason to believe that he connived at their railling troops in the country; and when he was taxed with it, he pleaded ignorance.

Being asked, whether the Nabob's cavalry had any share in the action with the Dutch?

He said, They had in the pursuit, and killed a great many men.

Whether the European troops in the Dutch service are Dutchmen?

They are not; generally speaking they are Germans; their officers were both French and Dutch; their commanding officer was a Frenchman.

Being asked, whether when he went to raise the siege, he had any intercourse with the Nabob?

He said, Certainly; his son joined him with 8,000 men; and he thinks it was about February or March 1759.

Your Committee having closed the evidence upon the historical part of the first period of their enquiry; in the opening of the examination into the second period, read the papers, which are annexed in the appendix, No. 9.

Your Committee then called upon Colonel Caillaud, to give an account of what he knew of the transactions preceding the revolution in 1760, and what induced him to consent to that revolution.

And he informed the Committee, That he was called to Bengal in November 1759, to take the command of the troops in the room of Lord Clive, who intended to return to Europe early the next season; that he arrived two days after the affair of the Dutch, and upon his examining the state of affairs of that country at that time, was informed, that the Prince (called the Shauzaadda) was again preparing to enter the province of Bahar, with a large army, and joined by several Zemindars of that province, who had not taken part with him the year before.—That the Nabob of Purnea had taken the field on the eastern bank of the Ganges about half way between Patna and Muxadavad, and his motives for so doing were thought to be an inclination of joining the Prince, if a favourable opportunity offered.—Lord Clive judged it therefore expedient that he should march with a detachment to Muxadavad, there to wait his arrival, and his orders.—That he set out from Calcutta in December, with the detachment of 300 Europeans, 50 artillery, 6 pieces of cannon, and a battalion of Sepoys, consisting of about 1000 men, and arrived at
at Muxadav about the 26th of December.—And that on the 6th of January, Lord Clive and Colonel Ford joined him.—That Lord Clive then introduced him to the Nabob, recommended him to his friendship, and desired he would reprove all the confidence possible in the witnesses, who was well inclined and attached to his interest.—That on the 14th of January, Lord Clive and Colonel Ford set out upon their return; and on the 18th he began his march to Patna, joined by the Nabob's ton, at the head of a large number of country forces. —There was a great many difficulties in setting out the expedition; the low state of the Nabob's treasury obliged him to borrow money, as he could get it from the bankers, by mortgaging the county forces for it. That about the 30th of January he reached a place, opposite to which the Nabob of Purnea was encamped. —He had not declared his intentions openly; but said, he was ready and willing to obey the Nabob's orders in everything, to pay all the revenues that were due, and to prove himself a faithful subject and servant.—It was necessary to get more than these general assurances from him; he was at the head of a large body of troops; and as the affairs of Patna were then situated, it was dangerous to leave such a force in his rear, without knowing whether he could trust them.—That he endeavoured to settle matters between him and the Nabob as well as he could; he would accept of no mediation but his; he would not forfeit the young Nabob, but took his security, that if he faithfully discharged all the demands the old Nabob had on him for revenues due, that he would endeavour to get the Nabobs's consent that he should remain in his command.—That this kept him seven days; and at this time the Prince was drawing near Patna; the Subah of that province (by name Rammarain) had a considerable army under his command, besides a battalion of our Sepoys, that was left in garrison at Patna by Lord Clive, who joined him upon that occasion, and he marched out of the city with these forces.—That the witnesses repeatedly wrote to him, and prevailed him not to come to an action, but to wait his arrival, and had no doubt then of success against the Prince.—That however he chose to follow his own advice; he engaged the Prince; two of his principal Jamaudars defeated him during the action; he was totally defeated and severely wounded.—400 of our Sepoys marched to his assistance, when he was surrounded by the enemy, saved him, and were cut to pieces themselves, with three European gentlemen, two officers, and one gentleman a volunteer.—That the remainder of the battalion secured his retreat into Patna, which the Shauzadda immediately inveigled.—That he received the news of his defeat the 11th of February, and marched with all the expedition in his power, such as obliged him on the 15th to raise the siege of Patna; and on the 22d the two armies met and engaged; the detail of the action is very uninteresting. That the young Nabob followed quite a contrary disposition to the one he wanted him to make, but that he saved him in imminent danger, and the enemy was totally routed.—That the infliction the engagement was over, the young Nabob retired to his tent, on account of the wounds he had received.—That the Witnesses requested and conjured him to give him ever so small a body of cavalry, and with his Europeans and Sepoys, fatigued as they were, he would do his best to pursue the enemy, and clear the country of them; that he was deaf to all his entreaties—and his means of pursuit, with the handful of troops he was at the head of, fatigued beyond measure with the forced marches he had made to raise the siege, put it quite out of his power; besides out of the fix pieces of cannon which he had in the field, four broke down during the engagement, and some time was necessary to put those carriage in repair.—That at length he persuaded the Nabob to leave the city of Patna on the 29th of February, and on the 2d of March he received advice that the Shauzadda (the Prince) was in full march for the province of Bengal.—That he had the advantage of a day's march of our army, with an army composed almost entirely of cavalry, unencumbered with baggage.—That on the 7th he got within 10 miles of him, he marched along the mountains, to enter the province of Bengal in another part; a road through which none before had ever marched; but through which however the witnesses made a shift to follow him, and on the 4th of April joined the old Nabob, who was in the field.—That on the 6th, with their united armies, they got so near the Prince, that he propounded to the Nabob, that he would give him a body of cavalry, and some spare horses to affist him in carrying the Europeans, who were exhausted and spent with fatigue, and he would attack the Prince in his camp that night: This he would not comply with, and the next day he came up however with the rear of their army, a river only dividing them; that he again sent repeated messages to the Nabob, to beg he would only march a body of cavalry, to keep the enemy in play, until he could come up with his infantry; but this he would never consent to, and the enemy marched off unmolested; in and in two days after took the fame road into the province of Bahar: That afraid for the safety of Patna, which he knew was delirium of troops, he detached Captain Knox, with 200 Europeans, a battalion of Sepoys, and two pieces of cannon, to march with all the expedition he possibly could for the relief of Patna, if the Prince should believe it: He came in time to save the city, on which the Prince had made two general assauts, and was preparing for a third, when Captain Knox arrived with some part of his detachment, and obliged him to raise the siege a second time. —That he remained in camp with the old Nabob, and his son, until the 16th of May, when again he marched with his son against the Nabob of Purnea, whom the old Nabob had endeavoured to bring back to his duty, but which the other refused, and would comply with none of his terms, broke his promise with the witnesses, and was putting out with an intention of joining the Prince.—On the 22d he again reached Patna, and crossed the river there; but before that happened, Captain Knox, whom he had ordered to march from Patna across the river, and endeavour to flop the progress of the Nabob of Purnea, so that we might get up with him, had taken a strong and judicious poll, and was attacked by the Nabob's whole army, and maintained his post
polt with great bravery.—That they joined in pursuit of the enemy, who was retreating as fast as they could. On the 27th he came up with them; the young Nabob with his army in the rear two miles; the cannonading began between the two armies; he soon fired their cannon, dislodged them from all their posts, and would have obtained a complete victory, if foot could have overtaken cavalry, of which his army was chiefly composed; that he had none of his own, and the Nabob would not lend him one horseman: That they continued pursuing the Nabob of Purna until the 3d of July; they were to have continued their march next day, when between one and two o'clock in the morning Mr. Luddington came into his tent with a harcarra (or messenger) and told him the young Nabob was dead; that it would be difficult to express his surprize, which was followed by his enquiries, to know how the accident had happened, which he was told was by a fall of high rigging, as he lay on his bed; In a few minutes after, his Duan (or Prime Minister) came to the window in the greatest distress, alleging him that if something was not immediately done, the consequence would be, the plunder of the camp, and the Nabob's troops marching off wherever they thought proper. There was no way to prevent this accident, and the confusion which must follow, but to endeavour to keep his death a secret from his army, that we might gain time to bring over some of the Jumudars of the greatest consequence, and attach them to our interest: That he sent for one or two of those he thought he could most confide in, told them the story, and requested as a mark of the regard they had for their old master, to continue faithful in the service of the old Nabob, and to bring over, by degrees, as many of the other Jumudars as they could, to this way of thinking; that he, on his part, would use all his endeavours with the old Nabob, that all the arrears of pay, and all the just demands they might have, should be settled to their satisfaction: That we then determined, that the army should march back towards Patna, and give out that the young Nabob was ill; this was performed in seven days, and during this whole time, except the people who were entrusted with the secret, the army had no knowledge of the young Nabob's death. The witnesses said, this was the narrative of his campaign; that soon after his arrival at Patna, about the 28th or 29th of July, or the beginning of August, he received advice of Mr. Vanittart's arrival at Calcutta, as Governor.

Colonel Caillaud then read to the Committee the following letter.

To the honourable J. Z. Holwell, Esquire, President and Governor of Fort William.

Camp at Balkhun's Gardens, 29th May, 1760.

Sir,

I am honoured this day with your favour of the 24th instant. My last letter of the 24th, and that of yesterday of the 25th, contain all I can urge in favour of our return to Patna with the young Nabob. You seem also convinced of the necessity of it since the receipt of Mr. Amyatt's letters: I shall be glad to find it further confirmed by the sentiments of the Select Committee.

I am not master enough of the subject, to know how the Company's interference of salt-ペット will be so much hurt this year, and that you fear, succours will arrive too late to prevent such mischief; but this I am very confident of, that if we do not send succours, the whole province may be lost, and many years investments come to.

I will endeavour now, Sir, to reply as fully as I can to the subject on which you desire so earnestly to know my sentiments, and hope what I have to say will so fully satisfy you, that I need not at least leave the army until the campaign is quite concluded, as I think it cannot be done without prejudice to our affairs.

But as the man may be, whose cause we now support, I cannot be of opinion, that we can get rid of him for a better; without running the risk of much greater inconveniences attending on such a change, than those we now labour under.—I presume, the establishing tranquility in those provinces, would restore to us all the advantages of trade we could wish for the profit and honor of our employers; and I think we bid fairer to bring that tranquility about by our present influence over the Subah, and by supporting him, than by any change which can be made.—No new revolution can take place, without a certainty of troubles, and a revolution will certainly be the consequence whenever we withdraw our protection from the Subah.—We cannot in prudence neither, believe, leave this revolution to chance; we must in some degree be instrumental to bringing it about; in such a case, it is very possible we may raise a man to the dignity just as unfit to govern, as little to be depended upon, and in short as great a rogue, as our Nabob; but perhaps not so great a coward, nor so great a fool, and of consequence, much more difficult to manage.

As to the injustice of supporting this man on account of his cruelties, oppressions, and his being detected in his government, I see a little chance in this blest country of finding a man endowed with the opposite virtues, that I think we may put up with these vices with which we have no concern, if in other matters we find him fittest for our purpose.

As to his breach of his treaty, by introducing the Dutch last year, that was never so clearly proved, I believe, but as to admit of some doubt.—Colonel Clive, before he left the country, seemed satisfied, that what was suspicious in his conduct in that affair, proceeded not from actual guilt, but from the timidity of his nature. But if we still suspect him from further circumstances, we always have it in our power to put it to the test at once, by making him act as he ought, whether he will or no.
With regard to drawing our swords against the lawful Prince of the country, no man can more pity his misfortune than I have done, nor would any one be more willing and happy to be instrumental in affixing him to recover his just right. But such a plan is not the thought of a day, nor the execution of it the work of a few months; there is a powerful party still remains; the Vizier with the Mhrarats and Jutes, who, notwithstanding the constant success of Abdallah against them, still make head against him, and such are their resources and their numbers, that I believe they will at last oblige the Patans to leave the country; for though they cannot beat them fairly out of the field, they bid fair to harve them out of the country. You have no doubt received advice from Mr. Haftings, that Abdallah hath sent orders to the several powers, to acknowledge the Prince King of Indoftan, by the name of Shah Allum; reports are struck by his order at Banaras and Lacknow, in that name; orders are also given to Sujah Dowlatt, to accept the post of Vizier; and our Nabob hath got, it is said, instructions to acknowledge him, and pay him the obesience due to the King of Kings, as he is titled.

If we were perfectly sure Abdallah would remain, as he says, until he saw the Prince well fixed on the throne, and the peace and tranquility of the country restored; we might, I think, all joined together, he a match for the Mhrarats, but we must be well assured, that Abdallah will heartily enter, and when entered, will firmly support the caufe; for should this appointment of his be no more (as it is possible) than a finding stroke to end his expedition with the east of having given us a Mogul, and when a certain number of the country powers had entered into the alliance, he should think of a return to his own country, and leave us to fight it out with the other contending party. I fear the Vizier and the Mhrarats would be too strong for those who remained of the alliance, supposing them to be the Rouelhah, and Sujah Dowlatt, and the Nabob of Bengal. However, supposing all this should take place, why may it not be done with our Nabob in our hand, still his friends and his protectors?

I am this instant favoured with yours of the 25th, and I find by your postscript, that your opinion and mine with regard to the Prince do not differ much. I have no objection to follow the plan you propose. Let Mr. Haftings found the old Nabob, and I will go to work with the young one, who joins me this day.

We may continue our march on to Patna, the rains will give us time to negotiate, to fee we go on sure grounds, and make such a plan of the alliance as will do us honor, and be an advantage to our country, and our employers. But let us not abandon the Nabob; besides the reasons I have urged above. One more still remains, which I believe will have some weight, and make us cautious how we attempt, without very strong and urgent reasons, any change in the present fystem.

You are well acquainted fIR, with the caufe which first gave rife to the present share of influence, which we enjoy in this part of the Mogul's empire: A just refentment for injuries received, was the first motive which induced us to make a trial of our strength; the ease with which we succeeded enlarged our views, and made us cheerfully embrace all opportunities of increasing that interest and influence, both on account of the advantages which accrued from it to the honourable Company, as likewise the hopes that it might in time prove a fource of benefit and riches to our country; fuch were, I believe, the motives of Colonel Clive's actions during his administration; fuch, I believe, were the views of the honourable Company, when they solicited and obtained Colonel Coote's regiment from the government; and fuch, I am certain, is the plan which the Colonel propofes on his return to pursue and to supports in hopes to convince the ministry, and the Company, as he is convinced himself, that if they please to support his project, it will prove of the greatest advantage to the public.

If I have rated our situation right, it follows, I believe, of course, that we are bound with vigour to work on the fame plan, to act on the fame principles, and to keep up the Syflem as perfect and entire as it was left in our hands; that whatever resolutions the nation or the Company may come to, on Colonel Clive's reprefentations, they may not be disappointed by finding here (at least through our faults) any very material change in our situation, power, or credit.

One word more: All we can wish to do is, not to suffer the Nabob to impofe on us, and to check every beginning of an independence he may endeavour to affume: Let us confult and improve, on every occasion that offers, the honour and advantage of our employers, and the increafe of their trade and credit; and not let them suffer any additional expence, on account of purifying any plan, or supporting any fystem whatever: By acting thus, I think we cannot er: we run at leat no risk, and I believe the Company's affairs may be conducted by us under this Subah, as much to their advantage and credit, as any other, whom a revolution may place in the government.

Indoloured, I have the honour to fend Mr. Amyatt's laft letter, received this morning: We have had, as you will fee, another brufh with the Prince's troops, and with great fuc:if however if the other plan goes on, we muft put an end to this fighting fystem, and talk coolly on affairs: I shall expect the favour of your opinion with great impatience, and have the honour to allure you, that I am, with perfect esteem and respect,

S 1 R,
Your moft obedient,
and moft humble fervant,
John Caillaud.
The Witness being asked, What were his reasons for approving a revolution in September 1760, which he seemed to disapprove so strongly by the letter he had read, dated in May? he said, he would, to the best of his recollection, declare those motives, by stating some particulars of his situation at that time in the country: The assentance which Lord Clive had over the Nabob, which flowed from the Nabob from a sense of the favours he had received from Lord Clive, was, very soon after he came to the command, at an end: That the Witness's conduct uncalled attention, to keep up that confidence so necessary between them and the Nabob, was prevented by some very untoward circumstances: Mr. Holwell succeeded Lord Clive in the chair, only by virtue of his rank, in order of succession; and the certainty of another governor being soon appointed, was known to the whole country; and of course, that degree of respect which the Nabob would have had to a governor in other circumstances, was not paid to Mr. Holwell; Mr. Holwell saw this, and referred it. The Nabob's exceeding weak and irrefutable character gave plenty of occasions for Mr. Holwell to find fault, and blame his measures: That he left them too, and observed them, but he thought that he did his duty well as a faithful servant to the Company, by acting the part of a mediator between them, and by sufferings rather than irritating, the ill disposed that subsisted between them. That on this plan he acted throughout the whole course of Mr. Holwell's administration; putting off by delays, and sometimes with reasons, every approach to a change of system in that government, which thought in his own heart he adopted, and knew the necessity of, yet he was delusive to keep it off as long as he could, till the necessity of it might press so hard as to make it unavoidable: That he thought of nothing but temporary systems formed to the day and to the minute; he would not trust his own abilities and judgment, so far as to decide upon what was right or wrong; he knew something was to be done, but how to do it, he really did not know: That when that letter he read was written, the Nabob's son was then alive; his extraordinary death made a great change in the situation of affairs in that country: That Mr. Vanfittart's arrival, and the confidence he had in his abilities and judgment, made him without reluctance adopt his plan; he knew his motives they were honest and disinterested, as to himself, honorable and advantageous to his employers, and such as the necessity of the times, the particular situation at Bengal, the general state of the Company's affairs throughout India, had ever in his opinion vindicated the measures pursued.

Being asked, Whether 20 lack, or any other sum was stipulated, for bringing about that revolution?

He said, The night that Clive Ally Khan signed the articles, for accepting the management of the affairs of Bengal, under Jaffer Ally Khan (in the presence, as he believed, of Mr. Vanfittart, Mr. Sumner, Mr. Holwell, and himself) Clive Ally Khan, after expressing the many obligations he had for our intended good offices in his favour, tendered a paper to Mr. Vanfittart; which, as Mr. Vanfittart interpreted to us, contained a note for 20 lack of rupees, payable to the gentleman then present; that he don't recollect a gentleman present there, that did not concur with him, in deferring Mr. Vanfittart to return that paper to Clive Ally Khan, telling him, That he mislooked our motives for his advancement. He pressed on Mr. Vanfittart again the acceptance of the paper, telling him, That if we continued to refuse that favour, he should fear that the gentlemen present were not well pleased with the appointment: Mr. Vanfittart, who knew his own motives, as well those of the witness, and also of the rest of the gentlemen, told Clive Ally Khan, returning his paper again. When you have paid off all the arrears due to the Company, to your own troops, and the peace of this country is settled, and that your own treasury is full; if then you think proper to make us any acknowledgement for the services now done you, we shall not then be unwilling to accept such marks as you will be pleased to give us of your friendship." The Witness said, That the affair ended there; and he declared solemnly upon his honour, there was no stipulations made, no partition treaty, or any thing of the kind mentioned, then or after, to his knowledge, of that transaction.

The Witness added, That he was now ready and willing to declare, what he received upon the occasion, when he received it, and how he received it; he said, He little expected after 13 years service in that country, and of them in the field, that the little fortune he made, should become the object of so public an enquiry, but he was happy to meet this enquiry more than half way, and the more so in this particular point; as perhaps it may give him an opportunity of doing justice to the memory of the man from whom he received it (Mr. Vanfittart) who did it in his usual generous and handsonde way: so that he knows not but to this minute, the sum he received may be charged to his account. After Clive Ally Khan was placed in the government, he went up to the army at Patna, came down again, embarked for the coast in January 1761, remained there a year and half, and came back to Calcutta, called there upon extraordinary businesses. In October 1762, Mr. Vanfittart then going up to Munger, told him, "If I am happy enough to settle with the Nabob the unfortunate differences that have subsisted between him and my Council, and that I can with propriety remind him of the services you jointly did him; I shall certainly endeavour to serve you." Mr. Vanfittart went up to Munger, and he embarked on board a ship for Europe. In the year 1763, he received an account current from Mr. Vanfittart, in which he found credit for 2 lack of rupees, unfacilitated as he had mentioned before, and much beyond his expectations, and this upon his honour was the whole of what he received directly or indirectly upon that occasion; so little was money his object or thought, that he never enquired or knew what others might have got upon the same occasion; and that if money

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had been his object, he should have been more curious in his enquiries: It is not stated in the account from Mr. Vanfittarts, from whom the 2 lack came, but he supposed it to come from Coffin.

Being asked, Who took possession of the house and effects of Meer Jaffier?
He said, Coffin Ally Khan, after Jaffier had taken out every thing that he wanted.

Being asked, When the resolution was taken of making Coffin Ally Khan Nabob, in the room of Meer Jaffier?
He said, In the accounts read of the transaction, it appears, that Meer Jaffier, rather than consent to the terms proposed, lent for Meer Coffin, and gave up the government to him immediately.

Being asked, Whether Mr. Holwell made any report to the Select Committee, that Coffin Ally Khan proposed to take off the Nabob?
He said. He never heard of such proposal, Mr. Holwell never reported to them, that such a proposal had been made to him.

The Bengal proceedings relating to Colonel Cai'laud; and the opinion of the Court of Directors upon the same subject, were read, and are annexed in the Appendix, No. 10.

A member of the house being present, desired to acquaint the Committee, That he was chairman of the East India Company at that time, and was the principal cause of Colonel Cai'laud's coming home, in order to do justice to a character he entertained a high opinion of; that the Court of Directors entered into a minute enquiry, when he was unanimously acquitted, and was returned to India, with higher honours.

William Brightwell Summer, Esquire, being called upon by the Committee, to state his reasons for affenting as a select Committee man, to the measure of depoling Meer Jaffier, and placing Coffin Ally Khan on the Mufnud—said, That, without inflicting on the public offence of treaty on the part of Meer Jaffier, in the instance of the Dutch invasion, and the many other doubtful parts of his conduct, the irregularities of his private life, or the cruelties with which he was charged, he would tell the reasons for his conduct on the necessity of the reformation, from the extreme difficulties and imminent dangers the affairs of the Company, as well as those of the state, were reduced to by the jealousies, insolence, and inactivity, of the Nabob Meer Jaffier, and the mal-administration and corruption of his ministers, in the collection and diffipation of the revenues, and adding to these, the intestine troubles through the whole country; the widows was opinion, and still continued firm in the same, that it would have been impossible to have supported the system of government then established two months longer, and that embarking as we were with Meer Jaffier, we must inevitably have shared in his ruin.

For the difficulties and difficulties of the presidency, and the opinions formed thereon, while these were strong in view and immediate conclusions were necessary, the widows referred to the public records, which, he said, fully evinced the necessity of the measures pursued, but he wished to have it understood, that when the Committee first entered into negotiation with Meer Coffin, their only idea was reformation in the ministry, not a revolution in the government; and that it was the unexpected obstinacy of Meer Jaffier alone, not an original delusion in the Committee, that placed Meer Coffin in the Mufnud; that he believed, it was a circumstance as little thought of by Mr. Vanfittart, as by himself, when he left Calcutta, on his visit to the Nabob, for the purpose of these reformations; but he readily admitted the necessity of the subsequent change made by Mr. Vanfittart, as pointed out by him in his narrative; every part of which, from his intimate knowledge of the man, he gave the fullest credit to.—The widows repeated, That he was, and still remained of opinion, that the destruction of Meer Jaffier's government made the intended reformation necessary, and that having gone such lengths, there was no room for receding; and that on the whole, he flattered himself, when all matters were duly weighed, his conduct would stand justified in the opinion of every candid and impartial man, whether he was considered as a subject of this kingdom, or, as an immediate servant of the Company.

The widows being desired to inform the Committee, whether the invitation which Meer Jaffier was supposo to give to the Dutch, was ever more than supposition?—he said, It was not far proved by a letter or letters, found in his cabinet after he left Muxadavady, wrote by the Dutch governor to him, on the subject of that invasion: That he could not recollect the purport of them precisely, but they were full conviction to him; they were not entered upon the public proceedings; and he does not recollect, that the Committee made any remonstrance or memorial to Meer Jaffier, upon the subject of their suspicions with respect to the Dutch, nor to his knowledge did Meer Jaffier ever acknowledge such transaction.

The widows read from a printed book, the translations of the following letters from Mr. Bidlon, Director of Chintura, to the Nabob Jaffier Ally Khan, and which he recollected to be those mentioned above.

L E T T E R I.

Our settlement was established here long before the English and other nations entered this kingdom, in which we were eye witneses: Our power was then greater as well as our trade, but now we perceive, that both our power, interest, and wealth, are lost, whilst that of other nations daily increase: In this case, what recourse have we left? Our dishonour and shame is almost inevitable.

For
For this reason, and for the security of our possessions, as well as for the service of your excellency, I have sent for troops into this country. You are our master and sovereign; and therefore I hope for your protection, and wait your orders to bring our troops to this place.

God grant that your riches may daily increase.

LETTER II.

As our nation has always been encouraged by the favour of your excellency, and more particularly from that time, when having a favourable regard to our Company's business, you repeatedly afforded our chief of Caffinbazar, of your attachment; considering these circumstances, I was extremely surprized, that your excellency, during your residence at Calcutta, entered into an agreement, that you would strengthen the fort of Muha Tanna, in order to prevent the Dutch troops from coming this way; and also give a note to the English, directing them to oppose the coming up of our army—All these things considered, it seems plain to us, that your excellency did not enter into the agreement; nor gave this order from any ill opinion of us; but it is all to be imputed to the overbearing spirit of the English: But if any one enters into an agreement through force or duress, and afterwards does not abide by it, he will stand justified by the laws of God and man; particularly the Governor of a kingdom, who wishes for nothing else but the good of his country, and the prosperity of his people.

I am therefore in hopes, through your justice and favour, that you will recede from your agreement and order, and that we shall obtain an order from your excellency, for the bringing up of our army; and also, that a positive order may be given to the English, on no account to molest them, for we sent for the said army to this country, in consequence of your directions.

The King's revenues are greatly detrimented, and the country shou'd be ruined, and of this you can only look upon the English as the sole cause. Our nation formerly brought considerable sums of money into this kingdom, and did not carry out any, and now the English are so powerful, that no trade can be carried on by us, for which reason no money now arrives, and the English yearly remit considerable sums: By this means the revenues of the country are greatly decreased; and therefore how will you be able, without great difficulty, to maintain your forces? and when your enemies come upon you, you will not then be capable of opposing them—This time if you will favour the Company, they will ever be at your command; and your present anxiety and uneasiness may be removed—Your excellency cannot take a better step, and I hope you will take this into your favourable and serious consideration, and return me a proper answer.

LETTER III.

The wrathful letter you wrote to me I have received, and it has given me inexpressible uneasiness:—The troops were not called here at my own desire, nor did I imagine they would ever have come to action, and fully intended to have returned them by the ships when they failed for Europe;—They were brought here for the security of the ships: This I acquainted your excellency of several times.—During their stay in camp they molested no man, nor had any disturbances with the country people; this also you are well afluored of.—It was never my intention they should fight; but the English hoisted Moors colours, and immediately came down upon them, and a battle ensued. Your excellency is the magistrate of justice, and therefore I desire you will interfere:—I was desirous that some advantage should arise to the riots from the sale of the goods when they were brought up, and intended to have laden on board the ships the salt petre and other goods that were bought, and with the people that came here, dispatched them to Europe; but the English would not permit the boats to pass:—I am willing to act up to our agreement, and hope your excellency will adhere to it also: In this we entirely depend on your favour. The Company have for a long time carried on trade here; and therefore earnestly desire you will continue to them your favour and protection, as we are not able of ourselves to root out our enemies.

The Withefs further said, There were several other letters shown him by Mr. Vanfittart, but does not know they were ever acknowledged by Meer Jaffier, and believes they were never shown to him; and he does not know whether these letters were signed; but they were sealed on the cover; and he was convinced they were wrote by the Dutch governor.

Being asked, What he apprehended to be the reason that these letters were not shown to the Select Committee, and transmitted as part of their proceedings? He said, he believed they were shown to every one of the Committee separately; that he could assign no certain reason for the conduct of Mr. Vanfittart, but supposes he did not think them of consequence to be shown to the Committee in their collective capacity.

Being asked, Whether there were any hostilities between the two companies, previous to the Dutch fleet coming into the river? He said, there were no hostilities; some disagreements there had always been on commercial transactions, which were generally accommodated.

The Withefs further said, in answer to other questions, That he certainly thought the Nabob was bound by the second article of the treaty, to prevent any ships or troops of the Dutch coming into Bengal; and that certainly the Dutch would have acted as our enemies, had they been permitted to introduce 7 or 800 Europeans: That he apprehends the strength of the Dutch in all their factories before this operation, amounted to about 150 military men: That a correspondence had passed between the English and Dutch upon that transaction: He could not recollect exactly their public professions, but had no doubt of their intentions.

The
The Withees further said, That he was a member of the Select Committee from the time of Lord Clive's departure to the period of the revolution; that he did not recollect they had any meetings as a Select Committee upon that subject: the whole being carried on in the correspondence between General Caillaud and Mr. Holwell.

He further said, That he was one of the Select Committee present when Coffin Ally Khan made the offer of 20 lack to the governor and council; and that he confirmed every part of General Caillaud's evidence upon that occasion, with this difference, that when the paper was returned, Mr. Vanfittart observed that we were labouring for the peace and safety of the country; that the exigencies of the State were pressing, and that we would not on any account receive this offer; but that, when the Company was incensed, he found himself in a situation to do with convenience to his affairs, he would then be at full liberty to gratify his friends as he thought proper: And Mr. Vanfittart further added, "I will, for my part, under such circumstances, freely accept any token of your regard; and I should suppose the other gentlemen would do the same." That Mr. Vanfittart then returned the paper to Coffin Ally Khan, who seemed uneasy, and said, He apprehended we were not so much his friends as he wished:—That Mr. Vanfittart then gave him the strongest assurance of our sincerity, and took the opportunity to press a donation from him of 5 lack of rupees to the Company, as a help towards the reduction of Pondecherry; this was granted, and was paid the very first money—to the belt of the Withees's re-collection, a very few weeks after the transfaction.

The Withees being further questioned, said, That he knew of no acknowledgment made to the governor and council, as a body, after Coffin Ally Khan was placed on the Moinud; but that as to himself, as in the course of his evidence, he should have occasion to mention his dismission from the Company's service, a circumstance, which if not explained, might leave an impression of culpability on his part, he begged leave to inform the Committee, that the cause of his dismission was, his having written a letter to the Court of Directors, as one of their council among many others, wherein he expounded on what they thought: hath and deferred treatment; that this letter gave the Directors such uneasiness, that every man in India who had signed it, was immediately dismissioned without the least regard to the merits or length of their services; that he states this as the sole cause of his dismission; and in proof thereof, referred to the several papers annexed in the Appendix, No. 11.

The Withees observed, that the change of government, in favour of Coffin Ally Khan, took place in October 1760, and said, That several months after his establishment, Coja Petrude, the Nabob's agent in Calcutta, presented him, in the name of the Nabob, with 80,000 Sicca rupees (£10,000): The payments were made from May to July 1761: That he was dismissioned the Company's service the 3d of August following; and from that period, to his leaving Bengal, the 20th of January 1762, he received further, and in like manner at different times, the sum of 144,000 Sicca rupees (£18,000) making together the whole amount received £28,000 sterling: That the reason of separating the sums received, was in support and confirmation of the idea that he had always entertained and wished to convey to the Committee, of its having been a free and voluntary gift, and he begged leave again to remark, that by far the largest part of the present was received after his dismission: That under these circumstances he ever considered the transaction honourable, and never made a secret of it: That he had thus intruded upon the patience of the Committee, to obviate an opinion, which seems too prevalent, that presents are received indiscriminately in India, and that self-interest is the only motive of actions there: And to shew what he thought dishonourable presents, he further informed the Committee, That in March 1761, he was employed by the governor and council in the province of Burdwan, to enquire into the state of the revenues, so as to enable them to form a settlement with the Rajah for the ensuing year; that while he was upon his journey, the Rajah found means to send his agents to Calcutta, who represented to the governor and council, that at different periods the Nabob's requests, which was the claim the Company had on the province, had scarcely exceeded 18 lack of rupees: However, after much treating, they offered to settle the next year, at between 24 and 25 lack: That the governor and council had not agreed in form to this proposal, but he was informed by a letter on the 3d of April, they had determined to do; and he was in consequence immediately recalled: That he informed Mr. Vanfittart with the opinion he had formed upon the intelligence he had got into the state of the province; and that he meant to protest against those terms of agreement: That the next morning, before the council met, he convinced Mr. Vanfittart to fully of the justness of his opinion, that he was re-appointed to Burdwan with the same commission and powers: That this transaction appeared on the consultation of the 10th of April 1771:—That about the latter end of June, or beginning of July, he had completed his enquiries, and returned to Calcutta with a voluntary offer from the Rajah, of the payment of 32 lack and a half of rupees, which was agreed to, and the whole received within that year: That this transaction established a footing for a further refund at Burdwan, and thereby laid the foundation of an annual increase of rents, amounting at this time, if he is rightly informed, to 43 lack per annum, net receipt to the Company.

The withees said, That on the morning of the 10th of April, when his re-appointment to Burdwan took place, he had an offer made him by the Rajah's agent of 4 lack of rupees for his own use and benefit, to be paid down immediately, on condition he would forbear all opposition to the engagement which the Council were before ready to enter into; and that Mr. Smith (a member of the Council) with whom he was intimately connected, soon after informed him, that
he had offers of 2 lack of rupees for his influence with him, not to stir in the affair; and that their further offers to him (through Mr. Smith) were unlimited. That they both treated this proposal as it deserved.

In regard to presents received by others, the witness said, That whatever had come to his knowledge had been by acting as their attorney; but he was persuaded that the gentlemen who employed him have no reserve upon the occasion; and as he can speak with certainty on the subject, he should conceal no part. That Mr. Holwell, who was of the Council, received a lack and 70,000 rupees—Mr. McGwire, one lack and 80,000—Mr. Culling Smith, Secretary to the Committee, one lack and 34,000—Major Yorke, who commanded the detachment immediately attendant on Meer Collins, one lack and 34,000. He did not know whether Mr. Vanfittart received any thing: Those sums were paid in 1761.

The witness' being asked, what were the circumstances of the country when this money was received, he said, It was a matter he suppos'd the Nabob a proper judge of.

Believing, with whom Meer Jaifer, at the time of the revolution, had discharged his debt incurred by the treaty with the Company in 1757—He said, No, A balance remained due, for which, when the assignments in the Burdwan country were given up, the Company received jewels and other effects, which were considered as full security, not as payment; and could not recollect when the payment was made.

Being asked, whether at the time he received the first payment of his present, he did not receive an obligation for a larger sum? He said, He did; that it was some weeks, to the best of his recollection, after Coftim Ally Khan left Calcutta, that Goja Petruke informed him the Nabob intended to make him a present of 2 lack and a half; and defined to know whether he would accept of them. That he assented, he would very thankfully accept of them as a free and voluntary gift, whenever his circumstances and situation admitted it, without inconvenience to his own affairs. That he then presented him with the Nabob's obligation for that sum, saying, that the Nabob had suffered much uneasiness by Mr. Vanfittart's refusal of the obligation for 20 lack. The witness replied, That he considered the obligation of no validity; but he received the present as an earnest of the Nabob's friendly intentions towards him.

Believing, if, at the time of this conversation with Goja Petruke, the Nabob was indebted to the Company? He said, It was probable he might be in debt; but he thinks jewels were mortgaged and settled for every debt. The deposit of jewels was considered as absolute good security, but when they were redeemed, or how the account was settled, he could not recollect.

The witness further said, That large sums had been lent by Meer Jaifer to Patna for payment of the troops, and payment had likewise been made at Muxadav: those sums were still due was most probable, for he did not suppose army accounts ever have been, or will be, settled. As to the troubles in the country, he apprehends they were not concluded; and that the battle with the Shewzadda had not then happened.

Being asked, whether he apprehended the treasure of the Nabob was abounding at that time? He said, At the time the obligation was given, he apprehended not; but when it was paid, he apprehended the Nabob found no inconvenience.

In answer to further questions, the witness said, That he never disclosed to Mr. Vanfittart his conversation with Goja Petruke, nor had he had curiosity to enquire whether meffages, similar to that sent to him, had been sent to Mr. Holwell, Mr. Callaud, Mr. McGwire, or either of them. And now nothing remained but for Mr. Vanfittart to know any thing of the 2 lack mentioned in Mr. Holwell's letter, and thought it impossible he would.

In the course of the above evidence, were read the papers annexed in the appendix, No. 12.

Your Committee having proceeded thus far in their report; and finding it impossible, from the prorogation, to digest in any manner the rest of their proceedings, have, in consideration of the importance of the matter, laid a transcript of their minutes before the house.

General Carnack.

Whether you were present in Bengal at the time of the revolution, which placed Coftim Ally Khan on the Muhinoor? I left Bengal in 1760, with Lord Clive, on my return to Europe. At my arrival at St. Helena I had information that the Court of Directors had appointed me Major of their settlement at Bengal, and commander of their forces there.

In consequence of that information, I availed myself of the opportunity of one of the Company's ships that was at St. Helena, and went back to Bengal. I arrived in the mouth of the river, I think, in the beginning of October in that year; but being detained there five or six days by contrary winds, I suppose it was about the 12th or 13th before I arrived at Calcutta. I there received a letter from Mr. Vanfittart, who had heard of the ship's being in the river, informing me he was gone to Muxadav with Colonel Callaud, and wished me to follow him as soon as possible: I accordingly sailed on a very few days at Calcutta, and proceeded up to Mr. Vanfittart. In my way to one of the palace, called Moradbag, where Mr. Vanfittart was, I of necessity passed by the Nabob's palace, while Colonel Callaud, with the troops, was there; it being the very day of the revolution, in the act of making the revolution; and yet every thing was so quiet, that I passed the place without having any idea of the matter. Mr. Vanfittart, upon our meeting, informed me of what had been transacted.

Rammnain was a very able man, but very avaricious, and he had the credit of being very wealthy, which was motive sufficient for Coftim Ally Khan to with to have him in his power.

He
He was always an object of jealousy of the Nabob's, and even Meer Jaffer wished to have had hold of his treasures; however, my Lord Clive had secured him from any injustice of that nature, and it was deemed a point of policy to support Rammannair; and the first orders I received after the victory over the Shewzadda, were to maintain the engagements, which had been observed in Lord Clive's time, with respect to protecting Rammannair from any violence or injustice on the part of the Nabob. The plea of his being in arrear was the pretext always made use of for opposing him, but without foundation; for in the frequent conversations I had with Ram
munnair on the subject, he always seemed ready to come to a fair and equitable account:—The Governor and Council thought proper afterwards to give me contrary directions respecting that unfortunate man: There stands upon the Company's records a letter from me to the board, shewing the contrariety of their orders, and an absolute refusal, while I was at the head of their forces, of doing so dishonourable an act, as delivering up this man to his enemy.

Fort William confusions, 21 April 1761—Major Carnack's letter relating to Rammannair read.

The 2d order the Governor and Council gave me, was to deliver up Rammannair, which I absolutely refused.—In the interim Colonel Coote came and took the command of the army:— Colonel Coote's purposing the same measures, with respect to Rammannair, was an approbation of my conduct, which was very pleasing to me.

At the time you left the army at Patna did you understand that you had a right to quit the service when you thought proper?

I certainly had a right, in my apprehension, to resign the service, except to evade punishment for any crime I might have been guilty of, or in the face of danger.

Whether you delivered such an opinion to the president at Calcutta?

I did, and it stands upon record.

Was there then any obligation or covenant between the military servants and the Company to serve for any limited time?

I believe there were infinities of inferior officers entering into such covenants, but my com-
mmission was sent out without any such stipulation; and I will observe, why injustice it ought to be so, for it was in the power of the Governor and Council to dismiss me at their pleasure.

Whether the same liberty did not extend to all the other military servants of the Company not having entered into covenant?

So I have always understood singly, and with restriction, as I have mentioned.

Do you imagine, that if at the time you had resigned, another person exercising the same right at the same time would have rendered an action, innocent in itself, criminal by the conduct of another?

No,—nor men in more than one—as no immediate detriment could have from thence ensued to the service; but I should think myself highly criminal to join in a general combination to resign.

Do you imagine that several persons combining together to do an act, which was lawful for each to do separately, would, by such combination, be guilty of a crime?

I do, and for this reason, that general ruin (and more especially in India, where the loss of officers cannot be supplied) would be the consequence of such a general resignation.

Do you think that every thing which may be hurtful in its consequences is therefore criminal to do?

Where the public is materially concerned I think so.

Whether your motive for quitting the army was the orders you received for giving up Rammannair?

I did not quit the army, but was ordered down, I believe, with a view of removing every ob-
stacle to the delivery up of Rammannair.

Whether you do not think that a breach of the general engagements, under which officers served the Company, would have warranted a general resignation?

I think it may tend to exculpate; but no private consideration can warrant an act, when the public safety is at stake.

Sir Eyre Coote.

To give an account of the particular circumstances relative to Rammannair.

After the campaign was over, on the coast of Coromandel, which ended, I believe, in January 1760, I then went down to Bengal:—I may say, prior to that, that I had received a letter from the Governor and Council of Madras, 4 December 1760, informing me of the revolution in Bengal, and that there was five lack of rupees sent from the Nabob, Coffin Ally Khan, for the payment of the troops acting in the siege of Pondicherry:—At that time we were, I believe, three or four mouths in arrears to our black troops, notwithstanding all the attention the Governor and Council of Madras paid to the supplying us with money; if that money had come in any other way than by a revolution, it would have made me much happier than it did.—In my an-
swer to that letter of the 7th, I gave my opinion of my disapproval of that revolution, as a mea-
sure which the Government was productive of the loss of our reputation.—Upon my arrival in Bengal I found there was two different parties of the Council, the one that had formed the revolution, and the other that disapproved of it:—I was intimately acquainted with the gentlemen of both those parties, and therefore, as the affair had happened, however unfortunate I thought it might prove, I made it my business to endeavour to reconcile the two parties, with a resolution, at that time, not to interfere in any matter of businefs or politics where I thought no honour was to be gained; however, I was over persued by Mr. Vanfittart and the other gentlemen (as a measure which they
they told me they imagined would be of great service to the Company) to go up to the army at Patna; accordingly I desired they would give me instructions to proceed by, which are as follows.

Instructions to Colonel Coote in the Select Committee proceedings, Fort William, 21 April 1761, read.

By this, I believe, it will plainly appear, that the governor and council had two objects in view, in sending me there, one was the fixing a plan of operation upon the supposition that we should be able to conduct the Mogul to Delhi; the other to secure and protect Ramnarrain in the province of Patna:—Upon my arrival at Patna I applied, with the closest attention, to the business upon which I was sent there, I informed the Shawzadda of the sentiments of the Board towards him, and the desire the English had to assist him to the utmost of their power, which he seemed very sensible of, and very desirous of having; at the same time declaring that he might be proclaimed and acknowledged by us as he had been by different powers in India: and said, he thought it very extraordinary, that where he himself reigned, there he was not acknowledged: Thole matters I communicated to the Board to receive their instructions, as will be seen in the course of the correspondence in July.—I likewise informed Ramnarrain, that I had orders from the governor and council to protect him, provided he would settle his accounts with the Nabob; and therefore I desired him immediately to let about it, informing the Nabob of the same, as may be seen in my correspondence with the governor and council. During those transactions I received a letter from the Board recommending it to me to proclaim the King:—I found, that had I immediately complied with the request of the Board, it might prove of fatal consequence to the Nabob, and to the Company, at that time; for he had given away several of the belg provinces to different people that belonged to him, particularly Purnea, which will likewise be seen in the correspondence; I therefore thought it, to the best of my judgment, for the advantage of the Company and the Nabob, as it was the Shawzadda’s inclination, to let him go to Shujah Dowla; at the same time I had got the Nabob to consent to that measure, and to pay a visit with me to the Shawzadda; then it was thought advisable, both by the Nabob, and several of the Company’s servants who were present, that the Nabob for himself, and I on behalf of the English, should convoy the Siccans, and acknowledge him Mogul on the day that he should pass the boundary of the province; this he seemed satisfied with, and it was agreed that Major Carnac, with part of the army should escort him; the Major informing me, in proper time, of the day he should join Shujah Dowla, in order that I might keep my promise, the Nabob confiding entirely to all this matter; and at the same time agreed, that if we prosecuted the expedition, and settled matters with Shujah Dowla, that he would advance the 10,000 rupees towards the payment of our forces.

—The King was but a few days gone, when the Nabob seemed to alter his sentiments entirely, with regard to the promises he had made, and turned his thoughts entirely towards the feizing of Ramnarrain, for which, if I would give him up, he offered me seven rupees and a half of rupees, and whatever I pleased to the gentlemen of my family; this I communicated, by letter, to the governor and council of 17th July, 1761:—The Nabob finding he could not gain his point, with regard to Ramnarrain, then thought it necessary to write the governor, Mr. Vansittart, the most scandalous invectives, and false accusations, against me, and was determined that he would not declare the King the day we had both given our words of honour for doing it. He had then a large army encamped on the outside of Patna:—I was then in the city, and from the detachments which were made, and which were sent for the collection of revenues with Major Carnac, I had not then under my command above 150 Europeans, 70 of which were in the hospitals, and I believe 3 or 400 Sepoys: I was, with this force, to protect the city, Ramnarrain, and to defend my own honour:—The Nabob knowing my weaknesses, thought it a proper opportunity to get possession of the city:—He applied to me for leave to come into the fort of the city the day before the Shawzadda was to be proclaimed, to which I agreed, and he seemed thoroughly satisfied, provided he only brought in the attendants about his person; this he consented to: The night or two before the Mogul was to be proclaimed, he sent me word, that he would not proclaim him, nor come into the city, unless he had the gates delivered up to him, which I would by no means consent to; at the same time I informed him, that I had given my honour for declaring the Mogul on such a day, and I would have it performed in the city, which would not appear proper in the eyes of the country, as he was Subah of the province, and beyond we might have a conference upon the subject, which he evaded having; and I was informed by my spies, that that night his camp was all in motion, and his artillery brought towards the city:—I sent the next morning to one of his chief ministers, to learn the reason of such a movement, and the meaning of the Nabob, which he told me was done by Coja Gregory, who was his head general; and he was not afraid to say at the Durbar, that it would be productive of mischief: Finding, the next night, the same movements and disturbances in his camp, I thought it necessary to go the next morning myself, and to fee him if possible; accordingly I ordered a company of Sepoys, and a troop of 30 horsemen that I had, to get themselves in readiness by five in the morning, at which hour the next morning I sent Mr. Watts to inform him of my coming: It was seven before I arrived at his tent, and Mr. Watts informed me, that the Nabob was not to be seen; he had lent to him, but had not seen him: I went into the outer tent, taking pilots in my hand for my own security, and sat downthere till I should hear further:—As it is a custom in India, when they mean ill to a person that visits them in camp, to cut the tent cords, and let the tent fall on the person they mean to destroy, I desired Captain I'm to place two of the troopers round the tent, to prevent any mischief of that kind; and finding the Nabob would not see me, I rode away, and left Mr. Watts
Watts to inform him of my business: This the Nabob represented to the governor and council, as a grievous insult, for which reason I received several extraordinary letters from the Board, which are upon the correspondence, with my answers; and at my return to Calcutta, I defined a strict enquiry might be made into the matter; and the enquiry was made.

[Conferences, Fort William, 28 September 1761, Letter to Colonel Coote read]

I was ordered by the Select Committee to withdraw the protection from Ramnarrain, which I did accordingly; he was soon after murdered, and his treasure seized.

[Letter, 18 June, 1761, to Colonel Coote, for Ramnarrain's suspension, read.]

[17 July, Colonel Coote's Letter in answer to d's. read.] The withdrawing the protection from Ramnarrain was very beneficial to the Nabob.

The papers read in the course of the above evidence are annexed in the Appendix, No. 13.

Your Committee having taken the evidence of Colonel Munro, a Member of the House, at his express desire, that he might be at liberty to attend his private affairs in Scotland, they have added it to their report, though beyond the period to which they have been able to extend their proper enquiry, as it has turned out.

Colonel Munro:—In April 1764 I was under the king's orders, from his Majesty's secretaries of state and war, to return to Europe with such of his majesty's troops as did not choose to inflict into the Company's service; I was accordingly to have embarked with the troops the beginning of May on board a Man-of-war, which was to sail for Europe; but before I embarked there were two expresss arrived from Bengal, acquainting the Governor and Council at Bombay, that Shujah Dowla and Coffin Ally Khan had marched into the province of Bengal, at the head of 60,000 men: That Major Adams who commanded the army was dead: That the settlement of Calcutta was in the utmost confusion, and the Company's affairs in the utmost danger; they therefore requested, that the governor and council of Bombay would apply to me to go round immediately to take the command of the army with his Majesty's troops, and as many as could be spared from the presidency of Bombay.—As his Majesty's intention in sending out his troops to India, by the orders I had, was to affright and defend the Company in their different settlements, I thought it would not be answering the intention of sending them out to return and leave the Company's affairs in that situation; I therefore complied with the request, and arrived at Calcutta with his Majesty's troops, and a detachment of the Company's forces from Bombay, some time in the month of May 1764: Mr. Vanfittart, who was then governor, acquainted me that the army under the command of Major Carnac had been, since the death of Major Adams, and Shujah Dowla and his army had come into the province, upon the defensive, and retreated before the enemy; but I am sure, from Major Carnac's gallant behaviour upon every occasion, that he will be able to give a proper account for his conduct in that campaign.—Mr. Vanfittart requested, that I would immediately repair with the troops I had carried round from Bombay, to join the army who were in cantonment at Patna, and take the command of them.—I found the army, Europeans as well as Sepoys, mutinous, detesting to the enemy, threatening to carry off their officers to the enemy, demanding an augmentation of pay, demanding large sums of money, which they had been promised them by the Nabob, and disobedient to all order; 400 of the Europeans had gone off in a body, and joined the enemy some time before I joined the army: This being the situation the army was in, I fully determined to endeavour to conquer that mutinous disposition in them before I would attempt to conquer the enemy.—I accordingly went with a detachment of the King and Company's Europeans from Patna, with four field pieces of artillery, to Chippera, one of the cantonments:—I think the very day, or the day after I arrived, a whole battalion of Sepoys, with their arms and accoutrements, went off to join the enemy; I immediately detached about 100 Europeans, and a battalion of Sepoys, whole officers told me they thought they could depend upon them nor to defect, with two field pieces, to endeavour to come up with the defectors, and bring them back to me; the detachment came up with them in the night time, found them asleep, took them prisoners, and carried them back to Chippera.—The officer who commanded the detachment, sent me an express, acquainting me with the hour he would arrive at Chippera with the prisoners:—I was ready to receive them with the troops under arms; upon their arrival at Chippera, I immediately ordered their officers to pick me out 50 of the men of the worst characters, and who they thought might have enticed the battalion to defect to the enemy; they did pick out 50; I desired them to pick me out 24 men of those 50 of the worst characters: I immediately ordered a field court martial to be held by their own black officers, and after representing to the officers the heinous crime the battalion had been guilty of, desired they would immediately bring me their sentence; they found them guilty of mutiny and defection, sentenced them to suffer death, and left the manner to me; I ordered immediately four of the 24 to be tied to the gun, and the artillery officers to prepare to blow them away:—There was a remarkable circumstance, four grenadiers represented, as they always had the poll of honours, though they were intituted to be first blown away; the four grenadier men were untied from the guns, and the four grenadiers tied and blown away, upon which the European officers of the battalions of Sepoys, who were then in the field, came and told me, that the Sepoys would not suffer any more of the men to be blown away:—I ordered the artillery officers to load the four field pieces with grape shot, and drive on the Euro-
Europeans with the guns in their intervals; desired the officers to return at the heads of their battalions; ordered them immediately to ground their arms, and if one of them attempted to move, I would give orders to fire upon them, and treat them the same as if they were Serajah Dowlah's army. — They did ground their arms, and did not attempt to take them up again, upon which I ordered 16 more of the 24 to be tied to the guns by force, and blown away the fame as the first, which was done: I immediately ordered the other four to be carried to a cantonment, where there had been a detachment of the Sepoys some time before, with positive orders to the commanding officer at that cantonment to blow them away in the fame manner at the guns, which was accordingly done, and which put an end to the mutiny and defection.

I prepared to take the field as early as possible after the rains, with the army, and fixed the 15th of September for the rendezvous of the troops from their different cantonments: — A couple of days before the army marched, I had intelligence that the enemy had advanced several parties of horse, and had thrown up some breast works on the banks of the Soane; to impede the crossing of the troops: — I ordered Major Champion with a detachment and 4 field pieces to march and cross the Soane some miles below, where the army was to cross, after fixing with him the hour and day that I intended to arrive at the Soane with the army: — I desired that he might be at that time on the other side, and endeavour to dislodge the enemy, and cover the landing of the troops.

That officer was so pointed in executing his orders, he began to fire upon the enemy just as the van of the army appeared upon the banks of the Soane, and soon dislodged them, by which means the whole army, in 4 hours, was landed on the other side without the least molestation:

— I continued to march on towards Buxar, where the enemy was: — The last 2 or 3 days march the line of march was a good deal harassed by the enemy's cavalry, so much that there were 2 sergeants and 6 or 7 men of the advanced guard were killed: — Upon the 23d of October we arrived at Buxar, and encamped just without range of the enemy's shot; and upon my going to reconnoitre their situation with some of the field officers, I found the greatest part of them were entrenched with the Ganges upon their left and the fort or village of Buxar on their rear: — I intended to have attacked their camp about 1 or 2 in the morning of the 23d, and sent out spies to bring me some pieces of intelligence, such as to know whether I could bring my artillery on the right of their camp, resolving not to attack them on their left, that we might have a better chance to drive them into the Ganges than they should us: I likewise wanted to know in what part of their encampment the force of their artillery lay, and where the Vizier and Gohim Ally Khan's tent stood: — The spies did not return to camp by 12 o'clock at night: — I took it for granted they had been taken prisoners, and therefore resolved to put off the attack till the 24th in the morning: Two of the spies came in by day-light of the morning of the 23d, and told me, that the enemy were under arms all night, moving their artillery, and fending off their treasure and women in the night: — I went immediately with some officers to look at their disposition: I saw a good many of their troops under arms, but not out of their entrenchments: — The officers who were with me, as well as myself, thought they only meant to fliew themselves in order to strike a terror into our troops, never imagining they would quit their lines in order to attack us, and as I never heard of a Black army before attacking a European army, I returned to our camp, willing they would come out and attack us, for our army was encamped in order of battle: — About eight o'clock in the morning the field officer of the day came into my tent as I was about dressed, and acquainted me, that the enemy's right was in motion, and he was afraid they meant to attack us: I immediately went out with my reconnoitring glasses in my hand, and saw and thought as he did, upon which I ordered the drums to beat immediately to arms, which was done, and the troops advanced from their encampment, and were in a few minutes ready to receive them: — The action lasted from nine till twelve; the enemy then gave way, went off very slowly, blowing up several tumbrils and three large magazines of powder as they went off: — I immediately ordered the line to break into columns and pursue; and two miles from the field of battle there was a rivulet, where the enemy had a bridge of boats; they pierced the boats, and sunk them before the rear of their army got over; by which means there was about 2000 of them drowned and thickening in the mud; but that was the best piece of Generalship Shujah Dowla fhewed that day, because, if I could have crossed the rivulet with the army, I would either have taken or drowned his whole army in the Carnalla, and come up with his treasure and jewels, and Gohim Ally Khan's jewels, which I was informed, amounted to between two and three millions.

The strength of our army at this battle, were as follows:

Europeans in battalion, rank and file, 746; of which 250 were King's troops. — Artillery men 71. — European cavalry, 40. — In all, European 857, exclusive of officers. — Sepoys, rank and file, 5297. — Black cavalry 918: In all 7,072. — Train of artillery, 20 field pieces. — European officers killed 2, wounded 7. — Europeans killed 34, wounded 49. — Non-commissioned officers, killed 3, wounded 6. — Europeans killed and wounded 101. — Sepoys killed 205, wounded 441, missing 85. — Black cavalry, killed 45, wounded 24. — Killed and wounded 847. — Artillery taken in the field 133 pieces of different sizes, all upon carriages, and most of them English carriages. The enemy was reported to be 60,000; but I am sure, there were not less than 40,000. — I am likewise sure, that there must have been 2,000 of them killed in the field of battle, exclusive of those drowned. And as I had not surgeons sufficient to dress our own wounded, and give them any alleviation, three days successively, to cure the wounded of their wounded in the field, and gave rice and water to such as would take it, and which was all the alleviation I could give them. — The army remained at Buxar for several days, until hospitals were provided for the wounded.
wounded, and to bury the dead.—I then marched the army into Shujah Dowla's country, and sent an express to Calcutta, for further Directions from the Governor and Council. The Mogul (Shah Allum) wrote me a letter the day after the battle, giving me joy of the victory of the Vizier, who had kept him as a slave prisoner, and deferring I would take him under my protection; and acquainting me, that though he was with the Vizier in camp, he had left him the night before the battle.—My answer to this letter, was as nearly as I can remember, that I would immediately send an express to Mr. Vanfittar, the Governor at Calcutta, but that I would not take him under protection until I knew how far such a step might be proper, and for the interest of the Company.—He sent to me, and wrote to me repeatedly before I had an answer from Calcutta, deferring me to come to him, for he had something very particular to communicate to me: I at first sent him word, that I would wait upon him, provided he would not look upon himself as under the English protection; to which he consented.—When I waited upon him, he told me, that if the English took him under protection, he would give them Shujah Dowla's country, that or anything else that they pleased to demand, and repeated many grievances and hardships that Shujah Dowla laid him under, and said, he was only his slave prisoner. —I continued to march the army on toward Banaras; and the Mogul continued to march with his guards, and encamped every night pretty close to our encampment. Before the army arrived at Banaras, I had an answer from the Governor and Council, who consented, that the King should be taken under protection.—Upon the army's arriving at Banaras, Shujah Dowla sent me his minister Benoy Bahadre, with over uses of peace, which I refused, because I intimated upon it in the first instance, that he would deliver me up Coffin Ally Kuan and Sumro; the former had ordered so many of the subjects of Great Britain to be massacred, and the latter undertook to put the horrid crime in execution, when no man in the Nabob's army would undertake it but himself.—Sumro was a German, and a general officer; and had been before a sergeant in the French service, deserted from them to us, and from us to Coffin Ally Khan. —He commanded Shujah Dowla's artillery at the battle of Buxar, and had 3 or 400 French deserters from our army under his command.—Bene Bahadre told me, Shujah Dowla never could think of giving up Coffin Ally Khan or Sumro, but if I pulled from that demand, I might have any other respects. He said, Shujah Dowla would give 25 lack of rupees, to defray the expenses the Company had been at in the war. —25 lack to the army; and 8 lack for myself. —This he told me in the presence of Captain Stables and Gordon, who were my aid de camps, and both now in England, Mr. Stewart, my secretary, and my interpreter.—My answer was, if he gave me all the lacks in his treasury, I would make no peace with him, until he had delivered me up those murdering rascals, for I never could think that my receiving 11 or 12 lack of rupees, was a sufficient atonement for the blood of those unfortunate gentlemen who were murdered at Patna, nor a sufficient atonement to the weeping parents, friends, and relations, of those unfortunate gentlemen; these were my own words. —Upon this, Bene Bahadre and I parted.—He returned a second time, with assurances from Shujah Dowla, that if I made peace with him, he would put me upon a method of laying hold both of Coffin and Sumro; and made use of all the peremptory arguments he could, to induce me to make peace.—I still intimated my first preliminary: Bene Bahadre desired, if that was the case, that I would permit Captain Stables, who spoke the country language, to return with him to the Nabob's camp; that the Nabob wanted to speak with Captain Stables.—I told Captain Stables, that as I was fully determined never to depart from his giving up Coffin Ally Khan and Sumro in particular, I did not wish or advise him to go, for that they might use him the same way as the other unfortunate gentlemen.—Captain Stables replied, that he would with pleasure risk his own life; could he be the instrument of bringing those two to be made public examples of.—He accordingly went with Bene Bahadre to the Nabob's camp, and when he returned, he told me, that since he found I was fully determined to have Coffin and Sumro, that in regard to Coffin, he would not by any manner of means deliver him up, but let him elope. —But as to Sumro, if I sent 2 or 3 gentlemen from the English camp who knew Sumro, he would ask Sumro to an entertainment; and in presence of those gentlemen, he would order him to be put to death.—He offered Captain Stables a sum of money, to endeavour to prevail upon me to agree to his terms; but as I never would, the next thing to be considered was, the manner of driving Shujah Dowla entirely out of his country, who was then at Lucknow with the remaining of his army; and to consider of the manner of settling his country.—I wrote to Calcutta, to the Governor and Council, sent them a letter the King wrote to me much about this time; proposing, that he should have so much of Shujah Dowla's country, and cede the rest to the Company; and request me, that I would make no peace with Shujah Dowla.—I sent this letter to Calcutta, deferring to know the directions of the Governor and Council with regard to this matter; and acquainting them likewise, that I was determined to leave the army so as to return to Calcutta, to embark with the last ship that should fail that feaon with his Majesty's troops.—The Governor and Council sent a copy of a treaty to be executed by the King, and Mr. Marriot, Mr. Billers, who was chief of Patna, and Mr. Daker, to be present at the executing of this treaty.—The treaty with the King was executed and an act of commerce was drawn up by thefe transactions, and the time drawing near for my quitting the command, Major Carnac was ordered by the Governor and Council to repair immediately to take the command.—I left the army the 6th of January 1765, and met Major Carnac upon his way to take the command; I told him what my plan of operations would be, had I remained in the command; and which were as follows: As I held it a rule never to be departed from in that country, not to come to a general action with the army, except where every thing
thing is at stake; I determined, as we were in possession of I believe the greatest part of Shujah Dowla's country, to have remained some time longer in camp, as his army must of course disperse when his money was out; and if I found that would take up too much time, I would march the army towards Lucknow, and if he came to action, to have then rilted a battle with him, and taken possession of Lucknow and Illahabad, which was his whole country, with what he had in possession; I told this to Major Carnac, who said, he would follow the same plan.

The Company's governor and council, and all the servants at the settlement of Calcutta or elsewhere, were under no apprehensions from what Shujah Dowla or Coffeey Khan, could do after the battle of Buxar, as will appear from several letters wrote me from the presidency, and by their letters home, after the battle of Buxar.—The Company's investments for Europe were carried on that year in the same manner as usual; they had no enemy nearer the settlement of Calcutta than 800 miles, and that enemy at the head of the remains of a conquered army: That was the situation I left the country in; and before I embarked for Europe, and before General Carnac joined the army, Sir Robert Fletcher marched the army, took possession of Illahabad and Lucknow; and Shujah Dowla's army, as I understood, totally dispersed.

If, at the time you found the army in that mutinous disposition, they were regularly paid?

They were.

Whether you know of any promise that had been made them of an increase of pay, or of any promise of a present made from the Nabob?

I am sure there was no promise of an increase of pay; nor do I know of any promise of a present; but I heard that Major Adams told them, they should have a present from the Nabob, if they drove the troops out of the country.

What do you apprehend, was the cause of that mutinous disposition?

From the different actions the troops were in with Coffin Ally Khan, and their being able to drive him from post to post, under that gallant officer Major Adams; they thought themselves intitled to benefit by that success, and I suppose (owing to the troops being in the field), there must have been a relaxation of discipline.—These are the motives that I suppose induced them to mutiny, and probably there might have been large promises from the enemy if they would join them.

Of what nation were these Europeans that mutinied, and deserted to the enemy?

Molly French—and I believe some Germans—don't know whether there were any English. Whether those Europeans were mixed with the English Companies, or whether they were in a corps by themselves?

They were mixed with the English Companies.—Did not get back any of those deserters except one.

Where do the Indian princes get their artillery and gunpowder?

Their artillery they get from England, Holland, and France.—For while I was in India; there was hardly a ship came there, that did not sell them cannon and small arms.—The gunpowder they make the most of it themselves.—They cast some cannon—but there is no black prince that cast cannon but the King of Travancore.—Shot they cast in abundance.

What number of Sepoys can be got in the East-Indies?

I believe any number you please.—The cannon and military stores are smuggled into the country, and I believe the Company have made some examples.—I always thought it a very great scandal, that such things should be suffered.—I think such a practice might be easily prevented, as to the English smuggling.

What do you apprehend would be the means of making the Sepoys faithful and good soldiers?

One method is a strict discipline;—another, is having them to act with the Europeans;—another, suffering them their own customs and manners with regard to religion, when it does not interfere with their duty, to be well paid and have good clothing, and increasing the number of European officers, good care when they are sick, and using them well in every respect while they behave well.

What is your opinion of preferring our conquests in India?

In the first place, always to keep a proper force of Europeans in that country, never suffer the Company's servants to make war against the country powers, until it is evident that they are the first aggressors; and making proper laws in the country, so as that the executive power may be properly executed.

What force of Europeans should be kept in that country, and Bengal particularly?

I think never less than an establishment of 3000 men— and I should rather think, if they could be pared from this country, they ought to be 4000; not that I think 3000 men are sufficient to defend that country against all the country powers who may make war against the English; but my reason for saying, that another 1000 besides the 3000 might be necessary, would be to counterbalance the black troops who must be necessarily employed in that country, and who are capable of being-taught discipline almost equal to the Europeans.

What number of Sepoys is a proper and safe proportion for 3000 Europeans?

About four parts in five, or more.

What do you think might be the supply of recruits necessary to maintain an establishment of 3000 men in that country?

About 500 men yearly in time of peace.
What is your opinion of the expediency of employing foreigners in that country, and particularly Germans and Swifs?

That any foreigners whatsoever never ought to be employed by the English in that country.—I have already given an example, that when an enemy was in the field they deferred to them; and that they are of a quite different religion, if they are of any at all.—I therefore think they would upon every occasion, defer from us to to those of the same religion as themselves; and it has always been found, that they do so.—Another reason is, that as we have but just the number that is absolutely necessary in that country, I don't think they can be depended upon in time of action.

Do you know whether there have been any corps of Swifs or German protestants in India, under their own officers?

I don't know of any such corps.

What is your opinion, if they had corps of Swifs?

I am against corps of foreigners, of Swifs or Germans;—but as to having some mixed, I have no objection to it;—it might do very well.

What is your opinion of employing as private men the Catholicks from Ireland?

I think they might be very well and safely employed.—I am always for having the greatest number of troops from this country.

Whether European cavalry would be necessary?

Certainly of very great use.

What number would you recommend out of these 5000 to be European cavalry?

At least one third.

What proportion of the black troops ought to be cavalry?

If it was meant to have European cavalry, I would have no establishment of black cavalry at all, being of no use in time of peace; and in time of war only of use to keep the line quiet on the march.

Whether it has not been the custom for time immemorial, for Captains of English ships to fell arms and military stores to the natives of India?

The time I was in India, it was a custom; and have heard, it was always the custom.

Whether the French, Dutch, and Danes, and all other nations, do not likewise fell military stores?

Always heard that they did.

Whether you think there is a probability of preventing other nations from doing it?

No.

Whether it might not be a dangerous experiment to train the Sepoys so as to make them equal to Europeans?

It may be a dangerous one, but it will still be a more dangerous one not to do it.

Whether you know or have heard of any other great defection, except what you have mentioned?

Not from my own experience, but have heard the officers say, that foreigners always would defect.—About a fifth or sixth part of the private men might be foreigners, to be mixed with the other troops.

Was you offered a Jaghire by the King?

The King gave me a Jaghire.—I was in possession of it; of £. 12,500 a year for life upon some of the provinces in Bengal, for my services to him and the country.—Upon my receipt of it, I wrote immediately to Mr. Spencer, who was governor at Calcutta, acquainting him with the King's having given me a Jaghire.—I received his answer, after I had quitted the command of the army,—Mr. Spencer acquainted me, that my receiving such a Jaghire was so much contrary to the interest of the Company, that they never would suffer me to hold it; that I might remember the Company's having gone to law with Lord Clive about his Jaghire; and requested, that I would deliver it up to the Nabob when I saw him, who would not only behave handsomely upon the occasion, but that the Company would never see me the sufferer from such an act, after the services I had done them.—From that moment, I resolved to deliver it up to the Nabob when I saw him, and upon my arrival at Muxadavil, at his palace, I waited on the Nabob, who was then ill; I told him, that I had got a Jaghire from the King, but as I was about to leave the country, I would leave it with him.—This was in the presence of Mr. Middleton, resident at the Durbar, Captains Gordon and Stables:—The Nabob upon receiving the Jaghire, smiled, and said, this is a piece of generosity I am little accusomed to, but if I live, you shall not be the sufferer; and defined his minister Nundcomar, to define the interpreter to acquaint me, that he begged my acceptance of two lack of rupees, which would be at Calcutta much about the time that I arrived there.—A few days after my arrival at Calcutta, I received a letter from the Nabob's son, acquainting me with his father's death, requesting my interest for him to succeed his father as Subah, and acquainting me, that he knew the whole transactation of the Jaghire, and the promises his father made me, and assuring me, that he would make them good; and in this situation I left my jaghire and my lacks.—I had a letter from Mr. Spencer since I came to England, acquainting me, that he had acquainted my Lord Clive, of the demands I had upon the government; that his Lordship promied him, if there was so much remaining of the Nabob's outstanding debts, he would order the payment of the two lack of rupees to my attorney.—I am very happy from his Lordship's eminent services to this country and the Company, that he has a more reponsible fund for the payment of his Jaghire; at the same time, I cannot help regretting, that
that his Lordship did not think my two years' rent deferred a better fund than the Nabob's outstanding debt,—let my small leaves be rewarded as they may; let individuals think of them as they please; I hope facts will come out before this Committee is at an end, to shew them and the world that this country has been served; that this East India Company has been saved by more than one or two me, many brave and gallant men have done honour to their King, have done service to this country, and have saved the East India Company; and some of them have left their lives in the cause. I never have received any part of the two lack, nor any present from the East India Company. 

Whether at the time the Mogul granted the Jaghire, the Nabob paid any revenues or acknowledgment to the Mogul?

He did it, nor did he pay any of the royal revenues from Bengal, which was stipulated to have been paid to the Mogul, either by the Nabob or the Company, I don't know which. Whether this is not the first time that you have mentioned the circumstance of Mr. Spencer's letter? It is the first time, and probably will be the last time; and I should not have mentioned it now if it had not happened to have come in as I thought properly, in answer to a question that was asked me; and because when Lord Clive was upon the spot, from his not having ordered the payment of it, I thought his Lordship did not think I deferred it, and I gave him no trouble about it, and I knew it was not in my Lord Clive's power to do it when he came home. Whether you think it would have been proper for Lord Clive to have ordered the Nabob to pay that money?

Had I been in his Lordship's situation, and he in mine, I certainly would have ordered the Nabob to pay it. Did you ever hear that Lord Clive ordered the Nabob to pay such a thing to any man living? No. Did you ever hear of any money that was offered to Mr. Spencer, if he would continue numerous about the possession of the Nabob? When I came down to Calcutta, Mr. Spencer told me, that he was offered several lack of rupees (about 9, 10, or 11 lack, can't say exactly) to support numerous, which he refused. Whether you know of any orders sent by the Directors abroad, to put the 2 lack promised you by the Nabob, in a course of payment?

To the best of my remembrance, I never had any public intimation from the Court of Directors, that they had sent orders to that purpose, but some of the Directors told me privately, that the Nabob was to be put under stoppage of so much yearly for the payment of the donation to the navy, the reduction, and the 2 lack which he promised to pay me, and that is all I know of the matter. Did you make any application to the Mogul for your Jaghire? No—nor for peace for me.

Sir George Colebrooke (chairman of the East India Company) informed the Committee, that orders were sent out last March or April twelve months, to reduce the income of the Nabob to 16 lack of rupees during his minority, and to apply the surplus of his revenue to the payment of the reduction, and to Colonel Monro's 2 lack of rupees. Do you believe that money will be paid? I have no doubt about it. 

[434 paragraph general letter to Bengal, 10 April, 1771, read]

Colonel Monro,

Had you an offer of the Dewanny from the Company? Yes.—The King, when I first saw him, offered me the Dewanny.—He told me he had offered it before.—I believe he offered it to Sir Eyre Coote after the Mogul's father's death.—He offered it before that to Major Carnac, as I am informed, and Mr. Vanfittart, before I joined the army, allured me that he could have had the Dewanny, but did not know how far he could be justified in such an act, or how far it might tend to the interest of the Company.—My reasons for not accepting the offer were, that I formed no plans of any kind, but that of extricating the Company from the danger that threatened them. The Governor and Council were, or ought to be, the judges what was, or was not, for the interest of the Company. I was, or ought to be, the proper judge what was for the honour of his Majesty's troops to be concerned in; and as Meer Jaffier had been but just placed upon the Mufinud, for the second time, and as the Company's affairs did not require depoing him, nor his own conduct deserve it at that time; I thought it would neither be for the credit of their troops, or the honour of the commanding officer, to adopt such a measure—So much was this my opinion, so well did I know Mr. Vanfittart's sentiments upon that subject, before I joined the army, that I do not remember I ever said any thing to him about it. These were my reasons for not accepting the King's offer. Whether the Mogul could have effectually granted the Dewanny to the Company without the Nabob's consent? I think the Mogul could and would have done any thing at that time that I desired him, without the consent of the Nabob, and the Company would have reaped any benefit from that grant of the King's that they pleaded, because ever since Coffin Ally Khan had been drove out of the country, the Company themselves have been the Nabob, there has been only a nominal Nabob. M After
After the battle of Buxar, did you receive any letter from the Governor and Council, acknowledging the merit of your services upon that occasion?

I have received several.—I imagine that one I received immediately after the battle is before the Committee.

Did you receive any letter from the Court of Directors here?

No, I did not—but the chairman and deputy chairman came to me, at my return, to make such acknowledgement.

Did you make any application to the Directors at your return, upon the subject of the Jaghire and 2 lacs?

Yes.

What answer had you?

I had no public answer.

[Letter from president, &c. of Fort William, to Major Munro, 6 November 1764, read.]

Whether for giving up the Jaghire of £12,500 a year, and for the services performed to the Company, you have ever received from the Company any reward whatever?

None of any kind whatever.

Whether you did not understand from Mr. Spencer (the President at Calcutta) that you should have amends made by you by the Company for giving up the Jaghire?

I do confess that I did; and I also say, that could I have conceived that the Company would have served me to gratify me in many respects, since my arrival from India, I never would have given up my Jaghire.

Whether after the battle of Buxar, you received any private donations from any of the Eastern Princes?

Upon the army encamping at Banaras, the officer who commanded the detachment in the town, wrote me a card, acquainting me that a Rajah had something very particular to communicate to me, and if I granted his request, he would give me 4 lacs of rupees, and a handsome present to the officer.—The request he made me was to deliver a Rajah Bulwand Sing, who was Zemindar, from the collection of the country.—I told him I would not; I was desirous to make no alteration of any kind.—About the time I was quitting the army, Bulwand Sing hearing I had rejected this offer, came to me, and told me that he was sensible of my favours to him, and begged my acceptance of 80,000 rupees, which is £10,000.—And except that, from the day I commanded the army, which was near five years, further than the common customary compliments, which are of small amount, and which I made in my turn to others; solemnly declare, I never received a single rupee by way of present, either in money or jewels.—While I had the command of that army, I refused the offers of above £300,000 at different times, for making alterations in the offices of the government; I recollected that at my leaving the country, the Nabob sent £3,000 for me, and £2,500 among the officers of my family, which are the usual presents to the commanding officer.

How long was your in Bengal?

From May 1764 to the end of February or beginning of March 1765.

When did the spirit of mutiny first shew itself in the army?

Before I came to the command.

Did you levy any contribution at Banaras, or elsewhere?

I never did lay the Company under any contributions of any kind; the merchants of Banaras gave 4 lacs of rupees to the army, for protection to themselves and their effects.—I immediately acquainted the Governor and Council with it, to have their sanction for the army to receive it—which is upon the Company’s records; and they gave their consent.

Was that the only place where any such contribution was given?

The only one in my time.

What proportion had you of the 4 lacs, as commander in chief?

An eighth part.

Mr. Strachey.

Whether you ever heard Lord Clive say, that Mr. Spencer had applied to his Lordship to apply to the Nabob for payment of the 2 lacs of rupees, promised to Colonel Munro?

Never did—and I think that had Mr. Spencer mentioned that circumstance to Lord Clive, it was most probable that his Lordship would have mentioned it to me, who was his secretary, and constantly with him.

General Carnac.

The same question?

I never did; and I had not a doubt till this day, but that the Nabob had made Colonel Munro such an acknowledgement as his services deserved.

Colonel Munro.

Is not Banaras one of the richest cities in India?

Yes.

What is the rate of interest at Banaras?

Can’t tell, but thinks it lower there than any where else.

How long was you in quelling the mutiny, and restoring the army to a proper discipline?

From the beginning of June to some time in July, when I made the example I have before mentioned.

The papers read in the course of the above evidence are annexed in the appendix, No. 14.
Your Committee, in reading over the report, judged it necessary to read further papers relating to Lord Clive's Jaghire and presents, which, together with his Lordship's explanation of the letter, are added in the appendix, No. 15.

APPENDIX.

No. 1.

List of Charters, or Letters Patents, granted to the East-India Company; read.

43d Eliz. A charter, or letters patent, of a special incorporation of merchants, by the name of the Governor and Company of Merchants of London, trading into the East-Indies, with divers privileges to them and their successors, for 15 years from Christmas last.

7th James, 31st May. A charter, or letters patent of incorporation, to the said governor and company, with divers privileges to them and their successors for ever.

8th James. A charter, or letters patent, of privilege, that neither the said governor and company, nor their goods and merchandizes, shall be hereafter sued, vexed, seized, arrested, molested, or disquieted, in respect of their trading; and divers other privileges.

20th James. A charter, or letters patent, of privilege, for the said governor and company, to challege and correct all English persons residing in the East-Indies, and committing any misdemeanor, either with martial law, or otherwise.

22d James. A charter, or letters patent, of a pardon to the said governor and company, for certain offences, and a grant unto them of such sums of money, and other goods and merchandizes, as did belong to the King.

2d Car. I. A charter, or letters patent, to the said governor and company, empowering them to erect mills and houses for making into gunpowder all such salt-petre as they shall import.

12th Car. II. 11th January. A charter, or letters patent, of licence, for the said governor and company to enter upon, take, and pull off, the island of Rooms alias Pula Roone, and to regain the same from the Netherland East-India company, and to plant, husband, manage, retain, and keep the same.

13th Car. II. A charter, or letters patent, to the governor and company aforesaid, of divers privileges to them and their successors.

20th Car. II. A charter, or letters patent, of discharge to the said governor and company, for selling two East-India prizes, and for the monies raised thereby.

20th Car. II. A charter, or letters patent, of grant to the said governor and company, of all that island and port of Bombay, to them, and their successors.

24th Car. II. A charter, or letters patent, of release to the said governor and company, of several covenants heretofore made between them and the commissioners of the navy, touching some ships sent to the East-Indies.

25th Car. II. A charter, or letters patent, of confirmation, to the said governor and company, of articles concerning the sale of four Dutch prizes.

25th Car. II. A charter, or letters patent, of grant to the said governor and company, of all that island of Saint Helena, to them, and their successors.

26th Car. II. A charter, or letters patent, of a discharge to the said governor and company, for monies made by the sale of four Dutch prizes.

28th Car. II. 5th October. A charter, or letters patent, to the said governor and company, of confirmation of their privileges.

35th Car. II. 1st August. A charter, or letters patent, authorizing the Commissioners of the Admiralty, to grant and give out commissions to such as the said governor and company should name and recommend, to aid and assist them against the King of Bantum.

35th Car. II. 9th August. A charter, or letters patent, of privileges, for the said governor and company, rendering their charter of 3d April, 13th of his reign, more effectual and complete.

35th Car. II. 14th September. A charter, or letters patent, of a warrant, to the Commissioners of the Admiralty, to assist the said governor and company against the King of Bantum.

1st James II. A charter, or letters patent, of proclamation, restraining all his Majesty's subjects, but the said governor and company, and their agents, from trading to the East-Indies.

2d James II. A charter, or letters patent, of confirmation, to the said governor and company, of their former charters and privileges.

5th William III. 7th October. A charter, or letters patent, of confirmation, to the said governor and company, of their privileges.

5th William III. A charter, or letters patent, of discharge, to the said governor and company, for the 10th part of prizes taken by them, and due to his Majesty, &c.

5th William III. A charter, or letters patent, prescribing orders and directions, for the said governor and company.

6th William III. A charter, or letters patent, prescribing orders and directions, for the said governor and company.
10th William III. A charter, or letters patent, declaring what number of votes each member of the said company shall have, which is according to his or her proportion of stock.

10th William III. A charter, or letters patent, of incorporation, empowering certain persons to trade to the East-Indies, by the name of the general society, entitled to the advantages given by an act of parliament, for raising £2,000,000, for the service of the Crown.

10th William III. A charter, or letters patent, of incorporation of merchants, by the name of the English company, trading to the East-Indies.

10th William III. A charter, or letters patent, appointing Hugh Dufcauwen, and others, to take subscriptions for a general society, to have liberty and power to trade to the East-Indies.

10th William III. A charter, or letters patent, of the schedule, marked A, containing the draught of a charter for the said general society.

10th William III. A charter, or letters patent, of the schedule, marked B, containing the draught of a charter for the aforesaid English Company.

1st Anne. A charter, or letters patent, of an interchange tripartite, between the Queen on the first part, the governor and company of merchants of London trading to the East-Indies of the second part, and the English Company trading to the East-Indies of the third part; whereby granting the said two companies power to trade with a joint stock, and divers other privileges.

3rd Anne. A charter, or letters patent, of release, to the governor and company of merchants of London trading into the East-Indies, of all offences and crimes committed contrary to an act of parliament.

8th Anne. A charter, or letters patent, of grant, to the English Company, trading to the East-Indies, of all debts and sums of money, due to the governor and company of merchants of London trading into the East-Indies.

8th Anne. A charter, or letters patent, of acceptance of a surrender made by the governor and company of merchants of London, trading into the East-Indies, of their charters, &c.

8th Anne. A charter, or letters patent, of grant, to Sir Jonathan Andrews, and others, of all debts, &c. due to the aforesaid governor and company, before the surrender of their charters: A schedule of which debts is mentioned in an indenture, dated 21st March last between the said governor and company, and her Maj. fly.

13th George I. A charter, or letters patent, of grant, to the united Company of merchants of England, trading to the East-Indies, of incorporation of Mayor and Aldermen at Madrasapatnam, at Bombay, and at Calcutta, with divers privileges to them, and their successors.

1st George II. A charter, or letters patent, of grant, to the said United Company, of all fines, set upon any persons by virtue of the last recited charter or letters patent.

2d George II. A charter, or letters patent, empowering the Commissioners of the Admiralty, at the request of the said United Company, to give ample powers to the commanders of ships belonging to the said Company, to take, seize, and destroy, any foreign ships trading from the Austrian Netherlands to the East-Indies, for 6 years, from the 20th of May last.

20th George II. A charter, or letters patent, of grant to the said United Company of incorporation of mayor and aldermen at Madrasapatnam, at Bombay, and at Calcutta, with divers privileges to them and their successors.

21st George II. A charter, or letters patent, of grant to the said United Company, of plunder and booty.

21st George II. A charter, or letters patent, of grant to the said United Company, of plunder and booty.

1st George III. A charter, or letters patent, of commission to the said United Company, for the trying of pirates at Fort Saint George.

1st George III. A charter, or letters patent, to the said United Company, of a commission, for the trying of pirates at Fort Marlborough.

1st George III. A charter, or letters patent, of commission to the said United Company, for trying of pirates at Bombay.

1st George III. A charter, or letters patent, of commission to the said United Company, for trying of pirates at Fort William.

List of Acts read.

9th and 10th Wm. III. An act for raising a sum not exceeding two millions, upon a fund for payment of annuities, after the rate of eight pounds per centum per annum, and for settling the trade to the East-Indies.

1st Anne, cap. 12. S. 113. An act for granting an aid to her Majesty, by divers subsidies, and a land tax.

6th Anne, cap. 3. An act for better securing the duties of East India goods.

6th Anne, cap. 17. An act for affording to the English Company, trading to the East-Indies, on account of the united stock, a longer time in the fund and trade therein-mentioned; and for raising thereby the sum of twelve hundred thousand pounds for carrying on the war, and other her Majesty's occasions.

5th Geo. I. cap. 21. An act for the better securing the lawful trade of his Maj. fly's subjects, to and from the East-Indies; and for the more effectual preventing all his Majesty's subjects trading thither under foreign commissions.
7th Geo. 12th. cap. 5. S. 32 and 33. An act to enable the South Sea Company, to engraft part of their capital stock and fund into the stock and fund of the Bank of England, and another part into the stock and fund of the East India Company; and for giving further time for Payments to be made by the South Sea Company, to the use of the public.

7 Geo. 13th. cap. 21. An act for the further preventing his Majesty's subjects from trading to the East-Indies under foreign commissions, and for encouraging and further securing the lawful trade thereunto, and for further regulating the pilots of Dover, Deal, and the Isle of Thanet.

9th Geo. 14th. cap. 26. An act to prevent his Majesty's subjects from subscribing, or being concerned in encouraging or promoting, any subscription for an East-India Company in the Austrian Netherlands; and for the better securing the lawful trade of his Majesty's subjects in the East-Indies.

3d Geo. 2d. cap. 14. An act for reducing the annuity or fund of the United East-India Company, and for abstaining their right of trade to the East-Indies; and the continuance of their corporation for that purpose, upon the terms therein mentioned.

2d Geo. 2d. cap. 20. An act for taking off certain duties on salt, and for making good any deficiencies in the funds that may happen thereby, and for charging the reduced annuity payable to the East-India Company on the aggregate fund, and for relief of Matthew Page, deceased, in respect of the duty for salt lost by the overflowing of the river Mersey, in the year one thousand seven hundred and twenty-four.

17th Geo. 2d. cap. 17. An act for granting to his Majesty the surplus or remainder of the moneys arising or to arise by the duties on Spirituous liquors, granted by an act of the last session of parliament; and for explaining and amending the said act, in relation to the retailers of such liquors; and for establishing an agreement with the United Company of merchants of England, trading to the East-Indies.

27th Geo. 2d. cap. 9. An act for punishing mutiny and desertion of officers and soldiers in the service of the United Company of merchants of England trading to the East-Indies; and for the punishment of offences committed in the East-Indies, or at the island of Saint Helena.

18 Geo. 3d. cap. 11. An act to extend the provisions relating to the holding of courts martial, and to the punishment of offences committed in the East-Indies, contained in the act, made in the twenty-seventh year of his late Majesty's reign, intituled, An act for punishing mutiny and desertion of officers and soldiers in the service of the United Company of merchants of England trading to the East-Indies; and for the punishment of offences committed in the East-Indies, or at the island of Saint Helena, to the said Company's settlement of Fort Marlborough; and to such other principal settlements, wherein the said Company may be hereafter impowered to hold courts of judicature.

7th Geo. 3d. cap. 56. An act for taking off the inland duty of one shilling per pound weight upon all black and green teas contained in Great-Britain; and for granting a drawback upon the exportation of teas to Ireland and the British dominions in America, for a limited time, upon such indemnification to be made in respect thereof by the East-India Company as is therein mentioned; for permitting the exportation of teas in smaller quantities than one lot to Ireland, or the said dominions in America, and for preventing teas seized and condemned from being consumed in Great-Britain.

7th Geo. 3d. cap. 57. An act for establishing an agreement for the payment of the annual sum of four hundred thousand pounds, for a limited time, by the East-India Company, in respect of the territorial acquisitions, and revenues, lately obtained in the East-Indies.

9th Geo. 3d. cap. 24. An act for carrying into execution certain proposals made by the East-India Company, for the payment of the annual sum of four hundred thousand pounds, for a limited time, in respect of the territorial acquisitions, and revenues, lately obtained in the East-Indies.

10th Geo. 3d. cap. 47. An act for better regulating persons employed in the service of the East-India Company; and for other purposes therein mentioned.

Military officers covenant, from July 1770, to the present time.

Military, 1770.

This indenture made the Day of in the year of the reign of our sovereign Lord George the third, by the grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, defender of the faith, and so forth, and in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred between A. B. of London, Esquire, of the one part, and the United Company of merchants of England, trading in the East-Indies, of the other part: Whereas the Court of Directors for the affairs of the said United Company have granted a commission to the said A. B. appointing him Captain of foot in their military forces in the East-Indies; Now this indenture witnesseth, and the said A. B. in compliance with a resolution of a general court of the said United Company, and in consideration of what he is, or shall be, entitled to receive from the said Company, in respect of his said service, or in respect of any other military station or employment, or which the said A. B. may hereafter be employed by the said United Company, or their Court of Directors, doth hereby for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, covenant, promise, and agree to and with the said United Company, that he the said A. B. shall not, nor will at any time or times hereafter during his being employed in the said Company's service, in any fashion or capacity whatsoever, either by himself or by any other person or persons whomsoever, in trust for him or for his use, directly or indirectly, accept, take, or receive, or
agree to accept, take, or receive, any gift or grant of lands, or rents for revenues arising out of lands, or any territorial possession, jurisdiction, dominion, power, or authority whatsoever, from any of the Indian Princes, Sovereigns, Subahs, or Nabobs, or any of their ministers, servants, or agents, for any service or services, or upon any account or pretence whatsoever, without the licence or consent of the Court of Directors for the time being of the said United Company, shall be under their hands; nor shall, or will, at any time or times hereafter, during his being employed in the said United Company's service, in any libation or capacity whatsoever, either by himself or any other person or persons whatsoever, in trust for him, or for his use, directly or indirectly, accept, take, or receive, or agree to accept, take, or receive, any gift, reward, gratuity, allowance, donation, or compensation, in money, effects, jewels, or otherwise howsoever, from any of the Indian Princes, Sovereigns, Subahs, or Nabobs, or any of their ministers, servants, or agents, exceeding the value of four thousand rupees, for any service or services performed, or to be performed, by the said A. B. in India, or upon any other account or pretence whatsoever, without the like licence or consent of the said Court of Directors of the said United Company, signified as aforesaid; nor any such reward, gratuity, allowance, donation, or compensation, exceeding the value of one thousand rupees, and under the value of four thousand rupees, without the licence or consent of the President and Council for the time being of the presidency or settlement where the said A. B. shall be employed; and that he the said A. B. shall and will convey, assign, and make over, to the said United Company, for their sole and proper use and benefit, all and every such gifts or grants of lands, or rents or revenues issuing out of lands, or any such territorial possession, jurisdiction, dominion, power, or authority whatsoever; and also account for, and pay to the said United Company, for their sole and proper use and benefit, all and every such gifts, rewards, gratuities, allowances, donations, or compensations, which, contrary to the true intent and meaning of these presents, shall come to the hands, possession, or power of the said A. B. or any other person or persons in trust for him, or for his use as aforesaid; provided always that nothing herein contained shall hinder or prevent, or be deemed, taken, or construed to hinder or prevent the said A. B. from accepting or receiving a share or proportion, in respect of his military post or station, of any gift, gratuity, or donation, in money, or effects, which any Indian Prince, Sovereign, Subah, or Nabob, shall, or may in time of extreme danger, necessity, or emergency, give or bestow on any of the military officers or forces of the said United Company, provided such gift, gratuity, or donation, be with the privity and consent of the Governor and Council of the presidency or settlement where the said A. B. shall be employed, and not otherwise; and provided also that the same be not obtained or exacted by compulsion, or by way of bargain or contract for any service or services performed or to be performed; provided also that no Governor or President of any of the said United Company's settlements in India shall, by virtue of their donations, or compensations, which, contrary to the true intent and meaning of these presents, shall come to the hands, possession, or power of the said A. B. or any other person or persons in trust for him, or for his use as aforesaid; provided always that nothing herein contained shall hinder or prevent, or be deemed, taken, or construed to hinder or prevent the said A. B. from accepting or receiving a share or proportion, in respect of his military post or station, of any gift, gratuity, or donation, in money, or effects, which any Indian Prince, Sovereign, or the said United Company, as it shall be empowered to do in the said United Company, that in case the said A. B. shall be dismissioned the said United Company's military service, by sentence of court martial, or by a resolution or order of the Company's President and Council of such settlement, where the said A. B. shall serve or be, or if the said A. B. shall otherwise legally quit the said Company's military service, that then, and in any or either of the said cases, it shall be lawful to and for the said United Company's said President and Council, at any time after the expiration of six calendar months, next following such dismission from, or quitting the said Company's military service as aforesaid, to carry and transport the said A. B. at the expense of the said Company to Great Britain, in such ship employed in the said Company's service, as the said President and Council shall for that purpose appoint. And in case the said A. B. shall neglect, or refuse to repair or go on board such ship as aforesaid, by the space of ten days after notice shall be given him so to do, by order of the said President and Council; then, and in such case, it shall be lawful for the said President and Council, and they are hereby fully authorized and empowered to cause the said A. B. to be apprehended and detained, and to put him on board such ship as aforesaid, for the purpose of being carried and transported to Great Britain, so nevertheless, that no unnecessary delay be sought, nor any fit occasion or opportunity lost, in so detaining or putting on board the said A. B. And further, in case of such apprehending, putting on board, and transporting, the said A. B. in manner aforesaid, the said A. B. doth hereby covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said United Company, that he the said A. B. his executors or administrators, shall not nor will commence, sue, or prosecute, the said United Company, or their Court of Directors, or any of their Presidents and Council, commanders, or officers of any such ships, or any other person employed in any of the matters aforesaid, in or by any action, suit, or other prosecution, civil or criminal, in respect of such apprehending him the said A. B. or of putting him on board and transporting him the said A. B. to Great Britain, in manner aforesaid: And in case any such action, suit, or prosecution, shall be commenced, sued, or prosecuted, for any of the matters aforesaid, the said A. B. doth hereby covenant and agree, to and with the said Company, that the general issue may be pleaded, and this present indenture, or any other special matter, may be given in evidence, by any of the defendants, in any such suit, action, or prosecution, in bar, discharge, and defence thereof, any thing in these presents contained to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding. In witnesses whereof, to one part of this indenture, the said A. B. hath put his hand and seal; and to the other part thereof the said United Company have caused their common seal to be affixed, the day and year abovewritten.

A. B. (L. S.)
Memorandum: Military officers do not give security, for performance of the above covenant.
I acknowledge to have read the within covenant before I executed the same.

Witness,

A. B.

Military officers covenant, from May 1764 to July 1770.

This indenture made the 1st day of May 1764, in the year of our Lord 1764, by the grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, defender of the faith, and of the Holy Roman Empire, and in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and forty years, between A. B. of London, Elshire, of the one part, and the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies, of the other part: Whereas the Court of Directors for the affairs of the said United Company have granted a commission to the said A. B. appointing him Captain of foot in their military forces in the East Indies: Now this indenture witnesseth, and the said A. B. in compliance with a resolution of a general court of the said United Company, and for and in consideration of what he is, or shall be, entitled to receive from the said Company, in respect of his said service, or in respect of any other military station or employment in which the said A. B. may hereafter be employed by the said United Company, or their Court of Directors, doth hereby for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, covenant, promise, and agree to and with the said United Company, that he the said A. B. shall not, nor will at any time or times hereafter during his being employed in the said Company's service, in any station or capacity whatsoever, either by himself or by any other person or persons whomever, in trust for him or in his name, directly or indirectly, accept, take, or receive, nor agree to accept, take, or receive, any gift or grant of lands, or rents or revenues inflowing out of lands, or any territorial possession, jurisdiction, dominion, power, or authority whatsoever, from any of the Indian Princes, Sovereigns, Subahs, or Nabobs, or any of their ministers, servants, or agents, for any service or services, or upon any account or pretence whatsoever, without the licence or consent of the Court of Directors of the said United Company, signed under their hands; nor shall or will, at any time or times hereafter, during his being employed in the said United Company's service, in any station or capacity whatsoever, either by himself or any other person or persons whomever, in trust for him or for his use, directly or indirectly, accept, take, or receive, or agree to accept, take, or receive, any gift, reward, gratuity, allowance, donation, or compensation, in money, effects, jewels, or otherwise howsoever, from any of the Indian Princes, Sovereigns, Subahs, or Nabobs, or any of their ministers, servants, or agents, exceeding the value of four thousand rupees for any service or services performed or to be performed by the said A. B. in India, or upon any other account or pretence whatsoever, without the like licence or consent of the said Court of Directors of the said United Company, signed as aforesaid; nor any such reward, gratuity, allowance, donation, or compensation, exceeding the value of one thousand rupees, and under the value of four thousand rupees, without the licence or consent of the President and Council for the time being of the presidency or settlement where the said A. B. shall be employed; and that he the said A. B. shall and will convey, assign, and make over, to the said United Company, for their sole and proper use and benefit, all and every such gifts or grants of lands, or rents or revenues, inflowing out of lands, or any such territorial possession, jurisdiction, dominion, power, or authority whatsoever; and also account for and pay to the said United Company, for their sole and proper use and benefit, all and every such gifts, rewards, gratuities, allowances, donations, or compensations whatsoever, which, contrary to the true intent and meaning of these presents, shall come to the hands, possession, or power, of the said A. B. or any other person or persons whomever, in trust for him, or for his use as aforesaid; provided always that nothing herein contained shall hinder or prevent, or be deemed, taken, or construed, to hinder or prevent, the said A. B. from accepting or receiving a share or proportion, in respect of his military post or station, of any gift, gratuity, or donation, in money, or effects, which any Indian Prince, Sovereign, Subah, or Nabob, shall or may in time of extreme danger, necessity, or emergency, give or bestow on any of the military officers or forces of the said United Company, provided such gift, gratuity, or donation be with the privy and consent of the Governor and Council of the presidency or settlement where the said A. B. shall be employed, and not otherwise; and provided also, that the same be not obtained or exacted by compulsion, or by way of bargain or contract for any service or services performed or to be performed: Provided also, that no Governor or President of any of the United Company's settlements in India shall, by virtue of his commission from the said United Company, be authorized, or intitled to accept or receive any part, share, or proportion, of any such gifts, gratuity, or donation, as is mentioned in the proviso herein before contained. In witness whereof, to one part of this indenture the said A. B. hath put his hand and seal, and to the other part thereof the said United Company have caused their common seal to be affixed, the day and year aforesaid.

A. B.

(L. S.)

Sealed and delivered (being first duly stamped) in the presence of

Memorandum: Military officers did not give security for the performance of the above covenant.
I acknowledge to have read the within covenant before I executed the same.

Witness,

A. B.
Writers 2d covenant from May 1764 to the present time.

Civil. No. 1000. 1770.

This indenture made the day of in the year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord Britain, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, and so forth, and in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and seventy, between A. B. of London, writer, of the one part, and the United Company of merchants of England, trading to the East-Indies, of the other part:

Whereas the said A. B. is now employed in the service of the said United Company as one of their writers and covenant servants, at their chief settlement of Fort William in Bengal, in the East-Indies: Now this indenture witnessed, and the said A. B. in compliance with a resolution of a general court of the said United Company, and for and in consideration of what he is, or shall be, intided to receive from the said Company, in respect of his said service, or in respect of any other station, capacity, or employment, in which the said A. B. may hereafter be retained or employed by the said United Company, or their Court of Directors, and for, whereby for him, his heirs, executors, and administrators, covenant, promise, and agree to and with the said United Company, that he the said A. B. shall not, nor will at any time or times hereafter during his being employed in the said Company's service, in any station or capacity whatsoever, either by himself or by any other person or persons whatsoever, in truth for him, or for his use, directly or indirectly, accept, take, or receive, or agree to accept, take, or receive, any gift or grant of lands, or rents or revenues falling out of lands, or any territorial possession, jurisdiction, dominion, power, or authority whatsoever, from any of the Indian Princes, Sovereigns, Subahs, or Nabobs, or any of their manders, servants, or agents, for any service or services, or upon any account or pretense whatsoever, without the licence or content of the Court of Directors for the time being, or the said United Company, signified under their hands, nor shall or will, at any time or times hereafter, during his being employed in the said United Company's service, in any station or capacity whatsoever, either by himself or any other person or persons whatsoever, in truth for him, or for his use, directly or indirectly, accept, take, or receive, or agree to accept, take, or receive, any gift, reward, gratuity, allowance, donation, or compensation, in money, effects, jewels, or otherwise howsoever, from any of the Indian Princes, Sovereigns, Subahs, or Nabobs, or any of their manders, servants, or agents, exceeding the value of four thousand rupees, for any service or services performed, or to be performed, by the said A. B. in India, or upon any other account or pretense whatsoever, without the like licence or consent of the said Court of Directors of the said United Company, signified as aforesaid; nor any such reward, gratuity, allowance, donation, or compensation, exceeding the value of one thousand rupees, and under the value of four thousand rupees, without the licence or consent of the President and Council for the time being, of the presidency or settlement where the said A. B. shall be employed; and that he the said A. B. shall and will convey, assign, and make over, to the said United Company, for their sole and proper use and benefit, all and every such gift or grants of lands, or rents or revenues falling out of lands, or any such territorial possession, jurisdiction, dominion, power, or authority whatsoever; and also account for and pay to the said United Company, for their sole and proper use and benefit, all and every such gifts, rewards, gratuities, allowances, donations, or compensations, whatsoever, which, contrary to the true intent and meaning of these presents, shall come to the hands, possession, or power, of the said A. B. or any other person or persons in truth for him, or for his use as aforesaid. In witness whereof, to one part of these indentures the said A. B. hath let his hand and seal, and to the other part thereof the said United Company have caused their common seal to be put, the day and year above-written.

A. B. (L. S.)

Sealed and delivered (being first duly stamped) in the presence of

I acknowledge to have read the within covenant, before I executed the same.

Witness,

A. B.

Writers covenant from July 1770, to the present time.

This indenture made the day of in the year of our Lord and in the year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord Britain, France and Ireland, Kings, Defender of the Faith, and so forth, between the United Company of merchants of England, trading to the East-Indies, of the one part, and A. B. of London, writer, of the other part:

Whereas the said United Company of merchants of England, trading to the East-Indies, have (upon the special request and entreaty of the said A. B. upon the conditions and agreements herein after contained, on the part of the said A. B. to be performed) received and entertained him the said A. B. into their service, as their writer and covenant servant at their chief settlement of Fort William, in Bengal, in the East Indies, to serve them for the term of five years, and to be employed in all or any of the traffic or merchandizes, bussines, and affairs, in any place or places whatsoever, between the cape of Good Hope, and the straits of Magellan, as the said Company, or their Court of Directors for the time being, or any thircen
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teen or more of them, or any by them authorized, shall appoint, and at and for the wages or sum of five pounds of lawful money of Great-Britain, by the year, to commence from the time of his arrival at Fort William aforesaid. Now this indenture witnessed, That the said A. B. for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, doth hereby covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company of merchants of England, trading to the East-Indies, and their successors, in manner and form following; (that is to say) That he, the said A. B. from the time of his arrival at Fort William aforesaid, for, and during, and unto the full end and expiration of five years, shall, and will, faithfully, honestly, diligently, and carefully, serve the said Company at such place and places, and in all and every such affairs and business whatsoever of the said Company, as the said A. B. shall be employed in. And shall also, from time to time, and at all such times, observe, keep, and fulfill, all and every the orders of the said Company, and of the said Court of Directors, made and to be made for the government of their factories and settlements, officers, agents, or servants abroad: And shall and will also observe, keep, and fulfill, all such orders, instructions and directions, which he shall herewith, or hereafter receive under the seal of the said Company, or from the said Court of Directors of the said Company, for the time being, or any thirteen or more of them, or from their President and Council, at the respective settlement where the said A. B. shall reside or be employed, or from any persons authorized thereunto by such Directors; and shall and will, to the utmost of his power and skill, resit and withstand all and every such perfon or persons, as shall break, or endeavour to break, the said orders, instructions, or directions, or any of them: And the said A. B. doth hereby for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company of merchants of England, trading to the East-Indies, that he will not do, attempt, or practice, nor shall writing, or any more, or under pretense or ill-will, or under any other perfon or persons whatsoever, to do, attempt, or practice, any matter or thing whatsoever, to the hinderance, disturbance, or prejudice, or defrauding, or defrauding of the said Company or their successors, or of their servants, or of any of them, or of the said Company's goods, merchandizes, trade, or traffic, or any of them, or any part thereof; but shall, as much as in him lieth, prevent and defeat the same. And the said A. B. doth hereby, for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company of Merchants of England, trading to the East-Indies, that he the said A. B. shall and will from time to time, and at all times from henceforth, give notice and intelligence, with all convenient speed, unto the said Court of Directors for the time being, of all and every the deceits, wrongs, abuses, breaches of orders, inconveniences, and hindrances, which he the said A. B. shall know, understand, hear, or suspect to be done, practiced, offered, or intended against the said Company, or their successors, or their goods or trade, or any of them, or against any perfon or persons by them, or by the said Court of Directors, employed, or in their service, in any place or places, together with the names of those per sons by whom the same shall be so offered, practiced, or intended. And the said A. B. doth hereby, for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said United Company of merchants of England, trading to the East-Indies, that he will not engage or employ the stock of the said Company, or any part thereof, or make use of the credit of the said Company, in any other kind, way, or manner, howsoever, than for the affairs of the said Company, and as by the major part of the Court of Directors of the said Company for the time being, under their hands, or under the common seal of the said Company, or by their said President and Council, shall be ordered and directed. And that he the said A. B. shall and will, at all times, keep and conceal the said Company's secrets, and every matter and thing committed to him as such by the said Court of Directors, or their agents, factors, officers, and servants, or any of them. And also, That he shall from time to time, and at all times from henceforth, during his said employment, keep, or cause to be kept, a true and particular journal or day book, of all passages and proceedings relating to the affairs of the said Company, and also books of accounts; in which journal, day-book, and books of accounts, he shall daily, duly, truly, and fully, enter, or cause to be entered, the accounts of all and every particular buying, selling, receipts, payments, barterings, and all other transactions and occurrences relating to his trust, during the time he shall continue in the said United Company's service and employment. And the said A. B. doth hereby for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said United Company, that he will not place, or content to the placing, to the said Company's account, nor otherwise charge the said Company with any more or greater sums than he shall really, and in good faith, pay for all or any goods, merchandizes, or effects, which he shall buy, or cause, procure, or consent to be bought, for, or on account of the said company. And that he the said A. B. shall and will bring to the account of the said company, in the books of the said company, the full rates and prices for which he shall sell, or cause to be sold, any of the said company's goods, merchandizes or effects: And further that he the said A. B. will not directly or indirectly, take, accept, or receive, or agree to take, accept, or receive, any gift, reward, gratuity, allowance, compensation, sum or sums of money whatsoever, from any person or persons, of whom he the said A. B. shall, by himself, or any agent, for him, buy or barter any goods, merchandizer, treasure, or effects, for, or upon account of the said company. And further, that he will not take, accept, or receive, or agree to take, accept, or receive, any gift, reward, gratuity, allowance, compensation, sum or sums of money whatsoever, from any person or persons to whom the said A. B. shall, by himself, or any agent, for him, sell or barter any goods, merchandizes, treasure, or effects, of or belonging to, or for,
or upon account of, the said company: And moreover, That he the said A. B. his executors or administrators, shall produce and deliver the said books, together with all waft books, pocket-books, diaries, memorials, and other writings and papers whatsoever, wherein be the said A. B. shall make, or cause to be made, any entries, or set down any matter or thing touching or concerning the said company's affairs, or any of them, or any way relating thereunto (although the same may or shall be intermixed with his own, or others, concerns) unto the said Court of Directors of the said company for the time being, or to such person or persons as shall, by letter or order, under the hands of thirteen or more of the said Court of Directors, or under the seal of the said company, be authorized and appointed to demand and receive the same; and shall and will, if required, make oath to the truth of such books, diaries, memorials, writings, and papers, and that the same contain the whole or his transactions, and that they have not been defaced, obliterated, or altered. And further, That he the said A. B. shall and will, well and truly deliver and pay unto the said United Company, or their successors, all and every such monies, goods, merchandizes, and things whatsoever, as by the foot of his account, or otherwise, shall be due from him, or remain in his hands and possession, and for which he ought to be geable or answerable in any manner or wise. And also, That he the said A. B. shall and will (before he shall leave the said company's factories or settlements) pay and discharge all and every such sum or sums of money as he shall justly owe, or be indebted to the black merchants or natives of the country, where he the said A. B. shall be, together with such other sums as he shall owe abroad to any other merchants or persons not being subjects of his Majesty the King of Great-Britain, or his successors: And that he the said A. B. shall and will, from time to time, when and as often as he shall be thereunto required by the said company, or their successors, or by the president, agent, or chief, and council, of the place where the said A. B. shall be, remove to any such other factories, as such president, agent, or chief, and council, shall so direct and require. And also, That he the said A. B. shall, at all times, during the time of his service aforesaid, faithfully and diligently demean himself as a good honest and faithful servant towards the said company, and their successors, and those by them authorized. And upon condition, that the said A. B. shall, in all things perform his covenants and agreements with the said company herein contained, and to encourage him to do therein, it is further covenanted and agreed by and between the said parties to these presents, That it shall and may be lawful, to and for the said A. B. and the said company doth accordingly license the said A. B. during the said five years, commencing as aforesaid, freely to trade and traffic for his own account only, from port to port in India, or elsewhere within the limits aforesaid, but not to go to or from any place without the same, without any lett, hindrance, or interruption, from any of the said company, their successors, or assigns, so as the said trade and traffic to be carried on and driven in India, or elsewhere within the limits aforesaid, or any part thereof, to be subject to such rules, regulations, and limitations, as the said Company, or the Court of Directors for the time being of the said company, have already directed, or shall from time to time hereafter direct and appoint, and be not to the hurt or prejudice of the said company and their successors, or of their trade or commerce, and fo as whatever is so traded for by the said A. B. by virtue of this agreement, be particularly entered in books of the said company, to be kept for that purpose, in all the factories of the said company respectively in the East-Indies, or elsewhere within the limits aforesaid, where such trade shall be driven: But in case the said A. B. shall waste or make use of the said company's treaure, or shall become indebted to the said company, then, and in such case, it is hereby further covenanted and agreed by and between the said parties to these presents, That he the said A. B. shall not be entitled to any of the payments, advantages, and benefits, hereby otherwise intended him; but contrariwise, for, and towards satisfaction for what shall be due from him to the said company, and for and towards reparation of the damages done to the said company, it shall and may be lawful, to and for any person or persons thereunto authorized and appointed, by writing under the hands of thirteen, or more, of the Court of Directors of the said company for the time being, or under the seal of the said company, and to and for any president, agent, or chief, and council, or any place or factory of or belonging to the said company, to seize, or cause the goods and chattels of him, the said A. B. to be seized and detained until satisfaction is made. And forsooth as complaints have been made to the said United Company, that several of the said Company's Preffidens and Chiefs of their factories, and several of such persons as are of their councils in their factories abroad, or some them, as also their factors, agents, and servants, have committed very heinous and grievous offences in such factories of the said Company, and elsewhere in the East Indies, and other places within the said Company's limits of trade, by unjustly menacing, imprisoning, assaulting, abusing, and evil-treating the natives and black merchants, and others, with whom the said Company have had dealings or correspondence, and by such means, and other violence, abuses, and injuries, have extorted and forced great sums of money, and other valuable effects, from such injured persons, who, by reason of the great distance from this country, and the wholesome laws thereof, and by reason that the said Company have not been able to obtain and render satisfaction for such injuries and middensations, are, and have been disgraced: Now it is hereby agreed, by and between the said parties to these presents, and the said A. B. doth hereby, for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company, that in case any sum or sums of money, goods, or chattels, whatsoever shall, at any time or times hereafter, be extorted, forced, and taken, by him the said A. B. (either separately, or jointly with others) from any person or persons whatsoever, within the said Company's limits of trade, by the means or use of imprisonments, affronts,
affords, violations, menaces, or other force or compulsion whatsoever, then, and as often as any such offence or offences shall be committed, it shall and may be lawful to and for every person or persons injured thereby, to receive and fend over complaints and attestations thereof in writing to the Court of Directors of the said Company for the time being, and that upon the receipt of such complaints and attestations, it shall and may be lawful, to and for the Court of Directors of the said Company, for the time being, to enquire into the truth of the said complaints, by all such ways and means as they shall think just and equitable, and thereupon to hear the matter of the said complaint or complaints, and thereupon finally to judge and determine the same, and to award satisfaction and reparations to be made by the said A. B. to the said Company, for the benefit of such injured persons. And the said A. B. doth hereby, for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company, well and truly to pay to the said Company, at such time or times as shall be limited by the said Court of Directors (or the major part of them) for that purpose, all and every such sum or sums of money as shall be so awarded by the said Court of Directors for the time being, or the major part of them then assembled, to be paid as aforesaid; but in truth nevertheless, and to the extent that the said Company may and do recover, and pay over, the monies received or recovered by them, to the parties injured or defrauded, which the said Company accordingly hereby agree and covenant to do: And the said A. B. doth furthermore for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company, to pay and satisfy to the said Company, for their own use and benefit, all such damages as they shall have sustained by reason or means of any such offence or offences as aforesaid. And forasmuch as it frequently happens that the President and Council, agent and council, chief and council, and several other subordinate officers of several of the said Company's factories abroad, have, by mutual influence on each other, fitted, fixt, and adjusted, amongst themselves, their own accounts with the said Company, in order, as far as they could, to bar and preclude the said Company from recovering, altering, amending, correcting, or contesting, the same: Now it is hereby further declared, that all and every such account or accounts, as at any time shall, be fixed, fixed, or adjusted, by, between, or among such President and Councils, or agents and councils, or chiefs and councilors, or other subordinate officers, or any of them, and the said A. B. are agreed to be, and shall at all times hereafter be taken and esteemed to be open accounts, formed only for the inspection, peril, and approbation or correction, of the said Company, and shall not in any sort of kind, or in any manner thereof, bind or conclude the said Company. And the said A. B. doth for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company, that the said A. B. will not at any time, during his residence in the East Indies, or within the said Company's limits, directly or indirectly, trade, correspond, traffic, deal with or for, or be in any wise aiding, assisting, or employed as agent, or factor, by, or for any foreign Company trading in or to the East Indies, or any person or persons whatsoever, who do or shall, during the continuance of these presents, traffic, trade, or trade to, in, or from the East Indies, or elsewhere, within the limits of the said Company's trade, by, or under, or by virtue of, any foreign commission, license, or authority whatsoever, nor shall or will, by himself, or in conjunction with any person or persons whatsoever, directly or indirectly carry on, or use, or be concerned in any sort of trade, traffic, or merchandise, either from Europe to the East Indies, or to any place within the said Company's limits, between the Cape of Good Hope, and the straits of Magellan, or from the East Indies, or from any place within the said Company's limits, to Europe, or to or from any place whatsoever, although not within the said Company's limits of trade; save and except, for and on account of the said Company; nor shall carry on, use, or be concerned in, any trade or traffic whatsoever, but such as is expressly allowed by and according to the true intent and meaning of these presents. And that he the said A. B. his executors or administrators, shall and will pay, or cause to be paid, unto the said Company, as and by way of stated damages, double the value of all and every the goods and merchandizes, traded for, bartered by the said A. B. his agent or agents, contrary to the true meaning of these presents: Provided nevertheless, that if the said A. B. shall voluntarily and freely make a discovery, unto the said Company's Court of Directors, of any trade or traffic carried on by him or his agents, contrary to the true meaning of these presents, and of all and every the persons therein concerned, then, and in such case, the said Company do hereby agree to accept the single value, instead of the double value of the said goods and merchandizes, which shall be traded with, in, for, or bartered or trafficked for, contrary to the true meaning of these presents as aforesaid: And in order to a discovery of, and a satisfaction for, such illicit trade as aforesaid, it is hereby agreed, that it shall and may be lawful, to and for the said United Company, and their successors, to file any bill or bills of complaint or discovery, in his Majesty's High Court of Chancery, or Court of Exchequer, against him the said A. B. his executors and administrators, whereunto the said A. B. doth hereby agree, that neither he, nor they, shall or will demand or plead in bar of the discovery or relief, bought by such bill or bills, that thereby he or they, is, are, may, or shall, become liable to any penalty or forfeiture, by force of any law or statute, bond, covenant, or agreement, or otherwise howsoever, but shall make and put in a full and perfect answer and answers to all the parts thereof, and shall not, in such answer and answers, inflict upon any penalties, forfeitures, law, or statute, bond, covenant, or any cement, or allege any matter whatsoever, whereby to prevent, bar, or preclude, the said Company, from the discovery or relief, bought or to be bought by such bill or bills as aforesaid; but then, and in such case, the said United Company do hereby covenant to waive and disclaim all, and all manner of
of penalties and forfeitures, that shall or may, in any kind or degree whatsoever, accrue or incur to them, upon, or by reason of, any discovery or disclosure arising by the said answer or answers of the said A. B. his executors or administrators: And the said United Company, for themselves and their successors, do agree to accept, and the said A. B. doth, for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, agree to account for, and pay, or cause to be paid to, or to the use of, the said company, or their successors, as, and for a full, flat, and adjusted compensation and satisfaction for the damages sustained by the said company, upon account of the said illicit trade, the sum of fifty pounds for every one hundred pounds value, of all and every the goods and merchandizes traded or trafficked with, or for, contrary to the true intent and meaning hereof, and also of the produce of the said illicit trade. Provided always, and it is hereby expressly covenanted, declared, and agreed, between the parties to these presents, and it is the true intent and meaning thereof, that in case the said A. B. shall make defaults in any of the covenants herein before contained, or shall embezze any of the said company's money, goods, or effects, or be guilty of any breach of trust towards the said company, or shall be concerned in buying, bartering, selling, or disposing of any artillery, ordnance, muskets, fire-arms, ammunition, or warlike stores, or for the use of any Prince, Nabob, or country power in India, or of the Netherlands, without the express licence of the said company, or their Court of Directors for the time being, or a majority of them, or of the said company's president and council, at the respective settlement, where such buying, bartering, or selling shall be, or in case the said A. B. shall, at any time during the continuance of these presents, without the like licence and authority as aforesaid, hold correspondence with any Prince, Nabob, or country power in India, or any of their ministers, or shall supply, lend to, or procure, for the use of any foreign company trading in, or to India, or any person or persons trading under the licence or authority of such foreign company, any money, at respondents, or any other security, loan, or engagement whatsoever; that then, and in each and every of the said cases, it shall be lawful for the said company, and their said Court of Directors for the time being, or the majority of them, or the president and council at the respective settlement, where the said A. B. shall be resident or employed, and they are hereby respectively declared to have full power and authority for that purpose, to suspend, or wholly disinherit the said A. B. from the said company's service and employment, that he shall having had notice given of such his offence or default, and a reasonable time allowed him to make his defence against the same, and having been convicted thereof. And it is hereby further expressly covenanted and agreed, by and between the said company, and the said A. B. that in case of such disinheritance as aforesaid, or in case the said A. B. shall, during the continuance of these presents, be minded to quit or resign the said company's service, and such resignation shall be accepted and agreed to, by the said company or their Court of Directors, or their president and council at such settlement, where the said A. B. shall reside or be employed, that then, and in either of the said cases of disinheritance, or voluntary resignation of the said service, it shall not be lawful for the said A. B. to enter into any new or fresh engagements or concerns whatsoever, in the way of trade or merchandize; but he shall wholly forbear and be prohibited therefore; but nevertheless, the said A. B. shall in any, or either of the said cases, be at liberty, and have full power and authority to sell and dispose of his merchandizes and effects, which he shall have on hand, or which shall be then fairly and truly belonging to him, and to collect and get in such outstanding debts as shall be then due and owing to him in trade, or otherwise. And for the more effectually carrying the said last mentioned covenant and agreement into execution, it is hereby declared to be the true intent and meaning of these presents; and the said A. B. doth hereby covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said United Company, that in case of such disinheritance from, or quitting and resigning, the said company's service, and employment, he the said A. B. shall and will, within one year after the same shall happen, or by the first passage that can be obtained after the expiration of the said one year, transport himself, together with his family, to Great-Britain, in such ship employed by the said company, as shall be appointed for that purpose, by the said company, or by their Court of Directors, or their president and council as aforesaid; and shall not, nor will upon any account or pretence whatsoever, lay, or continue any longer in the East-Indies: And moreover, in case the said A. B. shall make default in the said last mentioned covenant, the said A. B. doth hereby covenant and agree with the said United Company, that from, and immediately after such default, it shall and may be lawful for the said company, or their Court of Directors, or their President and Council at the said settlement, where the said A. B. shall reside or be, to caufe the said A. B. to be apprehended and detained, and to put him and his family on board any ship employed by the said company, for the purpose of being transported to Great-Britain, to nevertheless that no unnecessary delay be fought, nor any fit occasion or opportunity lost in so doing. And further, in case of such apprehending, putting on board, and transporting, the said A. B. and his family, in manner aforesaid; the said A. B. doth hereby covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said United Company, that he the said A. B. his executors, or administrators, shall not, nor will commence, sue, or prosecute the said company, or their Court of Directors, or any of their presidents, and council, commanders or officers of any such, or any other person employed in any of the matters aforesaid, in, or by any action, suit, or other prosecution, civil or criminal, in respect to such apprehending and detaining him the said A. B. or of putting on board and transporting him the said A. B. and his family, to Great-Britain, in manner aforesaid; and in case any such action, suit, or prosecution, shall be commenced, sued, or prosecuted for any of the matters aforesaid, the said A. B. doth hereby covenant and agree to and with the said company, that the general
null may be pleaded, and that this present indenture, or any other special matter, may be given in evidence by any of the defendants in any such suit, action, or prosecution. Provided always and finally, it is hereby covenanted, concluded, and agreed, by and between the said parties hereto, and it is their true intent and meaning, That if the said A. B. shall continue in the said covenant for five years, the expiration of the said term of five years, that such continuance shall be upon the same terms, conditions, and agreements, as are herein before made and agreed upon, for the said term of five years, save and except, that if the said A. B. shall rise to any superior place or office than what he is hereby employed in or appointed for, that then he the said A. B. performing the covenants aforesaid, shall have and receive such wages as are usually paid to officers in the like advanced station, place, or employment. In witness whereof, the said United Company have to one part of these indentures fet their common seal; and the said A. B. hath to the other part of the said indenture fet his hand and seal, the day and year first above-written.

A. B. (L. S.)

Sealed and delivered (being stamped according to act of parliament) in the presence of Us,

I acknowledge to have read the within covenant before I executed the same.

Witness,

Writers covenant from 1756 to July 1770:

100th factor's covenants. 1770.

This indenture made the Day of ... in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety years, ... by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, defender of the faith, and so forth, between the United Company of merchants of England, trading to the East Indies, of the one part, and A. B. of London, writer, of the other part, Whereas the said United Company of merchants of England, trading to the East Indies, have (upon the special request and entreaty of the said A. B. and upon the conditions and agreements herein after contained, on the part of the said A. B. to be performed) received and entertained him the said A. B. into their service, as their writer and covenant servant, at their chief settlement of Fort William in Bengal in the East Indies, to serve them for the term of five years, and to be employed in all or any of the traffick or merchandizes, busineses, and affairs, in any place or places whatsoever, between the Case of Good Hope, and the Straits of Magellan, as the said Company, or their Court of Directors for the time being, or any thirteen, or more of them, or any by them authorized, shall appoint, at and for the wages or sum of five pounds of lawful money of Great Britain, by the year, to commence from the time of his arrival at Fort William aforesaid. Now this indenture witnesseth, that the said A. B. for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, doth hereby covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company of merchants of England, trading to the East Indies, and their Successors, in manner and form following, (that is to say) that he the said A. B. from the time of his arrival at Fort William aforesaid, for, and during, and unto the full end and expiration of five years, shall faithfully, honestly, diligently, and carefully, serve the said Company at such place and places, and in all and every such affaires and businesse whatsoever of the said Company, as the said A. B. shall be employed in; and shall also from time to time, and at all times, observe, keep, and fulfill, all and every one of the orders of the said Company, and of the said Court of Directors, made and to be made, for the government of their factories and settlements, officers, agents, or servants abroad; and shall and will also observe, keep, and fulfill, all such orders, instructions, and directions, which he shall herewith or hereafter receive under the seal of the said Company, or from the said Court of Directors of the said Company for the time being, or any thirteen or more of them, or from any persons authorized thereunto by such Directors; and shall and will, to the utmost of his power and skill, refund and withholds all and every such person or persons, as shall break, or endeavour to break, the said orders, instructions, or directions, or any of them. And the said A. B. doth hereby for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company of merchants of England, trading to the East Indies, that he will not do, attempt, or practice, nor shall willingly or unwillingly permit or suffer any other person or persons whatsoever, to do, attempt, or practice, any matter or thing whatsoever, to the hindrance, hurt, prejudice, damage, or defecting, of the said Company, or their successors, or of their servants, or any of them, or of the said Company's goods, merchandizes, trade, or traffick, or any of them, or any part thereof; but shall, as much as in him lies, prevent and defeat the same. And the said A. B. doth hereby, for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, covenant and agree to and with the said United Company of merchants of England, trading to the East Indies, that he the said A. B. shall and will, from time to time, and at all times from henceforth, give notice and intelligence, with all convenient speed, unto the said Court of Directors for the time being, of all and every the deeds, wrongs, abuses, breach of orders, inconveniences, hindrances, which he the said A. B. shall know, understand, hear, or suspect to be done, practised, offered, or intended, against the said Company, or their successors, or their goods or trade, or any of them, or against any person or persons by them or by the said Court of Directors employed, or in their service, in any place or places, together with the names of those persons by whom the fame shall be offered, practised or intended. And the said A. B. doth hereby, for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, covenant, promi...
and agree, to and with the said United Company of merchants of England, trading to the East Indies, that he will not engage or employ, either the fluck of the said Company, or any part thereof, or make use of the crecit of the said Company, in any kind, or other way and manner howsoever, than for the affairs of the said Company, and as by the major part of the Court of Directors of the said Company for the time being, under their hands, or under the common seal of the said Company, shall be ordered and directed. And the said A. B. doth hereby, for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said United Company of merchants of England, trading to the East Indies, that he the said A. B. shall and will, at all times to keep and conceal the said Company's secrets, and every matter and thing committed to him as such by the said Court of Directors, or their agents, factors, officers, and servants, or any of them. And also, that he the said A. B. shall and will, from time to time, and at all times from henceforth, during his said employment, keep, or cause to be kept, a true and particular journal or day book, of all pellages and proceedings relating to the affairs of the said Company, and also books of accounts, in which journal, day book, and books of accounts, he shall daily, duly, truly, and fully, enter or cause to be entered, the accounts of all and every particular buying, selling, receipts, payments, barterings, and other transac-
tions and occasions relating to his trust, during the time he shall continue in the said United Company's service and employment: And the said A. B. doth hereby, for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said United Company, that he will not place, or consent to the placing to the said Company's account, nor other-
wise charge the said Company with any more or greater sums than he shall really, and in good faith, pay for all or any good, merchandizes, or effects, which he shall buy, or cause, procure, or consent to be bought, for, or on account of the said Company. And the said A. B. doth hereby, for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said United Company of merchants of England, trading to the East Indies, that he shall and will bring to the account of the said Company, in the books of the said Company, the full rates and prices for which he shall sell, or cause to be sold, any of the said Company's goods, merchandizes, or effects. And the said A. B. doth hereby for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, further covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company of merchants of England, trading to the East Indies, that he will not directly or indirectly, take, accept, or receive, or agree to take, accept, or receive, any gift, reward, gratuity, allowance, compensation, sum or sums of money whatsoever, from any person or persons, of whom he the said A. B. shall, by himself, or any agent for him, buy or barter any goods, merchandizes, treasure, or effects, for, by, or upon account of, the said Company; and further, that he will not take, accept, or receive, or agree to take, accept, or receive, any gift, reward, gratuity, allowance, compensation, sum or sums of money whatsoever, from any person or persons to whom he the said A. B. shall, directly or indirectly, by himself, or agent for him, sell or barter any goods, merchandizes, treasure, or effects, or of belonging to, or for, or upon account of, the said Company. And the said A. B. for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, doth covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company, that he the said A. B. his executors, or administrators, shall produce and deliver the said books, together with all wafe books, pocket books, diaries, memorials, and other writings and papers whatsoever, wherein he the said A. B. shall make, or cause to be made, any entries, or let down any matter or thing touching or concerning the said Company's affairs, or any of them, or any way relating thereto (although the same may or shall be intermixed with his own or other's concerns) unto the said Court of Directors, of the said company for the time being, or to his executors or perons or persons, as shall by letter or order, under the hands of thirteen, or more, of the said Court of Directors, or under the seal of the said company, be authorized and appointed to demand and receive the same; and shall and will, if required, make oath to the truth of such books, diaries, memorials, writings, and papers, and that the same contain the whole of his transac-
tions, and that they have not been defaced, obliterated, or altered. And further, that he the said A. B. shall and will well and truly deliver and pay unto the said United Company, or their successors, all and every such monies, goods, merchandizes, and things whatsoever, as by the foot of his account, or otherwise, shall be due from him, or remain in his hands and possession, and for which he ought to be chargeable or answerable in any manner or wise: And also, that he the said A. B. shall and will (before he shall leave the said company's factories or settlements) pay and discharge all and every such sum or sums of money, as he shall justly owe or be indebted to any of the black merchants or natives of the country, where he the said A. B. shall be, together with such other sums as he shall owe, abroad to any other merchants or persons not being subjects of his Majesty the King of Great-Britain or his successors; and that he the said A. B. shall and will, from time to time, when and as often as he shall be thereunto required by the said Com-
pny, or their successors, by the president, agent, or chief, and council, of the place where the said A. B. shall be, remove to any such other factories, as such president, agent, or chief, and council, shall fo direct or require. And also, That he the said A. B. shall, at all times, during the time of his service aforesaid, faithfully and diligently demean himself as a good, ho-
nest, and faithful servant towards the said company, and their successors, and those by them au-
torized, and lovingly and peaceably towards his comforts. And upon condition, that the said A. B. shall in all things perform his covenants and agreements with the said company, and to encourage him so to do, it is further covenanted and agreed, by and between the said A. B. and the said company, as follows: That if he shall and may be lawful to and for the said A. B. and the said company, doth accordingly license the said A. B. during the said five years commencing as aforesaid, freely
to trade and traffic, for his own account only from port to port in India, or elsewhere, within the limits aforesaid, but not to or from any place without the same, without any let, hindrance or interruption, from them the said company, their successors or assigns, so as the said trade and traffic, so to be carried to and driven in India or elsewhere, within the limits aforesaid, or any part thereof, be subject to such rules, regulations, and limitations, as the said company, the Court of Directors or the time being of the said company, have already directed, or shall from time to time hereafter direct and appoint, and be not to the hurt or prejudice of the said company, and their factors and servants, or of other persons or of any other person, under the limits or elsewhere within the said company, to be kept for that purpose in all the factories of the said company respectively in the East-Indies, or elsewhere within the limits aforesaid, where such trade shall be driven: But in case the said A. B. shall waste or make use of any factory of the said company there, or shall become indebted to the said company, or shall in any wise make default in performance of the covenants aforesaid, then, and in such case, it is hereby further covenanted and agreed, by and between the said parties to these presents, That he the said A. B. shall not be entitled to any payments, advantages, and benefits, hereby otherwise intended him; but contrariwise, for and towards satisfaction for what shall be due from him to the said company, and for and towards repayment of the damages done to the said company, it shall and may be lawful to and for any person or persons thereunto authorized and appointed, by writing, under the hands of thirteen, or more, of the Court of Directors of the said company for the time being, or under the seal of the said company, and to and for any president, agent, or chief, and council, of any place or factory or of any other place or factory belonging to the said company, to seize or cause the goods and chattels of him the said A. B. to be seized and detained, until satisfaction is made. And forasmuch as grievous complaints have been made to the said United Company, that several of the said company's presidents and chiefs of their factories, and several of such persons as are of their councils in their factories abroad, or some of them, as also their factors, agents, and servants, have committed very heinous and grievous offenses in such factories of the said company, and elsewhere in the East-Indies, and other places within the said company's limits of trade, by unjustly menacing, imprisoning, afflicting, abusing, and evil treating, the natives and black merchants, and others with whom the said company have had dealings and correspondence; and by such means, and other violence, abuses, and injuries, have, as hath been alleged, extorted and forced great sums of money, and other valuable effects, from such injured persons, who by reason of the great distance from this kingdom, and the wholefome laws thereof, and by reason that the said company have not been enabled to obtain and render satisfaction for such injuries and misdemeanors, are, and have been remedied: Now it is hereby agree by and between the said parties to these presents, and the said A. B. doth hereby, for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company, that in case any sum or sums of money, goods or chattels whatsoever, shall at any time or times hereafter, be extorted, forced, or taken, by him the said A. B. (either separately or jointly with others) from any person or persons whatsoever, within the said company's limits of trade, by the means or use of imprisonments, afflicts, violence, menaces, or other force or compulsion whatsoever, then and as often as any such offence or offenses shall be committed, it shall and may be lawful, to and for every person or persons injured thereby, to make and send over complaints and attestations thereof in writing, to the Court of Directors of the said company for the time being, and that upon the receipt of such complaints, and attestations, it shall and may be lawful to and for the Court of Directors of the said company for the time being, to inquire into the truth of the said complaints, by all such ways and means as they shall think just and equitable, and thereupon to hear the matter of the said complaint or complaints, and thereupon finally to judge and determine the same, and to award satisfaction and reparation to be made by the said A. B. to the said company, for the benefit of such injured persons. And the said A. B. doth hereby for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company, well and truly to pay to the said Company, at such time or times as shall be limited by the said Court of Directors (or the major part of them) for that purpose, all and every such sum and sums of money as shall be so awarded by the said Court of Directors for the time being, or the major part of them then assembled, to be paid as aforesaid: But in truill nevertheless, and to the intent, that the said Company may and do render, and pay over, the monies received or recovered by them, to the parties injured or defrauded, which the said Company accordingly hereby agree and covenant to do: And the said A. B. doth furthermore, for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company, to pay and satisfy to the said Company, for their own use and benefit, all such damages as they shall have sustained by reason or means of any such offence or offenses as aforesaid, and forasmuch as it frequently happens, that the President and Council, agent and council, chief and council, and several other subordinate officers of several of the said Company's factories abroad, have, by mutual influences on each other, settled, ratified, and adjudged among themselves, their own accounts with the said Company, in order, as far as they could, to bar and preclude the said Company from reviewing, altering, amending, correcting, or contesting, the same: Now it is hereby further declared, that all and every such account and accounts, so at any time heretofore settled, balanced, signed, or adjudged, as aforesaid, were ever designed by the said Company to be, and the same, and all and every such account and accounts, so hereafter to be settled, balanced, signed, or adjudged, by, between, or of among such Presidents and Councils, or agents and councils, or chiefs
chiefs and councils, or other subordinate officers, or any of them, are hereby agreed to, and shall at all times hereafter be taken and esteemed to be, open accounts, formed and prepared only for the inspection, perusal, and approbation, or correction, of the said Company, and shall not in any fort or kind, or in any article thereof, bind or conclude the said Company. And the said A. B. doth, for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company, that the said A. B. will not at any time, during his residence in the East Indies, or within the said Company's limits, directly or indirectly, by himself, or in conjunction with any person or persons whatsoever, carry or use, or be concerned in any fort of trade, traffic, or merchandise, either from Europe to the East Indies, or to any place within the said Company's limits, between the Cape of Good Hope, and the Straits of Magellan, or from the East Indies, or from any place within the said Company's limits, to Europe, or to or from any place whatsoever, although not within the said Company's limits of trade, live and except, for, and on account of, the said Company, nor shall carry on, use, or be concerned in, any trade or traffic whatsoever, but such as is expressly allowed by and according to the true intent and meaning of these presents. And the said A. B. for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, doth hereby covenant and agree, that he the said A. B. his executors or administrators, shall, and will pay, or cause to be paid, unto the said Company, as and by way of stated damages, double the value of all and every the goods and merchandizes, traded for, bartered, or trafficked with, by the said A. B. his agent or agents, contrary to the true meaning of these presents, and more over, shall forfeit and lose all and every the benefits and advantages which the said A. B. his executors, administrators, or assigns, would otherwise be entitled unto, from the said Company, and shall also from thenceforth cease to be the said Company's servant or agent: Provided nevertheless, that if the said A. B. shall first voluntarily and freely make a discovery, unto the said Company's Court of Directors, of any trade, or traffic, carried on by him or his agents, contrary to the true meaning of these presents, and of all and every the persons therein concerned, then and in such case the said Company do hereby agree to accept the single value, instead of the double value of the said goods and merchandizes, which shall be traded with, in, for, or bartered or trafficked for, contrary to the true meaning of these presents, as aforesaid: And in order to a discovery of, and a satisfaction for, such illicit trade as aforesaid, it is hereby agreed, that it shall and may be lawful, to and for the said United Company, and their successors, to file any bill or bills of complaint or discovery, in his Majesty's High Court of Chancery or Court of Exchequer, against him the said A. B. his executors and administrators, whereunto the said A. B. doth hereby agree, that neither he, nor they, shall or will demur or plead in bar of the discovery or relief, fought by such bill or bills, that whereby he or they, is, are, may, or shall become liable to any penalty or forfeiture, by force of any law or statute, bond, covenant, or agreement, or otherwise howsoever, but shall make and put in a full and perfect answer and answers to all the parts thereof, and shall not, in such answer and answers, infest upon any penalty, forfeiture, law, or statute, bond, covenant, or agreement, or allege any matter whatsoever, whereby to prevent, bar, or preclude the said Company, from the discovery or relief, fought, or to be fought, by such bill or bills as aforesaid; but then, and in such case, the said United Company do hereby consent to wave and disclaim all and every manner of penalties and forfeitures, that shall or may, in any kind or degree whatsoever, accrue or incur to them, upon, or by reason of, any discovery or disclosure arising from the said answer or answers, of the said A. B. his executors or administrators, and the said United Company, for themselves and their successors, do agree to accept, and the said A. B. doth for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, agree to account for, and pay or cause to be paid to, or to the use of, the said Company, or their successors, as and for a full, stated, and adjusted compensation and satisfaction for the damages sustained by the said Company, upon account of the said illicit trade, the sum of fifty pounds for every one hundred pounds value, and all and every the goods and merchandizes traded or trafficked with, or for, contrary to the true intent and meaning hereof, and also the produce of the said illicit trade. Provided always and fully, it is hereby covenanted, concluded, and agreed, by and between the said parties hereto, and it is their true intent and meaning, that if the said A. B. shall continue in the said Company's service after the expiration of the said term of five years, that such continuance shall be upon the same terms, conditions, and agreements, as are herein before made and agreed upon, for the said term of five years, save and except, that if the said A. B. shall rise to any superior place or office than he is hereby employed in or appointed for, that then be the said A. B. performing the covenants aforesaid, shall have and receive such wages as are usually paid to officers in the like advanced stations, places, or employments. In witness whereof, the said United Company have to one part of these indentures set their common seal; and the said A. B. hath to the other part of the said indentures set his hand and seal, the day and year first above written.

A. B. (L. S.)

Sealed and delivered (being stamp'd according to act of parliament) in the presence of us.

A. B.

Amount
Amount of the securities taken from the respective ranks of the East India Company’s Civil servants.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Security Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Governor</td>
<td>£10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counsellor</td>
<td>£4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior merchant</td>
<td>£3,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior merchant</td>
<td>£2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Factor</td>
<td>£1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writer</td>
<td>£500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mem* military officers do not give security for the performance of their covenants.

Copies of the separate commissions of commander in chief of the military forces of the East India Company, at their different presidencies, and of such commission of commander in chief as may have comprehended all their forces in India.

The United Company of merchants of England trading to the East Indies:

To Major General Stringer Lawrence, send greeting.

We, the said United Company, repose especial trust and confidence in you Major General Stringer Lawrence, do by these presents constitute and appoint you to be commander in chief of all our military forces in the East Indies, under our respective presidencies; that is to say, our presidency of Fort St George, on the coast of Choromandel, and the several settlements and places subordinate to the said presidency, whenever and as often as you shall be present and reside at the said presidency, settlements, or places, and during such time or times only; our presidency of Fort William in Bengal, and the several settlements and places subordinate thereto, whenever and as often as you shall be present and reside at the said presidency, settlements, or places, and during such time or times only; our presidency at Bombay, and the several settlements and places subordinate thereto, whenever and as often as you shall be present and reside at the said presidency, settlements, or places, and during such time or times only; our presidency of Fort Marlborough, and the several settlements and places subordinate thereto, whenever and as often as you shall be present, or reside at the said presidency, settlements, or places, and during such time or times only. And you Major General Stringer Lawrence are, to the utmost of your skill and power, to do and perform all such offices and services as appertain to the post of commander in chief of all our military forces in the East Indies as aforesaid, subject however to all such rules, orders, and instructions, as you shall at any time receive from the Court of Directors of the said United Company of merchants of England trading to the East Indies, in writing, or under the hands of thirteen or more of them, or from the said Company’s Presidents and Councils of Fort Saint George, Fort William, Bombay, or Fort Marlborough, respectively, whenever you shall be present at such respective presidency, or any of the settlements or places subordinate thereto, according to the rules and discipline of war, in pursuance of the trust we hereby repose in you: And we do hereby strictly require, charge, and command, all commission officers, non commission officers, soldiers, and others, belonging to our military forces at the several places before mentioned, to yield you, as commander in chief, during your residence at such places as aforesaid, due obedience accordingly. In witness, &c.

Dated the 11th March 1761.

The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

To Joseph Smith, Esquire, Greeting.

We, the said United Company, repose especial trust and confidence in your courage, and experience in military affairs, do by these presents, constitute and appoint you to be a Brigadier General in our service, and do give and grant you full power and authority, to take your rank as Brigadier General.

You are therefore to take upon you the said charge and command of Brigadier General as aforesaid, and carefully and diligently to discharge the said trust of Brigadier General, by doing all things thereto belonging: And we do hereby command all our officers and soldiers, to obey you as Brigadier General. And you are to observe and follow all such orders and directions as you shall from time to time receive from us, our Governor and Council of Fort Saint George, or any other your superior officer, according to the rules and discipline of war, in pursuance of the trust hereby repose in you; and failing therein, our said Governor and Council are empowered by us to vacate and annul these presents: Given under our common seal, this third day of November, in the ninth year of the reign of his most excellent Majesty, our Sovereign Lord George the third, by the grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, defender of the faith, and so forth; and in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and sixty eight.

By order of the Court of Directors of the said United Company.

P. Michell, Secretary.

The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

To Major General Eyre Coote, Greeting.

We, the said United Company, repose especial trust and confidence in you Major General Eyre Coote, do by these presents constitute and appoint you to be commander in chief of all our military
military forces in the East Indies, and you are to the utmost of your skill and power, to do and perform all such offices and services as appertain to the post of commander in chief of all our military forces in the East Indies as aforesaid, subject however to all such rules, orders, and instructions, as you shall at any time receive from the Court of Directors of the said United Company of merchants of England trading to the East Indies, in writing or under the hands of thirteen or more of them, or from the commissioners appointed to superintend their affairs in India, or from the said Company's Presidents and Councils of Fort Saint George, Fort William, Bombay, or Fort Marlborough, respectively, whenever you shall be present at such respective presency, or any of the settlements or places subordinate thereto, according to the rules and discipline of war, in pursuance of the trust we hereby repose in you: And we do hereby strictly require, charge, and command, all commission officers, non-commission officers, soldiers, and others belonging to our military forces, at the several places before mentioned, to yield you as their commander in chief, during your residence at such places as aforesaid, due obedience accordingly. In witness whereof, the said United Company have caused their common seal to be affixed in London, this 22d day of December, in the tenth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George the third, by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, defender of the faith; and in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and fifty-nine.

By order of the Court of Directors of the said United Company.

Peter Michell, Secretary.

The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East-Indies.

To Eyre Coote, Esquire, Lieutenant Colonel in his Majesty's service, and Commandant of the Eighty-fourth regiment of foot, greeting.

We, the said United Company, do by these presents constitute and appoint you Eyre Coote, Esquire, to be commander in chief of all our military forces, at our presency of Fort William in Bengal, and the several places and settlements subordinate thereto; you are therefore to the utmost of your skill and power, to do and perform all such offices and services, as appertain to the post of commander in chief of all our military forces in Bengal, as aforesaid, subject however to all such rules, orders, and instructions, which you shall at any time receive from the Court of Directors of the said United Company of merchants of England trading to the East-Indies, for the time being, or from our governor and council of Fort William aforesaid, for the time being: And we do hereby strictly require, charge, and command, all commission officers, non-commission officers, soldiers, and others, belonging to our military forces in Bengal aforesaid, to yield you, as their commander in chief as aforesaid, due obedience accordingly. In witness whereof, we have caused our common seal to be affixed to these presents, the 14th day of March, in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and fifty-nine, and in the thirty-second year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Second, by the grace of God, of Great-Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, and fo forth.

(L. S.)

Signed by Order of the Court of Directors of the said Company.

Rob't James, Secretary.

The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East-Indies.

To Sir Robert Barker, Knight, greeting.

We, the said United Company, reposing especial trust and confidence in your courage and experience in military affairs, do by these presents constitute and appoint you to be a Brigadier General in our service, and do give and grant you full power and authority to take your rank as Brigadier General; and you are therefore to take upon you the said charge and command of Brigadier General as aforesaid, and carefully and diligently to discharge the said trust of Brigadier General by doing all things thereunto belonging: And we do hereby command all our officers and soldiers to obey you as Brigadier General; and you are to observe and follow all such orders and directions, as you shall from time to time receive from us, our Governor and Council of Fort William, or any other your superior officer, according to the rules and discipline of war, in pursuance of the trust hereby repose in you; or failing therein, our said Governor and Council are empowered by us to vacate and annul these presents. Given under our common seal this 23d day of March, in the Tenth year of the reign of his most excellent Majesty, our Sovereign Lord George the Third, by the grace of God, King of Great-Britain, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, and so forth; and in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and seventy.

By Order of the Court of Directors of the said United Company.

L. S.

P. Michell, Secretary.

The
The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East-Indies,
To David Wedderburn, Esquire, greeting.

We, the said United Company, reposing especial trust and confidence in your courage and experience in military affairs, do by these presents constitute and appoint you to be a Brigadier General in our service, and do give and grant you full power and authority to take your rank as Brigadier General; you are therefore to take upon you the said charge and command of Brigadier General as aforesaid, and carefully and diligently to discharge the said trust of Brigadier General, by doing all things thereunto belonging: And we do hereby command and require all our officers and soldiers to obey you as Brigadier General; and you are to observe and follow all such orders and directions as you shall from time to time receive from us, our Governor and Council of Bombay, or any other your superior officer, according to the rules and discipline of war, in pursuance of the trust hereby reposed in you; or failing therein, our said Governor and Council are unpowered by us, to vacate and annul these presents. Given under our common seal this Twenty-eighth day of March, in the Tenth year of the reign of his most excellent Majesty, our Sovereign Lord George the Third, by the Grace of God, King of Great-Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, and to forth; and in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and seventy.

By Order of the Court of Directors of the said United Company.

P. Michell, Secretary.

Copies of the commissions from the East-India Company, appointing a President or Governor at each of their respective preficiencies, and the Council, issued by the said Company since the year 1750.

The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East-Indies.

To all, to whom these presents shall come, send greeting.

Know ye, That the said United Company, reposing especial trust and confidence in the fidelity, prudence, justice, and circumspection, of Robert Park, Esquire, have made, constituted, and ordained, and by these presents do make, constitute, and ordain, the said Robert Park, to be President and Governor of, and for our affairs on the coast of Choromandel and Orixa, and of the Chingle and Moreatta countries; and also to be our Commander in chief of our Fort Saint George, and Town of Madrafpatnam, and all the territories thereunto belonging, and of all and singular the forts, factories, and settlements, territories, countries, and jurisdictions thereof, and of all the forces which now are, or hereafter may or shall be employed, for the service of the said United Company, in the said forts, towns, and places; and to execute all and every the powers and authorities thereunto appertaining, by order and direction of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the time being, and to continue in the exercize of the same, during our and their pleasure, and until the contrary thereof shall be signified under the seal of the said United Company of Merchants of England, trading to the East-Indies, or under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said Company for the time being: And to the end that the said Robert Park may be better enabled to order and manage all the affairs of us the said Company; we do by these presents constitute and ordain Major General Stringer Lawrence, to be, and continue, second of our Council of Fort Saint George, and not at any time to rise to a superior rank therein, Charles Bourchier, Esq., to be third, Brigadier General John Callaud, to be fourth, of our said Council, and not to rise at any time to a superior rank, than third of the said Council; and that his said succession as third do take place only on the death or absence of the said Major General Stringer Lawrence; Mr. Dawbonne Drake, fifth; Mr. John Pybus, sixth; Mr. Richard Fairfield, seventh; Mr. Samuel Ardeley, eighth; Mr. Charles Turner, ninth; Mr. John Smith, tenth; Mr. John Lewin Smith, eleventh; Mr. John Call, twelfth; and Mr. George Stratton, thirteenth and last, of our said Council of Fort Saint George, for governing and managing all the said company's affairs, upon the coast of Choromandel, Orixa, Chingle, and Moreatta countries, and governing the said Fort Saint George, and city of Madrafpatnam, and all other our forts, factories, and settlements, within any of the said territories: And we do hereby give and grant unto our said President and Governor, Robert Park, and to our Council aforesaid, the whole Council being duly summoned, full power and authority from time to time to rule and govern all and every our factors, or servants, under the said presidency, and all the soldiers and inhabitants of our said Fort Saint George, and city of Madrafpatnam, and elsewhere, within the places aforesaid, to administer lawful oaths, as occasion shall require; and to do and perform all such other acts and things, and to use and exercise all such other powers and authorities, as the said President and Governor, and his Council, in their several and respective places, where the said United Company have or shall have factors, or any places of trade, are authorized to do according to such instructions and directions, as he the said Robert Park, our President and Governor, and Council, aforesaid, shall from time to time receive under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the time being: And we, the said United Company, do hereby order and require all our factors, servants, officers, and soldiers, within the limits of the said presidency, and all the people and inhabitants of our said Fort Saint George, and city of Madrafpatnam, or any other our forts, places, or colonies, within the said presidency, to conform, submit, and yield due obe-
obedience, unto the said Robert Palk, our President and Governor, and his Council accordingly. And forasmuch as it is also thereto necessary, that in case of the death or removal of the said Robert Palk, our presidency should be provided for the defence and government thereof; we do therefore, by these presents, ordain and appoint, that in such case, the said Charles Bourchier shall immediately be, and succeed in the place and charge of, President and Governor of Fort Saint George aforesaid; and in case of his death or removal, the next civil servant in degree of Council below the said Charles Bourchier and Brigadier General John Caillaud, to succeed in the said presidency and government, in as full and ample manner, and with as large and ample power, privileges, and authorities, as are hereby granted unto the said Robert Palk, until our further pleasure be known therein: And we do hereby revoke, repeal, annul, and make void, every former commission or commissions, given or granted by us; whereby any other person or persons was and were constituted and ordained President and Governor, and any other persons therein named were constituted and ordained to be of the council of Fort Saint George, aforesaid: In witness whereof, we, the said United Company, have caused our common seal to be affixed to these presents, the fourth day of January, in the Fifth year of the reign of his most excellent Majesty George the Third, by the grace of God, of Great-Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, and to forth, and in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and sixty-five.

Signed by Order of the Court of Directors of the said United Company.

Rob. James, Secretary.

Extract of the Company's general letter to Fort Saint George, dated the 4th January, 1765. Having thought proper to make out a commission under the seal of the Company, whereby the Governor and Council for all the Company's affairs at the presidency of Fort Saint George, named in our letters of the 31st December, 1760, and 13th March following, are confirmed, and others appointed, as mentioned in the said commission.—We send the fame by the ship Albion, and an attested copy thereof by the Royal Captain.

By the said commission, the under-named persons are confirmed in, and appointed to, the following stations in the Company's service at our presidency of Fort Saint George; viz.

Robert Palk, Esquire, President and Governor.

Major General Stringer Lawrence to be second in council, and not at any time to rise to a superior rank therein.

Charles Bourchier, Esquire, to be third in council, and to succeed to the government in case of a vacancy therein by the decease or otherwise of Mr. Palk.

Brigadier General John Caillaud, to be fourth in council, and not to rise at any time to a superior rank therein; in case of the death or absence of General Lawrence.

Mr. Dawmonne Drake, Fifth in Council.

Mr. John Pybus, Sixth.

Mr. Richard Fairfield, Seventh.

Mr. Samuel Adley, Eighth.

Mr. Charles Turner, Ninth.

Mr. John Smith, Tenth.

Mr. John Lewin Smith, Eleventh.

Mr. John Call, Twelfth.

Mr. George Stratton, Thirteenth.

Major General Lawrence and Brigadier General Caillaud are to be of council only as described in the before-mentioned commission and the preceding paragraph; it being our meaning and direction, that agreeable to our former orders, neither of these gentlemen should succeed to the government, as that post is always to be filled by one of our civil servants; and consequently, in case of a vacancy therein, by the death or otherwise, of Mr. Palk and Bourchier, the next civil servant in the Council below the last named gentleman, and General Caillaud, is to succeed thereto, until our further pleasure is signified.

In case of the death or coming away of General Lawrence and General Caillaud, you will observe by our letter of the 21st November last, no other military officer or officers are to have a seat or voice at the Board without our express leave; which directions are to be strictly observed.

The United Company of merchants of England, trading to the East Indies: To all to whom these presents shall come, send greeting: know ye, that the said United Company, reposing especial trust and confidence in the fidelity, prudence, justice, and circumspection, of Charles Bourchier, Esquire, have made, constituted, and ordained, and by these presents do make, constitute, and ordain, the said Charles Bourchier, to be President and Governor of and for all our affairs on the coast of Choromandel and Oryxa, and of the Chingee and Moratoa countries; and also to be our commander in chief of our Fort Saint George and town of Madrafpnarn, and all the territories thereunto belonging, and of all and singular, the forts, factories, settlements, territories, countries, and jurisdictions thereof; and of all the forces which now are, or hereafter may or shall be, employed for the service of the said United Company in the said forts, towns, and
and places, and to execute all and every the powers and authorities thereunto appertaining, by order and direction of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the time being, and to continue in the exercise of the same during our and their pleasure, and until the contrary thereof shall be signified under the seal of the said United Company of merchants of England, trading to the East Indies, or under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said Company for the time being: And to the end that the said Charles Bourchier may be better enabled to order and manage all the affairs of us the said Company, we do by these presents and ordain Jofias Du Pré, Esquire, to be second of our Council of Fort Saint George, next after our President Charles Bourchier, Mr. John Call to be third of our said Council, Mr. Dawfonne Drake to be fourth, and not to rise to a superior rank therein, Mr. Alexander Wynch to be fifth, Mr. John Andrews to be sixth, Mr. Samuel Ardsley to be eighth, Mr. John Smith to be ninth, Mr. John Lewin Smith to be tenth, Mr. George Stratton to be eleventh, Mr. George Dawfon to be twelfth, Mr. James Bourchier to be thirteenth, Mr. Henry Brooke to be fourteenth, and Mr. George Mackay to be fifteenth, and left, of our said Council of Fort Saint George, and not at any time to rise to an higher rank therein, for governing and managing all the said Company's affairs upon the coasts of Choroman del, Oxira, Chingee, and Moratta countries, and governing the said Fort Saint George and city of Madraspatnam, and all other our forts, factories, and settlements within any of the said factories: And we do hereby give and grant unto our said President and Governor, Charles Bourchier, and to our Council aforesaid, or the major part of them (the whole Council being duly summoned) full power and authority, from time to time, to rule and govern all and every our factors and servants under the said presidency, and all theholders and inhabitants of our said Fort Saint George and city of Madraspatnam and elsewhere, within the places aforesaid, to administer lawful oaths as execution shall require, and to do and perform all such other acts and things, and to use and exercise all such other powers and authorities as the said President and Governor and his Council, in their several and respective places, where the said United Company have, or shall have factories, or any places of trade, are authorized to do, according to such instructions and directions as he the said Charles Bourchier our President and Governor and Council aforesaid, shall from time to time receive, under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the time being: And we the said United Company do hereby order and require all our factors, servants, officers, and soldiers, within the limits of the said presidency, and all the people and inhabitants of our said Fort Saint George, and city of Madraspatnam, or any other our forts, places, or colonies, within the said presidency, to conform, submit, and yield due obedience unto the said Charles Bourchier, our President and Governor, and his Council accordingly: And forasmuch as it is altogether necessary, that in case of the death or removal of the said Charles Bourchier, our president should be provided for the defence and government thereof, we do therefore by these presents ordain and appoint, that in such case, the said Jofias Du Pré shall immediately be, and succeed in the place and charge of President and Governor of Fort Saint George aforesaid; and in case of his death or removal, the next civil servant in degree of Council below the said Jofias Du Pré do succeed in the said presidency and government, in as full and ample manner, and with as large and ample power, privileges, and authorities, as are hereby granted unto the said Charles Bourchier, until our further pleasure be known therein; and we do hereby revoke, repeal, annul, and make void, every former commission or commissions, given and granted by us, whereby any other person or persons was and were constituted and ordained President and Governor, and any other persons therein named were constituted and ordained to be of the Council at Fort Saint George aforesaid. In witness whereof, we the said United Company have caused our common seal to be affixed to these presents, the twelfth day of January, in the eighth year of the reign of his most excellent Majesty George the third, by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, defender of the faith, and to forth, and in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and sixty-eight.

(L. S.)

Signed by order of the Court of Directors of the said United Company.
Rob' James, Secretary.

Extract of the Company's general letter to Fort Saint George, dated the 12th of January 1768.

By the ship Queen we transmit you a commission, under the seal of the Company, appointing the President and Governor, and the rest of the Council for the presidency of Fort Saint George, in the order and in the manner before described and directed; and you will receive an attested copy thereof by the ship Dutton.

The United Company of merchants of England, trading to the East Indies: To all to whom these presents shall come, send greeting. Know ye, that the said United Company, reposing especial trust and confidence in the fidelity, prudence, justice, and circumspection, of Jofias Du Pré, Esquire, have made, constituted, and ordained, and by these presents do make, constitute, and ordain, the said Jofias Du Pré upon and from the last day of January which shall be in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and seventy, to be President and Governor of, and for, all our affairs on the coasts of Choroman del and Oxira, and of the Chingee and Moratta countries; and also to be our commander in chief of our Fort Saint George and town of Madraspatnam, and all the territories thereunto belonging, and of all and singular the forts, factories, and settlements, territories, counties, and jurisdictions thereof, and of all the R forces
forces which now are, or hereafter may or shall be, employed for the service of the said United Company, in the said forts, towns, and places; and to execute all and every the powers and authorities thereunto appertaining, by order and direction of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the time being, and to continue in the exercise of the same during our and their pleasure, and until the contrary thereof shall be signified under the seal of the said United Company of merchants of England trading to the East Indies, or under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said Company, for the time being: And to the end that he the said Josias Du Pré may be better enabled to order and manage all the affairs of us the said Company; we do, by these presents, constitute and ordain Warren Hatlings, Esquire, to be secon of our Council of Fort Saint George, next after our said President Josias Du Pré, Mr. John Call to be third of our said Council, Mr. Alexander Wynch to be fourth, Mr. John Andrews to be fifth, Mr. Samuel Ardley to be sixth, Mr. John Smith to be seventh, Mr. John Lewin Smith to be eighth, Mr. George Straton to be ninth, Mr. George Davenport to be tenth, Mr. James Bourchier to be eleventh, Mr. Henry Brooke to be twelfth, Mr. Richard Brickenden to be thirteenth, Mr. John Whitehill to be fourteenth, Mr. George Dolben to be fifteenth, and Mr. George Mackay to be sixteenth, and last, of our said Council of Fort Saint George, and not at any time, to rise to a higher rank therein, for governing and managing all the said Company’s affairs upon the coasts of Choromandell and Orissa, and the Chingee and Mortara countries, and governing the said Fort Saint George and city of Madraspatnam, and all other our forts, factories, and settlements, within any of the said territories: And we do hereby give and grant unto our said President and Governor Josias du Pré, and to our Council afore-named, or the major part of them (the whole Council being duly summoned) full power and authority, from time to time, to rule and govern all and every our factors and servants under the said presidency, and all the officers and inhabitants of our said Fort Saint George and city of Madraspatnam, and elsewhere, within the places aforesaid, to administer lawful oaths as occasion shall require, and to do and perform all such other acts and things, and to use and execute all such other powers and authorities, as the said President and Governor, and his Council in their several and respective places where the said United Company have, or shall have, factors, or any places of trade, are authorized to do, according to such instructions and directions, as he the said Josias du Pré, our President and Governor, and Council aforesaid, shall from time to time receive under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the time being: And we the said United Company do hereby order and require all our factors, servants, officers, and officers, within the limits of the said presidency, and all the people and inhabitants of our said Fort Saint George and city of Madraspatnam, or any other our forts, places, or colonies, within the said presidency, to conform, submit, and yield due obedience unto the said Josias Du Pré, our President and Governor, and his Council accordingly: And forasmuch as it is altogether necessary, that in case of the death or removal of the said Josias Du Pré, our presidency should be provided for the defence and government thereof; we do therefore by these presents ordain and appoint, that in such case the said Warren Hatlings shall immediately be and succeed in the place and charge of President and Governor of Fort Saint George aforesaid; and in case of his death or removal, the next civil servant in degree of Council below the said Warren Hatlings do succeed in the said presidency and government in as full and ample manner, and with as large and ample power, privileges, and authorities, as are hereby granted unto the said Josias du Pré, until our further pleasure be known therein: And we do hereby revoke, repeal, annul, and make void, every former commission or commissions, given and granted by us, whereby any other person or persons was and were constituted and ordained President and Governor, and any other persons therein named were constituted and ordained to be of the Council at Fort Saint George aforesaid. In witness whereof, we the said United Company have caused our common seal to be affixed to these presents, the seventeenth day of January, in the Ninth year of the reign of his most excellent Majesty George the Third, by the grace of God of Great-Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, and fo forth, and in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and sixty-nine.

Signed by Order of the Court of Directors of the said United Company.

P. Michell, Secretary.

Extract of the Company’s letter to Fort Saint George, dated the 17th March 1769.

Mr. Bourchier being directed to reign the government on the 31st January 1770, and Josias Du Pré, Esquire, being appointed by the 16th paragraph of our letter of the 12th January 1768, to succeed as President and Governor of Fort Saint George, he is on the said 31st day of January 1770 to take upon himself the administration thereof accordingly; and we expect, from his zeal and abilities in the discharge of the duties of that important station, he will merit this signal mark of our favour.

And we further order and direct, that our Council at Fort Saint George do consist of the following gentlemen, viz.

Josias Du Pré, Esquire, President and Governor.

Mr. Warren Hatlings — To be second in Council, and succeed to the government, in case of a vacancy by the decease or otherwise of Mr. Du Pré.
Third. to satisfy Judge your position the We impossible' ho to The the Twelfth. will Fifth. and all English a given shadow some soldier the syftein managed, as the were country Fifteenth. jore tries paid fcntati"ns contribute rate of most is been anent, our zarding it we have hereby appoint you a select committee, and enthrall to your discretion and abilities, the conduct of our political affairs. 2. The preservation of our present influence, in the Bengal provinces, is the great object of our attention; all political connections in the rest of India, are only important, as they may affect us there. 3. Every accession of influence, or possession elsewhere, which, by dividing our troops, may prevent the exertion of our whole force, in case we should be attacked in that quarter, is hazarding a subsistence for a shadow; and on this principle we shal not think Bengal secure while there is an English soldier in the Myloire country. We effect your coast only as a barrier to our Bengal possessions; and the depression of the French power in the Carnatic, and their exclusion from the Circars, are the two objects to which all your politics should tend. 4. Judge then our anxiety at seeing a system adopted so repugnant to our views as that of supporting Mahomed Ally in the Myloire country. We repeat we shall not think ourselves secure while we have a folder or Sepoy in that country, nor till we see it given to some power who may prefer it as a barrier against the Morattas, and who may be an useful ally should we ever have occasion to call in the assistance of a country power: These are our views; but not being able to form even a probable conjecture of what may happen from the time of your last advices to the time that this shall reach your hands, it is impossible for us so say, how our views are to be accomplished; we trust entirely to your judgement, so to conduct these delicate affairs as shall the least expose us to the imputation of violated faith. 5. Were Mahomed Ally only to be managed, the conduct of the Rajah of Tanjore leaves an opening to satisfy him at his expense, in the manner we shall point out in the subsequant part of this letter; but you may possibly find yourselves embarrassed with various engagements entered into with the Morattas, or with the dispossessed Princes of those countries which have been conquered by Hyder Ally, or with any other country powers, with whom the task may be more difficult, and for which we can give no positive directions.—Whenever the great purpose of retiring again within the boundaries of the Carnatic (having first secured a proper barrier is obtained, the defence thereof, and the reduction of the vast forces now kept up by the Company and the Nabob, must be strictly attended to; but first it will be necessary to explain ourselves with respect to the Rajah of Tanjore. 6. We have expressed our sens of the Rajah of Tanjore's conduct in our letter to the separarate department, but have reserved our intentions with respect to that Rajah, to be executed by you. 7. It appears most unreasonable to us, that the Rajah of Tanjore should hold possession of the most fruitful part of the country, which can alone supply our armies with subsistence, and not contribute to the defence of the Carnatic.—We observe the Nabob makes very earnt repre- sentations to you on this subject in his letter, entered in the book of country correspondence, wherein he takes notice that the Zemindars of the Carnatic have been suppressed, and their countries preferred to them, by the operations of our forces employed in his cause, and that nothing was more notorious than that three former Princes of the Carnatic had received from the Tan- jore Rajah 70, 80, may even 100 lacs of rupees at a time; that to the preceding Nizam he had paid a contribution of 50 lacs, and the present, if he had met with success against our army, would
would not have been content with less than a crore of rupees from this Rajah: How just does it thereby appear that he should be made to bear some part of the expense of these measures, to which he owes his security, and the peace of his country. — We therefore enjoin you to give the Nabob such support in his pretensions on the Rajah of Tanjore, as may be effectual; and if the Rajah refuses to contribute a just proportion to the expense of the war, you are then to pursue such measures as the Nabob may think consistent with the justice and dignity of his government.

8. Whatever sums may in consequence of the above orders obtained from the Rajah of Tanjore, we expect shall be applied to the discharge of the Nabob’s debt to the Company; and if more than sufficient for that purpose, to the discharge of his debt to individuals.

9. In our letter to the separate department, under this date, we have testified our great surprise at the reports that are circulated by the amount of the Nabob’s debt to individuals, being more than 20 lacks of pagodas, and that the Governor and Council act as trustees for the recovery of the fame, and such are in possession of the collection of the revenues of great part of the Carnatic.

10. Ignorant as we are of the rife of this debt, and the truth of these reports, we cannot but be suspicious that the interdict of the Company is much wronged thereby.

11. We are alarmed lest this debt to individuals should have been the real motive for the arrogation of Mahomed Ally, and that we are plunged into a war, to put him in possession of the Mysore revenues, for the discharge of the debt. — Nor are we without apprehensions that the revenues collected by the Nabob in the Carnatic, and the new conquests, may be applied to the discharge of this debt, instead of being applied to the support of the war.

12. If the report of the trust vested in the Governor and Council is true, we cannot consider it in any other light than a total invasion of the nature of our service. — It is avowing private interest diametrically opposite to the Company’s, and in a case where they must continually come in competition — charged on our part with the recovery of a debt due from the Nabob, for supporting him in a war, during almost twenty years, how can our servants, consistent with their duty and fidelity, neglect the discharge of so great a public trust, or suffer any interest of their own to come in competition with it; or how can they dare to employ the forces, influence, and authority of the Company, in collecting the revenues of the Nabob, mortgaged to themselves? — The honour and dignity of the Company is so materially affected by these proceedings, that we expect you to impress our servants with the due sense of the distinction, which arises between private and public interest, so diametrically opposite in this instance, and how incompatible their conduct is with the character of faithful servants to the Company; and therefore the first thing you are to take is to demand from them a renunciation of all the power and authority given them by the Nabob, for the collection of any part of his revenue, for his debts to individuals; for we cannot suffer the idea of such a right to be entertained, either by the Nabob, or by our servants, in exclusion of ourselves.

13. Having done this, you are then to demand from the Nabob, an account of all his debts to the servants of the Company or inhabitants, arising under our protection. — You are to examine them separately, and see that they are charged with no higher interest than after the rate of 10 per cent. from the day of the receipt of our orders on that subject, under date of the 17th May 1766, Part.

14. Having adjusted these accounts, you are to let the Nabob know, his first obligation is to discharge his debt due to the Company. You are therefore to offer him your assistance, and if necessary, even infilt in the front of the matter in his entering into the detail of his revenues, and to point out to you what further reliance he has for the discharge of his debts, and to make the liquidation thereof a matter of public diffusion between you and him, and give the sanction of the Company’s authority to the measures to be taken for the discharge of his debt to individuals, without which he can never be a useful ally.

15. You are to be very minute in representing to us whatever can give any light into the rife and progress of this uncommon debt, and the measures you adopt for procuring the discharge of it.

16. We have expressed our sentiments in our letter to the separate department on the great and almost unnecessary force kept up by the Nabob, but we rely on you for pursuing the proper measures to enforce the reduction of them to a number more suitable to the state of the Nabob’s finances: When we permitted an increase of the Sepoy establishment in 1765, it was with a view to reduce the numbers of his undisciplined rabble, instead of which they have been increasing to a degree as would almost incline us to think he meant in future to rely on them for the defence of the Carnatic; the folly of this must be strongly represented to him, and you must inculcate to him that he cannot strengthen himself by any mode so effectual as the re-establishing his finances. Remind him of the long war we have sustained in the defence of the Carnatic; that the time may come when such another effort may be required against the same powerful enemy; that he is always to bear this in his mind as a possible event, and be preparing against it; and that no preparation will be so effectual as a full treasury; and till that is accomplished, he must confine all his ambition to the putting the Carnatic into a proper state of defence, by keeping up the fortifications, and having his magazines well stored.

17. Our letter to the separate department by this consequence will sufficiently explain to you our sentiments with respect to the mode adopted of late years, for contracting for supplies to the army; and you are therefore hereby most positively ordered to examine and correct all abuses that
that may appear to you to have been committed in this respect, and revert to our former orders on this subject.

18. There is nothing which affects the welfare of the Company more than an impartial administration of justice towards their servants; and we find ourselves extremely perplexed what opinion to Form on the contents puffed by the Governor and Council against Melfs. Dowsett and Cuming, on account of the doubts that arise from the character of Veeragho, the principal evidence, and the contradictions in the several evidences, but more especially from that given in upon oath by Cundapah relative to Mr. Dowsett, subsequent to the decision of the Governor and Council on the cases of Melfs. Dowsett and Cuming, and which evidence of Cundapah will very materially affect that given against them.—This has induced us to suspend our judgments, and we refer it to your decision, and recommend it to you, to go attentively through the former trial, to consider the weight due to the evidence given by Cundapah, and any new lights that may since be received it Natural is found; and should they be found guilty of the charge laid against them, our order is, that they be dismissed our service, and sent home by the first conveyance; and on the other hand, should you deem them worthy of being reformed, we empower you to do, and to let their salary and allowances from the Company be continued to them from the time they were withheld.——However, whether they are reformed or not, you are to see that the several sums are refunded, which the Company have been defrauded of, by the carrying out of the works at Cuddalore during the time that Melfs. Dowsett and Cuming were paymasters there. —

And if in the course of your investigating these affairs, it may appear to you that any of the natives have been guilty of fraudulent practices, you are to withdraw our protection from those who are so unworthy of it, and banish them from our bounds.

London, the 27th March 1769.

We are your loving friends,

Charles Chambers,            H. Crabb Boulton,  
Ja. Cockburn,                G. Colebrooks,     
Mr. Woodhouse,               J. Purling,        
Ben. Booth,                  Fré Pigou,        
J. Crefwicke,                L. H. Cruttenden,  
Peter Du Can, Junior,        Wm. James,       
William Snell,               Daniel Wier,      
John Harrison,               Edw. Wieder,      
Luke Sraffan,                J. Harlock,       

The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

To all to whom these presents shall come, fende greeting.

Know ye, That we the said United Company, renouncing especial trust and confidence in the fidelity, prudence, justice, and circumspection, of Roger Drake, Junior, Esquire, have made, constituted, and ordained, and by these presents do make, constitute, and ordain, the said Roger Drake, to be President and Governor, of and for all the said Company's affairs in the Bay of Bengal, and other the places and provinces thereunto belonging in the East Indies; and also to be our Governor and Commander in chief of our Fort William, in the Bay of Bengal, and all the Towns and territories thereunto belonging, and of all and singular the forts, factories, and settlements, territories, countries, and jurisdictions thereof, and of all the forces which now are, or hereafter may or shall be, employed for the service of the said United Company, in the said forts, towns, and places, and to execute all and every the powers and authorities thereunto appertaining, by order and direction of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the time being, and to continue in the exercise of the same during our and their pleasure, and until the contrary thereof shall be signified under the seal of the said United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East-Indies, or under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said Company for the time being: And, to the end the said Roger Drake may be better enabled to order and manage all the affairs of us the said United Company, we do by these presents constitute and ordain William Watts, Esquire, to be second of our Council of Fort William, next after our said President Roger Drake, Major James Kilpatrick to be and continue third of our said Council, and not to rise to a superior rank therein, Mr. Charles Manningham to be fourth, Mr. Richard Beecher to be fifth, Mr. Paul Richard Parkes to be sixth, Mr. William Frankland to be seventh, Mr. Matthew Colter to be eighth, Mr. John Zephaniah Holwell to be ninth, Mr. William Mackett to be tenth, Mr. Edward Eyre to be eleventh, and Mr. Nicholas Clerembault, to be twelfth, and last, of the said Council of Fort William, for governing and managing all the said Company's affairs in Bengal, and the places and provinces thereunto belonging as aforesaid: And we do hereby give and grant unto our said President and Governor, Roger Drake, Esquire, and to our Council aforesaid, or the major part of them (the whole Council being duly summoned) full power and authority, from time to time, to rule and govern all and every our factors and servants under the said presidency, and all the soldiers and inhabitants of our said Fort William, and all the towns and territories thereunto belonging, to administer lawful oaths as occasion shall require, and to do and perform all such other acts and things, and to use and exercise all such other powers and authorities, as the said President and Governor, and his Council, in their several and respective places where the said United Company have, or shall have, factors or any places of trade, are authorized to do, according to such instructions and directions as the said Roger Drake, our President and Governor, and Council aforesaid.
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Our forts of Tellichery and Arijengo, and of all and singular other the forts, territories, and jurisdictions belonging thereunto, and of all the forces which now are, or hereafter may or shall be, employed for the service of the said United Company in the said forts, towns, and places, or any of them, by force or violence, or in any manner or form, to enslave, maintain, or continue any city, town, or other place, either by sea or land, and to execute all and every the powers and authorities requisite for the carrying on, and to continue in the exercise of the same during our and their pleasure, and until the contrary, therefrom shall be signified under the seal of the said United Company, or under the hands or seals of three or more of the Court of Directors of the said Company for the time being:

And, to the end the said Charles Crommelin may be better enabled to order and manage all the affairs of the said Company, we do by these presents constitute and ordain Mr. George Scott to be second of our Council of Bombay, next after our said President Charles Crommelin; Mr. Thomas Byfield, third; Mr. Thomas Hodges, fourth; Mr. Alexander Douglas, fifth; Mr. Brabazon Ellis, sixth; Mr. William Hornby, seventh; Mr. William Andrew Price, eighth; Mr. John Spencer, ninth; Captain Samuel Hough, tenth; Mr. Thomas Whitehill, eleventh; and Mr. Charles Waters, twelfth, and last, of our said council of Bombay, for governing and managing of all the said Company's affairs at Bombay and other the places aforesaid, and governing the said castle and island of Bombay, and all other our forts, factories, and settlements, within any the territories aforesaid: And we do hereby give and grant unto our said President, Charles Crommelin, Esquire, and to our Council aforesaid, or the major part of them, whereof our said President to be always one (the whole Council being duly summoned) full power and authority, from time to time to rule and govern all and every our factors and servants under the said presidency, and all the soldiers and inhabitants of our said castle and island of Bombay, and elsewhere within the places aforesaid, to administer lawful oaths as occasion shall require, and to do and perform all such other acts and things, and to use and exercise all such other powers and authorities as the said President and his Council in their several and respective places, where the said United Company have, or shall have factors, or any places of trade, are authorized to do, according to such instructions and directions, as they the said Charles Crommelin our President and Council aforesaid, shall from time to time receive under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the time being:—And we the said United Company do hereby order and require all our factors, servants, officers, and soldiers, within the limits of the said presidency, and all the people and inhabitants of our said island and castle of Bombay, or any other our forts, places, or colonies, within the said presidency, to conform, submit, and yield due obedience unto the said Charles Crommelin our President and Governor and his Council, accordingly: And forasmuch as it is altogether necessary, that in case of the death or removal of the said Charles Crommelin, our presidency should be provided for the defence and government thereof, we do therefore by these presents, ordain and appoint, that in such case the said Mr. Thomas Hodges shall immediately be and succeed in the place and charge of President and Governor of Bombay aforesaid, in as full and ample manner, and with as large and ample powers and authorities, as are hereby granted unto the said Charles Crommelin, until our, or the Court of Directors for the time being, as aforesaid, their further pleasure be known therein. In witness whereof we the said United Company have caused our common seal to be affixed to these presents, this twenty-fifth day of April, in the thirty-second year of the reign of his most excellent Majesty George the Second, by the grace of God, King of Great-Britain, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, and so forth; and in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and fifty nine.

Signed by Order of the Court of Directors of the said United Company.

Rob. James, Secretary.

Extract of the general letter to Bombay, dated the 25th April, 1759.

We shall now proceed to regulate and fix your establishment: We accordingly direct and appoint Charles Crommelin, Esquire, to be President and Governor of our Island of Bombay, and that he take the chair on the last day of February 1760, or sooner if Governor Bourchier shall chuse to reign; and in case of the death or absence of Mr. Crommelin, we appoint Thomas Hodges, Esquire, to be Governor of Bombay; and on the death or absence of Mr. Hodges, it is our pleasure, that the chair of council next below Mr. Hodges succeed to the government in turn, as we shall rank them; all those in council standing above Mr. Hodges are barred from the succession: And we do hereby appoint the following persons to be our Governor and Council for the management of our affairs under your presidency.

Charles Crommelin, Esquire, President and Governor, to take the chair on the last day of February, 1760, or sooner if Mr. Bourchier should reign.

George Scott, Second of council; to rise no higher.

Third.

Fourth; to succeed as President and Governor, in case of the death or absence of Mr. Crommelin.

Alexander Douglas, Fifth.

Brabazon Ellis, Sixth.

William Hornby, Seventh.

William Andrew Price, Eighth.

John Spencer, Ninth.

Samuel
The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East-Indies.

To all to whom these presents shall come, send greeting.

Know ye, that we the said United Company, replying especial trust and confidence in the fidelity, prudence, justice, and circumspection of John Spencer, Esquire, have made, constituted, and ordained, and by these presents do make, constitute, and ordain, the said John Spencer, Esquire, upon and from the last day of January, which shall be in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and sixty-seven, to be President of, and for all our affairs at Bombay, and in Surat, Cambay, and Persia, and at Tellicherry, Anjengo, and all our settlements on the Malabar coast, and elsewhere, in the East Indies, now under the direction of Charles Crommelin, Esquire, President, and the Council of Bombay aforesaid: and also to be our commander in chief, and governor of our cattle and island of Bombay, and of the several forts thereon, and our forts of Tellicherry and Anjengo, and of all and singular other the forts, territories, and jurisdictions, belonging thereunto, and of all the forces which now are or hereafter may of shall be, employed for the said United Company, in the said forts, towns, and places, or sent from thence by land or sea, and to execute all and every the powers and authorities thereunto appertaining, by order and direction of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the time being, and to continue in the said exercise of the same during our and their pleasure, and until the contrary thereof shall be signified under the seal of the said United Company, or under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said United Company, for the time being: And to the end the said John Spencer may be better enabled to order and manage all the affairs of the said Company, we do by these presents constitute and ordain Mr. Thomas Byfield to be second of our council of Bombay, next after our said President John Spencer; Mr. Thomas Hodges, third; Mr. William Hornby, fourth; Mr. William Andrew Price, fifth; Mr. Thomas Whitehill, sixth; Mr. Charles Waters, seventh; Mr. Peter Elwin Wrench, eighth; Mr. Samuel Court, ninth; Mr. Daniel Draper, tenth; Mr. James Ryley, eleventh; Mr. Henry Moore, twelfth; and Mr. Rawton Hatt Reddam, thirteenth, and last, of our said council of Bombay, for governing and managing all the said aforesaid affairs at Bombay, and other places aforesaid, and governing the said cattle and island of Bombay, and all other our forts, factories, and settlements, within any of the territories aforesaid: And we do hereby give and grant unto our said President, John Spencer, Esquire, and to our Council aforesaid, or the major part of them, whereof our said President to be always one (the whole council being duly funimonod) full power and authority, from time to time, to rule and govern all and every our factors and servants under the said presidency, and all the soldiers and inhabitants of our said cattle and island of Bombay, or elsewhere, or within the places aforesaid, to administer lawful oaths, as occasion shall require, and to do and perform all such other acts and things, and to use and execute all such other powers and authorities, as the said president and his council in their several and respective places, where the said United Company, have, or shall have, factors, or any places of trade, are authorized to do, according to such instructions and directions as they the said John Spencer, President and Council aforesaid, shall, from time to time, receive, under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the time being; and we the said United Company do hereby order and require all our factors, servants, officers, and soldiers, within the limits of the said presidency, and all the people and inhabitants of our said island and cattle of Bombay, or any other our forts, places, or colonies, within the said presidency, to conform, submit, and yield due obedience unto the said John Spencer, our President and Governor, and his Council, accordingly: And forasmuch as it is altogether necessary, that in case of the death or removal of the said John Spencer, our presidency should be provided for the defence and government thereof, we do therefore by these presents ordain and appoint, that in such case the said Mr. Thomas Hodges shall immediately be and succeed in the place and charge of President and Governor of Bombay, and its dependencies aforesaid, in as full and ample manner, and with all such authority, as are hereby granted unto the said John Spencer, until our or the Court of Directors for the time being aforesaid, their further pleasure be known therein. In witness whereof we the said United Company have caused our common seal to be affixed to these presents, this twelfth day of March, in the sixth year of the reign of his most excellent Majesty George the third, by the grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, defender of the faith, and so forth, and in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and sixty-seven.

Signed by Order of the Court of Directors of the said United Company.

Robt. James, Secretary.

Extract of the General Letter to Bombay, dated the 12th March 1766.

Having ordered and directed Mr. Crommelin to resign the government on the 31st of January 1767, Mr. John Spencer being appointed by our letters of the 11th June 1764, and the 22d March 1765, to succeed thereto, he is accordingly, on the said 31st day of January 1767, to take charge of the government as President and Governor of Bombay; and we hope he will, by
The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East-Indies.

To all, to whom these presents shall come, send greeting.

Know ye, That the said United Company, reserving especial trust and confidence in the fidelity, prudence, justice, and circumspection, of Thomas Hodges, Esquire, have made, constituted, and ordained, and by these presents do make, constitute, and ordain, the said Thomas Hodges to be President of and for all our affairs at Bombay, and in Surat, Cambay, and Pernia, and at Tellicherry, Anjengo, and all our settlements on the Malabar coast, and elsewhere, in the East Indies, under the direction of the late President and Council, and also to be our commander in chief, and Governor of our castle and island of Bombay, and of the several forts thereon, and of our forts at Tellicherry and Anjengo, and of all and singular other the forts, territories, and jurisdictions, belonging thereunto, and of all the forces which now are, or hereafter may or shall be, employed, for the service of the said United Company, in the said forts, towns, and places, or sent from thence by land or sea, and to execute all and every the powers and authorities thereunto appertaining, by order and direction of the Court of Directors of the said United Company 

We accordingly send, by the ship Nottingham, a commission under the Company's seal, confirming the said appointment.

John Spencer, Esquire, President and Governor,

Mr. Thomas Byfield, Second.

Mr. Thomas Hodges, Third.

Mr. William Hornby, Fourth.

Mr. William Andrew Price, Fifth.

Mr. Thomas Whitehill, Sixth.

Mr. Charles Waters, Seventh.

Mr. Peter Elwin Wrench, Eighth.

Mr. Samuel Court, Ninth.

Mr. Daniel Draper, Tenth.

Mr. James Riley, Eleventh.

Mr. Henry Moore, Twelfth.

Mr. Rawfon Hart Boddam, Thirteenth.

And we do hereby order and direct, that our Council at Bombay do consist of the following persons, viz.

And we do hereby order and direct, that our Council at Bombay do consist of the following persons, viz.

And we do hereby order and direct, that our Council at Bombay do consist of the following persons, viz.
as aforesaid, their further pleasure be known therein. In witness whereof, we the said United Company have caused our common seal to be affixed to these presents, the eighteenth day of March, in the eighth year of the reign of his most excellent Majesty George the third, by the grace of God, King, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, defender of the faith, and fo forth, and in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and sixty eight.

Signed by order of the Court of Directors of the said United Company.

Rob. James, Secretary.

Extract of the Company's General Letter to Bombay, dated 18th March 1768.

Thomas Hodges, Esq; having succeeded to the chair at your preidency, agreeable to our orders of the 17th May 1766, you will receive by the ship Royal Captain, now under dispatch for Bombay, a commission under the Company's seal, constituting him President and Governor, and the following persons of Council, for managing our affairs at Bombay, viz.

Thomas Hodges, Esquire. President and Governor.
Mr. William Hornby, Second.
Mr. William Andrew Price, Third.
Mr. Thomas Whitehill, Fourth.
Mr. Peter Elwin Wrench, Fifth.
Mr. Samuel Court, Sixth.
Mr. Daniel Draper, Seventh.
Mr. James Ryley, Eighth.
Mr. Henry Moore, Ninth.
Mr. Rawdon Hart Boddom, Tenth.
Mr. Benjamin Jervis, Eleventh.
Mr. Thomas Moffyn, Twelfth.
Mr. Nathaniel Stackhouse, Thirteenth.

The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

To all to whom these presents shall come, send greeting.

Know ye, that we, the said United Company, repose especial trust and confidence in the fidelity, prudence, justice, and circumspection, of Roger Carter, Esquire, have made, constituted, and ordained, and by these presents do make, constitute, and ordain the said Roger Carter to be President and Governor, and for all our affairs on the island of Sumatra, in the East Indies, and also to be our commander in chief of our Fort Marlborough at Bencoolen, on the said island, and all the territories, thereof belonging, and of all and singular the towns, forts, factories, and settlements, territories, countries, and jurisdictions thereof, and of all others which now are, or hereafter shall or may become subordinate thereto or dependant thereon, or shall or may be acquired, and annexed to the said presidency, although not situate on the said island of Sumatra, and of all the forces which now are, or hereafter may or shall be, employed for the service of the said United Company in the said forts, towns, places, and acquisitions; giving and hereby granting to the said Roger Carter, full power and authority to execute all and every the powers and authorities appertaining to the said offices or places of President and Governor, and commander in chief as aforesaid, in as full and ample manner, and with the like powers and authorities, as all or any of our Presidents and Governors, and commanders in chief of any other of our forts, factories, places, and settlements, in the East Indies aforesaid, are empowered by us to do, by and according to such orders and directions, as have been, from time to time, established by the Court of Directors of the said United Company, for the government and conduct of their affairs on the said island of Sumatra, or as he the said Roger Carter shall now, or at any time hereafter receive, under the seal of the said United Company, or under the hands of the Court of Directors of the said Company for the time being: or any thirteen or more of them, and to continue in the exercise of the same, during our and their pleasure, and until the contrary thereof shall be signified under the seal of the said United Company, or under the hands of the Court of Directors of the said Company for the time being. And, to the end that the said Roger Carter, Esquire, may be better enabled to order and manage all the affairs of us the said Company, as our President and Governor aforesaid, we do by these presents constitute and ordain Richard Wyatt, Esquire, to be second of our Council at Fort Marlborough aforesaid, next after our said President Roger Carter; Mr. Joseph Darvel to be third; Mr. William Norris to be fourth; Mr. Richard Proton to be fifth; Mr. Robert Hay to be sixth; Mr. Alexander Halt to be seventh; Mr. Henry Idell to be eighth; and Mr. Christopher Watson to be ninth, and last, of our said Council at Fort Marlborough, for managing and governing all the said Company's affairs upon the said island of Sumatra, the said Fort Marlborough and town of Bencoolen, and all other our forts, factories, and settlements, on the island aforesaid, and which now are, or shall or may hereafter become dependant thereon and subordinate thereto, although not situate on the said island. And we do hereby give and grant unto our said President and Governor, Roger Carter, and to our Council aforesaid, or the major part of them, (the whole Council being duly summoned) full power and authority, from time to time to rule and govern all and every our factors and servants, under the said presidency, and all the subjects and inhabitants of our said Fort Marlborough and town of Bencoolen, and elsewhere, within the places aforesaid, to administer lawful oaths as occasion shall require, and to do and perform all such other acts and things, and to use and exercise all such
such other powers and authorities as any of the said United Company's Presidents and Governors and their Councils in their several and respective places, where the said United Company have, or shall have, any places of trade, are authorized to do, according to such orders and instructions as he, the said Roger Carter, our President and Governor, and Council aforesaid, shall from time to time receive under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the time being:—And we the said United Company do hereby order and require all our factors, ferrants, officers, and soldiers, within the limits of the said presidency, and all the people and inhabitants of our said Fort Marlborough and town of Bencoolen, or any other our forts, places, or colonies, within the said presidency, to conform, submit, and yield due obedience unto the said Roger Carter our President and Governor and his Council, accordingly. In witness whereof, the said United Company have caused their common seal to be affixed to these presents, this fourth day of February, in the first year of the reign of his most excellent Majesty George the Third, by the grace of God, King of Great-Britain, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, and so forth; and in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and sixty-one.

Signed by Order of the Court of Directors of the said United Company.

Robt. James, Secretary.

Extract of the Company's general letter to Fort Marlborough, dated 4 February 1761.

q. As Fort Marlborough is now become an independent settlement, our affairs are to be conducted by a Governor, or President and Council, in the same manner, and with the like powers and authorities, as our other presidencies. We have accordingly constituted and appointed the following gentlemen to be our said Governor, or President, and Council; and herewith you will receive a commission, under the Company's seal, for the said purpose; viz.

Roger Carter to be Governor and President.
Mr. Richard Wyatt, Second in Council.
Mr. Joseph Darvall, Third.
Mr. William Norris, Fourth.
Mr. Richard Preston, Fifth.
Mr. Robert Hay, Sixth.
Mr. Alexander Hall, Seventh.
Mr. Henry Idell, Eighth.
Mr. Christopher Watfon, Ninth and last.

The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East-Indies.

To all to whom these presents shall come, send greeting.

Know ye, that we the said United Company, repose special trust and confidence in the fidelity, prudence, justice, and circumstances, of Richard Wyatt, Esquire, have made, constituted, and ordained, and by these presents do make, constitute, and ordain, the said Richard Wyatt to be President and Governor of and for all our affairs on the island of Sumatra in the East-Indies, and also to be our commander in chief of our Fort Marlborough, at Bencoolen, on the said island, and all the territories thereunto belonging, and of all and singular the towns, forts, factories, and settlements, territories, countries, and jurisdictions thereof, and of all others which now are, or hereafter shall or may become subordinate thereto, or dependant thereon, or shall or may be acquired and annexed to the said presidency, although not situated on the said island of Sumatra, and of all the forces which now are, or hereafter may or shall be, employed for the service of the said United Company, in the said forts, towns, places, and acquisitions, from and after the day that Roger Carter, Esquire, now in charge of our said government and presidency, is ordered and directed in the general letter to the presidency aforesaid, under the hands of the major part of the present Court of Directors of the said Company, bearing even date with these presents, to reign and yield up the said government and presidency as aforesaid to Richard Wyatt, Esquire; giving, and hereby granting, to the said Richard Wyatt, full power and authority to execute all and every the powers and authorities appertaining to the said offices or places of President and Governor, and Commander in chief as aforesaid, in as full and ample manner, and with the like powers and authorities, as all, or any of our Presidents and Governors, and Commanders in chief of any other of our forts, factories, places, and settlements, in the East Indies aforesaid, are empowered by us to do, by and according to such orders and directions, as have been, from time to time, established by the Court of Directors of the said United Company, for the government and conduct of their affairs on the said island of Sumatra; or as he, the said Richard Wyatt, shall now, or at any time hereafter, receive under the seal of the said United Company, or under the hands of Directors of the said Company, for the time being, or any thirteen or more of them, and to continue in the exercise of the same during our and their pleasure, and until the contrary thereof shall be signified under the seal of the said United Company, or under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said Company, for the time being: And to the end the said Richard Wyatt, Esquire, may be better enabled to order and manage all the affairs of us the said Company, as our said President and Governor aforesaid, we do by these presents constitute and ordain Joseph Darvall, Esquire, to be second of our Council at Fort Marlborough aforesaid, next to, and immediately after, our said President Richard Wyatt, Mr. Robert Hay to be third; Mr. George Scott to be fourth; Mr.

(L.S.)
Mr. Robert Nairne to be fifth; Mr. John Herbert to be sixth; Mr. Hew Stewart to be seventh; Mr. John Gould to be eighth, and Mr. Stokham Donfon to be ninth, and last, of our said Council at Fort Marlborough, for managing and governing all the said company’s affairs upon the said island of Sumatra, the said Fort Marlborough, and Town of Bencoolen, and all other our forts, factories, and settlements, on the island aforesaid; and which now are, or shall or may hereafter become dependant thereon, and subordinate thereto, although not situated on the said island. And we do hereby give and grant unto our said President and Governor, Richard Wyatt, and to our Council aforesaid, or to the major part of them (the whole council being duly summoned) full power and authority, from time to time, to rule and govern all and every our factors and servants under the said presidency, and all the holders and inhabitants of our said Fort Marlborough, and Town of Bencoolen, and elsewhere, within the places aforesaid, to administer lawful oaths, as occasion shall require, and to do and perform all such other acts and things, and to use and exercise all such other powers and authorities, as any of the said United Company’s Presidents and Governors, and their Councils, in their several and respective places, where the said United Company, have, or shall have, factors, or any places of trade, are authorized to do, according to such orders and instructions, as he the said Richard Wyatt, our President and Governor, and Council aforesaid, shall, from time to time, receive, under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the time being. And we, the said United Company, do hereby order and require all our factors, servants, officers, and folders, within the limits of the said presidency, and all the people and inhabitants of our said Fort Marlborough, and Town of Bencoolen, or any other our forts, places, or colonies, within the said presidency, to conform, submit, and yield due obedience unto the said Richard Wyatt, our President and Governor, and his Council accordingly; And forasmuch as it is altogether necessary, that in case of the death or removal of the said Richard Wyatt, our presidency should be provided for the better defence and government thereof, we do therefore by these presents ordain and appoint, that in such case the said Joseph Davall, Esquire, shall immediately be and succeed in the place and charge of President and Governor of Fort Marlborough, aforesaid, in as full and ample manner, and with as large and ample powers and authorities, as are hereby granted unto the said Richard Wyatt, until our or the Court of Directors for the time being as aforesaid, their further pleasure be known therein. In witness whereof, we the said United Company have caused our common seal to be affixed to these presents, this eleventh day of January, in the sixth year of the reign of his most excellent Majesty George the Third, by the grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, defender of the faith, and so forth, and in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and sixty six.

Signed by Order of the Court of Directors of the said United Company.

Rob. James, Secretary.

Extract of the Company’s general letter to Fort Marlborough, dated the 15th January, 1766.

Having made out a commission under the Company’s seal, bearing date the same day with this letter, confirming the appointment of Richard Wyatt, Esquire, to be President and Governor, and the other persons to be Counsellors in the order they are named; we send the same by the Havannah, and an attested copy thereof by the Hawke.

A P P E N D I X.

No 2.

List of copies of the several treaties and grants from the country powers to the East-India Company, respecting their presidency at Fort William in Bengal, from the year 1756 to 1765, both years inclusive; which are in possession of the house.

No 1. Treaty executed by the Nabob Serajah Dowla, and agreements of the President and Select Committee, and Colonel Clive on the part of the Company, in February, 1757.

2. Perwannah from Nabob Serajah Dowla, for erecting a mint, and for the currency of bullion, and copy of his Duffuck, dated in March 1757.


4. General Sunnud from the Nabob Jaffier Ally Khan, for currency of the Company’s bullion, and relating to the Mint, dated 15th July 1757.

5. Perwannah from Nabob Jaffier Ally Khan, for currency of gold and silver coined in the Company’s Mint at Calcutta, dated the 28th of July 1757.

6. Perwannah from Jaffier Ally Khan, relating to the Zemindarry of the lands, South of Calcutta, granted to the Company by the treaty with the said Nabob, dated in December 1757.

7. Perwannah from Nabob Jaffier Ally Khan, granting to the Company the sole purchase of the salt-pan, produced in the province of Bahar, dated in March 1758.

8. Sunnud from the Dewan of the Subah of Bengal, for the Zemindarry of the lands granted to the Company by Meer Jaffier Ally Khan, dated in December 1758.

9. Sunnud from the Dewan of Bengal, granting the free tenure of Calcutta, &c. to the Company, dated in December 1758.


11. Sunnud
11. Sunnuds from Nabob Meer Mahomed Coffin Khan, granting to the Company the lands of Burdwan, Midnapore, and Islamabad, also the Chunam produced at Silhet; for three years, dated in October 1760.

12. Treaty between the Company and Nabob Meer Jaffer Ally Khan, and articles demanded by the Nabob, and agreed to by the Governor and Council, dated 10th July 1703.

13. Nabob Jaffer Ally Khan’s note, for payment of five lacks per month, for expenses of the Company’s troops, during the war with Shujah ul Dowla, dated 16th December 1764.

14. Proposals made by the King Shah Aalum to Major Munro, and articles proposed by the Governor and Council to be executed by the King; also Firmans from the King granting the Gauzee poor country to the Company; the letter dated the 29th of December 1764.

15. Treaty between the Company and Nabob Nudjum ul Dowla, in February 1765.

16. General Firmans from the King Shah Aalum, granting to the Company the Dewanny of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, dated 12th August 1765.

17. Firmans from the King Shah Aalum, granting the Dewanny of Bengal to the Company, dated 12th August 1765.

18. Firmans from the King Shah Aalum, granting the Dewanny of Bahar to the Company, dated 12th August 1765.

19. Firmans from the King Shah Aalum, granting the Dewanny of Orixa to the Company, dated 12th August 1765.

20. Firmans from the King Shah Aalum, confirming to the Company the Chucklees of Burdwan, Midnapore, and Chittagong, and the 24 Purgunnahs of Calcutta, &c. before ceded to them by the Nabob Jaffer Ally Khan and Coffin Ally Khan, dated 12th August 1765.


22. Agreement between the King Shah Aalum and the Company, relating to the tribute to be paid to him from the revenues of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, dated 19th August 1765.

23. Agreements between the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowla, and the Company, relating to the allowance to be paid him for the support of the Nizamut.

Grants relating to Lord Clive’s Munfub and Jaghire.

N° 1. Sunnud from the King Aulum Geer, appointing Colonel Clive a Munfubdar, dated about December 1757.


3. Sunnud from the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowla, for the reversion in perpetuity of Lord Clive’s jaghire to the Company, dated 23d June 1765.

4. Firmans from the King Shah Aalum, confirming the reversion in perpetuity of Lord Clive’s jaghire to the Company.

The royal Firmans granted by his Majesty’s Fuzzuckfeer, under his seal, and the Vizier’s Syad Abidulla Cauin.

To all Governors, Officers, Jaggeerars, Phoufars, Cohedars, Chokeys, Hororeys, Jemidars, and all who bear pofts under the King at present, or shall hereafter, in the Subahs of Bengal, Orissa, Hughly, and elsewhere within these limits, being in hopes of the royal favour; Know, for in this joyful time, when all is prosperous, and victories daily happen, that Mr. John Serman and Coja Seerahd, Gomaltahs, for the honourable East-India Company, have petitioned to my high throne of justice, that agreeable to Shaw Jahans (whom God has taken to himself, and given a place in heaven) Nuskan, and the former Sunnuds, the English company may carry on their commerce, throughout the whole country, exempt from duties (except Surat) in lieu of which, three thousand rupees is annually paid a pilfcafh into the treasury at Hughly; therefore we are in hopes according to these former sunnuds, we shall be favoured and granted a Phirmam.

I now direct, and command, that whatever goods or other things the Gomaltahs may (throughout my dominions) either bring or carry away, by land or by water, have free eregs and refreg, exempt from any duties; and in the fame manner they may buy or sell at their own liberty; in which consideration, the three thousand rupees is to be annually paid a pilfcafh and no more; and further command, That, if in any place, any of the company’s goods should be floe, you are to make strict search after them, that they be restored, and the thieves taken and brought to justice, and at whatever place the Company have where they buy and sell, in what is right, you are to affift them and not let them be abused; also, from any merchant, weavers, or others, a just balance is due, you are, agreeable to justice, to see paid, so that no injustice is done to any of the company’s Gomaltahs, and on any boat, either their own or hired, there is to be no culloms demanded on them.

And it is petitioned, that the Subahs petty Duans demand the sight of the original sunnud, as also one under the Nabob’s seal, and another under his Duans seal: The carrying the original one way where is troublesome; therefore, are in hopes that a copy under the Cazee’s seal shall be regarded, and the original one not inflicted on, and likewise no occasion to new the Nabob’s and Duans at all: Calcutta, which is the company’s factory, it is requested, that Soota Looa and Govindore, (in the country of Amreabad, in the province of Bengal) which places the company formerly bought of Jemmudar, the revenues 1195.6 are annually paid, and furthermore
Thirty-eight towns, whose annual revenues are 8121.8 rupees which lie near Calcutta, we humbly beg you will grant us the Jemmimidarry off, the above rents shall be duly paid.

His royal pleasure, which is always hand in hand with justice, commands, That a copy of the original sunnod, under the high Preeufat Delly's seal shall be regarded: The towns bought formerly I acquiesce to the thirty towns, I give you the Jemmimidarry off likewise, but you must buy them and satisfy the owner, the Duan Suba will not impede you.

And it is petitioned, that ever since the reign of Aurungzebe (whom God has placed in heaven) our Cherpapam rupees in all the provinces pass for less than value notwithstanding the silver is the same as the Surat rupees, in which we are great sufferers; therefore beg you will order, if the silver be equal with the Surat, that they shall not pass for less than value: And it is further petitioned, if any of the Company's debtor or Gomaffahs slope, that they be seized and return to the chief, and that Phowildarry customs and all others, which have been forbid, be not taken as our Gomaffah and Imahs are greatly distirbled by them, they being demanded.

It is peremptorily commanded, that from this 5 fon for year, if the Cherpapam rupees be equal with the Surat, that they do not pass for less than value; and if any debtor or gomaffah elope, that they be taken and delivered to their chief.

It is further petitioned, that the Company, having factories in Bengal, Oraifi, and willing to make some in other places, are in hopes, that in whatever other places we think convenient, that forty Begars of land will be granted for that use; likewise as sometimes our ships by storms and hard weather, are drove ashore and stranded, the government in those places by force seize and plunder the goods, and in other places a quarter is demanded; and further petition the island of Bombay, a Company's settlement, where the Portuguese coin is current, if approved and an order given, we will coin five rupees there as we do at Cherpapam.

It is commanded, as land was before given to make factories, that it shall be now given to make them in other places; and as the English are people that have made dwellings in my country, and trade in my cities where I am, and have formerly received Sunnonds to free them from all duties and customs; therefore you must, in case of any of their ships being cast away, or by mistake go to your port, protect them, and take care of their goods; and likewise that Sicas rupees be coined at Bombay, and pass current as Sicas do.

Agreeable to all that I have ordered, commanded, and wrote in this plurnaud, must be punctually complied with and not deviated from, nor demand a new Sunnund every year, but regard this.

Dated the 27th of Mohurum, 5 fon of year of his reign.

Copies of Phirmauns, Hubullhookums, &c. 1717.

No 1. Copy of a Hubullhookum, under the seal of the (Coottbullmoolk *) prime minister; the Lord high treasurer Syad Abdulla Cau; the valiant, the victorious in battle, general of the horse, friend full of truth; as followeth:

To all Mutuddys in government, that are at present, or hereafter may come throughout all the provinces of the conquered empire; know yee, that at this instant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaut and Mr. Stevenson, for and in behalf of the English Company, have, through intercussions of the high ministers, preferred their petition to his imperial Majesty; setting forth, that in several ports the Company have factories, where Englishmen refide, buying and selling, and there are some places and aurengs likewis where English men can't be set; for which reason they gave agreements, and lend their money by the hands of the merchants of this country, to buy goods for them: They hope that orders may be given to the King's Mutuddys (officers) that whosoever going to coming with the Dulkie of the chief of their factory, be not hindered and molested. It is commanded, that a lift be taken from under the seal of the chief of the factory, and according to which, that you give sunnonds under your own seal, for which reason this Hubullhookum is ifeued out, that you do, pursuant to the great command, take a lift from under the seal of the chief of the factory; and according to which, give Sunnonds under your own seals. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon, Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majesty's reign.

No 2. Copy of a Hubullhookum, under the seal of the (Coottbullmoolk) prime minister; the Lord high treasurer Syad Abdulla Cau; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horse, friend full of truth; as followeth:

To all Mutuddys in government, that are present or, or hereafter may come throughout all the provinces of the conquered empire; know yee, that at this instant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaut and Mr. Stevenson for and in behalf of the English Company, have, through intercussions of the high ministers, preferred their petition to his imperial Majesty; setting forth, that in the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Oudelfa, the Company have factories, and that in other provinces they may likewise have liberty to settle other factories; they hope, that in whatsoever place they have a mind to settle a factory, they may have 40 Begars of ground given them for the same: It is ordered that they have according to custom of their factories in other subah-ships; and they have obtained a gracious phirmaun, for which reason this Hubullhookum is ifeued out, that you do, pursuant to the great command, let them in any place settle new factories according to the custom of their other factories. Regard this well. Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majesty's reign.

* The Pole Star of the Empire.
No. 3. Copy of a Huflbullhookum, under the seal of the [Coastbullmook] prime minister; the Lord high treasurer Syad Abdulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horse, friend full of truth; as followeth:

To all Mutudlys in government, that at present are, or hereafter may come throughout all parts and provinces of the conquered Empire; Know ye, that at this instant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhond and Mr. Stevenfon, for and in behalf of the English Company, have, through intercessions of the High ministers, presented their petition to his Imperial Majesty; setting forth, that in any port and Fubahib, the Company's gomafahs going backwards and forwards by land and water to buy and sell, if any thing should be stolen, which God forbid, they hope for strict orders to be given you, that you take care that the Zemendars, &c. of the place where such goods are stolen, do thoroughly afile in getting them again; and that the goods be returned to the right owner, and due punishment be inflicted on the robbers. It is accordingly commanded, for which reason this Huflbullhookum is issued out, that you do, pursuant to the great command, if in any place, any thing should be stolen, thoroughly afile in getting it again, and return it to the right owners; and let due punishment be inflicted on the rogues. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majesty's reign.

No. 4. Copy of a Huflbullhookum, under the seal of the [Coastbullmook] prime minister; the Lord high treasurer Syad Abdulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horse, true to his friends; as followeth:

To all Mutudlys in government, that at present are, or hereafter may come throughout all the provinces of the conquered empire; Know ye, That at this instant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhond and Mr. Stevenfon, for and in behalf of the English Company, have, through intercessions of the High ministers, presented their petition to his Imperial Majesty, setting forth, That the rupees coined in Madras mint receive some discount before received into the King's treasuries of all Subahifs, although they are of the same fineness and goodness with Surat, whereby they are great losers; they hope orders may be given, in case they are made the same as those at Surat and other places, that there be no discount on them, and that they be received current as all other pieces are. It is, therefore, that from the 5th year of his Majesty's reign, in case they are made the same fineness and goodness with Surat pieces, that there be no discount on them; they have obtained a gracious Phirnmaun, for which reason this Huflbullhookum is issued out, that you do, pursuant to the great command, from the 5th year of his Majesty's reign, in case Madras Pieces are of the same fineness and goodness with Surat Pieces, receive them without any discount. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majesty's reign.

No. 5. Copy of a Huflbullhookum, under the seal of the [Coastbullmook] prime minister; the Lord high treasurer Syad Abdulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horse, true to his friends; as followeth:

To all Mutudlys in government, that at present are, or hereafter may come throughout all the Provinces of the Empire; Know ye, That at this instant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhond and Mr. Stevenfon, for, and in behalf of the English Company, have, through the intercessions of the high ministers, presented their petition to his Imperial Majesty; setting forth, That in all provinces, the Petty Duana, &c. demand fight of the original furnahs and perwannas, under the seals of the Duans and Subahs; and that the original furnahs can't, without a great deal of difficulty, be produced in every Subahib; they hope that a gracious order may be issued out, commanding that a copy from under the seal of the Cauzee may suffice, and no demands made for the original furnahs and perwannas, under the seals of the Duans and Subahs. It is accordingly ordered, that a copy, from under the seal of the chief Cauzee be regarded; and they have obtained a gracious Phirnmaun, for which reason this Huflbullhookum is issued out; that you, pursuant to the great command, have due regard to the copies of furnahs relating to these people, under the seal of the chief Cauzee. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majesty's reign.

No. 6. Copy of a Huflbullhookum, under the seal of the [Coastbullmook] prime minister; the Lord high treasurer Syad Abdulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horse, faithful friend; as followeth:

To all Mutudlys in government, that at present are, or hereafter may come throughout all parts and provinces of the conquered Empire; Know ye, that at this instant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhond and Mr. Stevenfon, for and in behalf of the English Company, have, through intercessions of the high ministers, presented their petition to his Imperial Majesty; setting forth, that in many places the Company's gomafahs and dealers are much troubled for Phirnmaun, &c. other impositions laid on them; they hope orders may be given, commanding that for Phirnmaun, Phowdarry, Zemendarry, and all manner of impositions, they be un molested; it is commanded that all manner of impositions be universally forgiven; and they have obtained a gracious Phirnmaun, for which reason this Huflbullhookum is issued out, and that you do, pursuant to the great command, not molest and trouble the said nation for any manner of impositions, for that is forgiven; that they may go on in their business with chearfulness and satisfaction. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of moon Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majesty's reign.
No. 7. Copy of a Hufbullhookum, under the seal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime minister; the Lord high treasurer Syad Abidulla Cawn; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horse, friend full of truth; as followeth:

To all Mutufdys in government, that at present are, or hereafter may come at the port of Surat, in the province of Bengal, and all other provinces throughout the whole Empire; Know ye, That at this instant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhau and Mr. Stevenfon, for, and in behalf of the English Company, have, through intercessions of the high minimers, preferred their petition to his Imperial Majesty; setting forth, that the island of Bombay, in the sea, to the said island, European fiscas are current; they hope, from his Majesty's favour, that they may have there, as at Madras, the imperial flamp on the fiscas coined there. It is commanded, that concerning the currency of them you be wrote to, for which this Hufbullhookum is iufled out; that you, conformable to the great command, fettle the currency of the rupees coined on that island with the imperial flamp as all other fiscas are. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majesty's reign.

No. 8. Copy of a Hufbullhookum, under the seal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime minister; the Lord high treasurer byad Abidulla Cawn; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horse, friend full of truth; as followeth:

May the honourable Hyder Cooli Cawn be always in safety.

At this instant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhau and Mr. Stevenfon, for, and in behalf of the English Company, have, through intercessions of the high minimers, preferred their petition to his Imperial Majesty; setting forth, that the English had a house in Surat for a factory, which is now gone to ruin; that they are uncapable of repairing it, till such time his Majesty is pleased to give it them; they hope that that house may be granted them, and without the city four hundred begas of ground, whereon they may make a house and garden; and they will duly pay the rent of said ground into the treasury. It is ordered, that they have the old house to repair according to the Hindoflan architecture, but not to make bulwarks, or any thing re offending fortification, and not to make any thing more than there is already to it: That in case they do as aforesaid, let them receive no obftruction. The ground without the city, towards Nortbod Gate, in the town of Bomkey, being taken in at the walling of the city round, instead of which ground, that they buy 150 begas of ground towards Auras, for which this Hufbullhookum is iufled out; that, conformable to the great command, you let them have the house to repair and live in on the terms aforesaid, and 150 begas of ground and garden, which they buying, let them have according to ancient cuftom, and receive no moleftation. Regard this well. Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majesty's reign.

No. 9. Copy of a Hufbullhookum, under the seal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime minister; the Lord high treasurer Syad Abidulla Cawn; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horse, friend full of truth; as followeth:

May the honourable Hyder Cooli Cawn be always in safety.

At this instant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhau and Mr. Stevenfon, for, and in behalf of the English Company, have through intercessions of the high minimers, preferred their petition to his Imperial Majesty; setting forth, that the Company are cuftom free throughout the whole empire, excepting at the port of Surat, and at the faid port, in the reign of Sha Jahaun, they paid 2 per cent. cuftom; in the time of Aurengzeb 3 1/2 per cent., and in the reign of Sha Alam 2 1/2 per cent. was it paid, upon account of abufes and injustice of the Mutufdys there; they have been for three years forced to withdraw their factory from that place; they hope, according to cuftom of other provinces, and at the port of Hugely, they may at the port of Surat pay a yearly pifcafh of ten thousand rupees in lieu of cuftom. It is accordingly commanded, and they have obtained a gracious Phirmaun, for which reason this Hufbullhookum is iufled out; that you do, conformable to the great command, receive a pifcafh of ten thousand rupees annually, instead of cuftom, at the port of Surat; and that they be cuftom free, and called upon for no other account whatsoever. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5 year of his Majesty's reign.

No. 10. Another Hufbullhookum, the fame as above, word for word, directed to all Mutufdys, that at present are, or hereafter may come in the province of Abomed Aabad, at the port of Surat Royat Buzrouch, &c. in the province aforesaid.

No. 11. Copy of a Hufbullhookum, under the seal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime minister; the Lord high treasurer Syad Abidulla Cawn; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horse, friend full of truth; as followeth:

To all Mutufdys, that at present are, or hereafter may come at the fortunate port of Surat; Know ye, at this instant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhau and Mr. Stevenfon, for and in behalf of the English Company, have, through intercessions of the high minimers, preferred their petition to his Imperial Majesty; setting forth, that the English had a house in Surat, for a factory, which is now gone to ruin; that they are uncapable of repairing it till such time as his Majesty is pleased to give it them; They hope that that house may be granted them, and without the city 400 Begas of ground, whereon they may make a house and garden; and they will duly pay the rent of the said ground into the treasury. It is commanded, that they have the old house to repair.
repair according to the Hindoo plan architecture, but not to make bullworks or any thing resembling fortification, and not to make any thing more than there is already to it: That in case they do as aforesaid, let them receive no obstructions. The ground without the city, towards Northdale Gate, in the town of Boomkey, being taken in at the walling of the city round; instead of which ground, that they buy 150 Bages of ground towards Autun, for which reason this Husbullhookum is filled out; that conformable to the great command, you let them have the house to repair on the terms as aforesaid, and 150 Bages of ground for a house and garden, which they buying, let them have according to ancient custom, and receive no molestation. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the Moon Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majesty's reign.

N° 12. Copy of a Husbullhookum, under the seal of the (Cootbullmook) prime minister; the Lord high treasurer Syad Abdulla Caua; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horse, friend full of truth; as followeth:

To all Mutfuddys in government, that are at present, or hereafter may come in Bengal, at Curreemabaud; Know ye, That at this instant Mr. John Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenson, for and in behalf of the English Company, have, through intercessions of the high ministers, presented their petition to his Imperial Majesty; setting forth, that formerly in the mints of Rajmall and Ducca, the Company's gold and silver were coined. It is now some time since, that at Curreemabaud (Muxoodavadd) the mint has been settled; they hope, according to former custom, to have the privilege of coining the Company's money there, and that the mint Mutfuddys make no unaccustomed demands; and that in the fafon, when other merchants money are coined, they may have three days in the week for coining of the Company's money. It is commanded, that you accordingly settle; for which reason this Husbullhookum is wrote; that you do, according to former custom settle the coining of the Company's gold and silver in the mint of Curreemabaud, and in the fafon when other merchants goods are coined, if he be not against the King's interest, let them have three days in the week. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majesty's reign.

N° 13. Copy of a Husbullhookum under the seal of the (Cootbullmook) prime minister, the Lord high treasurer Syad Abdulla Caua; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horse, friend full of truth, as followeth:

To all Mutfuddys in government, that are at present, or hereafter may come in the province of Bengal, at the port of Hugely, in the provinces of Behar and Oudeltia; Know ye, that at this time Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenson, for, and in behalf of the English Company, have, through intercessions of the high ministers, presented their petition to his Imperial Majesty; setting forth, that throughout the whole empire the Company are coining free, excepting at the port of Surat; and that according to Sultan Azzeim Sha Behaunder, his and former faonda they pay a pithcaft of R. 3000 yearly, in lieu of coining at the port of Hugely: They hope, from the imperial favour; to obtain a gracious faonda according to the tenor of former faonda. It is accordingly ordered, and they have obtained a gracious faonda; for which reason this Husbullhookum is wrote; that you do, pursuant to the great command, this nation is free from all custom, and that you do let them go on in their mercantile affairs without molestation, and receive a pithcaft of R. 3000 annually at Hugely, in lieu of coining. Regard this well. Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5 year of his Majesty's reign.

N° 14. Copy of a Husbullhookum, under the seal of the (Cootbullmook) prime minister; the Lord high treasurer Syad Abdulla Caua; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horse, friend full of truth, as followeth:

May the honourable Agram Caua live in safety.

At this instant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenson, for and in behalf of the English Company, have, through intercessions of the high ministers, presented their petition to his Imperial Majesty; setting forth, That in the mints of Rajmall and Ducca, the Company's gold and silver were coined; it is now some time since that at Curreemabaud (Muxodavadd) the mint has been settled; they hope, according to former custom, to have the privilege of coining the Company's money there; and that the mint Mutfuddys do not make any unaccustomed demands, only taking the mint charges as customary; and that in the fafon when other merchants money are coined, they may have three days in the week for the coining of the Company's money. It is commanded that you accordingly settle; for which reason this Husbullhookum is wrote; that you do according to former custom settle the coining of the Company's gold and silver, in the mint at Curreemabaud; and in the fafon of coining of other merchants money, if it be not against the King's interest, let them have three days in the week. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5 year of his Majesty's reign.

N° 15. Copy of a Husbullhookum, under the seal of the (Cootbullmook) prime minister; the Lord high treasurer Syad Abdulla Caua; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horse, friend full of truth; as followeth:

To all Mutfuddys in government, that are at present, or hereafter may come at Azzimeo (Patna) in the province of Behar; Know ye, at this time Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenson, for and in behalf of the English Company, have, through intercessions of the high ministers, presented their petition to his Imperial Majesty; setting forth, that
That at the place aforesaid it is some time since the English factory has been in a hired house; they hope for the house of Meeruzzafar, which being confiscated to the King, may be granted for their residence. It is commanded that you be wrote to, if the said house is confiscated, that you let them have it for their residence; they are not, at the repairing of it, to build buildings, or any thing like fortifications, for that is forbidden by his Majesty; for which reason this Husbullookum is issued out: that you do act pursuant to the great command. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majesty's reign.

No. 16. Copy of a Husbullookum, under the seal of the (Cootbullmook) prime minister; the Lord high treasurer Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horse, friend full of truth; as followeth:

To all Musfuddys in government, that are at present, or hereafter may come at the port of Chittigoam, at the port of Gangam, &c. Ports in all provinces throughout the whole Empire; Know ye, at this instant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaad and Mr. Stevenson, have, through intercessions of the high ministers, presented their petition to his Imperial Majesty; setting forth, That it sometimes happens English ships meeting with storms, are forced into ports, and drove ashore and wrecked; the Governors of those ports, unjustly, in some places, seize on all the goods, and in other places demand a quarter part salvage; they hope for orders to be given, commanding you to forbear molefting and doing them injustice upon any account whatsoever; but, on the contrary, to assist and help them as much as you can. It is commanded, that these people having their factories in several ports of the Empire, and commerce to the place of the royal residence; and having, by particular kingly favours, obtained Phirmauns custom free; that in the salvaging of their goods and in shewing them favour, there be duly and particular care taken; for which reason this Husbullookum is issued out; that you, pursuant to the great command, do not molest and unjustly seize on their goods; but on the contrary, assist and shew them favour. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majesty's reign.

No. 17. Copy of a Husbullookum, under the seal of the (Cootbullmook) prime minister; the Lord high treasurer Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horse, friend full of truth; as followeth:

May the honourable Sadattulla Caun live in safety.

At this instant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaad and Mr. Stevenson, for and in behalf of the English Company, hath, through intercessions of the high ministers, present their petition to his Imperial Majesty; setting forth, That the Zemendars at the port of Cuddalore, in the war of Chinge, did send powder, &c. to the assistance of the rebels, for which reason, at that instant, pursuant to Aurengzeb's orders, they bought Cuddalore, &c. other towns, by which means the pailages to the rebels might be fopit; at present several rebellious Zemendars molest and give them much trouble there; they hope orders may be given you, commanding that you assist them, that they may be able to punish such rebels. It is according commanded; for which reason this is wrote, conformable to the great command, that you act pursuant to the great command, to assist these people endeavours to punish such rebels, to help and give them your due assistance. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majesty's reign.

No. 18. Copy of a Husbullookum, under the seal of the (Cootbullmook) prime minister; the Lord high treasurer Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horse, friend full of truth; as followeth:

May the honourable Sadattulla Caun live in safety.

At this instant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaad and Mr. Stevenson, for and in behalf of the English Company, hath, through intercession of the high ministers, present their petition to his Imperial Majesty; setting forth, That throughout the whole Empire, the Company are confum free at Chinapatam (Madras) in the province of Hyderabaud, from the very first settling a factory there, pay annually into the treasury the sum Pag. 1200; they hope it may be continued according to ancient usage. It is found by the King's books that at Chinapatam they do pay the aforesaid sum into the treasury. It is commanded, that it be there according to ancient custom; and they have obtained a gracious Phirmaun; for which reason this Husbullookum is issued; that you, pursuant to the great command, do know that these people are confum free, and not upon any account whatsoever molest them, and receive at Chinapatam into the treasury the sum 1200 Pag. according to former custom. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majesty's reign.

No. 19. Copy of a Husbullookum, under the seal of the (Cootbullmook) prime minister; the Lord high treasurer Syad Abidulla Caun: the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horse, friend full of truth; as followeth:

To all Musfuddys in government, that are at present, or hereafter may come at the province of Hyderabaud; Know ye, that at this time Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaad and Mr. Stevenson, for and in behalf of the English Company, hath, through intercessions of the high ministers, present their petition to his Imperial Majesty; setting forth, That the Zemendars, at the port of Cuddalore in the war of Chinge, did send powder, &c. to the assistance of the rebels; for which reason, at that instant, pursuant to Aurengzeb's orders, they bought Cuddalore,
lore, &c. other towns, by which means the passages to the rebels might be stopped; at present, several Zemeenders molested and give them much trouble; they hope orders may be given you, commanding that you assist them, that they may be able to punish such rebels. It is accordingly commanded; for which reason this is wrote, conformable to the great command, that you act pursuant to the great command; when these people endeavours to punish such rebels, to help and give them your duty assistance. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeehedge, the 5 year of his Majesty's reign.

No 20. Copy of a Husbullhookum, under the seal of the (Coottbullmook) prime minister; the Lord high treasurer Syad Abdulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horse, friend full of truth; as follows:

May the honourable Anverudda Caun live in safety.

At this instant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenson, for and in behalf of the English Company, hath, through intercessions of the high ministers, presented their petition to his Imperial Majesty; setting forth, that the island of Divi in the sea, near the port of Merchipatam, in possession of Aberam Palligan, a rebel, said rebel never paying the rent of said island, which amounts to Pag' 7,000 per annum; in case the renting of it be granted the Company, they will settle a factory, and inhabit, to the great improvement of it; by which means merchants will be encouraged to go backwards and forwards to Merchipatam. It is accordingly granted; for which reason this Husbullhookum is intituled out, that you do, pursuant to the great command, let the Company have the renting of said island, and receive annually into the treasury the accoutummary rent. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeehedge, the 3 year of his Majesty's reign.

No 21. Copy of a Husbullhookum, under the seal of the (Coottbullmook) prime minister; the Lord high treasurer Syad Abdulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horse, friend full of truth; as follows:

To all Mutuddys in government, that are at present, or hereafter may come in the province of Hyder Aboad: Know yee, that at this instant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenson, for and in behalf of the English Company, hath, through intercessions of the high ministers, presented their petition to his Imperial Majesty; setting forth, that at the port of Vizagapatam the Company have a factory for Vizagapatam, and 4 other towns near the factory, they pay annually the accoutummary rent of Rs. 4,862 into the treasury of Siree Cool Perwanna and Woodspunda, two towns, which pay rupees 900 yearly rent, being too far from the factory, they desire may be returned. It is commanded, that of the 5 towns, those two which they desire to relinquish be taken back; and that the other three remain in their possession as formerly; they have obtained a gracious permission; for which reason this Husbullhookum is intituled out; that you do, pursuant to the great command, let three of the five towns remain in their hands, and receive the accoutummary rent from them; and the other two, which amounts to Rs. 900, take back into the culf. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeehedge, the 5 year of his Majesty's reign.

No 22. Copy of a Husbullhookum, under the seal of the (Coottbullmook) prime minister; the Lord high treasurer Syad Abdulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horse, friend full of truth; as follows:

To all Mutuddys in government, that are at present, or hereafter may come in the province of Hyder Aboad: Know ye, that at this instant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenson, for and in behalf of the English Company, hath, through intercessions of the high ministers, presented their petition to his Imperial Majesty; setting forth, that at the time of the war of Chingee, for assisting the King's camp with cannon and provisions, as a reward for which service, Aurengzeb gave the English Company a prefect of five towns, Trivastore, &c. which remained in their possession for a long time. It is now the third year since the King's Mutuddys there has feized on them: That they assisted against the competitor Jahaundar Shya, and acted in Hugly pursuant to orders, in helping Zacude Caun with powder, lead, &c.; they hope they may be re-granted them. It is commanded that they be, according as in the days of Aurengzeb, for which reason this Husbullhookum is intituled out; that you do let the said towns remain in the Company's possession as in the days of Aurengzeb. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeehedge, the 5 year of his Majesty's reign.

No 23. Copy of a Husbullhookum, under the seal of the (Coottbullmook) prime minister; the Lord high treasurer Syad Abdulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horse, friend full of truth; as follows:

To all Mutuddys in government, that are at present, or hereafter may come in the province of Hyder Aboad, at the port of Merchipatam in the said province; know ye, by these presents, that Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenson, for and in behalf of the English Company, hath, through intercessions of the high ministers, presented their petition to his Imperial Majesty; setting forth, that the island of Divi, in the sea, near the above said port, in possession of Aberam Palligan, a rebel, said rebel never paying the rent of said island, which amounts to Pag.' 7,000. per annum. In case the renting of it be granted the Company, they will settle a factory, and inhabit there, to the great improvement of it; whereby merchants will be encouraged
to go backwards and forwards to Metchlipatam. It is commanded accordingly; for which rea-
son this Huflbullhookum is filled out; that you do, purfuant to the great command, let the
Company have the rent of fai land, and receive annually the accustomed rent in the trea-
ury. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5 year of his Majefty's
reign.

N° 24. Copy of a Huflbullhookum, under the feal of the (Coottbullmoolk) prime miniftcr;
the Lord high treafurer Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General
of the horfe, fiound full of truth; as followeth:
May the honourable Sadurtdula Caun live in safety,
At this inflant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhau and Mr. Stevenfon, for and in behalf of the En-
lish Company, hath, through interceffions of the high minifters, prefented their petition to his Imperial Majefty; letting forth, That at the war of Chingee, for affifting the King's camp with
fannon and provifions, as a reward for which service, Aurengzeb gave the Company a prefent of
two towns, Trivatrars, &c. which remained in their poffeffion for a long time; that it is now the third year since the King's Mufuddys have feiz'd on them; and they reflifted againft the com-
peitor Jahaundar Sha, and acted in Huflgely purfuant to orders, in helping Zeaaduecaun with pow-
der, lead, &c. they hope they may be re-granted them. It is commanded that they be according
as in the days of Aurengzeb; for which reason this Huflbullhookum is filled out; that you do let the land towns remain in the Company's poffeffion, as in the days of Aurengzeb.
Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5 year of his Majefty's reign.

N° 25. Copy of a Huflbullhookum, under the feal of the (Coottbullmoolk) prime miniftcr;
the Lord high treafurer Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, general
of the horfe, friend full of truth; as followeth:
To all Mufuddys that are at prefent, or hereafter may come in the province of Hyderabad;
Know ye, by these prefents, that Mr. John Surman Coja Surhau and Mr. Stevenfon, for and
in behalf of the English Company, hath, through interceffions of the high minifters, prefented
their petition to his Imperial Majefty; letting forth, that throughout the empire, the Company
are cuftom free at Chinapatam (Madrafs) in the province of Hyderabad from the very full, and
fettling a factory there, pay annually into the treaury the fums Pa 1200; they hope it may be
continued as formerly. It is found by the King's books, that at Chinapatam they do punctually
pay the aforefaid fums into the treaury. It is commanded, that it be there according to ancient
cuftom, and they have obtained a gracious Phirmaun; for which reafon this Huflbullhookum is
filled out; that you, purfuant to this great command, do know that tiefe people are cuftom free,
and not upon any account whatever molest them; and receive at Chinapatam, into the trea-
ury, the fums Pa 1200 according to former cuftom. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the
moon Zeelhedge, the 5 year of his Majefty's reign.

A letter from Coja Surhau, at Dilly, to the honourable Robert Hedges, Esquire, Prefi-
dent and Governor of Fort William. Received March 1717.
I now fend inclofed copies of three phirmauns come out, signed by the king; also copies of
thirty hulbullahookums; by perfuing of which you will obferve the pofture of our nego-
tiation, and that all the Company's buiffefs is effected: That I have performed what buiffes of the
Company was incumbent on me; which is plainly demonftrated by the copies herewith fent. What
more fhall occur, I fhall advise of by another Coiff, and fend fencd copies of all the inclofed
papers. There is two phirmauns, one to be directed to the Duan of Hyderabad, concerning
Dvili iland, and the other relating to Vizagapatam, to be directed to the Mufuddys of Sicca
Cool, which are not yet wrote, because their names are not yet known; but to-morrow or
next day their names will be known, when the phirmauns will be wrote; and alwife what is
to be wrote on the back of two other phirmauns. 28 Maharan, the 5 year.

A letter from Coja Surhau to the honourable Robert Hedges, Esquire, President and Go-
vernor of Fort William. Received the 26th March, 1717.
Under the 28th of the month Mahuran, the 5 year of his Majefty's reign, inclofed I fend four
copies of three phirmauns and 30 perwannas, which at that time were not quite compleated;
fhine the three phirmauns are wrote over fair, fealed and signed by the King, and only
waits for the Vizier's affixing his feal on them to compleat them, which I hope in God will be
in les than ten days time, when fhall get attelved copies under the Cauze's fee, and forward
them to you, till then reft with fatisfaction; 25 perwannas being finifhed; inclofed comes co-
pies of them under the Cauze's fee, which I hope will come fai to you; the remaining 7 per-
wannas are in the hands of Raj Bullhund Duan Choolia, which I hope in God in .
days more will also be finifhed. I have acted in the Company's affairs with my utmost care and
diligence, and have performed more than were incumbent on me. Thofe perfons who talked
and wrote about me are frustrated in their notions concerning me, which I hope, when it plea-
s God that I arrive with you, to give a clear demonftration of.

Bengall, Behar, and Oudeifa (Orixa) Phirmaun.
To all Governors and their Affiliants, Intelliencers, Jageerdars, Powfiders, Celectedors,
Guardians of the ways, keepers of paffages, and Zeemendars, that are at prefent, or hereafter
may
may come in the provinces of Bengal, Behar, and Oudeifs (Orixa) at the port of Hugli, &c. parts in the provinces aforesaid; by their presents, Know yee, from the favour of the Imperial Majesty. That at this time of conquest, and in this flourishing reign, Mr. John Surgeon and Coja Surbadd, gomaihitas (factors) of the English Company, hath humbly presented their petition; stating forth, that according to Sultan Azzem Sha Behander, his and former fannuds, they are free of customs, throughout the whole conquered Empire, the port of Surat excepted; and that they do annually pay into the treasury, at the port of Hugli, a picthash of three thousand rupees in lieu of customs, they hope that according to the tenor of former fannuds, they may be favoured with a gracious phirmaun confirming them. Commanded and ordered, That all their mercantile affairs, together with their gomaihitas (factors) have free liberty in all Subahshis to pass and repair to and from, either by land or water, in any port or district, throughout the several provinces aforesaid, and know they are custom free, that they have full power and liberty to buy and sell, at their will and pleasure, and that there yearly be received into the treasury a picthash of three thousand rupees, as have been customary heretofore; that in any place, or at any time, robbers are committed on their goods, they be aided in the getting of them again; that the robbers be brought to justice, and the goods delivered to the proprietors of them, in whatsoever place they have a mind to settle a factory, fairly to buy and sell goods in, they have liberty, and be aided; that on whomsoever merchants, weavers, &c. they have any demands on whomsoever account, let them be aided, and their debts brought to come to a true and fair account, and be made to give their gomaihitas (factors) their right and just demands; that no person be suffered to injure and molested their gomaihitas (factors) wrongfully and unjustly; and for customs on hired boats (Cuthaannah) &c. belonging to them, that they be not in any manner molested or obstinuted. They further petition, that if the Petty Dunns of Subahshis pretending right of the original fannuds and peronanas, under the seals of the Duants and Subahs, the principal custom cannot possibly be produced in any place without a great deal of difficulty, they desire that a copy, from under the seal of the chief Cauzees, be delivered in light of the original fannuds not being demanded, nor they forced to take fannuds and peronanas under the Duan and Suba, their seals; that the renting of Calcutta, Sootlutula, and Govindpur, in the Purgana of Ameirabaud, &c. in Bengal, were formerly granted them, and bought with consent from the Zemeendar of them, and are now in Company's possession, for which they yearly pay the sum R. 1195. 6s.; that thirty-eight towns more, amounting to R. 8121. 8s. adjoining to the aforesaid towns, which they hope the renting of may be granted and added to the others they are already possess'd of; that they pay annually the same amount of them; commanded the copy under the seal of the chief Cauzees be regarded; that the old towns formerly bought by them, remain in their hands as heretofore; and that they have the renting of the adjacent towns petitioned for, which they are to buy from the respective owners of them, and that the Duant Suba give permission: They still petition, That from the reign of Ariendzeb, Madrafs coin were received into the treasuries of Subahshis for under value, and are still, notwithstanding they are full as valuable as Surat rupees are, whereby they are great losers; they hope the Imperial order may be given for them to be received into the treasuries as Surat rupees are, in case they are as good; that any person, being servant to the Company, eloping from them, from whom debts and accounts are due, they desire, that whoever so defects, be delivered back to the chief of their factory; that their gomaihitas and servants are molested and troubled for Phowderry (abvamumnaus), &c. Impostions which they request they may be exempted from. Commanded and ordered, that from the 5th year of this blessed reign, if Madrafs rupees are made the same goodnes with Surat ficeas, there be no discount on them; That whatsoever of the Company's servants, being debtors, desert them, seize them, and deliver them to the chief of their factory; that they be not molested for Phirniams (abvamumnaus), &c. impostions. They petitioned, That in Bengal, Behar, and Oudeifs (Orixa) the Company have factories, and that in other places they likewise design to settle factories; they accordingly desire, that in any place where they have a mind to settle factories, they may have forty bays of ground given for the same; that it often happens ships at sea meet with tempestuous winds, and are forced into ports, and are sometimes drove ashore and wrecked, the Governors of ports injuriously seize on the cargoes of them, and in some places demand a quarter part salvage: that on the island of Bombay, belonging to the English, European ficeas are current; they request, that, according to the custom of Madrafs, they may at Bombay coin ficeas. Commanded and ordered, that according to custom of their factories in other Subahshis, execute these people, having their factories in several parts of the kingdom, and commerce to the place of the regal residence, and have obtained very favourable Phirniams custom free; let there be particular care taken, that there be duly affidence given them about goods and wreccks, on all occasions, on the island of Bombay; let there be the glorious stamp on the ficeas coined there, paling them current, as all other ficeas throughout the whole Empire. To all these tender punctual obedience, observing and acting pursuant to the tenor of this gracious Phirmaun, and not contrary in any respect whatsoever, nor demand yearly new fannuds. Regard this particularly well.—Written the 27th of the moon Mohunum, in the 5th year of this glorious and ever happy reign.

Hyderabad (Madrafs) Phirmaun.

To all Governors, and their Aililants, Intelligencers, Jageerdars, Phowdars, Collectors, and Zemeendaris, that are at present, or hereafter may come, in the province of Hyderabad. Know yee, by these presents, from the favour of the Imperial throne, and that at this time of con-
conquest, and in this flourishing reign, Mr. John Surman, and Coja Surhaud, Gomalnath (factors) of the English Company, hath humbly presented their petition; setting forth, that throughout the ports of Hyderabaud, the Company are custom free, and at (Madrafs) Chinpapatam, they pay Pag 1200 annually in the treaty; they desire a gracious Phirmann, that it may be at that port as customary heretofore; and it accordingly appears, by the King's books, that they do punctually pay the aforesaid sum, at Chinpapatam, into the treasury. Commanded and ordered, that it be according to ancient custom: Their Gomalnathas (factors) going backwards and forwards with their goods and necessaries, throughout all these towns are all Subahs, either by bond or water, know they are custom free; buying and selling, at their will and pleasure, let them receive no obstructions; that Pag 1200 at Chinpapatam, be received as customary heretofore, and that they be called upon for no other account whatsoever; if at any time, and in any place, it should happen any thing belonging to the English be stole, thoroughly aslant in the regenting of it, punishing the robbers according to justice, return the goods to the right owners of them.

In whatsoever place they have a mind to settle factory to buy and sell goods, in that they have free liberty, and be affiled upon all fair and just accounts. On whoever merchants, &c., they have any demands, upon whatsoever account, they be affiled, and their debtors be brought to come to a true and fair account; and that they be made to give their Gomalnathas their just demands, not suffering any person to molest or hurt their Gomalnathas wrongfully.

They further petition, that at the war of Chingee, for affiling in sending cannon and provisions, &c., to the King's camp, as a reward for their service, Aurengzeb gave the Company five towns, Trivandore, &c. which remained in their possession for a long time; that it is now three years since the King's Mutiladys (officers) there has beared on them. In this glorious reign, that they assiled against the Pretender Jahan Dar Sha, in acting in Hugly pursuance to the Imperial orders, in helping Zanzadecum with lead, powder, &c., and using their utmost endeavours, they hope they may be returned to their possessions as formerly. Commanded and ordered, that as in the time of Aurengzeb, possession be given them. They also petition, that the Company have a settlement at the port of Vizagapatam, for which and four towns more, near their factory, they pay annually P 4862. into the treasury of Sieca Cool, according to former rights, and among the towns aforesaid, Purwanna and Wooda Punda, two villages, which pay P 4900. yearly rent, being too far from the factory, they desire may be returned. Commanded and ordered, that of the five towns, those which they desire to relinquish be taken back, and that the other three remain in their possession as heretofore.

They likewise petition, that the petty-dunas of subahs have no demand fight of the original sundods and purnwahns, under the seals of the Duans and Subas; that the original sundods cannot possibly be produced in every place without a great deal of difficulty; they humbly request, that a copy from under the seal of the Cauzee be sufficient, and no demands made for fight of the original sundods, nor the Duans and Subas, in that the island of Bombay, belonging to the English, European seca are current; they hope from the Imperial favour, that, according to the custom of Chinpapatam, there be coined, at Bombay, seca; that servants belonging to the Company, becoming debtors, deserting from them, desire that who they defects, be returned back to the chief of their factory; that the Gomalnathas, and dealers of the Company, are much troubled for Phowdiaries (abvantumus) &c. impositions which they request may be repealed. Commanded and ordered, that a copy from under the seal of the chief Cauzee be sufficient; that on the island of Bombay, seca coincide according to those of the empire pays current throughout the whole empire, as all other seca do; that whatsoever of the Company's servants, being debters, want to elope, seize them, and deliver them back to the chief of their factory, and for that which is forbidden, phowdiaries (abvantumus) they be not molested. They petition, that Chinpapatam seca are received into treasuries of all Subahs with some discount on them, notwithstanding they are the same silver as those coined at the port of Surat, by which they suffain great loss; they hope, if in case they are of the same goodness as those of Surat, orders may be given, that they be received into the treasuries as Surat, &c. seca are; that in Bengal, Bahar, Oudeifa, at Madrafs, Vizagapatam, &c. the Company have factories; and that in other places they may likewise settle factories; they hope, that in whatever place they do settle a factory, they may have forty begars of ground given them for the same; that ships at sea happening to meet with tempestuous winds, are sometimes obliged to run ahore, and are wrecked, the Governors of ports unjustly seize on the cargoes of them, and in some places demand a quarter part salvage. Commanded and ordered, That from the 5th year of this glorious reign, if Madrafs factories are made the same sundods and goodness with Surat seca, there be no discount on them; that they have according to custom of their factories, in other Subahs. These people, having their factories in several ports of the kingdom, and commerce to the place of the royal residence, and have obtained favourable Phirmanns, custom free; take particular care, that there be due allowance given them about goods and wrecks. On all occasions render punctual obedience to all these orders contained in this gracious Phirmann, forbearing to act contrary, and not demand annually new Sundods. Regard this particularly well. Written the 2d of the moon Jaffir, in the 5 year of this gracious reign.

Ahmed Abaod (Surat) Phirmann.

To all Governors and their Affiliants, Intelligencers; to all Jageerdars, Phuwadars, Collectors, Guardians of the ways, Keepers of pashigers, and Zememans, that are present, or hereafter may come in the province of Ahmed Abaod, at the fortunate port of Surat, at Cojet, in hopes of the Imperial favour, and know yee, by these presents, that at this time of conquest,
and in this victorious reign, Mr. John Surman and Coja Surhaud, Gomfshtas (Factors) of the English, hath presented their petition; setting forth, That on the goods of Englishmen, cutoms throughout the whole conquered Empire, excepting at the port of Surat, are pardoned at the said port; in the reign of Sha Jahaun they paid 2 per cent. custom, and in the time of Aurengzeb 3½ per cent. custom was levied, being exacted in all other places; and in the reign of Sha Aulum 2½ per cent. custom was, and is at present, paid there, by reason of the oppression of the Mufuddys there, they have been forced, for these three years, to withdraw their factory from that place. In the provinces of Behar and Oudeifa, their nation pay no custom at the port of Hugly; in the factory of Bengal they annually pay a piccath of three thousand rupees, in lieu of custom; they hope to enjoy the privilege according to the custom of other ports, at the port of Surat, and pay a yearly piccath instead of custom; they are willing and have agreed to pay annually a piccath of ten thousand rupees. Commanded and ordered, That since they shall pay a yearly piccath of ten thousand rupees at the port of Surat, receive it, and let them be called upon for no other account whatsoever; their Gomfshtas (Factors) going backwards and forwards with their goods and necessaries throughout all the ports of this factory, either by land or water, Know, they are cutoms free, buying and selling at their will and pleasure, let them receive no obstructions. If at any time, and in any place, it should happen that any goods belonging to them should be lost, thoroughly aiffled in the getting of them, punishing the rogues according to justice, and the goods return to the right owners of them; in whatsoever place they have a mind to settle a factory, to buy and sell goods, in that they have free liberty, and be aiffled upon all fair and just accounts. On whomsoever merchants and others they have any demands, upon whatsoever account, they be aiffled, and their debtors be brought to come to a true and fair account, and be made good to the English their just demands, not suffer any person to molest and injure their Gomfshtas wrongfully. They further petition, that the Petty Duas of factories, demand right of their original fannuds and perwannas, under the seals of the Duas and Subas; that the original fannuds cannot possibly be produced in every place without a great deal of difficulty; they request, that a copy from under the seal of the Cauzee be sufficient, and no demands made for right of the original fannuds, nor the Duas and subhas inust to give another thereby; that in the island of Bombay, belonging to the English, European coin are current; they hope from the imperial favour, that according to the custom of Madras, there may be coined at Bombay, seecas; that servants belonging to the Company, becoming debtors, departing from them, desire that they who do desert, be returned back to the chief of their factory; that the Gomfshtas and dealers of the Company are much troubled, for Phowidary (abvabumma), &c. Impositions which they request may be repealed. Commanded and ordered, that a copy, under the chief Cauzee's seal be sufficient; that on the island of Bombay, fiscas coined, according to the laws of the kingdom, be current throughout the whole Empire, as all other fiscas do; that whoever of the Company's servants, becoming debtors, want to elope, seize them and deliver them back to the custody of their factory; and for that which is forbidden (abvabumma) Phowidary, &c. they be not aiffled. They also petition, that in Bengal, Behar, and Oudeifa, the Company have factories; and that in other places they likewise design to settle factories; they hope that in any place where they settle a factory, 40 begas of ground may be given them for the same; ships at sea happening to meet with tempestuous winds, are sometimes obliged to run aghore and are wrecked, the Governors of ports injuriously seize on the goods of them, demanding in some places a quarter part salvage. Commanded and ordered, that they have according to custom of their factories in other Subahships; these people having their factories in several ports of the kingdom, misconducts and endanger their honour, forbearing to act contrary to this gracious phirmaun, nor every year demand new fannuds. Regard this particularly well. —Written the 4th of the moon Saffar, in the 5th year of this glorious reign.

A letter from Coja Surhaud, dated the third of the moon Jamadul Ovol, the 6 year of his Majesty's reign, to the honourable Robert Hedges, Esquire, President, &c. Council. Received 7th April, 1717. The 28th of the moon Mohurrum, I sent you by my own Coffids five copies of three phirmans, and 30 perwannas, which was not then attested by the Cauzee; and under date of the 3rd of the moon Rubbeelloov, copies of three phirmans, which only wanted the Vizier's seal to be affixed on them, to have perfected them with the Cauzee's seal; and also copies of 25 perwannas, completed and attested by the Cauzee, were inclosed and forwarded to you by my own Coffids. The 3 phirmans having the Vizier's seal put on them, has entirely perfected them. I have just now received them, copies whereof, under the Cauzee of this place, his seal, are this instant forwarded to you, which I trust will come safe to your hands, and I congratulate the Company on this occasion. Thanks be to God, the Company's business is all quite finished according to their desire. The great care and trouble which I have taken in this negotiation to fulfill my promise to you is insuperable; from the time of Tamerlane to this instant, no nation have been able to procure such a Phirman; three or four times more than what you defined are obtained; what you promised for my gratuity, if you should give me three or four times as much more, it would not re-
compence my service and care. Now ye may greatly rejoice, since you have every thing to your content; and when I arrive with you, glad me that I may forget the great fatigue and trouble which I have undergone in this negotiation. The Dutch, and many embassies which went before, have spent each from 5 to 55 lack of rupees, and not one amongst them all have procured the tenth part of what I have. I have acted in this affair with the utmost care and industry, and have done what I knew through means of my comforts here. I have cost near a lack of rupees; and all the bateens which has been done by thefe people, I have bore with patience, because the Company's affairs else would have been ruined. By God's blessing, all our business is happily ended, and I hope, God willing, in 15 days more, to obtain leave, and be on my way towards you; ret with satisfaction, and after my arrival, what more I have to relate will be made known to you; some unfair dealings, which have been done within these three years, contrary to our promise, which are not requisite that I write you now, but when I come with you I must inform you.

No 26. Copy of a Husbullhookham, under the seal of the (Coottbullmoolk) prime minister; the Lord high treasurers Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horse, faithful friend; as followeth:

May the honourable Afsaf Caun be always in safety.

At this instant, Mr. John Surman, Coja Surhaud, and Mr. Stevenfon, and in behalf of the English Company, hath, through the interceffions of the high ministers, presented their petition to his Imperial Majesty; setting forth, that at Azzeenmabaud (Patna) in the province of Behar, it is somet ime since the English factory has been in a hired house; they hope for the house of Meer-muzzufler, which is confecrated to the King, to be granted for their refidence. It is commanded that you be writ to, if that house be confecrated, that you let them have it to live in; but at the time of repairing it they are not to build bullwork, and of any thing like fortifications, for that is forbidden by the King; for which reason this Husbullhookham is issued out; that you do set purfuant to the great command. Regard this well.—Written on the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5 year of his Majesty's reign.

No 27. Copy of a Husbullhookham, under the seal of the (Coottbullmoolk) prime minister; the Lord high treasurers Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horse, faithful friend; as followeth:

To all Mutfuddys (officers) in government, that at present are, and hereafter shall come throughout the provinces of the conquered empire. Know ye, by these prefents, that at this time, Mr. John Surman, Coja Surhaud, and Mr. Stevenfon, for and in behalf of the English Company, hath, through the interceffions of the high ministers, presented their petition to his Imperial Majesty; requelling, that a gracious order may be given you, commanding, that in cafe any of the Company's fervants become debtors, and ecape from them, that you feize and deliver them back to the chief of the factory. It is accordingly commanded; for which reason this Husbullhookham is issued out; that you do, purfuant to the great command, in cafe any of the Company's fervants become debtors, and defert, feize and deliver them back to the chief of the factory. Regard this punctually. Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5 year of his Majesty's reign.

No 28. Copy of a Husbullhookham, under the seal of the (Coottbullmoolk) prime minister; the Lord high treasurers Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horse, truc to his friends; as followeth:

To all Mutfuddys (officers) in government, that at present are, or hereafter shall be, in the province of Bengal; Know ye, by these prefents, that at this time Mr. John Surman, Coja Surhaud, and Mr. Stevenfon, for and in behalf of the English Company, hath through the interceffions of the high ministers, presented their petition to his Imperial Majesty; setting forth, that in the town of Calcutta, in the Purganna of Ameirahaud, in the province aforesaid, the English have their factory, the farming of Calcutta, &c. Three towns they have had for a long time, the rent of which annually being Rs 1105 is duly paid by them; thirty-eight towns more, adjacent to the aforesaid towns, the rent of which amounting to Rs 8121, 8', they hope to have the farming of them, and they will annually pay the rent thereof according to the flavites in the King's books; they likewise desire to have Calcutta called after his Majesty's great name; and the other towns to be taken from their several purgunnys, and united into one purgunna. It is commanded that the farming of the towns bought formerly remain in their possession as heretofore, and that they have the liberty of farming the other towns petitioned for; if, according to former customs, they buy them by the affent of the respective owners of them, then you are to give permission; for which reason this Husbullhookham is issued out; that you let them have the farming of the former villages and the present, purfuant to the great command, according to the lift on the back of this, and take the yearly rent of them into the treaury. Regard this punctually.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge the 5th year of his Majesty's glorious and ever happy reign.

Lift on the back, of villages in the Purgana of Calcutta, &c. in the subfhip of Bengal, according to the petition of John Surman, Coja Surhaud, and Mr. Stevenfon, the renting of which being granted to the English Company, and the towns which they formerly
Formerly bousiht remaining according to ancient custom: The other villages petitioned for, if by the assent of the owners they do buy them according to ancient custom, give permission, and settle. The whole amount, is R. 9316. 14. 3. according to the above named their petition; viz.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta</td>
<td>R. 2151 13 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purganna, division of Calcutta</td>
<td>R. 1810 9 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purganna, division of Burro</td>
<td>869 15 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

41 Towns

Note. That the account of these towns is not at court; therefore according to the account of the Data Books, more or less, settle.

According to former custom, the towns of Calcutta, &c. three towns R. 1155. 61, viz.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purganna, division of Calcutta</td>
<td>R. 38 8 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purganna, division of Piccaun</td>
<td>R. 12 - 3</td>
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<td>Purganna, division of Ameerbaid</td>
<td>376 -</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purganna, division of Calcutta</td>
<td>R. 22 6 3</td>
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<td>Purganna, division of Ameerbaid</td>
<td>45 1 3</td>
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<td>Purganna, division of Nudes</td>
<td>1 14 -</td>
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<td>Purganna, division of Piccaun</td>
<td>R. 213 10</td>
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<td>Baudiuntpore R. 127. 2. 6. 3 viz.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purganna, division of Calcutta</td>
<td>R. 11 7 3</td>
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<td>Purganna, division of Ameerbaid</td>
<td>20 8 -</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purganna, division of Piccaun</td>
<td>95 3 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sulca R. 277. 11. 3. 1 viz.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purganna, division of Burro</td>
<td>61 11 -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purganna, division of Piccaun</td>
<td>216 - 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hauroo R. 383. 2. 9. 3 viz.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purganna, division of Burro</td>
<td>237 5 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purganna, division of Piccaun</td>
<td>145 1 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cunde R. 338. 3. 3 viz.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purganna, division of Calcutta</td>
<td>R. 8 - 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purganna, division of Burro</td>
<td>R. 129 14 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purganna, division of Burro</td>
<td>R. 80 3 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purganna, division of Piccaun</td>
<td>80 11 -</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purganna, division of Burro</td>
<td>351 13 -</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purganna, division of Piccaun</td>
<td>229 1 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bilegejw R. 318. 9. 9;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purganna, division of Burro</td>
<td>R. 13 10 -</td>
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<td>Purganna, division of Calcutta</td>
<td>R. 304 6 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purganna, division of Calcutta</td>
<td>R. 104 1 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purganna, division of Calcutta</td>
<td>R. 120 12 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purganna, division of Nudes</td>
<td>R. 408. 6. 3. 2 viz.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purganna, division of Piccaun</td>
<td>170 15 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purganna, division of Piccaun</td>
<td>37 7 -</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purganna, division of Calcutta</td>
<td>R. 172. 13. 6; viz.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purganna, division of Piccaun</td>
<td>57 15 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purganna, division of Piccaun</td>
<td>229 1 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cunna R. 572. 10. 6. 5; viz.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purganna, division of Calcutta</td>
<td>R. 127 6 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purganna, division of Piccaun</td>
<td>445 3 9</td>
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</table>

The particular account of the villages petitioned for at present, according to the list under the seals of the aforesaid persons, amounting to R. 8121. 8. 3. towns 28; viz.

Ducanneapakde, in the Purganna Calcutta— R. 970. 8.;

In the Purganna of Piccaun— R. 311 9. 3. viz.

In the Purganna of Calcutta— R. 571 9. 5. viz.

In the Purganna of Calcutta— R. 227 2. 9.

In the Purganna of Calcutta— R. 468. 9.

In the Purganna of Calcutta— R. 306. 7. 6. 5; viz.

In the Purganna of Calcutta— R. 970. 8.;

In the Purganna of Calcutta— R. 311 9. 3. viz.

In the Purganna of Calcutta— R. 172 13 6.

In the Purganna of Calcutta— R. 223 7 6.

In the Purganna of Calcutta— R. 407 3. 3.

In the Purganna of Calcutta— R. 172 13 6.

In the Purganna of Calcutta— R. 407 3. 3.

In the Purganna of Calcutta— R. 172 13 6.

In the Purganna of Calcutta— R. 407 3. 3.

In the Purganna of Calcutta— R. 172 13 6.

In the Purganna of Calcutta— R. 407 3. 3.

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In the Purganna of Calcutta— R. 172 13 6.

In the Purganna of Calcutta— R. 407 3. 3.
Perwanna under Jaffar Cawn's seal, obtained by Mr. Samuel Feke, at Calcutta. Received 20th of July 1717; as followeth:

May his Highness, the support of Nobles, the honourable Cawn Maudee Allee Cawn, be always surrounded with his Majesty's favour.

The Vakeel of the English Company has represented, that Mahomed Sallah Droga, of the Cherabad Canna, does unjustly molest Succada, Gomafthahs of his master, who resided at Jahaungernagur (Dacca); for which reason this is wrote; that if it be true, you bid the said Droga forbear injuriously oppressing the English Gomafthahs: But if the story should be otherwise, to you write it. The 31st of Shaban, the 6 year of his Majesty's reign.

Duffkhut (fig'd.)

To these people favour and encouragement should be shewn, because they are great merchants, and are exalted by their eminent services.

Perwanna under Jaffar Cawn's seal, obtained by Mr. Feke, &e. at Calcutta. Received in Fort William the 3rd of October, 1717; as followeth:

May his Highness, the support of Nobles, Sultan Hiffin Cawn, be always surrounded with his Majesty's favour.

The English Company's Vakeel has represented, that his Master's Gomafthah, who has resided at Mahmundapora, (subordinate to Rajim-II) for a long while to buy and sell goods; that your Deputy have unjustly extorted 50 rupees from said Gomafthah; for which this is wrote; that if it be true, you make the said rupees to be refunded to the said Gomafthah, and take his satisfaction certificate and send it hither: Do you likewise give particular orders, that nobody molest said Gomafthah injuriously, that he may remain there, carrying on with content his business. Regard this well. Written the 26th of the moon Ramazan, the 6 year of his Majesty's reign.

Translait of King Furruckfeer, his Pirmauns, for the honourable Robert Hedges, Esquire, President in Bengal, in answer to the petition sent by Mr. John Surman, &e.

The most worthy amongst your Peers, the great amongst your brothers, and worthy of my favour, Robert Hedges, President for the English Company: Be always in hopes of kindly favour; and know at this time of conquest, and being conquerors, the petition that directed a Pirmaun for the currency of trade for the English, and pardon of customs, according to ancient usage, with the picaflach, accompanied by English Surman and Serad Armenian to the holy place that carries the ensigns of miracles, whose height approaches the skies, is received, and has past the royal view, and the picaflach that you sent has been presented before his sacred Majesty, and pleased him, with his royal acceptance after the most holy place, being acquainted of your entire sincerity, and strict obedience, out of his Majesty's most particular favours, have granted Pirmauns, conformable to the petition of the above Serad, for the currency of the Company's trade, and pardon of customs, pursuant to former rule; you ought, in a high and grateful degree, to acknowledge this great royal favour, with a serious temper, and perfect satisfaction; go on in your business and merchandise, your upright behaviour and perfect obedience will be a means of your future protection. The 19th day of the moon Jamadulacur; wrote in the fix year of our glorious reign.

The Vizier's title, which is wrote on the back of the four Pirmauns.

Under the protection of the mountain of vast riches, in whom the King puts his confidence; Chief of the Nobles of the greatest port; confisctuous among the great; the great Protector of the country, and its riches; the Opening of the way to fortune and riches; Master of the sword and pen; the Light and Exalter of the spear and order; Vizier of a true judgment unalterable; Chief of the country; Prime Minifler, in whose hands are all power; the Lord High Treasurer, the Valiant, the Victorious in battle, faithful Friend; and the Mirour of Vizers.

Copy of a Hubbulhookum.

An account of the Europeans at Hughly, as represented by the government of Hughly to Muxadavad, viz.

Its customary, upon every new King's accession to the throne, and upon every Subah's and Duan's accession, for the Europeans to get new Pirmauns, and new Perwannas to carry on their busines, and to give a present; for which reason I send an account of the nation, that as it is now the time for dispatching their ships, if they are dealt hard with, it will be for the advantage of the King and Subah; viz.

The English, in Aurangzeb's time, obtained a Pirmaun, exempting them from all customs, in lieu of which a picaflach of three thousand rupees was settled, which they annually pay into the treasury at Hughly, since which they have not had either Pirmaun or Perwannah; they carry on their mercantile affairs in an unjust and unprecedented manner, by which the King's trea-
treasury is lessened; the Phirmaund they procured in Phiruchfeer's time has never been seen, nor they ever had a Perwannah from the Nabob for carrying on their business.

The Dutch, in Aurengzeb's time, obtained a Phirmaund, granting leave to trade, paying 2½ per cent into the treasury at Hughly. In Shaw Allum's time they obtained a Phirmaund for paying 2½ per cent. customs, and they, conformable to which they obtained a perwannah from Jaffar Cawn, when he was called Muffud Cooke Cawn, by virtue of which they now carry on their business; besides this, they have had no other new perwannah, nor made any present to the King or Subah.

The French, in Aurengzeb's time, obtained a Phirmaund, also the Subah and Duan's perwannah, and according to the Dutch, they paid four per cent. customs; and when the Dutch got the customs settled at 2½ per cent. they likewise got a perwannah from the Nabob to pay the same, before which, they had no new Perwannah, nor in due present to the King or Subah. The Oitolanders have no Phirmaund; they have obtained Jaffar Cawn's Perwannah, by virtue of which they carry on their business.

The Armenians used formerly to pay 5 per cent. customs; in Shaw Allum's time they obtained a phirmaund for paying no more than 3½ per cent. and according to which phirmaund they have Jaffar Cawn's perwannah, and now they carry on their business in Calcutta under the English protection, and those of them that wants a perwannah for Sutan, comes to Hughly and gets one, by which the King is a great sufferer.

It has not been customary for Europeans to trade in salt; this year some of the English have sent large quantities of salt to Patna, without paying the custom; it has always been customary for the weavers to pay 5 per cent. on all photons, before they sell any to Europeans, and now the English, contrary to customs, in the adjacent towns of Calcutta, and in Bardwan, buy photons, and carry them, with their duffucks, without paying the usual customs; and upon all goods, that are bought and sold in Calcutta, they collect a duty, by which the King is a great sufferer.

It has not been customary for the Europeans to traffic in grain, &c. estates they used to have allowed them (by leave from hence) just a sufficient quantity for their own food; and the English now buys grain in every place, and transports it on board their ships, by way of merchandise, by which the King is a great sufferer, and grain is made dear and scarce in this country.

All goods imported formerly by Europeans, used to be sold to the Patna merchants, Sc. who used to pay the customs thereon; and for these several years the English send what goods they import to Patna, Sc. Aurungs, by which there is no customs paid; here they pay a pittach or rupees three thousand for the Company and other Englishmen, by which the King is a great sufferer; and the Dutch, ever since they have had the customs settled at 2½ per cent. lend their goods to Patna and other places, and do not fell to those who used to pay the customs here, by which the King is a great sufferer.

Transferred per T. Fenwick.

Examined with A. Dawson.

Copy of a Dufuck, under the seal of Commodore Cawn, grand Vizier, directed to all phoufdras, guardians of the roads, keepers of palisages, and Zemindars, in the provinces of Bengal, Beharr, and Orixa.

Know ye, that the English Company are free of customs, pursuant to the tenor of the royal phirmaund, in lieu of which they pay an annual pittach of three thousand rupees into the treasury, at the port of Hughly; and every year, their boats, laden with goods, do pass and repass throughout the aforementioned provinces; for which reason this is wrote, that they be not troubled or molest by Rubary, &c. but on the contrary, that you pass them through your several districts in safety. The 27th Shamshun, the 9th of his Majesty's reign.

Transferred per A. Dawson.

Examined with Sol Margas.

Copy of a Hufbullhookum, under the seal of Commodore Cawn, Vizier, directed to all Musfudys present and to come, in the provinces of Bengal, Beharr, and Orixa.

Know ye, that the English Company's Vaqueel has presented a petition; setting forth, That his masters have a Phirmaund, exempting them from all customs, in lieu of which they annually pay into the treasury at Hughly a pittach of three thousand rupees: That the Subah and Duan's people, in every Subah, and Phoufdras, Sc. on the roads, molest and trouble them, contrary to the tenor of the royal Phirmaund: He is in hopes of obtaining a Hufbullhookum, confirming their being free of customs, pursuant to the royal Phirmaund. It appears by the books, that in lieu of thirty thousand rupees, which they pay into the treasury at the port of Hughly, they are free of all customs; for which reason they have obtained this Hufbullhookum, ordering you to act conformable to the royal Phirmaund, and in no ways to impede or molest them. The 17th of the moon Rajab, in the 9th year of his Majesty's ever happy reign.

There are three other Perwannahs or Hufbullhookums, of the same tenor as the foregoing, directed to Jaffircaun, Subah of Bengal, and Suffrage Cawn, Duan of Bengal; and the third to Aiteram Cawn, Duan of Patna.

Trans-
Copy of a Perwannah, under the seal of Suffrage Caune, Duam of Bengal, directed to all Mutuddes, present and to come, to all Gomastahs of Jaggers, Phowfdars, Zemindars, Collectors, and Recorders, in the Provinces of Bengal and Orixa.

Know ye, that King Furruckclee's Phirmaund and Perwannahs, granted the English Company, has been confirmed by Mr. Stevenfon, by which it is perceptible, that they pay annually a pithcraft of three thousand rupees in the treasury at Hughly, besides which, they are not to be molested for any thing more, and that in all places you afdiff them in buying and selling their goods; in case they have any account or demands on any weavers, &c. oblige them to pay their gomastahs; and not suffer any body to molest or impede their gomastahs, nor trouble them on account of their own or hired boats for Cutbarah: That whosoever of the Company's gomastahs, being debtors, defert them, seize them, and deliver them to the chiefs of their factories; that they be not molested for Phowfdary, &c. (Abomnumus) impositions: That in case any of their goods or ships are drove ahere, or wrecked, let particular care be taken thereof: That at Calcutta they have a settlement, and the renting of Calcutta, &c. Towns in the Purgane of Ameiravad, &c. were formerly granted them, and bought by consent from the Zemindars of them, and are now in their possession: That thirty-eight towns more, amounting to rupees eight thousand one hundred and twenty-one, and eight annas, adjoining to the afo-mentioned, in case they purchase them by the consent of the proprietors, let the Duan put them in possession thereof: It appearing by the registers of the Duan, that Calcutta, &c. three towns, are in their possession, according to former custom, for which they pay yearly rupees one thousand and one hundred and ninety five, and the other thirty-eight towns, which they have not yet bought, neither are in their possession; you must let Calcutta, &c. three towns, remain in their possession as hereuntofore, and receive the customary rent thereof; and, according to the tenor of the royal Phirmaund, whereon is wrote on the back of this, do you act in every respect, and not contrary. The first of the moon Zethedge, in the ninth year of his Majesty's reign.

Articles of a treaty and agreement, concluded between the Governor and Council of Fort William, on the part of the English East India Company, and the Nabob Syef ul Dowla.

On the part of the Company.
We the Governor and Council do engage to fecure to the Nabob, Syef ul Dowla, the subahdarre of the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, and to support him therein, with the Company's forces, against all his enemies.

On the part of the Nabob.

I.

The treaty which my father formerly concluded with the Company, upon his first accension to the Nuzamut, engaging to regard the honour and reputation of the Company, and of the Governor and Council, as his own; and that entered into with my brother, Nabob Najim ul Dowla; the same treaties, as far as is consistent with the true spirit, intent, and meaning thereof, I do hereby ratify and confirm.

II.

The King has been graciously pleased to grant unto the English East India Company the dominionhip of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, as a free gift for ever; and I having an entire confidence in them, and in their servants settled in this country, that nothing whatever be proposed or carried into execution by them, derogating from my honour, dignity, interest, and the good of my country, do therefore, for the better conducting the affairs of the Subahdarre, and promoting my honour and interest, and that of the Company in the best manner, agree, that the protecting the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, and the force sufficient for that purpose, be entirely left to their direction and good management, in consideration of their paying the King, Shaw Allum, by monthly payments, as by treaty agreed on, the sum of rupees 2,16,666. 10. 9. and to me, Syef ul Dowla, the annual stipend of rupees 41,86,131. 9. viz. the sum of rupees 17,76,854. 1. for my house, servants, and other expenses indispensably necessary, and the remaining sum of 24,07,277. 8. for the support of such Sepoys, Peons, and Burgundalles, as may be thought proper for my aifwary only; but on no account ever to exceed that amount.

III. The
The Nabob Minah Dowla, who was, at the instance of the Governor and gentlemen of the Council, appointed Naib of the provinces, and invested with the management of all affairs, in conjunction with Mah Rajah Doolubram and Jugutt Seat, shall continue in the same post, and with the same authority; and having a perfect confidence in him, I moreover agree to let him have the disposing of the above sum of 24,67,277. 8. for the purposes above mentioned.

This agreement, by the blessing of God, I hope will be inviolably observed as long as the English Company's factories continue in Bengal. Dated this 15th day of May, in the year of our Lord 1766.

Wm. B. Sumner.
H. Verelst.
Rand. Marriott.
H. Watts.
Claud. Ruffell.
Wm. Alderley.
Tho. Kellett.
Charles Floyer.

Articles of a treaty and agreement, concluded between the Governor and Council of Fort William, on the part of the English East India Company, and the Nabob Syef ul Dowla.

On the part of the Company.

We the Governor and Council do engage to secure to the Nabob Syef ul Dowla, the Subahdarree of the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, and to support him therein, with the Company's forces, against all his enemies.

On the part of the Nabob.

I.

The treaty which my father formerly concluded with the Company, upon his first accession to the Nizammot, engaging to regard the honour and reputation of the Company, and the Governor and Council, as his own; and that entered into with my brother, the Nabob Nazim ul Dowla; the same treaty, as far as is consistent with the true spirit, intent, and meaning thereof, I do hereby ratify and confirm.

II.

The King has been graciously pleased to grant unto the English East India Company, the Dewannship of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, as a free gift, for ever; and I have an entire confidence in them and in their servants settled in this country, that nothing will be proposed, or carried into execution, by them, derogating from my honour and dignity, and the true interest and good of my country, do therefore, for the better conducting the affairs of the Subahdarree, and promoting my honour and interest, and that of the Company, in the best manner, agree that the protecting the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, and the force sufficient for that purpose, be entirely left to their direction and good management; in consideration of their paying the King, Shaw Album, by monthly payments, as by treaty agreed on, the sum of rupees 2,18,666. 10. 9. to me, Syef ul Dowla, the annual stipend of rupees 41,86,131. 94. viz. the sum of rupees 17,78,854. 1. for my house, servants, and other expenses indispensible necessary, and the remaining sum of 24,67,277. 8. for the support of such Sepoys, Peons, and Bungalows, as may be thought proper for my Afsaray only; but on no account ever to exceed that amount.

III.

The Nabob, Minaut Dowlah, who was, at the instance of the Governor and the Gentlemen of the Council, appointed Naib of the provinces, and invested with the management of all affairs, in conjunction with Mharaga Doolubram, and Jugutt Sec, shall continue in the same post, and with the same authority; and having a perfect confidence in him, I further agree to let him have the disposing of the above sum of 24,67,277. 8. for the purpose above-mentioned.

This agreement, by the blessing of God, I hope will be inviolably observed as long as the English Company's factories continue in Bengal. Dated the 15th day of May, in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and sixty-six.

(Signed) Governor and Council. (Signed) The Nabob.
Fort William, 28th Nov. 1766.
A true copy.
Wm. Alderley, Secretary.

The Company's Seal.

Signed E. Baber, Secretary.
On the part of the Company.

We, the Governor and Council, do engage to secure to the Nabob Mebarek ul Dowlah, the Souabdarree of the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Oryika, and to support him therein, with the Company's forces, against all his enemies.

On the part of the Nabob.

I.

The treaty which my father formerly concluded with the Company, upon his first accesion to the Nizamut, engaging to regard the honour and reputation of the Company, and of the Governor and Council, as his own; and that entered into with my brother, the Nabobs Nazim ul Dowlah, and Syef ul Dowlah; the same treaties, as far as is consistent with the true spirit, intent, and meaning thereof, I do hereby ratify and confirm.

II.

The King has been graciously pleased to grant unto the English East India Company, the Dewannathip of Bengal, Bahar, and Oryika, as a free gift for ever; and I, having an entire confidence in them and in their servants, setted in this country, that nothing whatever be proposed or carried into execution by them, derogating from my honour, interest, and the good of my country, do therefore, for the better conducting the affairs of the Subahdarree, and promoting my honour and interest, and that of the Company, in the best manner,

Agree, That the protecting the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Oryika, and the force sufficient for that purpose, be entirely left to their direction and good management, in consideration of their paying the King, Shaw Allum, by monthly payments, as by treaty agreed on, the sum of rupees two lacks sixteen thousand six hundred and sixty-five, ten annas, and nine pice (rupees 2,16,666, to. 9.) and to me, Mebarek ul Dowla, the annual stipend of rupees thirty one lacks eighty one thousand nine hundred and ninety one, nine annas (31,81,991, 9.) viz. the sum of rupees fifty one lacks eighty one thousand nine hundred and ninety one, nine annas (15,81,991, 9.) for my house, servants, and other expenses indispensibly necessary; and the remaining sum of rupees fifteen lacks (rupees 16,00000), for the support of such Sepeys, Peons, and Burgundalies, as may be thought proper for my alwary only; but on no account ever to exceed that amount.

The Nabob Minsau Dowla, who was, at the instance of the Governor and gentlemen of the Council, appointed Naib of the provinces, and invested with the management of affairs, in conjunction with Maha Rajah Dooliburam and Juggut Seat, shall continue in the same post, and with the same authority: And having a perfect confidence in him, I moreover agree to let him have the disbursing of the above sum of rupees fifteen lacks, for the purposes above-mentioned.

This agreement, by the blessing of God, shall be inviolably observed for ever.

Dated the 21st day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy

Richard Beecher,
Wm Aldersey,
John Cartier,
Clad Ruffell,
Charles Floyer,
John Reed,
Francis Hare,
Joseph Jackyll,
Thomas Lane,
Richard Barwell.

Signed

W. Wynne, Secretary.

Copy of the translation of a Perwannah from Suja Dowla Cawn, Subah of Bengal, to Governor Deane; as entered after the Fort William consultation of the 19th January 1731-2.

John Deane, Governor: I salute you, and am very well pleased and satisfied with your fair dealing and management, and have not any ill will whatsoever against you; you ought to preserve a good understanding with me, and by a good management of yours, go on with your business as customary, without doing any thing contrary to law and custom.

Copy of a Perwannah, under the seal of the Nabob Suja Cawn, to Mhamud Aliff; entered after the Fort William consultation of the 16th July 1736.

Whereas the revenues of the towns of de Calcutta, Soota Loootee, and Gowindpoor, in the Purgannas of Ameenbad, Calcutta, and Paycawne, in the furcar of Sutgom, by grants from the court, and several Governors of the province, have been appropriated to the English Company, and been under the direction of their agents, I do now confirm the same to them, according to custom; and you are not to molest them, or demand more upon any account than is usual, nor insist upon their renewing this grant yearly; but encourage the improvement of the towns in the manner, therefore, to their satisfaction. See that this be obeyed. On the 1st of the month Rubenlautell, 18th year of the King's reign.

APPENDIX.
A P P E N D I X, No. 3.

A Letter to George Pigot, Esquire, President, &c. of Fort St. George, relating to the Capture of Calcutta; dated 16th July 1756, from the Governor and Council of Bengal.

To the honourable George Pigot, Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council at Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Our utmost efforts have been employed to dispatch to you sooner the intelligence of the capture of Calcutta by the Moors, acting under orders of Serejah Dowla, the new Nabob; which account, we doubt not, will have reached you before this can possibly arrive, by means of Patamars from the Shroifs or foreign nations; a true narrative of this unhappy event, will, in our opinion, be faithfully represented to you by Mr. Manningham, which we have not here to commit to writing; the above gentleman we depute to your honour, &c. on the United English East India Company's behalf, and require from this representation, that you will support us with the whole force you can obtain on your coast, military and marine, together with a sufficient quantity of ammunition, cannon, and all other warlike stores, military and marine, which may enable us to re-establish ourselves in this province, which we esteem of the most essential consequence to the East India Company, and trade of India in general.

It is highly to represent to your honour, &c. and that the English here were established by patent from the Grand Mogul, under whose orders all affairs should be dependant; but as your honour, &c. are well acquainted that this province was overcome by Ally Verde Cawn, who maintained his conquest by force of arms, so was it possest by his grandon, who assumed the title of Serejah Dowla; wherfore further to favour our cause, and just complaints for restitution, and right to the privilege granted us by the royal firmand, we are to request you will, without delay, set forth to the Grand Mogul the enormities committed by the present Nabob, on a nation which has always paid obedience to the tenor of the firmand, nor infringed on its privileges; requiring and entreaty by his authority to re-establish us in all our rights, and that the loss sustained by the Company and inhabitants of the settlement may be made good.

We are at present endeavouring to open a correspondence with the principal men, whom we are informed the Nabob attends to, in hopes to bring on a treaty till we can obtain succour, and that we may in some measure be relieved from our present distress, being in the utmost want of all necessaries of life, and strict orders issued by the government not to supply us with any provisions: the Dutch and French are also prohibited giving us any assistance; their situation appears very precarious; and we are told the French have wrote for a large reinforcement from Pondicherry.

Our determination is to keep the river, until we are informed of your honour, &c. is resolutions; and in case we are not able to procure any favour from this government, or should be persecuted by the enemy as to be obliged to stand out to sea, we shall proceed to Vizagapatam; this we think proper to mention, as it may be necessary that the ships in their way to the bay call there for intelligence, which we shall lodge there, if we are able to procure any conveyances, for the ingratitude of our immediate servants has been such, that we are drove to the necessity of doing every individual office for ourselves; nor have we been able to procure a Pattaman, or a Persian writer; and it is with the utmost difficulty we have hitherto kept together a sufficient number of Ladeirs to work our ships, and are daily apprehensive they will quit us on the first occasion.

We have defired the gentlemen at Vizagapatam to provide and hold in readiness what provision of every kind they are able to procure, to be put on board the vessels coming down hither.

We request your honour, &c. to represent a full state of all these occurrences to Admiral Watson, the commander in chief of his Majesty's squadron, and entreat his aid and assistance with the fleet, which we hope may be able to proceed hither.

Monfr. Le Beaume, (who had the command of our advanced batteries, and defended the same very gallantly) accompanies Mr. Manningham, and will, in case of accident happening to Mr. Manningham, deliver you these advices; we esteeming Monfr. Le Beaume well qualified to give you a circumstantial detail of our military proceedings, as also inform you of the various stores we are in want of.

As we imagine the news of this capture will produce very bad consequences in England, to the honourable Company's affairs, if they receive it without being informed at the same time of there being a prospect of our refetting in Bengal; we are to request your honour will alter your resolution of sending the Delawar to Europe, till you hear the success of the force you may be able to affist us with.

We are, with great respect,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient humble servants,

R. D. &c.

A P P E N D I X.

Fu·la, 16 July 1756.

A 2

General
General Letter dated 15th September 1756.

To the honourable the Court of Directors for affairs of the honourable the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

May it please your honours,

As it is probable a vessel may be dispatched for Europe, by the president and council of Fort St. George, or some other nation settled on the coast, and a conveyance offering from hence to Vizagapatam, we think it our duty to give your honours some account of an event which must be of the utmost consequence to your trade.—It is with the greatest concern we find ourselves under the necessity of transmitting your honours such disagreeable news; and shall beg leave to confine ourselves to generals for the present, referring to a future address for the particulars of this affair.

Upon the receipt of your packet by the Delawar, we thought it necessary to put ourselves in the best state of defence we could, and for that purpose gave directions to have the line of guns towards the river repaired and strengthened; while we were carrying on this work, a peruvannah arrived from the Nabob Serajah Dowla (who had succeeded to the government upon the death of Aiyer de Cawn) forbidding us to erect any new works, or dig a ditch, which he was informed we were doing. As we esteemed this a very unreasonable prohibition, the president made the following reply, by the approbation and consent of the board; That we were not erecting any new fortifications, but only repairing our wharf, which had been much damaged by the reflethes; and he had been misinformed in regard to the ditch, having dug none since the invasion of the Maratooes, which had been executed at the request of our inhabitants, and with the approbation of Aiyer de Cawn himself.—That we had received advice of there being a likelihood of a rupture between the French and us, and as they disregarded the likelihood of the Mogul's dominions in the last war, by attacking Madras, we were under some apprehensions of their making some attempt upon our settlement, should there be a declaration of war between the two nations, for which reason we thought it necessary to be upon our guard, and make our place as defensible as we could.

The Nabob was at that time encamped at Rajamaul; and the gentlemen at Coffimbozar, a few days after, informed us, that he was much incensed at the foregoing reply, and had ordered their factory to be invaleted with a party of horsemen. This was confirmed in a second letter from them, with advice that a large body of troops were actually placed upon them, and that more were daily expected; for which reason they desired a reinforcement of military and a supply of stores. Another letter from those gentlemen advised us that troops were daily stationed on them; that the Nabob himself was returning from Rajamaul; that a train of artillery was ordered to be planted against them; and that he threatened to attack as soon as he arrived.—In this letter they requested us to complain against Hukumbeg and his duan, for their extortions of late years, as they looked upon them to be the instigators of these disturbances.

Upon receipt of this letter, we transmitted them a blank arafdas, for them to insert the complaint against Hukumbeg and his duan, as they who were on the spot must be the best judges what to write; and directed them to remonstrate, in that arafdas, the injury done us in surrounding our factory upon so frivolous and unjust a pretence; the falsity of which he might be satisfied of by sending a person to examine and report the works we were carrying on.—We likewise ordered them to endeavour all in their power to accommodate the matter, but on no account to mention the demolition of any works: That in the present situation of affairs we thought it more advisable to soothe the Nabob than to provoke him, which tending up a reinforcement might occasion; and therefore we thought it best to defer the supply they had requested; and directed them, that in case the Nabob carried matters to extremity, and attacked their factory, to make the best defence they could till the waters rose, and then to retreat, with their garrison, to Calcutta.

Two other letters arrived from Mr. Watts and his council, with intelligence of a further number of troops having surrounded their factory, and that the Nabob was daily expected at Muxadavad, when it was imagined they would actually be attacked.—In the former of these letters they informed us, that one of the principal zemmadars placed upon them, told their doctor, the Nabob was angry with the English on no other account than a draw bridge we had built at Perins, and an octagon at Mr. Kellicott's garden, and that if we would destroy these works, the forces would be immediately taken off their factory: In consequence of which information they gave it as their opinion, if the president would address the Nabob, and promise to demolish the draw bridge and octagon, the affair would be accommodated.

This letter was taken into consideration by the board, and, for many strong reasons, it was judged more advisable to promise the demolition of those works, than hazard a rupture with the Nabob's at a juncture when we were too little prepared for it.—Accordingly an arafda was wrote to that effect, and triplicates of it forwarded to the chief and council at Coffimbozar, for them to get delivered. These letters, Mr. Watts and CoUett acquaints us, were not received while the factory remained in our hands.

On the 7th of June we received the disagreeable news of Coffimbozar factory being delivered up to the Nabob, who had made Mr. Watts a prisoner upon his going to visit him, and forced him to sign a mutcheulta to the following purport: That we should give no protection
tion to the king's subjects; that we should destroy any new fortifications we had raised, and fill up the new ditch; and that if it could be proved we had granted dufficks to any persons that were not entitled to them, the loss sustained by the government, in the customs, should be made good by the Company. These letters likewise informed us, the Nabob intended to march to Calcutta with his whole army, which now amounted to 50,000 men, besides a very large train of artillery.

Upon the receipt of this intelligence we thought it expedient to put our town (which lay extremely open towards the land) in the best posture of defence we could, by throwing up such outworks as the shortness of the time would admit of, conformable to plans laid before us for that purpose, which was accordingly executed. The militia were likewise fummoned and trained, and every thing in our power prepared to sustain our attack, in case the Nabob should be raft enough to carry matters to that extremity.

The 16th of June the van of his army appeared before the redoubt at Perrin's, and about one in the afternoon attempted to force a passage that way into the town, but were bravely repulsed by the party rationed there, numbers of them being killed; which made them decamp in the night from thence, and enter the town from the eastward, at which quarter it was not in our power to prevent their getting in.—On the morning of the 18th they began the attack of our lines, and after a very warm fire the whole day from one of our batteries, were obliged to retreat, which made it necessary to recall the rest, that they might not be cut off by the enemy in the rear.

The next morning they commenced a brisk fire upon the fort, which they continued the whole day, and great part of Sunday the 20th; and having gained possession of the several houses near the factory and church, they destroyed a great many officers and private men; who being harraffed out with continual duty, and the enemy overpowering us with their numbers, the walls were sealed on the evening of the 20th, and the fort surrendered upon promise of their civil treatment of the prisoners.

We have now given your Honours a summary relation of the Nabob's proceedings at Coffimbugzur, his march against Calcutta, the attack and capture of that place.

There being some country vessels in the river, such of the inhabitants as could escape have been confined in them, and suffered the greatest distress; most of them having lost every thing they had, and scarce saved the clothes on their backs, which has induced us to take the liberty of maintaining them at your Honours expense, which we flatter ourselves will not be disapproved of, when it is considered how general the calamity has been, and what numbers had it not in their power to withdraw themselves by any means whatever.

Our remaining here is owing to our judging it absolutely necessary to keep the river, in order to re-establish ourselves in these provinces; for which purpose we have applied to the president and council of Fort St. George, to affist us with all the force they can possibly spare from the calls of their own coast, and have depuited Charles Manningham, Esquire, to satisfy them of the necessity of exerting themselves on this occasion, for recovering your Honours settlements, rights, and privileges, in these provinces: As yet, have received no answer from those gentlemens, tho' we daily expect one; and we hope they will not refuse or delay sending us down a considerable body of troops, as soon as they received our letter upon that head, as their arrival at this juncture would enable us to re-establish your honours in all the privileges and immunities of the royal firman. The country being involved in troubles by the appointment of another sibah from Dilly, who is joined by some royal troops, and several considerable jummadars, that have deferted Serajah Dowla; there is likewise an invasion expected from the Marattees as soon as the rains take off; and by the intelligence we have received from Coffimbugzur, the Nabob is greatly embarrassed.

We have like wise applied to the president and council of Bombay for a supply of troops; and in case these two prefidencies give us the necessary assistance, we may hope, in a short time, to acquaint your Honours of our being re-settled upon a secure and respectable footing.

The gentlemen of Luckipore and Bulromgurry have safely withdrawn their factors, pursuant to our orders, and brought away all their military stores, with what cash and effects were laying in their respective factories; those at Dacca could not do the same, for want of conveyances; all their boats being seized by the Nabob of that place; but were obliged to surrender after they heard of the loss of Fort William.

By the next conveyances we shall transmit to your honours copies of our proceedings since the loss of Calcutta, with the cash account, and what other papers are material: and are with the greatest respect,

May it please your Honours,
Your faithful and most obedient humble servants,
Roger Drake, junior,
William Watts,
James Killpatrick,
Richard Becher,
Paul Richard Pearce,
W. Frankland,
M. Collett,
J. Z. Holwell,
W. Maclett,
P. Amyatt.

Fort William,
the 15th September 1757.
Letter from Messrs. Becher, Scaibfion, Hyndman, and Waller, at the French Factory at Dacca.

To the honourable Court of Directors for Affairs of the honourable United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

May it please your Honours,

1. The present melancholy situation of your affairs in Bengal will appear a very sufficient apology for our not addressing you in the usual form of your council; some are killed, some prisoners, and those who remain, retired with Mr. Drake we know not well whither. You have been doubtless long since informed of Ali Verdi Khan's having named Seir Rajah Dowlat his successor to this province, in prejudice of his nephews, Newages Mahmud Khan and Sahid Hamud Khan; the former of which had his residence at Muradabad, the latter in the Poonomey country, of which he was Nabob.—The succession of Seir Rajah Dowlat, notwithstanding this preference, was greatly doubted; his competitors were rich and powerful, both men of much more experience in life; the one esteemed of abilities greatly superior; fortune however had adopted him, and took care to pave his way to that point of grandeur to which he is now arrived. In December last died Newages Mahmud Khan, a few months after the Nabob of Poona, and on the 9th of April Ali Verdi Khan breathed his last. The widow of Newages for some time maintained a faint forlorn of opposition to the succession of Seir Rajah Dowlat, in favour of a boy, named Muradet Dowlat, nephew to Seir Rajah Dowlat, and who had been adopted by her late husband. But deserted by her adherents, she was necessitated to drop it, and to claim the protection of Seir Rajah Dowlat, at this time firmly established. Kiffendis, son to Rajahullub, who had long acted as prime minister to Newages Mahmud Khan, is said to have retired to Calcutta, in March last, with immense riches of his father's, and of the widow of his late master.—The protection granted to this man, and the refusal of delivering him up when demanded, is universally believed to be the cause of all our misfortunes. Umbrage taken at some new works of fortification, which were carrying on at Calcutta, and artful insinuations to the Nabob, that the English were putting themselves in a state to make war upon him, may be the pretences.—On the 23d of May the factory at Cossimbazar was invested by a body of about 500 men; from that time till the 3d of June, fresh forces were daily arriving, when the number is said to have consisted of 50,000. That day the Nabob Seir Rajah Dowlat likewise arrived, with a large body of horse, the rear of his army; the day following he is said to have dispatched a messenger to Mr. Watts, to signify his desire of a conference with him: this was complied with: Mr. Watts was no sooner in his presence than he was made prisoner, and the messenger returned to the factory, for Messrs. Collet and Batton, the only two gentlemen in council at that time at Cossimbazar; he told them their presence was necessary to underright a paper, to which Mr. Watts had set his name, and which, without theirs, would not be valid. These two gentlemen likewise waited on the Nabob; the latter was immediately made prisoner, and the former sent back to the factory, with orders to the officer who commanded, to deliver it up to whomsoever the Nabob should appoint to take possession of it, with guns, ammunition, &c. His orders were confirmed to, and the Nabob took possession of it the 6th. This done, orders were issued for the march of the army towards Calcutta. For the particulars of the siege of that place and Fort William, we must beg leave to refer your honours to some of those gentlemen who continued in the fort till it was taken. The accounts we have very much, and are difficult to reconcile; all agree in this, that many brave men have died miserably, whose lives might have been saved by the smallest degree of good conduct and resolution in their leaders.—That Mr. Drake refused listening to any terms of accommodation, said to have been proposed by the Nabob, while at Hugly, to avert the storm which threatened the colony, is what we can hardly credit, though this is confidently affirmed. In a garrison so ill provided as it appears Fort William was, it would certainly have been eligible to have submitted to any for the present, and to have waved his resentment till a change of circumstances might enable him to gratify it, and to obtain such as were more advantageous. The Nabob in his return from Calcutta, after marching a number of his men through Chandernagore, and committing many irregularities, extorted from the French the sum of three lacks of rupees, and from the Dutch 45,000, and from the Danes 50,000. The French have behaved with the greatest humanity to such as have taken refuge at their factory; and the tenor of their conduct every where to us, on this melancholy occasion, has been such as to merit the grateful acknowledgment of our nation. The foop which, in our correspondence with Mon. Courton, your Honours will observe we became answerable for, to prevent the ill consequences of Mr. Amyatt's seizing her at so critical a juncture, is, with her cargo, we are informed, safely arrived at Chander- nagore.

2. It was on the 23d of May, as in a preceding paragraph we have acquainted your Honours, that Cossimbazar factory was first invested. It was the 9th of June before we had any letter from the gentlemen in Calcutta; it was dated the 3d, and in general terms directed us to be upon our guard, as the Nabob had taken offence at some works which were carrying on at Calcutta, and it was uncertain to what lengths his caprices and passions might lead him: our situation, and the want of embarkations, rendered a compliance with their orders of the 7th.
7th (received the 12th) utterly impracticable: for our reasons fully deduced, we beg leave to refer your Honours to our consultation of the 12th, in toto, and our public letters, both which accompany this address to your Honours, the consultation of the 3d and 4th excepted, two copies of which have been sent to Calcutta, but the originals we have not been able to get out of the factory: we have been sufficiently explicit to enable you to judge and determine on our conduct, and shall not enter into a further detail.

3. As your books and papers are all in the possession of the Nabob, we cannot, with expressness, inform you of the loss you have sustained at your factory at Dacca. If they will permit us to extract a few minutes from the books, we shall shortly be able to make it up, and your Honours may depend on having it by the first occasion.

4. As to ourselves, we have lost every thing; a conscientious of having to the utmost of our abilities discharged our duty to your Honours, and the hopes of your future favour, should it appear to you we have acted in such a manner as to deserve it, most, for the present, support us. Your Honours will do us the justice to believe, that in the surrender of our factory without resistance, we have not be exculpated by any unmanly attachment to life. Every necessary disposition our situation would admit of had been made; and while Fort William stood, our resolution was taken to defend ourselves to the last extremity.

That gone, and all hopes of assistance cut off, it is certain we might have died, or by exasperating an ungenerous enemy, exposed ourselves to ignominy and torment, but this would in no shape have availed your Honours.

5. The French gentlemen at Chandernagore and Coimbulwar are warmly soliciting our liberty; if we are so happy to obtain it, we propose going to Madras in the first ship; where we shall be ready, to serve your Honours in any suitable employment your President and Council there may point out to us, till your pleasure is known.

6. Exclusive of the gentlemen whose names appear at the foot of this letter, there are prisoners with us here, Mr. John Cartier, a factor of one year's standing; Mr. John Johnson just commencing, Attendants Lieur. John Cudmore, and Mr. Nathaniel Wilton, Surgeon; Mr. William Sunner, the seconf at this factory, absent as Calcutta, by permission, and who we hear is safe, having been ordered on board ship some days before the place was taken.

We advised the gentlemen at Madras of this unhappy event, as soon as we could collect any particulars which we thought carried an appearance of truth.

We are, with great respect,

May it please your Honours,

Your Honours faithful,

Humble servants,

Richard Becher,
Luke Srafton,
Thomas Hyndman,
Samuel Waller.

From the French factory at Dacca, July 18th, 1756.

Extract of a Letter from Messrs Watts and Collet, to the honourable the Court of Directors.

To the honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the United Company of Merchants of England, trading to the East Indies.

May it please your Honours,

It is with the utmost concern we now inform you, that Fort William was taken the 20th of June by the Nabob of Bengal, grandon of Aliverdicaun, who died last April. The first rise of these troubles are as follows:

Some time after his coming to the government, he sent one Narran Sing, brother to Rogeram, who is Nabob at Cuttack, and commander of the Spys (which in this country is a considerable post) to Calcutta, where he arrived privately, and in disguise, with a letter from the Nabob to the Governor; which the Governor did not think proper to receive, as it was presented in such a way, but turned Narran Sing with disgrace out of the place. The Chief of Coimbulwar, being apprehensive that this might occasion some trouble, wrote to the Durbar officers, to prevent any complaint being made to the Nabob, and the affair was seemingly hushed up; but a few days were elapsed, when he sent for our Vagueel, and told him he heard they were making fortifications, and digging a ditch round Calcutta; and inferred that we should level our new works, and fill up the ditch. Upon the Vagueel's returning from the Durbar, and acquainting the Chief with what the Nabob said, he wrote to him, that he had not heard of any new fortifications being railed, or ditch dug: and that we were apprehensive that our enemies, for their own lucrative advantages, had raised these reports; to this letter he returned no answer, but sent a paravannah to Calcutta, ordering them to desist from fortifying, and to level what new works they had begun. He then marched to the northward, and gave out he was going to Patts. On his arrival at Raja-

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with the greatest expedition with his whole army, which encamped round our factory, and according to the most moderate computation consisted of 10,000 horse, and 20,000 Rajae-pouts, and other gun men, with a large train of artillery; and then demanded the Chief to come out, and see him; the Nabob's Duan, who commanded the van of the army, writing the Chief a letter, that he might come out with great safety, that no harm should happen, and that he would introduce him to the Nabob: upon this we thought proper to send the Surgeon of the factory to the Duan; and he gave him the safe assurances, and sent him back with a considerable person, and a present of beetle (which is esteemed a pledge of faith) to accompany the Chief to the Duan, who was to introduce him to the Nabob; accordingly, agreeable to the unanimous opinion of the gentlemen of the factory, and officers of the gar- rison, the Chief went, and was presented by the Duan to the Nabob, who immediately ordered him into confinement, and inflicted on his giving an obligation, that in 15 days time the gentlemen of Calcutta should hear what new works they had raised, deliver up the Nabob's tenants, who had fled for protection there; and that if it should be proved we had falsified the Company's dutifcks, by giving them to those that had no right to them, we should pay back what the government had suffered by loss of duties: the chief, being in their hands, was obliged to sign this. They then told him, that his signing was of no consequence, without the rest of the Council; accordingly, upon the Surgeon's returning to the factory, with an eunuch of the Nabob's, and two or three others, who acquainted Messrs. Collet and Batton, that it was necessary they should go to the Chief to make an end of the affair: they went, and were detained prisoners, nothing more being said about the obligation the Chief had signed. The next day we were ordered to deliver up our ammunition, and intelligence from which, upon mature deliberation, we thought proper to comply with, in hopes to entirely pacify the Nabob, and prevent his march to Calcutta. The army then drew off from the factory.

Extract of Mr. Drake's Letter to the Council at Fort William, dated Calcutta, 17th to 25th January 1757.*

Par. 4. Referring to Mr. Becher's letter, under date of the 26th November last, that gentleman condemns my conduct, in that I granted protection, or admitted into Calcutta, Kifdendaft; that I refused to receive the Nabob's perewanah, and insulted the messenger; the assuming to myself such an authority to act without the advice, or acquainting my Council thereof; my not using proper means to accommodate matters, when I found the Nabob irritated, and not securing on board the ships the Company's books, papers, and treasure; and finally abandoning the fort in the manner I did: To all which accusations I reply, That the admission of Kifdendaft into Calcutta was permitted by Mr. Manningham, in my absence on a visit to Ballalore, where I went, after the dispatch of our last Europe ship that frason, the 9th of March, and returned the 21st of said month. Kifdendaft I think arrived here the 16th, and he, or some of his people, introduced a letter from Mr. Watts to Mr. Manningham, with one inclosed for myself under a flying seal, to the following purport, as far as my remembrance leads me: That an application had been made to him by Rajahbullub (who is father to Kifdendaft) requesting he would admit his Rajahbullub's family into Calcutta for the space of two months, until one of the women was brought to bed, and able to proceed on her journey to Jagernott Pagod; and strenuously recommended we would not refuse that request, as Rajahbullub was likely to hold great pofts in the government, and might, from such favour kind his family, be instrumental of giving an uninterrupted currency to our business at Dacca and its dependencies; which recommendation from Mr. Watts, who then was so nearly situated to the Durbar of Muxal- davadar, drew a grant from Mr. Manningham, to admit Kifdendaft, his family, and attendants, into our bounds. I think Messrs. Frankland and Holwell are able to testify that such a letter was penned by Mr. Watts, nor would I be understood to throw any blame on Mr. Manningham, for having had regard thereto; had I been present on Kifdendaft's arrival, I should certainly adhered to lo strong a recommendatory letter from our chief at Coffinswark; nor was any difference found would happen on account of that family's residence here, or on any other account, until about the 15th of April, when a perewanah arrived, said to contain an immediate demand, from the Nabob, of Rajahbullub's family and wealth; which leads me to answer Mr. Becher's second accusation, That I refused to receive the said perewanah, and insulted the messenger, by Messrs. Manningham, Holwell, and myself, is a fact, and the messenger was ordered out of the bounds. Our then reasons, that induced us to act, were, that this messenger, or rather spy, came into our bounds in disguise, and his first foot on shore was at Omnichund's house, who received him privately, and a perewanah for himself, tending, as we learnt, to this purport, that he, Omnichund, was to intercede himself to obtain the immediate delivery of Rajahbullub's sons and family to Narrandafs, brother to Rejeram, the Nabob's head spy: This first arbitrary and unusual proceeding of the new Nabob, before his having advised our Prefidency, (as has ever been cULONARY on change of government) of his succession to the government, caused a suspicion, that the said perewanah had been wrote without his consent or knowledge; and not at that time having had any intelligence from Mr. Watts, that such a person had been dispatched by the Nabob, joined with the fear Omnichund threw on the occasion, determined us to reject the perewanah (which
(which Mr. Manningham or myself never had a sight of) and to order NARRANDAS instantly out of our bounds; and if that gentleman and Mr. Holwell will recollect, I think they must acknowledge I then produced Mr. Watts his original letter, recommending, in most strenuous terms, the reception of that family into our settlement, with two or three others; certifying how useful the retaining RAJAHBUULLUB in our interest would be, who was likely to hold great poth in the city of Dacca, at the same instant I was required by both gentlemen to acquaint Mr. Watts of the clandestine manner whereby NARRANDAS rode into our bounds and successful to receive the permission, and he being ordered to quit our settlement: To which Mr. Watts replied, That our Vaguel had represented to the chief Durbar officers the whole that had happened; and that the reply thereto was, That we surely had a right to dismiss such people out of our bounds. It is with regret I mention not having Mr. Watts his letters to produce; but I appeal to Mr. Manningham, Frankland, and Holwell, to whom I communicated, at different times, the purport of those letters, whether circumstances to be gathered therefrom were not implying, that RAJAHBUULLUB would be taken into favour again; and ad- vising, rather fearing, civility to his family than any way to dismiss them; giving his opinion, that we should be cautious, and not let them leave Calcutta: One letter did imply to give them warning to depart, as the space of time, his father had applied for their residence here, was nigh elapsed; that was soon contradicted; and I call on Mr. Watts to declare, whether I did not frequently express, I was apprehensive that family’s residence here would bring the Company’s affairs into trouble; and whether I ever shewed any disinclination to their quitting the bounds, or submitting to the delivery of them, had the idea of not my required it. Further, Mr. Watts wrote me, he had acquainted the principal men a MUZADAVAD, that I should have no objection to deliver up KIFLIENDAS; but that he thought I should not consent to the giving up of his women, nor would that be inflicted on. To the blame Mr. Becher is pleased to cast on me, for assuming to myself the sole authority of acting without the consent or advice of my council, in the protection granted Kifliendas, and the dismission of the messenger who brought the permission for the immediate delivery of him and his family, I must beg leave to refer, in part thereof, to my reply to his foregoing accusation against my conduct; wherein it will appear, beyond contradiction, that I assumed no power of acting by arbitrary will: I could with the permission had not been refused, but in public council, which sat that very morning; and the gentlemen were assembled in the conclave room before Messrs. Manningham and Holwell quitted my apartment, and were all well acquainted with the steps we had taken; but not one member of the board opened his mouth to speak thereon, which was their duty to do, had they then imagined evil consequences would be the attendant on that proceeding; which leads me to remark, that no gentleman of the council can excuse himself for that silence; as I think I shall be supported in declaring, I never attempted to bridle their tongues. I further am led to think, that Mr. Becher, who was in Calcutta from the latter end of February to the beginning of April, though not obliged to attend our councils, when his absence from his chieflip at Dacca, on account of his own concerns, was permitted, might then have set forth his apprehensions that such our proceedings were wrong, which any slight intimation of to, or at, the board, would have faved me many an unhappy reflection on what my char- acter has since suffered from after-thinking men: what availed it me, or either Messrs. Manningham or Holwell, whether RAJAHBUULLUB’s family was, or was not, to be admitted and kept in our town; but to hold in good correspondence and harmony, people who then had great influence at the Durbar, thereby to promote the interest of our employers, and to aft according to the chief of COFFIMBUZAR, his recommendation, who has always been sup- pofed a competent judge how to hold the great men in favour at the Durbar; even had any letter, private or general, from Coffimbuazar, intimated so far as even an apprehension, that the protecting Kifliendas would be likely to draw on the Nabob’s anger, I date ater either of those two gentlemen would have communicated the fame in public council; I answer I should for myself; and I am sure liberty of speech and writing has too much prevailed in this settle- ment not to admit it from any person who then thought the Company’s interest was inju- red. I should fall into the same error with after conjectures, if I ask why the gentlemen of Coffimbuazar did not, at any time, inform us it was a wrong proceeding to continue RAJAH- BULLUB’S family with us: if they thought so, it was their duty to have set forth the Nabob was irritated therein, and at the dismission of the spy; but far otherwise, no mention was ever made to us from that factory of any umbrage the Nabob took on that account; not even the name of any of RAJAHBUULLUB’S family appeared in their general letters. The next accusation Mr. Becher is pleased to allude against me, though I think it may be deemed rather a general blame on the whole board, is, that I did not use proper means to accommodate matters when I found the Nabob irritated. I would ask Mr. Becher, if he has hi- therto made an enquiry, or from his certain knowledge can give the board intelligence, what methods were purposed to hinder the Nabob’s approach, and to specify his unovervable passion and precipitated resolution to extinguish the English from his dominions. I shall not therefore immediately enter here into a description of these measures, but think they promised to be the most effectual means those members present could take; and, I do conjecture, will be now to be by them acknowledged, as the appearance and circumstances of every matter then pre- sented itself to us.

APPENDIX
APPENDIX. No. 4.

At the East India House, Thursday, December 2 1762.

Present, All the Commisaries, English and Dutch.

The Dutch commisaries acknowledging the candour of the English, in sending them copies of their treaties with the Nabobs, observed, that a 15th article, as transmitted by Colonel Clive to the government of Chittagong, and inserted in the Appendix to their memorial, page 12, is not to be found in either of those treaties; the English commisaries disavowed all knowledge of that article: with this declaration the others seemed much satisfied, saying, that if this article had stood confirmed, it would have been the greatest grievance they had to complain of.

Letter from the English commisaries to Lord Clive, relative to the 15th article, and Lord Clive's answer thereto.

At the East India House, Tuesday the 14th of December 1762.

Present, All the English Commisaries. Also, Mr. Dunning.

A letter was agreed upon, by the gentlemen, to Lord Clive, to be signed by the secretary, desiring his lordship to enable them to clear up the difficulty with the Dutch commisaries, concerning the 15th article of the treaty with Jaffier Aly Khan, inserted in the 12th page of the Appendix to the memorial of the Dutch Company; the said letter being as follows:

My Lord,

In the course of the conferences between the English and Dutch commisaries, the latter have very strongly pressed the point of the letter and article inserted from your lordship to Mr. Bidlem, as mentioned in the 11th article of the Appendix to their memorial:—In respect of the article, the English commisaries have given the answer your lordship instructed them to give in your letter to Mr. Rous, of the 18th of August, that is, that it was in the Persian language, and had been misinterpreted; but they observe, that the letter in which this article was inserted, speaks of it as a 13th article, which had been solemnly ratified and confirmed by oath, on one side by the Nabob, and on the other by the English East India Company: Whereas the treaty appears to consist of 12 articles, and therefore the Dutch insinuate, that whether the article, as they have printed it, be well or ill translated from that inserted in your lordship's letter; the letter itself, which speaks of a 13th article, must be a misrepresentation, and in this way the English commisaries apprehend they mean to impeach the credit of your lordship's attestation, on which our defence chiefly refts. I am ordered by the gentlemen to communicate this to your lordship, and to add, that as they have no doubt but your lordship can, they trust you will, enable them to clear up this difficulty.

I am, with the greatest respect,

Your lordship's most obedient, and most humble servant,

Robert James, Secretary.

East India House,
the 14th Dec. 1762.

Right honourable Lord Clive.

Wednesday, the 15th Dec. 1762.

Received the following answer of this date from Lord Clive, to the letter sent his lordship yesterday, by order of the English Commisaries, viz.

SIR,

I desire you will inform the gentlemen of the Committee, that I think I cannot explain myself much more fully on the subject than I have already done. I do remember to have wrote such a letter as is set forth in the 12th page of the Appendix in the Dutch memorial; but as I am without a copy of that letter, I cannot be certain the article I sent Mr. Bidlem was called the 15th; if it was, it must be a mistake in the interpreter, because I do not understand Persian, and all the articles were wrote in that language; but as I did incline to Mr. Bidlem an article, I do verily believe, say I am almost certain, it must be the second article which has been falsely translated to serve a particular purpose; and I must insist upon it, if what they call the 15th article should prove to be, verbatim, the same as the second article, which can only be proved by producing the Persian article itself, it must prove, that there never existed a 15th, because it would be absurd to repeat the same article twice.
As to the solemn ratification and confirmation by oath, &c. that might have been sent with the Persian article, to enforce it with Mr. Bifdom, though it be no part of that particular article, but belongs to, and succeeds, the whole.

I am, Sir, your moft obedient humble fervant,

Clive.

Berkley Square,
13th Dcc. 1752.
Robert James, Esquire.

A P P E N D I X, No. 5.

Letter from Mr. Drake, &c. dated 14th July 1757.

To the honourable the Secret Committee for affairs of the honourable United Company of Merchants of England, trading to the East Indies.

Honourable Sirs,

1. We have given you a full account of the state of these provinces, and our transactions, to the 26th March; triplicate of which advices were forwarded by his majesty's frig of war, the King's Elephant.

2. This letter is purposely to acquaint you of a happy revolution in the government of this kingdom, in favour of Jaffier Aly Khan, of the part we took in this affair, and our motives for it; and the advantages obtained, by espousing the present Subah's cause, and placing the sway in his hands.

3. On the first of May Colonel Clive laid before us two letters he had received from Mr. Watts, dated the 26th and 28th April, in which, after some observations on the extraordinary of the Nabob's behaviour, and that all degrees of people were perfused he would break with us upon the first favourable opportunity, he proceeds to inform the Colonel, that Jaffier Aly Khan had sent for Coja Petra, and given him to understand, that most of the Nabob's principal officers were tired of his government, and ready to defect him and set up another, if we would countenance and support the confederacy with the affiance of our troops: that if we approved of this scheme, he defined our demands of what monies, lands, &c. would induce us to engage in the busines.—In the last of the above-mentioned letters Mr. Watts repeats his apprehensions of the Nabob's design to break the treaty he made with us, urges a speedy answer might be sent to Jaffier Aly Khan's proposal, and gives it as his opinion, the project was feasible, and might be executed without much difficulty.

4. As a proposition of this aftringence required our moft serious confideration, we accordingly debated maturely the consequences of embracing this offer, and whether it should be accepted or declined.—After a long confulation, in which every reafon for and againft the scheme was collected, and deliberately argued on; it was the unanimous fent of the Committee, that a revolution in the government, whatever hands it fell into, would be advantageous to the English; that there could be no hurt in trying to effect it, as our good understanding with Serajah Dowla was extratinously precarious, and a ruptur with him universally expected as soon as the squadron and army left us; and that by joining Jaffier Aly Khan, to supplant him, we should obtain, in all probability, very beneficial terms for the Company, as well as live free of any apprehensions from the country government. But as these general reasons would not have justifled our embarking the Company in such an undertaking, and hazarding a breach with Serajah Dowla, after concluding the peace we did, we think it necessary to recite at large our motives for engaging in a confederacy to change the government, and doubt not they will be esteemed sufficient by our employes, to vindicate our proceedings.

5. First, it was evident to us, from the whole tenor of the Nabob's behaviour since the peace, that we could not possibly rely on his friendship; and that the treaty made with him would soon be violated, when once he thought himself superior to us in strength; his delay in performing the agreement, many of the articles being at that time as far from being completed as at first; the evasion of giving us any satisfaction for the lofes suffered by our inhabitants, through Monickhund's means; the small sum of money which was pretended to be given credit for in his Sircover, being scarce a tenth part of the loses sustained by the Europeans alone; with several other parts of his conduct; were so many convincing proofs, that his friendship was ineffective; and that he could not abide by his treaty, which the exigency of his situation alone inclined him to make.

6. Secondly, There was the greatest reason to imagine he was an utter enemy to the English, and privately enconcourting to bring in the French, with promises of joining them againft us. We were confirmed in this opinion, from the great averion he shewed to our molesting the French at Chandernagore; his expelling and protecting Monfieur Law and his party after that place was taken; his keeping them in his pay; and the certain intelligence we had received from all quarters, of his writing frequently to Monfieur Bouillé, sending him large presents, and inviting him to march this way.—This was so notorious, that it was publicly talked of and known, his Coiffs passing almost daily through Ballasore; and but a few days before, some elephants and fcefpaws arrived at that place, in their passage to Monfieur Bouillé's camp.
7. Lastly, there was great room to think he did not mean well, by the orders he had given to fortify Cutwah, and the removing of Saffras Cawn’s family from Dacca into Porena. — The interruption our boats and people met with in their way to Coffimubazar, contrary to the treaty of peace, with many actions of the same nature, which put it beyond all doubt, that this dislike and jealousy of our nation was rooted; and that he would not miss any opportunity of ruining our affairs, and extirpating the English out of his country. — It was therefore but common prudence to prevent our own ruin; which could not be done if effectually any other way, than by divesting the Nabob of the power of hurting us.

8. Another inducement to undertake this affair, was the universal hatred of all forts and conditions of men to Scrajah Dowla; the affection of his army alienated from him, by his ill usage of the officers; and a revolution so generally wished for, that it is probable it would be attempted (and perhaps successful) even without our assistance; in which case it would have availed us but little; whereas by countenancing the confederacy, and supporting it with our whole force, we might not only make our own terms, benefit our employes, both by present advantage and future advantage, but by general good, procure some satisfaction to the inhabitants of our colony for their heavy losses in the capture, establish the tranquility of the country, and by that means open a greater currency than ever to our business; and lastly, cut off the expectation of the French, and keep them totally out of those dominions.

9. Motives so interesting, and founded upon the prime law of self-preservation, determined us to embrace the proposal made by Jaffier Aly Khan, provided adequate terms were granted in consideration of entering into a fresh war with the Nabob, whose confidence must have proved very detrimental to our affairs, if the success of it had not been answerable to our expectations. Accordingly, after some consideration, the following demands were effectually equitable and reasonable to be asked, viz. That our firmware and the privileges acquired by the treaty with Scrajah Dowla, be confirmed, and punctually complied with; that restitution be made of the Company’s whole loot, and the loot of the European inhabitants of Calcutta; that our bounds be augmented; that we have liberty to fortify Coffimubazar; that an offensive and defensive alliance be made against all enemies of both parties, as well Europeans as others; and that the French be not permitted to refit in their provinces; that the Moors do not fortify within twenty miles of the river Side from Eynugle down to Ingeling; and that the revenues of a certain track of land be made over and assigned to us, in consideration of our maintaining a good body of troops. These terms were accordingly transmitted to Mr. Watts, to get Jaffier Aly Khan to assent to them.

10. On the 17th May, colonel Clive laid before us a letter from Mr. Watts, with such articles of agreement as Jaffier Aly Khan’s confidant had assured him would be accepted of, and requiting, that if they were approved of by the admiral and committee, they might be ingrossed in cypher, signed and sealed by them, and returned to him to get them executed by Jaffier Aly Khan: as those articles were greatly more advantageous for the Company than the terms we had demanded, there could be no objection to them on our part; they were accordingly approved of, and ordered to be ingrossed with some alterations, relating to the satisfaction of private sufferers. The fulness of them you will find in the tracts of the Persian treaty, herewith transmitted for your observation. It was with the intention to prevent the draft fpicion of what we were doing, our troops were ordered into quarters, part of them in Calcutta, and part in Chanderagouge; and the Nabob wrote to (agreeable to Jaffier Aly Khan’s advice) to recall his army encamped at Plataley and Dandapore.

12. Matters being advanced thus far, it was next judged proper to obtain, if possible, a personal conference between Jaffier Aly Khan, and some person of trust and confidence on our part: to effect this, without alarming the Nabob’s suspicions, it was proposed for the colonel to send the Nabob a letter by Mr. Scratton’s hands, acquainting him, that he had an affair of consequence to communicate, by which means Mr. Scratton might have an opportunity of seeing Jaffier Aly Khan, and confer with him on the plan of operations for executing our project; to allure him of our attachment to his interests; and to use his endeavours to get such security as could well be given, without discovering the scheme.

13. On the 19th May the treaty being ingrossed in the manner Mr. Watts had requested, it was signed and sealed by the admiral and members of the committee.

14. From that time till the 11th June, the colonel received several letters from Mr. Watl, confirming us in the opinion we had conceived of the Nabob’s writing to Monsieur Bouflé to march this way, and extirpate the English. These letters likewise gave a detail of the pregress of our negotiation with Jaffier Aly Khan, who on the 15th ultimo signed, sealed, and solemnly swore in the presence of Mr. Watts, to abide by the treaty he had made with the English; and to perform punctually the agreement on his part, as soon as he was in possession of the shipahip.

15. Mirza Omar Beg, on the 11th ultimo, arrived at the French gardens, where we assembled a committee, and had the treaty in Persian executed by Jaffier Aly Khan, delivered by us the abovementioned person, who gave us the greatest assurances of his friendship and esteem for the English; that there would be very little difficulty in effecting a change of government; and that we might depend upon it, Jaffier Aly Khan would be punctual in performing every article of his agreement.

16. Mr.
16. Mr. Watts, his letters all urging the immediate march of our troops towards Muxadav'd; and the committee for many reasons judging it best to lose no time, as this appeared the most favourable conjunction we could have to succeed in our enterprise; and as a delay might not only produce a discovery of our confederacy, and consequently the ruin of our project, but would greatly diminish our strength, while the Nabob would have time to augment his army, by calling in his troops from all quarters, and inflicting others; it was therefore resolved to set out immediately, and on the 15th of June our troops began their march.

17. On the 16th or 25th June, Cuttack town and fort (a strong place) was taken by our troops, where the colonel remained two or three days, to get some advice or letter from Jaffier Aly Khan, having received but one in his way up.—The 26th June we had the pleasure to receive a letter from him, with the news of a complete victory obtained over Serajah Dowla, in the plains of Pleafy; his whole army and himself being killed, and we in possession of his camp, ordnance, &c. That Jaffier Aly Khan, Roydooloo, and Lutter Caun, had observed a neutrality during the engagement, and were with the colonel at the time of writing of his letter.

18. On the 27th we received the agreeable news of Jaffier Aly Khan's being in possession of the city and kila of Muxadav'd; that Serajah Dowla had withdrawn privately, but it was not doubted would be seen soon; and that Mohunloor was prisoner at the city. In a letter of the 30th June, colonel Clive acquainted us of his having treated Jaffier Aly Khan in the mulnud; and that he had received the homages of his jemindars and people, as fuhab of the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orida.

19. We now beg leave to congratulate you, honourable Sirs, and the Company, on our success in this important business, and the happy change of government established in their dominions so fortunately and speedily. Our loss has been but very trifling, not above 20 Europeans being killed, and wounded.

20. The advantages of the treaty made with the present Nabob, are too apparent to want any comment, if the terms are punctually complied with, which we have not the least reason to doubt; but we must take the liberty to recommend to your serious consideration, the preservation of the grants and privileges acquired by this revolution, which can be done only by keeping up a large body of troops in the country: as it is the Company's interest to exert themselves on this occasion, we make no doubt you will immediately enlist, and send out a sufficient number of recruits, to make a respectable garrison in Bengal, which should consist of a body of two thousand Europeans at least, which expenses we think will be overpaid by the advantages of our acquisitions: we flatter ourselves, therefore, you will not, on any account, neglect the sending such a body of Europeans as we have mentioned to be necessary: this we are of opinion will be the only method of preventing, in future, the encroachments of the country government, to make our friendship and alliance courted, to carry on our trade on the securest footing, and to oppose the resettlement of the French in those provinces.

21. Upon examining the treasury, Roydooloo pretended there was but one crore and 50 lack of rupees in balance: this obliged colonel Clive to go to the city himself, in order to be near the Nabob. This letter of the 30th ultimo informs us to put an end to all heartburnings and jealousies between us and the Nabob; he agreed to refer the affair to Juguttuet's arbitration: that the Nabob and he accordingly went there; and after some consideration, Juguttuet defied the colonel would not inflict immediately on the full payment of the sums stipulated in the treaty; but that half should be made good without delay, in money and jewels; the other half to be paid in three years, at three annual and equal payments. These terms the Colonel confented to, as they were better than he expected, considering the lowness of the Nabob's treasury; since which we learn, that one third in specie of the whole was actually embarking on boats for Calcutta.

22. But as the bad consequences of defending the payment of any part of the money, appeared to us too evident to be allowed of, if it could be avoided, we have wrote the Colonel our sentiments thereon, and defined the gentlemen of the Select Committee, who are at Muxadav'd, to use their best endeavours to obtain immediate payment; but if that is not to be done, to get some good security from the Nabob to abide by his contract; that for our parts, we should prefer Juguttuet's engaging to see it punctually made good; and next to that security, a mortgage of such lands contiguous to Calcutta, whose revenues will be equal to the sum to be received by us annually.

23. Having given you, honourable Sirs, a very particular detail of our transactions, since engaging in the confederacy, to set up Jaffier Aly Khan, we have reason to flatter ourselves you will approve of our conduct through the whole of this nice, but necessary, step.

24. Mr. Manningham is gone up to Muxadav'd to assist in halening the completion of the treaty, and settling such matters as relate to the mercantile part of it.

25. By a latter from Colonel Clive, dated the 30th June late at night, we learnt that Serajah Dowla was taken; and by another letter of the fourth instant, we are informed of his being cut off by Jaffier Ally Khan's son and others.

26. Tranquillity being established by the change, we have advice of people's minds more at ease, and no apprehensions of trouble from the government remaining. We have begun the purchase of this year's investment, by sending money to the different aurangs; and hope,
hope, with the assihiance of the goods received from Serajah Dowla at our subordinates and aurungs, to be able to fend the Company a handiome return from this presidency.

27. As the sum of money to be received from the Nabob, even if Juguttisat's determination is to stand good, will greatly exceed our demands for the investment; we propose to adverize, that all intereft notes will be discharged upon being tendered; and that, in case the proprietors do not sue for payment before the firt day of October next, the intereft will fcape from that day. This will eafe the Company of a very heavy burthen, and we hope will prove very agreeable news. In this place we muft beg leave to remark, that by Juguttisat's determination, the Company are to receive, for three years successively, the sum of 16 lacks and two thirds of rupees in specie, which, with the fale of your annual imports, and the amount of bills of exchange that we fhall be under a neceffity of granting, will be fully sufficient, we imagine, for the repective investments of those three years, without obliging the Company to run the risk of any bullion for the supply of this presidency, till that term of years is expired.

28. Thefe advices are dispatched in triplicates to the Select Committee of Bombay, to be forwarded to Europe by them, by the quickeft conveyances, either by fhipping or by land. We fhall endeavour to fend copies to Fort St. George, to be forwarded from thence to Europe; and shall dispatch the Diligent (which about the middle of next month directly home), with another copy of this packet; by which means we hope the Company will get the intelligence of what has happened in Bengal before the fhips of next fazon leave England.

29. Since writing thus far, the money from Muxadavdo is arrived. We are, with the greater refpeft, honourable Sirs, your moft faithful humble fervants, Fort William, 14th July 1757.

Roger Drake Jun.
Richard Becher.

Proceedings 17th May 1757.

Tuesday, 17th May 1757. At a Committee; Prefident, The honourable Roger Drake, Esquire, President,
Robert Clive, Esquire,
James Kilpatrick, Esquire,
Richard Becher, Esquire,

The proceedings of the 12th instant being wrote fair, were now read, approved, and signed.

Colonel Clive lays the following letter from Mr. Watts to him, before the Committee; which being read, contained as follows:

Copy of Mr. Watts, his letter to Colonel Clive, dated the 14th May.

I received a letter two days ago from Mr. Scafion, wherein he writes Omichund, that you have agreed to give him 5 per cent. on whatever money he may receive on the new contract. As by no means think he merits such a favour, or has acted to disinterested a part as I once imagined, I have not mentioned the 5 per cent. to him. The particulars relating to him, that are come to my knowledge, are these: when our treaty was concluded with the Nabob, and the 20,000 gold mohurs agreed to be given in consideration of the plunder of Calcutta, the Nabob had agreed with Rungeet Roy and Omichund to pay 20,000 gold mohurs more, which they told the Nabob was to be given among the leading men in Calcutta, for affenting to the treaty; besides which, the Nabob agreed to give a lack of rupees, half of which Omichund agreed Rungeet Roy was to have; 25,000 rupees he was himself to have; and the other 75,000 rupees was to be disposed of to whom Omichund thought proper to favour. Thee particulars I had from Omichund himself; and from very good authority have been lately informed, that on the Nabob's arrival here, Rungeet Roy was very pressing with him to comply with his promise of paying the 20,000 mohurs, and the lack of rupees, in hopes of getting possession of the lack of rupees, which the Nabob was not inclined to pay.—This Omichund observed, and in order to gain favour, at a proper time he told the Nabob, that Rungeet Roy was suffered to interfere in our affairs, the Nabob would be obliged to pay the above sums; but if he disgraced him, he would save the money. This advice the Nabob followed, and Omichund, in consideration of this advice, got purwannahs and orders to the several aurungs, to have his money, goods, and effects, delivered up.—To corroborate what I have been informed of, I this day asked Omichund, if I should apply to the Nabob for the money; he advis'd me fireuously against it, saying, it was a secret contract, and by no means proper for me to mention, but he would himfelf think of means to get it. I shewed the articles you sent up to Omichund, who did not approve of them, but infilled on my demanding for him 5 per cent. on all the Nabob's treasure, which would amount to two core of rupees, besides a quarter of all his wealth; and that Meer Jaffier should oblige himfelf to take from the Zenindars no more than they paid in Jaffier Cawns time.—To secure Roycoloub to his intereft, he proposed giving him a quarter part of whatever they could dupe Meer Jaffier out of.—These, and manv other articles, in which his
own ambition, cunning, and avaricious views, were the chief motives, he positively inflicted on, and would not be prevailed upon to recede from one article.—Perceiving his obstinacy would only ruin our affairs, and that we should alarm the jealousy, and lose the good opinion of all people, and that the accomplishment of his treaty (if agreed to) would take some years; Meer Jaffier likewise having expressed an utter distrust and disgust at his being any ways concerned in the treaty, and as delays are dangerous; I therefore, with Petrose, had a meeting with Meer Jaffier’s confidant, who sets out to-day with the accompanying articles, which he says, he is sure Meer Jaffier will comply with: If the Admiral and Committee therefore approve of them, I request you will get the articles wrote on large thin paper, in cypher; the fleet to be divided into two columns. On the first division the agreement to be wrote in cypher; which is to be signed by the Admirals; you, the Committee and Council, affirming in the name of God, and our Saviour, that you will abide by this agreement. —In the second division I shall write the agreement in English; and on the third it will be wrote in Perfian.—These two last I shall sign and seal when the articles are agreed to.—Meer Jaffier desires to know your opinion with regard to the operations of war.—He thinks it advisable for you to write to the Nabob, that agreeable to his desire, and on promise of his doing the same, you had withdrawn your forces. That while his continued in the field, and the Company’s business must continue stop, and that they could not think of rifquing their money to the Aurungs, while neither a boat, nor European, could pass without molestation.

—You therefore request him, either to comply with his promise recalling his troops to the city, or let you know his real sentiments, that you may take proper measures accordingly. —If the Nabob should comply, Meer Jaffier will acquaint you with his sentiments how further to proceed.—If he refuses, other measures must be pursued. I declare solemnly before God, that what relates to Omichund is strictly true; and the information of him relating to Rungeet Roy I had from good authority; but I request you will, for the present, keep it an inviolable secret; you must be sensible the critical situation of our affairs require it.

Articles sent by Mr. Watts for the approbation of the committee.

1st. That Meer Jaffier will confirm all the grants made the English by the present Nabob.

2d. That he will make an alliance with the English, offensive and defensive, against all enemies, either country, or European.

3d. Wherever the French are in the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa, to be delivered up, with all their effects and factories, and they never permitted again to settle in either of the said provinces.

4th. On account of the Company’s losses and expences, to be paid them one crore of rupees.

5th. On account of the losses of Europeans, 30 laaks.

6th. On account of Jentoo, 50 laaks.

7th. On account of Armenians, 15 laaks.

8th. On account of Omichund, 50 laaks.

9th. Whatever ground there is within the Calcutta ditch, belonging to the Zemindars, to be given up to the English, and 600 yards without the ditch all round.

10th. A tract of land, whose rents in the Mogul’s books amount to 100,000 rupees yearly, to be bought at a reasonable rate, from the Zemindars, and the Nabob to assist us in the purchase; we paying the annual piisheas or revenues, as usual, to the Nabob: whatever profit may arise from this Zemindary to go towards paying the English military.

11th. Whenever the Nabob wants the assistance of our army, the extraordinary expences to be paid by him.

The committee then proceeded to the examination of the foregoing articles. To the first four, and the 9th, 10th, and 11th, they make no objection, but rather esteem them extremely beneficial to our employers; the 5th, 6th, and 7th, it is judged proper to alter, as we do not think the allowances made there, will bear a just proportion to the real losses of the respective people:—The committee therefore think, that the sum for European losses should be increased to 50 laaks;—That the sum for Jentoo losses should be reduced to 20 laaks; and the Armenian losses to 7 laaks.—These respective sums to be divided among the Europeans, Jentoes, and Armenians, in such manner as shall appear most equitable to Admirals Watson and Poock; and the Select Committee, or the latter alone, should the admirals not be on the spot at the time; and that the distribution they make, shall be liable to no contest or appeal.

The article in favour of Omichund, the committee think, should be totally left out, as his behaviour rather merits disgrace and punishment at our hands, than such a flipation in his behalf.—The committee likewise think, two other articles should be added; viz.

That the Moors do not fortify by the river side, below Houghly.

That the whole of this agreement be fully complied with within one month from his being seated as Nabob, at Muxadav, or any other city, within the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa.

It was then considered, how we might deceive Omichund, and prevent a discovery of the whole project, which we run the risk of, should we hesitate or refuse to inflict on the unreasonable gratification he expects and demands; and on the other hand, it would be highly improper to flipulate, much more to demand, with any ostinacy, such extravagant terms
from Meer Jaffier, for a person who can be of no service in the intended revolution; so on the other, it would be dangerous to provoke a man of Omichund's character, by seeming to take no care at all of his interests, and flinging his weight and influence, which might prompt him to make a sacrifice of us, and ruin our affairs entirely.

For these reasons we think it will be necessary to form a double treaty, both to be signed by Meer Jaffier, and by us; in one of which, the article in favour of Omichund is to be inferred, in the other, to be left out; and Meer Jaffier is to be informed of that which we design to abide by, and effeem authentic, with our reasons for taking such a step.

A conference with Meer Jaffier being necessary, on this and other accounts, and a difficulty arising how to obtain one, without giving suspicion; it is proposed, that the colonel do write the Nabob a letter, acquainting him that Mr. Scrafton has an affair of great moment to communicate to his private ear; and in order to gain the Nabob's confidence, and incline him to think us sincere in our friendship for him, it is agreed, that Mr. Scrafton carry Balleray's letter to the president, and flew it the Nabob, on his promise of returning it; by which artifice, Mr. Scrafton may have an opportunity, in his way up, to confer with Meer Jaffier (now encamped near Kilisagar!) on the following subjects; viz.

To settle a plan of operation for carrying our project into execution; to persuade him of the moderation of our demands; to explain to him the part Omichund is acting; and assure him of our constancy and attachment to his cause; that our request for his not fortifying below Houghley, is not on account of any apprehensions we entertain of his integrity, but to provide against any designs of his successors; and, in fine, that Mr. Scrafton use his endeavours to get such security, as can well be given, without discovering the scheme, that we may have no room to suspect any treachery.

Roger Drake, Junr.
Robert Clive.
Richard Becher.

Proceedings, 19th May 1757. Fort William, 19th May 1757.
Thursday, 19th May 1757.

At a Committee; Present,

The honourable Roger Drake, Esquire, President.
James Kilpatrick, Esquire, Richard Becher, Esquire.

The proceedings of the 17th instant, being wrote fair, were now read, approved, and signed.

Received a letter from Colonel Clive, including the real and fictitious articles of agreement which he desires we will sign, as we may observe dispatch is necessary: by the copy of a letter he now sends for our perusal, from Mr. Watts, he informs us, there are no alterations to the articles we agreed upon, excepting as being left to Mr. Watts his discretion, to demand either a crore, or 50 lacs for the Company, as he finds Meer Jaffier disposed; and an additional article annexed, binding the aforesaid Jaffier Ally Cawna, to the performance of the contract, under the most solemn oaths; and that we, on our part, will assist him with our whole force, to establish him in the government.

Read, Mr. Watts his letter to the Colonel, dated the 16th instant; wherein he informs him, that Meer Jaffier had sent a blank paper, with his seal affixed, for the articles to be wrote on: he recommends the agreement therefore to be returned him with the utmost haste, and every thing will be finished in two hours.

Read, The agreement transmitted by Colonel Clive, to be executed by Admiral Watton, and the Committee; which being approved, was now signed.

Ordered, It be entered after this day's proceedings.

Roger Drake, Junior, Richard Becher.

Translation of the treaty executed by Meer Jaffier.

(Wrote in his own hand)

I swear by God, and the prophet of God, to abide by the terms of this treaty whilst I have life.

Meer Mahmud Jaffier
Khan Bahadur,
Servant of King
Aalumgeer.

Treaty made with the Admiral, and Colonel Clive, Sabut Jung Bahadur, and the other Counsellors and Mr. Drake, and Mr. Watts.

1st. Whatever articles were agreed upon in the time of peace, with the Nabob Serajah Dowla Munifurunmealek Shah Kuli Khan Bahadur Hybut Jung, I agree to comply with.

2d. The
2d. The enemies of the English are my enemies, whether they be Indians or Europeans.

3d. All the effects and factories belonging to the French in the provinces of Bengal (the paradise of nations) and Bahar and Orissa, I shall remain in the possession of the English, nor will I ever allow them any more to settle in the three provinces.

4th. In consideration of the losses which the English Company have sustained by the capture and plunder of Calcutta by the Nabob, and the charges occasioned by the maintenance of their forces, I will give them one crore of rupees.

5th. For the effects plundered from the English inhabitants of Calcutta, I agree to give fifty lakh of rupees.

6th. For the effects plundered from the Jentoos, Mussulmen, and other subjects of Calcutta, twenty lakh of rupees shall be given.

7th. For the effects plundered from the Armenian inhabitants of Calcutta, I will give the sum of seven lakh of rupees.—The distribution of the sum allotted the natives, English inhabitants, Jentoos, and Mussulmen, shall be left to the Admiral and Colonel Clive, Sahut Jung Bahadur, and the rest of the Committee, to be disposed of by them, to whom they think proper.

8th. Within the ditch which surround the borders of Calcutta, are tracts of land belonging to several Zemindars, and all the offi; besides this, I will grant the English Company six hundred yards without the ditch.

9th. All the land lying to the south of Calcutta, as far as Culepe, shall be under the Zemindary of the English Company, and all the officers of those parts shall be under their jurisdiction.—The revenues to be paid by them (the Company) in the same manner with other Zemindars.

10th. Whenever I demand the English assistance, I will be at the charge of the maintenance of them.

11th. I will not erect any new fortifications below Hugli, near the river Ganges.

12th. As soon as I am established in the government of the three provinces, the aforesaid sums shall be faithfully paid.

Dated 15th Ramzan, in the 4th year of the reign.

Six Letters from Serajah Dowla to the French, and one from Mr. Law.

No. 1. Supposed to be wrote the latter end of February 1757.

Serajah Dowlah, to the exalted in station, greatest among great officers, the support of friendship, Monsieur Busie Bahadur.

The disturbers of my country, the Admiral and Colonel Clive, Sahut Jung, whom had fortune attends without any reason whatever, are warring against Zubdatook Togjah, Monsieur Rennault, the governor of Chandernagore: This you will learn from his letters, I, who in all things seek the good of mankind, affright him in every respect, and have lent him the best of my troops that he may join with them and fight the English; and if it becomes necessary, I will join him myself. I hope in God, their English who are unfortunate, will be punished for the disturbances they have raised. Be confident, look on my forces as your own. I have wrote you before for two thousand folders and musqueteers, under the command of one or two trusty chiefs: I persuade myself, you have already sent them as I desired; should you not I desire you will do me the pleasure to send them immediately. Further particulars you will learn from Monsieur Rennault. Oblige me with frequent news of your health.

No. 2. Supposed to be wrote about the middle of March 1757:

Serajah Dowla, to the distinguished of the empire, the sword of riches, the victorious in war, Monsieur Busie Bahadur.

I have with great pleasure received news of your being arrived near the Orissa country with a powerful army of folders, telingas, &c. to the assistance of the commander of Chandernagore. I promise myself great pleasure in seeing you; a meeting will confirm the great friendship between us. I have ordered the Naibs of the Subah, the Phoulars and Jemindars of Midnapore, to wait on you, and assist you in your march.

No. 3. Supposed to be wrote the latter end of March 1757:

Serajah Dowla to Monsieur Busie Bahadur, &c.

I am advised, that you are arrived at Chhapore: this news gives me pleasure; the sooner you come here, the greater satisfaction I shall have in meeting you.—What can I write of the perils of the English? They have without ground picked a quarrel with Monsieur Rennault, and taken by force his factory: they want now to quarrel with Monsieur Law, your Chief at Coffsimbazar; but I will take care to oppose and overthrow their proceedings: When you come to Balloore, I will then send Monsieur Law to your assistance, unless you forbid his setting out. Rely assured of my good-will towards you and your Company; and to convince you of my sincerity, I now send perwannahs to Didarally, and Ramnagce Pundit, and to Razarim Singh, that as soon as you may enter the province, that they may meet and lend you all possible assistance, and not on any pretence impede your march. Both at Cutchak Rulah of Balloore, and Midnapore.
APPENDIX, No. 6.

Letter from Charles Watfon, to President, &c. of Select Committee, dated 3d March.

To the President, &c. Members of the Select Committee.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour of your letter of yesterday’s date, acquainting me, the Nabob having signified his dislike to any hostilities being committed on the French within his territories, has occasioned you to alter your acting offensively against the French within the Ganges; and the French having applied to you, to enter into a neutrality, you have drawn up articles for that purpose, and desire my sentiments and approbation thereon, before you sign it: My approbation you always may depend on, in every thing that will tend to the Company’s advantage; how far this neutrality will answer that end, you must be the best judges.—However, as you have defined my sentiments thereon, I have very maturely considered the articles you have drawn up, and am of opinion, the treaty ought not to take place, till such time it is returned from Pondicherry, ratified and confirmed; and then, upon your signifying to me, my observing such a neutrality will be the properst step that can be taken for the advantage of the Company’s affairs, I shall, upon such a representation, have no objection to giving you my promise thereto.

This would be making a neutrality on the surest foundation, that can be obtained in this part of the world; and indeed, upon my hearing the first hints from the French of this design, I did suppose the Committee at Chandernagore was invested with proper powers, to make and confirm such a treaty of themselves, otherwise I should not have listened to them as much as I did: But since I have been assured by the present deputies, they have not those powers, but that the articles must be sent to Pondicherry, to be there ratified and confirmed, I can by no means think of agreeing to such a neutrality, whereby it is so evident, the French will have every advantage, and we subject to every uncertainty. Will they not reap immediate benefit by the neutrality as it now stands? And further, shall we be certain of its being complied with, till it is returned from Pondicherry, ratified and confirmed by the Governor and Council there? This appears to me, to be giving fentible an advantage to the French, without even a possibility of benefiting by it ourselves, that, with regard to myself, I cannot think of giving my consent to its taking place, till such time we are certain it will be agreed to by the Governor and Council of Pondicherry.
The 6th days, in order to validate this treaty, and make it more authentic, both parties shall send a Persian form of a guarantee to the Nabob, and use their joint endeavours to prevail on him and some of his principal officers, to sign and swear to the same.

I make no doubt of this being a very proper measure of making the treaty lasting and firm between both nations, provided the objections to the Nabob being properly qualified for such an office, were removed. It is now three weeks since the peace commenced, in which, many articles were promissed by him: are they yet complied with? Give me leave to go a little farther, and ask, when they will be complied with? I am afraid it is too difficult a question, to be answered with any degree of exactness. Is it reasonable then to suppose, if the Nabob should sign this guarantee, and swear to the observance of it, that he will pay any more regard to that, than he has done to the fulfilling the several articles of the peace? or is it the policy of this country, to place your confidence in the man who has not observed his word, though bound by the most solemn protestations? If it is, you could not pitch upon a more proper man to guarantee this treaty, than the man you have chose. But as you have defined my sentiments on this matter, I must beg leave to tell you, that I can by no means think the Nabob ought to be addressed on this subject, till he has fulfilled all the articles of the peace; and that appears to me, to be the most necessary businefs to be hastened, and I think as short time as possible should be given him, for the completing it: If he intends peace, and to continue in friendship with us, he will comply; but it not, he will deal evasively, to gain time, till he thinks himself strong enough to return here again; therefore it is my opinion, you should acquaint him, unless the articles are complied with by such a time, you should esteem him as an enemy, and act accordingly.

This, gentlemen, from the best reflections I have been able to make, is my sincere opinion of the subject you desired.

Fort William.
March 3d 1757.

P. S. Enclosed, I return you the deputies answer to your articles.

Charles Watson.


To the honourable Roger Drake, Esquire, &c. Members of the Select Committee of Fort William.

Gentlemen,

As Mr. Watson has declined accepting the two expedients proposed to him by us, in refusing either to attack Chander Nagore immediately, or enter into such a neutrality with the French, as we have recommended to him, and which we think greatly for the benefit of the East-India Company, both in these provinces, and on the coast of Choromandel; I think he has taken the consequences of all miscarriages upon himself; as in so doing, if I am not misinformed, he runs counter to his Majesty's instructions, which require, that he should give attention to all representations made to him by the Company's agents in India, for the good of their service.

This leads me very seriously to consider the situation of the Company's affairs on the coast, and the positive orders I have received from the President and Committee at Madras, to return at all events with as great a part of the forces under my command as could possibly be spared. This, gentlemen, you are fully acquainted with, and must be sensible, nothing can induce me to require any longer my return to the coast, now rendered very uncertain by the lateness of the season; but the immediate attack of Chander Nagore, become in my opinion, absolutely necessary. If the neutrality be refused, do but reflect, gentlemen, what will be the opinion of the world of these our late proceedings. Did we not, in consequence of a letter received from the Governor and Council of Chander Nagore, making offers of a neutrality within the Ganges, in a manner accede to it, by deferring, they would send deputies, and that we would gladly come into such a neutrality with them? And have we not since their arrival, drawn out articles that were satisfactory to both parties; and agreed, that such articles should be reciprocally signed, sealed, and sworn to? What will the Nabob think, after the promises made him on our side, and after his confenting to guarantee this neutrality? he, and all the world will certainly think, that we are men without principles, or that we are men of a trifling insignificant disposition. It is therefore incumbent on us to extinguish ourselves, by declaring the real truth, that we were entirely ignorant of Mr. Watson's intentions to refuse the neutrality in the manner proposed; and settled by us, and that we always thought him of a contrary opinion, to what his letter declares. I am persuaded, these must be the sentiments of the gentlemen of the Committee, or they never would have gone such lengths, as must expose them to the censure of all reasonable and conscientious men.

You may be assured, the infat of the French find their offers of neutrality refused, they will immediately afflict the Nabob in all his designs against us, if he has the least intentions of not complying with the late articles of peace; it may then he too late to with Mr. Watson had been pleased to pay more attention to our representations.

Give me leave, gentlemen, further to represent, that though Mr. Watson has done every thing that could be expected from a brave and gallant man, and has been greatly instrumental towards settling the affairs of this province, that our future operations against the Nabob will chiefly
chiefly depend upon the land forces; and the officers of such forces must certainly be the best judges of what can be effected by land; and I do take upon me to give it as mine and my officers opinions, that successes against the Nabob and French together will be very precarious, notwithstanding the arrival of the Bombay troops, which fell short in real strength of the detachment on board the Cumberland; I must therefore request you will join with me, in desiring Mr. Warton a third time to ratify the neutrality in the manner agreed upon; and if he refuses, to define he will attack Chandernagore by water immediately, as I am ready to do by land with the forces under my command; and if he refuses this likewise, he becomes responsible for every misfortune that may happen to the East India Company's affairs.

This done, I propose leaving all the forces I can possibly spare for the defence of the Company's settlements, rights, and privileges, in Bengal, and return with the rest immediately to the coast, agreeable to the positive orders received from the President and Committee of Madras; and I must request you will order proper conveyances for that purpose.

I am, with great respect, Gentlemen

Calcutta,
4th March 1757.

Robert Clive.

Two Letters from Charles Warton, dated 7th and 12th March 1757.

Saturday, 12th March,

At a Committee; Present,
The honourable Roger Drake, Esquire,
Meiours Clive and Killpatrick.

Gentlemen,

I have the favour of your letter of yesterday's date, acquainting me of your having received a letter from Mr. Watts, with one inclosed from the Nabob, which had occasioned some alteration in your opinions. I beg leave to acquaint you, I also received a letter yesterday from the Nabob, by which I do imagine, it's possible yet to obtain his consent to attack the French; therefore, I immediately answered his letter, and strongly prevailed with him for his permission, which if he should grant, I am very ready to give you all the assistance in my power for reducing the French, and attacking them wherever there is a prospect of succeeding.

You must be very sensible, that some time since, on your application to me for attacking Chandernagore by land and sea, I assembled a council of war, when it was agreed to put it in execution; and I was just upon the point of proceeding up the river, but you again altered your opinion, and from your representations it would be then prejudicial to the Company's affairs, I desisted.

As soon as I hear from the Nabob, I will do myself the pleasure to give you an answer to the part of your letter, relating to the neutrality.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your most obedient, humble servant,

Fort William,
7th March 1757.

Charles Warton.

Gentlemen,

I have received your favour of this day's date, acquainting me with your motives and reasons for altering your sentiments in relation to your conduct with the French, and now defining the affiance of his Majesty's squadron to attack Chandernagore.

You may be assured, I shall most readily give you all the assistance I can in this enterprise, and am highly glad in the present circumstances I am in, of having received his Majesty's declaration of war against France, with orders from the right honourable the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to put the same in execution, that this step is judged a right measure.

The moment the pilots think it safe to move the large ships, I shall proceed up the river, and am,

Gentlemen,
Your most obedient, humble servants,

Fort William,
12th March 1757.

Charles Warton

Last Paragraph of Colonel Clive's Letter to the Secret Committee, dated August 22, 1757.

—Mr. Warton is no more; every one here received the melancholy news of his death with much concern. His generosity, disinterestedness, and zeal for the service, must for ever endear his memory to the Company. Unhappy fate! after having escaped all the rigours of war, to be thus uncontrollably cut off in the midst of his successes, crowned with glory and reputation! This is but one of the many lessons given us of the infallibility of human nature. Concern for this good man's death hails me to a conclusion, and I have only to assure you, I am with the greatest respect,

Calcutta,
22d August 1757.

Robert Clive.

Honourable Sirs,
Your most obliged, humble servant,

APPENDIX.
APPENDIX, No. 7.

Copy of a Letter to Lord Clive, for the Delivery of Part of the Correspondence held by him with the Country Powers in Bengal.

My Lord,

In your Lordship's answer to a letter, which I had the honour to write to you in October last, by order of the gentlemen in the direction concerning the country correspondence, from the 24th January 1759, to the time your Lordship left India, you were pleased to signify, that you proposed being in town in a few days, and would then lay before them any books or papers, which the gentlemen might think any ways serviceable to the cause of the English East India Company; at the same time, your Lordship intimated, that to the best of your recollection, you were in possession of the country correspondence, to the time of your leaving India in February 1760, but that there were one or two material defects mislaid, which you had made diligent search after some time ago, but did not despair of finding them upon a further enquiry.

As your Lordship has not yet transmitted this correspondence to the Company, which they are advised is absolutely necessary to be examined and considered in forming their answer to the bill preferred by your Lordship against them in the Court of Chancery, as well as that the Company are, from withholding this correspondence, left entirely in the dark with respect to more than a whole year's transactions, and at a very material crisis, with the country powers; I am therefore, in consequence of a resolution of the Court of Directors, to define your Lordship will forthwith deliver to the Company, the whole of the before-mentioned correspondence, together with all books, writings, and papers whatsoever, in your Lordship's possession, which in any wise relate to, or concern, the Company's affairs, agreeably to the covenants entered into between the Company and your Lordship.

I am, with the greatest respect, My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,

East India House, the 12th August 1763.

Letter from Lord Clive, that he will send his Country Correspondence mentioned in the Secretary's Letter, of the 12th August, as soon as he makes a Transcript thereof.

SIR,

The country correspondence mentioned in your letter of the 12th August last, is transcribing and is not yet finished; the moment the transcript is made, the original shall be delivered to you.

As to the defects mislaid, they were delivered by me in September or October 1760, to Mr. Campbell, in order to prepare a memorial concerning the Dutch affairs to be laid before Mr. Pitt, the then Secretary of State; and from that time to this, I have not had or seen them; and although I have made the best enquiry after them I can, I have not yet been able to come at them, or find out where they are: But I can assure the Court of Directors from my own knowledge, that there is nothing contained in those defects, which can in any ways affect the matter in dispute between the East India Company and myself; and if the Court of Directors are desirous of having any farther satisfaction, that may be had, I believe, on applying to Mr. Campbell, who is acquainted with the contents of the missing defects.

As to the demand of the Court of Directors, that I shall produce all books, papers, and writings, whatsoever, in my possession, agreeable to the covenants entered into between the Company and me; I must observe to you, Sir, that those covenants extend only to the commercial affairs of the Company; in which I had little or no concern; however, I am searching for all papers in my custody, relative to affairs of this kind, which I will deliver to the Court of Directors; and although I am not (as I am advised) obliged to produce any books or papers, other than such as relate to the commercial affairs I have mentioned, yet I am ready to produce any other books, papers, or writings, in my custody or power, relative to any of the affairs of the Company, if the Court of Directors will be pleased to specify the particular books, writings, or papers, they desire to inspect.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Berkeley Square, September 12th 1763.

The President to the Seats, dated 31st January 1759. No. 281.

I always understood, that when you had procured me the funnul for a 6,000 munufab and 5,000 horse, with the title of Zobat al Mulk Nazier ad Doula, that the Nabob would have favoured me with a jagurie, equal to the rank I received by my funnul; but to this day I have not heard a word from him concerning it. As this is an affair of my own, I have not chose to address the Nabob thereon now. As there is a strong friendship subsisting between you and me, I beg leave to give you the trouble to apply to the Nabob concerning this affair, and that I may have a jagurie equal to my rank.

From the Seats to the President. No Date: Received 25th February 1759.

Your two obliging letters, one answering ours which accompanied some appies to you; the other, that you understood when we had procured you a munufab and titles, that the Nabob would have favoured you with a jagurie, equal to the rank you received by your funnul, but that to the writing of your letter, you had not heard from him concerning it; that on account
of the friendship subsisting between us, you desired we would apply to the Nabob and procure it, we have with great pleasure received, and are rejoiced to hear you are in good health, for which we return God thanks: Agreeable to your orders, we addressed the Nabob to give you a jaguir; he has long determined not to grant jaguires in the subahship of Bengal; Orissa is poor, but if it is agreeable to you to have one in the subahship of Bahar, it will be immediately granted you; of this I thought proper to advise you. Please to acquaint us with your resolution on this affair. We are going to a place of devotion with all our family in a day or two, accompanied by some of the Nabob’s forces. By the favour of God we hope to return in six weeks.

No 326. The President to Shah Allem Bahadre, Son of Allem Guire, Baudhiah, and Successor of the Empire, dated 27th February 1759.

I have had the honour to receive your Highness’s firmanaud; it gives me great concern to find that this country must undergo a scene of troubles—I beg leave to inform you, that I have been favoured with a fanned from the Emperor, appointing me a Muntúbbar of the rank of 6000 and of 5000 horse, which constitutes me a servant of his; and as I have not received any orders, either from the Emperor or the Vizier, acquainting me of your coming down here, I cannot pay due regard to your Highness’s orders which I would otherwise wish to do.

I must further beg leave to inform you, that I am under the strictest engagements with the present Subah of these provinces, to affit him at all times, and it is not the custom of the English nation to be guilty of insecurity.

APPENDIX, No. 8.

From the Seats to the President. No Date: Received 4th June 1759.

Some time ago we were favoured with an obliging letter from you to this purport, that you had been honoured with a muntúb, of the rank of 6000, and the command of 5000 horse from the preience; and that we, who are your faithful servants, had procured you the fanned, but that as yet no jaguir had been granted for the same; and defiring that we would addres the nabob as we thought proper on that affair, and procure the jaguir, which would give you satisfaction.—Agreeable to your orders we often reminded him of it, and he himself was contriving about it; we have lately addresed him again, and he informs us, that he has pitched on a place for your jaguir in the subahship of Bengal; and by the blessing, when you return to this city, an account thereof will be delivered to you. On this we rode and paid the usual compliment on this occasion. We, who are your sincere friends and well-wishers, hope to be favoured with an account of your health.

APPENDIX, No. 9.

Mr. Holwell’s Address to Mr. Vanfithart, 4th August 1760.

Fort William the 4th August 1760.

Monday.

At a Select Committee; Presnt,

The honourable Henry Vanfithart, Esquire, President;

William Brightwell Summer, Esq;

John Zephaniah Holwell, Esq;

William McGure, Esq;

Read, approved, and signed the proceedings of the 28th ult.

Agreeable to the President’s Request, Mr. Holwell now forwards the Committee a short Address, with such Remarks, and Memorials, as may convey to the President a Knowledge of the present Situation of the Company’s Affairs in these Provinces.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

As my health, and the consideration of other circumstances, will soon oblige me to request permission from the board to resign the service, I beg leave, previous to that step, to accompany this short address with such remarks and memorials as may convey to the honourable the President (so lately arrived amongst us) a knowledge of the present state and situation of the Company’s affairs, as they stand connected with, or depend on, the government of Bengal.

To form a judgment of the present state of things in Bengal, it will be needful to retrocede on the late revolution of the year 1757, when necessity, and a just resentment for the most cruel injuries, obliged us to enter into a plan to deprive Surajah Dowla of his government; which was accordingly done, and Mir Mahomed Ally Khan fixed, by us, at the head of the provinces, on certain conditions, and under treaty of alliance, offensive and defensive.

A short space of time fully proved how unworthy the family thus raised: The conditions of the treaty could not be obtained from the Nabob without being in a manner extorted from him; and by a thousand blights and evasions, it was plain to the world no single article could ever have been complied with, had the Nabob been invested with power sufficient to have prevented it, or could he have diverted himself of his own fears and apprehensions from our remonstrances.

Tankas on the lands were however granted for the payment of the stipulated sums, at particular times, by which the Roy-Royen Dewans, Mutuddiess, and every happy employed in the zemindary and revenue, became our implacable enemies; and consequently,

A party
A party was soon raised at the Durbar, headed by the Nabob's son, Miriam, and Rajahbulbul, who were daily planning schemes to shake off their dependance on the English, and continually urging to the Nabob, that until this was effected his government was a name only: The Nabob, something irritated by the protection given Rajah Doolubram, and weak and irresolute in himself, fell too soon into their sentiments.

The first step taken to accomplish this measure of independence was to affliliate, or take off, under one pretence or other, every minister and officer at the Durbar, whom they knew were attached to the English. In consequence of which Coza Hody, and Cuzzam Ally Khan, first and second Buxy, were affiliated in November and December 1758, and after many attempts made on the persons of Rheim Khan, Golam Shaw, his uncle and brother, they were at last obliged to seek an asylum with the Sha Zadah, 1759.—Roynoolubram, his son, and four brothers were proscribed, on no account but that of the various informations he gave us, and his firm attachment. This family would have fallen a sacrifice, had they not been rescued out of the Nabob's hands by force of arms. Amier Beg Khan would from the fame caufe have suffered the fame fate, had he not given his solemn engagement to quit the kingdom; which he accordingly did.

The next project of the Durbar appeared by every concurring subsequent circumstance, to be a secret negociation with the Dutch, for transporting troops from Batavia into these provinces, that with their united force a flop might be put to the power of the English. This scheme was conducted by Raja Ragabulbul, on the one part, and Foozooroja, for the Dutch, on the other, about October or November 1758, the period when the Decan expedition took place, and the garrison was much reduced.

Soon after, the provinces were invaded by the Sha Zadah, on the side of Patna, and Colonel Clive, with our military, and Seapoy, joined the Nabob and his troops, and by forced marches preferred Rajah Ramarrain steady in his duty, and arrived just in time to save that city and province, and drive the prince, though the undoubted heir to the kingdom, beyond the Curranaffar, and brought the Budgepore, &c. countries into subjection to the Nabob.

The prince more than once wrote to the Colonel, offering any terms for the Company, and himself on condition the English would quit the Nabob, and join his arms; but the Colonel thinking it incompatible with our treaty with the Nabob gave the prince no encouragement.

At the end of the campaign the Colonel returned to us in June 1759, and the two Nabobs arrived at the city, about the same time, with full conviction of our firm attachment to his government and family, and our religious regard to our treaties.—What then they retained of these obligations, and how long, will appear by and by.

The Nabobs, thinking themselves now better established in the government, and screened by such a sure and powerful support as our arms, began to set no bounds to their cruelties, oppressions, and executions from those who had any thing to be plundered of.—And this barely received a check from the severe and frequent remonstrances of Colonel Clive to the Nabob, on a conduct which he foretold him, must, from the general detestation of his people, end in the destruction of himself, family, and country.—His troops, chimerous at the same time for their pay, whilst the Nabob, in place of appropriating the sums he had acquired by repeated affliliations, to the just demands of his janmudars and troops, lavished the fame in boundless extravagancies.

About the latter end of July 1759, the young Nabob arrived, on a pretended visit to Colonel Clive; but the real motive was to negotiate, if possible, the delivery of Rajarage Doolubram, and two or three other articles given him in charge by his father; such as the surrender of the tanka lands on security; the borrowing of us a large sum of money; &c. In these, the son proving unsuccessful, a member of the Board, and Select Committee was, at his desire, sent to accompany him to the city, to reconcile the Nabob to the negatives of his son had received at Calcutta; and at the same time to intimate to him the advice we had received, that a large armament was fitting out at Batavia, defined for Bengal, and to penetrate, if possible, his sentiments on this occasion, and what resolutions he would come to, in cafe that force arrived in the river.

He was not to be reconciled to the refusal his son had met, but determined to try his own power, and declared his intention to pay the Colonel a visit himself in September; which he did, with success equal to his son. He seemed to make light of the Dutch intelligence, and not to give credit to it, though he discovered much perplexity. However, he wrote a letter to the Colonel, demanding our assistance, by virtue of the treaty of alliance, in case the Dutch troops came into the river.

The armament arrived during his visit; his stay after that was short; his mind seemed much embarrassed, and his whole subsequent conduct gave most undoubted proofs, that the Dutch forces were arrived by his invitation. That such were the sentiments of Colonel Clive and the council, appears from the narrative of that Dutch business, transmitted to the honourable the Court of Directors, and to our several admirals. A perusal of this narrative will shew, that in his behaviour on this occasion, was guilty of a most flagitious breach of the article of the treaty of alliance, and that from the period, no terms whatever should have been preferred with him, after such unexampled treachery and ingratitude. To which, by way of illustration, we may add the subsequent forces carried
on the Nabob's and the Dutch, as set forth in the several letters between Mr. Hol-
well, and the Resident, at Moravlah, on this subject, by reference to which it will appear
most manifest, that the Nabob's real intentions never were to distress effectually that people,
but on the contrary were only aimed to amuse and deceive us; witnesses the private orders
and instructions given to Mhir Collim Aly Khan, to oppose to his public ones, when he was
sent down to demolish the new works at Chintura; in the apparent delays of this service,
Collim Aly Khan suffered much in the opinion of the late President, tho' unjustly, as we
subsequently learnt he was acting conformable to the private orders of the Nabob.
In the beginning of the year 1763, the Sha Zaddah invaded the provinces again with a
force more respectable than the preceding year, both in troops and commanders, by the re-
volt of Camgaar Khan, Golam Shawa, Keim Khan, and others; the Nabob, by this time,
having made himself and family to universally hated, that we may justly say there was
hardly a man in the provinces, that did not with succors to the Prince.
Colonel Clive resigned the government early in February 1760, about which time the
Maharatts entered the province, from the southward, and penetrated into the Burleman
country, making a considerable diversion in favour of the Prince. The Nabob demanded
a body of our troops, Sepoys, and field artillery, for the defence of this country, to join
his, under the command of Mhir Collim Aly Khan, which was granted; but their use was
frustrated by the Nabob's pusillanimous, irregular, and contradictory orders to his General,
Collim Aly Khan, to march with our troops to Cutwah, and the city, in place of marching
directly to the southward. Thus this country fell a prey to the Maharatts, and a stop was
put to the collecting our tankas, on which was our greatest dependence and expectation, for
the service of the year (Vide Military Correspondence in the months of February and March
1760.)
Our troops, under the command of Major Caillaud, had taken the field in conjunction
with the Nabob's, under command of his son, some time before the Colonel's departure
for Europe, and shaped their rout towards Patna, whilst the Nabob himself remained in
the neighbourhood of Rajambol, a check on Collim Hoffen Khan, Nabob of Purna
(than in rebellion) until Subut's advance recalled him to the city.
A regular and particular detail of the transactions of this laborious campaign will not be
expected here, as the progress of it will present itself in the course of the military cor-
respondence laid before the Committee; therefore remarks on the successes, effects, and pro-
bable consequences, will be sufficient.
This, like the former ones, has produced no definitive action, or stroke, to lay the leaf
foundation of a peace to these provinces. In the course of this campaign three morally fore
and important opportunities were lost, by the cowardice of both the Nabobs; the first,
when the young Nabob refused to join the Major in the immediate pursuit of the Sha
Zaddah, when routed near Patna; the second, when the old Nabob refused to comply with
the Major's earnest request and demand, to cross his horse over the Burdowan river, and
attack the Prince, when united with Subut, acc the third, when in the late pursuit of
Cuddein Hoffen Khan, the young Nabob refused to lead or detach his horse to the Ma-
jor's assistance, by which a general action might have been brought on; but, on the con-
tary, he kept encamped two or three miles in the Major's rear, as if his intentions were
nothing but to leave our troops without horse, a sacrifice to the enemy. Had the most been made of
either of these favourable occasions, the stroke had, in all human probability, been decisive;
as it is, it only proves, that we continue to draw our swords in support of a family most
unworthy the government they have by our assistance usurped; and this to the manifest
hazard and ruin of the Company's trade and concerns.
On the near approach of the Major to Patna he received a phirmaund from the Prince,
of which he advised the Board, and promised to forward a copy; but no wonder, that in
the course of so extraordinary and fatiguing a campaign, it should escape his memory. On
his arrival in the Beerboon country, after the unexpected march he formed upon his defeat,
the President received intelligence, that the old Nabob had actually a Vakeel in the Sha
Zaddah's camp, and that he was negotiating a separate treaty with him: This appeared to
have so dangerous a tendency, that any means were eligible to obtain the truth of it.
The late President, by a third hand, procured Affid Jumma Khan, Raja of Beerboon,
and his uncle, Conningar Khan, to be written to on this subject, of the Nabob's Vakeel and
treaty: this soon produced a phirmaund from the Prince, inclosing copy of the Nabob's
arzdaft: the President made no reply to the phirmaund, but returned a short one to Con-
gaar Khan's letter, which accompanied the phirmaund, intimating, that copies carried little
validity where originals were in being.
A few days before the Prince began his retreat from the hills, the President received a
second phirmaund from him, inclosing original arzdaft from the Nabob: all that can be
said for or against belief being given either to the authenticity of the copy or original, will
appear on the face of the correspondence, in two letters from the President to the Major,
der under dates the 22d and 24th April last, and to Mr. Haftings, the 20th of the same month.
To these we may further remark, that if they are forgeries, they have yet this corroborat-
ing signature of truth, that the whole tenor of the Nabob's conduct most exactly tallies
with the terms of the arzdaft. But to refuse the course of the campaign to the present time:
Patna is relieved and secure for the present. Cuddein Hoffen Khan is dispossessed of
his
his government, and drove out of the country, but with all his treasure and valuable effects, to the reproach and infamy of the young Nabob's memory; so that after the rains he will easily join the Prince with the essentials of war, which he only wants to harass the pro-
vincies five years longer. The young Nabob is taken off by a fit of lightning, and our
troops are gone into quarters, after having done as much, or more, than could have been
expected, from men so wretchedly supported by their very people, for whose preservation
they endured every distress and fatigue, and bravely variety of deaths.

The Prince has found means to preserve himself and forces a footing on this side the
Sone, and in the neighbourhood of Patna. It is said Comgaar Khan has forsoaken the
car of the Prince; which appears most improbable, not only on account of his having no
other chance for reimbursing himself, but because we have undoubted intelligence that
3,000 of his troops have lately joined his nephew, Affud Jemna Khan, who has thrown
off his allegiance to the Nabob. These troops are doubtless lodged to make an early and
important diversion, at the opening of the next campaign, by entering the Burdwan
country, as soon as the Prince begins to be in motion above; and thus our supplies from
there will be again cut off, and the Company's affairs be reduced to the last extremity of
distress, unless the approaching ships of the nation relieve us, or the whole tankas of those
lands could be collected during the rains. The latter is hardly possible in any servicable
degree, and the former carry very little probability. The late proposal of the Nabob's, to
pay our balances, and return his lands, is devoutly to be wished; but it is likewise to be
feared he has no meaning in it.

The various reasons urged against the measure of supporting the present government
longer on the plan we have been some time pursuing, to the heavy injury of the Company,
with various expedients to rescue them from manifest approaching ruin, are set forth at
large in the military correspondence, in letters from the President to Major Caillaud, under
dates the 24th and 25th of May, 14th June, and 3d July, to Mr. Anyatt, under date, the
25th and 26th May, and 1st July; both the reasons and expedients of the present state of
affairs, seem rather to confirm than contravene any other. However, the sudden death
of the Nabob (if made a proper use of) seems to point out a middle way, if things are not
gone too far already, to admit of any other than the devolving this family of the govern-
ment altogether. Vide the President's letter to Mr. Hallings, of the 16th of last month,
and to Major Caillaud, of the 26th, on the subject of a successor to the young Nabob's
ports.

Respecting all matters relative to the Dutch and the Nabob, the Dutch and us, the
tanka's, and obstructions raised by the Nabob on our collecting them, as also the late secret
Treaty between the Nabob and the Maharattas, &c. they will appear on the face of the corre-
respondence without exaggeration.

Ordered, That the foregoing narrative do lay upon the table, for the perusal of the sev-
eral members of the Committee.

Henry Vanfittart,
William B. Sumner,
J. Z. Holwell.

Fort William, September the 11th. 1760.

The honourable Henry Vanfittart, Esquire, President.
Lieutenant Colonel John Caillaud.
William B. Sumner, Esquire.

Read, approved, and signed, the proceedings of the 26th ultimo.

Colonel Caillaud arrives
from Patna.

Colonel Caillaud informs the Committee that he left Patna the 31st
of last month, at which time the Prince was at Downdagore, on this
side the Soone; that all the reports of his crossing it were over; and that Monfieur Law,
with Maudarath Dawlett were preparing to repass the river and join him. It was said, their
next motion would be towards Camdar Khan, with whom the operations of the next cam-
pany were to be settled.

Thoughts on the present
State of Affairs.

Before we resolve upon a plan of future operations, we will at-
tempt a description of the state the Company's affairs are now in,
and this not to be confined to Bengal, but with regard also to the
exigencies of the other settlements, who are told to depend on this for supplies of money:—
our influence increasing from time to time since the revolution brought about by Colonel
Clive, have we been obliged to increase our force to support that influence. We have
now more than a thousand Europeans, and five thousand sepoys, which, with the continu-
gen expenses of an army, is far more than the revenues allotted for their maintenance.
This deficiency was not so much attended to whist the immense sums fluctuated by the
treaty were coming in; but these resources being now quite exhausted, and no supplies of
money coming from Europe, it becomes immediately necessary to secure to the Company
such an income as will bear them clear of charges, and bring in, besides, a supply for the
emergencies of their other settlements, and for providing cargoes for loading home their
ships.—The first question then that naturally occurs is this:

Whether that great force is wanted? That a less force would secure the settlement of
Fort William, with its former bounds, against every thing that is now in the country, is,
not to be doubted; but it is as certain, that nothing but that influence and weight, which we maintain by the largeness of our force, can possibly prevent the well known designs of the two principal European powers, who have long shared with us the benefit of the trade of this country; and to this we may add, that the nearer we approach to a peace in Europe, the nearer we are to our danger here.

These considerations having their due weight, we believe few will dispute the necessity of keeping up our present force, perhaps augmenting it: this granted, it follows, that means must be found within ourselves of supporting the expense; and these means can be no other, than a proportionable share of the revenues of the country.

By the treaty made with the present Nabob, he is obliged, as often as it may be requisite for our troops to take the field, to furnish a lack of roupes a month for their expense; but the uncertainty of this payment has been too long experienced to be any more depended on; nor indeed is it by any means sufficient to answer the purpose, supposing the payments regularly made: it must therefore be proposed to the Nabob, to assign to the Company a much larger income, and to assure them such a full and ample supply of troops giving to the Company the sole right of such districts, as lay most convenient for our management; so that we may no longer be subject to the inconveniences we experienced from the late recants, being orders only on a certain part of the revenues.—From the experienced weakness and unsteadiness of the Nabob himself, and the nature of those dependents who now rule him, and who by self-interested views must naturally oppose every increase of our power, as their own will of course be proportionally lessened; it is to be suppoed, that such a proposal would meet with all the difficulties that could possibly be thrown in our way. Notwithstanding those difficulties, we will suppose we should have weight enough to over-rule his counsellors, and to obtain his consent. We then will keep our present footing. We have a fund for paying our troops; and those troops must be employed in the service of the Nabob and this service, the same as for these two last years in opposing the Sha Zaddah, whose designs upon these provinces it is almost certain will be pursued.

From the experience of these two years, it is pretty clear that our troops, although always victorious in the field, yet they cannot, by their success, put an end to the troubles: the same cause which has prevented it still exists; the nature of those people, in alliance with whom we are to act, will not pursue the advantages we gain; and we not having the means in our power, for want of a body of cavalry under our command.—Thus the war may be protracted for years to come; and every year the Nabob’s circumstances grow worse and worse, through an inceased of expence and loss of revenue, not only by the devastations the enemy make, but by the continual defection of some of his own Rajahs and dependents: many in the course of the two last years have declared themselves; and that others are ripe for doing the same is not to be doubted, particularly the Rajah of Beerboun, in a letter the Governor lately received from him, has spoke his sentiments very freely. The province of Patna is already so much reduced by the two last campaigns, as to be incapable of affording subsistence to the Prince any longer, who must always find on the spot the means of carrying on the war, having no resources within himself; and who consequently must, through necessity, attempt next year to penetrate further into Bengal; and in this he will no doubt by the success which attended his last year’s incursion as far as Burdwan.

It is therefore next to be considered, whether it is best for the interest of the Nabob to pursue the present measures, by continuing to oppose the Sha Zaddah, or to support him in his pretensions to the crown of Delhi? — The two parties still subsist, between whom the throne is disputed, or rather who still give a king to that throne: One of those parties has repeatedly invited the Sha Zaddah to him; and it is well known what offers he has made both to the Nabob and us for our assistance: the same reasons may be supposed yet to have their weight with him while the dispute remains undecided; and is it not probable that such an assistance given to the prince and thrown into Abdallah’s scale, would injure the success of the enterprise? The immediate consequence of this to Bengal would be clearing the country of an enemy, by removing the caufe whence all the late troubles and confusion have arose; and if we with reason flatter ourselves we should succeed, what advantages may not the Company expect.

Supporting this change of measures does not appear to the Nabob in the light we have represented, it is to be considered whether the exigencies of the Company’s affairs before described, do not require our forming such connections independently of him, as may over-rule the advice and sway of his creatures and ministers.

The unfortunate death of the young Nabob having created a number of separate interests, which it is impossible to conciliate to the satisfaction of all, and thereby gives the fairest opportunity to any other European power to gain a party to support them in their designs of establishing an influence here, is an inducement to make us follow such a system, as will put this the most out of their power.

The share of influence we now enjoy in these provinces, however great in appearance, does not carry with it those real advantages and weighty effects which are necessary not to leave that power in danger of being disputed, and of failing us at a time when we must want it; and nothing is more probable than that that period will happen on a peace, to prevent the evil consequences of this: there seems now to offer such an opportunity of securing to ourselves
ourselves all we could with in this respect, as likely may never happen again; an opportunity that will give us both power and right.

Another principal motive that urges us to think of changing our system, is the want of money; a want that is not confined to ourselves alone, but on which greatly depend,

The operations on the coast,
The reduction of Pondicherry, and

The provision of an investment for loading home the next year's ships at all the three presidencies.

It is hardly to be doubted but the Sha Zaddah would be willing to enter into a negociation with us, independent of the Nabob; but such a measure would neither be for the interest nor the honour of our nation. Our views in adopting this system, should be directed rather to strengthen, than weaken or overthrow the present Subah;—all we desire, is to see the power removed out of the hands of that set of men, who now rule and direct the affairs of the Subah, and through whole mismanagement and frauds the country and his administration suffer so considerably. To have such a share of power invested in the Company, as will enable them to prevent the bad consequences of so many contending interests, that will effectually put a stop to that dissipation of revenues, which hath reduced the Nabob to his present distressed condition; which revenue, if properly applied, would leave him nor us any thing to fear from the designs of any enemy; effectually secure to us such a fund as would answer all our present exigencies; and in time prove an encrease of honour and advantage to the nation and the Company.

Henry Vanfitt坚持.
Wm. B. Sumner.
J. Z. Holwell.

Fort William, Sept. 15th 1760.

At a Select Committee; Present,
The Honourable Henry Vanfittart, Esquire, President,
Colonel Caillaud,
J. Zephaniah Holwell,
Wm. Brightwell Sumner, William McGwire, Esqrs.

Read, approved, and signed, the proceedings of the 11th instant.

The Difficulties on both Sides considered.

The great objects of our present deliberation are, first, the securing a fund of money for the present and future exigencies of this settlement, as well as the other two presidencies, no money being expected from Europe; and, secondly, the putting an end to the disturbances fomented and kept up by the Sha Zaddah in several parts of his provinces: that the whole may be united under the Nabob, and he put under the more immediate influence of the Company, whose force is his chief support and dependence. By this means enabling us to join a large body of country troops to our own, to oppose any attempts of European or country powers.

The question to be considered is, Whether we can best arrive at these ends by following the present system of oppressing the Sha Zaddah, or by proposing to him an alliance with the English, and the affiance of part of our forces to proceed with him to Delhi, and support him in his pretensions to the throne.

In following the present system, the chief difficulties that occur are these.

11th, How to provide for the payment of the Nabob's troops and our army that are opposed to the Sha Zaddah at Patna.

2dly, How to prevail on the Nabob, besides supplying the above demand, to furnish us here with the money wanted for our military and commercial occasions, and for the supply of the other presidencies.

3dly, The possibility of the Sha Zaddah's meeting with better success than heretofore; and in that case, What would be our situation?

4thly, The defection of different chiefs in the country encouraged by the Shaw, by which the revenues of such districts are lost, and those adjacent lefden by their incursions.

5thly, Supposing we yet meet with successes, how shall we put an end to the war? having experienced, that gaining a victory over the Sha Zaddah, does not deprive him of the means of renewing his attempts.

In following the second system proposed, the chief difficulties that occur are these.

16th, How to gain the Nabob's consent.

2dly, The state of the country considered, when such a force is drawn from it, as will enable us to affix the prince.

3dly, How to satisfy the prince's party, few of whom will be induced to follow him.

4thly, How an immediate sum of money is to be found, that will give us enough to supply the army on the coast, the payment of our troops here, and a present to the prince.

5thly, Are we to inform the Nabob before the negociation is begun, of what our demands are to be, or is he to receive them afterwards, as orders from his king, when we have declared him such? If the latter, Is there no danger of his retuing to comply with them? and if he does, How are we to manage? If the former, Will it not much increase the difficulty of gaining his consent?

Gg
ibly, Supposing we should even be able to push our success so far as to drive the Sha Zaddah out of the province, would the confu-
sed and impoverished state of the country, furnish us immediately with the means of raising the sums wanted for the general occa-
sions of the Company.

The raising the sum wanted is a difficulty in both cases almost insurmountable;—it cer-
tainly cannot be obtained without imposing on the Nabob forcibly, terms which of his own good-will he never would come into. In favour of the change of System, it is to be said, that the means and resources of the country, from which the money must come, will be more capable of supplying it when the war is removed, by the march of the Sha Zaddah, to the northward.

Consequently those which we can prevail on to take part with us in this project, and to as-
sist us in bringing the Nabob into it, will be more ready to advance money upon the pro-
mise of holding the principal employments.

And as on both sides there must be some kind of force or violence exerted over the Nabob's inclinations, it may be done with a better grace, as well as more effect, by means of orders from the prince.

With regard to our forces and the disposition of them, with respect to the security of the Company's settlements here, it must be considered that in both cases our troops must be di-
vided:—at Patna they are more at hand to be called to join us in case of necessity; but yet so distant, that probably the threatened danger would be upon us before they could arrive, and the road would be open for the Sha Zaddah to follow immediately; and after having taken possession of the most valuable parts of the province, to join our enemies, which would make our situation even worse than before.

The Committee therefore are of opinion, all circumstances considered, that the settle-
ments here will be more secure with the forces that will remain here, if by joining our army to the Sha Zaddah, and marching with him to the northward, we can put an end to all the inland troubles here, than in the present disposition of keeping that army at Patna, to make head against the Sha Zaddah, especially if we can procure such terms as will enable us to as-
semble on any occasion a large country force to co-operate with us here; and such terms, we doubt not, the Sha Zaddah will immediately offer.

An Alliance with the Sha Zaddah resolved on.

Resolved therefore unanimously, That the entering into an alliance
with the Sha Zaddah, is a necessary and expedient measure. The President
is accordingly desired to press Coffin Aly Cawn on the subject of our
expenses, and our great difficulties for money, so as to draw from him some proposal of means
for removing those difficulties; by which probably we may be able to form a judgment,
whether he might not be brought to join in this negotiation, and in procuring the Nabob's
content. There is another peron here, Roydulub, who has been long under our protec-
tion; and whose attachment to the Company is not to be doubted: through him it is thought
this intention may best be opened to the Sha Zaddah; but as an interview between him and the
President at this time, might look suspicious and give an alarm to the Nabob, Mr. Holwell
is desired to open the affair to him, and take his advice how best to manage.

Henry Vanfittart.
Wm. B. Sumner.
J. Z. Holwell.

Fort William, September the 16th, 1760.

At a Select Committee; Presid,  
The Honourable Henry Vanfittart, Esq; President,  
Colonel Caillaud,  
Wm. B. Sumner, Esq;  
J. Z. Holwell, Esq;  
Wm. McGwire, Esq;

Read, approved, and signed, the proceedings of the 15th instat.

The Governor's Report of his Conversation with Coffin Aly Cawn.

The President acquaints the Committee, that in a long conversation he had last night with Coffin Aly Cawn, he had an opportunity of making some progres towards the discoveries requisite for carrying on the negotiation proposed yesterday:—that without letting him know any thing of our design, he had led him to make such declarations of his desire to have the rule over the Nabob, and the general management of the affairs of the province, as amount almost to a proof of his readiness to act the part intended for him.

After telling him much of our regard, and of our opinion of him as the fittest person for conducting the great affairs of the Bengal government, I began to make him strong representa-
froth supplies from Europe. I represented to him further the great loss the Company had suffered by the long continuance of the present war with the Sha Zaddah; and how much it was to be wished for the general benefit, that an end could be put to it, so as to enable the Nabob to reduce his expenses, and collect his full revenues, of which a great part is now lost by the ravages of the enemy, particularly the whole produce of the Patna province.

In answer to this, Coffim Aly Cawn replied, That he has it not at present in his power to provide in a proper manner for the supply of the Company;—that if we could undertake to give him the general management of the country, by taking it out of the hands of those who are now intrusted with it by the Nabob, he would then make such arrangements in favour of the Company, as should be perfectly to our satisfaction.—At the same time he intimated, that this would undoubtedly meet with opposition at Murshadabad, and at first prove very disagreeable to the Nabob himself; for which reason it would be quite necessary to have a force at hand to support him; by which being enabled to over-rule the present evil counsellors of the Nabob, he could answer for bringing the Nabob himself into such terms as shall be agreed on here.—With respect to the Sha Zaddah, he did not seem to have any notion of offering him peace; but said, he should be able to keep up a sufficient force to frustrate any future attempts on this province: the president thinking this a sufficient proof for the first conference, did not make him acquainted with our intended negotiation with the Sha Zaddah, and which he imagines may better be opened to him by one of his old confidants: Coffim Aly Cawn professed a regard for Roydulub, and a desire to see him; but as it was thought such an interview could not be brought about with secrecy; and if known, would give an alarm to the Nabob, it was therefore determined to confide in Cojah Petrose, as the fittest person to make known our whole plan to Coffim Aly Cawn.

Mr. Holwell acquaints the Committee, That agreeable to their resolution of yesterday, he had last night a conference with Rajah Roydulub, of his conversation with Roydulub, who received the overture with much satisfaction, and approved in general of the plan; but thought there was some objection to the proposed manner of addressing the prince, as it would cause much unnecessary delay, which for many obvious reasons should be avoided, and would not give him the weight necessary on this occasion, to obtain an immediate stop being put to the Prince's operations: that he thought our waiting for an overture from him was too nice a punctilio at this juncture; because he knows the Prince is in such a situation, as will not permit his hesitating to accept any terms we offer. He thinks nothing can prevent or delay his immediate compliance to all we ask, but the article of confirming Meer Jaifser Aly Cawn, not only on account of his personal resentment, but as it is contrary to the laws and rules of the empire, the appointing a feyd to a subahdary: therefore says, we had better demand annuities at once; that the power of subahdary, buxgerea, and dewannace, be lodged in the English Company; and then we may confirm Meer Jaifser Aly Cawn ourselves, if we think he deserves it.—That there is no occasion to flippate for particular lands for the maintenance of the troops and ordnance, as the jugglers of a hoft, a hazare, are always set apart for that purpose.—He requests, he may not be thought of for the post of roy rayen, but that he may be favoured with that of the buxeses mubut under the Company. He thinks he shall be able, without much difficulty, to conciliate matters with Comgar Cawn, Bulwanfing, and the other Rajahs of the Prince's party, as they are most of them his friends. He allures the Committee, he highly approves of the intended promotion of Mr. W. Coffim Aly Cawn to the dewannace, and will most readily co-operate with him in all matters, conducive to the completion of our plan, the only possible means left to recover the peace and flourishing state of the provinces, and revive the Company's trade and influence.

Henry Vanfittart.
W. B. Sumner.
J. Z. Holwell.

Fort William, 24th October 1760.

At a Select Committee; Presidcnt,
William Ellis, Esquire, President.
William Brightwell Sumner, Esquire.
William McGwire, Esquire.

Received the following letter from the President, and Colonel Caillaud, dated at Miradbag the 21st instant.

Gentlemen,

The Governor wrote you yesterday of the affairs here being settled to the Company's advantage: we shall now have the honour to acquaint you of the steps by which we advanced to this point of success.

The Nabob's visit to the Governor at Coffimbazar, the 15th of the month, as well as that we paid him the next day in return, passed only in general conversation. The 18th, he came here to talk upon business: in order to give him a more clear and full view of the bad management of his ministers, by which his own affairs as well as the Company's are reduced to so dangerous a state, and the inhabitants in general to want and misery: we had prepared three letters, which after a short and friendly introduction, the Governor delivered to him, and of which translations are hereunto annexed, under No. 1, 2, and 3.
The Nabob seemed much affected by the perusal of the letters, but endeavoured more to put an end to the conference than to provide a remedy for the evils: we, however, prevailed on him to send for his Queen to Moradbag, and in a manner infused on his coming to take determination for the immediate reform of his government. At length he confessed himself, through age and grief, incapable of struggling against so many difficulties: he defined time to consult with his friends. We told him the men with whom he had lately advised were not his friends, but his greatest enemies; that his returning again in the midst of them, would only be the means of augmenting his difficulties; that he had much better take the assistance of one from among his relations, on whose true attachment and fidelity he might more safely rely; he named five or six, and among them, Kaffim Aly Khan. We asked him which of that number was the most proper to assist him in his present exigencies: he replied, without any hesitation, That Kaffim Aly Khan was the most proper; nevertheless, it was with the utmost difficulty we could prevail on him to send for him; and so very late, that before Kaffim Aly Khan could arrive, the old Nabob was fo extremely fatigued, and in such a state of anxiety, that we could not refuse his return home to take his rest. We were convinced indeed, that it would be to no purpose to keep him; for such was the jealousy he discovered with respect to Kaffim Aly Khan, that we saw he never would consent, without some sort of force, to give the other the means of reforming order to his affairs. An hour or two after the Nabob's departure, Kaffim Aly Khan arrived, and seemed to be extremely apportioned, that the Nabob, instead of intrusting him with the management of affairs, would endanger by some means or other to get rid of him. We agreed therefore in opinion with him, that he should not go the Nabob's house, until measures were taken for his security: we resolved, however, to give the Nabob the next day (the 19th) to reflect upon the letters before mentioned, in hopes he would propose some means of regulation. We heard nothing from him all day, but found by our intelligence, that he had been in council with his old advisers, Keneram, Moonialt, and Checon, whose advice, we were sure, would be contrary to the welfare of the country in general, and that of the Company in particular. We determined therefore to act immediately upon the Nabob's fears. There could not be a better opportunity, than the night of the 19th afforded, it being the conclusion of the Goutoo feast, when all the principal people of that call would be pretty well fatigue by their ceremonies. We determined therefore, that Colonel Caillaud, with the two companies of military, and six companies of foot boys, should cross the river between three and four in the morning, and having joined Kaffim Aly Khan and his people, march to the Nabob's palace, and surround it just at day-break: being extremely doubtful of preventing any disturbance or bloodshed, the Governor wrote a letter to the Nabob (the translation of which is annexed, No. 4) and delivered it to the Colonel, to send in to him at such time as he should think most expedient: measures were at the same time taken for seizing the persons of Keneram, Moonialt, and Checon; our intention being only to remove those three unworthy ministers, and place Kaffim Aly Khan in the full management of all the affairs, in quality of deputy and succur for the Nabob.—The Governor remained at Moradbag, in readiness to pay a visit of congratulation to the Durbar, as soon as the point should be settled.

The necessary preparations being accordingly made with all care and secrecy possible, the Colonel embarked with the troops, joined Kaffim Aly Khan without the least alarm, and marched into the court yard of the palace, just at the proper instant; the gates of the inner court being shut, the Colonel formed his men without, and then sent the Governor's letter to the Nabob, who was at first in a great rage, and long threatened he would make what retribution he could, and take his fate. The Colonel forbore all hostilities; and internal measures passed by the means of Mr. Hallings and Mr. Luffingston, whose services on this occasion deserve notice. The affair remained in this doubtful state about two hours, when the Nabob finding his perplexity was to no purpose, sent a message to Kaffim Aly Khan, informing him, he was ready to lend him the seals and all the ensigns of dignity, and to order the nobit to be stuck up in his name; provided he would agree to take the whole charge of the government upon him, to discharge all the arrears due to the troops, to pay the usual revenues to the king, to save his life and his honour, and to give him an allowance sufficient for his maintenance; all these conditions being agreed to, Kaffim Aly Khan was proclaimed, and the old Nabob came out to the Colonel, declaring, That he depended on him for his life; and the troops then took possession of all the gates, and notice was sent to the Governor, who came immediately; and the old Nabob met him in the gateway, sitting, if his person was safe, which seemed now to be all his concern. The Governor told him, not only his person was safe, but his government too if he pleased, of which it never was intended to deprive him; the Nabob answered, That he had nothing more to bulk him at the city; that he should be in continual danger from Kaffim Aly Khan; and that if he was permitted to go and live in Calcutta, he should be extremely happy and contented. Those we could not help lamenting his sudden fall, we were not sorry for this proposal, as affairs will doubtless be better managed without him, and the advantages stipulated for the Company he obtained without the least difficulty or delay. Kaffim Aly Khan was accordingly seated on the throne, and we paid him our congratulations in the usual form: all the jemimans, merchants, and others, residing in the city came immediately, and made their acknowledgments to the new Subah; and in the evening every thing was as perfectly quiet,
as if there had been no change. The people in general seem much pleased with this revolution, and we are particularly happy in its being brought about without the least disturbance in the town, or a drop of blood spilled.

The advantages to the Company are great indeed. The firmands for the countries of Burdwan, and Midnapore, and Chittagong, we shall receive immediately, as well as that for half of the Chunchi already produced at Silket. A very severe order has already been issued forbidding all the Shirafs and Merchants to refuse the Calcutta fiscus, or to ask any batta on them. A supply of money will be sent with the Colonel for the payment of the troops at Patna, and we have even some hopes of obtaining three or four batta besides to send down to Calcutta, to help out the Company in their present occasions there, and at Madras. The former balance is to be paid monthly, according to the old Nabob’s Kistbandy.

We are the more pleased with this fortunate event at this time, when the approach of peace in Europe gives us reason to fear the other European nations will find leisure to disturb us here. We shall now have strong resources within ourselves, and an ally whole attachment to the Company may be relied on. The old Nabob could by no means be depended on for such an occasion; both his means and desire of supporting us were very uncertain, as his behaviour in the Dutch troubles evinced.

The old Nabob did not think himself safe even for one night in the city: Kaffim Aly Khan supplied him with boats, and gave him leave to take away as many of his women as he desired, and a reasonable quantity of cloaths and jewels. We furnished him with a strong escort of Europeans and Sepoys, and intended to lodge him at Hero, but he would not trust himself there, and begged he might sleep in his boats close to Morabad, which he did accordingly. We shall take care that Kaffim Aly Khan provides every thing that is convenient and handecome for himself and his women, and settle upon him a sufficient allowance for his maintenance, and then dispatch him with a strong escort to Calcutta. You will please to provide two houses for his reception; there are two belonging to Sooheram Bylack and Rauberry Seat, which the Ray Rayen occupied, when he was in Calcutta; if these can be had, we judge they will answer very well.

His legitimate wife, called the Begum Mother of the deceased Chuta Nabob, and of Kaffim Aly Khan’s wife, refused to accompany the old Nabob, with whom she says she has not been in good harmony for a long time past; that she is extremely glad the government is put into such good hands; and that she shall live much happier with her daughter and son in law.

The old Nabob is now pretty easy, and seems to be reconciled to the loss of a power which he was to have been rather a burden than a pleasure, and too much for his abilities to manage since the death of his son; and the enjoyment of the rest of his days in security under the English protection, seems to be the chief object of his wishes.

No. 1. Translation of an Address presented to the Nabob Jaffer Aly Khan by the Governor, dated 18th October 1762.

When I was at Madras, Colonel Clive frequently wrote to me on the state of affairs in this country, and told me, that whenever he quitted this country to return to Europe, he would procure my appointment to the government. The friendship and connections between your excellency and the colonel are well known to me, and I hoped to have found all affairs carried on entirely according to the treaty, but what I observed upon my arrival, I shall now lay before you particularly.

Firstly, The English forces who are employed in your service, and in the support of your government at Azimabat, are kept without their pay.

Secondly, The forces of the Sircars, who are stationed in those parts, are discontented, and dissatisfied to the service for want of pay.

Thirdly, The Sepoys at Muxadabad had surrounded the palace in a tumultuous manner for the arrears of their pay, and endangered your life: How deeply I was affected cannot be expressed; God is witness of what I felt upon that occasion.

Fourthly, I plainly perceived, that the ministers of this court, from their covetousness and base dispositions, had let aside all justice, were plundering the poor without cause, and doing what they pleased, nor even withholding their hands from the lives of the people, destroying the subjects, and bringing ruin and devastation on the country.

Fifthly, The scarcity of provisions, &c. is so great as was never before known in this country, infomuch that the people of all degrees are in the greatest distress. This can be owing to no other cause, than the bad management of your ministers.

Sixthly, Formerly at the desire of the English Company, a mint was established in Calcutta, and it was your order, that the fiscus of Calcutta, of the same weight and fineness with the fiscus of Muxadabad, should pass for equal value. Notwithstanding your perwanah for enforcing this grant, the officers of the King’s province, have not suffered them to pass, but contrary to your orders, require and insist on a batta on the fiscus.

Seventhly, The war with the Sha Zaddah still continues; notwithstanding the sums expended, and the endeavours of the English forces, this affair is yet no nearer to a conclusion than the first day; excepting the Kella of Azimabat, no part of the fulskhip of Patna remains in your possession; all the lands and villages are in a state of ruin; and the Zemindars in every place are ready to join the Sha Zaddah’s army, as appears from the letter to me to this purpose.
purpose from Beerbohm.—From these circumstances, it evidently appears to me, that all these difficulties came to pass after the death of your son the late Cinta Nabob; from which time the members of the council, regarding only their own interest, neglected the good of the country, and the welfare of the subjects, and employ themselves in oppressing the poor, in rape, violence, injustice, and iniquity.—When I saw the affairs of the firecar in the hands of such faithless and unworthy men, and every thing tending still farther to ruin, I lifted up my eyes to heaven, and bewailed my strange fate, that providence should send me into this country at such a time, and in the midst of such calamities; when the dignity of the Nabobs, the reputation of the Company, and the prosperity of the country, are almost expired. After long consideration, I concluded I would make one vigorous trial immediately to remedy all these evils, hoping by God's assistance to turn out all difficulties: For this reason, I am come with great joy into your presence, and am happy in paying you my respects.

No. 2. Translation of an Address presented to the Nabob Jaffier Aly Khan by the Governor, dated the 18th October.

The ministers that are about your person, and who transact your business, are people that are ever wavering and changeable in their Councils, as is evident from the pernannals you frequently sent me, complaining of the bad conduct and wicked intentions of Maha Rajahbullub, instilled upon the being recalled by some means or other. The colonel considering the situation of affairs at that time, recommended Maha Rajahbullub to you, and you sent me a copy of it in a letter, which you did me the honour to write to me, and said, that you was surprized that the Colonel would recommend a man so very unfit for business. You also sent me word by the Nabob Kaffam Aly Khan and the Rayraen, that the business of the most consequence was to get Maha Rajahbullub down from Patna: I therefore agreeable to your desire, wrote to Mr. Amyatt to send him down; God only knows what council your ministers gave, that the pernannals was deferred being sent; but that is the true cause of the troubles now at Patna: It is a known maxim, that a government where the councils change every day, cannot be well regulated.

No. 3. Translation of a Letter presented to the Nabob Jaffier Aly Khan, by the Governor, dated the 18th October 1769.

The important affairs, for the regulation of which I have waited on you, as submitted to your consideration in a separate address, containing seven articles; now that I am here, is the time for opening the door of the difficulties therein mentioned, which is only to be effected by the key of your enlightened wisdom. If this opportunity be lost, another will hardly occur, when we can meet together so conveniently; besides, the particulars which I have taken notice of, and the payment of arrears due to the English troops, and those of the firecar, is necessary to make a large provision for future exigencies.—You have already given in pledge, jewels for a large amount, to be discharged by different payments, agreed and signed to, in your own hand; how this sum is to be paid, unless the country is settled, I don't perceive; the pay allowed for the English army has been limited to one lack of rupees per month. As the disturbances in the country have increased every day, for that reason large sums have been expended in bringing soldiers from Europe and Madras; and in raising Sepoys: On this account a lack of rupees is by no means sufficient. Let your excellence duly reflect, that your own Sepoys, in the time of extremity, preferring their own safety, have joined with the forces of the enemy; and the English forces, devoted entirely to your service, and the destruction of your enemies, never were guilty of such a conduct, nor ever will; and by the blessing of God, wherever the English standard has been fixed they have always proved victorious: Upon this account it is by no means becoming your wisdom to neglect such brave men, or to deny them their due rewards. It is necessary, that for this business your excellence grant the Company some certain lands, sufficient for the distribution of the pay of the troops, the expenses of the artillery, and the provisions of stores, &c., without any trouble to yourself, all their charges may be defrayed, from the produce of these lands, and our arms always ready to be employed in your service; otherwise I must submit to necessity. My concern for my honour will not suffer me to be unmove at the Company's loss; but I must seek some expedient for promoting the interest of the Company, and removing the evils they are oppressed with; and those expediens must be adopted: but if your affliction for the death of your son has taken that hold upon your mind, that you cannot attend to the remedying of such great difficulties, it is proper that you appoint some capable person from amongst your children, in the place and dignity of your late son, the Nabob Nairool Moodul, who may take charge of all these affairs, regulate the business of the country, and remove all these difficulties; that your excellence, freed from all the troubles and fatigue of the transactions, may remain without care, and the shadow of your protection over spread the whole.

No. 4. Translation of a Letter from the Governor to the Nabob, dated 19th October, at Night.

I have been waiting all this day in expectation that you would have settled some of the weighty and urgent affairs, upon which I yesterday conferred with you, and that you would have acquainted me with your determination; but you have not favoured me with any answer.
Gentlemen,

We have been honoured with your favour of the 21st, and one from the President of the 20th instant: by which we have been informed of the great success that has attended your operations: We must congratulate you on your having amply effected the intended purposes, without the effusion of blood, or any disturbance; and are highly pleased to find the Nabob so well reconciled to his present situation. We doubt not but what has been so well begun, will be concluded for the benefit and advantage of the Company; and that the affairs of the government will, in future, be put on a secure and proper footing.

We have given the necessary directions for the reception and accommodation of the old Nabob, whenever he arrives in Calcutta.

A few days, we flatter ourselves, will bring this matter to a conclusion; and that we shall, very shortly, have the pleasure of the Governor's presence with us.

W. Ellis,  
Wm. B. Sumner.

Fort William, 8th November 1760.

At a Consultation; Present;

The honourable Henry Vansittart, Esquire, President;  
William Ellis,  
William B. Sumner,  
Harry Vereiff,  
Harry Smith,

Mr. Vereiff's Opinion of the late Revolutions.

Mr. Vereiff delivers in his opinion, upon the measures lately taken by the Select Committee, as follows:

Mr. Vereiff begs leave to observe, that the board had been, till now, kept entirely ignorant of the proceedings of the Select Committee, relating to the present revolution, and their motives for it; he therefore cannot pretend to judge how far such a step was necessary, but thinks, that an affair of such immediate consequence to the Company's interests in their parts, the most mature consideration of the whole board should have been first had; that a treaty, executed in the most solemn manner, subsisted between Meer Jaffier, and us; the most faithful adherence to which, as well as all other our engagements, has preferred that influence and power we have maintained ever since the re-capture of Calcutta; a readiness to which treaty made the British admired, may even courted, by every prince throughout those provinces, and has ever been fatal to the prince apparent of the empire, and many other disturbers, who have hitherto weakly endeavoured to engage us to break through those solemn ties we were sworn to. As this hidden change must alarm every one, to find us unexpectedly breaking through all our engagements, which were so public, reputable, and to the honour of the nation, he cannot be blamed, as the member of this board, for expressing his dissatisfaction, at being made a cypher of, in so critical a concern.

Mr. Smith's Opinion the same as Mr. Vereiff's.

Mr. Smith begs leave to observe, he is of the same opinion with Mr. Vereiff.

The President begs leave to remark upon the foregoing minutes, that though Mr. Vereiff and Mr. Smith might, without the least presumption, think that they, and the rest of the gentlemen of the Committee, ought to have been consulted upon an affair of so much importance, before it was carried into execution, yet, their venturing to condemn, or approve, before they know the nature of the engagements entered into, the reason why, or the manner in which, the whole was conducted, seems rather premature, especially as they had an opportunity of so soon making themselves competent judges; the whole being now ordered to be laid before the board, as mentioned in the former part of these minutes; the reason why the whole council was not before informed, was, that it was an affair that absolutely required secrecy, and it is expressly for the conduct of such affairs, that the honourable the Court of Directors has thought proper to appoint a Select Committee
Committee: To the secrecy which was observed, may, in great measure, be attributed the speedy and easy success which attended the execution, and the preventing all disturbance, and loss of blood.

Fort William, 10th November 1760.

Monday.

At a Consultation; Present,

The honourable Henry Vansittart, Esquire, President.
William Ellis, Harry Vereeff, and
William M'Gwire.

A Memorial, setting forth the Causes of the late Change in the Subahship of Bengal.

The Nabob, Jaffier Allee Cawn, was of a temper extremely tyrannical and avaricious, at the same time very indolent; and the people about him, being either absent flaves and flatterers, or else the base instruments of his vices; there was no chance of having the affairs of the government properly conducted, but by their removal; he attributed all the ill success of his affairs to imaginary plots and contrivances, and foristed lives, without mercy, to the excess of his jealousy: numberless are the instances of men, of all degrees, whose blood he has spilt without the least assigned reason. To learn the names and circumstances of all these sufferers, would be a work of time; but some of the most striking examples are these following:

Coja Huddee, the first busy, first banished for a pretended conspiracy against the Nabob's life, and afterwards cut off at Shahbad, in his march out of the province.

Mir Cazim, the second busy, invited by the Chuta Nabob, to his house, and after having received from him unusual marks of affection, assassinated at the gates of the palace.

Abdeel Oubeb Cawn, murdered at the Kumna, in the month of March 1760, by some of the Hircarras belonging to Checon, who waylaid him for that purpose, by the Nabob's orders.

Yar Mahmut, formerly in great favour with the Nabob, Serajah Dowla, and since Droga of the Emarat; slain in the presence of the Chuta Nabob, in the month of April 1760.

Gaftee Begun, widow of the Nabob, Shehamut Jung; Ommna Begun, mother to the Nabob, Serajah Dowla;

Muzado Dowla, the son of Padha Coolly Cawn, adopted by Shehamut Jung;

Lutfen Niffa Begun, widow of the Nabob, Serajah Dowla;

Her infant, daughter of Serajah Dowla.

The five unhappy sufferers, mentioned last, perished all in one night at Dacca, about the month of June 1760; where they had been detained prisoners since the accession of Jaffier Allee Cawn to the Subahship; a perpanannah was sent to Jaffaret Cawn, the Naib of Dacca, to put to death all the survivors of the family of the Nabob's Aliverdee Cawn, Shehamut Jung, and Serajah Dowla; but, upon his declining to obey so cruel an order, the messenger, who had private instructions to execute this tragedy, in cafe of the other's refusal, took them from the place of their confinement; and having carried them out at midnight upon the river, massacred and drowned them, with about 20 women of inferior note, and attendants. What became of Aliverdee Cawn's widow, is uncertain; it being reported by many, that the escape was of her family.

Executions of this kind have made the Nabob the dread, and the detestation of all good men; and he necessarily became a prey to the people of mean extraction, and abject dispositions; who, knowing that a government so managed could not stand long, sought only to make themselves rich, by oppressions of all sorts, upon the country, and inhabitants. To the heavy taxes laid by them on the markets, is ascribed the present unusual scarcity and dearness of provisions at the city, the capital of a country, once esteemed the most plentiful in the world.

The persons who have had the chief shares in this bad management, are Keenooram, Monilol, and Checon, all of low birth; and the two first, the menial servants of Jaffier Allee Cawn, before he came to the subahship: these manage, so as to engage him continually in idle or vicious amusements; keeping him, by that means in utter ignorance of his affairs, and in a state of indifference as to their success. No money came into his treasury at the same time; nothing was paid to his army; insomuch that his troops mutinied, and surrounded his palace in a tumultuous manner, threatening to take away his life; which they would certainly have done, had not his son-in-law, the present Nabob, Coffin Allee Cawn, became answerable, and paid them a very large sum out of his own treasury: this happened last June and if the imminent danger, with which his person was threatened on this occasion, awakened for a moment; no sooner was it removed again to a distance, than he fell back into the lethargy which had lain so long piled up in him. The fame unworthy ministers remained still his only counselors, and continued in the management of his affairs to the last day of his administration, which he left in so confused and impoverished a state, that in all human appearance, another month could hardly have run through before he would have been cut off by his own Sepoys, and the city become a scene of plunder and disorder; the Nabob having made
made no further provision for the payment of the long arrears due to his people, after Coffim Allee Cawn had freed him from his former extremity. This danger he could not but foresee, and more than once declared his apprehensions, yet had not the power to exert the necessary means for preventing it, but sunk the duty into inaction.

Besides this intelleive danger to which the government was exposed, two armies were in the field, and waiting only the fair weather to advance, the Sha Zaidah towards Patna, and the Beerboom Rajah towards Meerhuda-bad, the capital.—The Rajahs of Bislenpoor Ramger, and the other counties bordering upon the mountains, were ready to shake off their dependance, and had already afforded considerable supplies to the Beerboom Rajah; the Rajah of Curruckpoor had committed open hostilities, and taken possession of all the country around Boglepoor, which entirely stopped the communication between the two provinces on that side of the river. In a word, the whole country seemed ripe for an universal revolt, those parts only excepted, whose natural weaknesses, or neighbourhood with the city, intimidated them from taking up arms. To encounter all these difficulties, there was nothing but troops without pay, from whom therefore no great efforts could be expected; of this a very recent instance occurs in the detachment which was ordered against the Beerboom Rajah, three months before the Nabob's abdication, but never advanced more than three miles from the city; in which situation they continued upon my arrival there.

All who are now in Bengal, and acquainted with the transactions of the government, will bear witness, that this is a true description of facts; and all who are convinced of the facts, will certainly agree, that affairs were at an extremity no longer to be neglected, without manifest danger of having the province over-run, and the trade entirely ruined: I was resolved therefore to use my utmost endeavours to get these bad ministers removed: and judging it might be difficult to prevail on the Nabob to part with his favourites without some degree of violence, I brought with me a detachment of Europeans and Sepoys, under pretence of sending them with Colonel Caillaud, to reinforce the army at Patna.

I arrived with the Colonels at Cofinahazar, the 14th of October, and the next day the Nabob paid us a visit; the 16th we went to the city, and returned the visit on the 18th, the Nabob came to Moradbaug, by appointment, to talk upon business: In the conversation which I had with him in the two former meetings, I had taken occasion to represent to him in general terms, the bad management of his ministers, the miseries and universal disaffection of the country, and the desperate state of his, as well as the Company's, affairs: In order to give him a more full and clear view of the evils brought on through the weaknesses of his administration, and to point out the means of their removal, I had prepared three letters, which, after a short and friendly introduction, I delivered to him, of which translations are hereunto annexed, under No. 1, 2, and 3.

The Nabob seemed much affected by the perusal of the letters, but endeavoured more to put an end to the conference than to propose a remedy to the evils. I however prevailed on him to send for his dinner to Moradbaug, and in a manner infinlcd on his coming to some determination for the immediate removal of the government; at length he confessed himself, through age and grief, for the late loss of his son, incapable alone of struggling against so many difficulties. He defined he might have time to consult with his friends; I told him the men, with whom he had lately alided, were not his friends, but his greatest enemies; that his returning again in the midst of them would only be the means of augmenting his difficulties; that he had much better take the assistance of one from amongst relations, on whose true attachment and fidelity he might more safely rely: He named five or six, and amongst them Coffim Allee Cawn: I asked him which of that number was most fit to assist him in his present exigencies; he replied, without hesitation, That Coffim Allee Cawn was the most proper; nevertheless it was with the utmost difficulty I could prevail on him to fend for him, and so very late, that before Coffim Allee Cawn could arrive, the old Nabob was in extremely fatigued, and in such a state of anxiety, that I could not refuse his return home to take his rest. I was convinced indeed that it was to no purpose to detain him; for such was the jealousy he discovered with respect to Coffim Allee Cawn, that I saw he never would consent, without some sort of force, to give the other the means of reforming order to his affairs: An hour or two after the Nabob's departure, Coffim Allee Cawn arrived, and seemed to be extremely apprehensive that the Nabob, instead of trusting him with the management of his affairs, would endeavour by some means or other to get rid of him; I agreed therefore in opinion with him, that he should not go to the Nabob's house until measures were taken for his security: We resolved however to give the Nabob the next day (the 19th) to reflect upon the letters before-mentioned, in hopes that he would propose some measures of regulation.—I heard nothing from him all day, but found by my intelligence, that he had been in council with his old advisers Kenooran, Moniful, and Checon, whose advice I was sure would be contrary to the welfare of the country in general, and that of the Company in particular. These诱sed therefore to act immediately on the Nabob's fears: There could not be a better opportunity than that the night of the 19th afforded, it being the conclusion of the Gentoo people, when all the principal people of that castl would be pretty well fatigued with their ceremonies; accordingly I agreed with Colonel Caillaud that he should cross the river with the detachment between three and four in the morning, and having joined Coffim Allee Cawn, and his people, march to the Nabob's palace, and surprize it just at day-break: Being extremely desirous to prevent any disturbance or bloodshed, I wrote a letter to the Nabob, a translation of which is annexed, No. 4, and delivered it to the Colonel, to send in to him at
at such a time as he should think most expedient: Measures were taken at the same time for seizing the persons of Kenooram, Monnil, and Checon; my intention being only to remove those three unworthy ministers, and to place Coflim Allee Cawn in the full management of all the affairs, in quality of deputy and successor to the Nabob: The necessary preparations being accordingly made, with all the care and secrecy possible, the Colonel embarked with the troops, joined Coflim Allee Cawn without the least alarm, and marched into the court yard of the palace just at the proper instant; the gates of the inner court being shut, the Colonel formed his men without, and sent my letter to the Nabob, who was at first in a great rage, and long threatened he would make what reparation he could, and take his fate: The Colonel forbore all hostilities, and several messages passed between him and the Nabob. The affair remained in this doubtful state about two hours, when the Nabob finding his per- sisting was to no purpose, sent a message to Coflim Allee Cawn, informing him he was ready to hand him the keys, and all the ensigns of dignity, and to order the Nabib to be fixed up in his name, provided he would agree to take the whole charge of the government upon him to discharge all the arrears due to the troops, to pay the usual revenues to the King, to save his life and honour, and give him an allowance sufficient for his maintenance. All these conditions being agreed to, Coflim Allee Cawn was proclaimed, and the old Nabob came out to the Colonel, declaring that he depended on him for his life: The troops then took possession of all the gates; and notice being sent to me, I immediately repaired to the palace, and was met by the old Nabob in the gateway; he asked if his person was safe, which seemed now to be all his concern; I told him that not only his person was safe, but his government too, if he pleased, of which it was never intended to deprive him; the Nabob answered, that he had no more business in the city, that he should be in continual danger from Coflim Allee Cawn; and that if he was permitted to go and live in Calcutta, he should be extremely happy and contented. Though I could not help lamenting his sudden fall, I was not sorry for this proposal, as I knew affairs would be much better managed without him; and his retaining a share in the authority (however small) could not fail to cause such perplexities as might prove, in critical and dangerous a juncture, of the worst consequences to the administration. Coflim Allee Cawn was accordingly lodged on the muftnad, and I paid him my congratulations in the usual form; all the Jemautdars and perions of distinction in the city came immediately and made their acknowledgments to the new Subah, and in the evening everything was as perfectly quiet as if there had been no change; the people in general seemed much pleased with this revolution, which had this peculiar felicity attending it, that it was brought about without the least disturbance in the town, or a drop of blood spilt.

The Nabob did not think himself safe even for one night in the city: Coflim Allee Cawn supplied him with boats, and permitted him to take away as many of his women as he desired (which he did to about the number of fifty) with a reasonable quantity of jewels. I furnished him with a stronger escort of Europeans and Sepoys, and intended to lodge him at Nezajel, but he would not trust himself there, and begged he might sleep in his boats close to Moradbaug, which he accordingly did.—He continued at Moradbaug the next day, and in the evening I visited him with Colonel Caillaud. He appeared then pretty caly, and reconciled the loss of a power, which he owned to be rather a burden than a pleasure, and too much for his abilities to manage since the death of his son; and the enjoyment of the rest of his days in security under the English protection seemed to be the chief object of his wishes.

On the morning of the 22d, he left out for Calcutta, and arrived there the 29th. He was met by a deputation from the Council, and treated with every mark of respect due to his former dignity.

Translation of an address presented to the Nabob Jaffier Ally Cawn by the Governor.

Dated the 18th October 1760.

No. 1. When I was at Madras, Colonel Clive frequently wrote to me upon the state of the affairs of this country, and told me, that whenever he quit this country, to return to Europe, he would procure my appointment to the government. The friendship and connections between your Excellency and the Colonel, are well known to me; and I hoped to have found all affairs carried on entirely according to the treaty; but what I observed upon my arrival, I shall now lay before you particularly.

First, The English Forces, who are employed in your service, and in the support of your government at Azimabad, are kept without their pay.

Secondly, The forces of the Sicer, who are stationed in those parts, are discontented, and dissatisfied to the service for want of their pay.

Thirdly, The Sepoys of Murudhbad had surrounded the palace in a tumultuous manner for the arrest of their pay, and endangered your life: how deeply I was affected cannot be expressed; God is witness what I felt on that occasion.

Fourthly, I plainly perceived that the ministers of this court, from their covetous and base dispositions, had for some time all justice, were plundering the poor without cause, and doing what they pleased, nor even withholding their hands from the lives of the people, destroying the subjects, and bringing ruin and desolation on the country.

1 Patna. 4 Government.

Fiftieth,
Fifthly, The scarcity of provisions, &c. is so great as was never before known in this country, inomuch that the people of all degrees are in the greatest distress: this can be owing to no other cause but the bad management of your ministers.

Sixthly, Formerly, at the desire of the English Company, a mint was established in Calcutta; and it was your order that the feeces of Calcutta, of the same weight and fineness with the feeces of Mufbudabad, should pass for equal value; notwithstanding your personal, for the enforcing of this grant, the officers of the King's province have not suffered them to pass; but, contrary to your orders, require and inflict on a hatta the feeces.

Sevently, The war with the Sha Zadda still continues, notwithstanding the sums expended, and the endeavours of the English forces, the affair is yet no nearer to a conclusion than the first day, excepting the kella of Azimabad, no part of the subahship of Patna remains in your possession; all the lands and villages are in a state of war, and the Zemindars, in every place, are ready to join the Sha Zadda's army, as appears from the letter wrote to me to this purpose from Beerboom: From these circumstances it evidently appears to me, that all these difficulties came to pass after the death of your son, the late Chuta Nabob, from which time the ministers of the seicar regarding only their own interest, neglect the good of the country, and the welfare of the subjects, and employ themselves in oppressing the poor, in rapine, violence, injustice, and iniquity. When I saw the affairs of the seicar in the hands of such faithless and unworthy men, and every thing tending still farther to ruin, I lifted up my eyes to heaven, and bewailed my strange fate, that Providence should send me into this country at such a time, and in the midst of such calamities, when the dignity of the Nabob, the reputation of the Company, and the prosperity of the country, are almost expired. After long consideration, I concluded that I would make one vigorous trial immediately, to remedy all these evils, hoping, by God's assistance, to surmount all difficulties; for this reason I am come with great joy into your presence, and am happy in paying you my respects.

Translation of an Address presented to the Nabob Jaffier Ally Cawn by the Governor.
Dated 18th October, 1760.

No. 2. The ministers that are about your person, and who transact your business, are people that are ever wavering and changeable in their councils, as is evident from the perwannahs you frequently sent me; complaining of the bad conduct and wicked intentions of Maha Rajabulluh, inflicting upon his being recalled by some means or other. The Colonel, considering the situation of affairs at that time, recommended Maha Rajabulluh to you, and you lent a copy of it to me in a letter, which you did me the honour to write me, and said, you was surprised that the Colonel would recommend a man so very unfit for every business: you also lent me word by the Nabob Meer Mohammed Caffum Cawn, and the Roy Ruyan, that the business of the most consequence was to get Maha Rajabulluh down from Patna. I therefore, agreeable to your desire, wrote to Mr. Amyatt, to lend him down: God only knows what council your ministers gave; that the perwannah was deferred being lent, but that is the true cause of the troubles now at Patna. It is a known maxim that a government, where the council changes every day, cannot be well regulated.

Translation of a Letter presented to the Nabob Jaffier Ally Cawn by the Governor.
Dated 18th October, 1760.

No. 3. The important affairs, for the regulation of which I have waited upon you, are submitted to your consideration in a separate address, containing seven articles. Now that I am here, this is the time for opening the door of the difficulties therein mentioned, which is only to be effected by the key of your enlightened wisdom. If this opportunity be lost, another will hardly occur, when we can meet together so conveniently; besides the particulars which I have taken notice of, and the payment of the arrears, due to the English troops, and those of the seicar, it is necessary to make a large provision for future exigencies; you have already given in pledge jewels for a large amount, to be discharged by different payments, agreed and signed to by your own hand. How this sum is to be paid, unless the country is settled, I do not perceive; the pay allowed for the English army has been limited to one lack of rupees per month; as the disturbances in the country have increased every day, for that reason large sums have been expended in bringing soldiers from Europe and Madras, and in raising Sceois; on this account a lack of rupees is by no means sufficient; let your excellency duly reflect that your own Sceois, in time of extremity, preferring their own safety, have joined with the forces of the enemy, and the English forces devoted entirely to your service, and the destruction of your enemies, never were guilty of such a conduct, nor ever will; and by the blessing of God, wherever the English standard has been fixed, they have always proved victorious; upon this account it is by no means becoming your wisdom to neglect such brave men, or to deny them their due rewards. It is necessary that for this business your Excellency grant the English Company certain lands, sufficient for the disbursement of the troops, the expenses of the artillery, and the provision of forces, &c. that without any trouble to yourself, all their charges may be defrayed from the produce of these lands, and our arms always ready to be employed in your service, otherwise I must submit to necessity. My concern for my own honour will not suffer me to be unmoved at the Company's loss;

† Fort.
but I must seek some expedient for promoting the interests of the Company, and removing the evils they are oppressed with; and those expedients must be adopted. But if your affliction for the death of your son has taken that hold upon your mind, that you cannot attend to the remedying of such great difficulties, it is proper that you appoint some capable person from amongst your children, in the place and dignity of your said son the Nabob Nafrrool Moool, who may take charge of all these affairs, regulate the business of the country, and remove all these difficulties.—That your Excellency, freed from all the troubles and fatigues of the public tranactions, may remain without care or uneasiness, and the shadow of your protection over-spread the whole.

Translation of a Letter from the Governor to the Nabob.

Dated the 19th October 1760, at night.

No. 4. I have been waiting all this day in expectation that you would settle some of the weighty and urgent affairs upon which I yesterday conferred with you, and that you would have acquainted me with your determination, but you have not favoured me with any answer concerning them; from hence it plainly appears, that as long as those evil councillors remain about your perfon, whatever I may represent to you for your prosperity and welfare, and the good of this country, will have no effect. The folly of these people will soon deprive you of your government, and prove the ruin likewise of the Company's affairs. I have judged it improper that such evils and disgrace should be brought upon us for the fake of two or three men; for this reason I have sent Colonel Caillaud with forces to wait upon you; when the fame Colonel arrives, he will expel those bad councillors, and place your affairs in a proper state: I will shortly follow. Let not your Excellency be under any apprehensions, but cheerfully receive the Colonel, and give orders to your men that they commit no disturbance, nor raise tumults in the city. I solemnly declare that I have no other view but your good and welfare.—Look upon me as your sincere well-wisher, and remain satisfied.

APPENDIX, No. 10.

Proceedings relating to Colonel Caillaud.

Fort William, the 4th October 1762

At a Consultation; Prefident,

The worshipful Peter Amyatt, Esquire, Prefident.
The Governor indilpos'd.

Colonel Caillaud now delivers in the following letter, dated this day, containing an apology for his conduct, in answer to the charge exhibited against him.

To the honourable Henry Vanfittart, Esquire,
Prefident, and Governor, &c. Gentlemen of Council, at Fort William.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

In compliance to the orders which you have received relating to me, from the honourable the Court of Directors, in a postscript of a letter, under date the 7th October 1761, in which you are directed and required to cause the strictest and most impartial enquiry to be made into a report; "That in conjunction with the Chota Nabob, I had signed a paper, offering "a reward of fifty thousand rupees, or some such sum, to several black perions for the affalit "of the Sha Zaddah, which paper was also offered to Mr. Amyatt, the then chief of "Patna, for him to sign; but which he refused, as a most infamous measure." This, Gentlemen, is the substance of the charge to which I am now to reply.

Unfavourable as the first appearance of the action may seem against me, I cannot but hope that when in the course of this my apology, you are made acquainted with the reasons for my concurrence and consenting to this (as it must have appeared) so unjustifiable a measure, and when all the circumstances attending on it are laid before you, I flatter myself that I may be able so far to justify my conduct to the world, my employers, and you, as to satisfy them that if I have gone too far, it was from the best of motives, and with the best of intentions; such at least as at that time, and ever since, have acquired me in my own breast of any sense of guilt; and happy shall I be, if I can make my actions appear in the same light to the unprejudiced and impartial part of mankind.

Could I have foreseen or expected that one day I might be called upon to answer to what is now so heavily laid to my charge, or had my heart ever once at the time, or afterwards, reproached me with that tranaction as a crime, which is now made one of so foul a nature against me, is it to be supposed but that I would have taken such precautions to guard against the consequences, as naturally must have prevented themselves to a mind conscious of guilt,
guilt, or of a fault? On the contrary, as my conscience never reproached me, to my con-
duct, in consequence, was agreeable to the self-known honestly an innocence of my inten-
tions: On this account, therefore, I made no secret of what had passed, but on all occasions
openly and publicly avowed it; even the very day after, my first rep was to make the
Governor (then Mr. Holwell) acquainted with it; a copy of which letter I shall produce, and
in which the fact is told in all truth and sincerity; but in such a file also, as I think must
support what I declare to have been my real sentiments and motives in this affair: I shall
bring also a letter, wrote the morning of that evening, in which I acquiesced with the
Nabob in that measure, and in which I think many striking proofs will be found for the truth
of what I advance in favour of my cause.

From whence then could this conscientiousness of security to myself arise? Guilt could never
have produced it. Sure then, it could only proceed from a strong self conviction, that the
measure to which I then gave my concurrence could never take place; but to the appear-
ance of the necessity of the times, and to avoid greater ills which then threatened us, as well from the perplexing and critical situation of affairs in general, as from the natures and dispositions of the people, with whom I had to deal.

As a further testimony of the truth of what I am now advancing towards my vindication;
and as a proof that the action must have appeared to others in the same light as it did to me
at the time, I appeal to the gentlemen then present, Captain Knox and Mr. Lufhington, for
their sentiments on the affair: For, to the best of my remembrance, I cannot recollect that
either of them once made any objection, or expressed that just abhorrence, which naturally
would arise against a action such as I am charged with. Could this proceed from any cau-
se, but their seeing the whole transaction with all its attending circumstances, in the same fa-
vourable point of view, in which it appeared to me? Muft they not, like me, have been
satisfied and convinced, that it was an idle and vain scheme, that could never take place,
but to which my concurrence was absolutely necessary, to amuse and keep up the idle foolish
hopes of the Nabob and his son, who required no less a proof (as we then flood affected
towards each other) to satisfy them, and remove those fears and jealousies from which we had
every thing to apprehend.

Thus urged, thus impelled, I made no scruple of acting to the best of my judgment and
abilities for the public service. To forward that alone was my only aim, and engrossed all
my attention; to that I sacrificed all, that the means by which I purpofed it, were in ap-
pearance unjustifiable. But fears indeed I had none, but such as I was ever ready to defpife,
when the public good and my private safety came in competition: others in my situation
might have acted with more prudence; but none, I will venture to affirm, with more inno-
cence of heart, or better intentions: had I been guilty, I had the means in my power, with
cafe, to have concealed it: had I been less jealous, I had proceeded with more caution, and
given more attention to my own personal safety, than to the dangers of the public cause.

But from this my own report, Gentlemen, neither the world nor you can judge, or be
satisfied. I shall therefore endeavour to support what I have already offered in my vindica-
tion, by such proofs, as, from the nature of the accusation against me, I shall be able to
collect. These proofs shall confift in a fair and impartial account of the transaction itself;
with all the circumstances attending it that I can possibly charge my memory with; and by
my own account of the event immediately after it happened,—The difficulties I labour under
in my defence, are obvious, by being obliged to answer to so unexpected a charge, at so great a
distance of time, there being now above two years elapsed; in which space many circum-
stances must have escaped me, as well as the gentlemen who were present, which, could we
recollect, might have much favoured and allisted my cause. However, such allowances and
affifiances, in this, and in every other respect, as may be expected from men of honour, can-
dour, and generosily, I am satisfied I may expect, and that I shall receive, Gentlemen from
you.

To this account of the fact itself shall be joined authenticated extracts from my correspon-
dence at that time; and from these I hope the real motives of my action will appear in their
strongest and most favourable light, as will also what I have advanced as to the then critical
situation of our affairs. But from the evidence of this I may further appeal to many of the present
members of the Council, who must have a perfect knowledge, as well of our condition at that
time, as of the nature of the men with whom I was obliged to act.

From the depositions already taken, and the further questions I may have to ask of Captain
Knox and Mr. Lufhington, I hope also much may appear in my favour: What I have to
lay in my own cause may be doubted; but that, when strengthened by the testimony of
others, cannot be controverted. Happy shall I effeem myself, if altogether I can satisfy my
employers, and you, Gentlemen, that I have not deferred the injury done my reputation.

I am greatly encouraged to hope, from the reception I have met with since my arrival here,
that no prejudices are entertained to my disadvantage. On the contrary, I have all the reason
to be satisfied, that my caufc will be afiffd by all the generous concern which human minds
can feel (without prejudice to honour, truth, or justice) for errors in which the heart had no
share.

May I venture to conclude this by an appeal to the course of my conduct throu' life? Have
I ever, to the knowledge of any man, betrayed in my actions, my conversation, or my man-
ers, a want of humanity? or in my nature and disposition shown that I had not the feelings
"The more I see of the Nabob, the more I am convinced he must be ruined in spite of all our endeavours, if he does not alter his present measures: he is neither loved nor feared by his troops, nor his people: he neglects securing the one by the badness of his payments; and he wants spirit and readiness to command the other: as no one knows him better than you, Sir, no one is more proper to give him the necessary advice on the occasion; nor can you too forcibly, or frequently represent to him the fatal consequences, if he perfists in his folly."

"The judgment you have formed of the Nabob is too just. Weakness, irresolution, suspicion, and consequently cruelty from his disposition: What but the issue you predict can result from these, when joined to a most ungracious and insolent demeanour, which has made him universally hated and despised? We must, however, support him and his government as long as we possibly can, without involving ourselves and our employes in his ruin. When this appears, it will be time to think a little further, as I judge there is no treaty subsisting between us, that can extend that security from us."

Ill, however, as it appears I thought of the Nabob, yet Irove on all occasions to foster matters between him and Mr. Holwell: I knew and apprehended the fatal consequences of such jealousies and divisions among us; which in the end could but surcharge our difficulties, and add to the confusion and perplexity of our situation.

Among
Among the many subjects of contention between them, there were two in particular that much widened the breach, and in the course of which I thought there were faults on both sides.

The Nabob at this time had been particularly earnest with Mr. Holwell, with regard to the protection that was continued to a person called Roydoolahram, against whom there were very strong proofs, that he had been very instrumental in promoting the troubles which then reigned in that country; that he had favoured the Prince's cause, and afflicted him with money; and that it was owing principally to his representations and advice, that the Prince had begun his march towards Bengal; and that the Morattoes had entered the province. It was certain that the force of any accusation which the Nabob could bring against this man, was much weakened by the knowledge we had of his motives, and the many attempts he had before made at the expense of truth, to induce us to withdraw our protection from him: But at this time my suspicions of his conduct were not grounded so much on what the Nabob advanced against him, as from my own knowledge of facts, which proved that he not only then encouraged, but was afflicting the Prince's cause. I did not think therefore that all was done that might have been done, to give the Nabob satisfaction in this affair: The I must do Mr. Holwell the justice to say, that notwithstanding our sentiments differed on this subject, yet he had so much regard to my representations, as to have the man confined to his house, and narrowly watched. Our opinions will best appear on this subject also by two short extracts of one of my letters to him, dated the 4th of March, and his answer of the 12th.

Extract of Colonel Caillon's Letter to Mr. Holwell, dated Camp at Cirecey the 4th March 1760.

"There was a report that Roydoolahram and Nuncomar were confined. I could have wished to have seen it confirmed in your last letter; as to the latter, I know nothing of him, but for the former, I am convinced he has been the principal person concerned in all these troubles. His confinement, if true, will, I think, be a great means to ruin the Shah Zaddak; and his party—as his interest and money have been the principal means of his support."

Extract of Mr. Holwell's Answer, dated Calcutta 12th March 1760.

"I must differ in sentiments with you touching Roydoolahram's supporting him (meaning Sabur, the chief of the Morattoes, who were in the country) or the Shah Zaddak; narrowly watched as he has been, it hardly possible he could have furnished either with supplies; and for the further security of him, I have removed him and his sons into the centre of the town, where they are, and shall remain close prisoners until these troubles subside."

This affair was one of those which at first began the difficulties and doubts that subsisted between the Governor and the Nabob; but another of a more serious nature that happened about this time escreed it to such a degree, as still made my situation between them more and more perplexed. It will be necessary, however, before I mention this event, that I mention what became of the Prince, and of his expedition into the Bengal province.

As we had the earliest intelligence of the Prince's march and designs, the young Nabob was then convinced, but too late, of his folly; and to make what amends he could for it, he agreed to purish any measures I would propose: there was but one left, which was to follow the Prince as fast as we could; and though it could not be expected, from the nature of our troops, that we could come up with his army, yet we kept to close to him, as entirely prevented his putting in execution any part of his plan of operations, expecting his being joined by the Morattoes. As for us, after the junction was made between the old Nabob's army and ours, we marched, in hopes of bringing the Prince to another engagement, which he as cautiously avoided; however, what with lucky and unlucky hours, and every sort of delay and disappointment that could attend irresolution in counsel, and cowardice in execution, we lost many opportunities; the left the bed, when I came up near enough to the rear of the Prince's army to cannonade them; but from which they soon got out of reach; and the Prince finding he could not make any thing of it, while he had our army to contend with, took the same rout back, by which he came; and thus ended his fruitless attempt in Bengal; and as soon as we were satisfied of his retreat, our army, in conjunction with the two Nabobs and their forces, marched towards the city of Muxadaddav.

It was about this time that I received a letter from Mr. Holwell, dated the 7th April, informing me, that he had found out that the Nabob was carrying on a correspondence with the Prince, and of so injurious a nature to the mutual engagements which we were under to each other, as deferred our warmest remonstrance, defining me that I would use all the means in my power to come at the truth of it; that he, for his part, had been employing an emissary with Cander Khan, the man who was then the Prince's principal support. The consequence of this emissary's negociations (of the nature of which I never was made acquainted, whether by letter or message) was no less than Mr. Holwell's receiving in answer a present from the Prince with many fair offers, and inclosing a copy, as it is said, of the Nabob's address, into the authenticity of which I was to inquire. Thus a correspondence was established between Mr. Holwell and the Prince, at the same time that he was so loudly reproaching the Nabob with a rep of the same nature.

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The first intimation I had given me of this affair, was previous to Mr. Holwell's letter, and came to me from some of the persons about the Nabob, informing me that the Nabob was acquainted with the whole transaction, and was under the greatest uneasiness and apprehensions about it; for which I own I thought he had but too much reason; for as he could not know Mr. Holwell's motives, such a circumstance at the time must have much affected him, and made a very strong impression on his mind. I did not then immediately give my sentiments to Mr. Holwell on the affair; but some time after, upon his mentioning, in a letter to me, that his messengers coming from the Prince, had been plundered of their letters, which, he said, could not be done by any but some of the Nabob's emissaries, I could not help in my answer to him in a general letter of the first of May, saying—

Extract of Colonel Caillaud's Letter to the Board, dated Moradbaug, 1st May 1760.

"In the President's letter of the 24th ultimo, he informs me, that the returning Hicarrash from Cander Khan had been plundered of the letters they had. I am concerned indeed at it, but not so much from any great loss the letters can be; but that if they have fallen into the Nabob's hands, he will have reason to think it very extraordinary, that at the same time we are reproaching him with carrying on a correspondence without our knowledge, to find such proofs against us of our doing the like, with another disagreeable circumstance attending it, letters in the same packet for men his known and professed enemies, such as Rajahram and Nuncomar."

To fet the above circumstances in the clearest light I can, circumstances which I think must strongly tend towards my justification, I will now lay before you, Gentlemen, an extract of that letter from the Governor, dated the 7th April, in which he first makes me acquainted both with his own correspondence, and that which he suspected the Nabob was carrying on with the Prince; and to this I shall subjoin my answer of the 15th of April, which I will beg of you to observe was wrote the morning of that very day, on which, with the Nabob and his son, I signed that paper with regard to the Prince.

Extract of Mr. Holwell's Letter to Colonel Caillaud, dated Calcutta, the 7th April 1760.

"I am now to touch on a subject to you, which appears to me to require our greatest attention: some days ago I wrote Mr. Haftings concerning an information that was given me, that the old Nabob had sent a truly person with a subjucive arriere to the Sha Zaddah, in which he excused himself, by throwing the whole blame of the opposition made to his arms, on the machinations of the English. Mr. Haftings, in his letter in answer to mine, seemed to think it impossible such a step could have been taken by the Nabob, or indeed, that he could have sent any arriere at all; however, in a subsequent letter from him, of the 27th, he finds out, that an arriere was sent, though different in purport to that I informed him of: as I thought it most essential to us, to trace, if possible, the truth, I employed an emissary to Cander Khan; the consequence of which has been a phirnmaund from the Sha Zaddah, enclosing a copy of the old Nabob's arriere to him, with an apology for not sending the original; a copy of the copy I found you enclosed, and required your sentiments, how and in what light this appears to you. If the copy is authentic, the case is plain, that this man, for whom we have drawn the favor, would not scruple, if drove to any extremity, to make his peace by the sacrifice of his protectors. The phirnmaund, I suppose, differs little in matters from that he sent you; he reminds me of the obligations the English lay under to his ancestors; and offers a charte blanche for the Company, provided we will draw our forces off from that door of evil, and join them to his standard, which he advises me he has at present fixed at Surfur; and in a few days purpotes to creft it in Muxadav, &c."

Extract of Colonel Caillaud's Answer, dated Camp at Dignagur, the 15th April 1760.

"I am now to answer you your two last obliging favours of the 7th and 9th; the receipt of which I acknowledged in my last of the 12th instant. In order to come to the truth, with regard to the Nabob's arriere to the Prince, Mr. Haftings had recourse to the Nabob's Persian writer, a man, who has on many occasions given him proofs of attachment and fidelity. The moment he let his eyes on the paper, he declared it to be a forgery: may I beg leave to refer you to Mr. Haftings for the reasons he gave for it, as that gentleman's knowledge in the language will enable him to give you a clearer idea of these distinctions in addressee and the title of their letters than I can pretend to; for my part I own, after Mr. Haftings had repeated them to me, they were so satisfactory as to convince me, the probability of its being a forgery was greatly in the Nabob's favour. "Two days, Sir, before I received your letter, the Nabob and his son were with me, and I found the old man big with something that he did not well know how to begin breaking to me; I helped him forward all I could, by those kind of assurances which often open the hearts of men, and he then told me that he had wrote to the Prince, and had
had received an answer, such a one as gave him hopes with other circumstances, that th
Prince might be inclinable to treat, and put himself perhaps in his power; but that he
knew he (the Prince) would not do this, without I would be his security for his safety: 
the Nabob was defirous to know in such a cafe, how I would act; but the main drift of 
his discourse was to find out, in short, how far I would be contending, in cafe, by the 
means of this treaty, the Prince would himself so far in his power as to give him an 
opportunity of displaying the true Eastern fylem of politics, by cutting him off. You 
may fancy, Sir, guess my answer, That I was ready to do every thing for his service 
confident with the honour of my country, and the sacred regard we paid to our word; 
and besides, that if the Prince made any address to me on this fubjeft of security, I must 
refuse any thing in the affair, and thus the conversation ended; I made it my 
busines's afterwards to enquire among some of the Nabob's people, on what grounds he 
found his hopes of getting the Prince in his power, but they all assured me, as I fup-
pected, That they were not more than the idle reports of some of his minions, who knew 
such stories would be well received and credited, and so found their advantage in flattering 
his foolish hopes.

It is a very unfortunate circumstance that we have to do with so weak a man, who nei-
ter from principle nor merit deferves the dignity of the station we have raised him to; 
and in which he could not remain twenty-four hours, if we were to withraw our protec-
tion from him, and on which he now so much depends, that I am obliged to give him a 
guard of tenpays for the safety of his perfon. It does not appear to me, however, inju-
tice or in reason, that we ought to support him in the purjuit of unjustifiable meafures, 
such as he follows, in regard to the not discharging the vaft arrears due to his troops, who, 
and to a man, have publicly declared they will not draw their swords in his caufe, and that 
even his own friends attack him in the confideration of his conduct in his 
be, as to his part, that while he is not afraid of his head, he never will satisfty them; and 
to us, that though we may protect him againft immediate danger to his perfon, we muft 
relinquifh the hopes of seeing the country free from troubles, while he keeps a body of 
trroops he will not pay regularly, and over whom he has confquently no command. This 
rotten fylem we might still, in some meafure, support, were we always alfured none but 
the country powers would disturb us. But I believe it is more than probable, that the 
French and Dutch, if not both, may some time or other renew their attempts to be con-
cerned, and with how much the more probability of success from the distracted state of 
the country, while the Nabob continues to govern it to ill: the firft opportunity I pro-
pose representing all this to him in the strongest light I pollibly can, and should our 
opinions agree, I should take it as a favour if you would enclofe a letter from yourfelf on 
the fubjeft; I will deliver it, and take that opportunity, as the beft, to try what can be 
done by working on his fears; the only way, indeed, I am convinced, of managing him 
to our advantage and his good. In particular, Sir, you will please to enforce the payment 
of his troops, hinting, that if he delays it, I have your orders not to prevent their taking 
their own meafures."

From this letter, I think, Gentlemen, my real sentiments may be judged to appear in 
their strongest light; and if such was my way of thinking in the morning, it may be well 
supposed they might in a great degree influence the meafures to which I concurred in the 
evening. My natural abhorrence of any bad or base action, appears, I think, strongly ex-
preffed; nor is it lefs evident from what follows immediately after, how much reafon and 
juftice I had to treat any information of that fort from the Nabob, with all that degree of 
contempt and diſbelief which it merited. After I was convinced and satisfied from my 
enquiries, how little foundation there was for the truth and probability of any fuch event tak-
ing place, had not this latter proof strongly preffuited me, it is evident, I think, that I 
should have followed my firft sentiments, which foem the moft agreeable to my dispo-
sition and nature. My opinion of the Nabob's situation and our own meafures, are painted in 
their true colours, and may serve alfo to prove, how perplexed my own situation muft have 
bene at the time.

All these circumstances considered, did it not become abfolutely neceffary for me to give 
the Nabob some fuch proof as would fatisfy him, and calm those fears and apprehensions, 
which the tenor of Mr. Holwell's condufl had fo strongly impreffed on his mind? Bad as I 
thought of the whole fylem, yet I was bound by all the means in my power to support it. 
A mutual confidence between me and the Nabob was essentially neceffary for this purpoze, 
and could it be done more effectually than by removing the caufe of his miiftraft? In a few 
hours after fuch an opportunity offers, and was it not my builnecfs and my duty to embrace 
it? the proof of fuch a nature as beft could answer every good purpoze which I could 
propofe from it: a proof the beft calculated in point of time and circumstance that could hap-
pen, and was it not, under that felf-condifion, when I gave it, that the meafure rehearted he 
peared to tend to, was fuch as I knew could never take place. Let me requiff, Gentlemen, 
that the evidence which this letter conveys of the true flate of my mind at that time, may 
have aU the weight and attention I think it deferves; and how frong the prejumpton, that it 
must have influenced me in the act which followed almoft immediately after.

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To the transaction itself I am now come, and as many particulars as I can charge my memory with attending on it, I shall relate.

On the 15th of April, in the evening, I waited on the Nabob; my intention in the visit was to introduce Captain Knox to take his leave, as he was the next day to march for Patna, with a detachment under his command; and I further wanted to engage the Nabob to send with him a body of cavalry: Mr. Lufflington, as my interpreter, of course was with me.

We called in our way first on the Nabob's son, with whom we stayed a few minutes, and I remember his presenting me at that time with a palanquin, which he had promised me a long time before, and had come up that day from Muxadavad. The little circumstances which I may throw into the course of this my account of the affair, are meant only to show, that I am possessed of that degree of recollection, which must give evidence to the truth of what I may relate of the more essential parts of this transaction.

From the young Nabob's tents, we set out to his father's: I think I had mentioned to his son my wanting a body of cavalry to go with Captain Knox; certain it is, that a little after our arrival at the old Nabob's, I defired Mr. Lufflington to settle this business with the young one; for which purpose they went into another apartment; where they, with the Patna jemidars, remained for some time talking and settling this affair, leaving Captain Knox, with the old Nabob and me, in another part of the tent. What the subject of the conversation was between us I cannot recollect; but this I am very certain of, that the little which could have passed must have been of a very general nature, as there was only Captain Knox to explain between us; for so imperfect at that time was his knowledge of the country language, that it was impossible that he could interpret any regular series of conversation between the Nabob and me. I can recollect my going into the tent where the young Nabob and Mr. Lufflington were sitting, with the Patna jemidars abovementioned, in order to know what was determined upon; how long I remained there, and how soon after they were dismissed, I cannot pretend to charge my memory with: all I know with certainty is, that they were dismissed, and all other attendants; and I think that the old Nabob then changed his seat, and came into that part of the tent where his son had been with Mr. Lufflington; that there was then present the Nabob, his son, Captain Knox, Mr. Lufflington, myself, and a Persian writer or two. To the best of my remembrance the Nabob's head Hircarrah, one Chuckan, was there; I am satisfied, at least, he was there some part of the time.

I then well and confidently remember a letter being produced and read (by whom I cannot say) and by that letter I think the subject was first opened; but that Mr. Lufflington explained it to me, as he did every other part of the conversation, I solemnly declare to be most true, and that it was the first time, and the only time, I ever heard of the matter, and that Mr. Lufflington, and Mr. Lufflington alone, was and could be the interpreter on the occasion.

The purport of the letter was, that one Conderoy, formerly a servant of Cander Khan, made an offer of delivering the Prince into our hands; but if that could not be done, he would cut him off. The letter, I think, was addressed to that head Hircarrah Chuckan, whose character for untruth, I believe, some gentlemen here can vouch for. However, I will not affirm this as a positive truth, but of this I am most sure, that after having heard the letter explained, I repeatedly gave it as my opinion, that I believed it all a forgery, contributed by the Nabobs, on purpose to be satisfied, by my confessing to, or rejecting it, what judgment he might form of the nature of the correspondence then carrying on by Mr. Halwell, and how far I was concerned in it: I remember well my enquiring into the means of this being carried into execution, and many other questions, that would have enabled me to judge how far I might give credit to the scheme. The answers to which questions I remember but served the more to confirm me in a perfect disbelief of the whole matter, and make me, with so much care, give my concurrence to the scheme, as, without any danger to the Prince, I knew it might serve to gain my ends with the Nabob.

The reason why I was asked to seal the paper in conjunction with the two Nabobs, was to ascertain to the man the reward which was promised him; for such was the state of their credit in the country at that time, that few cared to trust their words, even for so small a sum; and without this proof I knew nothing was done towards satisfying the Nabob; I therefore readily confined to it, and desired, in consequence, Mr. Lufflington, to send for my seal.

I do not remember any objection made by either of the gentlemen with me. I have the faint recollection of any expression of dislike in Captain Knox's countenance, which might have first introduced the reasons which he so well recollects in his deposition, that I gave for the necessity of going the lengths I did, and with which, to the best of my knowledge, he was well satisfied. As to Mr. Lufflington, there was no objection startled by him, that I can in the least recollect or remember, but of this I am confident, that if he had thought the matter improper, or unjustifiable, he would have made objections. And for the truth of this I can appeal to myself, conscious as he must be of the intimacy and friendship that subsisted between us, which was such as made him ready, on all public occasions, to give me his sentiments with freedom, which were ever by me received with kindness, as I always had the greatest confidence in him, from a thorough sense of his capacity and merit: I must own, indeed, that I have seen his depositions on the affair with the greatest concern and surprize; that he might have forgot all that passed was possible, but that his memory should be so treacherous as to make him remember things so evidently contrary and opposite to what
what really happened at the time, is, indeed, to me a matter of no less astonishment than concern. However, it is possible that I may help his recollection, by a few questions, when we shall have the honour, together with Captain Knox, to appear before you.

While my letter was going for, I believe the paper was writing; and as my tents were at some distance from the Nabob's, some time must have elapsed before they could come; perhaps half an hour; and all which time I presume the conversation was continued on the subject. When the seal came, it was put to the paper, by whom I recollect not, nor does it, indeed, matter much, for whoever did it, it was done at my desire, and by my directions; I have mentioned this circumstance, as I have been given to understand, that some fire's has been laid on this particular act of Mr. Lushington, as if by it he could be deemed an accursity in the transaction; in consequence of the further orders given by the Court of Directors, that if any Europeans were concerned in the affair, they should likewise be discredited their service. There is no need of adding to the weight of what I feel on this occasion, the painful reflection that any others should suffer for an action entirely my own. If Mr. Lushington put the seal, it was to save me the trouble; it was not his duty, nor his office, nor did I ever think it, nor understand that it was. My seal was in general affixed by a Persian writer; and if now the question was asked me, who it was, to the best of my remembrance, that then did that service, I should certainly say it was one of the Persian writers then present; not indeed from recollection, because from the distance of time, this circumstance has escaped my memory, but because there was no reason at that time for changing our general custom, which as I have said was for the Persian writers to seal the letters; and that it was so from no other reason, but that in any attempts of that kind we commonly make a blot instead of an impression; as their manner differs from ours, it requires practice to do it as it ought. In short, Captain Knox, who was with me, by mere accident, may as well be deemed an accursity as Mr. Lushington; the act was my own entirely, and whatever was done, was done by my directions and orders.

Soon after the seal being put, I took my leave, and from that time, or rather from the day after, in which I informed the Governor of what had passed, I never once thought more of the matter, at least seriously enough to make me think I had done amiss. Mr. Amyatt, in his letter to the board, mentions his having wrote to me on the subject, and that my answer was, "As to the affair of the three seals, as there was nothing particular mentioned, I have no particular charge to answer." And this proceeded from a confidence then, which belief still held me (until some days ago that I saw the original paper) that no mention had ever been made in the paper on what account the money was to be paid, but that it was mentioned in general, such a sum should be given, when he had performed the service he had engaged to do the Nabob. I do not mention this as meaning it should be esteemed any part of my justification; it is only to clear up that passage—I never denied what had been done; and the extract which I now produce of my letter to the Governor, dated the 16th of April, the very day after, is, I think a sufficient proof of it.

Extrait of Colonel Caillaud's Letter to Mr. Holwell, dated Camp at Dignapur, the 16th April 1760.

"In my last I informed you, Sir, of some of the Nabob's late notable schemes, but last night he made me acquainted with another still more notable; and in which also I am concerned to little effect. I believe, however, there could be no harm in trying; this it is

"One Conderry, son to Comger Khan, wrote to the Nabob, and has engaged to put the Prince in his hands; or to cut him off, if the Nabob would agree to give him a large sum, and the command of Comger Khan's country; and if the Nabob accepted of these proposals, the promise was to be made, signed, and sealed, by the two Nabob's and myself, all which was done last night."

Mr. Holwell's answer, under date the 22d, I will insert at large. I must observe, that there has been a mistake in the date of my letter, or in the copies taken, for in his letter he acknowledges receipts of mine of the 15th and 17th; in my copy book, the date of the letter is the 16th. I did not write to him on the 17th, nor indeed until the 20th, so it is plain he received the letter, which I call mine of the 16th, and this he acknowledges as of the 17th.

Mr. Holwell's Letter to Colonel Caillaud, dated 22d April 1760.

"I have the pleasure of your two favours of the 15th and 17th, and most take a further day to reply to them more circumstantially; for the present I enclose you a letter to the old Nabob to the purport of your request, and with it a copy for your perusal, and I hope, approval; it contains, I think, nothing but what should at all events be urged to him at this juncture. Something must be done, and soon, to recover the currency of the trade of the provinces, or the Company must be lost: the sale of their woollen goods, copper, &c. Exports are totally obstructed, their investment in consequence of this, and the unavoidable stoppage of the tankas, wholly at a stand, and not more than a half
I have trancribed the whole of the above letter, as I think, Gentlemen, it still gives a further proof of what I have already advanced, as to the then critical and perplexed situation of our affairs. Mr. Holwell says, when he acknowledges the receipt of those two letters of the 15th and 17th, that he must take a further day to reply to them more circumstantially; but this was never done in any of his subsequent letters, as to the principal point in question; of which, if you should have any doubts, they may be easily satisfied by laying before you the whole course of our correspondence together. This answer of Mr. Holwell’s, I think, proves, at least tacitly, his opinion of the affair; and what is still more, you will please to observe, that in my account of the transaction to him, I gave no particular reasons for my motives in going such lengths, and that there could be no harm in trying, seem to imply, as if I admitted, at least, a possibility; yet the little probability of it must have appeared in so strong a light to the Governor, that he never once censures me as guilty even of an indiscipline, much less of a crime; on the contrary, he feems rather inclined, from the letter, to approve my conduct in general, and consequently to encrease in his confidence.

It becomes necessary, however, Gentlemen, to inform you why I did not make the Governor acquainted with the real motives of my conduct, and contented myself with so general an account of the transaction; and this is I am induced to do, that I may clear up any impreffions to my disadvantage which might arise from those words, “There is no harm in trying,” which if not yet accounted for, might, notwithstanding my solemn declaration to the contrary, convey an idea, that I admitted at least a possibility of the scheme taking place. In doing this, I must touch upon a fubje& which I willingly would have avoided, but I cannot, in so dear a cause, as that of my reputation and character, leave any thing out of it up to your own deciding and clearing of it up.

Mr. Holwell’s general character and disposifion is well known in India, and many were the cautions which I received from those who knew him best, to be on my guard against him. This naturally excluded any great degree of confidence on my side. But I was cautious also of myself, and not willing hastily to arraign and condemn his conduct, fearing the consequences of a mind already tainted with prejudices against him, which might have biased my judgment, and led me to censure actions in him, which perhaps, more impartially inclin’d, I might have approved in others: and though I might have been ever so much in the right, such a fubje& between him and me must certainly have given rise to altercation and dispute, which could not but have added to the confusion of our affairs. I therefore forebore as long as I possibly could, and for the public good I rather chose to avoid every thing that might offend, while I could do it confidently with my duty. My motives, had I given them, must have implied a very heavy censure on his conduct, when I could have only told him, that the whole course of his extraordinary behaviour towards the Nabob, and that particular part of it in carrying on a secret correspondence with the Prince, at the very time that he was so loudly cenfuring the fame ftep in the Nabob, had forced me to concur in a measure, to which I never would have consented if any other proof could have satisfied the Nabob, that we were not making the best terms we could for ourselves, without any regard to him, or the mutual engagements subsisting between us. As I did not therefore, for the reasons above mentioned, acquaint Mr. Holwell with my motives, I was obliged in my account of the transaction itself, to throw in, at least, such a degree of probability attending on it, as would have made it appear in the ridiculous light of having consented to a measure, which I was proving could answer no end, and that was my only reason for inferting the words I did; nor does it less evidently, I think, appear from the ingenious and open manner in which I relate the transaction itself, but that I must have been conscious to myself how well prepared I was, from the innocence of my real intentions, to answer any charge, which at that time might have been brought against me.
You have had now, Gentlemen, laid before you in all sincerity and truth, all that I have to offer in my justification; but I cannot conclude without taking some notice of the manner, in which this heavy charge is exhibited against me.

The letter from the honourable the Court of Directors begins by these words (which is all that appears as the ground of their charge) "It having been strongly reported, but whether these reports were of a public or of a private nature, how far examined into, and who were the authors of them, are points which I am left to guess at, though I own I thought some farther lights into the occupation, or at least, the merits of my accusers, was a satisfaction due to my character; but which I am deeply concerned to find, I was not thought worthy to receive. Little, I own, did I expect such a return for upwards of nine years services; and in the course of which I had flattered myself that my conduct had been irreproachable; and if I may be permitted to say it, I was still the more confirmed in this fond hope, by having been honoured by that body with some distinguishing marks of favour. I must further own, that their last rewards (which I have ever gratefully acknowledged, was due alone to their interest and solicitations) were of such a nature as far exceeded my best services: impressed therefore with the highest sense of gratitude for their favours, happy in the confidence of their approbation, and anxiously pursuing the only means in my power, by which I could acquit myself towards them; I am unhappy enough in one instants to find all my best hopes frustrated, my reputation blighted (a reputation confirmed and established by themselves) and all this owing to a ready belief of the very first report to my disadvantage.

As to my accusers, I have said I am given leave to guess at them, however, some friends have been kind enough to give me that private satisfaction, which I thought was my due from public justice. I am now only surprized, that every report which that worthy man has so industriously spread and propagated against me, to the prejudice of my character, has not obtained equal credit, and been made another part of the charge against me. I mean the report of my having also ordered the assassination of the young Nabob, whose death was "given out to have happened by a flash of lightning." This I introduce as a proof of the great degree of credit, which my accuser delerves. Indeed, as I have acknowledged the other fact, so far I must own, and do the gentleman justice, that there was some truth in the first part of his information; but whether led to it by a natural disposition to malice, scandal, and calumny, or whether actuated by the more noble zeal for the common injury done to humanity, public honour, and justice, are points which I think deserved some attention from the respectable body, who received his information, and might have justly been a subject well deserving their strictest enquiry: would it not also have been but fair and just for this body to have considered his flation in their service, and how far it rendered him a competent judge of public transactions from the supposed knowledge he could have in country affairs, in which he never was employed? Is the fact had really been as represented by him, the Court of Directors must have been satisfied, that it was of a public nature, or how could one of his rank have come by his intelligence: and if of a public nature, why did not come to them in a proper channel, and from whence alone, in honour and justice to their servants, complaints should ever be heard? The Court of Directors must either suppose that their servants in council are very deficient in their duty, or that the affair was misrepresented to them, since no notice was taken of it here at the Board, from whence they might naturally suppose the account would have come for their own honour, had I been as guilty as the story they credited seemed to make me. All these circumstances considered, should have had, I think, some weight, and might have induced them to give a greater degree of tenderness, than appears in the nature of the enquiry; especially in favour of one whole character to their knowledge was free from stain or blemish.

Such, however, is my confidence in the cause of truth, that still I hope the shame will fall on those who shall delver it; and that the impartial part of mankind will as freely acquit me, as I have been acquitted by my own conscience in the whole course of the affair. I am satisfied also, that justice will have her turn, and that those from whom I think I have received this undeserved injury to my reputation, will be as ready (when convinced of my innocence) to make all the amends in their power.

But this state of mine now, gentlemen, becomes more immediately your own. It is from your opinion and decision, that the impartial world must judge and determine. To you all the facts recited must appear in their strongest light of view. To you the truth of the arguments I have used in my defence, must appear in all their force; and the strength of the proofs I have brought in support of them, are best to be determined by you alone, whose knowledge of every particular, by being on the spot, must make your judgments much more perfect and discerning, than those who at so great a distance are hereafter to determine on my conduct.

By your opinions, therefore, I am to stand or fall; well pleased and happy to submit the cause of innocence and truth to the decision of men of honour and justice.

I have the honour to be, with perfect respect,
Honourable Sir and Sirs,
Your most obedient, and

Calcutta, the 4th
October 1762.

Moist humble servant,

M m

John Caulland

Colonel
Colonel Caillaud’s Letter.  L. R. No. 15.

He also sends in another letter, requesting that after we have perused the above apology, we will be pleased to appoint a day for examining Captain Knox and Mr. Lushington, on some questions which he is desirous of putting to them.

"Honourable Sir and Sirs,

"After the perusal of the papers, which this morning I have the honour of laying before you, may I further request that you will be pleased to appoint a day on which Captain Knox, Mr. Lushington, and myself, may appear before you.

"I have the honour to be, with all respect,

"Gentlemen,

"Your most obedient, and

"Calcutta,

"Okt. 4th 1762."

"John Caillaud,"

Day appointed for examining Colonel Caillaud’s witnesses.

Agreed we meet on Thursday next, to examine any witnesses which Colonel Caillaud may think proper to call in his defence.

Captain Knox and Mr. Lushington summoned to attend.

Ordered, therefore, that the secretary do advise Colonel Caillaud thereof, and summon the attendance of Captain Knox and Mr. Lushington.

P. Amyatt,
W. M’Gwire,
W. Hay,
H. Watts.

Fort William, the 7th Okt. 1762.

Thursday.

At a Consultation ; Present,
The worshipful Peter Amyatt, Esquire, President,
William M’Gwire, Esquire,
Warren Haftings, Esquire,
William Hay, Esquire,
Hugh Watts, Esquire,
The Governor indisposed.

The proceedings of the 4th instant, on this subject, being wrote fair, were now read, approved, and signed.

Board met to examine Captain Knox and Mr. Lushington, on behalf of Colonel Caillaud.

The Board being met to examine Captain Knox and Mr. Lushington, on such questions as Colonel Caillaud might be desirous of putting to them, these gentlemen were accordingly called in.

Mr. Lushington’s Letter.  L. R. No. 16.

Mr. Lushington, previous to his examination, delivers the following letter, dated this day.

To the honourable Henry Vanstatter, Esq; President and Governor, &c. Council.

"Honourable Sir and Sirs,

"When my deposition was first taken, I had the strongest conviction within my own mind, that either Mr. Haftings or Captain Knox first interpreted between the Nabob and Colonel Caillaud, in the affair relative to the three seals, and in consequence of this conviction deposited so accordingly; but from some conversations I have lately had with the Colonel and Captain Knox, I am fully convinced that Mr. Haftings was not present, and that there were only Captain Knox and myself with the Colonel; and as Captain Knox could not be sufficient matter enough of the language to manage such a conversation, of course there is the greatest probability that it must have been I alone who interpreted upon the occasion, and consequently that I opened the discourse; though I cannot even yet recollect this last circumstance, and indeed it is no wonder, considering the length of time since the affair, that many particulars should have slipped my memory.

"I am, with great respect,

"Honourable Sir and Sirs,

"Your most obedient,

"Humble Servant,

"Henry Lushington."

Captain Knox and Mr. Lushington sworn.

Captain Knox and Mr. Lushington being duly sworn to answer to the truth of all such questions as might be put to them by Colonel Caillaud, or the Board; Questions
Colonel Caillaud presented the following paper of questions to be put to Captain Knox, to which, upon their being tendered him, returned the following answers.

Colonel Caillaud’s Questions to Captain Knox.

From your first deposition, Sir, taken at Shawpoor, you remember being with me that evening, on the 15th April 1760, at the Nabob’s, when I sealed a paper in conjunction with him and his son, relative to the Sha Zadda. You have also remembered that the reason of your being with me at that time was, to be introduced to the Nabobs, in order to take your leave, as you were then under orders to march with a detachment to Patna.

18. Queft. Can you remember, or recollect, if Mr. Haftings was there the whole or any part of that time evening?

2d. Have you any remembrance, or did it ever come to your knowledge, either by report or from my own information, that Mr. Holwell was then carrying on a correspondence with the prince?

3d. Can you recollect from any part of the Nabob’s conversation, or from any other circumstances, any appearance of disfavour at that time in his situation?

4th. Do you remember any objection, made by you, at that time, to the measures or any expression of dislike at it. If you do be pleased to relate and explain them?

5th. Do you remember or recollect what reasons I made use of on the occasion, to satisfy myself and you that I was acting properly; and can you recollect that I explained to you the necessity I was under to give my seeming concurrence in this affair?

6th. You can remember, and recollect, as it appears in the course of your depositions, that I gave it as my firm opinion and belief that the letter was a forgery, and the whole transaction a contrivance of the Nabob’s, in order to found our dispositions towards him.

7th. Can you remember or recollect, among the objections started against the probability of the scheme, that the smallness of the sum to be given was one among them?

8th. Can you remember or recollect making any more objections after I had given you my reasons?

9th. Can you recollect or remember that in a laughing manner I made use of the following words, or some to the same purport, “That I wished your head was as safe as the prince’s from danger,” alluding to the service you were then going to be employed on?

10th. Can you remember or recollect that I was very particular in my enquiries in what manner this measure was to be carried into execution, by what means and how?

11th. Can you recollect whether any satisfactory answers were given by the Nabob to those questions.

12th.

Anf. I am positive Mr. Haftings was not there any part of the time.

Anf. Yes, I remember it from your own information, and Mr. Holwell likewise informed me, that he had received letters from the prince and Cunjar Cun, when I was in Calcutta, a few days before this affair happened.

Anf. No, I can’t recollect any appearance of disfavour from the Nabob’s conversation that evening; but his disfavour was well known to the whole army, on account of the discontent of his troops, and the bad situation of his affairs at that time.

Anf. If I made any objection, it was by saying, “That it was a pity to fine a young fellow should fall in that manner,” or words to that purpose.

Anf. In the first deposition I have before given in this affair, I have declared that you did give reasons, and what those reasons were which I perfectly remember.

Anf. I remember your being of opinion that the letter was a forgery; and I remember also your mentioning it several times that evening, that you absolutely believed it to be a forgery.

Anf. I remember that the smallness of the sum for putting such an affair in execution was mentioned as a reason against the probability of it.

Anf. To the best of my remembrance I made none.

Anf. I have some faint remembrance that you made use of such an expression.

Anf. I remember that you made such enquiries.

Anf. No.—I cannot recollect the Nabob’s answers to those questions.
12th. Can you recollect or remember if at that time, or on any other occasion in which I might make mention of the Shah Zadda in discourse, in what manner and in what terms I was used to express my sentiments on his account?

13th. From your long acquaintance and knowledge of me, do you think or believe, Sir, that if the measure had appeared to me at that time such as could probably or possibly take place, that I would have consented to it?

Questions by Colonel Caillaud to Mr. Lushington, with his answers.

Captain Knox having made answers to the several Questions tendered him; Colonel Caillaud then presented a paper of Questions to be put to Mr. Lushington, who returned thereto the following answers.

Deposition, No. 8.

Colonel Caillaud's Questions to Mr. Lushington.

1st. Queft. As it appears by your 1st deposition, given at Patna, that only mention is made in it of cutting off the Sha Zadda, pray can you remember or recollect, Sir, that the putting of him in the Nabob's power was the first point; the other only an alternative in case the first could not be effected.

2d. Can you remember or recollect to have ever heard any thing upon such a subject before?

3d. Can you recollect or remember that evening of the 15th April 1760, when we went together to the Nabob, that some space of time after we had been with him, that the Patna Jamidars, and all other attendants, were ordered to withdraw, and that we were afterwards in private with the Nabob and his son, and 2 or 3 more black people.

4th. Can you recollect or remember Captain Knox being with us the whole time?

5th. Do you remember or recollect a man by name Chuckiman, attendant on the old Nabob?

6th. What was the man's office about the Nabob.

7th. Can you remember or recollect what opinion we entertained of that man's character in general?

8th. Do you remember or recollect the above mentioned person being present the whole, or any part of the time during that transaction?

9th. Can you remember or recollect that you made any objections, or expressed any dislike to the measure which I was then pursuing in concurrence with the Nabob and his son?

10th. Have you any recollection or remembrance of the situation of our affairs at that time?

Anf. I have often heard you pity the Shah's situation, and that you were forty circumstances obliged you to act against him.

Anf. In the course of my acquaintance with you, Sir, I never presumed to form a thought so much to your disadvantage.

Anf. No; to the best of my remembrance I never did.

Anf. I remember that evening I was some time employed with the Chota Nabob, to persuade the Patna Jamidars to attend Captain Knox, which circumstance I have mentioned in my first deposition. I am certain that the Patna Jamidars were not there at the time of sealing the paper, nor any more persons than what I have mentioned in my laid deposition.

Anf. To the best of my remembrance he was there the whole time.

Anf. Yes; I very well remember that man.

Anf. He was in the situation of head Hir-carrah, which implies the person who has under his charge all the Hircarrahs, Spies, &c. and through whom their intelligence pusses to the Nabob.

Anf. I remember that we always entertained a very bad opinion of him, though he was employed on both sides; that is, to convey intelligence from the Nabob to the prince's camp, and bring back intelligence from thence to the Nabob's; we also thought he had much the ear of the old Nabob, and by his evil councils much hurted the affairs of the firear.

Anf. I remember seeing him the first of the evening, and, I think, he was there when the seal was put to the paper. Indeed, from the nature of his office, it is most likely he was there.

Anf. No,—I cannot say that I did.

Anf. I remember our affairs were in a very desperate situation at that juncture; many influences
that time, if you have, and as you have por-

used my apology—Do you think I have fla
ted them with truth?

11th. Have you any knowledge, or can you remember or recollect, that Mr. Holwell was then carrying on a private correspondence (meaning a correspondence without the Na-
bob's knowledge) with the prince?

12th. Do you remember or recollect my often expressing, at that time, my dislike of Mr. Holwell's way of acting in general to-

wards the Nabob; in particular, my unani-

mousness on account of the above mentioned cor-

repondence, as likewise his behaviour in re-

gard to Roydoolub and Nundcomar?

13th. In the course of such conversation as we may have had together about the prince, can you remember or recollect the manner in which I used to express my sentiments of him?

To clear up a passage in a letter of Mr. Holwell's, dated the 18th April 1700, an ex-

tract of which has been laid before the board, and in which he says, "The Phirmaund, I

suppose, differs little in matter from that "he lent you?" but as I have no recollec-
tion or remembrance of receiving any such phirmaund from the prince, nor such tran-

saction appears in the course of my evidence,

14th. I desire to know, Sir, if you can re-

collect my having ever receiv-
ed from the prince a paper of such a nature, or of any sort indeed but one phirmaund, which I received the day before the battle of Cercery.

15th. As it appears from your deposition, Sir, taken at Patna, that you then could re-
collect but very few circumstances of the transaction on that evening—Could you, de-
you think, now charge your memory with any further circumstances relative to that af-

Fair, especially since you have seen my apo-

logy, and from our conversation together with Captain Knox?

16th. Do you think, tho' you cannot af-

fert it from recollection, that all which Cap-
tain Knox and I have advanced in our ac-

count of the affair is the truth?

Anf. Yes, I do remember it very well, and you often expressed your dislike at it, and apprehensions that it would give the Na-
bob much uneasiness, as he undoubtedly would get intelligence of it; and I have fur-
ther a faint idea of a person's telling me that the Nabob knew of it, which I mentioned to you, but the person's name I cannot really re-

member.

Anf. I well remember your often expres-
sing your dislike of Mr. Holwell's proceedings with regard to the Nabob; and many a time have we held conversations on that subject, how prejudicial it was to the Company's af-
fairs that these two men could not agree.

Anf. Whenever you mentioned the prince you spoke of him with the highest respect, greatly pitied his misfortunes, and said you should be much happier if you were going to affix him in mounting the throne of Delhi; than you was then in opposing him.

Anf. I do not remember your having re-

ceived but one phirmaund, and that was at the time you specify in the question, brought to our camp by two Moguls, and of which you immediately advised the Caintab Nabob.

Anf. The nature of my office of interpr-
ter was such, that I could not give much at-
tention to the conversation that might pass between Captain Knox and you; yet since you have refreshed my memory with regard to some circumstances which I could not re-
collect at the time of giving my first depo-
tion, two of which I shall mention; namely, your imagining that the letter was a forgery, and that you believed the Nabob wanted to try how sincere you were in your friendship for him, and what lengths you would go to serve him.

Anf. I have already said that the nature of my office was such as not to admit of my hearing the whole of the conversation; but I believe Captain Knox and you to be men of such honour that you would advance nothing but the truth.

Questions by Colonel Caillaud to Mr. Haftings, and his Answers.

Colonel Caillaud being directed to putting a few Questions to Mr. Haftings, he was accord-
ingly sworn, and interrogated as follows.

Deposition, No. 9.

Questions by Colonel Caillaud to Mr. Haftings.

16th. Do you think, tho' you cannot af-

fert it from recollection, that all which Cap-
tain Knox and I have advanced in our ac-

count of the affair is the truth?

Anf. I was not, to the best of my know-

ledge, and I think it could not have shaped

my
the old Nabob, can you remember whether you were present or not that evening?

2d. You have perused my apology, Sir, and at that time, from your station with the old Nabob, you must have been well acquainted with the situation of affairs; can you recollect if what I have advanced in my justification on that subject is a just and true account?

3d. Had you any knowledge at that time of Mr. Holwell's corresponding with the prince?

4th. Can you remember or recollect that the Nabob ever mentioned the affair to you; if not, have you however reason to believe, from any circumstances, that he must have been informed of it?

5th. Supposing him then acquainted with it, do you think, from your knowledge of the nature and disposition of the Nabob, whether such an occurrence at that time must not have given him great caufe of jealousy and discontent?

6th. Can you remember or recollect in any of our conversations together, at or about that time, my expressing my dislike at Mr. Holwell's conduct in general towards the Nabob, not only with regard to the correspondence which at that time he was carrying on with the Prince, but also for his behaviour with regard to Rajah Doolubram, Rajahram, and Nundcomar?

7th. Do you remember a person about the Nabob called Chucken, his employment, and the general character which he bore?

Questions by Mr. Lushington to Captain Knox, and his Answers.

Mr. Lushington requesting that the three following questions might be put to Captain Knox, they were tendered accordingly upon the oath he had already taken, and he gave in his answers thereto as follows.

Deposition, No. 10.

Questions by Mr. Lushington to Captain Knox.

1st. Are you positive, Sir, that I put the Colonel's seal with my own hand to the paper?

2d. Do you remember or recollect that I gave the seal, by order of the Colonel, to the Mounflicy to affix it?

3d. my memory if I had been present at such a transaction.

Anf. I think it a very just and true account with respect to the Nabob's fears, the clamours of his army for their large arrears, and the distressed situation of his affairs in general at that time.

Anf. Not with the prince, that I remember, but with Camgar Cawn, which in effect was the same, as he was his prime minister. I had from his own letters to me, on the subject of the Arzee, supposed to have been wrote by the old Nabob to the prince.

Anf. I do not remember that the Nabob mentioned any such thing to me; that he knew it, and mentioned it to me in consequence, I think very probable, as I had one, or if I mistake not, more than one conversation with his Moucheys on the subject of the letter mentioned above; and I do not remember that he talked of it as a matter of secrecy, or that I enjoined him to conceal it.

Anf. It certainly would.

Anf. I can very well remember your expressing a dislike at Mr. Holwell's corresponding with the Prince, as the Nabob might be equally alarmed at such a step, as Mr. Holwell was with the Nabob's corresponding with him; Such, I remember, was your opinion in the affair; and I must confess, my own too, with respect to Roydulub, Rajahram, and Nundcomar, both in the government of Colonel Clive and Mr. Holwell; it was always my opinion that the confidence shewn them, justly gave cause of suspicion and uneasiness to the Nabob, and very probably might have been the subject of your conversation at that time, tho' at so great a distance I cannot recollect.

Anf. I remember Chucken extremely well; he was the chief of the Nabob's Hircarras, or spies, and at that time in great trust with him. I had always the worst opinion of his honesty, veracity, or, indeed, of his understanding.

Questions by Mr. Lushington to Captain Knox, and his Answers.

Mr. Lushington requesting that the three following questions might be put to Captain Knox, they were tendered accordingly upon the oath he had already taken, and he gave in his answers thereto as follows.
3d. Do you not remember or recollect that I was absent that evening with the Clutah Nabob and Hahmed Khan Khorela, Rajah Dereje Narrain, and Rajah Pattee Sing, and that my business was to persuade these three persons to attend you on your expedition to Patna?

Board to give their final opinion on Monday on the whole of this enquiry.
The Board taking into consideration the subject of these several evidences, do not see that any more questions are necessary to be put to the gentlemen; and therefore Agree to give their final opinion on Monday on the whole matter of this enquiry.

P. Amyatt.
W. McGuire.
W. Hay.
H. Watts.

Fort William, the 11th October 1762.

At a Consultation; President,
Monday. The Honourable Henry Vanstart, Esquire, President,
Warren Hastings, Esquire.

The proceedings of the 7th Instant on this subject being wrote fair, were now read, approved, and signed.

Colonel Caillaud having defined the opinion of the Board upon the reasons urged in his defence or apology: after a mature consideration of the said reasons, and of all circumstances, It is unanimously agreed and concluded,

That the representation given in the said defence of the state of affairs of the country at that time, (that is, about the month of April 1760) is true and just.
That in such circumstances the Nabob's urgent account of his own distresses, the Colonel's desire of making him easy, as the first thing necessary for the good of the service, and the suddenness of the thing proposed, might deprive him for a moment of his reflection, and surprise him into an assent to a measure, which, as to the measure itself, he could not approve.

That such only were the motives which did, or could, influence Colonel Caillaud to assent to the Nabob's proposal, is fully proved by Captain Knox and Mr. Lushington's deposition of what passed at that time.

That we are fully convinced Colonel Caillaud had no other interest or view in the affair than what is mentioned in his apology: That his conduct at the time never reproached him with a bad design: And therefore, upon the whole, as we are satisfied his intentions were good, although he erred in the measure; we think it should be judged of with candour, and the proper allowances made for the difficult circumstances he had to manage.

Colonel Caillaud wrote to in Consequence.

In consequence of the above opinion, Agree we close this enquiry with the following letter to Colonel Caillaud:

L. St. No. 12.

"Sir,

"We have received your letter of the 4th, accompanied with a memorial, containing a full narrative of the transaction which the Company directed to be enquired into, together with the state of the Affairs of the country at that time; from whence you have flown the motives which occasioned your attending so far as is there mentioned to that transaction.

"Having taken the same into consideration, together with the answers of Captain Knox and Mr. Lushington to the questions proposed to them, we annex hereunto a copy of our resolutions thereupon; and as we are fully convinced that you had no ill intentions, so we hope the honourable Court of Directors will in like manner judge of all the circumstances attending upon the measure with candour, and continue that favourable opinion towards you, which your long and zealous services merit.

"With this, and all other good wishes, we remain,

"Your most obedient,

"humble servants,"

Captain Knox and Mr. Lushington to return to their stations.

Ordered, The gentlemen who have been called from their stations to attend on this enquiry, do now return to them with all convenient expedition.

P. Amyatt.
W. McGuire.
W. Hay.
H. Watts.

Opinion
Opinion of the Court of Directors, the 1st of June 1763.

"Resolved, unanimously, That this Court are of opinion, that Colonel John Caillaud stands honourably acquitted of any design or intention upon or against the life of the Sha Zaddah; it sufficiently appearing, that the motives for suffering his fate to be inadvertently put to the agreement made by the then Nabob of Bengal, Jaffier Ally Khan, on the 15th of April 1759, for the payment of a sum of money for the feizing or cutting off that Prince then in arms against the provinces under the administration of the said Nabob, proceeded from the particular circumstances of affairs of that time, his zeal for the Company's service, the fulness of the occasion, and a thorough conviction that it was an affront of the Nabob to try the sincerity of the Company's attachment to him, and that no ill-consequence would follow therefrom to the Sha Zaddah."

APPENDIX, No. II.

Extract of General Letter to the Court of Directors, 29th of December 1759.

Paragraph 147. Having fully spoken to every branch of your affairs at this presidency under their established heads, we cannot, consistent with the real anxiety we feel for the future welfare of that respectable body, for whom you and we are in truth, close this address without expatiating with freedom on the unprovoked and general asperity of your letter per Prince Henry Packet. Our sentiments on this head, we doubt not, acquire additional weight from the consideration of their being subscribed by a majority of your Council, who are at this very period quitting your service, and consequently independent and disinterested. Permit us to say, That the diſcnot of your letter is most unworthy yourselves and us, in whatever relation considered, either as masters to servants, or gentlemen to gentlemen. — Meæ inadvertencies and casual neglects, arising from an unavoidable and most complicated confusion in the state of your affairs, have been treated in such language and sentiments, as nothing but the most glaring and premeditated frauds could warrant. — Groundless informations have, without further scrutiny, borne with you the flamp of truth, though proceeding from those who had therein obviously their own purpose to serve, no matter at what expense. These have received from you such countenance and encouragement, as must most assuredly tend to cool the warmest zeal of your servants here and every where else, as they will appear to have been only the source of general reflections thrown out at random against your faithful servants of this presidency, in various parts of your letter now before us. — Faithful to little purpose, if the breath of calumny, joined to private pique, or private and personal attachments, have power to blow away in one hour the merits of many years services, and deprive them of that rank and those rising benefits, which are justly a spur to their integrity and application. The little attention shown to these considerations, in the indiscriminate favours heaped on some individuals, and undeserved favours on others, will, we apprehend, lessen that spirit of zeal so very essential to the well-being of your affairs, and consequently in the end, if continued, prove the destruction of them. — Private views may, it is much to be feared, take the lead here from examples at home; and no gentleman hold your service longer, nor exert themselves further in it, than their own exigencies require. This being the real present state of your service, it becomes strictly our duty to represent it in the strongest light, or we should with little truth, and less propriety, subscribe ourselves,

May it please your Honours,
Your most faithful servants,

Fort William,
29 December 1759.

J. Z. Holwell.
William B. Sumner.
W. McGuire.

Extract of Company's General Letter to Bengal dated the 21st January 1751.

Paragraph 18. We have taken under our serious consideration, the general letter from our late President and Council of Fort William, dated the 29th December 1759, and many paragraphs therein containing gross insults upon, and indignities offered to, the Court of Directors; tending to the subversion of our authority over our servants, and a diſsolution of all order and good government in the Company's affairs: To put an immediate stop, therefore, to this evil, we do positively order and direct, that immediately upon the receipt of this letter, all those persons still remaining in the Company's service, who signed the said letter of the 29th December 1759; viz. Merchants John Zephaniah Holwell, Charles Stafford, Playlel, William Brightwell Sumner, and William McGuire, be dismissed from the Company's service; and you are to take care that they be not permitted, on any consideration, to continue in India, but that they are to be sent to England by the first ships that return home the same season you receive this letter.

APPENDIX.
A P P E N D I X, No. 12.

Extract of Company's General Letter to Bengal, 19th February 1766.

The copy of a Letter from Mr. John Zephaniah Holwell, dated in London, the 13th April 1763, addressed to Mr. John Wollaston at Bengal, has been communicated to us, signifying he had appointed him his attorney there, for receiving, on his account, the remaining part of a certain obligation Mr. Holwell has obtained from the Nabob (Collim Ally Khan) for two lacks of sicca rupees, whereof he had received before his departure fifty thousand, as a grateful acknowledgement for the friendship he had shown him, and cautioning Mr. Wollaston to use all his prudence and secrecy in the said transaction; as were also the subjoined copies of a letter, from Mr. James Amyatt to Mr. Warren Haftings (then in Bengal) dated the 2d of March, directing to know what answer should be given to Mr. Holwell, relative to the obligation above mentioned, which had been left in Mr. Haftings' management, and of a letter signed W. H. supposed to be from Mr. Haftings in reply thereto, without date, signifying that he had received a lack of rupees, and accounted with him for it—Copies of all which, in the manner they were laid before us, we now transmit to you, for your further information in this affair.

Letter from J. Z. Holwell to Mr. John Wollaston, dated 13th April 1763.

Dear Sir,

On my attornies, Meuffiers Sumner and Smith, leaving Bengal, they delivered over to Meuffiers Haftings and Lyon, my succeeding attornies, all my affairs (with a clear statement thereof, amounting in the whole to 203,486. 6. with all necessary extracts from my general instructions) from whom I have not since received any remittances, the Godolphin not being yet imported with us.—To guard against the death of absence at subordinates of Meuffiers Haftings and Lyon, I have thought it necessary to appoint you my succeeding attorney in such case, and enfore you powers for that purpose, which I requent your ready acceptance of, and shall write to those Gentlemen accordingly. Another affair which will call for all your prudence and secrecy, it is useful I should impart to you; after I had resigned the service, I had received from the Nabob a certain obligation for two lacks sicca, as a grateful acknowledgement for the friendship I had shown him.—Fifty thousand thereabouts was paid to me before my departure.—The particulars Sunker and Wettson can furnish you with.—The remaining balance and the_teep I left to be recovered by Mr. Haftings, and under his late and separate management, but have not heard one syllable on the subject since I left him.—If you can by any means acquire the knowledge of his having made me any remittances on this account, I would not then have you speak to him about it, other wise to request he would let you know what you should write to me on the subject.

Dear Sir,

Your affectionate friend, and
obedient servant.

J. Z. Holwell.

Letter from Mr. Amyatt to Mr. Haftings, and Mr. Haftings' answer thereto.

To Warren Haftings, Eqq.

Sir,

The Packet being to be closed to-morrow, I shall be glad to know what answer must be given to Mr. Holwell concerning the teep or obligation that was given him by Collim Alli Cawn, and was left by him under your management. The particulars I mentioned to you some time ago. I am, Sir,

2d March.

Your most obedient servant,

J A. AMY ATT.

Mr. Haftings's Answer to Mr. James Amyatt's Letter.

Sir,

That I have received a lack of rupees, and accounted with him for it, which it is probable he knows already. I am

Your most humble servant,

W. H.

Fort William, the 12th January 1761.

Monday.

At a Consultation; Present,

The Honourable Henry Vanstistart, Esquire, President.
Peter Amyatt, Esquire.
Lieutenant Colonel John Caillaud.
William Ellis, Esquire.
O o

William
The Governor lays before the Board a letter from the Nabob, received last night, with an order on the Phouzdar of Hughley, for 25,000 rupees therein mentioned, to be sent as a present of congratulation from the Nabob to the Governor, on the occasion of the late birth of his son.—Mr. Vanfittart declares himself equally sensible of the Nabob's compliment; but as he rejected for himself, and the other Gentlemen of the Committee, all former proposals of private emolument, and has not to this time received a single rupee from him; so neither will he, while there is a difficulty remaining with respect either to the Company's balance, or the arrears due to his own troops.—He defines therefore, that the said sum of 25,000 Rs may be received into the Company's treasury, in further part payment of the outstanding balance, and he will send up the Nabob's order to the Phouzdar of Hughley, for payment of that sum.

Fort William, 8th January 1761.

Thursday.

At a Consultation; Present,

The Honourable Henry Vanfittart, Esquire, President.
Peter Amyatt, Esquire.
William Ellis, Esquire.
William Brightwell Sumner, Esquire.
Harry Smyth, Esquire.
Culling Smith, Esquire.

Mr. Amyatt's minute concerning the revolution.

Mr. Amyatt takes this opportunity to observe, that he is of opinion, the reasons given for depoSing of Jaffier Aly Chan (for he can look upon it in no other light) are far from being sufficient to convict him of breach of faith; consequently in the eyes of the world, the whole odium of such proceeding must retort upon ourselves. The cruelties of which he is accused, must to a civilized government appear shocking; but in despotic ones, there are none entirely free from instances of this kind, as their own fears and jealousies are ever prompting them to such unwarrantable actions; and it is well known, that the present Nabob has already fallen into the fame feverities, as likewise, that he has shewn marks of favour to those ministers, who, we are told, "have with an evil eye the influence of the Company, and readily matched at any occasion to reduce it." Meer Jaffier's being confirmed by the Court at Delhi in the subahship, was a very valuable consideration, which ought not to have been overlooked, because, whenever that distracted state is restored to peace and tranquility, he being legally in possession of the government, would of course be confirmed by the reigning king, without hesitation; whereas the obtaining to great a favour for Coffin Aly Khan must he attended with both difficulty and expence. The treaty subsisting between us and Coffin Aly Chan, plainly shews, that his sole aim, at the time of entering into it, was the subahdarry of Bengal, otherwise how ridiculous was it for him to make a promise of ceding certain countries to the Company, which his post of Duan could never have given him the power of executing! The great advantages expected to accrue from these countries, it is feared, will prove merely imaginary, as it is now near three months since their revolution was effected; and yet to far from any appearance of extricating ourselves from the difficulties, as expected, we are involved in fresh troubles every day, which will not appear strange when we call our eyes upon the perfons we have raised to the munific, whose character was never conspicuous in any light till lately, and whose treacherous behaviour to his father-in-law leaves us very little hope of his attachment to our interest; nor indeed can it be expected, that he will place any confidence in us, who have asSisted to dethrone a man we were bound to support by the most solemn ties, divine and human; such a breach of faith must necessarily occasion the loss of our influence in this country, and bereave us of that superiority which our steady adherence to our promise ever gave us over these people. For the above reasons Mr. Amyatt differs to the whole transactiOn, and further declares, That he never was consulted nor advised with concerning it, nor did he know that it was even intended, till public report had informed him of its execution.

Mr. Ellis's Minute.

Mr. Ellis's sentiments with regard to the revolution, agree entirely with Mr. Amyatt's, and he differs to it for the same reasons.

Mr. Smyth's Minute.

Mr. Smyth is of the same opinion likewise Mr. Amyatt, as he has once already intimated to the Board.

Letter to the Honourable the Secret Committee, dated 11th March 1762.

To the Honourable the Secret Committee for Affairs of the Honourable United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honourable Sirs,—I. It gives us the greatest concern to be obliged to address you in the manner we are now under the necessity of doing; but as we have publicly declared our different
from the last revolution in the kingdom of Bengal, and expressed our entire disapprobation of the measures purposed consequent thereon; it is our duty to acquaint you with our reasons for having differed in opinion from the Gentlemen who were accessory to that revolution, left-minded people should represent our opposition as a faction, instead of owing its rise, as it really does, to our strict regard to what we think conducive to the honour of our country, and the interests of our employers. Had the whole Board been consulted, we dare affirm this measure would have been rejected by the majority; and we humbly refer to you, whether the opinion of every member thereof ought not to have been taken by the President, before he ventured upon so bold a step as the subversion of a government.

2. You were informed last year, of the surprising revolution in favour of Mir Mahammed Coftim Aly Chan, which would necessarily be represented in the most favourable light, by the Gentlemen who promoted it. But whatever judgment you may have been led to entertain of the measure from their account of it, we cannot but think you will judge as ill of it as we do, when you are truly informed of the circumstances with which it was attended, the manner in which it was executed, and the steps that have been since taken to support it; of these we will give you as succinct an account as possible.

3. At a time when there was not the least appearance of a rupture or difficulty between us and the Nabob Jaffier Aly Cawn, on the contrary, a friendship and harmony subsisted, Mir Coftim Chan, his fon-in-law, came down to Calcutta on some pretence or other to visit Mr. Vanfittert, and having paid a short time, he returned to Moorhedabad. A few days after Mir Coftim's departure, Mr. Vanfittert went up to Moorhedabad on the pretence of a visit to the Nabob; Colonel Cailaud, with a party of two hundred Europeans, and some Sepoys, attended him, to remove the suspicion which such a force would have necessarily occasioned, it was pretended they were going up to Patna to reinforce the army there. When Mr. Vanfittert arrived at Moradabad, the Nabob paid him two visits, at the last of which Mr. Vanfittert, without any previous notice of his intentions, gave him the three letters mentioned in Conjunction of the 20th July, of which copies have been transmitted you. The abruptness with which these letters were presented him, one close upon the other, and the unexpected proposals contained in them, terrified the Nabob, and he was entirely at a loss how to act, but desired time to consider on what was to be done. Mr. Vanfittert seeing his perplexity, strongly insisted on his immediately naming some person from among his relations to take charge of the fubahship, and very particularly recommended Coftim Aly Chan, who was sent for, and the Nabob was defir'd to lay till he came; but Coftim Aly Chan delayed so long, and the Nabob was in such anxiety of mind, and so desirous to be released from the visit, that Mr. Vanfittert was obliged, in order to have appearances, to furnish his departure to the place, after having detained him much longer than his inclination: that night and the day following passed in concerting measures with Coftim Aly Chan, how to put in execution the plan before agreed on in Calcutta; a treaty having been signed for this purpose in September 1760, while Coftim Aly Chan was down here: in consequence of these deliberations, our troops clandestinely crossed the river the next night, under Colonel Cailaud, and being joined by Coftim Aly Chan and his party, surrounded the Nabob's palace: a letter from Mr. Vanfittert was sent in to the Nabob, demanding his immediate compliance with what had been proposed to him; to which the Nabob returned for answer, "That such usage was what he never expected from the English; that while he was at his gates he would enter into no terms, and that it was his desire, our troops might be returned to Moradabad:" a Man, however, then went in, informing the Nabob, that if he did not directly comply, they should be obliged to burn the palace. Astonished and terrified by this message, he opened the gates, exclaiming, "That he was betrayed; that the English were guilty of perjury and breach of faith; that he perceived their designs against his government; that he had friends enough to hazard at least one battle in his defence; but although no oaths were sacred enough to bind the English, yet as he had sworn to be their faithful friend, he would never receive from his engagement, and rather suffer death than draw his sword against them." So suspicious was he of being fools, that he desired to know what sum of money Coftim Aly Chan was to give for the fubahship, and he would give half as much more to be continued. He hoped however, if they intended to dethrone him, they would not leave him to the mercy of his fon-in-law, from whom he feared the worst, but rather wished they would carry him from the city, and give him a place of safety in Calcutta." This last requell of the Nabob's, the effect of his fear and despair, was immediately had hold of, and confirmed in the light of a voluntary resignation. Accordingly our troops took possession of the palace, Mir Coftim Chan was railed to the musjid, and the old Nabob was hurried into a boat, with a few of his women and necessaries, and sent away to Calcutta in a manner wholly unworthy of the high rank he had so lately held, as it also the scanty subsistence allowed him here by his successor.

4. Thus was Jaffier Aly Chan deposed, in breach of a treaty founded upon the most solemn oaths, and in violation of the national faith; a prince of whose friendship and attachment you have had many signal proofs, in whole cause our arms have with much honour been employed, and by a firm adherence to whom the English had acquired, throughout the whole country, so universal a character of fidelity and confiancy, that the most perfect confidence was placed by the natives in them.

5. The advantages to be reaped by the Company from the revolution were the grant of the
zymedaries of Burdwan, Midnapore, and Chittagong, the payment of the balance due from Nabob Jaffer Aly Chan, with a present of five lacock of rupees from Coftim Aly Chan, towards defraying the expenses of the war against the French on the coast of Choromandel; of thefe Mr. Vanfitart, on his return to Calcutta, acquainted the Board, and at the fame time, in justification of his proceedings, laid before them a memorial; copies whereof were transmitted to you by the flips of the laft fazon. 6. This memorial is introduced with a lift of crimes laid to Jaffer Aly Chan’s charge, which to thofe unacquainted with the exterminations governments will appear deferving of the highest retenement from a civilized nation; yet such is the state of politics in every Aftatic court, that through the apprehenfions of the sovereign, and the intrigues and artifices of the great men about him, inflances of cruelty and oppreffion are but too frequent; and even the moft beloved among them are too much to be taxed with committing, or at leaft conniving at, acts of violence; but it fhould be considered that many of thefe are done by perfons in power without their knowledge, and that as there are no regular punishments for criminals of ftition, and who may be fo powerful that it would be dangerous proceeding openly againft them, recourse is often had to the dagger or poison to punish the guilty. This was the cafe in moft of the infances alledged againft Jaffer Aly Chan, none of which fhew greater proofs of cruelty than that which Coftim Aly Chan discovered; when being in palliation of the palace, he was defirous of making the firft act of his power the affilation of Jaffer Aly Chan therein, and was very much difpleafed when he found we intended to give him protection at Calcutta. Since his accession to the fubadarchee, we could produce to you numberles infances of his extortions and cruelties, but that it would run us into an exorbitant length; and he feems to have made the more immediate objects of his ill ufage, thofe who had been the moft revered friends of the English. We fhall only particularize Kamnarain, whom he difpolifed of the mabhip of Patna, in which it was always thought found policy in us to support him, on account of his approved fad; and he now keeps him in iron till he has been flenced to the utmoft, when there is no doubt he will be difpatched; moft, if not all thofe, who expoulzed the Englifh interest, have been laid under the heaviest contributions, and many have died under the force of the torture to extract money from them; others have been either baflly murthered, or (which is a common practice among Gentooes) unable to foregoing the lofs of honour, have made away with themselves. 7. It is inullated in the memorial, that the Nabob’s avarice and cruelty had made him the detedlation of all good men, and that he was in the hands of bad minifters, under whole maladministration the country was greatly oppreffed; as an infance whereof, the fecracy of grain at the city is produced. To thofe minifters are ascribed the great difficulties the Nabob laboured under for want of money to anfwer the expences of the Government, and to pay the army, rendered mutinous for want of their arrears; besides which infinate danger, the provinces were threatened an invasion by the Shahzadah with a powerful army, and several of the rajahs and zemyndars were on the point of revoltig: to encounter all which there was nothing but a difafficted army. Mr. Vanfitart appeals to every by-flander for the truth of his facts, and of the imminent peril to which the country was exofed; he declares his minifters bad minifters; for which purpose he carried up with him the party of Europeans and Sepoys: he proceeds to fet forth the manner in which the old Nabob was removed from the government, and Coftim Aly Chan rafied. He fays, people in general were pleafed with the revolution, and makes a merit of its being effected without the leaft disturbance in the city, or a drop of blood fplited. He concludes, with representing the anxiety the Nabob expofed to get from the city through fear of Coftim Aly Chan; and obferves, that he appeared pretty cafy and reconciled to the lofs of his power, which he owned to be rather a bafhren than a pleafure, and too much for his abilities to manage fince the death of his fon; and that the enjoyment of the reft of his days in fecurity, under the Englifh protection, ſeemed to be the chief object of his wishes. 8. It is very natural for any person who takes an uncommon lep, to endeavour to vindicate himfelf by the moft ficuous arguments and the moft difapply reasoning he can devise, and nothing lefs could be expected from Mr. Vanfitart, after having brought about fo unprecedented a revolution. He has told his story with all the aggravations the nature of it would admit; notwithstanding which, we do not imagine the reasons he has given in support of fo violent a meafure, will prove fatisfactory to the world. He takes great pains to blacken Mr. Jaffer’s character, in order to prejudice mens minds againft him, and lays great Stress upon the fcarsity of grain in the city; but we apprehend Mr. Vanfitart does not judge fo hastily from that circumstance, after what he has himfelf experienced laft year; for, notwithstanding the care we are not to doubt he has taken, grain was never known to fcarce in Calcutta before, inomuch that numbers daily perifhed. 9. Want of money was the great difficulty the Nabob laboured under; but this did not proceed from any fault of his, but from the diftracted state in which the country had been ever since Colonel Clive’s departure, fo that a very small part of the revenues came into his treafury. Duplejion and Natauren, with the province of Purnea under Kudum Hufien Chan, were affected towards the Shahzadah, who had under contribution the whole province of Bahar, except the city of Patna, and a fmall dirftic around it. Chittagong,
gong, the eastern barrier, did little more than defend itself against the incursions of the Muggs, inhabitants of Arracan, who used every year to come into Bengal for plunder. There remained only the Dacca province; the districts round Morshedabad; the Nadifhy and Lakhnouh countries, to furnish the immense expense of the war; and here lay the Nabob's
difficulties, that with one fourth part, if so much, of the accumulated revenues, he was obliged
to maintain an army greater than any Nabob did before him, and the English army was not
the least considerable part of the burthen; for trusting most to them, he paid them directly,
which preference was the cause of discontent to the country troops: and though the force we
had in the field against an enemy whom Colonel Clive had but a very short time before drove
out of the country, far exceeded those the Colonel had with him, yet no material advantage
was gained over them, but the country was over-run, and ravaged by them; and by frequent
marches and counter-marches, our own armies became as destructive as those of the invaders.
No wonder then at the perilous condition, to which Mir Jaffer was reduced, to extirpate
him from which it believed us to exert our utmost abilities; indeed whereas he was treated
with the greatest indignity by us, and safely turned out of his government.
10. To remove bad councillors from a prince is certainly meritorious, but it does not seem
to us that any thing was ever designed against the Nabob's ministers; on the contrary, that
the sole intention was to displace the Nabob himself, is pretty evident, by the treaty before
mentioned made in Calcutta. Had there been the least attempt to convince him in a
friendly manner of any errors in his administration, or of the necessity of dismissing from his
precelence those who ill-adviced him, it is not to be doubted he would have hearkened to rea-
son: that he was not obstinate against good advice, may be concluded from the extraordinary
influence which Colonel Clive had over him; in proof whereof we need only call to mind
how violently he was incensed against Rajah Rammah, and Roydub; yet the Colonel,
by gentle methods, without having recourse to any other force than that of persuasion,
perfectly reconciled him to the former, and obtained his permission for the latter to reside at
Calcutta, and being with him his family and effects.
11. The people in general, very far from being pleased with the revolution (as alleged in
the memorial) were extremely dissatisfied therewith. Had Coom Ali Chan been before in
eighteen among them, or possessed any share of influence or power, they might perhaps have
overlooked the circumstance of his life, and a series of popular actions might in time have
reconciled them to the usurpation; but he was despised and disliked before he came to the
m埋st, and his behaviour since, has been so oppressive and tyrannical, that it could not fail
confirming the public hatred of him.
12. The little disturbance at Morshedabad upon the occasion proceeded from the apprehen-
sions all degrees of people were under from so large a force being brought into the city in
the dead of night; and Mir Jaffer, no way suspicious of the faith of the English, had taken
no precautions for his own security; such is the superiority of our arms, and so great the
dread of our forces in this country, that had we gone openly to work, we should have met
with little or no difficulty, which renders our having proceeded by stealth and treachery, the
more inexplicable; and we are truly sorry to have occasion to observe, that the means by
which this measure was brought about, have thrown an indelible stain upon our national cha-
racter, and injured us as much in the opinion of the natives, as it has of all the European
colonies in this part of the world.
13. It is asserted in the memorial, that Mir Jaffer was easy under the loss of his power,
which he is said to have owned to have been rather a burthen to him; but it is evident, on the
contrary, from his declarations since, and his letters to the Company and Colonel Clive, that
he was very unwilling to part with his government, and that he greatly regrets the deprivation
of it. He was necessitated indeed to submit; and in hopes of being redressed some time or other
by the Company, judging that such a step could never be approved of at home, he very wisely
chose, rather than truft himself with his son-in-law, to wait patiently for that redress in safety
at Calcutta: so far he might appear resigned to his fate; yet this can never be construed as
an abdication of his government, though it has been indistinctly endeavoured to make the
world look upon it in that light.
14. We have now, Honourable Sirs, laid before you a true account of the revolution. The
projectors perhaps thought the advantages it was to bring the Company would be a sufficient
atonement for the measure, and infuriate them the approbation of theiratters. It is true the
Company have a considerable addition of territory, and do now receive a large yearly revenue;
but as great, if not greater, advantages might have been procured by more honourable
means; and the present tranquil state of the country, which favours to the Company, as well
as the Nabob, the full enjoyment of their revenues, is not the effect of Mir Coom Chan's
nabobship, but of an event which would equally have happened had Jaffer Ali Chan been
continued on the mantot, as can be easily made to appear.
15. Soon after Coom Ali Chan was fixed in the nabobship, the Company were nominally
involved with the zamindaries of Burdwan, Midnapoor, and Chittagong, and only nominally,
for our first demands upon the two former of these, for the payment of the revenues,
were refused.
16. So bad an impression had the revolution created in the minds of the country peo-
ple, that the Burdwan rajah, who, in Jaffer Ali Chan's time, had often expressed his earnest
defire that the Company might continue to collect the revenues of his districts, as they had
all along done on account of the tunkaws, and that they would procure the zemanydarie for themselves from the Nabob; yet after the breach of our faith to the old Nabob, concluding no reliance was to be placed on our engagements, he immediately flew off from his former declarations, and instead of acquiescing under our government, he began to act in open rebellion; he flopped our trade, raised a large force, invited the Morattas into his country, withheld the payment of his revenues, and acting in conjunction with the Bceebon rajah, he espoused the caufe of the Shahzadah, with whom he entered into correspondence.

17. Several other zemanyars, who had remained quiet whilst Jaffier Aly Chan was Nabob, now finding the government overiet, thought themselves at liberty to withdraw their allegiance, and would not acknowledge Mr Coffim, but joined the Shahzadah, whole party by their frequent defections was strengthened with fugitives, both of troops and money, and whole followers were greatly encouraged by his having been able to maintain his ground, and continue in our dominions, the whole preceding campaign, in defiance of the English army.

18. The Nabob's troops were rendered quite mutinous by the news of the revolution; they declared they knew nothing of Coffim Aly Chan, and that now they had left their old master, they were without hopes of being paid any part of the immense arrears due to them, and nothing less than the extraordinary affluence and influence of Mr. Amyatt, who was then chief at Patna, could have prevented them from proceeding to extremities.

19. In this situation were things when Colonel Caulfield left Patna, and Major Carnac received the command of the army from him; the major saw it was impossible for the country to support itself against such a combination of difficulties, and that if a decisive blow was not from struck, the Shah could not fail to have immediate possession of all; he therefore determined to bring the Prince to an action as speedily as possible; and after securing Patna by a garrison, to prevent its being plundered by that rabble of troops whose duty it was to defend it, he pushed on with the English army as fast as he could towards the Prince. He came up with him three days March from the city, the consequence of which brought on an action, where he gained a complete victory, and reduced the Shah in a few days to the necessity of putting himself under the protection of the English. The Major's success, as it put an end to the hopes of all the rebellious rajas and zemanyars, so it at once quelled all commotions, and established the long wished for tranquility in the province; and the different provinces were now brought into order, and renders in a condition to pay their respective revenues; the Nabob's treasury was enriched, and he was enabled to discharge the arrears of his army, and to advance the money he had engaged to pay the Company.

20. Whatever merit there is then in the present tranquility, is to be attributed to our successes against the Prince, which, by putting an end to the war in the country, reduced it to a state of perfect obedience; and as all the old Nabob's difficulties proceeded from his dominions being the seat of war, and the default of his revenues, on that account there is not the least doubt, had our arms met with the same success during his government, but that he would have extricated himself with equal ease.

21. After what has been set forth, we believe few will imagine that Mr. Jaffier was deposed by reason either of a want of ability to rule, or of his bad principles. We would willingly indeed suppose that he proceeded rather from the want of a true knowledge of the country policy, and from an error of judgement, than from lucrative views, had not Mr. Vanhoutt, and others of the projectors, made it no secret that there was a present promised them by Coffim Aly Chan, of twenty lacca; "its true that they made a treaty that this was not to be delivered till the Company's debt was paid, and his army satisfied. We have to observe on this occasion, that several of us have had offers from the Nabob of very considerable sums to join in his measures, which we have constantly made public, as well as refused; and if we, who have always opposed those measures, have been thus tried with pecuniary temptations, what may be concluded of them gentlemen, who have supported the Nabob on every occasion?

22. If the Nabob had purchased the power he is invested with, it is to be expected he will of course make the most of it, by extorting money from his subjects, and oppressing every province as much as he can; and as the fate of Jaffier Aly Chan must have convinced him how little we regard the most sacred engagements, he will of necessity endeavour to establish himself on a foundation less precarious than the friendship of the English. That he already begins to do is evident from his ill successes in the number of his troops (notwithstanding the present tranquillity) and to render them the more formidable, he is arming and disciplining as many sepoys as he can procure in the European manner; and to secure himself as much as possible from us, deceiving his capital, Morshedabad, (the scene of his predecessor's fall) too near out settlements, he is about erecting a large fort at Rajmahaul, which he prospets to make his place of refuge, where he hopes to be out of our reach.

23. When any member of the Board fuggets that the Nabob's behaviour argues a submission of us, for that if he really confided in, and sincerely regarded us, he would not put himself to the unnecessary expence of keeping so large an army in pay, nor treat so ill those who are arowdly our friends; it is replied, "The Nabob is master of his country, and being independent of us, it is liberty to rule and act as he pleases." But surely Coffim Aly Chan cannot be more leso than his predecessor was; and if it be true that the Nabob of Bengal is independent of the English, and master of his own actions, how can the Gentleman justify their proceedings against Mr. Jaffier, whom they called to fo favour an account for the administration
administration of his own government as to depose him, though he had not been guilty of any offence to our nation, nor ever dictated from his treaty?

24. Instead of checking the overgrown power of the present Nabob, it is daily promoted; and he has even the absolute command of our army at Patna; the chief there having directions to let him have what number of our troops he pleases to demand, without being allowed to justify his ends, or the force to which they are demanded. This you will observe, Honourable Sirs, in the instructions given to Mr. Ellis, dated the 23d September last, and in the consultation of the same day, where some of our opinions on that procedure are annexed.

We cannot help expounding how much we fear, that an ill use will be made, by him, of this power over our forces; and that they will, sooner or later, be employed for such purposes, as will render us more odious to the whole country, bring greater discredit upon our arms, and reflect further dishonour upon our nation.

25. Notwithstanding this zealous attachment to Coffim Aly Chan, there can be no reason to hope he will act the part of a faithful ally towards us: what dependance can he had on a person who so readily entered into the scheme of depopling, not only his lawful master, but his patron, under whose immediate care he was brought up; who showed so much disloyalty to his natural sovereign, the King of Hindostan, as to evade even acknowledging him, till he was in a manner obliged to it by our repeated desires, and who behoys a continual distrust of those who have appeared any way attached to us?

26. The Nabob's unfaithful behaviour to the King, proceeded in great measure from his jealousy of the regard we professed for him, and his fears that we should reduce his authority, by subjecting theSUBEHSHIP to its primitive dependency on the Mogul, and obliging him to pay the royal revenues: he therefore set every engine to work to create a rupture between us; he endeavoured to make the King unsafe, and to inflill notions into him, of his being in danger from us, in order to get him out of the country; he excited a mutiny in the King's camp, which, had it not been for the timely affistanee sent by Major Carew, might have proved fatal to his Majesty; he repeatedly urged Mr. Vanfittart to dislimit him, and forged letters to himself and the Prefident, as from the King, complaining of being forcibly detained by the Major, and expressing his anxiety in not being allowed to leave the country; that these letters were forged, his Majesty hath solemnly declared by an attestation under his own hand, and testified his abhorrence of so infamous a proceeding. The Nabob however at last did far prevail, by corruption, and intriguing with some of the courtiers, as to bring about what he had so much at heart; the King's being sent away without receiving any affistance from us, or being paid any part of the revenues of this subehship. This rebellious behaviour of the Nabob justly incensed the King, who declared that he would not suffer him to continue in his subehship, whenever he had power sufficient to prevent it.

27. His Majesty, before his departure, gave the most unquestionable proof of his hatred to Coffim Aly Chan, and of his esteem for the English, by the voluntary offer he made them of the ducanny of Bengal. This offer is the collection of the revenues of all the provinces subject to the Nabob, which are to be accounted for with the court of Delhi. It differs from the subsidies; the latter being the command of the troops, and the charge of the jurisdiction in the provinces; the expenses whereof are paid out of the revenues by the dewan. It was formerly a separate office, but the Nabobs of Bengal, taking advantage of the late commotions in the empire, have assumed it to themselves: from the nature of the office it is evident that the King, distrustful the Nabob, intended that we should be a check upon him, and be answerable for the revenues, no account of which he could get from Coffim Aly Chan, who detained them for his own use. This appointment would have brought the Company about fifteen lacs yearly, exclusive of the lands of Burdwan, Midnapore, and Chittagong, which his Majesty also offered to confirm to them, and to establish their interest and influence, not only in those provinces, but as far as the city of Delhi itself, to which place our commerce might then, with the utmost safety, have been extended.

28. It is hard to conceive, why so honourable and advantageous an offer should be rejected: it is allegeed, it would be the source of continual disputes between us and the Nabob, and occasion too great a diminution of his power; but surely this consideration, admitting it to be true, ought not to stand in competition with the honour and interests of the Company, which would be greatly promoted by such an appointment: what renders this refusal the more extraordinary, is, that it is well known, application was made to the King, soon after Mr. Vanfittart's arrival, in Jaffier Aly Chan's time, for the funds or grants of the province of Bengal, which were actually drawn out to be sent to us; but the revolution, in favour of Coffim Aly Chan, taking place in the interim, an entire stop was put to the negociation.

29. The Nabob was so invertebrate against all those natives, who were known to be in our interest, that he used his utmost endeavours to prevail on Colonel Cooe and Major Carew, to content to his proceedings to the most unjustifiable severities against them, particularly against Rajah Ramnair; having offered the Colonel five lacs of rupees, provided he would concur in the destruction of that unhappy man, who has since been given up to him by the Board; the Colonel's refusal of this money, we are well convinced, was the motive of his (the Nabob's) unjust supplication or refection against him, which appears not only by the Colonel's letters, on the face of the proceedings of the Board, but also by Coffim Aly Chan's own declaration to him, that he could not be his friend unless he received his present.

30. The same spirit of renfentment which actuated the Nabob against Colonel Cooe, was equally
equally strong against Major Carnac, whom he also endeavoured to buy over, to serve his ends, but in vain. The Nabob saw, with a jealous eye, the many distinguishing marks of favour the King conferred on him, and would fain have made a breach between them; which not being able to effect, he wrote several letters of complaint against him to the President, who, from prejudice, was too much inclined to believe them, and sought all opportunities of blaming his conduct at the board, and of putting the worst construction upon all his endeavours for the public service, of which many instances could be produced.

31. A flagrant injustice was done Major Carnac, in calling him away from Patna, when the detachment still left there was large enough to render it a command adequate to his rank, and where he might have been of service; whereas his presence was unnecessary at Calcutta, as the Colonel was going down.

32. A very signal insult, offered by Col. Aly Chan to the English nation, was the intercepting, by his order, a letter which Major Carnac, when commanding the army, had wrote to the King, which the Nabob opened, and sent to the President. This letter, with others from the Nabob, was minutely in consultation of the 5th August, and it was intimated to contain proof of a plot concerted between the Colonel, Major Ramnarain, and Shitabroy, to create a fictitious revolution. Many pains were taken to find out mysterious meanings in the letter, and hints were thrown out to perplex the Board, that such a combination was actually on foot; however, after the closest scrutiny into the letter, and the strictest examination of Shitabray, who was called down from Patna for that purpose, the Board gave it unanimously as their opinion, that there were not the least grounds to suppose any such combination; the ridicule whereof was so conspicuous, that we do not imagine even those, who so seriously promoted the inquiry, could ever have believed it.

33. The real part of this letter related to an application which the Major (by Colonel Coote's direction) made to the King, to be put in possession of some fort in Shujah Dowla's country, upon the Ganges; which, had our troops attended his majesty, as we must have marched through Shujah Dowla's territories, would have been absolutely necessary for a place of arms, and to keep up our communication: the floating such a letter, or indeed any one, from a person in so public a character as the Major then was, might be of the most fatal consequence, was also a public affront, and one that never was before offered by any Nabob; yet no satisfaction has ever been obtained from him, although wrote to fo publicly on that head.

34. You will now, Honourable Sirs, be able to compare the present with the preceding government; so momentous a step, as subverting the former one, we conceive, ought not to have been undertaken till after the most mature deliberation, and from a thorough knowledge of the country, its connections, and interests; but this was far from being the case; Mr. Vanfittart had only been three months in Bengal, and in so short a space of time, can hardly be supposed to have acquired so perfect a knowledge of matters as to be able to determine, that it was absolutely necessary to annul a treaty, which had been ratified in the most solemn manner by Admiral Waddington and Colonel Clive, together with a regularly authorized Select Committee, guaranteed by the credit of the Company, and the honour of the nation.

35. The Gentlemen who were the promoters of this revolution, have coincided remarkably in each other's opinion during the last year's consultations; in return, the President has not failed to shew them partiality, of which we will give you a remarkable instance; notwithstanding your letter to this Prefidency, dated 21st January 1761, you were pleased, in the most positive terms, to order the dismission of M. B. Sumner, Playford, and Mac Gwir; yet on the 15th August, when, in consequence of Mac Gwir's dismission, Mr. Ellis was appointed chief at Patna, Mr. Vanfittart proposed in council, that Mr. Mac Gwir should remain in the chiefship till Mr. Ellis's arrival, which could not be effected in less than two months; the question was absolutely put to the Board, but carried in the negative; the other Gentlemen not chusing to be guilty of so glaring a deviation from their masters' orders; and at Mr. Vanfittart's desire, this proposal of his own was not entered on the face of that consultation. Here it will be necessary also to observe, that Mr. Holwell, after the Honourable Company had shewn him so plain a mark of their displeasure, as to remove him from the Chair to seventh in Council, at first wavered whether to continue in the service or not, till (as he declared) he had a private conference with Mr. Vanfittart, after which he remained in both Council and Select Committee, till the very day on which Mr. Vanfittart took leave of the Board to proceed to Morshedabad, in order to execute the plan which had been formed; and then Mr. Holwell refrained.

36. The Armenian ministers of the revolution, Cojah Petruce, and Cojah Gregory, are in the highest degree of favour with the Nabob and his adherents; the former resides in Calcutta, retained by Col. Aly Chan, a known spy upon every transaction of the English; of which he never fails to give his master the most regular intelligence, as was too apparent to both Colonel Coote and Major Carnac, when they were at Patna. The latter of these Armenians has polls of the greatest trust near the Nabob's person; and through the means of these men, the Armenians in general are setting up an independent footing in the country, are carrying on a trade greatly detrimental to our investments in all parts, and commit daily acts of violence, which reflect no small odium on the English, who are suppos'd to encourage their proceedings.

37. It is this system of administration, which we have constantly opposed, as thinking your
your affairs could not possibly prosper under it; and you will now be able to account for the many differences at the Board, which will appear through the course of our confulsations, and which will doubtlesl surprize you till the real cause is known; as we have hitherto denied our affents to measures, because we deemed them contrary to your intrests, though the adopting them would have turned out greatly to our private emoluments, so you may rest assured it shall ever continue an invariable maxim with us to make your honour and advantage the sole object of our attention.

38. You have been acquainted, Honourable Sirs, that the King has applied for our assistence to settle him on the throne, and to recover such parts of his territories as are still in the hands of rebel; it is our opinion that we have troops enough to form an army for the enterprize; and that, with a European enemy, no fear, the forces requisite for this service can, without danger, be spared. The Nabob's large army, which is now a burden upon the provinces, and only kept up to screen him from the King's power, and through his jealousy of us, would afford a considerable addition, and at the same time exit the country of an immense expense; Shujah Dowlah, one of the most powerful men of the empire, would join with his forces, besides many other considerable powers, friends to the King, from different parts, would flock to the royal standard, should we ever take the field; and our army, most probably (as the King himself has frequently declared) would march to the gates of Delhi, without opposition; we most humbly submit to you, whether so glorious an opportunity of aggrandizing the Company in Hindoos, should not be embraced, and leave it to yourselves to judge the reputation and advantages which would result to them, if, through the means of the British arms, his Majesty should be established on his throne: for want of our aid he is now actually at a stand, and unable to prosecute his journey to his capital.

39. But should you be unwilling to extend your connections further up the country, and, instead of accepting the dawanny of Bengal, chuse to confine your views to your new acquisitions, and to the trade of Bengal alone, we beg leave to offer it as our opinion, that we ought to maintain an interest in the country, independent of the Nabob, by supporting in power such men as have proved themselves our friends; this will serve as a balance against him, should he entertain ill designs against us.

40. We have now given you a fair relation of things; and, conscious of the goodness of our intentions, we cannot but flatter ourselves we shall meet with your approbation, in the part we have taken; we shall therefore conclude with the assurance that our endeavours shall never be wanting to promote the honour and intrests of our employers, their successe being the object of our most fervent willishes.

We are, with the greatest respect,

Fort William,
11th March 1762.
Honourable Sirs,

Your moft faithful and dutiful Servants,

Eyre Coote,
P. Amyatt,
John Carnac,
W. Ellis,
S. Batson,
H. Verelst.

APPENDIX, No. 13.

Fort William, the 21st of April 1761.

Extract of a Letter from Major John Carnac, dated Camp at Bockypoor 13th of April 1761, to the Select Committee.

"I have long had reason to suspect the Nabob had ill designs against Rammarrain, and have now found my suspicions to be too true. His Excellency made a heavy complaint to me yesterday in the presence of Mr. McGwire, Major Yorke, Mehrs. Luffington and Swinn, ton, that there was a considerable balance due on the revenues of this province. Rammarrain has declared to me, that he was very ready to lay the accounts before him; however, as the two parties differ widely in their statement, Mr. McGwire and I proposed, that they should each make out their accounts, and refer them to your Board, who would fairly decide between them. This, which I thought was a reasonable proposal, was so far from being satisfactory to the Nabob, that he plainly declared, nothing less could satisify him than the mahrajies being removed from the naibut of this province before he returned to Morchadayul: you are all, I believe, acquainted, Gentlemen, that Colonel Clive engaged to Rammarrain, on the part of the English, that he should be continued Subah Naib of this province, as long as he chose to be so; and the Colonel constantly op- posed every attempt of Meer Jaffier or the Chota Nabob to remove him; this engagement should surely hold equally good against Coftim Aly Cawn, as being prior to any you have concluded with him. Thus far justice pleads in behalf of Rammarrain; and it is certainly a good policy to support the weight and influence of a person known to be so attached to the English intereft, in order to counterbalance the Nabob, who, as far as I can judge, makes a point to take all power from out of the hands of those, whom he finds to favour, or be fa-

"Youred
Instructins to Colonel Coote, Commander in Chief of the Forces in Bengal.

Sir,

The present tranquility of these provinces, and the valuable territories the Company are pointed at, render the securing that tranquility, and the confirmation of those advantages, the most worthy objects of our attention.

The connection between our nation and the Shahzadah, the eldest son of the last Mogul, may afford the most effectual means of answering those purposes, if circumstances should turn out so, as to put it in our power to assist him in prosecuting his title to the throne of his father.—There have been so many revolutions of late in the affairs of Delhi, that it is hardly possible for us to describe to you how the several chiefs may stand affected; but as far as we have been able to observe, the chiefs who have thrown the most confiant attachment to the cause of the Shahzadah, are, Sujah Dowla, the Nabob of Oude, and Nazeb Dowlah, the chief of the Rohillas.—The territories of the former extending from the Caramnafar, very far towards Delhi, it is his alliance that would be most particularly useful in promoting the success of an expedition to that capital; nor should we think it rash, if the Shahzadah should defiire our afficiance, to be late openly in his favour, whenever Sujah Dowla should have agreed to the plan, and given alliances of his reading to act in conjunction with us.

By the latest advices from Delhi, we are informed Abballah was on his return to his own country; and that a very large force of Morattoos was on its march towards Delhi, with intentions, after executing their purposes there, to attack Sujah Dowla's country.—These advices, if true, should, we imagine, have the effect of making the Shahzadah the more firmly inclined to ask our afficiance, and Sujah Dowlah with to strengthen himself by such an alliance. It is true you would have a troubtleome enemy to deal with in so large a body of Morattoos; but we should little doubt of your beating them, if they would venture to come to an action; and at the same time such measures might be taken by the other Prefidencies, as to oblige them to return to the Deccan; such measures we shall strongly recommend to the Gentlemen at Madras and Bombay, if this enterprise should be carried into execution. Letters are dispatched to Sujah Dowla, prop fing this alliance to him; and by the time his answers arrive, we may hope to see your regiment, without which reinforcement we are not able to spare troops enough for to distant an expedition: another necessary consideration, is a sufficient advance of money for the expenses of the army on the march; ten lacks at least will be neccessary to set out with; and as it is a principle with us, that the Company shall bear no part of the burthen, this sum must be furnished by the Nabob, out of the revenues of Bahar and Bengal; but whether he has the means of doing this, besides discharging his balance to the Company, paying off the arrears due to the troops of the late Nabob, and the current expenses of the Government, seems to us very doubtful. We recommend to you, Sir, rather to consult with him on the means of raising such a sum, than peremptorily to demand it; nor do we in the least doubt but, on your representing to him the security and advantage which will accrue to his government from the intended expedition, he will exert himself to comply to the utmost of his power with whatever you shall think necessary. Such aiiifiance as he may be in need of to collect the balance due to the circcar, we desire you will be pleased to yield him. We are advised by Major Carnac, that there is a difference between the Nabob and Ramnarrain, relative to the accounts of the Patna province: we hope this may be amicably and reasonably adjusted; and request you will give your aiiifiance towards it as much as possible: as Ramnarrain has been remarkably steady in his alliance with the Company, and received from Colonel Clive particular assurances of protection, with respect to his perfon, fortune, and government, we recommend to you to secure him against all attempts of oppression or injustice: and further, that the government of Patna be preferred to him, if it be his inclination to continue it. It is needless for us to add, that it will be far more agreeable to all parties if that can be done, by representing to the Nabob the obligations we are under to Ramnarrain, and preventing by that means the necessity of any foreable measures.

The Shahzadah has often been prevailed to have sieuces struck, and the cootah to be read in his name; but we have hitherto declined, on account of the uncertainty of the expedition's taking place; but whenever it may appear to you, that the giving him these marks of royalty will be the means of strengthening our alliance, and bringing other chiefs to join us, we leave it to your discretion to act accordingly.

Many
Many other circumstances may occur, which may require your determination before you can communicate them to us, which we, with the greatest pleasure and confidence, leave to your discretion, allowing you of our most hearty wishes for your success in all your undertakings, being with perfect esteem, \\

Fort William, 28th September 1761.

Monday.

At a Consultation: President,
The Honourable Henry Vanfittert, Esquire, President.
Culling Smith, Esquire.
Warren Haftings, Esquire.

The Board being fully satisfied of the Colonel's Conduct, wrote to him the following letter.

To Colonel Eyre Coote.

Sir, We have the honour to transmit to you, inclosed, a copy of the enquiries made from Shitahboy and his answers, with respect to the meaning of the obscure expressions in these letters of his, which the Nabob intercepted; the business which he mentions with so much mysterious caution, he explains to be the obtaining for the Company, a funeral for the dewanee of these provinces; and this agrees with the solution given to us by Mr. Lufhington: there is not the least appearance of such a design, as is mentioned by the Nabob's vakeel in the king's camp; viz. the procuring the funnuds for the subadarree of these provinces in the name of Sertfraz Cawn's son, or any other in the place of Coffim Ally Cawn; and it is with great pleasure we assure you we are convinced, the Nabob's suspicions on that head are entirely groundless.

We must observe to you, that the making any application for the dewanee in the name of the Company, or the encouraging others to do it, or the people about the court to offer it, was foreign from our intention, as may be seen by our instructions to Major Carnac of the fort, and to you of the 21st March, where we sum up all the requisits we had to make to the King; we were aware that such a circumstance would be to the Nabob a cause of great uneasiness, the subsidy being a truft of little authority or value, if the dewanee were in the hands of another.

The President has acquainted the Nabob with the result of these enquiries, and represented to him, that it is highly just and necessary he should make you all possible amends for the groundless suspicions entertained of you; at the same time we think some apology is due from you to him, for the alarm you gave him upon a suspicion equally unreasonable, of his intending to attack the city of Patna.

We hope that no more of our time or yours will be taken up with discussions of this nature; but that a steadily pursued of the most necessary measures, for securing the Company's possessions, and preventing the tranquillity of the country, will, in future, employ all our attention. The insinuations in which any of us may have erred, will be pointed out, and cenured by our superiors; but let us here endeavour to shew an example of good harmony to the society of which we are the chief members; and by preferring ourselves a proper respect for each other, excite the same sentiments in others.

We are, with eflence,

Sir,
Your most obedient humble servants.

Extract of a Letter from the Honourable the President, &c. at Fort William, to Colonel Eyre Coote, dated 18th June 1761.

We hope your advice has had some effect upon Rammarrain; it seems however, by his delays in settling accounts upon the footing directed in our joint letter to yourself and Mr. McGwire, dated the 17th of last month, that he is endeavouring, by evading the delivery of his accounts, to prejudice his own authority over the subahship, and prevent the Nabob's collecting any money; it is neither equitable nor expedient to suffer any more of the revenues to be lost; but while the old accounts are under examination, let the Nabob place his own people to collect all the growing rents, and to call the zemindars to account for their balances, and let Rammarrain's powers be suspended until his accounts be settled, and a computation of the rents transmitted us, with the Nabob's proposals for our determination, as defined in our beforementioned letter.

Extract of a Letter from Colonel Eyre Coote, to the Honourable the President, &c. at Fort William, dated French Gardens, July 17th 1761.

By the following paragraph in your instructions to me, dated April 21st: viz. "As Ramnarrain has been remarkably steady in his alliance with the Company, and received from Colonel Clive particular assurances of protection, with respect to his person, fortune, and government; we recommend to you to secure him against all attempts of oppression or injustice; and further, that the government of Patna be preferred to him, if it be his inclination to continue in it: it is needless for us to add, that it will be far more agreeable to all parties, if that can be done by representing to the Nabob the obligations we are under to Ramnarrain, and preventing by that means the necessity of any forcible measures;" also by several other letters since, partly corroborating the beforementioned para-
graph, you continued desirous of giving Ramnarrain your protection, but chose finally to have the differences between him and the Nabob settled by your decision; and though the Nabob was pleased to offer me five lacks and a half of rupees to turn out Ramnarrain, and I was also sensible at that time, from the enmity the Nabob bore him, that the Rajah could not be continued in the shahship, yet so determined was I not to deviate in the least from your instructions, that however great this offer might appear, I refused it, by affuring the Nabob it was not in my power, but must be done by the Board; and I am convinced, ever since that refusal, he looked upon it I could not be his friend.

The following paragraph of my letter to you, dated June 13th, will also shew how desirous I was to have those affairs speedily determined.—"Ramnarrain is settling his accounts with the Nabob, but goes on so slowly, that I can hardly lay he has made any beginning; I must sincerely with this affair was settled one way or other." And on receipt of your letter of the 18th June, wherein you ordered that unfortunate Rajah to be fenced from having any power in the country, till his accounts were settled; I immediately went to acquaint him, that till he settled his accounts, you had suspended him from the government of the province; and in consequence the cutcherry was removed to the Nabob's encampment.

APPENDIX, No. 14.

Extract of a Letter from the Directors to the President and Council at Fort William, dated London, 10th April 1771.

Par. 43: HAVING already apprized you of the purposes to which we mean to appropriate the remaining donations, the debt due to Balackidafs, and the stipulated payment to Juggatcran, shall have been wholly satisfied and reimbursed to us out of the aggregate reductions before mentioned; such further sums shall arise therefrom, as shall be applied from time to time, to clear the balance unpaid to the claimants of the reparation fund, and the donation of two lacks to Colonel Munro, in such proportions as the respective claims may bear to each other, until the whole shall be discharged; but you are to take notice that the principal only of the sums due from the fircar are to be considered and allowed in the payments here ordered.

A Letter of Thanks to Major Munro.

Fort William, the 16th November 1764.

Tuesday. At a Consultation; Present,

The Honourable Henry Vanittart, Esquire, President.

John Spencer,

Cha. Stafford Playdell,

Warren Hastings,

John Johnstone,

Samuel Middleton,

Ralph Leycester,

John Burdett, Esquires.

A Letter of Thanks, addressed to the Commander in Chief.

Agreed that we address, on this occasion, the following letter to Major Munro.

Sir, We have received, with great pleasure, the first news of your success of the 23d October, against Shuja Dowlah, by your note to the President from the field of battle, and yesterday we were favoured with your letter of the 26th, containing the detail of the action, which from the great force of the enemy, and the number of their artillery, is one of the most interesting that ever was fought in India. The signal victory you gained, so as at one blow utterly to defeat their designs against these provinces, is an event, which does so much honour to yourself, Sir, in particular, and to all the officers and men under your command, and which, at the same time, is attended with such important advantages to the Company; as calls upon us to return you our sincere thanks. We shall regard it at once as our pleasure and duty, to let forth to the Court of Directors, how much they are obliged to you for your skill and activity in the care of the army, before the opening of the campaign; your judgement in leading them into the field in the earliest of the season, and your conducting the disposition you made for receiving or attacking the enemy. We request that you will return our thanks to the other field officers, and the commander of the artillery, for their care and vigilance in preferring this disposition, and taking every advantage over the enemy; and to the officers and men in general, for their bravery and good behaviour on this important occasion.

Lieutenants Nicoll, Harper, and Bevan, mentioned in your letter to us, and Captains Grant, Winwood, Hayes, Stables, and Kinlock; Mr. Hamilton, your aid de camp; Lieutenant Duff, of the artillery; Mr. Stuart, your secretary; and Mr. Sage, who acted as Major Pembie's aid de camp, mentioned in like manner in your letter to the President, as merits your particular notice, have gained great honour. They may be assured that your recommendation shall not be forgot; that they shall receive, upon all occasions, every encouragement the
the rules of the service will admit of. We shall also take the first opportunity of writing to the President and Council of Bombay, of the good services of Major Pembie, and Captains Hamilton and Mac Pherson, belonging to that establishment, and shall request of them to take every opportunity of rewarding their merit.

For the further operations of the army we refer you to our separate letter of instructions of this date, and are with great esteem, Sir,

Calcutta, 6th Nov. 1764.

Your most obedient humble servants,

H. VANITART, &c.

APPENDIX, No. 15.

Paragraph from General Letter to Bengal, 27th April 1763.

Par. 5. WITH respect to the jaguirer given to the late Nabob Jaffier Ally Khan to Lord Clive, arising out of the lands granted by the said Nabob to the Company, we direct that you do not pay any further sums to the attorneys of Lord Clive on that account; and we further direct, that whatever shall arise in future from the said jaguirer be carried to our credit. You are to cause exact accounts to be made out and transmitted to us, not only of what shall so come into our hands, but also of all the sums Lord Clive's attorneys have already received on the said account, together with the dates of the several payments; his Lordship's pretensions to the said jaguirer will be settled here.

Copy Letter from the Secret Committee, dated 25th December 1763, to the President, &c. of the Select Committee.

To the President and the rest of the Select Committee at Fort William.

Soon after the general letter of the Court of Directors of the 27th April last, containing orders to the Governor and Council to suspend all future payments of the rents claimed by Lord Clive as a jaguirer, his Lordship thought fit to commence a suit in the court of Chancery against the Company, infiling a title to those rents. A copy of his bill and the Company's answer we send you herewith, by which you will learn how he makes out his claim, and how we controvert it: if the plaintiff should be advised to proceed in his cause, the next step to be taken is, we are told, will probably be a commision to issue out of the said court here, but to be executed in Bengal, in order to ascerten the facts insinched on, and the constitution, usage, and laws of the empire, in all regards this question; and for that purpose to examine and take the depositions in writing, of the several witnesses either side may think fit to produce to prove or disprove the several allegations contained in the bill or in the answer. Whenever such a commision issues, proper instructions will be sent out with it, respecting the manner of executing it. In the mean time it is our desire (and it is for this purpose we write you now) that you will immediately take the proper steps to inform yourselves of the real state of the facts material to the discussion of the several questions upon which the plaintiff's claim appears, by the bill and answer, to depend; particularly that you will immediately make proper enquiries into the authenticity of the pretended patent from the Mogul, creating the plaintiff an Laiir or Omra of the empire, which he makes the foundation of his title, deriving it from a capacity to accept a jaguirer, and, as he pretends, a right to expect one. If no such patent ever issued (as we have good reason to believe) or if any of the usual forms necessary to make it valid and effectual were wanting, this will be decisive against him.

You see therefore the importance of this enquiry, and cannot be too attentive to it. The manner of obtaining the supposed grant of the jaguirer from Jaffier Ally Khan, the Nabob's motives, intentions, &c. must be likewise particularly enquired into, and in case there should have been (as the plaintiff's own letters lead us to suppose) any inducement in any of the instruments supposed to have formerly existed, or if any thing of that kind should be attempted now, you are to spare no pains or expense to detect it; and above all it is our desire that you will instantly make effectual applications to the courts of Delhi and Muradabad, to prevent the issuing any new grants or confirmations, by which the plaintiff might supply the defects of his present title, or acquire a new one, though he should have none at present: for though we have no reason to desire to prevent a fair discussion and decision of the plaintiff's pretensions, yet we are so fully sensible of the many inconveniences to the Company, which such a title, should it be established, would occasion, that we think it our duty to make the strictest enquiry into the foundation of the claim, and if there be no title at present, to use our best endeavours to prevent the acquiring one. We think it equally contrary to the honour, and to the interest of the Company, that it should thus become tributary, as it were, to its own servants; and the soliciting, or even accepting, a grant of the sovereignty of the Company's possessions appears to inconsistent with that relation, that we trust it will be found as illegal, as we are sure it is improper. If those rents must be paid, we think it, upon many accounts, much more for the interest of the Company to pay them as usual to the Nabob, for the use of the Mogul, than to any pretended grantee of theirs, whose receipts we fear would be of little use to the Company, when those princes should be disposed to consider the rents as in arrear; which we doubt not will be the case, if ever they find themselves in a condition to compel the payment of them. Circumstances, however, as things were at Bengal, at the R r time
time the late Nabob was induced to make the grant, which gives occasion to the present claim, we think the Company had a right to expect to be released from this tribute altogether; and that the present claimant, then Governor of the Company’s settlements, and Commander of their troops, ought to have employed the influence this station gave him in procuring this concession, for the Company’s benefit instead of his own. The present situation of things there encourages us still to hope, that both the Mogul and the reigning Nabob may be prevailed upon to relinquish these rents in favour of the Company: and as well for the sake of the revenue, as to prevent the Company’s being ever again embarrased with a claim like the present, we direct you to solicit and use your best endeavours to obtain that concession, in case you find, as we trust you will, that those rents are still in their dispoal.

As it will be necessary, for the purpose of carrying these orders into execution, that some person, in whom we can confide to great a trust, should be sent to Muzadavud and Delhi, we think it necessary that one of you should undertake this negociation. We recommend Mr. John Spencer, if he can be spared, or otherwife Mr. Warren Hatlings; and whoever goes, is to take with him fuch of the Company’s servants as are best qualified by their capacity, integrity, and knowledge of the language, to give him the necessary affiftance.

We have only to add, that in case the plaintiff should think it necessary, as it is probable he may, to employ an agent in Bengal to affit him in any thing relative to the matters in dispute between him and the Company, it will be obviously improper that any of you, with whom we now correspond, or of the council to whom instructions may perhaps be bent hereafter on this subject, should accept that office. This last circumstance you will privately communicate to the rest of the Council.

We are Your loving friends, The Secret Committee of the East India Company. H. CRABB BOULTON, J. DORRIEN, JOHN BOYD, LAU. SULIVAN.

London, 30 Dec. 1763.

Fort William, the 23d April 1764.

At a Consultation; Prefent, The Honourable Henry Vanfittart, Esquire, President.


The Nabob’s Letter to the Governor and Council, in Consequence of the Company’s Orders regarding Colonel Clive’s Jagheer.

The President lays before the Board the following Letter, which he has received from the Nabob, addressed to himself and the Council, Dated 27th March 1764.

From the Nabob to the Governor and Council.

"I am informed by Major Carnac, that the Gentlemen of Council at Calcutta, in conformity to the directions of the counfellors in Europe, have taken posiflion of, and propose paying into the Company’s treasury, the rents of the jagheer, which I affigned to my fon Colonel Clive, in consideration of the great services he performed for me, and which God is my witnes I gave him, without his defiring it, merely as a reward for his dutiful and affectionate behaviour to me. This affair surprifed me greatly, because no other Gentlemen have any right to what I have given to my fon Colonel Clive. If therefore it is not agreeable to them to continue the jagheer to my faid fon, the right and property thereof reverts to me. I will refume it. Whatever money now is, or may hereafter be due, on account of the faid jagheer, you will be pleased to pay it into the hands of Mr. Vanfittart, that I may receive the full amount thereof. Let thefe my orders be faithfully complied with."

The reversion of it to him esteemed inceaffeable.

Since the Company have been pleased to forbid our continuing to pay this jagheer to Lord Clive, we are unanimously of opinion, that the Nabob’s right to the money is inceaffeable.

Order and Resolution in Consequence.

Ordered therefore, that the acomptant to the Committee of Lands, do prepare, and lay before the Board, an account of what is due to this time; the fame may be brought to the Nabob’s credit.

And agreed, that the President do advise the Nabob accordingly.

Fort William, the 7th May 1764.

At a Consultation; Prefent, The Honourable Henry Vanfittart, Esquire, Warren Hatlings, Esquire, Randolph
Account of money due on Lord Clive's jagheer.
The accountant to the Committee of Lands lays before the Board the account money due on Lord Clive's jagheer to the 1st April last, amounting to — S. R. 1,25,655 7 3
Entered, and an Order to the Sub Treasurer,
Ordered, It be entered, and that the sub-treasurer be directed to pass the amount to the credit of the Nabob's account, and the debit of the Company's zemindary.

Particulars of the sums on which Roydolub received his commission in three payments.

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Deduct army and navy, on which no commission was drawn — 106,317,64 4 4

Committee 115,000 5 per cent. — 828,956 3 1 2
A present from Colonel Clive, being 5 per cent. upon 25 lacks — 4,14,498 1 5

An Account of Money agreeable to the receipts of Raja Dolevaram, received account commission, viz.

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N. B. The above sums are given to Raja Dolevaram by Coja Petruke, the bags containing some one thousand, and some two thousand; the said bags were sealed with a Mohur of Nabob Surozut Dowlah, and regularly the above sums were received by Dolevaram; but those bags that were left to the amount of 797 Z. Rs. which was likewise received by him.

Lord Clive observed, concerning the account laid before the Governor and Council by Roy Dullub, in which is an article of 5 per cent. received by him (Roy Dullub) on a present of 25 lacks of rupees given by the Nabob to his Lordship, that to the best of his recollection Roy Dullub, who was the Nabob's prime minister and treasurer, received a commission of 5 per cent. upon all the treaty money (except that to the navy and army) upon all the committee money, and also upon all the separate donations to those individuals, as well Blacks as Europeans, who had been particularly useful in the revolution; some of whose names were mentioned in his Lordship's evidence on the 28th of April; that those separate donations must be included in the 25 lacks specified in Roy Dullub's account. — Lord Clive having been the principal person, he imagined was the reason, why the whole of that money was put under his name, although his proportion was only what has been already declared by his Lordship. And it is certain, that the deduction of 5 per cent. commission for Roy Dullub was made from every body's proportion as well as from Lord Clive's.

A motion was made, and the question being put, That the said report be printed;
It passed in the negative.

Ordered, That the said report do lie upon the table.

Colonel Burgoyne also reported from the said Committee, That the Committee had examined the matter of the petition of Gregore Cojamaul, late of Bengal, in the East Indies, on behalf of himself and others, referred to their consideration; and had directed him to report the same, as it appeared to them, to the House; and he read the report in his place; and afterwards delivered it in at the clerk's table: where the same was read; and is as followeth, viz.

The committee who were appointed to enquire into the nature, state, and condition of the East-India Company, and of the British affairs in the East Indies, and to whom the petition of Gregore Cojamaul, late of Bengal, in the East Indies, on behalf of himself
himself and others, was referred, have, pursuant to the order of the House, examined the matter of the said petition; and considering the lateness of the present sessions and the importance of the subject, beg leave to lay before the House the whole of the evidence upon their proceedings thereon.

Veneris, 8<sup>o</sup> die Maii, 1772.

Colonel Burgoyne in the chair; Present,

Mr. Johnstone, Sir John Turner,
Mr. Sutton, Mr. Ongley,
Mr. Vane, Mr. Hotham,
Mr. Strachey, Mr. Pitt,
Mr. Curzon, Mr. Cornwall,
Mr. Fuller, Mr. Ellis.

Read, the petition of Gregore Cojamaul; as follows:

"To the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled.

"The humble Petition of Gregore Cojamaul, late of Bengal, in the East Indies, on behalf of himself and others,

"Sheweth,

"That your petitioner, who is an Armenian Christian, and native of Iphahan in Perfa, has for many years resided in India as a merchant, particularly in the provinces of Bengal and its dependencies, where those of his nation have ever been allowed to carry on trade, according to the ancient usages of those countries, and even were indulged with certain privileges in that respect.

"That your petitioner, who has ever strictly conformed himself to the usages of those respective countries, has, with many others of his nation, of late, been greatly impeded in their business as merchants, by the most cruel, destructive, and injurious regulations, and grievously oppressed by long and cruel imprisonments, and otherwise, by the nominal nabobs, and other servants of the English East-India Company in Bengal, notwithstanding your petitioner never in any degree injured the said Company, nor was ever guilty of any breach of the laws, either of India or this nation; to the known justice of which last, he has already applied for satisfaction for the great losses and injuries he has sustained.

"That, when your petitioner, and others, have been injured and oppressed by such imprisonments within the districts to which His Majesty's most gracious charter of justice, granted to the said Company, is not allowed to extend, they have applied to the said nominal nabobs of Bengal for justice, who have referred them and your petitioner to the President or Secret Committees of Calcutta in Bengal, alleging such imprisonments to have been effected by their orders; and when, on the part of your petitioner and such other persons, application has been made for justice at Calcutta to the said Company's governor and president of the secret committees, they have been referred back to the said nabobs; and in this grievous situation, without ever being able to know of what crime he was accused, your petitioner, by such evasions, has been ruined, and left without any other remedy than the precarious redress which he may possibly obtain from the courts of law in this country, under all the disadvantages of seeking justice in a foreign land, at such a distance from the scene of action, without friends or money.

"That your petitioner, upon his arrival in England, was advised to apply to the Directors of the East India Company for redress, in consequence of the injuries he had sustained by their servants abroad, which your petitioner did accordingly in the most humble manner, but has never yet been able to obtain any satisfactory answer from that Honourable Board.

"That your petitioner is about to return to his family and business in Bengal, where, under the present double government, he is apprehensive his person, property, and family, as well as the rest of his nation, will be exposed to greater hardships than before, on account of his having applied for justice in England, unless protected by some effectual regulations of government by the British Legislature.

"Your petitioner therefore humbly prays this Honourable House to take this cafe into consideration, and grant such relief in the premises, with respect to the future security of persons and property in Bengal, as to the wisdom of this Honourable House shall seem meet.

(Signed) "Gregore Cojamaul."

The Committee then read parts of a letter written by Lord Clive, upon his leaving Bengal, to Mr. Verelst and the rest of the Gentlemen of the Select Committee, dated the 16<sup>th</sup> January 1767; as follows:

"The first point in politics which I offer to your consideration, is the form of government. We are sensible that since the acquisition of the Deyanny, the power formerly belonging to the foubah of these provinces, is totally, in fact, vested in the East India Company. Nothing remains to him but the name and shadow of authority. This name however, this shadow, it is indispensably necessary we should learn to venerate; every mark of distinction and respect must be thrown him, and he himself encouraged to bow his servitude upon the least want of respect from other nations.

"Under
Under the sanction of a foubah, every encroachment that may be attempted by foreign powers can effectually be crushed, without any apparent interposition of our own authority; and all real grievances complained of by them, can, through the same channel, be examined into and redressed. But it must be remembered that there is a foubah, that we have allotted him a stipend, which must be regularly paid, in support of his dignity; and that though the revenues belong to the Company, the territorial jurisdiction must still remain in the chiefs of the country acting under him, and this Presidency in conjunction. To appoint the Company's servants to the offices of collectors, or indeed to do any act by an exertion of the English power, which can equally be done by the Nabob at our instance, would be throwing off the mask, would be debarring the Company foubah of the provinces.

Foreign nations would immediately take umbrage, and complaints preferred to the British court might be attended with very embarrassing consequences. Nor can it be supposed that either the French, Dutch, or Danes, would readily acknowledge the Company's foubahship, and pay into the hands of their servants the duties upon trade, or the quitrents of those districts which they may have long been possessed of by virtue of the royal phrens, or grants from former Nabobs.

To what I have urged in general upon the subject of regulations, I beg leave to add a few words in relation to one particular point: all the Company's servants at the auras, all those at the out factories, except such as are fixed at the subordinates, and are necessarily employed in the silk business, all free merchants, must be recalled, and their place of residence confined to Calcutta. Orders for this purpose have already been issued, and the time for their being obeyed is limited. Herein no consideration whatsoever, fiercely humanity itself, except in any very extraordinary instance, should tempt you to relax; for be assured, that until these regulations take place, the Company cannot be properly said to enjoy their just rights and privileges, nor the natives to be masters of their own property.

Another growing evil, which requires a speedy remedy, is the number of vagabonds that infest the Presidency. All those must be apprehended and embarked on board ships for Europe without delay. In their native country they may become useful to the public, but in Calcutta they are worse than idlers. Our police is not perfect enough to prevent their being guilty of many outrages, of which I need only mention the oppressing the poor inhabitants, and the retailing of spiritual liquors, which destroy the constitution and lives of many of our soldiers.

The Committee then read part of a minute of Mr. Vereell, who succeeded Lord Clive in the government of Bengal, as recorded in the proceedings of a select committee held on the 6th February 1767, at which were also present Colonel Richard Smith, Francis Sykes, Claud Rullel, and Alexander Campbell, Esquires; viz.

Lord Clive, in his letter to this Committee, has been very explicit on the present state of affairs, and has fixed on judicious and fo wise a plan of politics, that I consider it as my duty to recommend in the most earnest manner, our strictly adhering thereto, from a conviction that it is a plan the best calculated to infure stability to the affairs of the Company, to preserve harmony and concord amongst ourselves, and to establish that order, regularity, and subordination, without which the greatest and most opulent kingdoms cannot long subsist. Though his Lordship is no longer present to assist us in those salutary measures by which he had so much at heart, and to the protection of which he refixed his health, his life, and every thing dear, yet the legacy he has left us will serve as a guide for our future conduct, in the weighty and important concerns of this government.

The petitioner, Gregoire Cojannal, was then called upon to give an account of the circumstances of his being taken up and confined, to the time of his releaftment and embarkation for England, which he did in the following words:

On the 14th March 1768, Rajah Bulwantfing's officer seized me at Bara Fort, and told me in consequence of an order that the Rajah had received from the Calcutta governor, Mr. Vereell. Then I was taken to different forts under forty men, who guarded me. On the 17th they put me in a boat, where was another prisoner, an Armenian Gentleman, called Molcomb II. They were carried to Chowfah, where I received from the Rajah and his minions, letters and a bond on my imprisonment, and approbation of my conduct. After some days were carried to Patna, where we arrived the 24th March, and we were carried before the Company's collector named Shatabroy, who confined us in his butchery till the 6th April. He then sent away Rajah Bulwantfing's guards, and put English Sepoys over us. As soon as the guard was changed, they carried us into a boat in such a hafty manner, that they did not know what we were accused of; one day we heard there was an order of Mr. Vereell, the governor of Calcutta, that we should be carried to Murshabad, before Mahomed Reza Khawn. We arrived at Murshabad on the 26th April 1768, and we were carried before Mahomed Reza Khawn, who was the superior of the English collectors. He ordered us to be carried to a place called Ferrabag. On the 27th April, the first Sepoys guard was sent away, and other English Sepoys were put in their place, under the command of Major Christian Picheres.—While we were prisoners, our relations and friends applied to the Nabob to release us, who told them he had wrote to Calcutta for orders. At Calcutta our relations presented a petition to the Governor and Council, which was prefixed to Mr. Ver- eell himself, who told them to go and apply to the Nabob at the city of Murshabad. On
the 23d May we were released. We went to Calcutta, where we arrived the 8th June. On the 10th we waited on Mr. Vereiff, to know his pleasure. He insisted we had not been prisoners. I told Mr. Vereiff that I had transacted business for some English gentlemen, under a purwannah, sealed with the Company's seal; he said, If this is the case, then you are blameless: bring the purwannah and shew it me—I did not bring my purwannah to shew him, being advised not to do it, because the other gentleman, Melcom Phillip, told me that he had carried his, and that Mr. Vereiff had detained it. Afterwards I was discharged, from an order that no Armenian or Portuguefe should go out of the English dominions, fo I remained without my goods, or being able to collect my money, which determined me to come to this country to seek for justice.

Q. To what value do you suppose the goods and debts you left behind you amounted to?
A. In all £. 5,000.

Q. Was that belonging to yourself?
A. Yes.

Q. Did you leave no goods or debts with which you was intrusted by other people?
A. I did.

Q. Whole goods?
A. Mr. Bolt's and Mr. Hare's. I guess, about 10 or £. 12,000 worth.

Q. In what part of the country were those goods and debts?
A. In Bulwanting's dominions.

Q. Since that time have you received no account of your own debts, or those belonging to Mr. Bolt or Mr. Hare?
A. I have had no account—I have been in England since August 1769.

Q. Did you never hear that the Company's servants were forbid to trade in Bulwanting's country?
A. No—I think the Company's servants were allowed to trade in that country, because I have often seen goods there belonging to the English, and have seen English gomatais in that country.

Q. Do you think your goods and debts, together with those of Mr. Bolt and Mr. Hare, are lost, so that you shall never receive them?
A. I don't expect a farthing.

Q. Of the £. 5,000 you left, what part was in goods, and what in debts?
A. Rather more in debts than goods.

Q. When you left that country, did you look upon your debts as good?
A. At that time every one was good.

Q. What part of Mr. Bolt's and Mr. Hare's property, left behind, was in goods, and what in debts?
A. As I guess, rather more in goods than in debts.

Q. Did you apprehend that their debts were good when you left that country?
A. They were good.

Q. Do you know of any goods of English manufactory being sold in Bulwanting's country?
A. No.

Q. Do you know of any English broad cloth and copper, or other English commodities, being sold in Bulwanting's or Sujahal Dowlah's country?
A. I never saw it, but have heard of it.

Q. At what time was it that you have heard of English goods being sold in Bulwanting's country?
A. Between 1767 and 1768.

Mr. Cezamaul's original purwannah was then produced and declared by Mr. Rumbold to be the purwannah diffused by him when he was chief of Patna.—It was interpreted by Goyshamdas as follows:

S E A L.

The Magnificent Merchants of the English Company, the Dewans of the Magnificent Provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa, Servants of the bold King Shah Allum.

The governors, zemindars, chowdries and canongoes, of the districts belonging to the province of Ghazipore, which belongs to the great province of Owd, may observe—Since Gregore, gomatah, being appointed by Mr. Francis Hare, gentleman, to buy and sell goods, he going into that country, that he may carry on trade for the aboveaid Gentleman, for the space of six months, it is necessary that nobody shall interrupt him, that he may carry on trade by uprightnefs with an easy mind; it is necessary, that they, having observed the power of this order, may put it in execution—Dated the 30th October 1767, in the 9th year of the King.

Mr.
Mr. Cojamaul was then asked, Had you ever any warning or notice either from the servants of the English Company or Bulwanting, or any of his officers, that you were conducting yourself improperly, before you were seized and imprisoned?

A. I never had any notice.

Q. Did you think that purwannah gave you authority to trade for Mr. Bolts?

A. No.

Q. Had you any purwannah to trade for Mr. Bolts?

A. No.

Q. Had you a right to trade for the English without a purwannah?

A. I had, being a merchant settled in that country.

Q. If you had a right to trade without a purwannah, what use was there in having one?

A. I was advised if I did any business for English Gentlemen to get one—I had liberty and permission from the Rajah Bulwanting to do business in that country, and never was molested; the rajah and the people were satisfied.

A. Were Ghazipore part of Bulwanting's country?

A. It was.

Q. When you came to this kingdom, did you apply to the East India Company?

A. I arrived in London the 18th August 1769—I presented a petition to the Court of Directors on the 12th September, and I never had any answer—In October the Secretary sent me a letter that he would be glad to speak with me any morning. I employed Mr. Bolts because I could not talk English myself.

Q. Did Mr. Verelst ever desire you to give him a list of your goods, and say he would assist you in recovering them?

A. No.

Q. When you carried on trade in Bulwanting's country, did you ever make use of the English name?

A. I did not, I had no occasion, because I was a merchant—I traded for English Gentlemen, but did not call myself an English gomastah, nor paid I traded by English authority.

Thomas Rumbold, esq. being then called, said, with regard to purwannahs, they are of very different kinds. When they are issued in the manner of that produced, for the purchase of goods, the servants of the Company have only been intitled to them—they exempt the possessor from all duties or impositions of the officers of the country government, and no man residing in Bulwanting's country, without them, or within the provinces, could have carried on their business without being liable to frequent interruption, and demands of duties from the farmers of the districts. I believe there has been no Armenians residing in Shujah Dowla's country, till the influence obtained by the English, and they were after that, in common with other gomastahs, employed by the servants of the Company. It was some-time doubtful whether we had a right to grant those purwannahs for the purchase of goods within his dominions: it had however been for some time done, and no notice taken of it, probably from Shujah Dowla's being afraid of offending the English after being put in possession of his country. In course of time, complaints came that the gomastahs of the English were guilty of many oppressions in that country. Many letters were wrote by Shujah Dowla; some I received myself, and General Smith, who was at the court of Shujah Dowla, often made representations to me how disagreeable it was to the Nabob to have those gomastahs residing with such a protection within his country; this occasioned orders from the President and Council of Fort William, that no purwannahs should in future be granted; that all the gomastahs should be recalled, and, that when goods passed the boundaries of the Bahar province, whether belonging to the natives of Bengal, Bahar, or Orissa, or not, should be subject to the duties collected by Shujah Dowla's officers from other merchants. In short, that the English privilege should be withdrawn. I believe, that those orders from the President and Council were in consequence of some directions from home. All men who had those purwannahs were intitled to particular privileges, and exemption from all duties of the country government. When the orders came for recalling the gomastahs, several gentlemen at Patna represented, that they should suffer greatly by the immediate recall of their gomastahs, before they could have time to adjust their concerns, and several who made this representation were indulged with a longer time; but there appearing no end to that indulgence, another order was sent for their immediate return, and to deliver up their purwannahs. This order was signed to the several gentlemen I had granted purwannahs to; many of the purwannahs were delivered to me. I cannot speak particularly to the purwannah of those Armenians, why it was not given up, or whether the time was elaps'd.—Several gomastahs still remained in Shujah Dowla's country, and took the names of English Gentlemen: three in particular took my name, and were intitled either by Shujah Dowla, or the troops acting under Captain Harper: Mr. Verelst, President at Calcutta, wrote to me, that he was surprised there should be men acting in that country, when the orders from the Presidency had so frequently been repeated against it. I wrote him for answer, I was very glad they had been taken up, and hoped they would meet with a due punishment for acting in my name without any authority from me. The only gomastahs that I kept in the country at that time, were for the service of the Company, and by permission of Shujah Dowla, to provide timber at a place called Gorruckpore, for building barracks for the troops. I never had any complaint from Mr. Hare, who was the second at Patna, of those people who by that purwannah had acted as his gomastahs, being feiz'd.
feized.—I cannot recollect the time, but Mr. Bolts wrote to me, mentioning these Armenians being in Shujah Dowla's country, and recommending to me to employ them as my gomastahas; he particularly mentioned to me the advantages that would arise by carrying on a particular trade by them. I declined employing them.

Q. At what time did you receive those complaints from Shujah al Dowla?
A. I cannot charge my memory with the particular time.

Q. Did not Mr. Johnstone present the purwannah now produced, to you several days ago, to look at the subject, that you might be master of the subject?
A. Certainly.

Q. Did you understand this purwannah was both to buy and sell?
A. Undoubtedly.

Q. By what Rupation of treaty or other regulation, did the exemption of duties arise in consequence of the English purwannah in Bulwantling's and Shujah Dowla's country?
A. It refers back to the former part of his evidence.

Q. Do you remember the date when orders were sent to you not to grant any more purwannahs?
A. I have many copies of transactions abroad, which I keep for my own satisfaction.—If on looking over my papers, I shall find the copy of the order, I shall certainly bring it to the Committee.

Q. In what light do you consider Shitabroy?
A. I consider Shitabroy, as a man appointed by the Nabob and ministers, to collect the revenues, with the approbation of the Company's agents, as having the dewanny in their petition.

Q. Who do you conceive the Nabob and ministers to be appointed by?
A. I believe the Company's records will shew.

Q. Have you any belief or knowledge concerning that yourself?
A. I never had the honour of being concerned in the appointment of any nabob or minister.

Q. When you was chief at Patna, was Shitabroy under your direction?
A. No.

Q. Was he perfectly independent of your authority?
A. Entirely independent of my authority.

Q. Do you consider him as a servant of the East-India Company or not?
A. No more than I consider Mahomed Reza Cawn.

Q. Do you consider Mahomed Reza Cawn as a servant?
A. I consider him as the minister of the Nabob.

Q. Does Mahomed Reza Cawn receive his directions upon the affairs of government from the Nabob?
A. I never was present at any directions that were sent to him.

Q. Did you ever send or give any order to Shitabroy?
A. I never gave an order to him in my life, but I have made many requests to him as chief of the factory.

Q. Was he always so civil as to grant your requests?
A. He was one of the best bred men I ever met with, and I never gave him an order.

Q. What would have been the consequence to Shitabroy, if he had refused the request?
A. If it had been on behalf of the East-India Company, I should have represented it to the Governor and Council of Calcutta.—If of a private nature, I must have satisfied myself.

Q. Do you fancy, in consequence of such representation, Shitabroy would have been removed from his office?
A. I suppose, if it had been anything that materially affected the interests of the Company, the Nabob would have showed a proper resentment to the officer who had charge of his bulwarks in that province.

Q. Do you believe Shitabroy would have dared to refuse any request coming from you officially as a public officer of the Company, and upon a public account?
A. Except the request had been very improper, I don't believe he would.

Q. Who pays Shitabroy his salary?
A. He is paid out of the revenues, the same as other officers employed in the collection of them.

Q. Who is it that pays him, the Nabob or the Company?
A. Certainly the Nabob; he receives it out of the revenues, and makes up his accounts every year to the Nabob, at Murshidabad.

Q. Was it paid out of the gross revenue, or out of the particular revenue assigned to the Nabob by treaty?
A. Out of the gross revenue.

Q. About what time were those purwannahs first issued?
A. There were purwannahs issued before I was chief of the factory, which was in December 1766.

Q. Were any purwannahs ordered by Lord Clive?
A. I don't recollect.

Q. Were purwannahs of the same effect as those produced, issued in Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa?
A. There were, to the Company's servants, mentioning the name of the gomastahas employed by them.
Q. Could a gomastah, acting under such a purwannah, send goods free of duties without a dulfuck?

A. Certainly not—The dulfuck passes the goods by the different custom-houses, which are called checkies; but there is a duty upon almost every species of goods that is paid to the farmer where those goods are manufactured, which the dulfuck has nothing to do with, and which all the country merchants are subject to, but which the purwannah given to our merchants exempts them from, as I have always understood. I am not sure, whether the duty is paid by the purchaser or manufacturer, but which ever it is, the purwannah exempts him—

I have traded in Shujah Dowlah's country, in opium and some little saltpetre.

Q. Do they pay duties in Shujah Dowlah's country?

A. I always traded as a servant of the Company, and consequently my agents were furnished with purwannahs and dulfucks, and therefore I cannot speak positively to the duties—

When those orders came to me, every gomastah of mine was recalled.

Q. Had you ever any complaints against Cogee Gregore, Cogee Melcomb, Cogee Johannes, Padre Rafael, or Raminker?

A. Never particularly; the complaints that I heard were in general against the English gomastahs.

Q. Did you ever hear or know the causes for confining those gomastahs?

A. I never heard any thing in particular about them.

Q. Had you ever any complaint from any of the princes of the country, while you was chief at Patna, against Mr. Bolts?

A. No; not to my recollection.

The Committee then proceeded to read part of the proceedings held at a consultation of the 18 May 1768, at Calcutta; at which were present Harry Vercelt, Esquire, President; Colonel Richard Smith, Richard Becher, James Alexander, Claud Ruffell, William Aldersey, and Charles Floyer, Esquires; as follows:

"The Select Committee lay before us the following extract from their proceedings of the 27th ultimo:"

"Extrait from the proceedings of the Select Committee, the 27 April 1768."

"This Board being sensible of the great disadvantages resulting from an immediate recall of gomastahs of individuals, at present trading in the countries of the Nabob Shujah al Dowla and Bulwantiga, under the sanction of the English, it is resolved to allow them to reside there for the space of two months, for the adjustment of the affairs of their constituents, and the collection of their outstanding balances, and shall on no account whatever be allowed to engage in any new concern, and that they shall quit those countries immediately after the expiration of the term limited for their residence.

"And in order to facilitate the adjustments of their affairs, as well as to prevent the frauds and other abuses to which such a restriction might otherwise expose them, it is further resolved and agreed, that the President do inform the Nabob Shujah al Dowla and Bulwantiga, of these injunctions laid upon all gomastahs in their countries, and to request they will grant them every reasonable assistance they may require, for the speedy regulation of their concerns.

"Agreed, that the foregoing resolutions be laid before the President and Council, and that we do recommend to them to infuse their orders for effectually preventing, in future, any trade being carried on beyond the provinces by gomastahs allowing the English name.

"A true extract. (Signed)"

"Charles Floyer."

"Secretary of the Select Committee."

"The same having been read, and we concurring in opinion therewith, it is agreed and resolved, that after the expiration of two months, from the 27th April, no gomastahs employed by the English shall be permitted to remain in any part of India, out of the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa; and after that period, that no Company's servant, free merchant, or other European residing under the Company's protection, shall be suffered to carry on any inland trade directly or indirectly, beyond those limits, under penalty, if a Company's servant, of being immediately dismissed the service; if a free merchant, or other European, of forfeiting the Company's protection. And it is further agreed and resolved, that if any European whatsoever shall attempt to transport any merchandise beyond those provinces, all such merchandise shall be seized and confiscated, and the gomastahs having charge of such contraband trade shall be punished with the utmost severity.

"All Armenians, Portugese, or the defendants of Armenians and Portuguese, are included in the above restrictions, it being intended that none but the natives of the country (Muffelmen and Hindoos) shall in future enjoy this privilege.

"Ordered, That public notice be given of this resolution, and agreed, that we acquaint the Gentlemen at the subordinates of the same, and send them a copy of the publication made here, that it may be iffled at their respective residences also."

Mr. Rumbold was then asked, Do you remember any public orders for prohibiting Armenians, their defendants, and others, from trading in Shujah Dowla or Bulwantiga's dominions before the edict of the 18 May 1768, which has now been read?

A. I do not recollect any, but should there have been any order at that time which may have flipt my memory, I hope the Committee will not suppoole that I had any intention of secreting it.
Q. Was it not your practice at Patna to enter in a book all your letters of correspondence with the country powers?
A. I believe they mostly were, but I have no copies.
Q. Are those books transmitted from the subordinate factories to the Presidency?
A. I do not believe the books of country correspondence have been so transmitted.
Q. Were those general orders for withdrawing the gomafthas and purwannahs, issued by you, entered?
A. I believe they are.

Mr. Clive was then asked, When you purchased goods for Mr. Hare, did you pay the duty to the zemindar?
A. I know of but one duty, and that goes to the fouzdar or his officers: I never purchased anything without paying a duty.
Q. Why did you not produce the purwannah to excuse Mr. Hare from paying the duty?
A. Because I did not chuse to act as a gomafth, but as a merchant; I told Mr. Hare, I would not do it.
Q. Why did you take the purwannah?
A. I was advised by my friends, but I never used it.
Q. Do you know nothing of any duties whatsoever, from which the producing that purwannah would exempt you?
A. The force of this purwannah, as I have heard, is to hinder the duty in the English or any other dominions; but I never made use of it; the duty is trifling.
Q. Did you charge Mr. Hare with the duties?
A. Yes.
Q. Why did you, when you had a purwannah that would have exempted them?
A. Because I told Mr. Hare at first, that I would not be employed as a gomafth for the English, but as a merchant.
Q. What is the force of the duffuck?
A. To pass the goods by the chokies.
Q. Is there not a duty paid in the place where the goods are manufactured?
A. Yes—where they are bought or manufactured.
Q. Have you your account with Mr. Hare?
A. No; it remains in India.
Q. Is it any disgrace to be an English gomafth?
A. A merchant is always respected more, and has more credit, than a gomafth.
Q. Is a merchant more respected than an English gomafth?
A. It is a character of more respect.
Q. Did you ever apply to Mr. Vereefft for redress?
A. I never applied myself, but my friends did.
Q. What was their application?
A. It was for redress. I have heard of no answer from my friends, that they could get.
Q. Who were those friends?
A. Melcomb Philip; he said he could get no answer.
Q. Did you ever send any goods to Mr. Hare?
A. I have sent things of little consequence.

Lun 11° die Maii, 1772.
Colonel Burgoyne in the Chair; Prefent,
Mr. Johnstone, — Mr. Trecathick,
Mr. Vane, — Mr. Ongley,
Mr. Pulteney, — Lord Clive,
Mr. Strachey, — Mr. Pitt,
Sir G. Elliot, — Lord Folkestone.

The Committee proceeded to read the following extract from a letter of the Governor and Select Committee in Bengal, to the Directors of the East India Company, dated 31st January 1766, signed, Clive, Wm. B. Sumner, John Carnac, H. Vereefft, and Francis Sykes, viz.:

"To us it evidently appears there remained but the alternative, to advance as we have done, and grasp at the whole power, or to shrink back into our primitive condition of simple merchants; to abandon our posessions, disband our forces, and rest our future hopes on the clemency of princes, who will not falsely forget or forgive the superiority we have so long maintained.—In a word, this last measure was in itself impracticable; for we must observe, although with much regret, that the misconduct of individuals hath rendered the English name so odious, that we are no longer secure, than while our hands are armed for the defence of our lives and property."

Read, part of the proceedings of the Select Committee in Bengal, held at Barasut, the 31st December 1766, at which were present Lord Clive, Harry Vereefft, Esquire, Brigadier General Carnac, and Francis Sykes, Esquire, as follows:

"Mahomed Reza Khawn representing to us the great expence which he necessarily incurs in supporting the dignity and influence of his station, an expence which he has hitherto defrayed by receiving those perquisites and emoluments usually annexed to his office, and defining that we will now adjun to him a fixed salary and provision, which he thinks will prove more honourable to himself and advantageous to the revenue:"
And the Committee taking into serious consideration the great importance of Mahomed Reza Khawn's particular station, which is that of naib dewan and prime minister, the extraordinary zeal and ability he has shewn in the discharge of his office, the expediency of maintaining him in the full influence due to his rank, and the benefit to the revenue that will accrue from cutting off all secret advantages and perquisites, which to evidently open a door to manifold acts of fraud and oppression:

Resolved, That in lieu of all perquisites and emoluments hitherto received by Mahomed Reza Khawn, and the other ministers, agreeably to the custom of the country, there shall in future be assigned for their maintenance and support, an annual salary of twelve lacks of rupees, the same to be deducted from the monthly collections, and divided between Mahomed Reza Khawn, Roy Dullaub, and Shitahroy, in such manner and in such proportions, as shall be settled by the Right Honourable the President and them, payment to commence on the last day of January next.

Read, Part of the proceedings of the Governor and Council at Fort William, in Bengal, dated the 16th December 1767, at which were present Harry Verteil, Esquire, President; John Carter, Richard Becher, Claud Ruffell, William Aldersley, Charles Floyer, and Alexander Campbell, Esquires: also part of the proceedings of a Select Committee, held the 11th December 1767, at which were present Mr. Verteil, Mr. Carter, Mr. Becher, and Mr. Campbell, viz.

Extract of a Letter from Colonel Richard Smith, to the Select Committee, dated at Ilahabad, the 24 November 1767.

The nature of the intelligence transmitted from Calcutta, by Shujah Dowla's vaqued, is without limits. The Nabob is almost as fully acquainted with the parliamentary proceedings concerning the Company's affairs as I am. How far the importance and dignity of the Company, and the weight and influence of the administration, is leavened in his election in this communication, may be easily conceived. Whilst a vaqued is so ready to procure a channel to communicate intelligence, few men will be found so hardy as to maintain a direct correspondence with the Nabob; but there is a man who has obligingly offered to great an insult to our President, that was present at the Board, I would move for the exertion of our authority to the utmost extent, to free the settlement from so dangerous an inhabitant—I mean Mr. Bolts, and the inclosed copy of a letter (the original in my possession) to Mr. Gentil, residing in Sujah Dowla's court, wherein he affirms an absolute falsehood, which tends to lessen that essential dignity and necessary influence of our President, is surely a defect of your further remonstrance. Nor is this the less, the only letter he wrote; for the Nabob acquainted a person of doubtless honour, that Mr. Bolts had wrote the name to Meer Meflah (formerly physician and confidant of Goftam Aly) from whom the Nabob heard it. Hereafter I may lay before you other proofs of the extent of the intelligence communicated through the vaqued.'

Letter to Mr. Gentil.

Dear Sir,

It is a long time since I heard from you, which has made me a little uneasy. I have long intended to come from hence to have the pleasure of seeing you, as also to pay my respects to the Nabob, but my affairs have not as yet permitted me; nevertheless, it is what I hope to be able to do in a short time.

In regard to the late petre, I hope the disputes on that subject are ended, but it is not possible for me to abandon my right for the advantage of other Gentlemen, who have no other pretensions than what are founded on injustice, and who would take the advantage of my absence for to deprive me of the advantage of my contracts, which have existed a long time, and which were drawn out with all propriety and justice, conformable to the customs of merchants. If that had been for the Nabob, it would have been another thing.

But before I give up the point to Gentlemen who are not in any way my superiors, I assure you, I will follow the affair to the last court of justice, where I can have recourse. Next year I will give over all further commerce, but in the mean time, I hope you will help me with your assistance. My gomafth Gaoldaf writes me you had informed him, that Colonel Barker had wrote letters to flay all my business, and to drive away my people; I shall be obliged to you for your information on that subject, for that Gentleman is not authorized to act in such a manner.

I have taken the liberty to fend you a letter for Cojee Rafael; I beg you will deliver it to him and fend me his answer. I am surprized the Nabob has not as yet paid (as they write me) the amount of the broad cloth which my people sold him; if that is true, he to good as to represent the same to him. Melcomb writes me, that he also is told four cloth from Dacea to the Nabob's camp: I do not doubt of your favourable assistance for this sake. I shall be very glad when you give me an opportunity of rendering you any service here in return for the trouble I have given you. I shall never be convinced of your friendship, unless you give me some opportunity or of ting any mine; but you, who are a naib fubah, and immersed in business, are perhaps above these trifles. Let it be as it will; I assure you, my dear Sir, that nobody wishes you better than I do.

I have wrote a letter to the Nabob, to whom I beg you will give my humble respects.

There is arrived an English Europe ship, and another French one. The affairs of our Company are in great agitation, and are laid before the King and Parliament of England, and according
according to the letters I have received, there is a great likelihood that my associate Mr. Johnstone will come out Governor from the King. I shall be glad from time to time to hear from you, who am with a most perfect esteem, dear Sir,

Calcutta,

the 19th June 1767.

P. S. I need not recommend Mahomed Alturff Cawn to your notice.

Copy of the President, Mr. Verelst's Minute, on Consultation, the 10 December 1767.

The President acquaints the Board, that he some time since received information of the improper correspondence carried on by Mr. Bolts, with Shujah al Dowla, Mr. Gentil, and many other persons; that he directed a gentleman residing in the country to endeavour to procure a particular letter written by Mr. Bolts, which he effected, and delivered the letter to Colonel Smith, who inclosed the same to the Committee; that he can assert from undoubted authority, that Mr. Bolts continues his correspondence with persons residing at the courts of the country princes, and with his Armenian agents, endeavouring by false reports and representations to leffen the respect due to the present administration, and to destroy the harmony and confidence subsisting between us and the powers of Hindoostan.

The President is further informed, that Mr. Bolts has an Armenian agent at Fyfabad, named Cogee Raphael, another at Banaras, Cogee Melcomb, and a third residing near Ghazipore, by name Cogee Gregory. Through these people he gratefully endeavours to injure the interest of those, in whose service he raised an independency: and these Armenians, under the characters of English gomatahs, are striving to establish themselves in Shujah Dowla's dominions, upon the footing they formerly were at Murshedabad, notwithstanding the Nabob, on account of some mal-practices, has lately forbidden them his presence. The President has, however, directed his Excellency to banish all such as are in his country, under the pretext of being gomatahs to the English.

Mr. Bolts professes, when he was in the Company's service, procured a number of duftucks, pretending he wanted them to pass his goods; but he laid them by, unused, until his resignation of the service; since when he has availed himself of them to carry on his trade duty free. The President, upon being informed of it, wrote to the ministers, declaring them to illice orders to the chokies for flopping all duftucks of a very old date; a measure which he hopes will put a stop to so dishonest and unlawful a proceeding.

(Signed) "Harry Verelst."

The Committee then read a paragraph of a letter from the Select Committee at Calcutta, of the 22nd December 1767, to Colonel Richard Smith, in answer to his letter of the 24th November; as follows:

"We much approve of the information you have sent us regarding Mr. Bolts's conduct in the carrying on a correspondence with Mr. Gentil, at the court of Shujah Dowla, and have laid the same before the Council, whose sentiments, as well as ours, we with pleasure observe, entirely concur with those you have expressed on that subject. We request you will use your endeavours with the Nabob to remove Mr. Bolts's gomatahs from his dominions."

The Committee then read the translations of several Persian letters, written or received by Mr. Verelst, or from the rajahs or nabobs of the country, as listed on the records of the Company, together with several other letters; as follows:

Read, a letter written by Mr. Verelst on the 19 February 1768, to Rajah Bulwantfing, marked B. No. 12.

"I cannot help being astonished to find, from Colonel Smith's letters, that duftucks and purwannahs under the English name are current in your districts, and that gomatahs commit frequent extortions and oppressions under that sanction. After the plain directions which I gave your vaked at Murshedabad, I am very much surprized that you should have neglected to inform me of these practices. I now therefore positively write to you that I will neither grant myself, nor suffer others to grant, any duftucks with the English seal, for the conveyance of any goods, to any part of the Nabob Shujah al Dowla's territories, only for such necessities as may be occasionally going to the army; and I must further direct you to transmit me a copy of all duftucks for necessities, the instant they come to your hands, that no room for evasion or pretence may remain. As I have frequent complaints from the Nabob, Shujah al Dowla, that divers people assume the name of English gomatahs, I therefore desire that you would give positive orders throughout your districts for all such offenders to withdraw themselves without delay; and you will immediately cause Choajee Melcomb, and Choajee Gregore, and a Bengally name Ram Setker, to be sent down under confinement to Meha Rajah Shitabrov, for none of these people have any title to reside within the territories of the Nabob Shujah al Dowla."

On a rukah.

"I am informed that Mons. Canoge, a Frenchman, is now resident, and carrying on a trade in French commodities, at Mirzapore. I am astonished that you should permit French merchandise to pass without duties, and French gomatahs to evade without authority. I therefore write to you to send down the aforesaid Frenchman, without delay, to Patna, and levy the established duties. You must give proper attention likewile, to prevent any of your people from embezzling the effects and goods which he may have behind him."

Read—
Read—also a letter written by Mr. Verelst, on the 27 Feb. 1768, to the Nawab, Shujah al Dowla, marked B, No. 144. I am much surprized to learn from Colonel Smith, that divers people, taking the name of English gomaftras, have been guilty of great violence and extortion in your Excellency's country. Of this I was before entirely unacquainted, or I would have endeavoured to have remedied it; nor has any one authority from me, nor will I in future give any, either for trade or reliance, in your Excellency's country. I must therefore make it my particular request, that should any one take the English name as a screen for his mal-practices, you will immediately cause him to be apprehended, and sent hither, that his falsehood may meet with due punishment. You cannot oblige me more than by detecting these impostors. I write this to pulsively and strongly, that you may see how ever attentive I am to cut off all occasion of uncinines to you.

On a rukah.

I learn that two Armenians, named Cojah Rafael, and Cojah Efevan, are resident at Fizabad, and carrying on a trade there. As this tribe are of a bad cast, and their principles only falsehood and impostion, I request that you will give them no countenance, but cause these men to be speedily apprehended and sent hither, or issue your orders to Captain Harper for that purpose. As there is no separation between us, I doubt not you will oblige me in this matter.

Read—also the translation of an extract from an original letter in the Bengal language, from the said Ramfonker to Mr. Bolts, as produced by him, dated the 17 March 1768; which was proved by Mr. Bolts; viz.

Extract of a Letter from Ramfoncere, dated at Chowfah, the 17th March 1768; to William Bolts.

"What shall I write you of the news from Banaras? I have received a letter from the person I left at Banaras, dated the second Chyтро; he has wrote to me, that a purwannah has come from the Governor of Calcutta, upon the rajah; ordering him to confine under a guard, whatsoever people of Mr. Bolts's are in those parts, and send them to Calcutta. On this account, on the first Chyтро, a peon of the rajah's came to demand Cogee Melcomb and me; upon his not finding me there, he took Cogee Melcomb and confined him. They were feizing my people who are there, and going to carry them away; but Mr. Jekyll, and Mr. Alexander's gomaftra, named Soobharam Paulti, who was there, said, these people can give no account of affairs, they are only here to watch the warehouses; upon hearing of which, they then desisted. After hearing what passed afterwards, I shall write you the news. If I go to Banaras, they will certainly confine me under a guard; and if I am ftigmatized, all outstanding debts, wherever they lie, will vanish. I therefore desire you will procure and send a purwannah from the Governor there, upon the rajah, that I may remain at Banaras for one month, settle all outstanding affairs, and come away. If this is not done, there will be great difficulties. I am your servant; what was required I have sent forth. You are master; whatever is proper, do it quickly. If they carry me away under the confinement of a guard, it is matter of no shame to me; for I have not beat any body, neither have I robbed any body, that I should fear to go to Banaras: but if I go, and, with that justice, am put into confinement, and sent to Calcutta, your buluks will suffer much, and there will be loss. Understanding this, you will please soon to furnish the necessary."

Read—also a Persian letter from Captain Gabriel Harper; the translation of which was proved by Gonyhandafs; as follows:

Translation from the Persian, of an original Order, under the Hand and Seal of Captain Gabriel Harper, at Fyzabad, upon the sending Cogee Johannes Padre Rafael Prisoner, under a Guard of Sepoys, to Colonel Sir Robert Barker, at Ilahabad. Directed to Rafael, sealed, Captain Gabriel Harper.

"Truly, among friends, greeting,—I have received and am acquainted with the purport of your letter about your going—fend your necessaries to such place as you think belons; and if you yourself be really for going, it is necessary that to-morrow morning, two hours before day-light, you come to me, under charge of Colonel Barker's Sepoys, that I may fend you to Ilahabad.—Those, appointed Sepoys only for this, are staying with impatience in this place, that they may deliver you to the Colonel, with themselves."

"What more shall I write?"

(Signed)

"Gabriel Harper."

Read—also a letter from the Rajah Bulwantsingh, to Mr. Verelst, received the 22d March 1768, in answer to his of the 19th, marked C, No. 98.

"After acknowledging the receipt of Mr. Verelst's letter, (B, No. 12.) your servant is always devoted to your high will and pleasure. Cogee Melcomb, who was in Banaras, is apprehended, agreeable to your commands. People are already sent to seize upon Moniteur Cannojcs, in Mirzapore. Cogee Melcomb declares that Cojah Gregors has been some time imprisoned at Banaras, but I have sent proper people in quest of Solikr Church, whom I hear is in the districts of Bharerpe, and I will immediately disperse the purwannahs you have commanded throughout all my dependencies. Hereafter the particulars shall be duly represented."

U u

Upon
Upon a rukah.

"It was signified that Monf. Canonis is resident at Mirzapore, for the sake of French merchandise, and carries on a trade there, and that your servant permits goods to pass without duties, and French gomailahs to reside without authority. The truth is this, your servant detained four French boats for the space of two months, but a dutiful arriving at that time from the Vizier Shujah al Dowla, forbidding any interruption to be offered them, I suffered them to proceed. Now your servant will execute your orders."

Read—also a letter written by Mr. Verelst on the 27 March 1768, to the Nabob Shujah al Dowla, marked C. No. 28. It is with the greatest surprize I learn from certain intelligence, that Mr. Bolts has procured from Fyzabad, copies of a number of letters I wrote your Excellency. This matter is of the most serious moment, and plainly proves there are some traitors about your person who discover the secrets they are intrusted with. As you may certainly depend upon this, I particularly desire you will make strict enquiry into the affair, and punish the offenders in the most exemplary manner—seeing if a perfon of so little consequence as Mr. Bolts can thus penetrate into the secrets of your correspondence, how much more easy can it be for men of superior influence and importance to do the same? I again recommend this matter to your serious attention, and, as a guide to your enquiry, have some reason to believe that Meer Muhuallah and the Armenians have been the chief instrument in effecting this.

Read—also a letter written by Mr. Verelst on the 27 March 1768, to the Rajah Bulwantfing, marked C. No. 31. I am lately informed that you have stopped several boats, even with military forces, though they had English duftucks, and have demanded duties from the merchants selling diamonds, to Mr. Chammier, though he has the Nabob's purwanah to exempt him therefrom. A respect to the English feel is due from you on all occasions, and whenever therefore any duftucks shall come, you will pass the boats without delay, and send a copy of the duftuck to me, and I will take care no abuse is made. The Nabob has a right to your obedience in every thing, and it is therefore a high offence to act in contradiction to his commands. You will therefore abstain from such behaviour, and pay a due regard to all his orders in future."

Read—a letter produced by Mr. Bolts, as written by him to Mr. Verelst, dated the 30 March 1768; viz. The extraordinary intelligence which I have lately received from Oud, Ilahabad, and Banaras, puts me to the necessity of troubling you with this letter addressed to you in your public character.

I am informed from the best authority and most substantial proofs, that Shujah al Dowlah and Bulwantfing have fixed and confined a number of people under the denomination of Mr. Bolts's agents and gomailahs, not for any cause of complaint they have against them, but solely, as they declare they do it by virtue of orders received from Calcutta.

The consequence thereof is, that many people, who have all of them no other fault than that of having formerly served me, have been confined and ill treated, some who are merchants and inhabitants of that country, on their own account; many that are now in the service of other merchants and English Gentlemen, and some few who are actually my gomailahs, and have charge of the recovery (and that only) of my outstanding debts, amounting to about one hundred and fifty thousand rupees. The concerns of other Gentlemen, and those of the Merchants themselves, who are thus innocently oppressed in consequence of these orders, must amount to a much more considerable sum.

As those who execute them disavow the unheard-of acts, which would even disgrace a Moorish government, I am as yet willing to imagine it must have been occasioned by their misconstruction of the orders given from hence.

If any act of government had made it necessary to seize and bring down all English gomailahs indiscriminately, from the dominions of Shujah al Dowlah, I should have no reason to wonder at, or remonstrate to, the proceedings against those who are really my gomailahs; while there would yet be reason for surprize at the seizing those who are not so, and independent merchants.

But while your own gomailahs for diamonds, and others for salt petre, opium, &c., who call themselves gomailahs of Colonels Smith and Barker, with those of Meffrs. Rumbold, Ruffell, Alexander, Floyer, Maddison, Chamier, and many others, both civil and military Gentlemen, are not only permitted, but protected, even with force, in carrying on their trade in those parts; the thus flingling out mine, with extraordinary acts of severity, would seem to imply, that they have been guilty of some extraordinary faults to deserve it. If therefore my gomailahs have been guilty of any misbehaviour to deserve such severe orders being infixed from hence, I request you will please to acquaint me therewith, and who are the transgressors, that I may immediately dismiss them, and appoint others in their room, to superintend the collection of my balances outstanding.

But if it be only a misunderstanding (on the part of Shujah al Dowla and Bulwantfing) of the orders which have been sent from hence, I request a letter to both those princes, that those who are my gomailahs may have the same protection as yours, and those of the "before-
before-mentioned gentlemen, or of other subjects, and my property be equally as secure:

and, in the mean time, so well am I persuaded of their good behaviour, that I will be

able (and even, if required, enter into a bond) for the good conduct of all such as are

mine, not only for any their acts of transgression of the laws of Great Britain, but of those

of the country government also; which, as it appears to me all that can be required, I

hope will be satisfactory.

In the mean time, whatever may have been the orders from hence, as I am very appre-

hensive they may have been occasioned by the misrepresentations which may have been

made to you by the gentlemen competitors for the salt petre trade, particularly by Mr.

Robert Maddison, and his agent, Mr. John Chamier, the former of whom, during his

visit to Shujah al Dowlah's court, has been trying every method (in consequence of the in-

fluence gained over Shujah al Dowlah, by his post in the munifykhane) to engross as

much as possible of the salt petre made in that Prince's dominions, it may not be unsafe to

give you information of the real state of my concerns.

Having, during my stay at Banaras, perceived, from the aptitude of that country to

produce salt petre, that great improvements might be there made in that branch; I ap-

plied myself with some attention to the cultivation of it, and with such success as soon

made it the object of men more powerful than myself. After my quitting Banaras, dif-

putes for arose among the competitors, whereby I became a very great loser, notwith-

standing I was the only person who satisfied the country government for their duties. Ag-

grieved by those proceedings, I addresed myself to Colonel Smith, in a letter to long ago

as the 11th May 1767, to which however I never received any answer, owing, as I have

reason to believe, from what I have since discovered, to his being a party concerned, who

could not give me redress without injuring his own concerns.

This salt petre concern was one of those of which I formerly gave an account to the

Select Committee. In the mean time foregoing, from the behaviour of the different

gomafahs, that the interest of the country, and of the Company, would be greatly in-

jured by their quarrels, and apprehensive that they would in the end occasion complaints

from Shujah al Dowlah and Bulwanting, of the same pernicious nature as those formerly

made by Coffin Ally Khawn, and thereby make it necessary for our government at Calcutta

to withdraw all gomafahs from those quarters: I say, apprehensive of those evils, and

forced by other equaions, of which I shall hereafter in due time take notice, I thought

it best to withdraw my said salt petre concerns.

And accordingly I have totally deft from the prosecution of that branch for many

months past; my said gomafahs having only charge of the recovery of the outstading

debts arisen on last year's transactions.

All the rest of my other concerns likewise consist in outstanding debts arisen on the fates

of the Company's country goods, exported from Calcutta before I resigned the service, fo

that my gomafahs there have not at present charge of any purchases or fales whatever.

Moreover, I have the most authentic proofs in my hands, that during the above faled

transactions, the King, the Nabob Sujah al Dowlah, and the Rajah Bulwanting, were

perfectly satisfied with my carrying on the said trade, being also satisfied for their duties;

which makes it needless for me to speak to the right I had in common with others, either

in the light of a country merchant, a Company's servant, or other subject residing under

the British government.

So that it is hard even to guess what just reasons can be alleged for the present im-

prisonment of people, under the denomination only of my gomafahs, by virtue of orders

from hence, unless, as aforesaid, it be in consequence of the misrepresentations of those

Gentlemen who are struggling for salt petre, and who (though without foundation) ap-

prehend that I may continue the trade this season, and thereby hurt their concerns.

Yet even in that case, as many others with me are so immediately concerned, and as it

is the indispensable obligation of your flation to watch for the security of the property of

all subjects under the protection of the British flag in this country, I can hardly imagine

that orders would have been issued from hence upon the private information of any persons,

without first giving notice, taking measures to secure the property of the concerned, and

fixing a certain time for transferring the business to others.

Since it is always better to prevent, than redress evils, I have chosen first to apply to

you alone, rather than to address the whole Board on subjests, which, if scrutinized, might

involve and hurt the business of many other persons, especially as you having the entire

direction of the country correspondence, matters of this nature are best and most easily

reached by you.

I therefore request the letters before mentioned to Shujah al Dowlah and Bulwanting

to release my gomafahs (and property if detained) who may be directed, if you think it

necessary, to come down, after four months; in which time, I am sure, they will be able

to collect in all outstanding balances. At the same time it would be equally as agreeable

to me that they should come down immediately, if you can think of any method of ob-

taining immediate payment or security for the amount of my balances, which are all good, and afford not the least apprehension of their not being duly recovered.

At the same time it appears practicable to put a stop to the present wranglings about salt

petre, in a manner that may be very beneficial to the Company, and at the same time per-
fealily satisfy the country government and their ryotts, upon a plan which I would humbly recommend for the Company's interest, as follows:

'I shall contract with merchants for all the salt petre that can be made in those districts on the Company's account, the said contractors satisfying the princes of the country for their duties, and also referring for them such a quantity as they might require for the use of their own households, and the consumption of their own countries.

'I will engage to find very responsible merchants who will undertake to execute such a plan, and engage to deliver, on the Company's account at Patna, for the first year 25,000 maunds of refined petre, which shall be near three times finer than that they have generally received from Patna, at a price to be hereafter stipulated; upon which the Company may be sure of gaining at least fifteen thousand pounds sterling per annum clear, if they were to sell it again in Bengal.

'Other advantages, which would likewise accrue from such a plan, are obvious; the foreign companies might be supplied with their allowances from this petre, and our Company be thereby freed from those large drawbacks on that branch of their trade. And it would also prevent the French or Dutch from manufacturing it themselves in those parts, which they will certainly attempt whenever the English gommatahs are totally recalled. At the same time it must be remembered, that though the gommatahs of private Gentlemen be all recalled; yet while our armies continue in those parts, there is a great risk, that however strict the orders of the Board be, some or other Gentlemen of influence with the army will find means to evade them, and to engross the whole of this article in consequence of their influence over, and the ignorance and fears of, the country Princes; so that it does not appear possible so advantageously to obviate the evils apprehended by any other than this plan, which I have submitted to your consideration.

'I am, Sir,

"Your most obedient servant,\n(Signed) "WILLIAM BOLTS."

Read—also an original letter, dated the 31st March 1768, from Mr. Verelst to Mr. Bolts, in answer to the foregoing; viz.

"To Mr. William Bolts.

"Sir, I have received your letter of the 30th instant, and am to acquaint you that I know of no orders for impeding the business of your gommatahs in particular, in the dominions of Shujah al Dowlah and Bulwanting. Repeated complaints have been received from those two Princes of the oppressive conduct of gommatahs taking the English name, and carrying on trade in their countries. The Honourable Company have been pleased to extend their orders for the positive prohibition to their servants of all trade whatever in those provinces, and the Presidency of Fort William have resolved to put a stop to it in future, by a recall of all such gommatahs. How far, or by what right, your gommatahs can be allowed to continue there after the time already allotted you for the adjustment of your concerns, must be determined by the government here. I am, Sir,

"Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) "H. VERELST."

Read—also copy of a letter from Mr. Bolts to Mr. Verelst, dated the 24 April 1768; as follows:

"To Harry Verelst, Esquire,

"President and Governor of Fort William.

"Sir, I received yesterday your favour of the 31st, in answer to mine of the 30th past, acquainting me of your ignorance of any orders having been given respecting my gommatahs in particular.

"You must therefore, I fear, have been grossly abused by those who penned the Persian letters from hence; for, by authentic copies of them, which I have this moment received from Oud, my gommatahs are particularly mentioned by name.

"I cannot receive upon what principle the government here can undertake to determine what time shall be allowed me for the adjustment of my concerns in those parts; however, as I have already said as much, I shall, without Delaying that point, willingly submit, as others do, to every general order; and, as it is your opinion that the time to be allotted must be determined by the government here, I request you will inform me of their determination, after acquainting them with the circumstances I have laid before you, that I may know what to do.

"In the mean time I apply to you in the character of an injured complaining subject, and request letters to the Nabob Shujah al Dowlah, and to the Rajah Bulwanting, inclining to them an address of my complaints, of which the following is the purport.

"That Mr. William Bolts having had certain mercantile transactions in your dominions, as he represents with your permission, by virtue of privileges given by you, and in consequence of duties paid, which burdens he avers has been transfixed by his gommatahs in the most peaceful manner, and according to the custom of those countries; on which transactions, large outstanding balances have arisen, to the amount of one hundred and fifty thousand rupees. That notwithstanding this, the gommatahs of him, the said William Bolts, have been lately seized and imprisoned, in a sudden manner, without any cause or
or complaint being alleged, that he William Bolts can discover; while, at the same time, the agents and gommlahs of Governor Vereeff, Colonel Smith, Mr. Russell, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Rumbold, and many other British subjects, are un molestedly permitted to transact their concerns affairs. That Mr. William Bolts, living under British protection, is intitled to every privilege others are intitled to: that, therefore, it is required, that those his gommlahs be released, and allowed the same protection, and for the same space of time, as may be allowed to the gommlahs of the aforefaid gentlemen, and that satisfaction be made to him and them, in case it be proved that they have been unjustly imprisoned, not only in violation of the treaties subsisting between you and the English, but also against the laws of Hindoostan, and of nations in general.

"At the same time, Sir, should it be intitled that they have merited this treatment. I request you may be summoned, after a moderate time to be allowed me, before the Board of Calcutta, to have the same enquired into. But should they be enquired upon the spot, I request you will order the enquiry to be postponed, until either I myself can arrive there, and be present, or appoint others.

"I observe, Sir, what you inform me, that the Honourable Company have been pleased to prohibit all trade whatever in those provinces, and that the Presidency of Calcutta have resolved to put a stop to it in future, by a recall of all such gommlahs. It is the first time I ever heard of it, nor had I the least conception of it, knowing that even lately you was pleased to give a letter to the Rajah Bulwantfing, in favour of Mr. Alexander's business there; however, such a prohibition of trade would not affect me; for as I have before acquainted you, I have nothing depending there but the collection of outstanding debts.

"I am, Sir,

"Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) "WILLIAM BOLTS."

Calcutta, the 2d April 1768.

Read—also a letter from the Nabob Shujah al Dowlah to Mr. Vereeff, as received by him the 2d April 1768, marked C. No. 118, viz.

"I received your friendly letter by the hands of Captain Harper, and was rejoiced thereby: it is plain that my friendship with the English fersareas, and particularly with your Excellency, is firm; neither does it need the common phrases of the world to set it off. You have shown yourself to profufe of friendly kindly towards me, that I cannot find any expressions equal to my sense thereof. I can only with that the Almighty may give our connection daily strength, and our friendship hourly warmth. Considering what you write on the subject of the Armenians, as proceeding from your perfect cordiality, I am delighted therewith: what can be more suitable to our interest than that we should mutually exert ourselves in disarming all such as may be the abettors or authors of evil? In the affair of the salt petre, which was the first, the inquietude was removed, and every thing extricated at once, by even a momentary adverion of your Excellency's regard. And now that you have written concerning Rafeel and Esfawan, that matter is done. As they have some outstanding debts incurred in the course of their business here, they petitioned earnestly for two or three days respite to settle their accounts. After that they will no more presume to reside here. Rajah Bulwantfing has acquainted me with your Excellency's orders about the Armenians in those districts, and I have instructed him to pay implicit obedience to what you shall signify on the occasion, as whatever is agreeable to you, cannot fail of being satisfactory to me.—For the red, consider me as one solicitous after your welfare, and favour me with frequent accounts thereof."

Read—also the following letter from Mr. Bolts to Mr. Vereeff, viz.

"To Harry Vereeff, Esquire, President and Governor of Fort William.

"Sir, As some days have elapsed, and I have not been favoured with an answer to my last letter, which it is of the greatest consequence for me to have as soon as possible, to enable me to take the necessary measures for the security of my property, I request you will be pleased to acquaint me what you have determined thereupon. I am, Sir,

"Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) "WILLIAM BOLTS."

Calcutta, 7th April 1768.

Read—the following original letter from Mr. Vereeff.

"To Mr. William Bolts.

"Sir, I have your letters of the 2d and 7th instants, and am again to repeat to you, that the resolutions taken, and the orders given, for recalling the English gommlahs in the dominions of Shujah al Dowlah and Bulwantfing, were general, not particular; but that as the names of such persons came to my knowledge, it became necessary to point them out. I am also to acquaint you, that letters have been written, desiring that the gommlahs may be allowed to collect in their constituents outstanding balances; what time may be deemed proper for that purpose, will be determined by the Committee, which would have been done before now, had not my indisposition prevented my having a meeting with the Gentlemen.

"I am, Sir,

"Your most obedient servant,

April 9th 1768.

(Signed) "H. VEREFLST."

XX

Read—
Read—the following letters to and from Mr. Bolts; viz.

"To Harry Verelst, Esquire, President and Governor of Fort William.

"Sir, The last letter you was pleased to send me yesterday, neither affords the answer which I flattered myself I should receive to mine, nor redress of the grievances I complained of. The people I have wrote to you about, have been sent down under confinement to Shitabroy, the Company's collector at Patna, who has kept them under confinement.

"In consequence of your last letter, I have ordered them back to their stations, but in the mean time, as that is not sufficient, I must request immediately three letters: one to Shitabroy to release them, one to Rajah Bulwanting, and one to the Nabob Shujah al Dowlah, at least to acquaint them of my people's being ordered back, to continue upon the same terms as other English agents. I am, Sir,

"Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) "WILLIAM BOLTS."

Calcutta, 11th April 1768.
"To Mr. John Knott.

"Sir, As the multiplicity of affairs upon Mr. Verelst's hands may make him forget the letter I wrote him the 11th instant on the subject of my imprisoned agents, and to avoid continually troubling him on that subject, I request you will on the first vacant moment put him in mind of it, that I may receive the Persian letters in time, to prevent many unexpected and disagreeable consequences. If you find I am not to expect those Persian letters, a note signifying Mr. Verelst's refusal will be sufficient; and an answer procured, (if possible, to-day) either in the affirmative or negative, will be esteemed a favour by,

"Sir,

"Your most obedient, humble servant,
(Signed) "WILLIAM BOLTS."

Calcutta, the 13th April 1768.
"To Mr. William Bolts.

"Sir, This moment your letter of to-day's date is presented me, the purport of which rendering it necessary to be communicated to Mr. Verelst, he dehies me to let you know that your several late letters to him (on the subject of your present address to me) as well as his answers thereto, having been laid before the Select Committee, you will receive their sentiments thereon from the secretary to that department. I am, Sir,

"Wednesday noon,
"Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) "JOHN KNOTT."

Calcutta, 13th April 1768.
"To Charles Floyer, Esquire. Secretary to the Select Committee at Fort William.

"Sir, Having lately wrote to Mr. Verelst several letters regarding his having ordered into confinement sundry persons and merchants, who are my agents and gomafahas, who, in consequence of those orders, have been seized in the Nabob Shujah al Dowlah's dominions in a sudden manner, by force, plundered, imprisoned, and sent down under confinement to Shitabroy, the Company's collector at Patna, who has there received them as prisoners, and continued them under confinement, whereby I am likely to be a loser of one hundred and fifty thousand rupees, exclusive of the losses accruing to those injured persons in particular; in answer to those applications, I am now referred to the Secretary of the Select Committee for their determination thereupon. I therefore apply to you, and request you will please to send me, without loss of time, a copy of such proceedings as concern me, particularly mentioning the members present at this transaction. As one hour's delay may be of the most ruinous consequence to my affairs, I hope you will execute my kindness.

"I am, Sir,

"Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) "WILLIAM BOLTS."

Calcutta, 13th April 1768.
"To Mr. William Bolts.

"Sir, The opinion of the Select Committee on the subject of your letters to the Governor, shall be made known to you as expeditiously as may be in my power to transmit it to you.

"I am, Sir,

"Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) "CHARLES FLOYER."

A Letter from Mr. Verelst to the Rajah Bulwanting, written on the 14 April 1768, marked C. No 32. viz.

"The Nabob Shujah al Dowlah had so frequently and strongly complained of European gomafahas residing in his territories, and particularly within your jurisdiction, that I could not refuse my content and encouragement in getting them withdrawn. My last letter was therefore meant to cut off, if possible, all future causes of complaint against our gomafahas, and to quiet the uneasiness of our ally the Nabob, by my zeal for the ease and happiness of his country. You had made particular objections to the conduct of Mon. Canonge before, but it astonishes me to hear the rigour with which you have treated him, in hurrying him away without a moment's reprieve to settle his concerns. Mon. Chevalier, the French governor, has himself large concerns in Mon. Canonge's hands, which are now at Stake, and he has given me such an account of your seizing, imprisoning, and mal-treating him, that I cannot conceive any provocations could justify, or any consequences arise from it, but
but enormous losses of private property without benefit to the country. I must therefore

defire of you to pursue these matters with another temper, and more moderation; and as

Mr. Chevalier has engaged himself responsible for Monf. Canange removing all future
dealings in that country, and Monf. Canange has given protestations to the same purpose
himself, you will grant him a month's indulgence for the adjustment of his former con-
cerns, seeing he is to contract no new engagements during that time. I am further in-
formed that you are collecting duties upon all goods which have been formerly transported
into your districts; I really can see no reason for this, unless you mean to make use of
public pretences for your private emolument; and, as I wish rather to secure our ally Shu-
jah al Dowlah really and effectually, than gratify private interest or private passions, I
define you will desist from this practice in future, and facilitate, as much as in your power,
the conclusion of concerns now existing, and no more exact duties on goods either bought
or fold in your districts before this time."

Your Committee then read part of the proceedings of a Select Committee held at Fort
William in Bengal, on the 15th April 1768, at which were present Harry Verelst, Esquire,
President, John Carrington, Richard Becker, and Charles Floyer, Esquires; viz:—

The President lays before the Committee the late correspondence between him and Mr.
William Bolts, on the subject of the latter's concerns in the countries of Shujah Dowlah and
Bulwantiing, and requests that the two following paragraphs of Mr. Bolts's letter to him,
under date the 2d instant, may be recorded upon those proceedings, as in one of them he
acknowledges what the President has long since had intimation of, his carrying on a corre-
spondence with the princes and others of the country; a circumstance which he, the Presi-
dent, deems highly detrimental to the interest of our honourable employers, and an abso-
late defiance of their orders.

Extract of a letter from Mr. William Bolts to the President, dated the 2d April 1768.

"I received yesterday your favour of the 31st, in answer to mine of the 30th last, ac-
quainting me of your ignorance of any orders having been given respecting my gomafsha
in particular.

"You must therefore, I fear, have been grossly abused by those who penned the Persian
letters from hence; for by authentic copies of them, which I have this moment received
from Oud, my gomafsha's are particularly mentioned by name."

The President also acquaints the Board, that in his reply to Mr. Bolts's last letter to him,
he referred to the resolutions of the Select Committee, before whom he proposed to lay
his correspondence for their consideration; in consequence whereof the secretary received
two letters from Mr. Bolts, dated the 13th and 14th instant, which are now produced and
read. The secretary begs leave to observe, that the last letter he received was in reply to one
he wrote to Mr. Bolts, affurting him that as soon as the Committee came to any resolution
concerning him, he should be made acquainted therewith.

Ordered, That the two letters from Mr. Bolts be entered after the proceedings, and that
the following letter be wrote to him from our secretary.

"To Mr. William Bolts."

"Sir, I am directed by the Select Committee to inform you, that they, nor the President,
know of no orders for the confinement of any of your gomafsha's. That representations
from Shujah Dowlah and Bulwantiing have made it necessary for the Committee to deter-
mine on the recall of all gomafsha's taking upon them the English name in their countries.

That they think you have no right to call upon them on this occasion, having long since
had the usual time allowed you for the adjustment of all your concerns, having already been
ordered to leave the country, and advised that no further protection would be given you.

The Committee are therefore determined not to interfere, or in any shape charge them-
selves with any of your concerns. I have laid before them your letters to me under dates
the 13th and 14th instant. I am, Sir,

"Fort William,"

"15th April 1768."

"Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) ""Charles Floyer,"

"Secretary of the Select Committee."

Read—also the following letters to and from several persons; viz:—
A Letter from Shitabrody to Mr. Verelst, received by him the 16th April, 1768, marked
C. No. 134.

"Your servant, with all faithfulnes, is at no time wanting in the discharge of your high
commands; but may it please your Excellency, when the Nabob Mahomed Reza Cawn
was in Calcutta, and the affair of Carruchpore was taken notice of in your conferences,
in particular you imagined you would have influx your gracious orders on the subject to him.

It is true, the affair is settled, but your servant has not been honoured with your illuftrious
letter concerning it. For some days there have been two officers stationed, one at Munor,
on the Dewah, the other at Cheoufah, for the examination of English boats and the
duties of the Company; and the Colonel informed me that your Excellency's orders had
been signified to your servant for the stationing deputies, on the part of the Government, in
the same places; but your servant made answer, that your orders on that head had not
reached him. Thirdly, your servant has received advice from Rajah Bulwantiing of your
directions for his seizing on the persons of Coja Melcomb and Gregory, Armenians, and
Monf. Canonje, a Frenchman, and conveying them down to your servant; neither have
you
honoured your servant with any intimation of this. As these three high commands, all
to your servant, have been infused without his receiving any direct orders from your
Excellency, so that he might be duly informed and ready in the execution thereof, he there-
fore humbly defires your Excellency would apprise him of your venerable commands, and
not subject him to such disagreeable alternatives in future. It is highly necessary for your
Excellency to incline your attention hereto."
A Letter from Mr. Vereleft to the Nabob Shujah al Dowlah, written the 26th April 1768,
C. N° 34.

"I am sorry to inform your Excellency, that in consequence of my letters to you con-
cerning the English gomaffahs and your orders thereupon, I find your officers have excercited
a severity beyond what either of us intended. They have seized and sent away many,
without allowing them the shortest time to adjust their affairs, and others, from this kind
of treatment, find it impossible even to receive the debts lawfully due to them. As those
lollies must fall heavy on many individuals, I think it but just to request your Excellency
to indulge them with two months licence, to withdraw their effects and settle their affairs,
and at the same time give such orders to the officers of your dominions, that they may lend
them all assistance for the more speedy dispatch of this matter. In the mean time, should
any of them misbehave or interfere in any thing regarding your country, I request you
would order Mr. Rumbold to be made acquainted with it, as he is nearer than myself, and
as he is a Gentleman in whose justice I have the most perfect reliance, he will punish them
in the most exemplary manner. For this purpose he has full instructions from me."
A Letter from Mr. Vereleft to the Rajah Bulwanting, written the 26th April 1768,
marked C. N° 35.

"I before wrote, that the gomaffahs of the English Gentlemen should be allowed, as
before, to dispose, duty free, what they had imported, or to carry away goods they might
have already provided. I now acquaint you that it is determined that they shall be allowed
two months from the receipt of this, for the settling their affairs; and I desire you will
afford them every assistance herein, that the business may be speedily brought to an issue.
In this interval, should you have any cause of complaint against any gomaffahs, you will
represent it to Mr. Rumbold at Patna, and he will give you immediate redress."
A Letter from Mr. Francis Haro, second in Council at Patna, to Mr. Bolts, dated the
19 April 1768, which was proved by Mr. Bolts, viz.

"I have received your favour of the 10th instant, including a letter for Ramcant:frame,
which I immediately sent him, acquainting him with your instructions relating to Mel-
comb and Gregory, though I do not see what effect they can have, as they cannot be
released but by the power that confined them. They both left this place some time ago,
and must have arrived at the city, I think, long before this, so that their enlargement must
be obtained by you. As for me, I was ordered to deliver them up to Shibatroy, under
pain of forfeiture of the service, though not permitted to put that order in execution (for
they were sent here prisoners by Bulwanting) I think I cannot venture on a further ap-
plication."

"P. S. I answer'd your two favours of the 5th and 26th ult. the 4th instant."
A Letter under the Hand and Seal of Cogee Abraham, a very principal Merchant at the
City of Murfedabad, to Mr. Bolts, dated the 4 Zulhead, which was proved by Mr.
Rajah and translated by Gonyfhanda; viz.

"After the usual compliments, I received your favourable letter, with one inclosed for
Moyeen Dowla (Mahomed Reza Khawn) and one for Rajah Dallubram, on Monday
the 72nd Zilcade, at eight in the evening; and you desire that I will learn from them and
write you the particulars or reasons of Cogee Melcomb's being imprisoned. Kind Sir, I
delivered the letters to the said Nabob and Rajah. The Nabob read the letter, but I have
not got an answer, the said Cogee Melcomb has been dispatched from the country, in
the morning or evening he will certainly arrive. After his arrival I shall write to the
Committee, and will speak to you conformable to the orders which I may receive from
thence. The Rajah gave for answer, that he knew nothing of the affair, and I myself am
certain that he knows nothing of it. As soon as I receive the Rajah's answer I shall
forward it—and when Cogee Melcomb arrives here, I shall not be deficient in friendship
towards him, and he shall not find trouble—I am remolles, I have no more in my power.
What shall I write more?"

Translation of Part of an original Letter, under the Hand and Seal of Cogee Abraham, at
Murfedabad, dated the 16th Zulhead, to William Bolts, proved by Gonyfhanda.

"On the 8th of this month Cogee Melcomb arrived in town, and he waited on the Nabob
Moyeen al Dowlah Bahader. The said Nabob ordered the coming down of Cogee Mel-
comb in the garden called Ferrhabag. He is in the said garden, but is under a guard.
My Sir, it appears that the said Nabob is waiting for the orders of the Committee, that he
may do according to the order whatsoever comes from thence. If Mr. Haro shall speak in
the cause of his deliverance, I suppose the deliverance will appear soon, because the said
gentleman is master of the business. This is the subject which is written to you, for to
give you the knowledge of it. What shall I write more?"

Gentlemen, I have been now thirteen days waiting for an answer to my application to your Board, made on the 18th April, regarding my imprisoned agents. They have now been forced down to Morshedabad, where they are also kept under strict confinement, whereby exclusive of the losses accruing to me, not only their property and characters, but their lives also are endangered. In answer to the applications which have been made to the Nakhob, he says he is waiting for your orders from Calcutta respecting them.

As they are christians, men of substance, and good character, householders of Calcutta, and in every way intitled to the protection of the British laws, it is in unum on me, in whose service, and on whose account, they innocently suffer these evils, to repeat my representations to you on their behalf; at least so far, that though they lose their property as well as me, they may yet escape with their lives, and thereby have an opportunity, by their future industry, of preserving their families from utter ruin.

Thus far I petition on behalf of those innocent and oppressed merchants.

With respect to the redress which I myself have required, by your long silence on so important and delicate a point, it is beyond a doubt, that you, Gentlemen, mean to know the proceedings of your President and Select Committee, as referred to in my address of the 18th April, and to give me no redress: however, I request the favour you will let me be acquainted with your resolution by letter, in the manner usual on applications to your Board, especially as I have a right to expect such a formal avowal of public resolutions whereon I am so much interested.

I am, Gentlemen,

"Your most obedient servant,

Calcutta, 2d May 1768.

Your Committee then proceeded to read part of the proceedings of the Governor and Council of Calcutta, at a consultation held on the 4 May 1768, as follows.

Mr. Bolts sends in a letter repeating his representations to us in behalf of his imprisoned agents.

Ordered, That it be entered after the consultation.

Colonel Smith delivers in the following minute.

Colonel Smith having perused the proceedings of the Select Committee, as well as the resolutions of the Council, concerning Mr. Bolts, he now takes this first opportunity of expressing in person to the Board those sentiments which he wrote to the Committee in his letter of ——.

It appears from the conjunctions of the 5th November 1767, that you determined to repeat the former orders for Mr. Bolts to proceed to England, and that in case of disobedience to those orders, and contempt of your authority, that his person should be seized, and sent home prisoner in one of the ships of the fleet.

I have carefully examined your records, in order to discover if the posterior conduct of Mr. Bolts has been such as to induce me to alter your former resolution, but I find your resolution stands unrevoked and unexecuted.

It appears also from the proceedings of the Select Committee, that Mr. Bolts, ever since this your resolution of the 5 November, has been corresponding with the country powers. This correspondence is wisely and expressly prohibited to individuals by the orders of our honourable masters.

If you had not already entered into a resolution of sending Mr. Bolts to Europe, most undoubtedly I would have made such a motion; but when I read an unanimous decree of your Board for taking such measures on this occasion as appears absolutely necessary for the public service, I cannot but conjure you, Gentlemen, to support the dignity of government, by enforcing obedience to your own resolutions; for should we suffer Mr. Bolts with impunity to bid defiance to your authority, the consequences are so very obvious, that to permit them is unnecessary. I do therefore move that the resolution of the 5 November 1767, shall be carried into execution, and in case of disobedience to your orders, on the part of Mr. Bolts, that he shall positively be sent prisoner to Europe in the first ship which shall be dispatched from this Presidency. Signed Richard Smith.—Port William, the 4 May 1768.

The Board still adhere to their former resolution of sending Mr. Bolts to England. It is therefore agreed and resolved that he shall be sent to Europe, by the first ship that is dispatched this season.

Read a letter from Mahomed Rheza Khawn to Mr. Verelst, received by him the 3d May 1768, marked C. No. 146, viz.

Acknowledging the receipt of Mr. Verelst's letter (C. No. —) concerning Mont. Cantonge, and inclining copies of the pursuannihs signed by Mr. Rumblod, which the Arimans sent down by Bulwantung, had, as gonymaths to Mr. Fleur.

Read part of a letter from Shujah al Dowlah to Mr. Verelst, received by him the 15th May 1768, marked C. No. 161.—viz.

Upon a rukah (or postscript).

In regard to secrets being betrayed, and your letters exposed which you wrote me concerning
ernen the cafe is this, That from the first till now we never correfponded on any secret
except the affair of the Vizirate, and my being involved with the privileges thereof,
and upon this subjedstoff have received divers of your letters; besides this, no other subjedstoff
has been wrote upon; the friendly diligence you have used in this affair, and the frequent
correfpondences we have had on this subjedstoff being notorious; I do I own frequently enlarge
on your goodnefs and favour in public, on your taking so much trouble for your friend;
but it is impoffible, and God forbid that the secrets of the Company and Council should
de be discovered, either in paff or future; whatever letters I receive from you, after having
read them in private, I feal them up and keep them with all care: I do not understand in
what manner you have wrote me this, I have taken an obligation from Meer Muftallah
on this matter, and have fent it by the hands of Captain Harper, who will trannmit it to
you. You will make due enquiries from Mr. Bolts, who is with you on the fpot, and
get the copies of the letters from him which he fays he has in his polreffion. If it is
proved on Meer Muftallah, he fhall be punifhed according to the obligation I have fent
you from him, and I have also given positive orders, that nothing concerning the affair of
the vizirate, or other matters, flall be made known to any one. Seeing what neceffity is
there for others to be made acquainted, I will enforce these orders, and you will make the
ftricteft enquiries; for if Meer Muftallah fhall have heard any thing concerning the affair
of the vizirate which is on foot, and wrote the fame, I will punifh him also for that; what
bufinefs has he with it, and why should he write about these things?"

Upon a rukah (or polfcript)

"I have juft received intelligence, that Coftim Ally Cawn has taken his leave of the Ro-
hilah, and intends going to the Decan; though I don't think it practicable to get him
into our hands, yet I think he might be eafily cut out. Caution and care is neceffary in
such cafes; for it is notorious Coftim is a complete villain, and fhould he go there what
disturbances will be not raife? It is a proverb, that an enemy fhould be never confeffed as
weak; whatever you fhall write me on this subjedstoff, as yours and the Council's determina-
tion, I will acft agreeably thereto, but a speedy and determined anfwer is neceffary."

Tranfflate of Meer Muftallah's Obligation, fent by Captain Harper.

"I Meer Muftallah, finding that divers evil-minded people have reported that I fent copies
to Mr. Bolts, of the letters which come from the Englifh ferdars to his Excellency the Na-
ob Vizire, (whom God long prefeve) and as I never even took a letter of the Englifh
ferdars in my hand, much lefs could be acquainted with the purport of them, or take cop-
ies, do therefore agree, and here by this prefent covenant, that if this thing fhall be
proved, that I have fent copies of the letters of the Englifh ferdars to Mr. Bolts, or any
other, or if ever I dicovered to any one, any fecret communicated by his Excellency to
me, I fhall be deemed guilty before his Excellency. If any letter under my feal appears
concerning the aforefaid matter, let his Excellency defroy me and my family, and punifh
me as a guilty perfon; and, if this is not proved, let the evil-minded be put to death, that
such wicked and abominable people may take warning: I have therefore (Meer Muftallah)
given thefe preffents as an obligation, this ninth day of Zihijah, in the year of Higiry 1187."

Seal.

[Signature]

L. O. S.

Read—also a petition of the relations of the Armenians, as addreffed to the Governor and
Council of Fort William in Bengal, dated the 15 May 1768, proved by Mr. Bolts, viz.

"To the Honourable Harry Vereiff, Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Gentle-
men of the Council at Fort William.

"Honourable Sir and Sirs,

"We the subscribers to this humble addrefs, relations of Cojee Malcum Phillips, and
Cojee Gregore Cojumaul Caulder, beg leave to repreffent to your Honours, that our faid
relations have, for six or seven years paff, been conftantly employed by different Englifh
gentlemen in the Honourable Company's service, as agents in the tranfation of their mer-
cantile affairs, with honour and credit to themfelves, and to the fatisfaction of their em-
ployers, without having ever interfered in any affairs of other nature than mercantile, on
the tranfation of which they were latterly left by their confiftuents to conclude and col-
lect in their outlandling concerns in the districts of Banaras, Patna, &c. That they have
been lately feized by force, and have now been kept in great diftreff under confinement by
the Nabob and his officers, firft at Patna, and now actually at Muxadadv, ever since the
thirty-firft March paff, without the leaft caufe for complaint that we can difcover: that;
by the faid confinement, the prisoners are expofed to great diftreff, los of their health or
lives, the ruination of their families, and of us your Honours, &c. humble representations:
that, on applications which have been made to the Nabob for their releafement, he refuses
to grant it without exprfes orders from your Honour, &c. which makes us extremely

"Sorry
"fory and apprehensive left they should have justly incurred the displeasure of your Honour.

5. In the mean time we humbly beg leave to represent, that should they have been guilty of any misdemeanors, we are ready to give such security, either for money, or their appearance when called for, as the Nabob can justly require, or to your Honours may app.

6. pear reasonable; and, as they are householders of this city of Calcutta, and have long en-
joyed the benefit of the protection of the Honourable Company, to whose interest we will
venture to affirm they never acted contrary; we therefore humbly hope your Honours
will please to grant an order for their releasement, which will be a lasting obligation con-
ferred on, Honourable Sir and Sirs,

"Your most faithful, and devoted servants,

"Mother—Mary Cojamaul Calder,

"Wife—Catharine Gregory

"Brother—Zachariah Cojamaul Calder

"Uncle—Aviatt Marcar

"Relations—Arratoon Calder

"Calcutta, the 15th May 1768."

The Committee then read a protest on the part of Mr. Bolts against the Governor and
Council of Calcutta, for all losses and damages consequent of their imprisonment of the
Armenians, as the same was preftented by John Holme, notary public, to the said Governor
and Council, and stands recorded on their proceedings of the 13th May 1768.

Read—also the tranflation of a letter from Shitabrow at Patna to Mr. Bolts, dated the
9th May 1768, the original of which being produced was provd by Gonyhamdafs as
follows:

"After the accustomed Perfian compliments. The receipt of your most favourable and
friendly letter gave me great pleasure and satisfaction, therein you write me that Cogee
Melcomb and Cogee Gregory, your goomsahs, had wrote that I had imprisoned them
and sent them down to Murfhebadab, and you request to know what crimes they had com-
mitted to merit such punishment: favourable Sir, the Rajah Bulwanting, under guard of
his own people, sent Monsieur Canonge, a French Gentleman, Cogee Melcomb and Cogee
Gregory, down from Mirzapore and Banaras to me, and at fame time wrote to me,
that I must send them down to Murfhebadab in the very fame manner as they were brought
to Patna; according to the writing of the said Rajah, Monsieur Canonge, the French
Gentleman, with Cogee Melcomb and Cogee Gregore, were dispatched to Patna. At
that time it was not known to me that the said Cogees, kind Sir, were your goomsahs,"

Concludes with the usual compliments.

Read—also the tranflation of a letter from Juggutunum, a man of great consequence at
the city of Murfhebadab, to Mr. Bolts, dated the 24th May 1768, the original of which
was produced and provd by Mr. Bolts; viz.

"On the 2d of the month Joyftee, I received your favourable letter of the 31ft of By-
facek, and am acquainted with the contents, and perceive, that on account of two of
your goomsahs, who have been imprisoned and sent here, you had written a letter to the
great Nabob (meaning the Nabob upon the throne, in diffinution from the acting Nabob),
Mahomud Reza Khawn) of which you inclufed me a copy; after informing myself of
every particular, I sent the letter by a trifty perfon of my own to the Nabob, with the
necessary repetitions and greetings on your part: two days after, he faid, I do not know
what answer I can give to this letter; I have no people I can truft; who can I speak to
upon this affair, or who will mind what I faid? Mr. Bolts understands well the prefent
aftrances of affairs, that I am nobody, and nothing can be done by me.

"As you did me the favour to write to me, I would that in any manner your business was
done; but according to the prefent turn of the times, nothing can be expected. I kept
your people to fee if I could do any thing, but find it is impoffible. Sir, you are wise,
you comprehend all the affair.—DATED the 14th Joyftee, or 24th May 1768.

"P. S. After reading and keeping your letter four days the Nabob returned it, and I
herewith incufed it to you."

Read—also the abridgment of a letter written by Mr. Verelft on the 29 May 1768, to the
Rajah Bulwanting, marked C. No. 46; viz:

"Directing him to releafe some boats belonging to Mr. Alexander, which he had de-
tained, and warning him against such proceedings in future."

Read—also the tranflation of a Perfian letter from Boyuenaung, principal minifter of
Rajah Bulwanting, to Cogee Gregore; the original of which was provd by Gonyham-
dafs; viz.

After many compliments in the Perfian style, he proceeds,

"I have received your favourable letter, and am acquainted with the contents; my
brother, as God Almighty would have it, was sick at Gunsagare, and therefore, for my
brother's buftines, I flaid at the village Curuna, where I was twelve days, and fettled all
my buftines, and was myself alo out of order. Yellefter, I arrived at Patula, and my
dear friend was not the leaft acquainted with your cafe, till the receipt of your letter in-
formed me; nothing of which you complain of has been done by the Maha Rajah
Bahadar,
"Bahadar, but solely and wholly by the orders of the Gentlemen of Calcutta: in this respect there is no help; accordingly Buchtring has been wrote to, to do every thing for you that is becoming of friendship, and I shall represent to Maha Rajah Bahadar such things as are proper, and the Almighty will be gracious. On your arrival in those parts, please to write to me, that I may have encouragement in my mind. For the rest, may happiness attend you."

Read—also the following letters: viz.

Extract of a Letter from the Nabob Shujah al Dowlah to Mr. Verelst; received by him the 4th July 1768, marked D. No 209.

"I wrote you in a prior letter a full and particular answer about Mr. Bolts and Meer Mutfallah, and I have now repeated the same circumstances anew to Rajah Purfed Roy, from whom you will be informed. I have written my whole heart without omitting or disguiling any thing, or deviating the breadth of a hair: agreeable to your own desire, I some time ago returned your Excellency all those letters of yours which related to that subject; Meer Mutfallah has given an obligation under his own hand, which if he has violated, I will immediately bring him to the punishment contained therein."

An original note from the Rajah Bulwantsing, inclosed for Mr. Bolts, in a letter to the Rajah's ambassdor at Calcutta, Maharage Miller, dated the 24 April 1768, produced and proved by Mr. Bolts.

On the cover sealed, "Rajah Bulwantsing, Bahudur, directed to the Bramhin Effegy of Brimba Mahrage Miller."

"The following you are to acquaint Mr. Bolts with."

"I have received your letter. As to what you have wrote about Mr. Bolts's gomftahs, you know that I have a regard for Mr. Bolts's business, and a friendship for him from my heart, and always complied with whatever his gomftahs requested. When the Nabob, Harry Verelst's letter came, for sending them, agreeable to that order I was obliged to send them to Rajah Shitabroy; before the arrival of Mr. Bolts's and your letters, I had told them there is no impediment on my part."

An original letter, written by Rajah Shitabroy to Mr. Bolts, dated the 31st July 1768, proved by Gonyhandafs, viz.

"After the usual compliments—I received your favourable letter wherein you write, that it appeared to you, my favourable friend, that another of your gomftahs, named Cogee Rafael, who was in those parts, has been imprisoned and brought down to me, and that I had continued the said Rafael under confinement, and with my own people sent him down to Murfiedabad: and that as you, kind Sir, are acquainted with the crime the said Rafael has committed, to merit my confining and putting a guard upon him, you therefore request I will acquaint you with the said Rafael's crime. My dear Sir, I did not know that Rafael was your gomftah, nor am I in the least acquainted with any fault he has committed. Colonel Barker, Bahader, wrote to me that he had dispatched to me Cogee Rafael and two other Armenians, who in the Nabob Shujah al Dowlah's country had been in confinement under Captain Harper, who had sent them to him, Colonel Barker; accordingly I dispatched them to the Nabob Khane Khandan Mobsazee al Mulk Bahader, at Murfiedabad: the particulars of their faults or their innocence must be well known to Mr. Harper himself; with respect to me, kind Sir, do not believe me capable of any thing contrary to the strictest friendship towards you, you shall know me your own friend."

Your Committee then proceeded to read the memorial of the Armenian gentlemen, Gregore Cojamaul and Johannies Padre Rafael, as presented to the Court of East-India Directors, dated London, the 12th September 1769, viz.

"To the Honourable the Court of Directors for the Affairs of the Honourable the United Company of Merchants of England, trading to the East Indies."

The humble Petition of Cogee Gregore Cojamaul and Cogee Johannies Padre Rafael, Armenian Merchants, late of Bengal, Humbly sheweth,

"That your petitioners, who are natives of Erpahan in Persia, have, for many years, resided in India, particularly in the provinces annexed to Bengal, and in the dominions of the different Princes bordering upon those provinces, where they have carried on for themselves, and others, a very extensive trade always with the permission and approbation of the different Princes, in whose dominions your petitioners resided, always paying the duties exacted by such Princes, and always cheerfully submitting themselves to the laws of such countries.

"That it has ever been the custom, from time immemorial, for Greeks, Georgians, Turks, Persians, Tartars, Cathmecrians, Armenians, and other nations, to resort to, and traffic in, India, where the country nabobs, capable of the benefits arising from the resort of foreign merchants, and the increafe of trade, have, at all times, encouraged such persons to the utmost of their power.

"That besides their own traffic, your petitioners likewise, for about seven years last past, have been honoured with businefs upon commiffion from sundry English gentlemen, several of whom are now in England.

"That your petitioners, in such transactions, have ever acted to the satisfaction of their constituents, and with credit to themselves, having ever studiously avoided interfering in any
any other than their own mercantile affairs; and as they have ever been well-wishers to
the Honourable English East-India Company, having never, in the most distant manner,
sland contrary to the interests of that Company.
That your petitioners were lately resident in the dominions of the Nabob Shujah al
Dowlah, and the Rajah Bulwanting, who, to the great surprize of your petitioners, re-
ceived orders from your Prefidency of Calcutta, or Fort William, to banish your petitioners
out of their countries.
That those Princes communicated the orders which they had received from your said Pre-
fidency to your petitioners, who had the honour to be favoured with the friendship of the
said Princes, who proposed various expedients to screen your petitioners from violence, as
your petitioners can shew by authentic documents in their hands, to the satisfaction of this
Honourable Court.
That the friendship of those Princes having induced them to evade the immediate exe-
cution of such tyrannical orders, for which they knew no caufe, your President, Mr. Ver-
rell, wrote again in repeated letters, and in the most peremptory terms, to have your peti-
tioners feized, imprisoned, and sent down into the Company’s provinces to Patna and
Murhedabad, and, for fear of further delays or evasions, orders were given to the imme-
diate servants of the English Company, who were employed to seize and imprison your
petitioners, as they are likewise ready to prove, to the satisfaction of this Honourable
Court, by authentic documents and writings, under hand and seal of the said Company’s
servants.
That accordingly your petitioners were feized in the most sudden, cruel, and inhuman
manner, and brought down to the Company’s factories at Patna and Murhedabad, being
obliged to quit infantly all they were possessed of in that country, to a very considerable
amount, together with their books and papers, and the effects of many other persons with
which they were intruded, and for which they are amenable.
That during the confinement of your petitioners, the relations of your petitioners did
deliver to your President, Mr. Harry Verrell, sundry petitions, particularly one of the
15th May 1768, and one of the 13th June 1768 (which your petitioners imagine hand
recorded upon your Calcutta confulations) requesting the releasement of your petitioners,
and offering to give any such security for money, or the appearance of your petitioners, as
might appear reasonable to your said President and Council.
That the said petitions were paid no regard to, but your petitioners were continued un-
der confinement; your petitioner Cojee Gregore Cojamaul having been confined from the
14th March, 1768, to the 23d May 1768, being two months and nine days; and your
petitioner Cojee Johannes Padre Rafael, from the 27th March 1768 to the 28th August
1768, being five months, during which time they were treated worse than convicted felons;
Cojee Rafael being first imprisoned in a house stabe, and afterwards both kept in close con-
finement, under a strong guard of the Company’s sappers, with fixed bayonets, who never
suffered your petitioners to flir out of their right.
That being at last released from confinement, your petitioners and their friends waited
upon your President, Mr. Harry Verrell, not only to be acquainted what were the caufes of
his displeasure, and why they had been confined; but requesting leave to return up the
country, to secure their effects and outstanding concerns, thereby to preserve themselves
and families from ruin; but to the misfortune of your petitioners, all their applications
were paid no regard to, nor could they ever obtain any satisfaction, or be acquainted why
they had been thus capriciously imprisoned for so long a time, and then fet at liberty, with-
out being accused of even a fictitious misdemeanor.
That to the great affliction of your petitioners, upon their arrival in Calcutta, they
were informed that your Governor, Mr. Harry Verrell, and his Council, had been pleased
to publish an edict, under date the 18th May 1768, prohibiting all Armenians and Por-
tuguese, and their dependants, from refiding or trading in any part out of the provinces
of Bengal, Bahar, and Ootilla, or from attempting to transport any merchandise beyond
those provinces, under penalty of the utmost severe corporal punishment, and the confi-
uction of such merchandise; an attested notorial copy of which most extraordinary public
edict is in the hands of your petitioners, for the inspection of this Honourable Court.
That your petitioners were hereby not only deprived, among others, of those rights
which were due to them as men from the law of nations, but were deprived of that
freedom of trade which their nation had always enjoyed in the times of the world of the
ancient black Nabobs, and, in particular, were also deprived of all hopes of ever recovering
those effects, from which they had been thus forcibly and capriciously taken.
That your petitioners, who have been therefore necessitated at a great expence to come
to England for justice, now appeal to the equity of this Honourable Court, requesting
that they will either indemnify your petitioners for the great lofes they sustain, or that
they will pleafe to order home to anwer for themselves, the President, Mr. Verrell, and
such of the Company’s servants, as to this Honourable Court may appear to have been
the acting persrons in the opprobrs complained of:
And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.
London, the 12th Sept. 1769.
COGE GREGORE COJAMAUL.
COGE JAHONNES PADRE RAFAEL.
Z. Z. Your
Your Committee then read a letter from the petitioner, Gregore Cojamaul, to the Court of East India Directors, dated the 29th Feb. 1772, together with the answer thereto; as follows:

"To the Honourable Court of Directors for affairs of the Honourable the United Company of Merchants of England, trading to the East Indies.
"Honourable Sirs, Being acquainted by Governor Johnstone, that he was informed by one of the Directors of the East India Company, upon presenting my petition to Parliament, that the Court of Directors had officially transmitted the memorial I delivered to them of the 12th September 1769, to their President and Council of Bengal, and that they had received a full and explicit answer from thence with specific charges by the last ships; in consequence of such information, I now make my most humble application to the Court, that they will be pleased to furnish me with a copy or copies of such answer and charges, which I hope in common justice cannot be denied me, as I must ever presume the Directors are equally inclined to blamne their servants when culpable, as to defend them when innocent; and that the protection of the inhabitants of Bengal is a principal part of their consideration. I am, with great respect,
"Honourable Sirs,
"Your most obedient, humble, and devoted servant,
"Gregore Cojamaul."

At a Court of Directors of the United East-India Company, held on Wednesday the 11th March 1772; The Court, on consideration of a letter from Gregore Cojamaul, Ordered, That the following answer be given to the same, and transmitted to him accordingly:
"Our general letter, in answer to what we wrote to our Governor and Council, on the subject of the Armenians petition, laid before the Court of Directors in 1769, contains many matters very improper to be communicated on the present application made by the Armenians, Gregore Cojamaul; but so much as materially concerns the justification of our Preidency with respect to those persons, it is to this effect: they refer to the country correspondence transmitted to us in 1768, and to their proceedings in December 1767, for the particulars of this matter; that these Armenians were discovered in carrying on intrigues at the court of Sujah Dowlah, and that there was strong presumption, that they were the instruments of obtaining for Mr. Bolts, copies of our President's correspondence with the Vizier, not to mention the experience they before had of the intriguing spirit of the Armenians during the government of Coffin Ally Cawn.
"That at this very time, notwithstanding an order in force, prohibiting the residence of gomulahs of Engilsh gentlemen in the territories of Sujah Dowlah and Bulwanting, or indeed any where without the provinces, Mr. Bolts, in defiance of this order, would presume to continue his agents; and that, as it should seem, not merely to wind up his old concerns in trade, but to engage in new ones. From these confiderations, they hope it will clearly appear their removal did not proceed from a motive of resentment, either against Mr. Bolts, or the Armenians themselves.
"That it does not appear to the Councill, that the late President Verelt was the immediate instrument of their removal, as has been insinuated, but that it was an act of the Princes themselves, and entirely optional on their parts; but admitting even that the order should have come immediately from the Preidency, or that the Company's sepoy has been employed, they presume they should stand fully justified for such an exercise of authority, against persons who not only set their orders at defiance, but were likewise bullied in these schemes and intrigues of the most dangerous tendency to government.
"Mr. Johannes Padre Rafael, another Armenian merchant, being called upon to give an account of his being taken up to the time of his releasement, said, I was in Fylabad the 27 March 1768, when Captain Harper sent two parties of sepoy, and they took me prisoner, and carried me to Captain Harper's tent. He sent his manly to know the reason why we came at such an improper hour. I said, Your matter knows the reason why your sepoy's brought me here. As soon as I spoke to the manly, Captain Harper came out, and said, I must send you to Calcutta—I answered, For what reason? he said, angrily, That Mr. Verelt had sent a letter, and you must go immediately. I represented the diforders my affairs would suffer, if I had not three or four months time to settle them, and entreated some delay; he said, I shall give you three days. I represented, that I should be ruined if I had not more time allowed me. I was put under confinement in my own house, and kept from the 27 March to the 1th May, strictly guarded by sepoy's. On the 2d May I was sent to Ilalahabad, and arrived there the 10th May. I was kept till the 32t in the open air. I applied by Captain Gravely to be releas'd, but without success. The 2d June (Bill under confinement) I was sent to Patna, where I arrived the 28th; I was ten days at Patna under confinement. I applied to Shitabroy to be releas'd, but without success. On the 15th July I arrived at Murfadabad. I was brought before the Nabob. I pleaded, that as a merchant, I apprehended I might go where I pleased, paying the duties. The Nabob said, there was now a new regulation and that could not be, and then demanded an obligation that I would not go up to the high country to trade, under the pain of confis-
cation of my goods. I refused to give the obligation, and was confined in a flable, without
meat or drink, for twenty-four hours. I was then imprisoned in a dark dirty place, worse
than a flable, till the 22d August. I made application to Mahomed Reza Khawn to be re-
leafe: he said, He could do nothing without orders from Mr. Verell. The flabbdar, or
commander of the feypoys, told me some days after, that the Nabob had been to wait on Mr.
Sykes, to know whether he had any orders from the Committe, and upon his return I was
ordered to be releafe. The flabbdar demanded fixty rupees, which I not being able to pay,
was by his authority detained three days longer, when, upon payment of the money, I was
releafe; but directions were given me not to go to the upper country, and accordingly I went
to Calcutta. During my conlannement, money was frequently extorcte from me by the feypoys:
it cott me, during my imprisonment, two thousand rupees, the greatest part of which was
forced from me by the feypoys.

Martins, 129 die Maii, 1772.
Col. Burgoyne in the Chair; Prefent,
Lord Folkeftone, Mr. Johnfteone,
Mr. Vane, Mr. Rice,
Sirs G. Elliot, Mr. Strachey,
Mr. Trecotthick, Mr. Sutton.

Read a paper as fent up, purfuant to order, by the East-India Directors, intituled, "An
Agreement between the Governor and Company of Merchants of London, trading to the
East Indies, and the Armenians, dated the 22d June 1688; as follows, viz.

"The Governor and Company of Merchants of London trading to the East Indies,
Agreements with the Armenians, dated the 22d June 1688.
"The Governor and Company of Merchants of London, trading to the East Indies, to all
whom these prefents shall come, fend greeting. Whereas representation hath been made
to us by Sir Jofia Child, Baronet, our deputy governor, that upon long conferences by
him had with Coja Panous Panader, an Armenian merchant of eminency, and an inhab-
titant of Ifahann in Peria; as also with Sir John Chardin, of London, Knight, they had
on behalf of the Armenian nation proposed to him several particulars for carrying on a great
part of the Armenian trade to India and Peria, and from thence to Europe, by way of
England; which will redound greatly to his Majefly's advantage in his cuttons, and to the
increase of the English navigation, if the Armenian nation might obtain fuch licence from
this Company as will give them encouragement fo to alter and invent the ancient course of
their trade to and from Europe: and we being always willing to increafe and encourage
the public trade and navigation of this kingdom, after a fervous debate of all the propor-
tions relating to this affair, have thought fit to agree and refolve as follows; viz.

"First, That the Armenian nation shall now, and at all times hereafter, have equal share
and benefit of all indulgences this Company have, or shall at any time hereafter grant to
any of their own adventurers or other English merchants whatsoever.

"Secondly, That they shall have free liberty at all times hereafter to pass and repafs to and
from India, on any of the Company's fhips, on as advantageous terms as any freeman
whatsoever.

"Thirdly, That they shall have liberty to live in any of the Company's cities, garrifions,
or towns, in India, and to buy, sell, and purchafe land or houses, and be capable of all
civil offices and preferments, in the fame manner as if they were Englishmen born, and
shall always have the free and undifturbed liberty of the exercife of their own religion. And
we hereby declare, that we will not continue any governor in our service, that shall in any
kind disturb or discontcntuance them in the full enjoyment of all the privileges hereby
granted to them; neither shall they pay any other or greater duty in India, than the Com-
pany's factors, or any other Englishman born, do or ought to do.

"Fourthly, That they may voyage from any of the Company's garrifions to any other ports
or places in India, the South Seas, China, or the Manilas, in any of the Company's fhips,
or any permiffive fhips allowed by the Company; and may have liberty to trade to
China, the Manilas, or any other ports or places within the limits of the Company's
charter, upon equal terms, duties, and freight, with any free Englishman whatever,

"But whereas all persons in England do pay for bullion outwardly two per cent, for freight
and permiffion; and three per cent, homewards for diamonds and other precious flows; it
is hereby declared and agreed, that the Armenians fhall pay three per cent, outwards for
bullion, and two per cent, homeward for diamonds; for coral and amber beads they fhall
pay fix per cent, for freight and permiffion; and for cord, amber, raw cochineal, quick-
ferver, fword blades, fire arms of all sorts, haberdaffery woods, iron of all forts, wrought
or unwrought, paper, all forts of flationary woods, English looking or drinking glaffes,
and for all forts of Norimbeg woods and merchandizes, ten per cent, for permiffion, and
fix pounds per ton, freight. That all forts of leather, Venetian woods, and merchandizes,
may be flipped out permiffion free, paying only fix pounds per ton, freight; for all cloth
or woollen manufactures, of what kinds or fort foever, they fhall pay twelve and a half per
cent in lieu of all charges whatsoever, excepting only the freight and the Company's cut-
toms in India; for lead, ten per cent, permiffion, and three pounds per ton, freight; for
provisions of all forts, for eating and drinking, fix pounds per ton freight, but no permif-

ion;
nion; and for all sorts of goods, homeward bound, they shall pay in manner and form fol-
lowing; viz.

"For diamonds, pearls, rubies, all sorts of precious stones and ambergrease, two per
cent. freight, and permission as aforesaid; for mufk of any kind, six per cent. for freight,
and permission; for pepper, one penny per pound, and for coffee ten per cent. permission,
besides freight; for all raw rilk of Peru, twenty-one pounds per ton freight, but no per-
mition, custom, or any other charges whatsoever, excepting only two and a half per cent,
towards demurrage of our ships; for all goods whatsoever, of the growth and manufacture
of Peru (red Carmenia wool excepted, which is hereby totally prohibited) ten per cent.
permission, and the same freights as the Company themselves pay, without any other
charges whatsoever; for all sorts of China and Bengal goods, during the Company's indul-
gence for those kinds of goods, and no longer, in that place for ever laden, thirteen per
cent. for permission, and all other charges whatsoever, over and above the fame freight in
the Company pay, and the customs hereafter mentioned; viz. All goods outward and
homeward bound are to pay the Company in East India, five per cent. custom on the first
cost, as per invoices of the said goods, whether they be laden from, or delivered into, any
of the Company's ports or places, or into any other ports or places whatsoever, excepting
only from this article, all bullion, diamonds, and other precious stones, ambergrease,
mufk, and raw Peruian silk. And it is agreed, that the permission money and freight for
all goods outward bound, to be paid in India as aforesaid, shall be accounted for at eight and
a half rupess per pound sterling upon hypothecation of the goods to the Company in Lon-
don; and we do declare, that for safe of accounts, the custom due to the Company in
East India, is to be included together with the other charges; viz. freight and permission,
according to the premises, and all inserted in one from, upon the respective bills of loading,
which sum is always to be paid before the delivery of the goods to the persons mentioned in
the said bills of loading, which is the true intent of the hypothecation before expressed.
That all goods which have once paid custom, are not to pay any other again either upon import-
ation or exportation of the said goods, to the place where they first paid it, or to any other
port or place belonging to us in the East Indies. That every person that shall take passage
on any of the Company's ships, shall pay in East India twelve pounds sterling for his per-
mission outward, at the rate of eight rupess and a half per pound sterling; and the like
sum to be paid here for every person that shall take passage homeward, besides eight
pounds per head for sea provisions, which it is hereby agreed shall always be paid in Lon-
don; and for such persons who shall board at the Captain's table, they shall pay ten guin-
eas each to the captain for the same. But the servants shall be melfed apart by themselves,
and always have the same allowances of ship provisions as the officers and seamen of the ship
have, or ought to have. And it is also granted to the said Armenians, that the passengers
shall be allowed, both out and home, to carry with them their wearing clothes, furniture,
and provisions, not exceeding one quarter of a ton for each man, freight free. And
whereas the said Armenians have used to drive a great trade from India to Turkey, over-
land, by the way of Peru and Arabia, and are now desirous to drive that whole trade by
the way of England: it is hereby declared and agreed, that the said Armenians have liberty
to fend, upon any of the Company's ships for England, any sorts of goods of East India,
configuring them to the Company by true invoices and bills of loading, and not otherwise,
paying ten per cent. permission on the value of the said goods in London, besides the same
freight as we ourselves pay. And it is hereby declared, that the Company have liberty to
detain and keep in their possession all such goods as shall be configured unto them as afore-
said, until they have shipped them off upon English bills of lading, and for Turky, Venet, or
Leghorn, and taken security; yet they shall not be landed in any other ports or places of
Europe, except the place to which they shall be configurred, according as they shall be di-
rected, by the said Armenian proprietors, or their agents. And lastly, it is declared and
agreed, that notwithstanding any thing aforesaid, it shall and may be lawful for the said
Company to reserve and keep for their own use, any of the said goods fointended for Turky
as aforesaid, paying the Proprietors one third part clear profit on the first cost of the goods
as aforesaid, all freight, charges, and disbursements whatsoever, being first deducted and
fore-prized, eight rupess in India being in this case to be accounted for one pound sterling.
In witness whereof, the Governor, Deputy Governor, and three of the Committee of the
said Company, have hereunto set their hands, and caused the larger seal of the said
Company to be affixed this two-and-twentieth day of June, anno Domini 1653, and in
the fourth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord, James the Second, by the grace of
God, King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, defender of the faith, &c.
(Signed)

"Benjamin Bathurst, Governor,
Josia Child, Deputy Governor,
..... Worcester,
John Moore,
George Bourn.

"The Governor and Company of Merchants of London trading into the East Indies,
to all whom it may concern, fend greeting: Whereas Coji's Panous Kalendars, an Arme-

nian merchant of eminency, and an inhabitant of Ipishan in Persia, hath taken great pains in making an agreement with the said Company, for a great trade to be carried on in English shipping, by himself and others of the Armenian nation; the said Governor and Company, in consideration thereof, do by these presents (at the request of the said Coja Panous Kalendar) freely grant unto him and his family, the sole trade of garnate, he paying ten per cent. custom for the same, and the usual freight paid by the Company. And the said Company do hereby declare, that they will neither trade in the said commodity themselves, nor suffer any other persons, English, or strangers, for the future, to trade or traffic in that commodity. Given under the Company's larger seal, as also under the hands of the Governor, Deputy Governor, and three of the Committee of the said Company, this two-and-twentieth day of June, anno Domini 1688, and in the fourth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord James the Second, by the grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, defender of the faith, &c.

(Signed)

"Benjamin Bathurst, Governor,"
"Joba Child, Deputy Governor,"
"...... Worcester,"
"John Moore,"
"George Boun.

"The Governor and Company of Merchants of London trading into the East Indies, to all to whom it may concern, send greeting: Whereas it hath been represented unto us, that the Armenian nation have a great desire to carry on a trade and commerce with our people in the East Indies, we do, for the better encouragement of that nation, to settle and cohabit in the several garrisons, cities, and towns, in the East Indies, under our jurisdiction; by these presents, declare, grant, and agree, that whenever forty or more of the Armenian nation shall become inhabitants in any of the garrisons, cities, or towns, belonging to the Company in the East Indies, the said Armenians shall not only have and enjoy the free use and exercise of their religion, but there shall be also allotted to them, a parcel of ground to erect a church thereon, for the worship and service of God in their own way; and that we will also, at our own charge, cause a convenient church to be built of timber, which afterwards the said Armenians may alter and build with stone, or other solid materials, to their own good liking; and the said Governor and Company will also allow fifty pounds per annum, during the space of seven years, for the maintenance of such priest or minister, as they shall chuse to officiate therein. Given under the Company's larger seal, as also under the hands of the Governor and Deputy Governor, and three of the Committee of the said Company, this two-and-twentieth day of June, anno Domini 1688, and in the fourth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord James the Second, King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, defender of the faith, &c. (Signed)

"Benjamin Bathurst, Governor,"
"Joba Child, Deputy Governor,"
"...... Worcester,"
"John Moore,"
"George Boun."

Your Committee then proceeded to read part of the proceedings of the Governor and Council at Calcutta, at a consultation held the 3d March 1767, at which were present Lord Clive, General Carnac, Harry Verrill, Francis Sykes, Randolph Marrins, Hugh Watts, Claude Ruffell, William Aldersey, Thomas Kelfall, and Charles Floyer, Esqrs. viz:

"It appearing from undoubted authority, that one Coja Mockil, an Armenian, has filed, in the Mayor's court, a fictitious suit against Johanna Marcat, an Armenian widow, merely with a view to evade the demands of the country government, with which she has large accounts, and has therefore taken refuge here without our knowledge, and as nothing is so difficult as to investigate collusion of parties to the satisfaction of law; the Court may not have the power of redress, though convinced of the fact—Agreed therefor to put a stop to practices so prejudicial to the Company's affairs, as they must necessarily interfere with the revenue, that the Board interpose their authority, as President and Council; and withdraw the Company's proceedings from both parties, turning the complainant immediately out of the lettgement, and the defendant as soon as he may be regularly released from the Sheriff's custody.

Read also the 59th and 60th paragraphs of a letter from the Court of East India Directors to their President and Council at Bengal, dated the 4th March 1767; viz.

Par. 59. "As to the collusive suit you mention to be brought in the Mayor's court, by Coja Mockil against Johanna Marcat, with a view to evade the demands of the country government: the charter empowers the Mayor's court to entertain suits between natives, if the defendant does not object to the jurisdiction, and after judgment the plaintiff has a right to the common procs of the court; for obtaining satisfaction against the defendant's body or goods; and upon commencing every suit, if the plaintiff makes oath of his debts, he may hold the defendant to bail; and in that case, where he is imprisoned for want of bail, or is taken in execution after judgment, he must remain in custody, as in ordinary cases. Where no suit is depending, and parties seek refuge in our settlements who have de-"
"frauded the country government, you may, on a proper representation, withdraw our pro-
tection, and suffer the country powers to apprehend and deal with them according to their
own laws; but we are of opinion, you have no right to banish any party, plaintiff, or de-
fendant, who may be guilty of these collusions. If there is no debt really due from the
defendant to the plaintiff, most certainly the action or suit is an abuse of the process of the
court, and the Mayor's court may, as the courts of law and equity do hereupon proof of
such collusion, imprison the parties for a contempt of the court; but we know of no law
that will justify a sentence of banishment in cafes of this kind."

Par. 60. "The best method we can advise, as a means to prevent these collusive suits, is,
that the Mayor's court do immediately publish a rule of practice to this effect; viz. That
in every case where a suit is brought in that court by Indian against Indian, wherein the
defendant is held to bail, it shall be fully specified and set forth in the plaintiff's affidavit of
the debt, where the same was contracted, the time when, and the nature of the debt,
whether upon bond, note, or otherwise, and for what consideration, actually and
bene-fide given or paid; and in every case where the cause of action is not sworn to arise
within the limits of the settlement, the Mayor's court ought to refuse to issue process for
arresting the defendant."

Mr. Vereiff was then called, and asked,
Q. What do you know with respect to the imprisonment of the Armenians, the cause of it,
and by whose authority they were confined?
A. I should be very glad to give any account in my power to the Committee of those trans-
actions; but as the petitioner Cojamaul, and Rafael, another Armenian, have commenced
suits against me, both in Chancery and the Court of Common Pleas, to which I have a de-
fence, and don't doubt a full justification; and as those suits are now depending, I am advised
by my council not to answer, before this Committee, matters which are the subjects of those
suits; I therefore wish to decline answering the question.

Mr. Bolts.
Q. What time did you resign the Company's service?
A. I believe in November 1766.
Q. When was it first notified to you, by the Governor and Council, that you should return
to England?
A. A few months after I resigned the service, but while I was a magistrate of the Mayor's
court.

Mr. Cojamaul.
Q. After you had got the purwannah, and was in Sujah al Dowlah's country, did you do
any business for Mr. Bolts?
A. I did no new business for Mr. Bolts after the date of that purwannah.
Q. What business did you do?
A. I gathered in some money for him, and sold his remaining goods.
Q. Do you know of Mr. Vereiff's applying in writing to the Nabob, Mahomed Rexha
Khawn, at the request of Cogee Melcomb, for him to proceed to Patna, in order to receive his
effects in Sujah Dowlah's country after your arrival in Calcutta?
A. I know of no application.

Mr. Bolts.
Q. Was you forced out of the country?
A. I was, by a party of 28 armed soldiers, by an order of Mr. Vereiff, and the rest of the
council: I had refused to go. Captain Coxe came to me early in the morning of the 23d
September 1768, kept his guard at a distance; showed me the order that he had from the
Governor and Council, and told me that he must take me away if I did not consent to go
voluntarily.—I told him that I did not conceive those gentlemen had any right to send me
away; that I had long been persecuted, and that they had long threatened it, but that I never
thought they would have dared to execute their threats—I sent to my friends, and in about ten
minutes there were 20 or 30 gentlemen assembled.

I petitioned the Captain for a little time to throw my books and my wife's clothes into a
couple of chests, and he was kind enough to grant me two hours, but then said he could stay
no longer with safety. I went into my wife's bedchamber to see if she had lent her things
away when the Captain, and one of his sepoys, came into the bedchamber and took me
out by the shoulders; they marched me through the streets to a boat that was prepared for
me, in which they conducted me on board a fleet prepared for the purpose.—My wife followed
me afterwards.—In that fleet we were conducted down the river, and kept seven days and
nights under confinement in the fleet, with the sepoys at the cabin-door.—When the fleet
Valentine was under way, we were taken out of that fleet to sea, and forcibly put on board the
Valentine, and brought to England.
Q. When the first sentence of banishment was pronounced against you, had you any inti-
mation of your crime, or was you called before the Governor and Council that pronounced
it, to make any defence?
A. I had no intimation whatever, nor was ever called before them.
Q. Do you remember when you received the first sentence from the Secretary of the Go-
vernor and Select Committee?
A. I think it was in April 1767.
Q. Did you ever know for what reason you were thus sent home?  
A. I never knew more than what was written in the paper delivered me as my sentence, after I was banished in April 1767.  
The said paper was then ordered to be produced; and was read as follows; viz.

An Extract from the Proceedings of the Select Committee, dated the 18 April 1767.

That Mr. William Bole, appears, from many circumstances, to be deeply concerned in the conspiracy to ruin Nobekillen's character, and attempt his life; in which opinion the Committee are confirmed, by his violent and declared resentment to Nobekillen, by the share he took in stirring up, and instigating a prosecution against him in the zemindary court, upon an imaginary and false accusation; and particularly from his taking, at the juncture, into his service, Ramnaut, a man who flanders publicly convicted of perjury, with a view of forging and publishing farther aspersions upon Nobekillen's character.

That Mr. Bole's having, upon this and many other occasions, endeavoured to draw an odium upon the administration, and to promote faction and discontent in the settlement, has rendered himself unworthy of any farther indulgence from the Committee, and of the Company's protection.

That therefore he be directed to quit Bengal, and proceed to Madras by the first ship that shall fail for that Presidency, in the month of July next, in order to take his pittance from thence to Europe in September.

"A true extract."
(Signed) "C. W. Boughton,
"Assistant Secretary Select Committee."

Q. Did you ever hear of any other reasons except what are specified in the above paper?  
A. I never heard of any, excepting that I had wrote a letter to Mr. Gentil, acquainting him with the parliamentary proceedings, which has been read—common, general news.

Q. Did you ever hear that one reason of your being sent away, was, your evading signing the new covenants, relative to receiving of presents?  
A. I never heard of any such reason.

Q. Did you sign the new covenants?  
A. I did not sign them myself, but I did by my deputy, which was equally as valid, and which I always acknowledged to be so.

Q. Why did you not sign them yourself?  
A. Because it was my pleasure.

Q. Did you ever give any other reason for not signing yourself?  
A. I don't remember I ever did.

Q. Who was the deputy that signed them for you?  
A. My own book-keeper, in my name, and for me; he was a native of the country.

Q. Did you not give as a reason for not signing the covenants, that you had taken an oath you never would?  
A. If I have, it will appear upon the public records.—I believe I did.

Q. Did you enter into any new contracts or concerns in trade after you had resigned the service?  
A. I did, because I had a right to do it.

Q. Do you know any instance of any other person, who had resigned the service of the company, forced out of the country in the manner you was?  
A. I know of none in the civil service of the Company, but I know of several gentlemen, who had been in the military service, being feized and ordered for England; but I know of none that were seized so suddenly, and with so much violence as I was.

Q. Is it not usual for civil servants to go when they receive notice?  
A. I never knew of any such custom among any of the civil servants, though I have known many instances of such arbitrary orders.

Q. Have those orders been obeyed?  
A. Sometimes they have, and sometimes not.

Q. What is done with the civil servants when they do not obey?  
A. I have not known of any civil servants sent away by force.—Sometimes their residing was dispenced with; but I suppose they would have been sent away if they had not gone voluntarily.

Q. Do you know of any civil servants going away when they were ordered?  
A. Yes.

Q. When did that custom begin of ordering people to be feized and sent home by force?  
A. I never knew of any instance before 1765 or 1766.

Q. Did you ever know of any civil servants refusing to go when the orders were not dispenced with?  
A. I don't remember any of the civil covenanted servants of the Company refusing to go; but I know of several British subjects being forced, upon such orders, to seek that protection in the foreign settlements that they could not enjoy in their own.

Q. Did you never know of any British subjects, covenanted or not covenanted, who continued to reside in Calcutta after ordered to quit, and that order not dispenced with?  
A. None in my time; but have heard of others in former times.

Q. What
Q. What instances have you heard of in former times?
A. There was a Gentleman named Cooke, and several others, whose names I don't recollect. Mr. Cooke was in the Company's civil service at Dacca, and, as I heard, dismissed for embezzlement, and ordered home by the Directors, but refused to go, and remained in the country;—the Governor and Council, at that period, did not think themselves safe to execute such orders.

Q. Were there not orders repeatedly issued for two years, for you to go away before you was forced away?
A. There were; but I always considered them as illegal, and in my case, as particularly void in law, because I was an Alderman of the Mayor's court.

Q. Was you an Alderman of the Mayor's court at the time the first order for your departure was issued?
A. I was.

Q. Did you ever assign that as a reason to the Governor and Council for not going?
A. I never entered upon the legality of the orders with the Governor and Council—I don't remember I assigned that as a reason.

Q. How long was it after you received your sentence of banishment, that you heard the objection against you for not signing the covenants?
A. The sentence of banishment was dated in April 1767; and I first heard of the other charge concerning the covenants, in September 1768.

Q. When this charge respecting the covenants was stated against you, did you offer to find security to any person who should allege you was not equally bound by the deed of your clerk done by your order, as if done by yourself, or to the Company, to stand any prosecution for receipt of presents while you was in the Company's service?
A. I did.

Q. Was it ever alluded by any person, that you had received any presents when in the Company's service, after the covenants were ordered to be signed?
A. It never was alluded against me, either when in or out of the service.

Q. How long had you resigned the service before September 1768?
A. About two years; and I had ordered my clerk to sign the covenants three years preceding that date.

Q. Had or had not the Governor and Council directed you to be dismissed from the Mayor's court before such charge of not signing the covenants was suggested?
A. They had ordered me to be dismissed.

Q. What was the answer to the Court in consequence of that order?
A. That there was no legal vacancy in the Court.

Q. How long is it customary in the East Indies to allow civil servants resigning the privilege of the Company's duftuck?
A. Twelve months.

Q. If most of the servants, who went away upon being ordered, would not have naturally returned to their own country without such orders?
A. I believe they would all have returned.

Q. Who were the agents you employed in those concerns you entered into after your resignation?
A. I had above 150, and amongst others the two Armenians who have given evidence, but these were only employed in collecting outstanding debts, and disposing of goods and contracts which were on hand before my resignation.

Q. What settlements do you mean that several British subjects went to, to get that protection they were refused in their own?
A. The French, Dutch, Portuguese, and Danes—they employed themselves in trade.

Q. What are their names?
A. One named Duffield, another Byrn, another Burflem; and several others, whose names I cannot recollect.

Q. Give an account of the nature of purwannahs, when they first took place; and what effects they were supposed to produce?
A. Purwannahs of the nature of that which was produced to the Committee, were never thought of till 1766. I, as well as all the native merchants I ever conversed with upon it, considered it as a scandalous regulation to monopolize trade, as may be understood from the very tenor of it, as it was explained to the Committee.

Q. Did it exempt from duties?
A. I never understood that it did.

Q. What then was the effect of it?
A. The Select Committee had made an order in February 1766, which was renewed in October following, that none should buy or sell without those purwannahs; and this purwannah was to give the Committee's sanction for trading.

Q. What was the greatest amount of duties payable on the spot, upon goods in Bulwanting's country?
A. I know of no duties but those which are paid upon the transportation of goods from one place to another, either by land or water in Bulwanting's country, except on piece-goods, upon which a duty or fee called cutwallly is collected on the spot; and this cutwallly is
no more than the charge of a tacka (that is, about the 25th part of a rupee) which the cutwal collects for fixing his seal to the corner of the piece; all other duties are paid upon the transportation, for which a duty is requisite.

Your Committee then proceeded to read the following extracts from the proceedings of the Select Committee at Bengal; held under dates the 22d and 23d October 1766; viz.:

"Resolved, That in future the trade of all Europeans whatever be confined to the articles specified in the annexed list, and considered as returns to, or exports from, the Presidency and factories; and that no trade shall henceforward be carried on from one auring to another, or from one part of the interior country to another, in any of the articles contained in this list, or in any other articles whatsoever, on pain of confiscation of the goods, to be appropriated at the pleasure of this Committee, and forfeiture of the Company's service, or of free merchants' indentures, or licence of the Governor and Council; according as the trespass shall be committed by persons in or out of the Company's service.

"And it being now the intention of this Committee to fulfil, in the most effectual manner, the Honourable Company's instructions respecting the inland trade, and to remove all cause of disturbance and oppression committed in the interior country, under sanction of the English name,

"Resolved, That in future all gomafhas, whether employed on account of the Company, or of individuals, shall strictly refrain from interfering in any matters that may tend to interrupt the collections, or disturb the business of the Government.

"That they shall ferupulously avoid taking cognizance of any disputes or differences they may have with the country people, or affuming to themselves any degree of judicial authority.

"That in all such points of difference and dispute, whether with respect to trade, or otherwise, they shall appeal first to the nearest officer of the Government; and in case of delay or refusal of redress from him, they shall then lay their complaints before Mahomed Reza Khawn, or the Resident at the Durbar, or the Council, or Select Committee.

"That whoever shall be found deviating from the evident meaning and intent of this resolution (a copy of which will be sent to the Resident at the Durbar and to Mahomed Reza Khawn) shall immediately forfeit their employments, and the Company's protection, and likewife be subject to such further punishment as the Council or Committee may think proper to inflict."

The Committee then read a licence from the Rajah Bulwantsing, which was produced by Mr. Cojamaul; and proved by Gonyshamdafs; viz.

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"Settlement of the farm of salt petre of the province of Ghazipore, in the name of the favourable friend Gregore; that is, the farm of the salt petre of the said province, for the sum of 1001 rupees for the year 1774 fully, according to the obligation of the before-mentioned, having settled, and being given in his charge, it is necessary that the mentioned sum, according to the established payments of the rabuliat, he shall pay into the treasury, and with easy mind he may employ himself in the business of the said salt petre farm, please God there shall be no difference in this agreement:

"1001 rupees for the year 1774 fully.

"Written on the 1st Shabaan 1774 fully.

"Entered in the Seab account book of the dewan, the 1st Shabaan fully 1774.

"Entered in the dewan duter the 1st Shabaan 1774 fully."

Likewise a licence from the cutwal, or collector of Bulwantsing's duties, produced by Mr. Cojamaul, of the farm of the opium in Ghazipore, for the years 1766, 1767, and 1768; proved by Gonyshamdafs; viz.

"Agreement for the farms of the opium of the siccar Ghazipore, that is, since the farm of the opium of the above said siccar, for the sum of six thousand and three Bannaras rupees, for the whole of three years, from the beginning of the year 1774 fully to the end of 1776 fully, according to the obligation of the favourable friend Cojee Gregore, having settled and being given, it is necessary that the mentioned sum, according to the payments, year by year, he shall pay, and with easy mind apply to the business of the farm of opium, please God there shall be no difference, and other merchants shall not buy it.

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"Dated the 12th of the month Shabaan, the year 1174 fuftultly."

General Richard Smith being then called, the following questions were asked him; viz.

Q. What do you know of the imprisonment of these three Armenians, what the cause of it, and by what authority they were confined?
A. I have no cause depending with the two Armenians, and yet I am willing to give the best account I can to this Committee.

Q. Do you know of any general orders or regulations for restricting the trade of the English and their agents, in the provinces belonging to the King and Shujah Dowlah?
A. I do.

Q. Did you at any time hear any complaints made of the conduct of such agents by the King, Sujah Dowlah, Bulwanting, or others; and what were such complaints?
A. I have; and they appear in my letter to the Select Committee of the 3d January 1768.

The following extract from the said letter was then read; viz.

"The Nabob represented to me the great inconveniences which arise from the gomasfahs and dependents of English Gentlemen residing in his dominions, particularly at Garrackpore, Mirzapoor, and in the zemindary of Benaris and Gazapoor; that he was extremely tender in exerting his authority over any of those who even assumed the English name, notwithstanding that these people were guilty of many impositions and extortion on his subjects, as well as defrauding him of his duties; now, as he had received repeated assurances from the Prefidency that no private trade should be carried on in his dominions, so he required that I would not only exert my power to free his country from the Armenians and natives of Bengal in the service of individuals, but that I would also represent the same to you, so that effectual means might be taken for their expulsion: sensible of the justice of this representation, I did not hesitate to assure him, that nothing was further from the design or approbation of the English ferdars; that I had heard our President made it a point, neither to grant duftucks or purwannahs into his Excellency's dominions;—that no consideration whatever could induce the English chiefs to suffer the advantages or emoluments of individuals to be a means of giving him the most distant cause of uneasiness or concern—I assured him of my ready concurrence in every measure to suppress this growing evil, and would represent it in the strongest manner to the Committee, that effectual measures might be taken to remove it—desired he would apprehend all those who were guilty of any impositions on our name, which, so far from giving umbrage to the English ferdars, would be esteemed a favour conferred on us. I further added, that to convince his Excellency how desirous I was to strike at the root of this evil, on my return to Allahabad, it should be my care that the purwannah, he himself had granted to Ismael Beg (one of his own subjests, for the exclusive privilege of making salt petre upon account of English Gentlemen, and upon condition that he furnished the Nabob with whatever quantity he wanted at prime cost) should be returned, that he might be convinced no private advantages whatsoever could weigh with an Englishman, which might in the remotest degree affect the public. The Nabob said, in answer, that he esteemed this as a fresh instance of attention and regard.

"As I have been informed of these circumstances, not only from the Nabob, but as Rajah Bulwanting has also represented the late frequency of English duftucks and English purwannahs, it is but too apparent, notwithstanding the resolutions at the Prefidency, that there is an abuse in this matter; I do therefore most earnestly recommend to the Committee, that they will enter upon the most vigorous measures for entirely abolishing a system so fraught with pernicious consequences, and which very system had so lately proved almost fatal to the Company's welfare in Bengal. I have the honour to subscribe myself, with great respect, Gentlemen,

"Head Quarters, near Kierlabad, the 3d January 1768."

"Your most obedient, humble servant,"

"Richard Smith."

Q. Do you know whether such agents were made acquainted with such orders for restraining trade, and did they pay obedience thereto?
A. There was a general publication of those orders, I believe some time in 1768, long after my letter, and which will appear upon the Company's books.—I think the publication was after my return to the Board at Calcutta in April.

Q. Did you know of Cojamaul, an Armenian, or other Armenians, agents for Mr. Boileau, residing in those districts?
A. It was impossible for me to know any gomasfahs—I don't recollect I knew him particularly—there were 500 gomasfahs.
Q. Did this measure of reformatory orders proceed principally from the Governor and Council on complaint of the Princes?
A. I may say it originated from the substance of my letter above mentioned.

Q. When Sujah Dowlah desired you to inform the Governor and Council of those irregularities, what answer did the Governor give?

General Smith then read the following extract of a letter which he received from Mr. Verelst; viz.

"Sir,

I have received your letters of the 10th and 20th December, with returns of the army for the month of November, and of the 6th and 9th instant, with the drafts of three surveys made in the Jubb of Oud; as soon as the other two you mentioned are copied, I shall be obliged to you for them. It is with some astonishment, as well as concern, that I observe the representations you have been pleased to make to the Committee, in your letter to them of the 3d instant, respecting the private trade carried on by English gomtahists in the circars of Gauzerpur and Miznapur, and other parts of the Nabob Sujah al Dowlah's dominions; I therefore have taken this method to acquaint you with my sentiments thereon; for, notwithstanding I am at all times determined to preserve and support my prerogative in its due extent, and to endeavour at conducting all affairs of a public nature to the best of my abilities, upon what I consider the most steady, uniform, and solid plan, yet no difference of opinion, in those points, shall have any way with me, when matters of private concern are under my consideration.

The orders of the Company, and the resolutions of the Committee, are political, that no private trade shall be carried on without those provinces, and the penalty to those who shall disobey them, no less than dismission from the service; yet, it appears by your letter, that they are disobeyed, and that, too, in such a manner, as to oblige the Nabob Sujah al Dowlah to complain to you of the oppression and extortions of English gomtahists; the truth of which was confirmed by Bulwamanee.

You have expressed your apprehensions of facility to the Company's possessions, unless the most vigorous measures be pursued by the Committee, to annihilate these complaints, so fraught with pernicious consequences; and informed the Committee of your having allured Sujah al Dowlah how dreadful you are to raise at the root of this evil, and that it should be your care that the purwannah for an exclusive privilege to make salt petre on account of the English, granted to Ismael Beg, should be removed.

Called upon, as the Committee are, in this public manner, were they to content themselves with only recording your letter upon the face of their proceedings, the Court of Directors might very possibly conceive an idea of your attentive and faithful services at their expense, or perhaps see cause to suspect their disinterestedness and integrity; if, on the contrary, they record your remonstrance with that degree of vigour you tell them it should, by resolving to detect and punish every aggressor, may not your name happen to stand recorded at the head of the list?—You have particularized Ismael Beg; should they enquire by whom he has been employed, will it not be found that he was employed by you?—Employed, not only in carrying on a trade prohibited by the Company, but even to raise that trade into a monopoly throughout the greatest part of the dominions of our friend and ally.

You say, in your public letter, you have heard I made it a point neither to grant duffucks nor purwannahs into Sujah al Dowlah's dominions; I imagined you had known it was a point established with me, and invariably adhered to—however, Sujah al Dowlah having repeatedly written to me on this subject, on reading your letter I had my answers recorded on the Committee proceedings, as well as my assurance of never having granted either duffuck or purwannah beyond the provinces since my coming to the government, except the baggage of officers going to camp.

However hardly you may have conceived of my conduct towards you on any public account, it is very far from me to wish you an injury, and on the present occasion I am sorry you have acted in so unguarded a manner. If any English Gentlemen have been led to extend their trade beyond the provinces, and their gomtahists been culpable in their conduct, a representation thereof to me should immediately have removed every cause of complaint, and a private reprehension corrected the indiscretion of the offenders; but your accusation being public and general, those who have transgressed, must abide by the consequences. Being sensible that the enunclations of your office are inadequate to your situation, you may remember I recommended your entering into trade, which you might engage some of your friends to manage for you; how far you have declared your concern herein I know not, but it has been matter of general complaint, that the attention of most of the officers of the army has, of late, been taken up with commercial matters more than is consistent with their duty; and when reprehended upon this head, they have not ventured to quote the example of the commanding officer. As the very being of the Company, in the present nature of affairs, depends in great measure upon the state of our army, I wish to see a stop put to a practice which may be productive, if suffered to go on, of such dangerous consequences. I would very gladly promote the interest of the army by all proper and reasonable means, but not at the expense of the service.

"It
It is probable you may suppose I have expressed myself with a degree of freedom in some parts of this letter; but as it is obvious that my intentions are altogether friendly, I hope you will do me the justice to believe me with great regard.

(Signed)  

H. VERELST.

Read also the following extract from a letter written by Colonel Richard Smith, in answer to the President Mr. Verelst, as produced by the Colonel; dated Head Quarters, at Meer Abfell's gardens near Patna, the 8 February 1768; viz.

Sir, I have this day received your letter of the 31st ult. The freedom with which you have expressed your sentiments, may be very readily admitted, since you profess your intentions to be altogether friendly; I hope you will, in my turn, indulge me with the same liberty, since I shall deliver my thoughts with an equal degree of sincerity.

Marvel not, Sir, at my representations to the Select Committee concerning the prosecution of private trade in Sujah Dowlah's dominions; be assured it is high time to remedy these grievances; such complaints of oppression had been made to me as were inoffensive; had I been treated by you in a manner due to my rank and character, you should have been particularly advised of this and every other material circumstance that came to my knowledge; but circumstances as I have been, it became necessary for me to confine my correspondence to the Board, and this will account for my not writing you a private letter on this subject.

I am concerned you should express even a suspicion, that should the Committee content themselves with only recording my letter on the face of their proceedings, the Court of Directors may possibly conceive an idea of my attentive and faithful services at the expense of the Committee, or from my representations fee caufe to suspect their disinterestedness and integrity.

I could wish with Mr. Verelst, and all mankind, to believe that I am above aiming at applause at the expense of other men; for I think my own uniform conduct will secure to me that share of approbation it may hereafter appear to have deserved. I wrote to the Committee to strenuously from a firm hope that they would enter into such effectual measures, as to eradicate this growing evil, and hereafter you will be convinced I have not painted this grievance in stronger colours than the occasion required.

You are pleased to write me, it has been matter of general complaint, that the attention of most of the officers of the army has of late been taken up with commercial matters more than is consistent with their duty, and when reprehended on this head, they have not scrupled to quote the example of the commanding officer. I could wish to be informed from whence these general complaints have been made; a general accusation will fall of itself when unsupported by proofs; the conduct of the officers of that part of the army, which has been under my immediate inspection, does not deserve to be a reflection, and the excellent state of those troops is the best proof of my assertion; and from the review which I have lately made of my regiment, and the few lepos remaining here of the second brigade, it clearly appears to me that there has been no want of diligence in the commanding officer, nor of attention in those of an inferior station. As to the officers on the Pargunnah establishment, I know not how they conduct themselves: they appear to have no military superior whatsoever. That the very being of the Company depends in great measure upon the state of the army, is most certain; my sentiments on the present state of it will hereafter appear; in the mean time, if you will be pleased to point out those who have neglected their duty from an attention to commercial affairs, or even those who have been in any wise concerned in a mercantile system, I will affure you of my best endeavours to put a stop to this practice, which I by no means approve.

How far, and by what inducements, I engaged in commerce, I will now relate. You must remember when I was sworn a member of the Council, the duftuck oath was tendered to me; the whole Board must remember I then declined taking that oath, because I never had, nor ever intended to enter into any commercial schemes, as I confedered commerce to be incompatible with my profession; doubtless, you must also remember that soon after this, you yourself observed to me (and I will suppose with a very friendly intention) that you thought I was wrong in giving up the greatest, and indeed only advantage from my new appointment: I observed, that I did not wish to see any commerce whatever carried on by the officers of the army; and, although I was intimated to the privilege of a duftuck, yet I did not chuse to fet the example; you replied, that General Carnac had been concerned in trade, which was carried on by yourself (I think you mentioned, but am not certain) or others on his account, and that you advised me to be concerned with Mr. Ruf- fell, who would transact these affairs for me.

I thanked you for your advice, and said I would consider of it; I reflected that my pre-decessor had received large emoluments from his station, perhaps £30,000 for two years, that the Company's orders had taken away the only emolument which I could expect to receive in that service, and thereby reduced all my appointments to the scanty pitance of £200. per annum, besides defraying my field expenses; that neither the Company at home, nor Lord Clive abroad, had made the least provision for the commander in chief of the forces. Thus situated, I thought I might endeavour, with some degree of propriety, to increase my capital by a commercial system, carried on by a friend, who was a member of the Board, and who was so obliging as to take that trouble for me: of this you
had a dispute with the local officials over the purchase of the land. He managed to settle it to his advantage, and the dispute was finally settled in favor of Mr. Ruffell. He then proceeded to explore the area, finding areas that could be developed for trade purposes. He decided to establish a trading post and invited Mr. Ruffell to join him in the project. Mr. Ruffell was initially hesitant but eventually agreed after seeing the potential of the area.

The trading post was successful, and Mr. Ruffell began to acquire land and purchase goods from the local people. He also established contacts with the local officials, and they began to work together to develop the area. Mr. Ruffell was able to sell the land and goods to merchants from various parts of the world, making a profit. He then decided to expand the business and establish a new trading post in a nearby area. The business continued to grow, and Mr. Ruffell became a wealthy man. He spent his profits on building new roads and infrastructure, improving the lives of the local people.

In conclusion, the success of the business was due to Mr. Ruffell's ability to establish contacts with the local officials and people, and his willingness to invest in the area. He was able to build a successful trading business that provided economic benefits to both himself and the local community. His efforts were recognized, and he was awarded a title and a grant of land from the king. He continued to expand his business and became known as a successful businessman and community leader.
your consideration,' I can only say that it is a worthy sentiment, but it cannot have the
smallest reference to me, as it is impossible for you, as Governor of this settlement, with
propriety, to countenance, or for me, as Commander in chief, with consciency, to be
connected in, any transation which requires privacy on my part, or canvass on yours.
Now, if I have ever engaged in mercurial affairs you have been fully informed; and
as I am above palliating an error in judgment, I will frankly confess to you that it is the
only part of my conduct which I cannot approve upon reflection; not that I had any cause
whatever to judge this transation deferring of censure in itself, but for an example it
displays to others, who might not reflect, that my being a member of the Council-ad
mitted me to privileges no other military man could enjoy.—It is now fifteen years since I
bore a military commissio in this service, and where is the man who can say I ever had a
commercial concern, until it was suggested to me by you? I was, however, soon con-
vined of my error, and as soon I renounced all thoughts of increasing my fortune on
mercantile principles; and, Sir, I dare appeal to you, and to the whole world, whether I
have manifested the least avidity for wealth; but, on the contrary, the opportunities I
have had of acquiring a very large fortune are notoriously known: it is equally known,
that I have not availed myself in the smallest degree of those opportunities, but have pre-
tended mediocrity and an unblemished reputation.

The time is now approaching when you will be fully informed what opinion I have
conceived of your conduct towards me.—My letter of yesterday's date to the Select Com-
mittee, requested their permission for me to return to the Prefidency, that I might prepare
for my embarkation to Europe.—When cool reflection shall banish hastily prejudice, when
jealousies and suspicions can no longer be entertained, then perhaps it may appear that you
have judged of me and my actions through a false medium, and conducted yourself ac-
cordingly. How much I endeavoured to obtain your confidence I will freely acknowledge,
and it was because I could foresee that the welfare of the Company was very nearly inter-
sted in a good understanding between the Governor and Commander in chief; and the
events of the last year have justified my opinion. How well you have adhered to the de-
clarations you made to me in person, will appear hereafter; in the mean time I have an
honour to profess myself, with great respect,

(Signed) "R. Smith."

Q. Did Sujah Dowlah issue the orders for the removal of the Armenian gomafthas in gen-
eral from his dominions?
A. The orders were issued by the Select Committee; but some months prior to those or-
ders Sujah Dowlah had applied for a guard to take up some people at Baranaras, as appears by
a letter from Captain Harper of the 6th January 1768; as follows:—

"To Colonel Richard Smith, Commander in Chief of the Forces.
Sir, The Nabob Sujah Dowlah has applied to me for a guard to apprehend some people
at Baranaras, who, under pretence of being servants to English Gentlemen, are commit-
ting all manner of disturbances. I have not complied with his Excellency's request, and
wait your orders to know whether I may send the guard he defires, or not. I have the
honour to be, with great respect, Sir,
Camp near Fyfadab, "Your most obedient, humble servant,
the 6 January 1768." (Signed) "Gabriel Harper."

Q. Who were those Gentlemen?
A. There was so many I cannot particularize them.

Q. Did Sujah Dowlah make any representation to you against the gomafthas of the English
preceding January 1768?
A. I think that is the first representation that Sujah Dowlah made to me in person, but
not the first that Bulwanfing made.

Q. What was the date of Bulwanfing's first representation to you?
A. I cannot charge my memory with the exact date—they were made in person, and by
his vekels, but not in writing.

Q. Did you acquaint the Governor and Council with those representations of Bulwan-
fing?
A. I endeavoured to remedy them myself as commander in chief of that province. I do
not recollect any representation to the Council prior to the 3d of January.

Q. Do you know of any mal-practices committed by Cogee Gregore or Cogee Rafael?
A. I don't know them personally.

Q. Had you ever any representations against them by name?
A. Many.

Q. Please to state them.
A. Representations from Bulwanfing, and complaints from Sujah Dowlah, that they
carried on a forced trade in that country without any kind of restraint, paying no duties, and
without obedience to the country government.

Q. Were the representations in writing?
A. Not in writing.

Q. Was Bulwanfing's representation against Rafael and Cogee Gregore by name?
A. I cannot particularly recollected, but think I remember the name of Rafael, but believe they
they were comprehended in the general complaints against the Armenians.—I knew them more by the name of Mr. Bolts's gomenlahs than by any other name—Mr. Bolts's gomenlahs were particularly specified.

Q. Do you recollect the names of any of Mr. Bolts's gomenlahs?
A. No.

Q. Was this conversation with Bulwanting before you went up to Illahabad?
A. The first time was in 1767—there were many after.

Q. Do you know by whom the vixiery rupees were coined, and what was the alloy?
A. I never had any thing to do with any mint.

Q. In what coin was the Mogul's stipend paid?
A. I will answer that when the matter comes before the Committee.

Q. Did you ever receive a letter from Mr. Maddison, resident at the durbar, particularly naming those Armenians?
A. I never had any correspondence with him when he was resident.

Q. Did you know Mr. Gentil?
A. I did—he was a Frenchman, who received his subsistence from Sujah Dowlah—I apprehend he refixed there to acquire intelligence of the European settlements: he was much in his favour, but I believe held no offenable office.

Q. Do you know of a letter from Mr. Bolts to Mr. Gentil, which you transmitted to the Committee of Calcutta?
A. A copy of it was sent to me, and I thought it so extraordinary a nature, that I looked upon it as my indispensible duty to transmit it to the Committee—afterwards I obtained the original, which I also transmitted to the Committee.

Q. Do you know of any renunciation of the 8th article of the treaty with Sujah Dowlah, stipulating a freedom in trade?
A. I believe I do—I understand that the noble Lord Clive gave it up to Sujah Dowlah—I have it only from hearsay.

Mercurii, 13th Maiii, 1772.

Col. Burgoyne in the Chair; Present,
Mr. Johnstone, Sir John Turner,
Mr. Fuller, Mr. Vane,
Mr. Strachey, Mr. Sutton,
Mr. Rice, Mr. Ogleby,
Sir Wm. Meredith Mr. Cornwall.

Mr. Bolts produced nine purwannahs granted him by Sujah Dowlah, relative to salt petre, which were proved by Gonyhmands, who said they were exactly the same in substance, only directed to different people.

1st, To Futech Ally Khowan.
2d, - Rajah Bulwanting.
3d, - Golaun Hulton Khowan.
4th, - Roy Deendayal.
5th, - Rajah Bowanyfug.
6th, - Noor Mahomed Beg Khowan Bahadr.
7th, - Heydarbeg Khan Bahadr.
8th, - Ray Kerpaddayal.
9th, - Ally Beg Khan Bahadr.

The purport of the purwannahs was translated and read as follows:

"To the High in dignity, beloved and powerful Meerr Futech Ally Khowan Bahadr, be he protected Upon the arrival of this purwannah, the sum of 3000 rupees, from yourself, having given to the salt petre makers, and having got the salt petre made ready and delivered to Goaldas, the gomenlah of Mr. Bolts, and having taken a receipt from him, fend it to my presence. Next time the said sum, according to the receipt, and this purwannah, shall be credited in the account of your farm.

"Written on the 28th of the month Zilkaad, 118th year of the Higerah. (December 1767.)
The Nabob's seal. (Signed) "Bayer." (Signed) "It is seen."

Johannes Padre Rafael being then questioned, declared—that he never was in the territories of Bulwanting as a gomenlah—that he had not fold any thing in the year 1767 for Mr. Bolts at Fyfabad, where he was a servant to Sujah Dowlah, and had 3600 rupees a year.

Gregoire Cojannal likewise being questioned, declared he never was at Sujah Dowlah's court—never was above Banaras; and that Banaras is 120 miles from Fyfabad.

General Smith.

Q. From your knowledge of the country, are you of opinion that the general orders for recalling the gomenlahs of the English were proper or necessary?
A. The representation that I made to the Council upon the 3d January 1768, is very strong, and very pointed to that purpose—I thought it absolutely neccessary to recall them.

Q. Was Captain Harper one of those among whom you paid you distributed your profits of trade?
A. Captain Harper had served me as an aid-de-camp and secretary for two years, and he was one of those to whom the distribution was made.

The
The Committee then read part of the proceedings of the Governor and Council at Bengal, at a conjuration held the 3d May 1764; as follows:

The Board drew up the following general opinion.

1. Every method has been tried for carrying on the inland trade upon such a footing as to prevent disputes between our agents and the country government, or between one agent and another; and for deciding, in a just and reasonable manner, such as might unavoidably happen. Having experienced the obstructions to which that trade would be liable if the officers of the country government were admitted to any authority over the English agents, it was resolved in conjuration the 5th March 1763, that the chief of the nearest English factory should finally determine all such disputes, and as the Rungpore, Dinagpore, and adjacent districts, where a very considerable part of this inland trade centers, appeared to be too far removed from any of our factories to admit of such enquiry being made in a satisfactory and accurate manner; for this reason, principally, it was agreed, that a senior servant should be appointed to reside at Rungpore, who should have power to hear and determine all disputes.

2. No sooner is this resolution carried into practice, than some of the English agents complain as loudly of injuries suffered from the authority of the English resident, as they did before the Nabob's government.

3. Shall there then be no government, no restraint upon those excesses, which either ignorance, passion, or self-interest, may lead an English agent to commit in the country?

4. This is really the case at present; and although it is very certain that some of the Gentle- men employed are of unexceptionable character, and whose good behaviour might be depended on, yet many there are of a contrary disposition; and there need not many arguments to prove, that both the good and the bad should be under some law; yet if we examine the case of the English agents up to the present time, we shall find they are under none. Our charter does not authorize our courts to take cognizance of any crimes they might commit in these parts: and it has been laid down as a fundamental principle, that the country government shall have no power of them.

5. We need not look further for the root of that licentiousness which has produced such innumerable complaints from the country government, and the inhabitants in those parts where European agents have been sent: it can now no longer be doubted, that many of those complaints have been well grounded, particularly in the article of selling goods by force for more than the current market price: a practice called in this country Barja or Gu- chaut.

6. All the power we can give the chiefs of our factories over these agents will be very insufficient to remedy this disorder, since we have in reality none ourselves; and therefore, disagreeable as it is, to deprive so many of our nation of the benefits they now receive, by being employed as agents in the country, yet it seems an unavoidable necessity, and for the sake of the public tranquility and welfare must be adopted, and the trade carried on for the future by black goomafahs, who may be tried and punished by our court of zemindary, if they commit any excesses or acts of injustice; and that power delegated, as far as shall appear necessary, to the chiefs of the subordinate factories.

7. It will be objected by those concerned in the inland trade, that gomafahs will be liable to be oppressed by the country government, who have taken, and will take, every opportunity of restraining us from that trade which they regard as an innovation; this objection we believe is very just, and we shall expect that many difficulties will be found in the beginning in carrying on this trade by gomafahs; but these we think may be surmounted by proper application to the Nabob and his officers; and, upon the whole, are of opinion, that all private inconveniences must be submitted to, even the risk of being entirely deprived of the trade, rather than suffer the inhabitants of the country to be oppressed by an abuse of the English name.

8. It is therefore the opinion of the Board, and resolved, that all the European, Portu- guese natives, and Armenian agents, which are now up the country, shall have notice given them to settle their concerns, so as to return to Calcutta by the 30th November next, and that after that time, no European shall be permitted to go up the country under any pretence whatsoever, or any other agents be employed in our trade but Bengal natives.

The Committee also read the following paragraphs of a letter from the Court of Directors to their President and Council in Bengal, dated the 8th February 1764; viz.

Parag. 21. That from the receipt of this letter, a final and effectual end be forthwith put to the inland trade in salt, beetle-nut, tobacco, and in all other articles whatsoever produced
"Dusted and confirmed in the country; and that all European and other agents or goomfathas, who have been concerned in such trade, be immediately ordered down to Calcutta, and not suffered to return or be replaced as such by any other persons." Parag. 22d. "That as our phirnmaund privileges of being duty free, are certainly confined to the Company's export and import trade only, you are to have recourse to, and keep within, the liberty therein stipulated and given, as nearly as possible can be done; but as by the connivance of the Bengal government and colligate usage, the Company's covenant servants have had the same benefit as the Company, with respect to their export and import trade, we are willing they should enjoy the same, and that duftucks be granted accordingly; but herein the most effectual care is to be taken that no excises or abuses are suffered upon any account whatever, nor duftucks granted to any others than our covenant servants as aforesaid. However, notwithstanding any of our former orders, no writer is to have the benefit of a duftuck, until he has served out his full time of five years in that station; free merchants and others are not entitled to, or to have the benefit of, the Company's duftucks, but are to pay the usual duties." Parag. 23d. "As no agents or goomfathas are to reside on account of private trade at any of the inland parts of the country, all business on account of licensed private trade, is to be carried on by and through the means of the Company's covenant servants resident at the several subordinate factories, as has been usual." Parag. 24th. "We are under the necessity of giving the before-going orders, in order to preserve the tranquillity of the country, and harmony with the Nabob; they are rather outlines than complete directions, which you are to add to, and improve upon, agreeable to the spirit of our meaning in them, as may be necessary to answer the desired purpotes; and, if any person or persons are guilty of a contravention of them, be to them whosoever ever they may be, our own servants, they are to be dismissed for the service; if others, the Company's protection is to be withdrawn, and you have the liberty of sending them forth with to England, if you judge the nature of the offence requires it." Read also the following paragraphs of a separate general letter from the Court of Directors of the East-India Company to their President and Council in Bengal, dated the 24 December 1754: viz. Parag. 10th. "Your deliberations on the inland trade have laid open to us a scene of most cruel opprobrium, which is indeed exhibited at one view of the 13th article of the Nabob's complaints, mentioned thus in your congratulation of the 17th October 1764: 'The poor of this country, who used always to deal in silt, beetle-nut, and tobacco, are now deprived of their daily bread by the trade of the Europeans, whereby no kind of advantage accrues to the Company, and the Government's revenues are greatly injured.' We shall for the present observe to you, that every one of our servants concerned in this trade, has been guilty of a breach of his covenants, and a disobedience to our orders. In your consultations of the 3d of May, we find among the various extortionate practices, the most extraordinary, one of burjaunt, or forcing the natives to buy goods beyond the market price, which you there acknowledge to have been frequently practiced." Parag. 11th. "In your resolution to prevent this practice, you determine to forbid it, but with such care and direction as not to affect the Company's investment, as you do not mean to invalidate the right derived to the Company from their phirnmaund, which they have always held over their weavers as the Company are known to purchase their investment by ready money only, we require a full explanation how this can affect them, or how it ever could have been practiced in the purchase of their investment, which the latter part of Mr. Johnstone's minute, entered on congratulation the 21st July 1764, intimates for it would almost justify a suspicion that the goods of our servants have been put off to the weavers, in part payment of the Company's investment; therefore we direct you to make a rigid scrutiny into this affair, that we may know if any of our servants, or those employed under them, have been guilty of such a breach of trust, that their names and all the circumstances may be known to us." Parag. 12. "We also order you to give us the particular instances which have confirmed you in your opinion, that the burjaunt has been practiced, that we may know whose agents they were, and whether the agents who practiced it, were countenanced and protected in it by their masters." Parag. 13. "Mr. Johnstone's minute or congratulation the 21st July 1764, cannot escape our notice, wherein he says, 'The support of these, and our other privileges, in their full extent, against the usurpation of the late Nabob, engaged us in this unhappy war; and after so many valuable lives lost in the defence of them, I shall ever be against parting with them, or hazarding the loss of them without greater and better cause than has yet appeared, and till after we have found by experience, that all other remedies are in vain.'" Parag. 14th. "As the privileges here meant principally relate to the unwarranted inland trade, in which our own servants have been so generally concerned greatly to the prejudice of the Company, by involving their affairs in difficulties and difficulties, and manifestly injurious to the country government, of which every one of you cannot but be fully sensible; we say, we cannot avoid taking notice of the said opinion, as by it Mr. Johnstone appears to persevere in all events to prefer the private interest of individuals to the general good, so far as respects the said inland trade.—If Mr. Johnstone continues in these sentiments,
"sentiments, as from the general tenor of his conduct we have too much reason to apprehend, he cannot but be looked upon as a dangerous servant; therefore, if he, or any other persons shall perfide in carrying on a trade, which, as before observed, has been attended with so many bad conseqences, we would have him or them disowned the Company's service."

Par. 15. "We shall say nothing further at present on the inland trade, till that important subject shall have been taken up by Lord Clive, and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee; only to observe, that the regulation proposed in confutation 17th October 1764, of confining the trade of our servants in the article of salt, to the capital cities of Patna, Dacca, and Murfbedabad, on paying the Nabob two and a half per cent. is a manifest disobedience of our orders of the 8th February, then under your deliberation, which positively forbid all trade in salt, beetle-nut, and tobacco; nor does it by any means obviate the objections arising from the distress of the poor, and the injury to his revenues; for, if you pay only two and a half per cent. and the country people twenty, or perhaps forty per cent. it is as much a monopoly as ever.

Par. 16. "For other licensed trade, we think it necessary to establish, that all trade to be carried on within the provinces where factories are established, shall be carried on by our servants at such factories, and their agents only, who shall transact the business of our other servants, on receiving the established commission; and on any refusal to accept such commission, or any tendency to monopolize, the servants at Calcutta, or other parts, are at liberty to send their own black goomlahs, who are nevertheless to be accountable for their conduct to the Company's servants within whose jurisdiction they reside.—All difficulties not comprehended within the jurisdiction of each subordinate, shall be considered as within the jurisdiction of the Board of Calcutta.—That no duftuck shall be given but for articles of import and export, as was formerly practised, and you are to send us a lift of whatever falls under this denomination."

Read also, part of the proceedings of the President and Select Committee at Bengal, of the 11 May 1765, viz.

The Select Committee, observing with regret the contempt shown for the positive and repeated orders of the Governor and Council for recalling free merchants residing up the country,

Resolve, That the former orders on that head be now enforced, and letters dispatched to the chiefs of the several subordinates, requiring them, at the expiration of one month after notice given, to convey in safety to Calcutta, all who refuse to comply with a measure so salutary to the Company, and necessary to the peace and good order of the country.

Being informed also, that a great number of Europeans, dranglers from ships, and others, who have no claim from indentures to any share of the Company's countenance or protection, are variously employed up the country, and dispersed all over the Nabob's dominions, to the great prejudice of the Company, and molestation of the natives;

Resolve, They be immediately secured and brought to Calcutta.

The Committee finding some difficulty in procuring an exact account of the names of such Europeans;

Agreed, That the chiefs of the subordinate factories be made acquainted with the resolutions of the Committee, and required to transmit, without delay, the most accurate lists in their power of all Europeans not immediately in the Company's service, who reside in or about their respective districts."

Read also the following resolution of the Governor and Council of Bengal, at a consultation held the 20th May 1765, viz.

"Agreed and ordered, in consequence of the proceedings of the Committee laid before the Board last council day, that public advertisements be made, enforcing our orders already given for the return of the English, Portuguese, and Armenian agents, employed in the different parts of the country, to the Presidency, and requiring all whores to be arrived by the first of August, and their confidents to give them due notice accordingly."

Read also a letter from the Select Committee of Bengal, dated the 26th July 1765, accompanying an advertisement as transmitted to Dacca, and the rest of the subordinates, as follows; viz.

"To John Cartier, Esquire, Chief at Dacca.

Sir, I am directed by the Right Honourable the President and the members of the Select Committee, to request that you will order the accompanying advertisement to be circulated among the several free merchants and other Europeans, residing in and about Dacca, as far as the influence of the government and factory extends, and that you will procure the most exact account in your power of their names and places of abode, which you will please to transmit to the Select Committee before the expiration of the time specified in the advertisement. I have the honour to be, Sir,

Fort William,

the 26th July 1765."

(Signed) "ALEX. CAMPBELL,

"S. S. C."

By
"By order of the Right Honourable the President and the members of the Select Committee.

Public notice is hereby given, that the liberty of residing up the country, lately granted to free merchants and others, for collecting and finally settling their concerns, will positively cease, and the Company's protection be wholly withdrawn, on the 21st day of October next, it being the absolute determination of the Select Committee, not to extend their indulgence beyond that period, nor to suffer any violation of the Company's repeated orders for recalling free merchants, &c.

It is therefore to be hoped that such public and early advertisement of the intentions of the Committee will prevent all persons concerned from incurring the evil consequences that may ensue to them and their constituents from a disregard to this actual repeal of the Company's protection, or from a refractory behaviour and positive act of disobedience to the Honourable Court of Directors.

"Fort William, the 26 July 1765."

Read also a letter to the Secretary of the Select Committee from Mr. Francis Hare, as follows; viz.

"To Alexander Campbell, Esquire, Secretary to the Select Committee.

Sir, In consequence of your favour of the 26th ultimo, I caused the advertisement you inclosed to be circulated amongst the free merchants residing in Patna and its districts, whose names are as follow:

* Meilleurs Bryan Scotney,
  * Joseph Hare,
  * Alexander Jephson,
  * William Hutchinson,
  * John Hutchinson,
  * George Lear,
  * Barlow.

Mr. Peter Hare, who is in my employ at a place called Boggi, under the Subahday of Patna, has also received notice to repair to Calcutta within the time limited by the Committee.

I am, Sir,

"Your most obedient servant,

"Patna, August 27th 1765.

(Signed)

"Francis Hare.""

The Committee then read part of the proceedings of the Select Committee in Bengal, dated the 5th October 1765, as follows:

"Observing that our orders to the chiefs of the subordinates to send lists to the Committee of all Europeans residing within their several districts, who are not in the Company's service, have been neglected;

Resolved, That we now repeat the above orders, requiring them positively not only to send the most accurate lists in their power, but the persons themselves to Calcutta, by the 21st inst, at which time the Company's protection will absolutely cease, and they must stand to all the consequences of being left entirely in the power of the country government."

Read also the following letter from A. W. Senior, to the President and Select Committee, dated at Cossimbazar, the 23d October 1765, viz.

"To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, President, &c. Members Select Committee.

"My Lord and Gentlemen,

I have been favoured with your letter of the 7th instant, and shall pay due attention to the orders therein contained.

I should have immediately complied with your former directions by sending down a list of the Europeans and other merchants under our protection residing within these districts, but was not able to procure an exact one; however I have now inclosed a list of such as have come to my knowledge, and who have all had timely notice given of your orders:

besides these there are many Europeans, as well as Portuguese and Armenians, who reside at the city of Muxadavad, but I don't find they have any employ at all, and they appear to me to be rather under the Nabob's protection than ours.

"I am,

"My Lord, and Gentlemen,

"Your most obedient,

"humble servant,

"A. W. Senior.

"Cossimbazar,

"23d October 1765."
"A list of European agents and others under the English protection residing at the following places, viz."

- Mr. Hargrave
- Mr. Gundestrope
- Dr. Walmus
- Mr. Maultby at Seebunge.
- Mr. Galloway at Courregong.
- Captain Ivie
- Mr. Woodason
- Philip Pollock
- Do his son-in-law
- Demetrufa
- Doutie
- One writer at Dewangunge

\[\text{at Chilmary.}\]

\[\text{at Ragegunge.}\]

- Mr. William Walker— with Mr. Jekyll, at Rungpore.
- Mr. James Dixon— with Mr. Goring, at Comarcolly.
- Mr. Samuel Whitby— with Mr. Wright, at Coffimbuzar."

And your Committee then closed the evidence upon the petition of the said Gregore Cojamaul.
REPORT
FROM THE
COMMITTEE
APPOINTED TO ENQUIRE INTO
The NATURE, STATE, and CONDITION
OF THE
EAST INDIA COMPANY,
AND OF THE
BRITISH AFFAIRS IN THE EAST INDIES.

LONDON:
Printed for T. Evans, No. 54, Paternoster Row.
M.DCC.LXXIII.
REPORT

OF THE

COMMITTEE

ON THE

IMPORTANCE

OF THE

MARITIME

COMMERCIAL

INTERESTS

OF THE

UNITED STATES

AND THE

METHODS

OF PROMOTING

THEIR

PROTECTION.
REPORT
FROM THE
COMMITTEE, &c.

The Committee appointed to enquire into the Nature, State, and Condition of the East India Company, and of the British affairs in the East Indies, having determined, as the most proper means of fulfilling the Orders of the House, to continue the plan of proceeding which they had adopted in the last Session of Parliament, resumed their inquiry into the objects stated under the third head of that plan; viz., To pursue by historical deduction the state of affairs in India, the manner in which the present possessions in that country were acquired, and the different transactions attending those acquisitions, beginning with the transactions of Bengal, and dividing them into three periods; viz., From the establishment of the present Company, to the completion of the revolution in the year 1757, from thence to the affixing the Dewanah, in the year 1765, and from thence to the present time; and in each period respectively to state the situation of the Company's affairs, and the material parts of the conduct of the Company's servants, with respect to the powers entrusted with them by the Company, in the civil and military departments, in administration of justice, in the accepting of presents, in the management of trade, and in the revenues and coinage.

And your Committee having in their former proceedings begun to inquire into the conduct of the Company's servants, with regard to the delivering up of Ramnaram, who had been nabh, or deputy governor of Patna, under Jaffer Ally Cawn, and was continued through the influence of the English in his nabhship under Coffin Ally Cawn, the succeeding nabh; the first business they entered upon was to finish that inquiry.

But the Committee remarking, that the information the House has yet received relative to that matter, is only from a transcript of their minutes of last year, which the fulness of the time obliged them to lay aside before the House; and wherein neither the heads of evidence are properly arranged, nor the purposes for which the evidence was adduced are stated; they thought it necessary in this place to mention, that they conceived the transactions concerning Ramnaram to be of material consequence in their inquiry; because those transactions have been represented to the Company, by one of their principal servants, as the cause of all others which contributed the most to bring on the war with Coffin Ally Cawn; and by another principal servant it is alleged, that the delivering up of that person was a necessary duty on the part of the Company, in conformity to the just rights of the nabh Coffin Ally Cawn, and the treaty subsisting between him and the Company.

Your
Your Committee have not found any thing upon the records of the Company, respecting the original engagements from the English to Ramnerain; but the Right Honourable Lord Clive, a member of the Committee, being requested to relate what were the engagements entered into by Ramnerain with the nabob, he said, there was no engagement in writing: that after his lordship was called up to the assistance of Myr Jaffer, in the beginning of the year 1758, his excellency desired him to write to Ramnerain, affurring him of the English protection; for that Ramnerain would put confidence in such a letter, but not in one from himself, and that he should by that means get pollution of his person and might cut off his head—That his lordship told him it was not the custom of the English to be guilty of such transactions, that if he was inclined to reduce him by force of arms he was ready to afflict him, but if he chose that his lordship should make him any promises he must fulfil them—That the nabob preferred the latter, in consequence of which his lordship wrote to Ramnerain, that if he would come into the presence, and acknowledge the nabob, he should be kept in his government on the same footing as he had been under Serajah Dowlah—That he came accordingly, paid obedience to the nabob, and was confirmed in his government, upon condition that he should pay the nabob Myr Jaffer the same rents or tribute as he had paid to Serajah Dowlah; what that was his lordship could not tell, but he believed he was to have paid a certain sum, which might have been increased or decreased upon various circumstances—That when he took leave of Myr Jaffer, at his departure for England, he talked over with him the flate in which he left the provinces—that he always understood that Ramnerain remained in the government at Patna, through the English protection, much against the inclination of Myr Jaffer; and that if his excellency had had any complaints to have made against him, he would certainly have made them to his lordship; but that none were made.

Your Committee next called William M'Guire, Esquire, who having referred, during the course of his examination, to several papers, in order to elucidate his evidence, your Committee have annexed the said papers hereunto No. 1. to 13. And the witnesses informed your Committee, that he arrived at Patna as chief, on the 4th of January 1761, and was dismissed from the chiefship the 19th of August following, consequently he was not in the service when Ramnerain was delivered up; but the witnesses said he had received orders for delivering him up, which he would not execute—He could not exactly say the time at which he received them—That his opinion then was, that Ramnerain should have been suspended the service, but his person protected: and that he understood, by the term dismissing him (which is used in different parts of the written correspondence) that his guards should be withdrawn, and that he should be totally suspended from all interference in the government till his accounts should be settled: And the witnesses further said, that when he was to be dismissed, he understood that force if necessary was to be used, to prevent the nabob's seizing him.

And the Committee observing, that the witnesses, in his correspondence with the governor and council, had advised that Ramnerain should be delivered over to the cutcheree, or nabob's court of justice; and being asked to explain the reasons of that advice, he answered, That he might be compelled to make up the accounts of the Sircar: That his meaning by the words in his letter to the governor and council of Fort William, dated Patna, 31 July, "For whilst he finds 't your honour, &c. are mediators with the nabob, not to dishonour him, he knows he cannot " be obliged to comply; and under this shelter the nabob must go without his accounts," was not to subject him to the various methods used by the cutcheree, to force persons by torture to settle their accounts. That he had heard of Gentoo killing themselves to avoid being dishonoured in that manner. The witnesses further said, That when Ramnerain came into the kella, previous to his being delivered over to the cutcheree, the nabob's word was not his only protection, he had the protection of the English; viz. their promises that he should not be dishonoured; and that when he advised that he should be turned over to the cutcheree, he conceived him to be still under the protection of the English: Then being asked, How Ramnerain could be amenable to the cutcheree, if he was under the English protection? he said, As having accounts to settle with the government: And being further asked, Whether he meant to have refitted any compulsory methods which the nabob might have used? he answered, The nabob had promised not to use any fuch. It further appears, from the evidence of the witnesses (taken at a subsequent period of this enquiry, but inferred here, for the better connection of the subject) that the witnesses received from Coffin Ally Cawn 5,000 mohurs, amounting to between 60 and 70,000 rupees, on delivering the keys of the kella at Patna, when Ramnerain was removed from the government of Patna: And the witnesses being questioned, at the same time of his examination, Whether he ever notified to the court of directors the receipt of this present, he declared, He did not. In regard to the collection of rents by Ramnerain, the witness said, That he never regularly collected any money, because he foresaw a time would come when he must render an account: That his manner of raising money was by receiving presents from different rajas to a large amount; and in another part of his evidence, the witness said, That the country having been in a state of war for a considerable time previous to the de-
livering up of Ramnerain, he did not know whether the rents could have been collected under those circumstances:—And the witnesses being asked, What Ramnerain was to have paid for the rent of Bahar if he had, He never saw any accounts relating thereto, but that lent him by the council, in which it was stated, that he was to pay the nabob of Bengal three lacks of rupees a year:—That the nabob did not admit that any such agreement had been made; but if it had, Ramnerain could not want a sum sufficient to make his payments to the nabob. The witnesses did not know whether Ramnerain had paid any rent in Mr. Jaffier's time, though the agreement was said to have been made whilst he was nabob.

Your Committee think it proper further to add, that the witnesses at the close of his examination defined it to be understood, that though he was under hourly expectation of being dismissed, and had received orders in the intermediate time for delivering up Ramnerain to be brought to settle his accounts, by such means as the nabob should think proper; yet he did not deliver him over till the 19th of August, when he gave him to Mr. Hay under a guard of protection; and that he compromised matters with the nabob for 50 lacks of rupees in the beginning of September following.

Your Committee then called General Carnac, a member of the House, who being requested to give an account of the state of Ramnerain, he referred to his letters to the Select Committee and governor and council, copies of which are hereto annexed, Ns 14 and 15; and said, That by those letters, he received many large ones from the nabob himself, for his assurance to remove Ramnerain, and had no doubt but that great ones were made to Colonel Coote, who was his superior:—That the office from the nabob was no specific sum, but unlimited:—That he could not recollect the terms on which Ramnerain was to hold the mahsiph of Patna, but was certain some engagements were entered into by Lord Clive, to support him in the mahsiph; And being asked, What were the circumstances relative to the delivering up of Ramnerain? he said, He concluded that the English protection was withdrawn from him immediately on the witness's leaving Patna, being certain that he was recalled from thence, because the council were sensible, that so long as he was there he would not suffer that protection to be withdrawn:—That, upon his removal, the military command was placed under the chief of the factory, as was usual when the commanding officer present was not above the rank of a captain; and that he was certain the field officers were called away, that it might be so on this occasion:—That there had not been any disputes between the civil and military powers previous to his recall, which might account for it:—That there were some slight differences between Mr. Al Guire and himself subsequent to it, but none between him and any other persons: That Ramnerain was put to death by Coffin Ally Cawn, as well as Rajabullub his competitor, and almost every Cento in the province of any rank or fortune, most of which fees were well disposed to the English, and rich.—Then Mr. Vanuitara's minute, 20th July 1761, being read, wherein Ramnerain is stated to be highly culpable towards the nabob, and that this conduct had put it out of the power of the president and council to protect him longer in so shameful an injustice; a copy of which is hereunto annexed, Ns 16.) The witnesses observed, in vindication of Ramnerain, that the province of Bahar had been a scene of war and devastation the preceding year: That the Shahzadah had remaining in the province with a numerous army, so that all references from thence were cut off. And being asked, whether Ramnerain owed considerable sums to Coffin Ally Cawn at the time he was delivered up? he said He firmly believed not; because as Lord Clive left Bengal the beginning of 1760, and had an audience to take leave before his departure, the witnesses conceived, if Ramnerain had been in arrear to the nabob to any considerable amount, the nabob would not have failed taking notice of it to his lordship. And being asked, If he had heard of the Shahzadah having made any offers to Ramnerain during his invasion of the Bahar province, if he would deliver up the city of Patna to him? he said, He could not particularly recollect, but had no doubt that when the Shahzadah was besieging the city, he would have rewarded Ramnerain very handsomely, if he had been safe enough to betray the city to him: And being questioned whether he had any conversation with Mr. Hay, relative to the circumstances of Ramnerain, and the demands made upon him by the nabob? he said, He was confident that Mr. Hay had an equal repugnancy with himself, to the withdrawing the English protection from Ramnerain; and that if he was the person who executed the orders of the council to deliver him up, he did it with great reluctence.

The matter contained in the above examination, and the papers referred to in the appendix, connected with what will appear upon the journals in the proceedings of last year, is all the Committee have collected upon the subject of Ramnerain.

But, in order to give further lights to the House upon the practices of that period, between the Company's servants and the Country powers, in matters of protection, and also to shew the jealousies the nabob Coffin Ally Cawn entertained on that subject, and the determination he had formed to make exemplary punishments of those who should lack protection of the English;

Your
Your Committee entered into the examination of the circumstances relating to the seizing and putting to death of Harris Choudry, in the year 1762; and for that purpose they examined Stanlake Batton, Esquire, who informed the Committee, that he had been of the council of Bengal several years, and to the year 1764: That Harris Choudry had been one of the Company's agents, or contracting merchants, at the Coimhbarz factory, in Mr. Watts's chieflhip; and he had like-wise been employed as the Company's vaekel, or agent at the nabob's court, but not since the year 1756. That at the time he was seized, he was in some employment under Coflim Ally Cawn: That when Mr. Vanfittart made Myr Coflim nabob, he permitted Mr. Mott, an Englishman, to reside at Muxadabad as a banker; that Harris Choudry complained to the witnesses, that Mr. Mott was about to seize a house or piece of land at Muxadabad, which belonged to him, and convinced him that Mr. Mott was going to do a piece of injustice, and obtained of him some Seepoys for the protection of his property. — That Mr. Mott, perceiving on the influence he had over the nabob, by Mr. Vanfittart's means, did not desist from seizing the house, but applied to the governor of Muxadabad for Seepoys, and a fray happened between the two parties, in which he believed some were wounded; in consequence of which, Harris Choudry was seized, and after some confinement was removed from the mouth of a cannon. — The witness believed Mr. Vanfittart did not use his influence with the nabob to save him, deeming his execution a just reward for his rebellion, as he declared at the board, upon the witness speaking in his favour. The witnesses could not say whether it was understood by the nabob, that he was under the Company's protection by having their Seepoys, but said that he granted him Seepoys as having been in the Company's service as vaekel of the factory. — The witnesses further said, He believed Harris Choudry was put to death merely on account of the content with Mr. Mott; and did not know of any application of the governor and council to save him. — He believed Harris Choudry had no opportunity of making such application himself, being close prisoner; but believed some letters passed between Mr. Vanfittart and him on that subject.

Your Committee, pursuant to the order they had established, proceeded in the next place to examine further into the causes of the war between Coflim Ally Cawn and the Company. The general notoriety of many of those circumstances, and the different reasons of the gentlemen of the council in Bengal upon them, makes it unnecessary, in the judgment of the Committee, to burthen the Houfe with a recital at large of all that appears upon the records to have been written and argued upon this subject; and they have therefore thought their duty to the Houfe fulfilled, in referring, from the multiplicity of papers to which they have had recourse, such parts as will authenticate the principal facts, as will succintly show the origin and nature of the disputes, and as will elucidate the parole evidence; all which are contained in the Appendix, No. 17 to 63.

And your Committee again examined Stanlake Batton, Esquire, who being deified to give an account of the effects of promulgating the Moungheer treaty, a copy of which is hereunto annexed, No. 64, said, That on the same being made public, the nabob Coflim Ally Cawn sent orders to all his zemindars and officers to prevent the English from trading in salt, beetle nut, and tobacco: — That by one letter, which fell into the hands of the English, it appeared, that the nabob had ordered the man to whom it was addressed to stop the English in their trade, all but his friends Meiftieurs Vanfittart and Haffings: That the said letter ought to be upon the confultations; and he was sure that the words "all but my friends Vanfittart and Haffings," or to that purpose, were in the letter read at the board; and that the order was to stop the trade. That in his opinion the breach with Coflim Ally Cawn arose from his desire and intention of making himself totally independent of the English, and not from any inordinate desire of the English to carry on the trade of the country without paying him his duties: — That he never heard that the gentlemen engaged in the salt, beetle nut, and tobacco trade, refused paying the old established duties, or that the English in general traded duty free. That to the best of his knowledge the English traded, prior to the year 1756, in all articles except salt, beetle nut, tobacco, salt petre, and chutta ilk, which were all farmed out: — That salt is an import at Bengal, being made at Mafualapatam and in Peria; and that for his first adventure in that article, which was just after the battle of Plaffy, he had the nabob's duttuck, and of course paid no duties; but could not recollect whether he paid any afterwards: That the English began to trade in salt about the end of 1757, soon after which it became general. That Coflim Ally Cawn threatened to lay open the trade of Bengal duty free, but he believed never did; That if the order had been put in execution all nations would have been on the same footing as the English: — That the English refusing to pay the nabob's duties was alleged as one cause of the breach between them, but the witnesses believed it was not really so, being only a pretence.

Then General Carnac, a member of the Houfe, being examined as to the causes of the differences between Coflim Ally Cawn and the English, said, That in his opinion Coflim Ally Cawn was determined from the beginning to set himself out of the reach of the English power as expeditiously as possible: and that it was natural he should do so, having no security for the English faith being better kept with him than his predecessor Myr Jaffier, who had been established by the unanimous approbation of the whole settlement, and that act was concurred in by Admiral Watson, who
who then commanded his Majesty's squadron in India; whereas this revolution was effected only by a few members of the then administration, who availed themselves of an occasional majority; and every act of Coffin Ally Cawn's showed his disposition: he expressed his resentment on all occasions against such persons of the country as had any intercourse with the English, so that none of the officers of the government dared visit the English in the familiar manner which had been usual for two or three years past; he removed the fear of the government from Mulakabad, which had been the metropolis of his predecessor for several years past, and intended to have established it at Rajamud; but at this time chiefly resided at Mongheer, which was still considerably further from the English settlement. In all parts of the country, of Mongheer and Dacca particularly, they were busily employed in making arms for him; he dismissed most of the troops that had been in the employ of his predecessor, from a suspicion of their having an attachment to the English; and got a new set of Mogul officers in his service, who brought new troops with them; he raised and disciplined a considerable number of jeepoys, and collected as large an army as he could, at a great expense, unnecessarily, as by the treaty with the English they were to lend him assistance in case his affairs required it; he endeavoured to cut off the communication between the factory of Patna and the city, by shutting up a gate contiguous to the factory, and fenced the part of the city toward the river with a wall, to the great inconvenience of the Company's boats; and this could only have been done with hostile intentions, as the vicinity of the factory and the English troops therein were the best defence he could have on that side.

The witnesses observed, That many instances of the like nature are particularized in a minute of Mr. Amyatt's to the council, in the month of April 1762, which minute was read, and is in the Appendix, No. 65; and numberless letters from the chiefs of every factory, particularly towards October 1762, complained of such oppressions and violations of the English rights, as indicated an absolute determination to quarrel.

The witnesses further said, That the principal advisers of Coffin Ally Cawn in these measures were the Armenians, who seemed to wish to have the English exterminated from the country, that the principal share of the commerce might be carried on through them: That one Coja Gregory was at the head of his army, and he had several Armenian in the command of his jeepoy battles.

The witnesses did not think there was any violation of treaties on the part of the English; he said there might have been, and probably there were, some abuses in the article of trade; and that those in the English administration who were the friends of Coffin Ally Cawn took great pains to have it misrepresented, that what was called inland trade was the source of our disagreement with him, and were very industrious in proving that trade illegal.

Being asked, Whether the complaints alleged by Coffin Ally Cawn against Mr. Ellis in particular were founded, he said, He did not believe they were; but that the nabob had been in- diutritionally taught to believe, that every gentleman who did not approve of the revolution was hostile to him, and from thence he had been guilty of several instances of disrespect to them, and refused a visit from Mr. Ellis, an indignity that had never before been offered to the chief of a factory: That this, with other circumstances, might naturally excite perhaps too strong a degree of resentment in a gentleman who was of a very warm disposition.

And the witnesses being further examined in regard to the military transactions of that period, said, That on the 1st of January 1763, he took the command of the army, which lay encamped close to Patna, the capital of the province of Bahar, then in a most disordered state. The Shahzadah, who had in his service Menouier Law, with the flattered remains of his countrymen from Chandernagore, was in Congar Cawn's country, not more than 50 miles from Patna, whether the disaffected rajahs flocked to his standard, and every zemindar made a pretext of the troubles to evade payment of his stipulated revenue, so that all resources from that province were at a stand—Moreover the Hindustan troops, who comprised part of the army, were grown outrageous from the changes of government, as they depauperate recovering the immense arrears of pay due to them by the deposed nabob their late master; The success of the engagement with the Shahzadah, the 13th of the month, happily retrieved the province; for the particulars whereof, and of the surrender of the Shahzadah in consequence, he referred to his public letters in the Company's records; and proceeded to say, that the council were pleased to honour him with a letter of thanks, dated 26th instant; and on the 15th August 1762 they communicated to him an extract of a letter from the Court of Directors dated 19th February, containing their thanks likewise. The protection afforded by the English to the Shahzadah occasioned much discontent and jealousy to the nabob Coffin Ally Cawn; nor was the prince easy on his part, having been exceedingly alarmed by an insurrection in his camp, the 23d of April, in which he would most probably have been cut off but for the timely interposition of the witnesses. The Shahzadah suspected this insurrection to have been set on foot by Coffin Ally Cawn; that the prince finding, that neither the prejudice nor the nabob were in a condition to favour him to the extent of his wishes, he was solicitous to leave the English army. That in the interim Colonel Cawse arrived at the army, soon after which the Shahzadah began his march from Patna—That he was conducted by the witnesses to the Caurimala (the river that separates the province of Bahar from Sujah Dowla's country)—That he crossed the river the 21st of June, and was met the same day a few miles off by Sujah Dowla. The witnesses proceeded to
That all possibility of accommodation, from the continual furies of disputes which had subsisted between the English and Coffim Ally Cawn, being cut off by the inhuman murder of Mr. Amyatt and the gentlemen of his family, and his attendants, as they were returning under the faith of a safe conduct to Calcutta, a war was declared against him the beginning of July 1763; the reformation of Myr Jaffier was revived on, and he was proclaimed accordingly. The minute of General Carnac to council, 4th July, on that matter, is in Appendix, No. 66.

The witness further said, That Colonel Cooke being departed for Europe, the chief command devolved upon Major Adams, of his Majesty's 84th regiment; that he the witness was ordered upon a separate command, for the security of the province of Burdwan; but as the main army of Coffim Ally Cawn was moving downwards, it was afterwards judged necessary, that the detachment under his command should join the Major, who had made his way through every opposition to the capital, and polished himself of it by force; that he effected that junction with the utmost difficulty, on account of the floods, and arrived in time to have a share of the battle of Geriah, the 2d of August; that by the end of the year, after a campaign commenced and prosecuted under the inconceivable hardships and difficulties which inevitably attending being in the field during the violence of the wet season in Bengal, Coffim Ally Cawn was driven out of the provinces, and signalized his flight by the unparalleled and barbarous massacre in cold blood of every English gentleman, as well civil as military (Mr. Fuller not only excepted) and of a number of other persons, amounting in the whole to near 300, who had the misfortune, through mishapences of war, to be his prisoners.

And in order to shew the progres of the war with Coffim Ally Cawn, and his final expulsion out of the provinces of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa; and likewise to shew what proportionable aids had been given by the Company and the Crown in the course of that war;

Your Committee thought it proper to enter into the capital points of the military transactions in the year 1763, and for that purpose examined Major William Grant, who informed the Committee, That he was in India in the year 1763, in the several stations of lieutenant in the army, secretary and aide-de-camp to Major Adams, and field engineer; Major Adams was the eldest major in his Majesty's 84th regiment, and commander in chief of the troops in Bengal; which troops, when the major took the field against Coffim Ally Cawn, amounted to 600 Europeans and nine companies of Seepoys, each company consisting of 100 men; and a detachment of the company's troops, consisting of 100 Europeans and a battalion of Seepoys were at that time at Midnapore, who were ordered to join him, and actually did so after the forming the lines of Muxadab; that, exclusive of the army above-mentioned, there was a detachment of 50 Europeans, the Black Cavalry, and three companies of Seepoys, with two guns, ordered on as an advanced guard of the army, on the 25 June to Ambore, and intended for the protection of the Burdwan province; this detachment was with very great difficulty equipped, there being a great want of bullocks for drawing the artillery and carrying the tents, likewise of boats, cooleys, and almost every other necessity. Of the number of about 650 Europeans as above stated, about 420 might be King's troops, and the rest were the troops of the company. On the 26th of June, the army marched in order to join the advanced detachment at Ambore, where they arrived the 10th of July. — On the 4th, it had been determined by the board to proclaim Myr Jaffier nabob, having the preceding day received some alarm of the account of Mr. Amyatt and the Coffimbazar factory, though no certain intelligence had been procured, the letter carriers having been driven from their respective stations by order of Coffim Ally Cawn. On the 10th they received intelligence of the total defeat of the troops at Patna, and a confirmation of the massacre of Mr. Amyatt at Coffimbazar. On the 11th, the nabob Myr Jaffier Ally Cawn, after having concluded the treaty with the governor and council, left Calcutta to join the army, and that the witnesses attended him as his escort. That on the 17th, they joined the army, then advanced to Agardip. On the 15th they came to a general engagement with the enemy, under the command of Mohammed Tucky Cawn at Balupara, when they gained a complete victory, and in consequence of which the enemy abandoned Cawwall, a fort on the conflux of the rivers Coffimbazar and Agar.

The witnesses deposed to observe, that they made an acquisition of bullocks, which were very much wanted; for that had it not been for the indefatigable exertion of Mr. Johnson, chief of the Burdwan, the army could not have possibly advanced thus far. That he not only supplied them with bullocks but with money likewise, for which they were in such difficulties, that when they took the field there were not 10,000 rupees in the public treasury. That on the 23d, the army advanced to Chunna Colly, and on the 24th in the morning formed the enemy's investments at Mootejil, by which they got possession of Muxadabad, with about 50 pieces of cannon of different calibres. That about the 27th or 28th, the army crossed the Coffimbazar river, and were joined by the detachment before-mentioned from Midnapore. That on the 2 of August, after crossing a nullah or ravine in the face of the enemy, they came to a general engagement with the whole of their troops, in a plain remarkable for the former defeat of Sultan Sjah, called Geriah: That the enemy had collected their whole force, consisting of 10 or 12 battalions of Seepoys regularly disciplined, and (by report) of 15,000 horse, with 17 pieces of cannon, mounted in the English manner, being many of them taken from their army and factory at Patna, and worked by 170 Europeans. That after an obstinate dispute of four hours, in which the enemy broke a part of the
the English troops, had taken possession of two pieces of their cannon, attacked his Major's 8th regiment in front and rear, they gained a complete victory, the enemy having abandoned all their cannon, together with 150 boats laden with grain and other stores. That on the 11th, the army advanced to Outahulla, a fort which the enemy had fortified, being situated between the chain of hills and the river; from the former to the latter they had thrown upon an intrenchment, on which they had mounted about 100 pieces of cannon; the intrenchment was full of water, deep, and about 50 or 60 feet broad, the ground in front was swampy, and no possibility of an approach but on the bank of the river, where the ground was dry for about the breadth of 100 yards; there they thought it necessary to make a show of a regular attack, in order to draw off the enemy's attention from the banks next the hill; but as they were daily harassed by numerous bodies of their cavalry both in front and rear, they were under the necessity of extending their incampment; after having amused the enemy with their approaches and batteries on the bank of the river, where they made a false attack, on the 4th of September they made the real one, on the foot of the hill; in which after an obstinate resistance they succeeded, and got possession of the whole of their cannon, having made a very great slaughter of the enemy, and taken about 1,000 of their cavalry prisoners. It was reported, that Collim had 60,000 people in arms in that intrenchment, and the whole English army did not amount to more than 9,000 firelocks: That about the end of September they advanced to the neighbourhood of Mongheer, which they were obliged to attack regularly, and in the beginning of October, after having made a practicable breach, the garrison, consisting of 2,000 Seepoys, capitulated. That place Collim had made his capital, and had strengthened as much as his time and circumstances would admit. There they received accounts of the misfortunes of the English gentlemen and soldiers, who were prisoners of war, amounting altogether to about 2,000, at Patna, and other places.—And the widows observe, That at Chabaud, when on march to Mongheer, Major Adams received a letter from Collim Ally Canon, figuring his resolution, in which he supplicates that the army should advance further, to cut off the English gentlemen in his possession. That at that time Melleeurs Adams, Batson, and Carnac wrote to Melleeurs Elia and Hay, recommending to them to endeavour to purchase their liberty of the guard who were over there, at any price; to which they returned for answer, That they ought not to be attentive to them, for they must submit to their fate; and declared that no consideration of their situation should prevent the army from proceeding in their operations. The widows further observe, That it was while the army lay at Chabaud that they were informed that Rammerain and rajah Bullub were sent out in a boat from Mongheer, before Collim had left it, to a little reach in the river, in sight of the garrison, where they were put to death; and about the same time raja Putta Sing, and nine more of Rammerain's relations, were likewise put to death; and that on the advance of the army towards Patna, they found the bodies of the two feets buried in an apartment of a house at Bahar; they had been put to death by the Collim's order, and exposed under a guard of Seepoys, to birds and beasts of prey, that they might not be burned, according to the rites of their religion, being Gentoo. And the widows proceeded to relate, that about the end of the month they were advanced to the environs of Patna, which place, after a spirited defence, they made themselves masters of on the 6th of November, by storm, the enemy having, in the course of the siege, got possession of one of their batteries, and blown up their magazine. After the capture of Patna the enemy made no further stand.—The army advanced about the end of December to the banks of the Carumna, the boundary of the province, at which time Collim, with the shattered remains of his army and treasure, were waiting to complete his bridge of boats over the Ganges, in order to cross over to Sujah Dowlah's country, which he entered on the 4th of December. On the 5th, Major Adams left the army under the command of Major Knox, intending to embark for Europe, and, by particular desire of the nabob, permitted the widows to remain twenty days with the army, during which interval some of Collim's eminences were busy with the foreigners in their army, three of whom deserted, and were two days afterwards taken. Major Knox's indisposition, he imagined, prevented his application to Major Adams for a warrant to try those deserters—they remained in confinement when Major Knox and he left the army, about the end of December, and he believes were not at last tried by a general court martial. The troops at this time laying inactive on the frontiers of the province, entertained an idea that they would not proceed to the necessary severity of military punishments, and in his opinion this was the first grounds of the mutinous disposition which prevailed in their army for some time after, and had well nigh occluded the folks of the whole province. That about the middle of January he arrived at Calcutta, where he received the first account of Major Adam's death. The widows being questioned as to the condition of Collim Ally Canon's army, he said, it was better appointed, and better disciplined, than he had ever seen an Indian army before: And being asked, Whether, on the march of the army under Major Adams, the probability of flight was on the side of the English or Myr Collim? he said, To a reflecting mind it must evidently have appeared in favour of Collim, though the troops were, he believed, all determined to a man, either to conquer or die, there being no other resource.
The witnesses were also asked, where Coßim Ally Cawn was supplied with the great quantities of artillery he all along appeared to have had; he said, That he purchased the greatest part of his field artillery clandestinely of the Europeans; that he had carriages made by his own people from English models; but two six pounders were delivered over to him at Patna (by whom he does not know) and that his carriages were made with elevating screws, and in every respect as good as the models.

And in order further to shew the military transmutations of that period, and the rise and profuges of the war with Sujah Dowlah,

Your Committee lay before the House the papers in the Appendix marked 67; and further refer to the evidence of Colonel Monro, entered in the journals of last year, and then taken before the witnesses left London, upon a supposition that the Committee would have been able to have reached that period in their examinations.

Your Committee proceeded in the next place to inquire into the conduct of the Company's servants upon the death of Myr Jaffier, into the part they took in the establishment of his successor, Nudjum ul Dowlah, and into the motives upon which they acted; and your Committee find, That Myr Jaffier, some time before his death, had associated in the government his second son, Nudjum ul Dowlah, then about twenty years of age, and declared him his successor: That at the death of Myr Jaffier, which happened in the month of January in the year 1765, Mr. Middleton, then resident at the Durbar on the part of the Company, was present at the ceremony of placing Nudjum ul Dowlah on the mufnad, and gave and received the customary presents (or complimentary presents) on that occasion.

That it was resolved by the governor and council to send a deputation, consisting of four gentlemen of the council, viz. Meifters Johnbune, Leycefter, Senior, and Middleton, with the instructions annexed in the Appendix, No. 68.

That the said deputation, after some negociation, which is explained in the subsequent evidence and papers annexed, concluded a treaty with the nabob: And in order to obtain further lights in the above transaction, your Committee examined Ralph Leycefter, Esquire, who informed your Committee he was a member of the council of Calcutta in 1765; that upon the death of Myr Jaffier, the governor and council, on the part of the Company, resolved to acknowledge his eldest son, whom the late nabob had, a short time before his death, associated with him in the government, as his successor to the mufnad—the terms on which such acknowledgement was to be made, necessarily brought to the recollection of the governor and council the several inconveniences which had been felt under the late treaty with Myr Jaffier; and it was a duty they owed the Company, by whose arms Nudjum ul Dowlah was to be supported in his government, to stipulate such conditions as should be convenient to their affairs—from the time the barrier between the country government and the Company had been broke down, contests for power had arisen between them, till in 1763 the English affairs were brought into a most critical situation by a war with Coßim Ally Cawn:—In the new treaty therefore with Jaffier Ally Cawn, in 1763, it had been stipulated, that he should not maintain above 12,000 horse, and 12,000 foot—thus deprived of power to become formidable to the English, he had no military force that could add strength to their army during the war with Sujah Dowlah, which for some time wore too ferious an aspect as to oblige the servants of the Company to augment their forces, which, together with the great distance of the scene of action, increased the military expenses beyond the extent of the Company's funds in Bengal—this was represented to the nabob in October 1764, and he was with difficulty prevailed on to contribute five lacks of rupees per month, towards the expense of the army, so long as the war with Sujah Dowlah should last;—The little affluence that had been received from any forces that had been kept up by the nabob, convinced the council, that the entire defence of the provinces must henceforth rest upon the English army—it was therefore thought wise and prudent to discharge the nabob from the expences of keeping up any military force but such as should be necessary for the parade and dignity of government, the distributing of justice, and the buñiefs of the collections; and in order to indemnify the Company for the increased burthen of their expenses, it was resolved to propose to the nabob, that the temporary assignment of five lacks per month should be converted into a perpetuity, so long as the exigencies of the Company's affairs should require it, or there was a necessity for keeping up so large a force for the defence of the provinces—The established income of the Company at this period was about £1,400,000 per annum, including the five lacks per month, and exclusive of Golspore, which had been ceded to the Company by the King, and had yielded to the Company near £230,000 per annum—the military expenses, including the charge of fortifications, amounted to about £1,100,000 per annum—civil expences of settlement to about £200,000 per annum; so that there would have remained a clear income to the Company of about £350,000 to be employed in the purchase of investments, exclusive of the profits arising from the sales of goods imported from Europe.—Such was the situation of the Company in point of income in April 1765; and repeatedly as the Directors had enjoined their servants not to extend their territorial objects, the council thought the converting the temporary assignment of five lacks into a perpetuity was the most eligible mode of ascertaining to the Company proper resources for their prodigous military disbursements; and if the immense expence of maintaining an army sufficient to defend the provinces be considered, it would not be surprising that the Company was induced to make the proposals.
will be found, that the nabob was left in a situation as desirable as any of his predecessors. The military of the nabob was another very important point to be settled—The old nabob had been fo respected to Nundcomar, a man of a very bad character, that the very bad of government had been committed to him without any control; he had once been convicted before the board of afflicting our enemies in their designs on Bengal; and though very strongly suspected of carrying on a treacherous correspondence with our enemies during the war with Sujah Dowlah, yet the nabob, notwithstanding the remonstrances of the board, continued to support him in the plenitude of power.—The Court of Directors ordered he should not be employed in any office of trust, which, together with the opinion the board had formed of his character, brought them to the resolution of having him removed from of absolute a way—contending however, if the nabob should insist upon it, to have him in any lucrative office, with such checks as should prevent mischiefs to the public—the board therefore came to the resolution of recommending Mahomed Reza Cawn, being the fittest man that occurred.—The immediate collections of the revenues was to be under Roy Dolub and others; and as the Company were become fo intereled in the business of the collections, it was thought proper to refer to the board a right of remonrating when improper people were employed.—The annual fall of rupees had been considered as a very great grievance to that country: It was therefore made a stipulation in the treaty with Nundum ul Dowlah, that he would concur with the board in proper regulations for removing to great a grievance.—Thefe, with some other articles of the treaty formerly executed with Jaffier Ally Cawn, composed the new treaty drawn up by the board, and a deputation, consisting of Messieurs Johnston, Senior, Middleton, and the witnesses, was appointed, in the middle of February 1765, to feast Nundum ul Dowlah on the munud, as soon as he should have acceded to the new treaty.—The deputies, as was expected, met with every opposition that could be made by Nundcomar, an artful, ambitious man, whose own power was to be so greatly limited by the new treaty proposed to the nabob; and had this man been left in the full enjoyment of his power, the witnesses was persuaded the nabob would not have objected to any other part of the treaty.—The chief, if not the sole objection that he made, was to the nomination of Mahomed Reza Cawn, of whom to great a degree of jealousy had artfully been infulted by Nundcomar, that the deputies found the nabob strongly prepoffibles with an idea, that the council meant to place Mahomed Reza Cawn on the munud.—The deputies had great difficulty in arguing him out of such a supposition; but, upon their solemn assurances, that there was no such design, he was at last convinced.—The deputies were particularly earnest to have the treaty executed, as they learnt that Nundum ul Dowlah, by advice of Nundcomar, had applied for munuds from the king, intending to take possession of the provinces by virtue thereof, previous to any stipulation with the Company; and on the very day fixed for feating Nundum ul Dowlah on the munud, under the influence of the Company, he sent word that the munuds were arrived—and it was with some difficulty he was prevailed upon to postpone the public receipt of them.—The board had expressed an opinion, that if munuds were necessary, they should be obtained only through the influence of the Company, and could not but be displeased, that Nundcomar should have taken upon himself to apply for them without their concurrence.—The new treaty having been executed, and Mahomed Reza Cawn having been received by the nabob as his minister, the deputies prosecuted the other object of their commission, which was to aim at such a knowledge of the revenues, as might enable the board to give their sentiments to the nabob on the allotments necessary to be made in the collections.—To this Nundcomar gave the utmost opposition, as an inquiry into the revenues was sure to discover any mismanagement of his; and, as the witnesses recollected, there appeared at that time a large sum unaccounted for, or uncalled, in which Nundcomar had a particular interest. The nabob appeared satisfied with what had been done, and he expressed his satisfaction in a letter to the governor on the appointment of Mahomed Reza Cawn, and on other points.—The subsequent orders of the board, with respect to Nundcomar, gave the nabob great offence.—Mr. George Vanfittart had just brought down from Patna some strong presumptive evidence of his having carried on a treacherous correspondence with our enemies during the war with Sujah Dowlah, upon which the council positively directed that Nundcomar should be sent down to Calcutta to answer the charge.—The nabob was very unwilling to part with Nundcomar, and wrote pressingly to the governor on the subject—The board thought the public safety required an examination, and perfifted in their order; in consequence he was sent down to Calcutta, and the several witnesses ordered from Patna.—The deputies would very willingly have been excused a service fo disagreeable to the nabob, but it was their duty to execute the orders of the council, from which they never deviated.—That, shortly alter this, the witnesses was ordered down to Calcutta, and refumed his place, as one of the members of the board, about the end of March. And the witnesses being asked, Whether, at the time of agreeing to acknowledge Nundum ul Dowlah, the pretensions of the other relations of Mir Jaffier were considered,—he said, That, as he recollected, the board did consider that point—That the competitors for the succession to the munud were Nundum ul Dowlah, Jaffier's second son, but the eldest alive, who was twenty years old, and a son of the late Chota Nabab, who was Jaffier's eldest son, and was at that time about six years old.—The board were of opinion it was not customary to pursue that line of succes-
execution which would regulate a claim of this sort in Europe. — Nudumm ul Dowlah had been brought down to Calcutta by Myr Jaffier, and all along confidered by him as the next in succession, and, a short time before his death, had been associated with him in the government. — I rae the council were not unanimous in that opinion, Mr. Burdett dissenting; but they did not think they could deviate from the appointment of Jaffier, without its carrying through the country the idea of a revolution. — That the public opinion was fixed on Nudumm ul Dowlah, as successor to Myr Jaffier immediately on his death. And being asked, why the council did not at that time take the Dewannee, he said, It did not occur to him, that at that period the council took into consideration the propriety of applying to the king for the Dewannee; but that in 1761 the offer of it was made to the governor and council, which was, after a full discussion, refused; and the Court of Directors approved of the conduct of the council on that occasion, and had frequently expressed a wish, that their servants would not extend their territorial objects — That there could not be any doubt of the governor and council's power to perform themselves of the Dewannee, if it had been thought expedient — That the king, who was subsisting on the Company's bounty, and who had on all occasions expressed the utmost attention to their interest, certainly would not have refused such a request.

And being asked, if the governor and council had at that time instructed General Carnac to secure to the Company the Golspore country? he said, That it was with extreme concern Mr. Vanfittart and his council were driven to the necessity of allowing the forces of the Company to pass the boundaries of the Bengal provinces — That the unprovoked invasion of Sujah Dowlah compelled them to devise from that line — That the battle of Buxar put the English forces immediately in possession of the country of Golspore; and as it was impracticable for the governor and council, after that event, to withdraw their forces back to their own provinces, they resolved to ask the king for funds for that province, as an aid towards defraying the great expenses of the army.

And being asked, if Myr Jaffier complained that the charge of five lacks of rupees, per month, was continued on him longer than was necessary? he said, Not that he knew of; that Myr Jaffier only agreed to pay it in October 1764, and died in January 1765.

And being asked, Where he imagined Lord Clive was when the treaty with Nudumm ul Dowlah was concluded? he said, The board had not received any certain accounts of his having left England, but from the general tenor of the letters expected him to come with extraordinary powers — That it was impossible for the council who were there to have left the succession to the maharajah fo long in suspense, as to have waited his arrival; and that it would have been equally improper to have allowed Nudumm ul Dowlah to exercise the powers of government without entering into stipulations with him on behalf of the Company, besides that the leaving of an event of that importance to the country undetermined, would probably have created much mischief and confusion with respect to the collections, and every other object of state; and that he did not recollect that any member of the board proposed to wait till Lord Clive's arrival. — And being asked what were the number of the nabob's forces at the time of his accession? he said he could not remember. — That he had a great number for the business of collections, and the parade of government, but scarce any regular military force — and that the treaty, settled at the conclusion in February, was executed by the nabob without any alteration being made in the course of the negotiation between the nabob and the gentlemen of the deputation. — And being asked, How he should have tried Nundcomar, who had been brought down to Calcutta by order of the board to answer certain charges brought against him for misconduct in his office as minister to the nabob? he said, The board would have called him and the evidence before them, and examined into the fact — That they would have received upon the evidence, whether the accusation was proved or not; but with regard to the punishment, he said, he did not see where the power of inflicting it was lodged — That he did not know that the board had power to compel Nundcomar to submit to their jurisdiction, but presumed he would not have disputed it — That Nundcomar, immediately upon his arrival at Calcutta, was confined, but not very closely, though, as the wazir was remembered, he was not permitted to leave his house without leave from the governor. — That he believed he was examined by the board, but not till some months after his coming to Calcutta.

Your Committee then examined, to the same point, Archibald Swinton, Esquire, who was captain in the army, in Bengal, in 1765, and also Persian interpreter and aide de camp to General Carnac; and he informed your committee that he had frequent conversations with Myr Jaffier about the five lacks of rupees per month, stipulated to be paid by Myr Jaffier in October 1764. as mentioned in Mr. Leycester's evidence, and the other demands made on him by the board, of which he frequently heard Myr Jaffier complain bitterly, and of all the demands made upon him at that time, which had not been stipulated in his treaty with the Company, on his restoration, particularly the increased demand of restitution for lofes, and the donation to the navy. — That Mr. John Johnstone was present at some of these conversations with the nabob, and greatly disapproved of some of the demands, particularly of the donation to the navy; but that he approved of the demand of restitution for losfes.
And your committee have annexed hereunto, No. 69, the 5th, 17th, 18th, and 19th paragraphs of the Company's separate letter to Bengal, dated 24th December 1765, containing the opinion of the court of directors upon the conduct of the Company's servants in the course of the war against Coflem Ally Cawn, condemning the demand which had been made of the Oolfipore country, and the intention of conquering Sujah Dowla's country for the king; requiring them to adopt some plan which might clearly mark out the borders of the country government and ours, and ordering the strictest enquiry to be made, whether any contributions had been extorted by the servants from the nabob Nudjum ul Dowlah on his accession to the throne, and that they have also annexed an extract of the Company's general letter to Bengal, dated 19th February 1766, No. 70, containing the further opinion of the court of directors upon the treaty with the king, upon the measures pursued on the death of Jaffer Ally Cawn, the appointment of independent Duanas, together with their strictures upon the treaty with the nabob Nudjum ul Dowlah.

And, for the further information of the House respecting that part of the foregoing evidence which relates to the refusals of the Dewanwos at the time then referred to, your Committee have annexed to their appendix, No. 71, the 38th paragraph of the general letter from the governor and council of Bengal, dated 12th November 1761, containing their reasons for refusing the Dewanwos of Bengal; and the 55th paragraph of the letter from the court of directors to the president and council of Bengal, approving of such refusals.

Your committee then examined Harry Verelst, Esquire, to the same point; who said he was first appointed a member of the select committee in Bengal by the court of directors, at the latter end of Mr. Mansfield's government, but never took his seat till after his second nomination, with Lord Clive, Jaffier Sumner, Cargue, and Sykes, by the Company's orders, 1st June 1764, which orders arrived in Bengal the 24th of January 1765; that he was absent from Calcutta as chief of Chittagong when the consultation was held for the arrangement of the affairs of government under Nudjum ul Dowlah, and never was consulted on that subject; that at the time fourteen or fifteen days were necessary for conveying a dispatch to Chittagong, and receiving an answer, there being many broad rivers to pass, particularly one which is a branch of the sea, by which means the correspondence was rendered very uncertain; that while he was at Chittagong, reports prevailed there among the people in general that there were some delays in regard to confirming Nudjum ul Dowlah, and that presents were intended to be made to the council on his accession.

And being asked, If he thought Nudjum ul Dowlah the proper person to succeed to the succession after Myr Jaffer's death, he said, According to the laws of INDOSTAN he certainly was not; that the succession ought to have run in the line of Meeran, but that those laws are frequently deviated from throughout the whole Mogul empire, and legal right has frequently been set aside on the accession of different princes.—On being asked whether there is any law in INDOSTAN regulating the succession of the nabobs? he said, He meant that Meeran's son was lawful heir to all that Jaffer possessed, unless otherwise disposed of by will, and that he of right would stand in preference for recommendation to the nobobship, if approved of by the Company's servants; that the nobobship is an office that does not descend by succession, being held under the crown, though the king frequently continues it in the same family— that at the time of Nudjum ul Dowlah's accession to the nobobship, he neither objected to his elevation, nor was he ever consulted on that matter, neither did he in his letter to Mr. Middleton, wrote at that period, mention any thing about it, nor to any of his friends.—Being asked, Whether, if he had been at the board at the time of Jaffer's death, and obliged to determine on a successor, he should have chosen Nudjum ul Dowlah, or Meeran's son? he said, he could not pretend to say what arguments were used, or what circumstances laid before the gentlemen at the time of their determination, but that possibly they might have been such as might have led him to concur with the other gentlemen in the choice of Nudjum ul Dowlah.—That the appointment of Meeran's son might have been a more politic measure, as there would have been a long minority, he being only six years old; during which minority, the English affairs in Bengal would of course have been on a more permanent basis, as there would not have been the ambition of the prince to contend with.—That though he was a member of the board at the time of Nudjum ul Dowlah's death, he did not make any claim in favour of Meeran's son, whose right to the succession he did not esteem as strong then as at the accession of Nudjum ul Dowlah, notwithstanding that Syafa Dowlah, who was Nudjum's next brother, and succeeded him in the nobobship, was Jaffer's son by another woman, because that as the line of succession had been broke, such a measure would have had the appearance of a revolution.—That if Myr Jaffer had given his effects by will to Nudjum his son, there would not have been any injury to Meeran's son.—That he supposed the measure adopted by the treaty with Nudjum ul Dowlah, to limit the number of his forces, was in order to establish the superior power of the English.—Being asked, What was the annual amount of the nobob's revenues after payment of the sums stipulated by treaty? he said, He could not speak from memory as to the precise collections in the nobob's time, but that, supposing them something less than they have been since, he imagined they would amount to about two millions sterling.—And being asked, What would be the nett sum remaining for the nobob after paying the expenses of his government? he said, He
was not sufficiently acquainted with the establishment to answer that question—there would be an expense incurred, and probably a very considerable one.

In the course of the above examination your Committee had occasion to observe, that mention was made of presents to the fervants of the Company, and they pursued their inquiries thereupon:

—And your Committee take this occasion to remark, that they have not found upon the Company's records, previous to the receipt of the covenants in the year 1765, any direct report from persons concerned, of presents received by them, it not having been the practice with the Company's fervants for these acting separately to communicate to the government a particular account of the presents received by the governor and council when they were collectively concerned to communicate to the Court of Directors, the receipt of presents; neither has it been the practice, as far as your Committee can discover, of his Majesty's officers acting with the Company's forces in India so to do.

And in regard to such transactions as related to presents at the period of the accession of Nudjum ul Dowlah, your Committee examined Ralph Laceyter, Esquire, who gave the following information: That he was one of the gentlemen of the deputation for negotiating the treaty with Nudjum ul Dowlah, on his accession to the mufud; and who, being asked what he knew of any presents being made on that occasion, said, That soon after the death of Mr. Jaffier, an agent of Nudjum ul Dowlah's came to Calcutta to notify his accession to the government, and to offer presents to the governor and members of the council, as had been before practised; that Mr. Spencer in particular, who was at that time governor of Bengal, offered nine or ten lacks of rupees, if he would allow all things to remain in the state they then were; that Juggut Chuney was the agent, and the time of his coming to Calcutta about the middle of February 1765—That Mr. Spencer communicated these offers to the council; and said he was informed by the same agent, that he had authority to offer presents to the other members of the council, but that the agent did not specify any particular sums—That the gentlemen all concurred with Mr. Spencer in thinking it improper to receive any presents from the nabob, both as the public interets were yet unsettled, and as they saw a public expediency for removing Nundcomar, through whom these presents were understood to be made, and who was at that time prime minister and favourite to the nabob:—That after the treaty was executed at Muxadabad, the public interest amply secured, and Mahomed Reza Cawn received into the office which had been held by Nundcomar, it was mentioned to the nabob by Mooteoram, a gentoo, that his excellency continued in his former mind, with respect to the offering presents, there were not any objections now to receiving any marks of his favour:—That a few days before this, the nabob had offered the witnesses, through Nundcomar, a present of two lacks of rupees, or any sum he would chuse to accept, which he declined, because it was to come through Nundcomar's hands:—That about the 8th of March, Mahomed Reza Cawn came to Mootejill, where the gentlemen of the deputation refused, with the offer of a teep from the nabob for 137,000 rupees to Mr. Johnston, who was at the head of the deputation, and one lack 12,500 rupees to each of the other deputies, which they defied Mahomed Reza Cawn to carry back to the nabob with proper compliments, and to say, If they received any marks of his favour, they wished to receive them only from his own hands: That about a week after, when the deputies were at the public durbar, the nabob made the same offer which he had repeatedly preffed the deputies to accept as a mark of his favour and satisfaction:—That after reiterated assurances of his regard, they at last accepted his offers about the 16th of March; on the 21st of which month the witnesses returned to his fitation at Calcutta; and that in the course of April and May following the amount was paid to him:—That before the witnesses left Muxadabad, Mahomed Reza Cawn directed, and declared his desire of presenting him with a lack of rupees, which at that time the witnesses said he did intend to accept; that no teep or obligation of any kind was given; and that afterwards, considering that he might be one day called upon to defend the propriety of the appointment of Mahomed Reza Cawn as minister, he resolved not to put himself in a situation of being suspected of supporting a measure from pecuniary influence, in which he had concurred from a perfect conviction of its public utility:—That for this reason he declined receiving a draft for 50,000 rupees in part of the said lack, which Mahomed Reza Cawn sent for his use in May; and that he never received a single rupee of the said sum so offered by him:—That the deputies having had an opportunity of rendering some service to the house of Juggut Seet, by recommending them to the protection of the nabob, it was mentioned to the witnesses just before he left Muxadabad, that they intended to offer some presents to the deputies:—That some weeks after he was informed they had sent 10,000 rupees to a gentleman at Caffumbar for the use of the witnesses, which he also returned, and declared that his fortune had not on this, or any other occasion, been benefited by the receipt of presents, excepting that from the nabob, and common complimentary nazaras, which latter did not exceed £. 50 or £. 60 in the whole; and that considering the custom of the country, and the practice of his predecessers, there did not seem an improprity in receiving a present, which was neither the reward of any improper service, nor the condition of any to be performed, but the mere confluence of custom on the like occasions:—That he had fully discharged every public trust, and having declined occasions of receiving considerable presents, which with respect to time and circumstance he did not approve, he held himself at liberty to receive the one mentioned before:—And being asked, If he recollectcd or had heard of any presents being offered
offered to any governor and council upon the death of one nabob and the accession of another: he said, That presents were given upon the accession of Myr. Jaffer on Setajah Dowlah's deposition, and on the accession of Myr. Coffim on the deposing of Jaffer, which he said were the influences of receiving presents referred to him in the former part of his evidence:—And being asked, What other presents were made to his knowledge? he said, That about the time he received Mahomed Reza Cawn's offer, governor Spencer received an offer from him of two lacks of rupees, which he believed the governor accepted.—That Meffrs. Pleydell, Burdett, and Gray received at the same time an offer of one lack of rupees each, which he believed they accepted:—That some time after the witness left Muxadabad, which was about the latter end of April, the nabob prefled Mr. Johnstone to accept an additional lack of rupees, as he understood in the presence of Meff. Senior and Middleton, and at the same time offered Mr. Gideon Johnstone 50,000 rupees, which sums they both received:—That Mr. Senior received 50,000 rupees from Mahomed Reza Cawn; and that Juggat Sen, preferred each of the deputies, except the witness, 10,000 rupees, which they accepted:—And being asked, Whether the gentlemen of the deputation notified to the governor and council the prelates which were offered to them and accepted; and whether the governor and council notified to the Court of Directors, that they had received any presents on this event?—he answered in the negative:—That the witness further said, That at the time presents were offered through Nurenmar for the establishment of the government under Nudjum ul Dowlah, he never heard that any offers were made on the part of the infant, who was the competitor for the nabobhip, nor to his knowledge were any claim made on his part:—That there was never any stipulation with Mahomed Reza Cawn, or any person on his account, as to presents, before he was appointed nabob, nor at any other time, neither was there any such stipulation with the nabob, nor to his signing the treaty, which was ratified by him just as it had been drawn up by the council before the deputies repaired to Muxadabad, or conformable to the subsequent instructions of the board, which the deputies strictly complied with.

And Harry Vereeff, Esquire, being called to the same point, he informed your Committee, That while he was at Chittagong, as chief of the factory there, reports prevailed among the people in general, that there were some delays in regard to confirming Nudjum ul Dowlah in the mutin, and that presents were intended to be made to the council on his accession—that on these reports he wrote a private letter to Mr. Middleton, who was in the deputation appointed for negotiating the treaty with the new nabob, to know whether there was any truth in the report.—That Mr. Middleton wrote him word, that he understood presents were intended for all the board; to which the witness replied, that he disapproved such a measure, and as a member of the board, and one supposed to be meant to be considered, he should refuse it; because he was not conscious of having rendered Nudjum ul Dowlah any services to entitle him to any expectation of that kind; and that he did not know of any services the rest of the council had done Nudjum ul Dowlah, further than approving his succession to the mutin, which he considered as a mere matter of form and public duty. —Being asked, if he knew of any services performed to Myr. Jaffer, by Lord Clive, and the gentlemen who received presents in 1756 from him, which it was not their duty to have performed agreeably to the treaty with him, and the interest of the Company? he said, It was undoubtedly their duty to perform any services to the Company whenever called upon; but that the good offices they rendered Myr. Jaffer were, in his opinion, very considerable, and in performing which, their lives and properties were risque; but that the case of Nudjum ul Dowlah was not parallel to it in his opinion.

And Afnarius William Senior, Esquire, being examined to the same point, informed your Committee, That he was one of the council at the time of Myr. Jaffer's death, and one of the deputation ordered by the council to join the other deputies sent to Nudjum ul Dowlah—Being asked if he received any presents on that occasion, he said he had, from the nabob one lack of rupees, from Mahomed Reza Cawn 50,000 rupees, and from the Sects 10,000 rupees, which was the whole:—And being desired to state in what manner he received these presents, he said, that one evening Meff. Johnstone and Leycester came to sup with him at the house of the chief at Cossimbazar, where he refused officially at that time:—That they informed him that Mahomed Reza Cawn had been at Mootejil that morning, with an offer of presents from the nabob, without mentioning any conditions, which they refused, and begged he would be at Mootejil the next morning, when Mahomed Reza Cawn had promised to be there:—That he went accordingly, met him, and received the same offer, which he all refused, telling him, that if the nabob meant them any presents they must come from himself, and not through other hands:—That some days afterwards, as they were sitting in the public durbar, the nabob himself requested them to receive the presents, which they at first refused, telling him, that as he had expressed a dislike to their proceedings they could not receive his presents; to which he replied, that he was then perfectly satisfied with their proceedings, and should not look upon them as his friends if they did not accept the presents,—That they accordingly did accept them, and gave the receipt to Mahomed Reza Cawn for payment:—That the receipt included the whole deputation, but specified how the sum was to be divided, and the distribution was explained by Mahomed Reza Cawn:—And being asked, Whether presents to that amount were usual in Bengal, upon the death of one nabob and the advancement of his successor? he said, it was usual.
usual to make very large presents on those occasions, particularly on placing Myr Jaffer and Cobbin Ally Cawn on the munud, which were the only instances he knew of; and being asked what was the diflike the nabob had expressed to the proceedings of the gentlemen in the deposition, he said he understood it was because they had endeavoured to displace him; the prime minister being agreeable to the orders they had received. — That the nabob did not express any change of sentiment when he offered the presents at the durbar, but that they were induced to receive them by his saying he should look upon them as his enemies if they did not; and being asked, he said he considered the aforesaid instances of Mr. Jaffer and Cobbin Ally Cawn making presents, as similar to the present occasion, though on the accession of Myr Jaffer and Cobbin Ally Cawn, neither of them was in consequence of the death of their predecessors; and being asked what services the deputies had done the nabob, he said he looked upon the solemnity of seating him on the munud to be the services meant, that never having been done in a public manner till the deputies performed the ceremony: And being asked if he thought any article of the treaty was agreeable to the nabob, he said that some of the articles were not agreeable to him when the treaty was proposed to him, but he expected himself satisfied with it some time afterwards. Being asked whether any other presents were made that while he had mentioned, he said that the nabob made Mr. Spencer, the governor of Bengal, a present of two lacks rupees, and gave one lack each to three of the council, Meff. Pleydell, Gray, and Burdett, and 50,000 rupees to Mr. Gideon Johnstone: That some time afterwards he made an additional present of one lack of rupees to Mr. Johnstone. And being directed to state the circumstances of that present, he said, that a short time before Mr. Johnstone left the city, when the witnesses was with him, and, as he believes, Mr. Middleton, at the durbar, he heard the nabob and Mr. Johnstone in earnest discourse: — That on asking Mr. Johnstone what was the subject of their conversation, he told him the nabob had sent him an offer the day before to Mootejil, by Mahomed Reza Cawn, of a lack of rupees, which he had then refused, and that the nabob was then requiring him to accept it; — That he had again refused it; and he asked the witnesses' opinion of the matter, who said, that if the nabob had made him the like offers he should think no harm in accepting it; whereupon the witnesses believed Mr. Johnstone did accept it: And being asked if Mr. Gideon Johnstone was a member of the board, or in the Company's service at that time, he said he was not at the board, but afterwards received his appointment to the service as a writer: And being asked, he said he had never heard that any other Englishman out of the Company's service had received any present upon the like occasion; and that there were no other English, beside Mr. Gideon Johnstone, out of the Company's service at the nabob's court at that time: And being asked whether at that period he had had any offers of presents from Nundcomar, he said that some days before the arrival of the other deputies, Nundcomar paid him a visit at the factory at Caffimbaiz, when he made the witnesses an offer of five lacks of rupees, and also told him in the presence of Mr. Jaykhill, that if he would give him a promise to withhold his favour from Mahomed Reza Cawn, the above sum should be sent into the factory that night or the next morning, but that he refused the present on account of the conditions on which it was offered. And being asked if he knew of any influence or solicitation to the above-mentioned presents from Mahomed Reza Cawn? he said he did not; and that if he had ever fancied that there had been any application for that purpose, he would not have accepted any presents from him; that he had rendered some personal services to Mahomed Reza Cawn before that of appointing him naib lubah; and after Myr Jaffer returned to the army, by protecting him from the ill usage of Nundcomar; but that he never in return made the witnesses an offer of presents till the accession of Nadiumul Dowlah; and that on that occasion the witnesses was not particularly distinguished by him. And being asked how much of the four lacks of rupees which were offered to the gentlemen of the republic was actually received, he said he had received 50,000 rupees of his own share, but that neither Mr. Leyceletter or Mr. Johnstone received them: That Mr. Leyceletter mentioned to the witnesses, some time in March, that for particular reasons he should not return his share of Mahomed Reza Cawn's present: — And being asked, he said that Mahomed Reza Cawn called upon him in the factory, about the 14th or 15th of May 1768, on his way to Calcutta, and showed him a letter he had received from Lord Clive, requiring his attendance at Calcutta; and that though the letter was wrote in gentle terms, yet being naturally of a timid disposition, he expelled great fears on the occasion; that the witnesses endeavoured to remove those fears, by assuring him, that he knew Lord Clive very well, and that no harm was intended him, but that he would be civilly treated; and took an opportunity of mentioning to him, that as Mr. Leyceletter had signified to him his objections to accepting the presents he had offered him, the witnesses should beg leave to return those which he had given him; That Mahomed Reza Cawn replied with some surprize, that he did not look upon the witnesses in the same light as the other gentlemen; that he had showed himself his particular friend on many occasions, even to faving the lives of him and his family, at a time when it was not in his power to make him any acknowledgment, but that now, when it was in his power, he begged and intreated, with tears in his eyes, that the witnesses would not return his presents. That these considerations, together with his not being at board, and his having entertained thoughts of quitting the service and returning to Europe, that reason, by which it could not be supposed
supposed that he took the present for any future considerations, induced him to keep it. And being asked what presents were made by Juggut Seet? he said that he received 10,000 rupees, and heard that he intended to make it up 30,000 to each of the deputies — That he apprehended Juggut Seet's reason for offering those presents was, to induce the gentlemen to recommend him to the new nabob, his favour and protection being useful and necessary to him in his business as a banker: — That he did not know of any other sums of money being given to the gentlemen of the deputation or of the council, than those he had mentioned; and that though he heard the Company intended to send out fresh covenants to their servants, rejecting the accepting of presents, that he did not know the conditions of them till they were sent up to him to be executed at Calcutta, in the beginning of June 1765.

And your Committee examined General Carnac upon the subject of presents, who being asked, When he signed the covenants, (copies of which are entered in the journals of this House of last year) relating to presents? he said it was some time after his arrival at Calcutta, about the middle of September 1765; and that he distributed them among the army under his command as soon as they came to his hands, which was not till near the end of July or the beginning of August, with orders to execute them immediately: — That he had not signed them himself at the time he gave orders to the army to execute them, because they were dated from a period prior to his having any intimation of them; — that those distributed among the army were all dated from the same time; and that he did not make any alterations in them before he required the officers to sign them; it not being his business to start objections for other people; but that if they had made the same objections as he had done, he should have thought them on the right.

— And being asked whether Captain Smithson, his aid de camp, signed the covenants? he said he had not, neither had they been submitted to him. That he looked upon the captain more as a volunteer than actually in the service, as he had declared his determination of returning to Europe that season, long before the receipt of the covenants; and that his stay in Bengal, which was very short after that time, was in compliment to the witnesses: — And being asked if it was not his duty, as commander in chief of the army, to set the example of respect and deference to his constituents, by signing the covenants? he said he certainly should have signed them but for the reason above stated: — And being asked, whether, when the covenants were distributed to the officers of the army, they had any intimation given them, that the general and his aid de camp had not signed them? he said, they had not any such intimation from him. — And being asked what present he received, from the time the covenants arrived in 1765 to the time he signed them, he premised, That he did not know, till long afterwards, that the covenants had arrived in 1765; and said, That after that time, but previous to his knowing any thing of the covenants, he received a present of 85,000 rupees from Bulovansing, son of Benaras, and in September, then knowing of the covenants, the king made him a present of two hundred rupees in the manner as before recorded on the consultations of that period: — That Bulovansing's present was publicly known, but that he never transmitted any notice of it in form to the governor and council; and the following words, in a minute signed by the witnesses at a consultation the 3d of February 1766, being read; viz. "I never received from him (Sujah Dowlah) for my own use a single rupee" — And the witnesses being asked, whether he ever received any from him for the use of any other person? he said he never did.

And your Committee pursuing their inquiry into the circumstances of the presents mentioned in the above evidence; and the original covenant signed by General Carnac being produced, they find that it is dated the 6th of November 1765; but in the minute of General Carnac, on the Bengal consultations of the 3d of February 1766, your Committee find the following words; viz.

"With regard to the covenants, it is true, I did not execute mine at the time of my first renewing them, because they were dated too far back, and previously to my being made acquainted with them; and I was in the least hurry to go through this ceremony, by reason that I looked upon myself as equally bound by them, whether executed or not, from the moment I was publicly apprized of the Company's pleasure on that subject."

And your Committee further find, That by the terms of the covenant the servants of the Company are bound to account for, and pay, to the said Company, for their sole and proper use and benefit, all and every such gifts, rewards, gratuities, allowances, donations, or compensations, whatsoever, which, contrary to the true intent and meaning of those covenants, shall have come into their hands, possession, or power.

And your Committee do not find that the present of two lacks of rupees received by General Carnac has ever been paid to the Company; but that notice was given to the Court of Directors of the receipt thereof, by the general letter from the council, and a letter from Lord Clive, dated 30 September 1765 (copies of which are hereunto annexed N° 72 and 73) That the Court of Directors, by their answers of the 17th of May 1766 (copies of which are also annexed, N° 74) promised to take the same into consideration; but the Committee have not discovered by the records of the Company, that any thing further has been done relating thereto.

And your Committee having gone through the inquiries to which the first examination upon the deputation to Nadumul Dowlah immediately led, and likewise through their inquiry into the pre-
fents received by General Carnac subsequent thereto, they thought this a proper occasion, though they might in some degree deviate from the course they had prescribed to themselves for preserving the order of time, to connect and lay before the House all other discoveries which have yet come within the compass of their proceedings upon the subject of presents.

And William Macgwire, Esquire, being examined in regard to presents received at the time of the revolution in favour of Coffin Ally Cawn, upon which subject many circumstances are stated upon the journals of last session: He informed your Committee that he was a member of the select committee at Bengal at that time; that he was not present at any meeting when a sum of money was offered by Myr Coffin, but heard from Mr. Vanfittart that an offer of twenty lacks was made as a present, after he was established in the nabobship, which offer was rejected by Mr. Vanfittart, who informed the witnesses that he had told Coffin he would not receive any present till all the demands of the Company were satisfied. And being asked if he had ever received any part of the above sum, so offered by Myr Coffin f he said he had received a present from him in the year 1761, to the amount of one lack and 80,000 rupees:—And being asked what circumstances attended the receipt of that present? he said that an agent brought him a treep, the latter end of the year 1760, for two lack of rupees, which treep he sent to Mr. Holwell:—That he communicated the affair to some of the select committee in private conversation; but could not recollect he told Mr. Vanfittart of it; and that he never reported it to the select committee officially.

—That he heard that some other gentlemen of the select committee received presents at the same time.—That the above sum is all he received at any time, except the 5000 mohurs, mentioned in a former part of this report.

And your Committee having received in some letters which passed between Lord Clive and the Court of Directors, in the year 1768, which were laid before your Committee pursuant to their order, and copies of which, with the inclosure in the letter of 14 January 1768, are annexed in the Appendix, No. 75 and 76, that the Court of Directors had required from his lordship certain papers said to be in his possession, and to contain proofs of Governor Vanfittart’s having received seven lacks of rupees for making the Mongheer treaty; and further observing from the same correspondence, that his lordship had ordered the delivery of them, expressing as his reason for doing that Mr. Vanfittart himself deemed dubious of it; your Committee called for the said papers from the Directors; and the following were produced accordingly:

Letter from Mr. Walf, accompanying the delivery of the papers to the Directors, dated 19th of June 1768, and mentioning Mr. Vanfittart’s request upon that subject.

Deposition of Sheik Hedayet Alla, the original in Persian, sworn before Harry Verrell, Esquire, and the translation attested by W. H. Coxe, sworn translator; purporting, That in December, in the year 1762, when he was treasurer under the nabob, he issued, by his excellency’s commands, two lacks at four different payments to Mr. Vanfittart; and that two ladies who were in company with the governor went into the zenana, and received jewels.

Deposition of Bolackidas, fabricar or banker, the original in Persian, sworn before Harry Verrell, Esquire, and the translation attested by W. H. Coxe, as above; purporting, That, in December 1762, the nabob (for whom he was employed in negotiating bills) one or two days before Mr. Vanfittart’s departure for Azimabad, signified to him his pleasure, that he should transmit the sum of five lacks of rupees to Mr. Vanfittart in Calcutta; in consequence of which he wrote to his gemshah at Hooghly, to pay the aforesaid amount into Mr. Vanfittart’s hands: that the gemshah did so, and gave him information thereof.

Letter from Mr. Vanfittart to the Court of Directors, containing his answer to the above charge, and his sentiments thereupon.

Letter from Bolackidas to Mr. Vanfittart, wrote soon after he had made his affidavit, and inclosed in Mr. Vanfittart’s letter to the Directors.

And your Committee have added copies of all those papers in their Appendix, No. 77, 78, 79, 80, and 81.

The next proceedings of your Committee, upon the subjects of presents, relate to the sum of five lacks of rupees received by Lord Clive from the begum, or mother of the nabob Nud-junul Dowlah, in the year 1766; but as your Committee have not had time to go through all the evidence respecting this transaction, and examine the account on which the same is alleged to have been received, or the application said to be made thereof, they purpose to report upon the same on some future day.

Your Committee have no further matter to lay before the House upon the subject of presents; but, in order to give the House a summary and comprehensive view of the whole they have hitherto discovered upon an object so important, they have thought proper to add the following schedule.

ACCOUNT
ACCOUNT of such SUMS as have been proved or acknowledged before the Committee to have been distributed by the princes and other natives of Bengal, from the year 1757 to the year 1766, both inclusive; distinguishing the principal times of the said distributions, and specifying the sums received by each person respectively.

Revolution in favour of Meer Jaffier in 1757.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>R.</th>
<th>£.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Drake (Governor)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colonel Clive as second in the select Committee</td>
<td>Rs. 280,000</td>
<td>£21,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ditto as Commander in chief</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ditto as a private donation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Watts as a member of the Committee</td>
<td>240,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ditto as a private donation</td>
<td>800,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Kilpatrick</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ditto as a private donation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Manningham</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Becher</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Six members of council one lack each</td>
<td>600,000</td>
<td>60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Wallis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Serrafton</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Lushington</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Captain Grant</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stipulation to the Navy and Army</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

 Memorandum, The sum of two lacks to Lord Clive as Commander in chief must be deducted from this account, it being included in the donation to the Army.

Lord Clive’s Jaghri was likewise obtained at this period.

$L. 1,261,075

* It appears, by the extract in the appendix No. 102, from the evidence given on the trial of Ram Churn before the governor and council in 1761, by Roy Dulp, who had the principal management in the distribution of the treasuries of the deceased Naboob Serajah Dowla, upon the accession of Jaffier Ally Cawn—
that Roy Dulp then received as a present from Colonel Clive one lack 25,000 rupees, being five per cent. on 25 lack. It does not appear that this evidence was taken on oath.
Revolution in favour of Coffin, 1760.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Amounts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Sumner</td>
<td>Rs. 270,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Holwell</td>
<td>180,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. M'Gwire</td>
<td>134,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Smyth</td>
<td>134,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major York</td>
<td>200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Caillaud</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Vandittart, 1762</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: Rs. 804,000

Revolution in favour of Jaffer, 1763.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amounts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stipulation to the Army</td>
<td>Rs. 2,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ditto to the Navy</td>
<td>1250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>£ 291,666</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Major Munro * in 1764 received from Bulwan Sing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amounts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ditto</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Officers belonging to Major Munro’s family from ditto</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Army received from the merchants at Banaras</td>
<td>Rs. 400,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: £ 62,666

* It appears Colonel Munro accepted a jaghir from the king, of £ 12,500 a year, which he delivered to the nabob Meer Jaffer, the circumstances of which are stated in the journals of that year, 825.
Nudjum ul Dowla's Accession, 1765.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Rs.</th>
<th>£.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Spencer</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>23,333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meffieurs Playdell,</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td>35,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Johnstone</td>
<td>237,000</td>
<td>27,650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Leycester</td>
<td>112,500</td>
<td>13,125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Senior</td>
<td>172,500</td>
<td>20,125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Middleton</td>
<td>122,500</td>
<td>14,291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Gideon Johnstone</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>5,833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>139,357</strong></td>
<td><strong>£.</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These sums appear by evidence to have been received by the parties; but the Committee think proper to state, That Mahomed Reza Cawn intended a present of one lack of rupees to each of the four deputies sent to treat with Nudjum ul Dowla upon his father's death; viz. Meffieurs Johnstone, Leycester, Senior, and Middleton; but that Mr. Middleton and Mr. Leycester affirm that they never accepted theirs, and Mr. Johnstone appears to have tendered his back to Mahomed Reza Cawn, who would not accept them. These bills (except Mr. Senior's, for 50,000 rupees) appear to have been afterwards laid before the Select Committee, and no further evidence has been produced to your Committee concerning them. Mr. Senior received 50,000 rupees of his, and it is stated against him in this account.

General Carnax received from Pulwanting in 1765. | **Rs. 80,000** | **9,333** |

Ditto from the King | 200,000 | 23,333 |

Lord Clive received from the Begum in 1766 | 500,000 | 58,333 |

| **Total** | **90,099** |

Restitution—Jaffier, 1757.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>£.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East India Company</td>
<td>1,200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europeans</td>
<td>600,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natives</td>
<td>250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armenians</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,150,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Collim 1760.

East India Company  

£. 62,500

Jaffier 1763.

East India Company  

£. 375,000
European, Natives, &c  

£. 600,000

£. 975,000

Peace with Sujah Dowla.

East India Company  

Rs. 50,00,000  

£. 583,333

Total of Presents, £. 2,169,665, Restitution, &c. 3,770,333  

Total Amount £. 5,940,498  

Exclusive of Lord Clive's Jaghire.

Memorandum, The rupees are valued according to the rate of exchange of the Company's bills at the different periods.
Your Committee think it right, next to state to the House, their inquiries into the transactions of the Company's servants, relative to the affairs in Bengal, from the date of Lord Clive's government in the year 1764; and they find, that on the 26th of May of that year, Lord Clive, then in England, was sworn in president and governor of Bengal, and commander in chief of the forces there; and that Medillers Sumner and Sykes, then also in England, were appointed counsellors at that presidency, the former to succeed to the government. And your Committee further find, that Lord Clive, Mr. Sumner, General Carnac, Mr. Verell, and Mr. Sykes, were appointed a select committee, by a letter of the Court of Directors, dated the 18th of June 1764, which letter, containing the powers with which the said committee were vested, is in the Appendix.

And your Committee find that Lord Clive, Mr. Sumner, and Mr. Sykes, sailed from England for India the 4th of June 1764, and that they arrived at Madras the 2d of April 1765.

And your Committee being informed, that Lord Clive, in consequence of intelligence he received at Madras of the situation of the company's affairs in Bengal, had written from thence two letters of material consequence, which did not stand upon the Company's records, the one to Mr. Rous, the other to Mr. Wall, and partly in cypher, they proceeded to inquire into that transaction; and for that purpose they examined Peter Michel, Esq., who being asked, if he knew of any letter written in cypher from Lord Clive to Mr. Wall, in 1765? he said, he had such a letter—that it is dated the 17th of April 1765, and was delivered to him by Mr. James, the late secretary, as an official paper—that the original letter appeared to have been put into Mr. James's hands by Mr. Rous, about the 20th of March 1766, part of it being in cypher, in order to be deciphered, the key of the cypher being in the possession of Mr. James, who, in a day or two afterwards delivered it to the witness that he might decipher it—which being done, he returned it, together with the deciphered copy, to Mr. James, by whole direction he afterwards made another copy of it, which he also delivered to Mr. James; upon which quitting the office it again came into the possession of the witness, and being asked, Whether any of the Directors, except the members of the Secret Committee, at that time knew anything of that letter? he said, he believed not; and that he did not know what became of the original letter.—And two letters were produced, that to Mr. Rous containing various intelligence and opinions of Lord Clive, respecting the affairs of Bengal—hat to Mr. Wall containing directions to his lordship's attorneys to make purchases in India stock, and the said letters are added in the appendix, Nos. 82 and 83.

Your Committee then called George Dudley, Esquire, who informed your Committee he was deputy chairman of the East India Company, at the time Lord Clive's letter to Mr. Wall arrived in England—that it was brought to the Secret Committee, when, he believed, only Medillers Rous, Boulton, and himself were present—that they afterwards held a Secret Committee, and from thence carried the letter to the Court of Directors—that the letter to Mr. Wall was not read in the Court of Directors; that to Mr. Rous (which arrived at the same time) was, except the last paragraph, which mentioned that there was a letter to Mr. Wall; and that nothing was done upon it. And it appeared by the same evidence, that the above mentioned letter from Lord Clive to Mr. Rous was brought by the witnesses to the Secret Committee, the 30th of March 1766—Being asked if he remembered any proposition for burning the letter, or taking a copy of it, or any self-deceiving obligation, which the gentlemen present entered into not to deal in stock, in consequence of it? he said, That the gentlemen present did take a copy of it, which copy is now in the office; but that he did not remember any of the other particulars of the question; that the Secret Committee having the key to the cypher, they kept a copy of the letter of course, that the whole Committee might know all their transactions; and that a copy of the letter was given to Mr. Wall—that they did not communicate the intelligence, that Lord Clive had given orders to lay out all his money in the India stock to the proprietors not the Court of Directors—that the purport of the letter to Mr. Wall was communicated to Medillers Rous, Boulton, and himself, but never laid before the whole Secret Committee.—Being asked, why the Secret Committee concealed from the Court of Directors one part of the letter to Mr. Rous? he said, That to the belief of his remembrance Mr. Rous defined it might be so, as he conceived the letter to be a private letter to himself, and that he had a right to conceal what part of it he thought proper; and the witnesses said, he concurred with Mr. Rous in thinking it was a private letter. And being asked, he said, that Lord Clive did not write a public letter, either to the Court of Directors or Secret Committee at that time, but that Mr. Rous's letter was read to the Court of Directors by the secretary as an entire letter, and not as an extract. And being asked if he knew the reason of Lord Clive's letters to Medillers Wall and Rous being written in cypher? he said, he imagined it was, that the contents might not be known to their enemies, as the letter came by a French ship from Pondicherry. Being asked, if he thought the Secret Committee had a power to suppress any part of a letter on the public interest? he said, he thought not; and that they never did conceal any parts of a public letter, to the belief of his knowledge—that the last paragraph of Lord Clive's letter to Mr. Rous was concealed, and no other
other—the rest being of a public nature—and being asked, if Lord Clive's letters to Malters Rous and Walsh could have been deciphered by any means but bringing them to the India house, he said, he believed not; because there was no key that he knew of, except that at the India house—that the Company's secretary has the key in his custody, which cannot be procured by any but the chairman and deputy chairman jointly, as the witnesses believed.—And being asked, if every director or member of the Company has a right to have private letters written to him, under the Company's cypher, he said he did not know of any being sent before this—that they cannot help their being sent, but would find a difficulty to get them deciphered without the Company's key—that though the witnesses never considered Lord Clive's letter to Mr. Rous as an official one, that the Directors acted in all respects as if it had been one; and that it was communicated to the Court of Directors in order to make it public.

Your Committee then examined the right honourable Lord Clive, a member of the House, who being asked, Whether it was his intention that his letter to Mr. Rous in cypher, of the 17th of April 1765, should be kept secret? and the letter being read to his lordship, he said, He did not intend that that letter should be kept secret from the Court of Directors or Mr. Walsh; though he meant that Mr. Walsh should not divulge the contents of it, because it was of a political nature:—And being asked, In what public station respecting the East India Company Mr. Walsh was, that his lordship conceived the political matters, which should be kept secret from all others but the Directors, should be communicated to him? he said, That Mr. Walsh was not in any public station whatever belonging to the Company at that time, but that he was his lordship's particular friend—had formerly been a servant of the Company's abroad for many years, and from the revolution of Plassey till a considerable time afterwards was his secretary, and was instilled with all the political transactions during the time that his lordship was in the command of the army, and likewise a part of the time of his government in Bengal:—And being asked, If, when his lordship wrote his letter to Mr. Rous, in which he speaks of undertaking the Her- culean labour of cleaning the Augean stable, he had been informed of any fact to intitle him to make use of that expression; he said, He had information of many—and that the whole of Mr. Vanfittart's narrative was laid before him by Mr. Palk:—That it was not from that narrative alone he made use of the expression, but from various accounts that he had from every body he met:—And being asked, If he could particularize any fact told him by any person, upon which he founded his letter to Mr. Rous, he referred to the public records of the Company—and said that he heard a confirmation of them from many persons, particularly of the Company's servants carrying on the trade in full at first duty free, and afterwards on paying two and a half per cent. and all contrary to the Company's orders: He is not certain of that fact, but is sure that when Mr. Vanfittart had established, by agreement with Coslim, the duty of nine per cent. the majority of the council denied Mr. Vanfittart's authority, and insisted upon their right to trade duty free, by virtue of the royal permission, at the same time that they insisted that Coslim Ally Cawn should not suffer his own subjects to trade duty free:—That on this fact and many others he founded the expression of cleaning the Augean stable. A further instance he mentioned, which was the complaints of the inhabitants, that the Company's servants and the agents acting under them had engaged and monopolized the whole trade of the country; and the witnesses being again requelled to specify any particular complaint, he declined specifying any more, and referred the Committee to the Company's records:—Being asked, If he thought the conduct of the council, in refusing to conform to the treaty made by Mr. Vanfittart at Mongheer, agreeing to pay nine per cent. was improper?—he said, He thought that part of the treaty was improper, because in his opinion they ought to have paid a great deal more:—That he did not think the whole treaty was proper, neither did he think Mr. Vanfittart was authorized to conclude a treaty without laying it before the council; and that General Carnac, Mr. Vereiff, and Mr. Carter, gave it as their opinion, that the Company's servants had a right to trade duty free by the royal permission; and that with respect to the duty of nine per cent. Mr. Vanfittar had no right to conclude such a treaty with the nabob; and that he considered the inhabitants of Bengal as subjects to the nabob, because the mogul's power was annihilated:—And being asked, If he admitted that he had formed a resolution at Madras to seize the Dewanee—divmits part of the Company's servants, and to call some of the fener servants from the other settlements to fill up their places, upon his arrival at Bengal? his lordship said, He did not admit he had formed any one of those resolutions at that time.

Your Committee next examined John Walsh, Esquire, a member of the House, who informed them, that he was one of Lord Clive's attornies when he was abroad:—And being asked, What quantity of India fock he purchased for Lord Clive, in consequence of the letter in cypher from Madras to him, on the 17th of April 1765?—he said, That letter was received the 30th of March 1766, and that on the 20th of April following the packet of the Admiral Stevens, forwarded from Lisbon, brought public advice from Lord Clive, then at Bengal, relative to our being in possession of the Dewanee; in which interval Lord Clive's attornies bought for him £12,000 principal rock, which was fairly bought and paid for; and as the witnesses believed, it
was a year at least before any part of it was sold out:—That it was sold out, and was not employed in paying in again, but was &quot;spotted on to complete a purchase of land that Lord Clive had made:—That he did not make any secret of the opinion he entertained at that time of India stock, but spoke of it to many persons as a very beneficial thing, some of whom, as he understood, bought in consequence:—That a great part of Lord Clive's said stock was bought at £. 165:—That after the arrival of the packet, brought by the Admiral Stevens, some stock was bought for Lord Clive at £. 175, and some at £. 179; and that East India stock remained at £. 190 three or four months afterwards:—And being asked the amount of the other purchases made for Lord Clive, he said, 'That after the arrival of the public advice, there was bought on the 21st of April, 13,000l. at 175l, and 5,000l. at 179l. on the 9th of May, being the whole that was bought for Lord Clive while he was abroad; and he added, that Lord Clive's letter to him was delivered to him by Lady Clive, at the same time that Mr. Rous received his letter, they being both at her ladyship's house:—That Mr. Rous and the winners went to the India-house together to have their letters deciphered:—That as it was sunday, neither the chairman nor deputy chairman were there, without whose orders the letters could not be deciphered:—That he therefore left his letter with Mr. Rous till he could obtain that permission, and went the next day to the India-house, and received from the chairman the contents of his letter deciphered, but was refused any information of the contents of the letter to Mr. Rous:—And being asked when he first had any communication of the contents of Lord Clive's letter to Mr. Rous, he said he had a copy of it transmitted to him by Lord Clive, by the packet of the Admiral Stevens, the 20th of April; and being asked if he could enumerate any of those persons who made purchases of East India stock in consequence of the good opinion he had declared concerning it, as mentioned in the former part of his evidence, he said he could not:—That he understood 190, but did not know at what periods, or to what amount, they purchased; that he conveyed generally among his acquaintance, which at that time was very large, on the advantageous situation of the East India Company:—That from the nomination of Lord Clive to go abroad, the winners entertained hopes that great advantage would ensue to the Company, and was, in consequence, a large stock-holder himself:—That he therefore, probably, spoke of the advantageous situation of the Company, before the receipt of Lord Clive's letter, but that he doubled spoke more of it afterwards, and was induced so to do by the contents of that letter, which was, a direction from Lord Clive to purchase stock for him, and that therefore the winners could not but conceive it in his lordship's idea a beneficial thing; and he observed, that it was only twenty days after the arrival of Lord Clive's letter, in cypher, that the public advice of their being in possession of the Dewanee were received:—And being asked how many attorneys Lord Clive had at that time, he said five, to all of whom an extract of such part of the abovementioned letter as related to the purchase of East India stock was communicated:—That their powers were jointly given, and not separate, so that he could speak with certainty that no more stock was bought for Lord Clive by any of those attorneys than as before stated, nor any bargains for the purchase of stock made.

And your Committee find that Lord Clive, Messrs. Sumner and Sykes, arrived at Calcutta on the 3d of May 1765, and took their seats at the council on the 5th. And your Committee, in order to give the House the fullest information they can of the transactions of the select committee, have annexed hereunto, N 84, a copy of their proceedings from the 7th of May to the 10th of August 1765.

That on the 7th Lord Clive, Messrs. Sumner and Sykes, assembled as members of the select committee, assuming the whole power of the settlement, civil and military, and that they administered to themselves and their secretaries an oath of secrecy; that they acquainted General Carnac and Mr. Vereiff, the other members of the committee named by the Court of Directors, with those determinations, and required the immediate attendance of Mr. Vereiff, then at Chittagong, General Carnac being at that time at the head of the army in the province of Oude.

That Lord Clive opened the committee, by a letter containing the full declaration of his lordship's own intentions, and his sense of the particular duty of the select committee, (a copy of which letter is contained in the 84th N of the Appendix) to which letter the select committee replied at their next meeting on the 11th, (copy of which reply is also in the 84th N of the Appendix.)

And your Committee thinking the proceedings of the select committee of Bengal of great importance for the House to know distinctly, they have divided their inquiries respecting those proceedings into the following heads:

1st. The measures they took respecting the execution of covenants.
2d. Recalling the European agents.
3d. Their examination into the naboob's complaints, and into the conduct of the servants concerned therein.
4th. Establishment of the treaty, purporting to be a treaty of peace with Suju'd Dowlah, and the acquisition of the Dewanee.

G

5th. Efi-
Your Committee find, that at the meeting of the 7th, the select committee of Bengal resolved to enforce immediately the execution of the new covenants against receiving presents, by the servants of the Company from the Indian powers, a duplicate of which covenant, and a duplicate of the letter from the Directors of the 1st of June 1764, requiring the execution of them, arrived on the 24th of January 1765, but had not been at this time executed by any one of the Company's servants: nor does your Committee discover from the records, that the then governor, Mr. Spencer, had publicly brought the matter under the consideration of the council board; nor had any notice been given to the other servants of the Company, that they were required to execute such covenants.—And your Committee find, that the said covenants were executed according to the direction of the select committee, first by the members of the council, and the servants resident on the spot, and afterwards transmitted to the army and factories, where they were also executed; except by General Carnac and Mr. Swinton, whose reasons for not complying are stated in the former part of this report.—And in regard to the transactions of recalling European merchants, which your Committee stated as the second head of inquiry, because it followed in order of time upon the proceedings of the select committee, it appears that upon the 11th the select committee resolved upon the recall of all free merchants residing up the country, within one month after notice; and that orders were sent to the chiefs to convey in safety to Calcutta all who refused to comply; and the reasons alleged for this order will appear in the resolution which is inserted at large in the Appendix, No. 84.

Your Committee also find, that another order was issued at the same time, for securing and bringing to Calcutta all Europeans who had no claim from the indentures to any share of the Company's countenance and protection.

Your Committee find that there are many subsequent regulations and orders relative to this subject, which they will report in the course of their proceedings upon the inland trade, to which they refer.

And in regard to the proceedings of the select committee in Bengal—upon the examinations of the nabob's complaints, and the answers paid in consequence thereof, it appears that on the 1st of June the said committee consisted of four members, viz. Lord Clive, Meffrs. Sumner, Sykes, and Veroft; and that they took under their consideration a letter from the nabob, who had arrived some time before at Calcutta, complaining of the conduct of Mahomet Reza Cawn, and of the gentlemen of the delegation sent to Muxadabad upon the death of Mjr. Jaffier, respecting sums of money distributed among such persons as he thought proper, without the knowledge of the nabob; and the select committee came to the following resolution:—‘That Mahomed Reza Cawn, since the death of the late nabob, has distributed among certain persons, near twenty lacks of rupees.—And that it is incumbent upon them to discover to whom such sums have been paid, and for what consideration, in order that the most effectual measures may be pursued to remedy for the present, and to prevent for the future, any dangerous consequences which may have arisen, or which may arise, not only to the country government, but likewise to the Company, from such practices.’

Upon the 6th of June the select committee of Bengal appear by their proceedings to have taken under their consideration, a narrative from Mahomed Reza Cawn, in answer to the charge against him by the nabob, in his letter of the 11th; and also a narrative from Juggut Seet, a noted banker, that sums of money had been unduly obtained from him by the gentlemen of the delegation mentioned above; and on the 7th and 8th the committee prosecuted the same inquiries, by examining Mooteram, phoulār of Hooghly, and Bullantroy his servant; and on the 21st of June the select committee came to the following unanimous resolution:—‘That Mr. Johnston has actually received the several sums, in money and bills, specified for his use in the general account of Mahomed Reza Cawn and Juggut Seet—that he appears from the evidence entered in our proceedings to have been a principal agent and manager in obtaining and distributing the presents, but unacquainted, they would willingly suppofe, with the menaces used by Mooteram in his name to Mahomed Reza Cawn and Juggut Seet, in order to extort a sum of money from the latter for the use of the deputation—and lastly, that he is guilty of actual disobedience to the Company's orders, in arrogating indecently, and refusing positively to acknowledge, the authority wherewith the select committee are invested by the honourable the Court of Directors, and by urging their usurped powers in excuse for declining any reply to charges that do deeply affect his character.

‘That Mr. Senior has received all the money specified for his use in the evidence already mentioned, and also the further sum of 50,000 rupees from Mahomed Reza Cawn on his own account; but that he neither authorized the meffages delivered by Mooteram, nor was active in obtaining or distributing the presents.

‘That Mr. Middleton has received presents from the nabob and Juggut Seet only, firmly believing them to be voluntary; and that he always intended to refuse the present designed him by Mahomed Reza Cawn.”
That Mr. Leicester has received the several sums affixed to his name in the abovementioned accounts; but that he neither did nor intended to receive the bills lodged with Mootaram for his use, nor was any way concerned in the menaces thrown out by that person to Mahomed Reza Cawn and Jugger Sekit, all which is further confirmed by the oath which he voluntarily took before the whole board.

That Messrs. Pleydell, Burdett, and Gray, have each received 50,000 rupees from the nabob, in the full persuasion that the same was a free gift to the gentlemen who then composed the board, without any application on their parts, or consideration on the nabob's lor services performed.

That Capt. Carville was utterly a stranger to any demands made in his name, and that he would absolutely have refused a lack of rupees intended for him by the nabob, as specified in the above-mentioned general account of Mahomed Reza Cawn, had it been ever tendered to him.

That upon the whole, the gentlemen who sat at the board, as well as those who negotiated at the durbar, were guilty of actual disobedience to the Company's positive orders relative to the coenvants, both in delaying to execute them, and in receiving presents contrary to the express letter and spirit of these obligations: yet to avoid every appearance of exerting with rigour the powers wherewith they are intrusted, or of being actuated by any other motives than those of honour and a firm attachment to the interest of their employers,

Resolved, That the select committee leave to the honourable Court of Directors to pass final judgment; and refer to their minutes entered in consultation of the 23d instant for a justification of their proceedings.

And your Committee find some subsequent proceedings were held before the select committee upon the subject of these presents, viz. on the 4th of July, when another letter or narrative of Mahomed Reza Cawn, transmitted by Lord Clive, who was then at Mootejil, was received; and the members present, viz. Mercier Summer, Vereeff, and Sykes, thereupon came to the following resolutions.

That Mahomed Reza Cawn has in this letter related facts with great candour and precision, confirming, in the strongest manner, the several particulars set forth in his former evidence.

That he positively affirms, and with the greatest appearance of truth, that neither the presents from the nabob, nor from himself, were voluntary, but granted after some altercation and tedious negociations with the gentlemen of the deputation.

That Mr. Johnstone at first defined a very large sum, but after a great deal of debate, and many conferences, Mootaram consented to accept 6,250,000 rupees, from the nabob, and 4,75,000 rupees from Mahomed Reza Cawn, of which sums the whole has been paid by the nabob, and 2,25,000 by Mahomed Reza Cawn, in money and bills.

That, over and above 1,37,500 rupees, which Mr. Johnstone obtained from the nabob, as a joint member and senior servant on the deputation, the same gentleman stipulated, That 100,000 rupees for himself, and 50,000 rupees for his brother, should be paid secretly from all the other gentlemen.

That, besides the above sums clandestinely obtained from the nabob, Mr. Johnstone, as principal agent and manager, thought proper, without the consent or knowledge of his colleagues, likewise to appropriate 50,000 rupees to himself, and 25,000 to his brother, out of the money granted by Mahomed Reza Cawn, over and above his allowed proportion as a Member of the deputation.

And, lastly, the committee agree,

That Mahomed Reza Cawn's letter be entered on the face of their proceedings, as undeniable testimony to all whom it may concern, of the necessity of their inquiries, the imparity of their proceedings, and the great lenity of their resolution, in submitting final judgment to the Court of Directors, notwithstanding their conduct has been bitterly cenured, their powers arraigned, their characters asperfed, and their authority, sufficient to enable them to proceed, and justify them in proceeding, to the last extremity.

And your Committee, before they enter upon the parole evidence relative to this subject, think it proper to state to the House, That Mootaram, phouladar of Hooghly, and Bulafttoy his servant, mentioned above, were under confinement at the time of their examination.—And in regard to the persons accused, your Committee find, That the proceedings of the select committee were laid before the council, where the persons concerned had an opportunity of examining the charges, and giving in their answers, which they severally did in their minutes annexed, No. 85; and that by the desire of the members of the select committee at the board, the 17th of June, Mootaram was before the council, on the 18th of June, as appears in the Appendix, 85. But it does not appear that any of them were present, or had been confronted with their accusers, or heard in their defence, at the time the resolution of the 11th of June passed. Neither does it appear, that Mahomed Reza Cawn was ever sworn to the truth of his different narratives, nor examined in person before the committee; nor that Jugger Sekit was sworn to the truth of his narratives; nor do your Committee find, that the persons concerned in this last narrative were made acquainted with
with the matter contained therein, at the time the committee came to the resolution of the 4th of July flated above.

And your Committee find, That, in consequence of the proceedings of the select committee upon this subject, a report was made to the Court of Directors, in a letter dated the 22d of September 1765, (a copy of which letter is annexed, No. 80) and, in order to elucidate the proceedings and the representation thereof, as flated in that letter, your Committee examined William Brightwell Sumner, Esquire, who being asked, What was his opinion respecting the truth of the information delivered by the nabob touching the presents received by the deputation and the council in 1765? said, That with respect to the presents received by the deputation, and governor and council, on the accession of Nujum ul Dowlah to the government in 1765, the first information on the subject, as well as the several evidences exhibited, came before him officially, and that the representations thereof to the Court of Directors were made officially.—That under the variety of contradictory evidence that appeared before the committee, however difficult it might be for him to determine, he found himself disposed to confine the censure wholly to that part of the gentlemen's conduct which related to their not having subscribed the covenants sent out by the Company, and which, as members of the administration, he thought it incumbent on them to have executed, or to have resigned the service; and that in his private correspondence with his particular friends in the direction, he confined his censure entirely to that part of their conduct—that when he was appointed again to the Company's service in 1764, he readily acquiesced in signing the covenants himself; but that a few days after, when he found that the Court of Directors intended to exclude their servants wholly from the benefits of the inland trade, which, when he signed the covenant, he clearly understood they were to be indulged in, and considering it as a new term of service, he declared to his friends in the direction, that he would resign his appointment, and that it was his fixed resolution so to have done, if that new condition had not been revoked by a resolution of the general court, the result of which was, that the regulations for carrying on the inland trade was referred wholly to the governor and council—that, however warm their representations officially to the Court of Directors may have been, he acknowledged the circumstances do not now by any means appear to him in the same light they then did—that a cooler examination into the matter, and a more intimate knowledge of some of the parties, together with informations he had since received, had made him materially alter his sentiments of those transactions; and that he had not a doubt of the presents being freely and voluntarily given on the part of the nabob and Mahomed Reza Cawn.—Being asked, if he had ever, and at what time, been of opinion, that the presents were not freely and voluntarily given? he said, He had his doubts at the time of the examination into that matter. And being asked, Whether the letters he wrote to his friends in the direction were written at the time he had received satisfaction of the presents being freely made? he said, they were—that he was then in office, but did not acquaint the other gentlemen in office with that change in his sentiments, nor the Court of Directors, to whom he could not communicated his opinion in his capacity as an individual; but that he mentioned it in his private letters to Sir George Amyand and Mr. Scratton, two of the then directors.—And being asked, What were the particular grounds of his change of sentiment? he said, A variety of information that he had received from different persons, but in particular Mr. Leycester's return of the 50,000 rupees to Mahomed Reza Cawn, in which, at first, from the evidence, there appeared some difficulty with regard to time, but that it was afterwards fully flated to his conviction.—Being asked, Whether at the time of subscribing the letter from the select committee at Bengal to the Court of Directors, dated the 30th of September 1765, he entertained any doubts whether the presents were freely and voluntarily made? he said, That the different information he had received from the time of the examination to the time of his subscribing that letter, had fully convinced him that the presents from the nabob and Mahomed Reza Cawn to the gentlemen of the deputation, and the members of the council, were freely and voluntarily given.—And being questioned, he said, There was not any deceit or unfair practice made use of to induce him to sign that letter.—And being asked, Whether he thought the Court of Directors, at the time they wrote their letter to the select committee, dated the 23d of May 1766, were convinced that the flated presents were not freely and voluntarily made? he said, He did.—Being asked, Whether the select committee received any, and what, instructions from the Court of Directors relative to the presents from Collim Ally Cawn to the Company's servants in 1760? he said, The Court of Directors did transmit some instructions on that subject while he was an acting member of the committee; that he could not recollect the precise purport, but believed they directed an inquiry.—And being asked, Whether, upon the receipt of those instructions he directed to the select committee the presents he had himself received at that period? he replied, That the instructions to the best of his recollection were received by the committee early in August 1766, when his state of health was such as rendered him utterly incapable of attending to any public business from about the day of the receipt of that letter to the 23d of August; and that he did not attend the committee above once or twice from the 23d of August to the 28th of September, the day on which he resigned the service, being incapable of attending at all.—And being asked, he said, the public letter of the 25th of September 1765 was drawn up by Mr. Campbell, secretary to the select committee.
select committee, and read to the committee at the time of their sitting it—that he was at that
time sensible that some parts of it were contrary to the sentiments he had expressed in his private
letters to his friends, or nearly the same date—that he had received sufficient conviction for himself,
but had not before him the full proof of those matters which he thought would have been likely to
operate to the conviction of the other gentlemen of the select committee; that he foresaw, after the
conclusion they had come to at that time the examination was before them, and from the records of
which their representations were made, that an attempt to alter the ideas which were adopted would
involve him in endless alterations, without producing any good; and that he considered that he was
doing as much justice to the gentlemen themselves by his private representations to his particular
friends in the direction, as he could have done by any diligent he could have made on the spot,
which probably would not have in the least altered the public representations, and might have sub-
ject.ed him to many disagreeable consequences—that there are many points and situations in the
public affairs, wherein a man must yield a part of his own judgment to the prevailing influence,
and in order to preserve unanimity, which disposition influenced the conduct he had observed on
this occasion. And being asked, What he meant by prevailing influence at that time? he said, A
majority in the committee.—Being asked, If he thought himself authorized to subscribe in his
official capacity opinions not his own? he answered, That it was the constant practice of the
service, with the exception of entering diffents upon the proceedings—the reason he did not enter
his dissent is given in the preceding answer: he further said, That it was the express order of the
Court of Directors, that every man should sign all public letters, entering his dissent, if they thought
proper, to any part they disapproved.—And being further asked, If he had ever ventured to enter a
dissent upon the public proceedings; he said, he had never ventured to enter a dissent upon the
public proceedings; he said, he had never two or three occasions; and particularly the paragraph
21 and 22. He said, Whether he thought Mahomed Reza Cawn's being appointed prime minister could be advantageable to the nabob?

He said, It certainly could not; but that the appointment of him was improper, or the nabob
placed in a situation too much under his influence, it was in the power of Lord Clive and the se-
lect committee to have displaced him, and to have given the nabob what degree of authority they
thought proper; the writers considered his appointment proper, and the degree of power given to
him necessary.—That Lord Clive and the committee esteemed the conduct irreproachable during his
short administration, and that he was confirmed by them in his office, with some diminution
of power, by the association of Jugutt Soot and Roy Dullub.—And being asked, Mr. Neville, Whether he
thought Mahomed Reza Cawn's being appointed prime minister could be advantageable to the nabob?

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thought Mahomed Reza Cawn's being appointed prime minister could be advantageable to the nabob?
Committee also found, That on the 10th of August when the faid Society was eftablithed, there were only two members present; viz. Meflrs. Sumner, and Verelpt.—And Mr. Verelpt being asked, If it was usual for the committee to proceed without more than two members being pre- fent?—he faid, It was not; but that it was customary for every member who was upon the spot to attend.—And being asked, Whether Mr. Sumner, who was prefident at the fecft committee on the 4th of July 1765, ever fuggelted to him, or any other member of that committee, that he believed the preffents before mentioned were freely and voluntarily made?—he faid, He never did: —That the committee were unanimously of opinion to the contrary: —That he never heard Mr. Sumner intimate the leaft doubt of the veracity of Mahomed Reza Cawn's narrative, or what he alleged in the letter read at that committee, during his flay in India, nor once, till the fe- cond day before the time of this prefent examination: —That the witnesses never had any caufe, either then or fince, to fufpect the veracity of Mahomed Reza Cawn's evidence, or that of the other witnesses all of whom were defired by the committee to confider with the utmost caution every matter, and to be careful to adhere strictly to the truth, without any exaggeration.— Being asked, Whether he thought that if Buffant Roy, and Mootearam, who were two of the witnesses examined by the committee, had not been put under a guard, they would have endea- voured to efpcape or abfcond; and whether it is the cuftom in India to place guards or peons o- ver persons wanted to be examined, if there is a probability of their abfconding? he faid, It was always ufual fo to do; they having none but armed men to employ on all thofe occasions: —That without that reftrains, Buffant Roy and Mootearam very poflibly might have attempted to have made their efpcape, because they might have had some intimation of the matter about which they were to be examined, and might think themselves liable to the commifion having been employed in obtaining the preffents that, in his opinion, no rifque of confpury they might apprehend themselves to be in, would induce them to give a partial evidence: —That they confidcred all that they could apprehend being charged with, which he attributed to the natural averion of the Hindoos to examinations upon oath, and which they would on all occasions wilingly avoid: —'T hat their evidence againft the gentlemen who had received preffents did not in any shape excufate themselves; and that the oaths of the Hindoos are held as sacred by them as the oaths of any other people whatever. —Being asked, Whether he credited the nabob's repre- fentation of the 1ft of June, alleging that Mahomed Reza Cawn had diftributed the money without his knowledge? he faid, I hat it appeared in June before the date of the nabob's letter, that the nabob had given him an order under his hand, or hand and feal, for diftributing the mo- ney: —That in this inftance he deemed the nabob wrong in his reprefentation, and could easily account for it, by attributing it to Nundecmar the drawing up of that letter for his highnefs: That he had no positive proof of it, but was led to think fo by Nundecmar's being generally about the nabob's perfon, and employed in his private concerns.—And being asked, Whether he thought the preffents from Mahomed Reza Cawn, and the nabob, were obtained from them againft their con- tent?—he faid, he muft declare, as an honest man, that he believed they were: —And being asked, Why he joined in recommending Mr. Middleton, who had received a part of thofe pre- fents, as a fit perfon to be continued in the East India Company's service: He faid he did it from a long knowledge of him, and a thorough good opinion of his principles? And being asked, he faid, Mr. Middleton is the next in fucceffion to the government of Bengal at this time? and that he blamed him very much for taking any share of thofe preffents; but that after his being thoroughly convinced of the improperity of his conduct in that affair, and having offered to give fecurity for the repayment of the money, in cafe the law determined the matter againft him, and its being the only fault he ever knew him guilty of, he did efteem him a proper fervant for the Company: and he farther faid, that the whole matter relating to the preffents was communicated to the council board before the committee wrote their letter to the Court of Directors: and being asked, If he thought Mr. Middleton was capable of making a declaration under his hand to the fecft committee, that was not stritely true? he faid, No; nor does he recollect any circumstance relating to Mr. Middleton which led him to believe fo; and the letter from Mr. Middleton to the fecft committee, 18 June 1765, and the reolution thereupon, being read, the witnesses faid, He believed the contents of that letter were stritely true: —And being asked, Whether he communicated Mahomed Reza Cawn's letter, or any part of it, before the committee came to the reolutions on the 4th of July? he faid, Mahomed Reza Cawn's letter of the 23d of June is enter- on the committee proceedings the 4th of July following, where the reolutions of the committee were recorded; and he therefore luppofed that the letter was not communicated to the gentle- men of the board prior to those reolutions; and the oath by which the committee were bound not to communicate their proceedings to any body till they had been laid before the council, being read, he faid, He remembered an alteration in that oath, as it firlt read, fecrecy was to be kept till the proceedings were laid before the board; and that in the additional clause the words were, "Or with the approxi- mation of the committee," and that as he be leved the alteration in the oath was made at the be- ginning of his government in 1767: —And being asked, If Nundecmar was diflaffiated with the treaty concluded by the deputies? he faid, He did not know: —And being asked, If the nabob was diflaffiated with the appointment of Mahomed Reza Cawn? he replied, He could not fay: —And being
being asked, If Nundecooor was the minister before the appointment of Mahomed Reza Cawn, he said, He could not tell; that he was in a distant country, and had no correspondence with the court:—And being asked, who Nundecooor was? he said, He is a Gentoo; that he knew nothing of him except seeing him with the nabobs; that he could not delineate who or what he is; that he knew nothing of his life in life; that he was generally employed by, and attending on the nabobs:—And being asked, If his character was good or bad? he said, He had heard various opinions respecting his character, but could not pretend to say what might be the general opinion:—And being asked, Who was Bullaunt Roy? he said, He thought it appeared on the records, that he was one employed by Mooteeram, who was nominated to the foudlary of Hooghly:—And being asked, If Mooteeram was connected with any of the gentlemen in the deputation? he said, From the information the committee received, it appeared to them he was an agent of Mr. Johnstone.

Your Committee examined General Carnac, who said that Mr. Sumner having expressed a difference of opinion from what appears to be his on the select committee proceedings, respecting the presents made on the accession of Nudjum ul Dowla; he thought it incumbent on every member of that committee to state the grounds of his opinion, and express his satisfaction at being able to produce testimony what were his sentiments long before the meeting of that committee, as to the measure to be pursued on the death of Myt Jaffer; in confirmation of which he referred your Committee to certain letters and papers relative to that matter; which being read, he further said, that knowing the arrangement of the ministers, as made by the gentlemen in the deputation, to be wholly repugnant to the young nabob's wishes, and that he could not but be highly dissatisfied with having a regent set over him, who had the whole executive power, under the odious appellation of nabib lubah, and that the person appointed to that office was particularly obnoxious to him, it was impossible he should think that Nudjum ul Dowla would make, with a good will, presents to those who were the instruments of such an appointment: that as to Mahomed Reza Cawn, there was no reason for his being displeased:—That his ambition must have been highly gratified by the exaltation to so eminent a post.—That the Sects were not in the mode of making presents, neither was there any instance, as the witnesses remembered, of their having made any before this period; and that they were not disposed of holding offices under the government, which would rather have been an hindrance to their principal occupation as bankers:—And being asked, Why the nabib lubah was odious to the young nabob? he said, The appointment of a nabib lubah, which implies the person in whom the whole executive power is lodged, carries with it an idea that the prince under whom he is appointed, is incapable of governing; and that the gentlemen who effected the revolution in 1760, in favour of Myt Cohimm, have asserted that nothing was originally intended except appointing him nabib lubah.—And being asked, If the confirmation of Mahomed Reza Cawn in his office was not as odious to the nabob in his first appointment? he said, He was certain that the having Mahomed Reza Cawn as his minister in any shape, was disagreeable to him; but that the thing being once done it would not perhaps have been so advisable to have made any material change therein:—That the appointment was certainly rendered less disagreeable to the nabob by changing the appellation of nabib lubah, which was particularly odious;—That his main objection to the proceedings of the gentlemen who formed the treaty, was their forcing ministers upon the nabob, who had been exceedingly obnoxious to the deceased nabob, and were equally so to the young one, his son: And he further said, That he objected to the article which gave a power to Mahomed Reza Cawn, that in his opinion ought to have been withheld.—That he approved of the article in the treaty which established the succession; but did not think the deputation was necessary; for that Nudjum ul Dowla having been appointed chutah nabob, he was of course in the regular form of succession, and became nabob on the father's death; always supposing that he would receive confirmation of the same from the king. Then the 5th section of the letter from the select committee to the Court of Directors, the 30th of September 1765, being read to him, and being asked, Whether he meant thereby to impute any blame to the gentlemen of the deputation, and the governor and council, for having raised the natural son of the deceased nabob to the subahdarree, in prejudice to the claim of his grandson? he said, He had before given his opinion on that subject; and that he did not mean to be understood, that by putting his name to that letter he agreed to every individual article contained in it, but that he subscribed his assent to the general tenor of it:—That it was his duty to have signed it, entering a different if there had been any parts so materially contrary to his sentiments as to have rendered it necessary:—That to his knowledge Roy Dullah was very much disliked by the nabob; and that the Sects who were by no means ambitious men, would gladly have dispensed with the share in the government that was given them. And being asked, Whether the arrangement made by the president and council, before the arrival of Lord Clive, prevented his lordship and the select committee from making any arrangements they thought proper? he said, That the succession, as settled by the deputation, being once established, could not have been for a while without the appearance of a revolution:—Then being asked, How he reconciled the alteration in the letter, that not a single rupee was stipulated for the Company, with the acknowledgment he had before made, that five lacs per month were stipulated for the Company? he said, That his idea therein referred merely to the solicitations for presents from the nabob, Mahomed Reza Cawn, and Juggutt Sect, for the individuals of the council without any consideration to the

the Company, who, if present were to be solicited, had a better right to them; but that he did not think the Company had any title to more than they got. —And being asked, If the Company got all they were intitled to, wherein their interest had been sacrificed? —he said, By the neglect of an opportunity that might have offered, if the majority of the committee had judged it prudent and advisable to adopt a different mode of reception. And being asked, If the Company were to be read, and the witnesses being asked, If he knew of any money being received on the accession of Nundcomar Dowlah, from opposite parties and contending intereats? (which are words used in the 8th paragraph) he said, He understood that Nundcomar as well as Roy Dullub had been offering teeps on all quarters, to secure to themselves the principal share of the ministry; but that he did not know that they were received, or that any promise was made them that they should have the place assigned to Mohomed Reza Cawn. —And being questioned, Whether he thought they were received? —he answered, He did not; that he believed he could produce several letters of the gentlemen concerned, acknowledging the offers. —And being asked, Whether, at the time of signing the general letters, he thought the evidence he had heard, relative to several lacks of rubeps procured from Nundcomar and Roy Dullub, justified the state of that fact, as drawn up in the general letter? —he said, He thought there must have been some foundation for what appears to have been so strongly alleged; and that in regard to the last paragraph of the said letter, there was a lift given in by Nundcomar, which he saw, and to the best of his belief it was written both in English and Persian; and he does not know that Nundcomar was brought before the Committee and examined respecting that lift. —And being asked, What was the character of Shah Aulum? he said, He was a man of middling understanding, owing to his confinement, which deprived him of any great opportunity of improving himself, but that he believed him to have been rather a good man than otherwise. —And being asked, Why he said, in the letter from Lord Clive and himself to the selected committee, entered on the selected petitions, 12 August 1766, That it was not for the Company's interest or honour to maintain any connection with a man of so weak an understanding, and so very deficient in every principle of honor? he again said, That it does not necessarily follow, from his subscribing to any letter, that he adhered to every individual article of it; that there never would be any letters sent, if all the parties to it were to be unanimous with respect to the whole. Your Committee then called Francis Sykes, Esquire, who being asked who drew up the letter from the selected committee to the Court of Directors, dated 30th of September 1765, said, That it was drawn up by Mr. Campbell the secretary, and that he, the witnesses, neither drew up or altered any part of it; and being asked, What part of the political conduct of the governor and council of Bengal he meant to find fault, in the second paragraph of the above letter? he concurred with General Carnac in disapproving the appointment of Mohomed Reza Cawn with such extensive powers; and added, that he blamed the gentlemen who signed the treaty with Nundcomar Dowlah, for omitting the opportunity they then had of constituting a fund adequate to the expenses the company were obliged to be at in protecting the country. —That the revenues were left too much at the mercy of individuals, and he thought the natural effect of those arrangements would be to put the nabob in such a situation as to enable him to withhold the necessary payment to the army, which whenever he did pay, it was with reluctance. —That he disapproved of making the concurrence and approbation of the governor and council necessary to the appointment and dismission of the nabob's officers, and objected to the appointment of Nundcomar Dowlah to the mufnad, in preference to Myr Jaffier's grandson, particularly as the grandson had been declared the legal heir and chota nabob in the public durbar, by Myr Jaffier, in the preference of the witnesses, in the year 1760, soon after the death of the nabob Myr Jaffier's son, Meeran; which transaction he said must appear upon the Company's records. —That there were 4 or 500 officers of the government present at the ceremony, and that he received a dress on the occasion. —And being asked what fact he could mention to shew that the gentlemen of the deputation received considerable sums from Nundcomar and Roy Dullub, to appoint them to the employment intended to be bestowed on Mahomed Reza Cawn, as stated in the 8th paragraph of the letter from the selected committee to the Court of Directors, the 30th of September 1765? he said, He could not recollect the particulars of that affair; but that Roy Dullub did complain that a deep or steep were procured from him, besides which, he complained of Mr. Burdett in particular, and desired to have his steep returned, which he believes was refused; and believes other complaints were made. —And being asked if he knows of any promise made either by the governor and council, or the deputation, to Nundcomar or Roy Dullub, that they should be appointed to the place which had been promised Mahomed Reza Cawn? said, He did not recollect any one fact that a promise was made, but it appeared to him at the time they were both struggling for the appointment. —And being asked, Whether, at the time of signing the general letter on the 8th of October, he had any positive proof of the facts he alleged therein, and did not now recollect, relative to the presents from Nundcomar and Roy Dullub? he said, He does not recollect, but dares to say that at the time of signing it facts did appear, sufficient to ground the paragraph upon. He disapproved of it, that the particular relating to the not acquiring any of the gentlemen accused with these circumstances. —And being asked, What was his opinion respecting the facts alleged in the nabob's letter to the governor and council on 18 June 1765?
1765? he said, That with respect to the money which he complains to have been taken, which appears upon the Company's records, he believes the fact to be true. The following paragraph in the nabob's letter being read, viz. "After this, Mahomed Reza Cawn arrived at Kadi Naib; he for the better establishing himself in the Nabobship, above twenty lacks of rupees has distrained among such people as he thought proper, without my knowledge"—And the witness being asked if he believed it to be true? he said, As to the fact of that paragraph, he could not depend upon it.—And being asked, If that paragraph had been true, respecting the twenty lacks of rupees taken by Mahomed Reza Cawn from the nabob's treasury, without his knowledge, he should have thought him proper, though irreproachable towards the Company, to have continued minister for the Company in the receipt of the Dewanee? he said, He had no idea that they were taken without his knowledge; that they were taken contrary to his free will and pleasure, the witness did believe; but as his conduct appeared to him irreproachable, with respect to any act in which he was concerned relative to the Company, he should have continued him in his office: That part of the nabob's letter complaining of his poverty, and affecting that he had not money enough to pay his expenses down to Calcutta, was not true; for that he knew that he had at this period twenty lacks of rupees at Calcutta, by the report of his own caliher:—And being asked, he said, He thought that the nabob's letter was dictated by Nundecamar:—And being asked, If, when he signed the letter from the select committee to the Court of Directors, on the 30th of September 1765, he believed that the presents mentioned in that letter were freely and voluntarily given? he said, That those from the nabob never were given with his free will and consent; that those given by Mahomed Reza Cawn certainly were, for he told him so; and that those given by Juggut Seet were given under the same circumstances as the nabob's.—And being asked, Whether any charge was given to the witnesses examined by the select committee on the nabob's complaint?—he said, That the charge, to the best of his remembrance, was this—when the matter of the nabob's complaint came before Lord Clive and the select committee, his Lordship directed the witnesses would not attend to any interest whatever, divest themselves of all party and faction, and give to the select committee the whole truth and nothing more:—And being asked, Whether Mahomed Reza Cawn was examined, or brought in a written narrative ready transtalated to the Committee? he said, He was questioned by Lord Clive and several members of the Committee, upon a visit a day or two previous to his being brought into the Committee; but he believes without any thing being put upon paper.—That at that meeting the same charge, with respect to speaking the truth was given to him as was always given to all the other witnesses.—That upon the nabob's letter of complaint, Lord Clive expressed great uneasiness at seeing the nabob so much displeased; and mentioned, as the witness thought, to Mahomed Reza Cawn, that in consequence of the nabob's determined resolution to obtain justice, he could not, consistent with his duty, avoid enquiring into it, and laying it before the select committee; that his lordship hoped, when that matter came to take place, that those who were particularly concerned would do justice to all parties:—That there was no regular meeting nor any examination then, or except when there were regular meetings of the committee:—That in consequence of Mahomed Reza Cawn having ideas, that he should be called upon to answer for his conduct in this particular affair, he drew up a narrative and brought it to the committee, which narrative the witness believed was drawn up between that meeting and the day that he was examined at the committee, and transtalated by a black man hired for that purpose:—And being asked, If Mahomed Reza Cawn was sworn at his examination?—he said, That he did not recollect:—And being asked, If Juggut Seet was sworn?—he said, He believed not—that when he was examined, Lord Clive defied him to be attentive to adhere to the truth; and he felt, with warmth in answer, that he had put his feel, and that that would go for a crore of rupees:—And being asked, If Mr. Sumner ever publicly or privately informed him, that he had changed that opinion relating to the presents which he had given upon record?—he said, Never till the day before his examination before this Committee.—Then the last paragraph of the supplement of the letter from the select committee to the Court of Directors, the 30th of September 1765, being read, and the witnesses being asked, What were the circumstances relative to the information therein contained?—he said, That the fact, as it appeared to him was, that Nundecamar did make such a representation to the governor and select committee, just before the departure of the Admiral Stevens; and that a lift was delivered in, specifying the different sums the gentlemen were supposed to have been benefited—that the business of the petition taking up the attention of the select committee, he understood prevented any immediate inquiry into the charge laid by Nundecamar:—That the report still prevailing, and many gentlemen giving credit to it, and the witnesses going to the city in the month of March 1766, he did ask Mahomed Reza Cawn, and other officers belonging to the nabob's treasury, questions relative to this transaction; and though Nundecamar did insist to the very last, that it was a fact, the witness said, He very believed, from every light and intelligence he could gain, that the whole of the accusation contained in that paragraph was base and false.—And being asked, If the disbelief of that accusation was made known to the Court of Directors? he said, He did not know that it was.—And being asked, If it was customary for the gentlemen of the select committee to sign letters as the secretary drew them up,
without examination of each particular paragraph, and conviction that they were just in every part? he said, That all letters signed by the select committee were always produced to them by the secretary, were read to them, and if there was nothing material to cause a dissent, there was an acquiescence to the majority. The witnesses further added, with respect to the presents given by Mahomed Reza Cawn, as a further reason why they were voluntarily given, That the gentlemen, to whom the presents were made, had railed him to the utmost pitch of his ambition, and that he told the witnesses he had given the presents with his own free will.—That, to the best of the witnesses’s recollection, this was said by Mahomed Reza Cawn to him in common conversation, about a year after the event; that he never had had any conversation with Lord Clive, or any other gentleman of the committee, upon that subject, from that time to this. And being asked, Whether he had given an opinion on the 4th of July 1765, in consequence of Mahomed Reza Cawn’s letter of the 23d of June, That he had adhered, with the greatest appearance of truth, that neither the presents from the nabob himself were voluntary, but granted after some altercation and tedious negotiations with the gentlemen of the deputation, and which opinion had been transmitted to the Court of Directors, he did not think it his duty to have acquainted them likewise with the above confession? he said, That when he signed that opinion, it appeared to him that the assertions therein contained were true; and that the conversation which passed between him and Mahomed Reza Cawn, wherein he contradicted those assertions, being at a long time after the transaction had taken place, it never occurred to him to give information of it to the Court of Directors. And being asked, Whether, when he discovered the bafeness and falsity of Nundcomar’s representation, as mentioned in the last paragraph of the supplemenet of the letter of the 30th of September 1765, he acquainted Lord Clive, and the other gentlemen of the Committee, with his discovery? he said, He was certain he did mention his ideas on that matter to the gentlemen of the Committee, as well as many others—that he did not make the above discovery till March or April 1766; and that he did not know, that the select committee ever acquitted the Court of Directors with it, it being a matter he was only deficient of knowing for his own information, to invalidate private assertions at Calcutta.—And being asked, What distinction he found in favour of Mr. Middleton, to induce him to recommend that gentleman to the favour of the Court of Directors, and even to disobey the orders of the Court to commence a prosecution against him, while he wrote so strongly against the other members of the deputation? he said, That Mr. Middleton was at a subordinate station, and that the receipt of the presents from their superiors were unknown, or at least had not been publicly tendered to him—that he deemed the gentlemen who refused at Calcutta more culpable than Mr. Middleton, because they were the agents for the Company, and it became their duty to put the presents immediately into execution—that at the time of the deputes setting out, Mr. Senior was at a subordinate station at Caffinbazar, and Mr. Johnstone was resident at Bengewan, but upon the nabob’s death, was called to the seat at the board at Calcutta.—And being asked, What distinction he made between Mr. Middleton and Mr. Senior, in their claims to the Company’s favour? he said, He had an opportunity of knowing the public conduct of Mr. Middleton, but not that of Mr. Senior—that the plea respecting the presents allowed Mr. Middleton, equally favoured Mr. Senior; but that Mr. Middleton had declared himself ready to give security to answer any demands the Company might have upon him, which he did not understand that Mr. Senior did—that Mr. Eyceffer, upon being informed, that the presents received from Juggut Sect were not with his free will and content, immediately return his share of it to him, and that on the tender of return being made, Juggut Sect applied to the witnesses at Muxabadab, to know what he should do—that he told Juggut Sect, if the present was given with his free will and content, he should allow Mr. Eyceffer to enjoy it, if not, that he should receive it back; which he accordingly did, and asked the witnesses whether he supposed any other gentlemen would follow his example,—And being asked, Whether, when he mentioned that Mahomed Reza Cawn said he had given the presents gratuitously, he understood that they were given unasked, or granted after some altercation and tedious negociation with the deputies? he said, They were certainly asked for; and that if Mahomed Reza Cawn had not received the place of minister to the nabob in the room of Nundcomar, or some other appointment equal to his wish, he did not believe he would have made any presents with his free will and content. And to enable the House to form further judgment upon the evidence given to the select committee of Bengal, Robert Gregory, Esquire, a member of your Committee, and convertant in the customs of India, was asked, From the natural disposition of the natives of Bengal, what credit could be given to the evidence of an officer in the country government, when seized and surrounded by military guards? and he said, He could give but very little credit to an evidence so given—that he apprehended a native of that country, examined under apprehensions of his own safety, would give the evidence that would tend most to his own advantage. And he further informed your Committee, that if there is any thing criminal likely to come out against the man, and a place of refuge near at hand, he supposed there was a necessity in India of using a force to detain him, otherwise not—that in point of custom of the country government, they generally used
used violence, and brought witnesses to the place where they wanted to examine them; but that it had not been customary in our settlements.

And in regard to oaths among Goentos, the witnesses said he believed, under the form of oath delivered to the Goentos, their testimony is to be depended upon as well as others, though there have been instances in which they have been found guilty of perjury; and that he does not know any instance of Goentos having quitted their habitations upon their being called on as evidence, and that without their lives or effects were in danger, or their call taken from them, he did not apprehend they would.

And Major Grant, who had been resident in India nearly seven years, being examined to the same point, confirmed the opinion of the foregoing witnesses, relative to the small degree of credit to be given to natives of Bengal examined under a guard. And being asked, Whether he would disregard the evidence of the natives of that country, though given under the forms of oaths which are reckoned most binding, according to the different sects? he said, That under the circumstances already mentioned of confinement, and the dread of consequences, he should not pay that regard to their evidence that he otherwise should, unless there were other concurring testimonies to enforce it.—And being asked, What regard has generally been given to the evidence of natives of all sects, when called upon at a court martial to give evidence in cases of life and death? he said, he had never seen any instance of that kind before a court martial, but imagined the court would pay every deference to an evidence where it appeared there was no influence or interest in view; that he had never sat on a court martial, though he had occasionally attended the court in Calcutta, but never the trial out—was never present at any instance of a witness being examined under a military guard.

And your Committee find, by the proceedings on the trial of Ram Churn, which were read, that the most solemn manner of swearing witnesses, according to the Gentoo religion, is with Tootsy and the Ganges water upon the cow's back, and the oath being administered by a bramin from Golgott.

And General Carnac being questioned to the same point, said, It was customary, with respect to the natives of India, to place guards or peons over persons who were to be examined; that there were no ministers of public justice, but armed men; and he thought it necessary to place a guard over Mooteram, because he was under accusation: that in regard to oaths of Goentos, he believed from their superstitious zeal, and their strong attachment even to martyrdom to their antient rites, they are held very sacred.

It appears further, from the evidence of Mr. Sumner, that Mooteram was examined under a guard, as the witnesses hereunder, by direction of Lord Clive, on an information he had received of his having the bills and money transactions, mentioned above, in his particular care; and that he was seized to prevent his escape.

In regard to the political transations proposed to be considered under the 4th head of the proceedings of the select committee of Bengal, your Committee found, that on the 5th of June 1764 the select committee taking into consideration many attempts which have been made to destroy the unanimity, and corrupt the integrity of the members of the committee, both separately and jointly, by the nabob, through the influence of Nundcomar, and other ill-disposed persons, who were admitted into his presence, Resolved, That all intercourse with the nabob, his ministers, and the country powers, be maintained and conducted by the right honourable the president, as the most effectual method to convince those ill-disposed persons that no motives of private advantage, no desire of encreas'ing their fortunes, can ever induce the members of that board from the duty they owed themselves, the confidence they repose in each other, or the steady resolution they had formed to pursue every method that tended to promote the Company's interest, and the peace, prosperity, and happiness of the country.

And your Committee took occasion, from what appeared upon the above resolution, to call Francis Sykes, Esquire, a member of the House; who being desired to state to the Committee in what manner the nabob, through the influence of Nundcomar, had endeavoured to corrupt his integrity, and that of the other members of the select committee, said, That when he was sitting at the board, soon after his arrival, he was called out by a servant to speak to Nundcomar, who was in a room contiguous to the apartment where the committee sat; that he of himself, proposed to the witnesses, to secure to the governor and select committee 25% of each, if they were inclined to listen to his terms, without mentioning what those terms were; but the witnesses said, he conjectured the conditions he meant were to supplant Mahomed Reza Cawn, the then prime minister.—That he told Nundomar he had better go and mind his business, and immediately left him, to attend his duty in the committee;—That no body was present at this conversation:—That Nundcomar did not say whether it was to be his own money, or the nabob's, whose name, the witnesses believed, was not mentioned at all;—That on his return to the committee, he mentioned Nundcomar's proposal to Lord Clive, who said he was a rascal, and had better go about his business:—That the witnesses never after, either directly or indirectly, knew any thing more about the matter:—That Nundcomar's political character was very bad, but
that the witnesses said that he had no doubt that if he had been prime minister, he would have had it in his power to have fulfilled the proposal.

And in the political transactons referred to under this head, your Committee mean to comprehend the conclusion of the war with Sujah Dowlah; the establishment of the country government, after Lord Clive's arrival in India; the settlement of the peace with Sujah Dowlah; the grant of the Dewanhee, and of the four Northern Sircars, and the reverson of Lord Clive's Jazirhee to the Company, upon the expiration of his Lordship's term therein. And inr, with respect to the conclusion of the war, your Committee refer to letters from General Carnac, the commander-in-chief of the army, by the last of which letters, dated the 16th and 27th of May, contained in No. 84, hereunto annexed, the former inclosing a copy of a letter from Sujah Dowlah to General Carnac, and the General's answer; by which the select committee found that Sujah Dowlah, as his last resource, had thrown himself on the generosity of the English, and was at that time actually in camp, ready to receive such terms of peace as they should prescribe; which appearing to the committee a favourable opportunity for establishing the tranquility of the country on a permanent foundation, they resolved that instructions should be sent to General Carnac for settling the preliminary articles with Sujah Dowlah, which they sent accordingly:—That the select committee, on the 21st of June, gave instructions to Lord Clive, as entered in the select committee proceedings, copies of which are hereunto annexed; and the select committee, on the same day, taking into consideration the youth, inexperience, and incapacity of Nujjum ul Dowlah, the nabob of Bengal; the necessity of placing the administration in the hands of men capable to support the weight of government, and attached to the Company's interest; and likewise the great danger that might arise to the stability of the then establishment, from sifting the whole powers for the absolute management of the three provinces to rest in a single person, resolved that Mahomed Reza Cawn be advised to relinquish the title of nabib furuh, and also a part of the unbounded authority wherewith he was invested by the late treaty, as a measure not only agreeable to the nabob, but necessary to the safety of the present government and the future tranquility of the country: the further reasons for this resolution, and the appointment of other ministers, appear in the select committee proceedings of that day, a copy of which is annexed: and your Committee refer the Houfe to the Appendix, N° 84, wherein are contained the regulations of the three provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Oryfia, in conformity to the above resolution.

That on the 7th of July the select committee observing, by a letter from Lord Clive, dated the 31st instant, that their plan, formed with a view of giving flability to the nabob's government, by dividing the administration equally between Mahomed Reza Cawn, Juggut Sect, and Roy Dullub, was in danger of being frustrated, through the ambition of the latter, and the excessive moderation or timidity of the former, they gave instructions to Mr. Sykes for the regulation of his conduct at the durbar, as appears in the proceedings of the select committee, 7th July 1765, which are contained in N° 84 of the Appendix.

And your Committee find, by reading a letter from Lord Clive, dated Mootojil, 9 July, that the Nabob, Mahomed Reza Cawn, Roy Dullub, and Juggut Sect, had at that time signed the above-mentioned regulations for the three provinces, and that his lordship had obtained the annuities for the reverson of his jazirhee, in perpetuity to the Company, conformable to the terms of his agreement with them before he left England; which he forwarded to Mr. Sumner and the council, and at the same time mentioned, that annuities for confirming the Nabob Nujjum ul Dowlah furuh of the three provinces were to be obtained from the King, and that this would be a favourable opportunity for procuring annuities for the feath granted lands about Calcutta, and likewise for the Burdwan, Midnapore, and Chittagong countries in perpetuity; and that he had been defrayed by the president of Fort Saint George, to obtain annuities for the four northern provinces or sircars, which his lordship deeming a matter of great importance, determined to make a point of, observing at the same time, that as the nabob intended purchasing the King's favours at the price of five lacks of rupees, his lordship did not doubt that all the annuities required on the Company's account would be afforded gratis.—Your Committee find, by a letter from Lord Clive to the select committee, dated Great Ganges 11th July 1765, hereunto annexed, N° 87, that amongst other matters, the nabob, on his lordship's representation of the great expense of such an army as would be necessary to support him in his government, to defray the large sum due for retribution, and to the navy, together with the annual tribute which was of necessity to be paid to the King, had consented that all the revenues of the country should be appropriated to those purposes, 50 lacks of rupees a year for himself excepted, out of which sum all his expenses of every denomination, including Cavalry and Scepoys, were to be defrayed. That Lord Clive left the particulars of the above propositions to be settled by Mr. Sykes, if the select committee should approve of it.—That on the 28th of July Mr. Sykes informed the select committee, by a letter of that date, that the nabob had agreed to accept the annual stipend of 53,86,131 fiscas rupees per annum, and to make over the management of the subahdarree, with every advantage arising from it, to the Company; that out of the above stipend he was to allow 2,76,000 rupees a year, to the different branches of his family.—That these payments were to be made by Mahomed Reza Cawn, Roy Dullub, and Juggut Sect, monthly; who were also to have the pay-
payments of all the nabob's troops, servants, &c. And that the select committee, by their letter of the loth of August, expressed their approbation of the above regulations; but defined Mr. Sykes to reserve the ratification of them to Lord Clive and the select committee. Your Committee have annexed hereunto, No. 88, a letter from Lord Clive and General Carnac to the select committee, dated Benares 3 August 1765, stating the particulars of the conference they had had with Sujah Dowlah, and the terms which they had offered to him for the treaty of peace, and also a copy of the letter from Lord Clive and General Carnac to the select committee, dated Ilahabad 12 August, No. 89, acquainting them with the negotiations between them and the king, and the terms which were then settled between them on the grant of the Dewane of the Company. And your Committee find, by another letter from Lord Clive and General Carnac to the select committee, of the 20th of August, that the treaty of peace was concluded; but that Sujah Dowlah having expressed the greatest reluctance at conforming to the 8th article of the treaty, and having frankly confessed, that the encroachments of the English in Bengal, with regard to trade, and the great abuses and exactions committed by the Company's servants, and others countenanced by them, made him apprehensive of the consequence in his dominions, and had expressed much uneasiness about the word factories, that they had at last agreed to leave it out of the treaty; and suggested the propriety of even withdrawing the factory at Benaras, as soon as the Company's engagements with Bulwanting should expire. That on the 7th of September 1765, Lord Clive resumed his seat at the select committee, and laid before them an account of his several negotiations with the country powers, during his absence from the presidency; videlicet, The treaty of peace with Sujah Dowlah—the royal grant of the officer of the Dewane of Bengal and Bahar, and Orixa—the grant of the reversion of Lord Clive's Jaghire to the Company in perpetuity, on the expiration of his lordship's term therein—the confirmation in perpetuity of Bardwan, Madnapore and Chittagong, and of the 24 purgannahs of Calcutta, which had been formerly assigned to the Company by the Nabob Myr Jaffier—the confirmation of the Company's possessions in the neighbourhood of Madras, &c.—the grant of the northern sircars in perpetuity—all the articles of agreement with the king, for the due payment of the 26 sticks of rupees per annum to his majesty, and the agreement with the nabob for the annual stipend, as above stated, to be paid his excellency for the support of the nizamut. Copies of all which are hereunto annexed, No. 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, and 96.

And your Committee then read a state of the revenues of the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orenf, and the Northern Sircars; copies of which are also hereunto annexed, No. 97.

And the opinion of the select committee with regard to the conduct of Lord Clive and General Carnac, in the aforesaid negotiations, being fully expressed in their letters to those gentlemen of the 7th of September 1765, your Committee have annexed hereunto copies of both the said letters, No. 98 and 99.

And your Committee find, by the select committee's letter to the Court of Directors, 30th September 1765, and from Lord Clive's letter to the Court of Directors, dated the 30th September, paragraphs 7, 8, 12, 13, 14 and 15, and from his lordship's letter to the Court of Directors 28th November 1765, a copy of which is annexed, No. 100, written chiefly in cypher, and sent over land; that full information was given to the Company of all the above-mentioned negotiations, together with the observations of the select committee, and of Lord Clive, upon those important events.

And your Committee find, by a letter from Lord Clive to the council, 11th June 1766, that Sujah Dowlah on that day discharged the whole of the treaty money.

Your Committee refer to the 5, 17, 18 and 19 paragraphs of the Company's epereve letter to Bengal, dated 24th December 1765, hereunto annexed, containing the opinion of the Court of Directors upon the conduct of the Company's servants, in the course of the war against Colim Ally Cawn, condemning the demand which had been made of the Goffpore country, and the intention of conquering Sujah Dowlah's country for the King, requiring them to adopt some system which might clearly mark out the barriers of the country government and ours, and ordering the strictest inquiry to be made, whether any contributions had been exacted by the servants from the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowlah, on his succession to the subahship.

Your Committee have annexed, No. 101, an extract from the Company's general letter to Bengal, dated 19th February 1766, containing the further opinion of the Court of Directors upon the treaty with the King, upon the measures pursued on the death of Jaffier Ally Cawn, the appointment of independent duans, together with their intrigues upon the treaty with the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowlah.

Your Committee refer the House to the 58th Paragraph of the general letter from the governor and council of Bengal, dated the 12th of November 1761, concerning their reasons for refusing the offer of the Dewanee of Bengal; which your Committee find were approved of by the Court of Directors in the 55th paragraph of their letter to Bengal, dated 9 March 1763, both of which are hereunto annexed.

Your Committee then requested the right honourable the Lord Clive to say, Whether in his opinion the grant of the Dewanee was really a grant from a prince who from his situation at that
time might be supposed capable of bestowing such concessions, or whether it was an instrument executed at a piece of form, which his lordship thought it expedient to take from political motives.—His lordship referred to the public records of the company, wherein his sentiments on that subject are entered, as well as a description of the then situation of the Mogul.—And being asked, If the Mogul had any troops at that time, and to what number?—He said, Some thoufand—And in regard to lands or revenues to pay them, he believed he was in possession of Illahabad, and that Sujah Dowlah, and many princes of the country, made him large presents. And being asked, If the Mogul was at that time wholly dependent on the bounty of the English for protection and even subsistence?—he said, He did not know that the English afforded him any subsistence at that time, nor till the articles of peace were sealed with Sujah Dowlah; when the treaty was made that he should have particular possessions, and a certain annual stipend—that he certainly expected subsistence from the English; but that if he had been disposed to ask for subsistence from other powers, all Indoflan was open to him, and particularly the Marrattes—that the Mogul was not in the power of the English army at the time he granted the Dewanee, but was his own matter, to do as he pleased, though his power in Bengal was totally annihilated.—And being asked, Who put the Mogul in possession of Illahabad?—He said, The Company did; and that he did not know of his having any other possessions at that time; and could not say whether, as the time was so short, he had collected any of the revenues of the place, or made any arrangement of government, from the time he was put in possession of it, to the time of granting the Dewanee. And being asked, If the Mogul could have refused the grant of the Dewanee, provided the English had insinuated upon it, without risqueing his own ruin? he said, It was certainly his interest to grant it to the Company, who might have taken it without his consent; whether they would have done so his lordship could not say: that there was still so much respect for the Great Mogul, that the independent nabobs applied to him for their confirmation, which confirmation is generally attended with considerable presents from the princes so confirmed, who give them to the person they apply to as Mogul—that at the time of granting the Dewanee the Mogul was at Illahabad; that his Son was then reigning at Delhi but always acknowledged that he acted under his father; but his lordship could not say whether the father acknowledged the fon to be his delegate. And being asked, If he could particularize any nabob who made presents on application for confirmation to the Mogul at Illahabad?—he said, Nudjum ul Dowlah did.

Your Committee then called General Carnac, who being asked, If the Mogul, when he granted the Dewanee, was in such a situation as to induce him to suppose it was a voluntary grant, and that he was in possession of such authority as could enable him to do it? said, That Shah Aalum was really to all intents and purposes the Great Mogul, as much as any of his predecessors: In proof of which, the witness said, The two great honours annexed to that dignity he enjoyed equally with his predecessors, viz. the cootba or prayer for him as king was universally read, and money coined in his name, throughout the whole empire—that since the invasion of Nadir, the diffent princes have been very deficient in their payments of the royal revenues; but that to his certain knowledge the complimentary nazzars or presents were sent to Shah Aalum by the neighbouring provinces; and as he believed the province of Delhi paid a yearly allowance to his fon, who resided there as his delegate; that there is no doubt but the English might have forced the grant of the Dewanee from the Mogul, if they thought it prudent or just to do it; but that such a proceeding would have excited a general odium against the English throughout all Indoflan, and that no such force was imposed on him—that he gave it voluntarily, and had offered it to the witnesses before—that his interest was now concerned in the grant, for there was secured to him a much more considerable annuity than would probably have been paid him by any nabob—that the Mogul had been in the hands of Sujah Dowlah, who had made use of the royal name to collect the revenues from the adjacent provinces; but that upon the defeat of Sujah Dowlah he again surrendered himself to the English, and was by them invaded with the provinces of Korah and Illahabad in full sovereignty—that at the time of granting the Dewanee his main dependence was upon the English—that a part of the Company's troops were attending him at Illahabad, and that he never was without some of them while the witnesses remained in the country; for that the Mogul was jealous of Sujah Dowlah, and would have been very uneasy without them.

To complete their inquiries upon this head, your Committee find, by a letter from Lord Clive and General Carnac to the council, dated 30th April 1766 (Appendix N° 102) that the first poonah for Bengal, since our becoming possessed of the Dewanee, was held on the preceding day, the forms of which were approved of by the Company, as appears by the 15th paragraph of their letter to the Select committee, 16 of March 1768, as follows.

"The forms established by Lord Clive at the solemnity of the poonah should in future be observed; and when the governor is not present, the resident at the durbar must represent the king's duty."

And your Committee finding from the records of the Company, relative to the last period of their inquiry, that orders had been illus from the Court of Directors to enquire particularly into the circumstances of the death of Nudjum ul Dowlah a report prevailing that he had been poifoned, they desired Mr. Sykes to relate what he knew upon that subject; and he informed your Committee,
mittee, that to the best of his remembrance, when Lord Clive, General Carnac, and several other gentlemen, were on their way to Panta in 1765, his lordship proceeded from Muzafabad to a garden called Serabang:—That the nabob being desirous of waiting on his lordship at the gate, the witnesses accompanied him thither, where he staid till 10 or 11 o'clock at night; that Mahomed Reza Cawn was also present; and that his excellence complained then very much of being indisposed, and the witnesses advised him to return to the city, and not expose his person to the cold, he having as it appeared to him then an ague fit on him; and that he went to his own house accordingly.—That the witnesses hearing the next day, upon inquiry, that he was worse, went to see him, and found that he was confined to his bed in a high fever—that he continued growing worse three or four days, in which time the witnesses made him two or three visits—that his excellence the third or fourth day of his illness sent word he should be glad to see him—that he went accordingly, and on his arrival found him delicious and convulsed—that he remained very near him till he died, which was about two hours after his arrival—that he heard some rumours from the presidency at Calcutta, that he had not fair plays, or that he was brought to an untimely end, or something to that purpose; in consequence of which he applied to the mother to know if the entertained any idea of that nature; that she affirmed he did not, and that if there had been any suspicion in the nabob's mind, he would certainly have mentioned it to the witnesses; that he never heard any personal at the city throw out any idea of suspicion upon that subject; that, as he believed, Mr. Velayet mentioned in a private letter, that there was but a rumour in Calcutta and that it was levelled at Lord Clive and the gentlemen in administration by their enemies.—And being asked, Whether the nabob eat or drank any thing at the garden, to which he imputed the sudden increase of his disorder? he said, He believed he drank some ice water, which as he was ill before, was certainly not proper for his situation; and that he does not recollect there was any entertainment, but what the nabob brought with him for his own family:—That the nabob was not guilty of any particular incontinence at that time; but that he believed an irregular way of living, a grost habit of body, and fondnefs of women blanfcd his death.—And being asked, Whether he considered the 24th paragraph of the letter from the select committee of the 8th of September 1766, to the Court of Directors, a copy of which is hereunto annexed, as a proper account of the death of Nudjum ul Dowla? he said. He should have subscribed it, except with regard to his eating, not being a judge how far he was intemperate in that—that the nabob had the venereal disease to a very severe degree, and that when he visited him in his illness, he imputed his approaching death to the fever and the venereal disease—that he had been ill three or four days when he visited Lord Clive at Serabang, and had a fever on him at that time—and that he took the ice water as such:—And being asked, If any individual benefited by his death? he said, He believed not; but the East India Company did, in that they took the opportunity of reducing the allowance that was made for the military establishment of the former nabob, by reducing it from 55 lacs a year to 41 lacs 13 lacs.

Your Committee then examined General Carnac, a member of the House, who being asked, If he knew any of the circumstances of the death of Nudjum ul Dowla? said. That as he was going up the country in May 1766, he went through Muzafabad, where the nabob was very ill—that he waited on his excellence, and found him in so violent a putrid fever, that he used every argument to prevent his going to take leave of Lord Clive, who was then a few miles beyond the city at Serabang,—to the great surprise of the witnesses—their having come thither, and in a few very few days after he heard of his death, at which, knowing the dangerous situation in which he left him, and being of a grost habit of body, he was no way surprised—that he did not remember any particular incontinence he was guilty of at that time, but that he was a very intemperate young man. And being asked, If he knew any instance of a nabob, or any other person of the country, being put to death by the English, except in battle? he said, He did not; and that there is no infallence of wars being carried on in any part of the world, with more humanity than those in Indostan against the natives. And being asked, What is a fever affecting the nofe of? he said, A particular kind of putrid fever commonly in that country called the Ava fever, and which is said to be attended with an itchting at the nofe; and that the nabob had intimated to the witnesses such complaint.

And your Committee find, by the letter from Mr. Sykes, to the council at Fort William, dated 8th of May 1766, that the nabob died that day—and by a letter from Lord Clive, and General Carnac, to the council of the 9th of May 1766—that he died of that of fever that afflicted the nofe, and is generally supposed incurable.

Your Committee proceeded next to inquire into the rise and progress of the fat society, and of other matters relative to that trade, and they have closed their evidence thereupon; but finding it impossible to arrange and transcribe fo extensive a proceeding before the recess, they have reserved it for a future report, which they will lay before the House with all possible dispatch.

But your Committee think it expedient, before they dismiss the above proceedings, to take notice, that the following papers, which they thought necessary for their inspection in different parts of their inquiry, were not to be found; and in enumerating the said papers, your Committee have given their reasons why it appears to them they ought to have been upon the Company's records.

N. B.
Letter from Mahomed Reza Cawn, 23d June 1765, in the Persian correspondence, No. 119, wrote in answer to one from Lord Clive, because he recapitulates the substance, and says, He was honoured with his lordship's letter; and further says, That his lordship desires he would immediately acquaint him, whether the distribution of the money was made by the nabob of his own free will, or by me, or by the directions of any other persons—Lord Clive's letter, to which it evidently refers, is not entered on the correspondence.

Letter from the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowlah, 24th June 1765, No. 120, is evidently wrote in answer to one from Lord Clive, acquainting the nabob of its being fixed in council; that Mr. Johnstone should continue no longer in the service. The letter to which it refers is not entered.

Letter from Mahomed Reza Cawn, No. 101, acknowledges a letter from Lord Clive to him, and recapitulates the purport thereof, viz. That he should have accompanied the nabob to Calcutta. The letter of his lordship is not entered.

Letter from Mahomed Reza Cawn, 18 May 1765, No. 102, referring to a letter received from Lord Clive; in which letter Mahomed Reza Cawn says, He hopes to be with his lordship in three or four days; and concludes, saying, "And then with regard to what you mention in your letter, "I will give you a full account of all particulars."—His lordship's letter not entered.

Letter from the Burdwan raja, 23 May 1765, No. 105, acknowledging he had the honour to receive his lordship's letter in answer to his address. His lordship's letter not entered.

Letter from the nabob Nudjum ul Dowlah, 9 June 1765, No. 109, acknowledging the receipt of a letter from Lord Clive—but his lordship's letter does not appear.

Letter from Lord Clive to Mahomed Reza Cawn, 22 July 1765, No. 35, of letters sent; wherein his lordship acknowledges the receipt of Mahomed Reza Cawn's letter, in answer to one he had wrote him; and adds that he did well in preventing his excellency from writing an improper answer on the subject of the money. Neither Lord Clive's letter, nor Mahomed Reza Cawn's answer, acknowledged by his lordship—appears to be entered.

And Mr. Johnstone, a clerk of the India House, who has attended your Committee during the course of their proceeding, being examined, said, Mr. Morton and he had searched very diligently, in consequence of their being asked for, some time ago by a member of the Committee, but cannot find them; and apprehend they were never entered:—The books in which they ought to have been entered were received in August 1766.

And your Committee likewise think proper, at the close of this report to inform the House, That through the whole of their proceedings, they have taken the part to receive information from every person disposed to give it; and in putting of questions, not to infilt upon an answer, which any persons declined to make.

APPENDIX.
APPENDIX.
No. 1.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

On Tuesday last his excellency the Nabob went in grand procession from his encampment to the Kella, in the city, and there received the usual salamce.

In order to remove as much as lay in my power, the sentiments which the people were poiffessed of, that the English were not his friends, I had the honour to accompany him on the same elephant; and on his arrival in the Kella, presented him with the keys of the city gate.

The next day Raja Ramnarrain, attended by a single peon, found his way into that part of the Kella where his excellency was sitting, notwithstanding he had been before denied the presence. Upon this abrupt entrance, Raja Rajabullub was immediately dispatched by his excellency to defire I would get him away from thence; for as he would not retire by order of the Nabob, his excellency apprehended if he forced him out, it might be deemed by some that he had broke his engagement, which he is determined to observe inviolably. Upon this I went for him to meet Rajabullub at the factory; who told him he was ready to fit on the part of the Nabob to examine the books of the Sircar; and delivered the Raja a lift of those books he wanted to inspect, requiring at the same time the attendance of three persons who were in Ramnarrain's service.

After much altercation on both parts, and finding no probability of a compliance on the part of the Raja, I read to him your honour, &c's instructions to me, under date the 5th instant, relative to him, and told him by not sending the books of the Sircar wanted, together with the people, he would lay your honour, &c. under the disagreeable necessity of withdrawing your request to the Nabob to preserve his honour; hereupon he promised to send the books that evening, but according to custom, this he evaded.

Yesterday, agreeable to appointment, Raja Rajabullub, accompanied by Raja's Nobutroy and Seeteman, with the servants belonging to their different departments, arrived, and the Raja met them here without books or servants; being again repeatedly asked for the books, he sometimes said he had none, at other times they were coming, and that many of them were among the books he sent into the factory about fix or seven days ago. On having those papers brought up and inspected, they said they were nothing to the purpose; being then asked for the three servants, whom the Nabob said could give us an insight into the state of the Sircar, he replied he would not let them appear without my giving him assurance their honour should be safe; for he suspected a design to punish them, even to the los of life, if they did not make such confessions as were agreeable to the Nabob. Upon this I told him this was no Cutcherry, that I interfered now in adjusting the accounts in consequence of his Excellency's particular request; but since he entertained such an opinion of me, I would have nothing more to do in his affairs, and to make this declaration I was the rather induced, as it appears very plainly to me, he will never deliver in the accounts demanded of him, till he is turned over to the Nabob's Cutcherry; for whilst he finds your honour, &c. are mediators with the Nabob, not to dishonour him, he knows he cannot be obliged to comply, and under this shelter the Nabob must go without the accounts.

I remain with great respect, Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient humble servant,

W. McGwire.

Patna, the 31st July, 1761.

L

No. 2.
APPENDIX, No. 2, 3, 4.

No. 2.

To the Honourable Henry Fanshaw, Esq; president and governor, &c. Council of Fort William.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

THIS waits on you to advise, that his Excellency yesterday appointed Raja Rajabullub to the post which Raja Ramnarain held under him in this province.

I am with great respect, Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient humble servant,

W. McGwire.

No. 3.


SIR,

WE have received your letter of the 21st instant. If Ramnarain should settle his accounts with the Nabob, he will of course be of liberty wherever his interest or inclination may lead him; if on the contrary he has not yet settled his accounts, we think we have interfered long enough, and do not mean to encourage him in his obstinate and perverse dependance on our protection; in such case, therefore, we direct that he be delivered over to the Nabob's Cutcherry, there to be made an account of his administration, according to the laws and customs of the country; the patience which the Nabob has already had, together with what the president writes to him further, gives us reason to be satisfied, that he will not do any violence to Ramnarain's person.

As the Nabob represented to the president, that Shitabroy's coming down to Calcutta will be detrimental to his affairs, we think it may be dispensed with, and the necessary enquiries be made of him before Mr. Ellis and the rest of the council at Patna.

We are, Sir,

Your loving friends.

31st Augst., 1761.

No. 4.

Letter from Mr. McGwire to Select Committee.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

EVER since the receipt of your instructions to the Colonel and me, I have used my endeavours to bring about the adjournment of the accounts of this Subahship, conformable to the plan your honour, &c. transmitted to us, and am concerned to say, hitherto without being able to succeed. The Rajah promises to deliver them in daily, but gives me to understand, the accounts for two years were left in his battle with the Prince, and that he is necessitated to have recourse to the recollection of himself and writers for the forming the greatest part of them; in short, he seems to me to build his hopes of success in delay, whereby he expects to weary out his Excellency's patience.

Thus when the accounts are delivered in, you may easily conceive how liable they will be to objections, since they are to be formed by a man whom every one allows to be backward and evasive.

The only method which appears to me, if your Honour, &c. should continue determined to support him, to come to a true knowledge of his accounts, is to suspend him from his office, at least during this scrutiny; by which means those who have it in their power to give proper insights into his transactions will not be intimidated from giving their affixture whilst his authority is dormant.

But, Gentlemen, I request your permission to come more immediately to the point. We have thought it necessary to confer the Subahship of the three Sircars on Mr. Coffin, under certain articles; and they have agreed not to protect his servants, which agreement is mutual. He is come up here to put this Province upon a better footing than it was before, and is at no loss an expense than eight lacks per month, which on account of arrears due to his troops, it is not in his power to reduce at present; he has not collected any of the revenues since
APPENDIX, No. 5, 6, 7.

since his arrival, nor will he be able whilst the country people observe his power so limited, that he cannot turn out and put into power those whom he may think proper; thus he remains inactive, his debts increasing, and in all probability will be thereby reduced, by cruel necessity to as bad a state as Mier Jaffar was before the revolution.

I know well the principal argument for supporting Ramnarrain has been his attachment to the English; but this does no where appear from his actions, nay, I am certain the contrary will be evident, when the whole of his conduct is nicely examined into; that he is evasive and unfit for the government, I believe my predecessor will allow; where then is our merit in signing a treaty with Myr Coffin, whereby such manifest advantages arise to the Company, if we break it on our parts, by attempting to support a man in every respect obnoxious to him, so obnoxious, that he has been necessitated to make at least a show of friendship with Raja Rajabullub, a man who from having been his competitor for the Dewanwesship, and military carrying therein, can never be in his real interest, any more than that of the English?

As we have made him Nabob, we ought surely to support him, so long as he behaves worthy of it, and not drive him to some act of rashness, which few besides himself would in my opinion have so long restrained from; for what must his situation be with such a rabble of an army, who find him to have no weight or authority?

I am, with respect, Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

Patna, 21 June, 1761.

W. MGWIRE.

No. 5.

Extracts from Governor Vanfittart's letter to Mr. MGwire, dated 18th June 1761.

If the Committee's orders of the 17th of last month had been complied with, every thing had been settled before now; they plainly implied a suspension of Ramnarrain's authority while the old accounts were under examination; and that the collection of revenues, and in short, the entire administration should be left to the Nabob. It is not easy to make people understand what they are unwilling to execute; however, I think the present orders cannot be mistaken, either on the subject of the Patna province and Ramnarrain in particular, or the Nabob's administration in general. They are addressed to Colonel Coote only, with an order to consult with you, for the reasons therein mentioned. I fend you enclosed a copy of this letter, the contents of which you may communicate to the Nabob; and deliver him that which I send you under this cover to his address.

The news by the Hawke you have no doubt had from your other friends. The Company's letter is only upon general subjects, mighty smooth and fair; but many private letters to me and others say, that they are extremely offended at the letter from home, per Royal George, and that all who signed it are to pafs under their severest censure; I hope for many reasons, it will not be so.

No. 6.

Extracts of the Governor and Company's letter to Mr. MGwire, dated the 26th of June, 1761.

With respect to Ramnarrain, it will be necessary to be more particular,—Colonel Coote is already directed to affist the Nabob, so far as to suspend him, Ramnarrain, from his government until the accounts are settled, and to put the Nabob's people into possession of all the revenues. This you will conform to, and let him be brought to an adjustment of his accounts by such measures as the Nabob shall think proper. The President has wrote to him so strongly in favour of Ramnarrain, so far as regards his life and honour, that we are persuaded the Nabob will not be defirous of carrying his resentment for his ill behaviour to any such length.

No. 7.

Extracts of a letter from Mr. Hay the provincial chief of Patna, to Governor Vanfittart, dated 28th August, 1761.

I have had the honour of receiving your letter of the 10th Instants, addressed to William MGwire, Esquire; or the chief for the time being.

The Nabob, before the receipt of your letter, was resolved not to demand any account at all from Ramnarrain, or even receive seven lack of rupees which he had offered him for to clear his account; I told him that I was surprized that he would not receive the sum offered, as the
he intended not to trouble Ramnarrain any further for his account. He answered me that as he had not settled the accounts of the province with Ramnarrain, it might be looked upon as an exortion if he received it, and desired me to write his resolution to the board, which I accordingly did, under date the 21st instant. He is now determined to have the account; but says he will proceed in such a manner as not to hurt the Rajah's honour. This I am in hopes he will be enabled to do, as Ramnarrain tells me he will do every thing in his power to satisfy the Nabob, which I have been continually persuading him to do as the only means to save his reputation. The Sepoy guard that was placed at the Rajah's house by Mr. McGwire, at the request of the Nabob, has been taken off, and a number of Hircarrahs, and Chobdars are now placed round the house, with a small guard under one of the Nabob's principal Zemindars, which Ramnarrain desired, after he found the Sepoys would be continued with him no longer. In this situation the Nabob tells me he shall let things continue for three or four days, by which time he supposes Ramnarrain will have sufficiently reflected, that he can receive no protection if he continues not to render him a proper account, and then send to him for his accounts, which if he does not deliver or agree to settle, he will lead people to search for them in the house. This is the present situation of this affair, and as I think Ramnarrain will no longer refuse the Nabob what satisfaction it is in his power to give, in regard to the accounts, and observe the Nabob's moderation, I am in great hopes their accounts will be soon settled to your satisfaction.

No. 8.

Extract of a letter from Mr. Hay, provincial chief of Patna, to Governor Vanstart, dated 7th September, 1761.

I have had the honour of receiving your letters of the 26th and 29th ult. The Nabob some days ago gave Ramnarrain a beetle, on his giving a paper to him in which he says it is impossible for him to give the accounts of the province; but contents and promises fifty lacks, twenty-five of which are to be paid immediately in money, and in bonds to Zemindars in the Nabob's service (who will accept them) the other twenty-five lacks the Nabob informs me are to be rather as a security for Ramnarrain's future good conduct, than as a bond he expects to have paid. As yet there has been nothing paid, Ramnarrain has always pleaded poverty to me; but I think he would hardly have signed such a paper as this, without intending to perform what he has agreed to do in it. The Nabob in this affair, though he was obliged to proceed in such a manner as a good deal to frighten Ramnarrain, has I think paid the greatest regard to your recommendation in regard to his life and honour.

No. 9.

Extract of the Governor's letter to Mr. McGwire, dated 5th December, 1761.

I have received your favour of the 18th, with Mr. Walmough's letter inclosed. I was in hopes of hearing that he had arrived at Patna, as he was dispatched from hence the 22d September. On the 14th October, I dispatched to you under charge Mr. Menzie, 16,400 Mds. of fife, which, with the 20,000 Mds. by Mr. Walmough, is the whole of what arrived safe at Calcutta, out of the 40,000 which I promised to lend on our joint account. I have read a letter, acquainting me that Mr. Menzie was at Itchamanny the 8th December; as soon as I can get the Account, Charges of the Salt from Inghelle, it shall be sent you.

No. 10.

'Extract of Mr. McGwire's letter to the Governor, dated 28th July.'

'The Raja has of late taken it into his head, that if he can gain me to his interest, his affairs must succeed; I told him very ingeniously, though from his behaviour he had no right to expect it, that I would give him advice, which if he would follow, he would be convinced was the only means left for rendering him service; and that was by advancing such a sum to his Excellency, joined to proper and public submissive, as would restore him to his favour; that he might be affected there was safety of men left whereby he could succeed; for however he might be spirited by people (who preferred their private interest to the public Good) to act in a contrary manner, he would find his error when too late for remedy. I presume this had some weight with him, for I found him in waiting at
APPENDIX, No. 11, 12.

at the Nabob's tent last night; but do not know at this time whether the Nabob admitted him to an interview or not.

The Nabob told me, That upon his arrival some of his Zemindars came to him, and said, If the English are your friends, why don't you put an end to those disturbances by decollation? when the Raja is no more, you will find they will only have then your interest to consult:—He is now in your tent, and it may be easily done. I represented to him, a step of this nature would not only forfeit my friendship for him, but would immediately make you as much his enemy as ever you was his friend:—That these steps which the Raja had taken to injure him with the English, would prove in the end of real service to him, by shewing him to the world a man of moderation; and that his innocence must appear more conspicuous, by patiently bearing up against those indignities at present, than by removing the Raja, which would confirm to the world, his enemies had some grounds for acting in this manner; and that by a little more patience he would find you would extricate him out of his present disagreeable situation.

No. 11.

Extract of Mr. McGwire's Letter to the Governor, dated 31st July 1761.

ADDITIONAL, to what I wrote the board, I am to acquaint you, that the Raja stayed with me some time after the departure of Rajabullub, and said there was no way left for him ever to get into the Nabob's favour, unless his excellency could be brought to a compromise. I told him his excellency had acquainted me, he before demanded of him either the books of the Sircar, or a crore of rupees; he said he had no money, but if the Nabob would restore him to his government, he said he believed he might be able to raise twenty-five or thirty lacks. I told him his excellency was determined to give the khelaut of Patna to Rajabullub; but waited only for a lucky day; but as you had recommended him to the Nabob, I would use my endeavours also to get him into the Nabob's favour, provided he empowered me to mention an handsome sum; and that after he had obtained a clearance for what was past, he would give the Nabob a true state of the revenues of the province, to prevent his being imposed on by any future Nain: He entreated me to propose a sum, and after frequent requests for this purpose, I thought he could not propose a less sum than eighty lacks; he then pleased his poverty, and said he would endeavour to raise a lack; I begged him to apply to some one else to speak to the Nabob on his behalf, for that I could not mention a less sum than I proposed, without running manifest risk of losing the share I had in his excellency's confidence; at last he proposed giving five lacks, which if once restored to favour he believed he could have interest enough to raise; and thus we parted; however I expect him again to-morrow.

No. 12.

To the Honourable Henry Vansittart, Esq; President and Governor, &c. &c. Council at Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

On receipt of your honour's, &c. &c. orders of the 10th instant, I applied to Mr. McGwire for the instructions he had received from you for his conduct in affairs with the government; and have received from him your letter to his address, dated the 26th June 1761, I shall make it my particular care to follow your orders therein contained. I yesterday waited on the Nabob, who after some conversation with me about the difficulty he had met in settling his accounts with Rammarrain, told me, and defied I would write to your honour, &c. &c. that he was come to a resolution not to trouble Rammarrain any further about them, or ever make any demand on him hereafter; and further, that he was now at liberty, either to remain here at Patna, or go out of the province, or to Calcutta; but that he should be better pleased if he chose the latter, and hoped it would be agreeable to your honour, &c. &c. I am with the greatest respect,

Honourable Sir, and Sirs, your most obedient humble Servant,

Patna, August 21st, 1761.

W. Hay.

M

No. 13.
APPENDIX, No. 13, 14.

No. 13.

Fort William, 26th June 1761.

At a consultation, present,—The honourable Henry Vanfittart, Esq; President,—Peter Amyatt, Esq;—William Ellis, Esq;—W. B. Sumner, Esq;—Colling Smith, Esq;—

We have thought proper to order Colonel Coote and Major Carnac to return to Calcutta with all the army, excepting two hundred Europeans rank and file, the European cavalry, fifty of the artillery, two thousand of the Seapoy's, and two hundred country horfe, the which are to be left at Patna, under the command of Captain Cartlairs, to act under your directions. As the province cannot be invaded by any foreign enemies during the rains, we think the above-mentioned force sufficient for the present purpose, which is only to affift the Nabob in settling accounts with Ramnarrain, and the several Zemindars of the Patna province.

This you are to do in general to the utmost of your power, in such manner as he may apply to you.—With respect to Ramnarrain, it may be necessary to be somewhat more particular; Colonel Coote is already directed to affift the Nabob, so far as to suspend him (Ramnarrain) from his government until the accounts are settled, and to put the Nabob's people in possession of all the revenues; this you will conform to, and let him be brought to an adjudgment of his accounts by such measures as the Nabob shall think proper.—The president has wrote to him so strongly in favour of Ramnarrain, so far as regards his life and honour, that we are persuaded the Nabob will not be desirous of carrying his resentment for his ill behaviour to any such length.

If any part of the Nabob's demands upon Ramnarrain should appear to you unreasonable, you will acquaint us with the particulars, and wait our answer; defiring the Nabob to let such article remain undecided until our answer comes from Calcutta.

In all military affairs, we recommend to you to consult with Captain Cartlairs, or the officer commanding the troops, and give due Weight to his opinion.

We desire the charges of the troops may be brought into the smallest bounds possible, by reduction of Batta, Coolies, Boats, Bullocks, &c. on all occasions that will admit of it; and you will observe to discharge all the country horfe, except two hundred of the best, to be kept under the command of the Jemautdars, Ali Raza Cawn and Mirza Shawbaug Beg.

No. 14.

Major Carnac's Letter to Select Committee, 13 April, 1761.

Gentlemen,

The Shahzadah does not think the assurances of your support and affiance so strong as to justify his waiting so many months for the fulfilling thereof; nor has he (he observes) a sufficiency for the subsistence of his people and himself in the interim; he therefore judges it most advisable to take the advantage of Abdallah's absence, and try his fortune alone: I kept him off from this design several days; but the Nabob has at last so effectually countered me, by bribing some of the prince's favourites to urge to him the necessity of his immediate departure, that this counsel has prevailed; he quitte the city in the morning, and is now arrived at his tents; I imagine he will be for marching as speedily as possible. And as I have premised to accompany him as far at least as the Caraminaff, I have ordered half of Major Yorke's detachment to join us, leaving the rest under the command of Captain Robinson to attend the Nabob, agreeable to his request.

I have long had reason to suspect the Nabob had ill designs against Ramnarrain, and have now found my suspicions to be too true. His excellency made a heavy complaint to me yesterday, in the presence of Mr. Mc'Gwires, Major Yorke, Meftis, Lonthing and Swinton, that there was a considerable balance due on the revenues of the said province; Ramnarrain has declared to me, that he was very ready to lay the accounts before him; however, as the two parties differ widely in their statement, Mr. Mc'Gwirle and I proposed that they should each make out their accounts, and refer them to your board, who would fairly decide between them: This, which I thought was a reasonable proposal, was so far from being satisfactory to the Nabob, that he plainly declared nothing less could satisfy him than the Mahrusa's being removed from the Naibat of this province before he returned to Moofhledabab. You are all I believe acquainted, Gentlemen, that Colonel Clive engaged to Ramnarrain, on the part of the English, that he should be continued Subah
APPENDIX, No. 15, 16.

Subah Naib of this province as long as he chose to be so; and that the Colonel constantly opposed every attempt of Meer Jaffer, or the Chota Nabob to remove him. This engagement should surely hold equally good against Coffin Ally Cawn, as being prior to any you have concluded with him. Thus far justice pleads in behalf of Ramnarrain, and it is certainly good policy to support the weight and influence of a person known to be so attached to the English interest, in order to counterbalance the Nabob, who, as far as I can judge, makes a point to take all power from out of the hands of those whom he finds to favour or be favoured by the English. Of this I have seen more instances than one; and he is now giving a fresh proof of it in the case of Roy Shinaroy, whom he is about to dispossess of his jacquets, though he deserves particular consideration, both from the Nabob and us, on account of the zeal and fidelity with which he served both, in the transactions with the Shahzadah.

I am directed, gentlemen, by your letter under date the 9th of February, to protect Ramnarrain against all violence and injustice that may be offered against his person, honour, or fortune. If you do not mean to include in these the continuance of the Subahdarree to him, it will be impossible for me to comply with your directions; and the moment that all power is taken from himself, he will be reduced to the necessity of seeking an asylum elsewhere, from the opressions of the Nabob.

Signed

John Carnac.

No. 15.

'Major Carnac's Letter to Governor and Council of Fort William.'

Gentlemen,

I received a letter last night of a very extraordinary nature indeed, from Rajabullub, inclosed under cover to Mr. Lulhington: The purport of his letter to me, was to beg I would assist him with my interest to procure him the Naibat of this province in the room of Ramnarrain; and his letter to Mr. Lulhington was to engage him to intercede with me to that purpose—with the letters were two promissory notes under his seal, one for fifty thousand rupees to myself, the other for twenty-two thousand rupees to Mr. Lulhington. We have both wrote to him in the terms his insolence deserves, and it gives me the utmost concern to find, that any man of the country should dare entertain the thought, that an Englishman was to be influenced by a bribe.—You have not been pleased, Gentlemen, to allow me to have any thing to say or do with regard to Ramnarrain; but if it depended on me, I declare no consideration whatever should induce me to give my consent to removing a man, whom we are bound to maintain by engagements prior to, and confenquently more obligatory than, any we have since entered into with Coffin Ally Cawn. I have had hints before, with regard to this unfortunate Gentoo, to which if I would have listened, I might probably have turned my campaign to pretty good account; but indifferent as my circumstances are, I thank God I scorn enlarging them by any means that would not stand the most public inspection.

I have thought it my duty, Gentlemen, to acquaint you with this affair; and now submit it to your consideration, whether any good can be expected from a government, the head whereof has been detected in a most infamous forgery, and whose present principal favourite is capable of offering so barefaced a bribe.

Signed

John Carnac.

Safaram, 16 June, 1761.

No. 16.

President's Minute.

20th of July, 1761.

The president observes, that as Major Carnac has nothing to do but to obey the orders of the board, and has no right to question or dispute upon them, his letter of the 7th instant will require no Anwer.

It seems however by the tenor of many of the Major's letters, and this in particular, that he thinks himself the higher power, and the board accountable to him; upon this principle, after quoting the former orders of the select Committee in favour of Ramnarrain, dated the 6th February and 21st April, he proceeds to demand, Pray how are these reconcileable to the instructions addressed the 20th June to Mr. McGwire?

Although
APPENDIX, No. 16.

Although the board might do themselves justice upon an officer who thus forges the records due to them, yet we advise other to refer it to the determination of our honourable masters, to whom it shall at the same time be made appear, that those orders in Ramnarrain's favour, are now the strongest judgments that can be produced against him, as they are incontrovertible proofs of our desire to protect him, although the engagements which have been so much talked of are no where to be met with:—It shall be proved also, that those who profess the greatest friendship for Ramnarrain, and who have permitted if not encouraged him in retreating or evading for five months together to render any account of his administration, are in effect his greatest enemies, by putting it out of our power to protect him longer in so shameful an injustice, in which he has already been upheld until he had well near carried his point, that of bringing the Nabob to ruin by a disgraceful residence at Patna at an inmoderate expense, without any income from the province:—This it is imagined will hardly be said to be the intent of the supposed engagements; and therefore if any have made Ramnarrain believe the meaning of them would be far too stretched, it is they that are the cause of his tears, and it is they that must answer for his unhappy death, if he should destroy himself, as Major Carnac seems to apprehend:—It is however more probable that he will not prove quite so desperate; and that when he is convinced he is not independent of the Souba of Moorshedabad, he will do what he ought to have done five months ago, that is, render to the Nabob an account of his administration; and in such case he will be treated better than he pretend to expect, better a great deal than he deserves.

He has yet hopes that Major Carnac may keep the command of the army: A delay of twenty days, and Colonel Coote's coming down to Calcutta, might produce fresh orders: A man of Ramnarrain's disposition will construe such a possibility into a certainty, and while he can hope for such a protector at the head of our army, he will continue to think he has a right to an unlimited protection, and continue to evade rendering the Nabob any accounts.

Major Carnac declares himself very freely on this occasion, and gives at the same time a fresh instance of the respect he has for our authority—This passage of his letter of the 7th instant is worthy the observation of the board, as well as of our honourable masters, who seldom write to their prefridents and councils with so great an air of superiority:

"I assure myself extremely happy in being removed from the command of the army, "as I could not have suffered it, while I was at the head thereof, to be employed "on the purposes for which I find it is intended, without a direct breach of the declaration I have formerly made to you in regard to Ramnarrain."

If more instances of a like nature are wanting, they may be seen in many of the major's letters, particularly in one to the seft Committee, dated the 16th June 1761:

—His own opinion and declaration shall be the rule of his actions, and shall supersede the orders of the board:—If our declarations had merited a part of his attention, Ramnarrain would not have been deceived so long:—The repeated orders of the seft Committee for obliging him to settle accounts with the Nabob, he said, that it was never our intention to screen him from that just demand: The fulness of those orders was in a letter to the major so long ago as the . It is true we did not fix a day for Ramnarrain's rendering his accounts, which is a proof of the regard the board have shown him, and of the moderation with which they have acted throughout the whole affair.

We are after week we expected to hear that the accounts had been laid before the Nabob; instead of that, execute came upon execute. At length on the 17th of May we sent the colonel particular directions in what manner to have the account settled; That Ramnarrain should be regarded as the deputy of the government of Moorshedabad, that he should give the Nabob a faithful account of the outstanding balances, and the Nabob send his own people to collect them:—Who could have imagined, that after this, fresh evasions would be admitted for two months more, notwithstanding the Nabob's intrigues and representations of the ruin in which he must soon be involved by his useless expenses?

The president wrote more than once to Ramnarrain, in consequence of the resolutions of the seft Committee, that our protection would depend on his rendering a just account to the Nabob; but he is lately advised by Mr. McGwire, that Ramnarrain, instead of collecting the revenues in a regular manner, has taken or rather accepted from the Zemindars large sums by way of presents, which not being brought to account make their balances appear much larger than they really are, and his own as much less:—An unwillingness to confess this fraudulent attempt seems to be the true cause of his seeming so many frills and evasions.

Much more will be said on this subject hereafter, in order to prove to our honourable masters, that the resolutions lately taken by the board (or as Major Carnac politely expresses it, the business that is likely to be carried on) were absolutely necessary for preserving the present tranquillity, for maintaining the constitution of the government of these provinces, and fulfilling on our part the treaty subsisting between the Company and the Nabob, as he has so faithfully done on his.

RAMNARRAIN's
RAMNARRAIN's computed ACCOUNT of Three Years Government of the PATNA PROVINCE, conformable to his Agreement.

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<th>Dr.</th>
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<td>To the Bengal Subah each Year Three Lacks</td>
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<td>By supposed produce of the Province of Patna each Year 40 Lacks</td>
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<td>To Ditto for Moratta Chout or Dillie</td>
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No. 17.

To the Honourable Henry Fansittart, Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council of Fort William,

Honourable Sirs and Sirs,

We have received your honour, &c. council's favours of the 4th instant, inclosing list of goods to be provided at this factory, which we shall endeavour to comply with as nearly as possible.

We must beg leave to observe to your honour, &c. that, within these few days, every boat which we have sent out of the river, hath been stopped at the different Chowkeys. Nowithstanding they have the Chief's Duffuck, our Gomansahs and people are confined, and used ill, and a very exorbitant duty demanded, and our servants in general greatly insulted all over the country. Upon our sending to some of these places, to inquire the reason of this extraordinary behaviour, answer was given, That they had orders from the Nabob to stop and levy duties from every English boat that passed, and on no account to let them go free, as the English Duffuck was now of no consequence in the country; and for this purpose the force at every Chowkey is augmented. This has occasioned an entire stoppage to our trade, greatly to the detriment of our private fortunes, as we have now large quantities of goods detained at the different Chowkeys, which we cannot get relieved, unless we submit to pay the extravagant custom they require; and, were we to do that, our boats are liable to be stopped at the very next Chowkey, and the same duty again demanded. Of these circumstances we think it necessary to inform your honour, &c. and hope speedy measures will be taken to procure us redress.

We are under daily apprehensions, that a custom will be demanded on our cloth purchases, which must be of great prejudice to our honourable employers.

We are, with great Respect, Honourable Sirs, and Sirs,

Your most obedient humble Servants,

Lucknow, October 4th, 1762.

Wm. Billers.
Sam. Middleton.

No. 18.
APPENDIX. No. 13, 19, 20, 21, 22.

No. 18, 19.

To the Honourable Henry Vansittart Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

To prevent any blame being thrown hereafter on us, for the deficiency of our investment, we are now to inform you, That at Johannahbad, the principal cloth auring, our Gomattahs, Delols, &c. have been peremptorily ordered to defect from purchasing, and to quit the place. Upon their noncompliance, they have been threatened and abused in the most vile and gross terms, and the wathermen employed in whitening our cloths have been actually beat, and poons put on them to prevent their going on in their business.

Rajah Nabut Roy (to whom the Chief has twice complained of their proceedings) declares, that the person (Peru Roy) who thus insults us, and impedes the Company's business, is independent of him, so that it would seem he is act by the Nabob merely for this purpose.

If such violence is suffered to pass unnoticed, we can have no hopes of compleating our investment; for who will serve us, whilst they thereby subject themselves to such severe and ignominious treatment from the Country Government.

For the carrying on the Company's business 'tis evident, we must be obliged to repel force by force, and shall do so, unless we receive your honour, &c. orders to the contrary.

We are, Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Your most obedient humble Servants,

W. Ellis.

Patna, the 7th October, 1762.

No. 20, 21.

To the Honourable Henry Vansittart, Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council of Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

We think it our duty to inform you, that the outrages committed in these parts by the Government people, for this month past, have arrived to such a height, as to put almost a total stop to our business. At every Chowkey our boats are stoped, the people insulted, and the flag used with the utmost and most gross contempt. Our advices from Syblet give us the same intelligence; further adding, that Muchulows have been taken from many inhabitants, prohibiting them, on no account to have any connections with the English. At this spirit of violence increases to a very surprising degree, and we have daily the mortification to hear of repeated insults and violence offered to our privileges, we are under an apprehension, that the Company's business will, in a few days, share the same fate as all private has. To prevent and remedy these evils, we must depend on the measures you honour, &c. council may take in consequence of this information.

As appearances are so very unpromising, we have wrote to the gentlemen of Chittagong for a reinforcement of a company of Scapoy's, which shall be again returned them, when affairs begin to clear up.

We are, with respect, Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Your most obedient Servants,

Dacca, the 8th October, 1762.

J. Cartier, ThoMAs French.

P. S. Since concluding this letter, I am informed, that eight boats loaded with the Company's chunam, with my duftrak, are stopped at a place called Jafferwever, near Rutnagunge, and the Buxaries on the same are plundered and ill used. The Manjas of the boats are returned from that place, and gave me this intelligence.

John Cartier.

No. 22.

From the Governor and Council, to William Ellis, Esquire, Chief at Patna.

Sir,

We have received your letter of the 7th; and inclose a letter from the President to the Nabob, on the subject of your complaint, and hope it will be effectual in removing all interruption in the Company's business. — But, at all events, as we have it sufficiently in our power to procure satisfaction for any injury that may be done to the interests of our employers, you are on no account to make use of force, without our express directions.
APPENDIX, No. 23, 24.

You do not mention, in your letter, that you made any application to the Nabob to put a stop to the difficulties you represent, and which certainly you ought to have done, when you was informed, that the person you complain of was independant of the Nabob of Patna; at least, it should have occurred to you, that such application was necessary, before you should propose to make use of force.

Fort William
16th October, 1762.

We are, Sir,
Your most obedient Servants.

No. 23.

To John Carter, Esquire, Chief, &c. Council at Dacca.

Gentlemen,

We have received your letters of the 2d and 8th instant.

In answer to your last letter, relative to the dispute between your Gomaftahs and the government people, we must needs say, that by the information we receive from the included copies of letters delivered in by the president, there is reason to fear your Gomaftahs and agents have made use of very unwarrantable practices in their trade, and perhaps your disputes with the government's people, and the interruptions you complain of, have been owing to that cause; but as we are always able and willing, when the necessity of circumstances may require it, to procure your redress for any injuries you may suffer in your trade, or otherwise, we direct that you forbear, in such cases, making use of force without our permission and orders; and therefore desire you will return to Chittagong immediately the company of Seapows which you've wrote for from thence; and if any complaints of interruptions in your business are hereafter made by your Gomaftahs, let Mr. Carter tend a person to enquire into the truth of the affair, with a letter to the proper officer of the government, to desire that he will put a stop to such obstructions.

Included are letters from the president to Jefrat Cawn, the Nabob, and Mahomed Ali, the collector of the revenues, which, we hope, will prevent any further disorders, at least until the president can make the necessary regulations in concert with the Nabob.

The above-mentioned copies of letters we have forwarded to you for your information and reply, in case there should be any facts in them misrepresented. And we desire you will find, on your part, a particular state of your complaints to the president, who will take the proper measures to obtain satisfaction and indemnification for all losses and damages. You will likewise take effectual care, that none of your Gomaftahs or agents do in future use any kind of force or authority in carrying on your trade, left the disputes occasioned by such practices should in the end affect the Company's business.—Neither must your Gomaftahs be suffered to set themselves up as magistrates in the country, in hearing disputes between the inhabitants, imposing fines, &c. &c.

The Court of Directors have this year sent out a gentleman, named Mr. Dalaporte, to assist in regulating and improving their cloth investment; and he having declared to us at the board, that he thinks he can be of the greatest use at your factory, in hearing and packing the variety of muslins and doreas, we have directed him to proceed thither accordingly with all convenient expedition. And we desire you will give to each other such mutual advice and assistance, as may most tend to the benefit of our honourable employers.

It may be proper to remind you, that the time limited for Mr. Chevalier's coming to Calcutta is expired.

Fort William,
18th October, 1762.

We are, Gentlemen, your most obedient Servants.

No. 24.

To William Billiers, Esquire, Chief, and Mr. Samuel Middleton, at Lucknow.

Gentlemen,

As we learn by our letters from the gentlemen at Dacca, that many disputes have lately happened between their Gomaftahs and the government's people in the course of their trade, we have thought it necessary to lay the following down as a standing rule, which you will please to observe, in case any disputes of the like nature should occur with you.

If any complaints of interruptions in your business are hereafter made by your Gomaftahs, let Mr. Billiers send a person to enquire into the truth of the affair, with a letter to the proper officer of the government, to desire he will put a stop to such obstructions: we are hopeful this will have the desired effect, at least until the president can make the necessary resolutions in concert with the Nabob; and in the mean time you are not, and likewise take effectual
care that none of your Gomaftahas or agents do in future use any kind of force or authority in carrying on your trade, lest the disputes occasioned by such practices should in the end affect the Company’s business: neither must your Gomaftaha be suffered to let themselves up as magistrates in the country in hearing disputes between the inhabitants, imposing fines, &c. &c.

Fort William,
28th October 1762.

We are Gentlemen,
Your most obedient Servants.

No. 25.

To William Billers, Esquire, Chief, and Mr. Samuel Middleton, at Luckypore.

Gentlemen,

We have received your letter of the 14th instant.

In answer to which we must refer you to ours of the 18th, for directions how to regulate yourselves regarding the obstructions you complain of—till such a time as the president can arrive with the Nabob, and enquire into the cause of these interruptions, and settle a solid plan for the future safety and freedom of our trade.

In the mean time, as Mr. Billers has acquainted the president that you have always paid the Shabunder duties, but that now fresh customs are demanded, we desire to know what the amount of the Shabunder duties are, and the particulars of these fresh customs which are now levied, that the president may guide himself thereby in settling with the Nabob.

Fort William,
26th October, 1762.

We are, Gentlemen,
Your most obedient Servants.

No. 26.

Translation of a letter from the Nabob to the Governor, dated 12th Reboo d’Sannett (5th November) received 8th November 1762.

I have received with great pleasure, your friendly letter. You write that you learn from Mr. Ellis, the chief of the factory at Patna, that cloths have been provided for many years at the Aurung of Ichanabad, for the Company; now Perva Roiy, the Aumil of that place, obstructs the weavers in providing the cloths; and whenever they are made hinder the washermen from dressing and washing them, to the great prejudice of the Company’s Gomaftahas, and to affit them on every occasion.—Sir, wherever that Gentleman has an opportunity, he fails not to make complaints of his buffets. As he has found my officers in no infance faulty, he has wrote to you the impertinencies and complaints of the washermen: You well know, Sir, that the washermen pay no duties, and that the Aumils have no authority to interrupt them, or prevent their washing and dressing the cloths; Was this affair really true, he would have informed Rajah Nobitroy of it, and he would immediately have wrote to the Aumil about it; but as it is altogether without foundation, he chose to make a false complaint to you. Do you yourself, Sir, consider this affair: Nevertheless I have sent fresh orders to the Rajah, to write to the Aumil, that he on no account obstruct the currency of the Company’s business; and that on application from the Gomaftahas of the factory, he afford them due aid and assistance.

No. 27.

To Peter Amyatt, Esquire, and the rest of the Gentlemen of the Council at Fort William.

Gentlemen,

I find that the Interruptions the Gentlemen at Chittagong, Dacca, and Luckypore, have met with for some weeks past are owing to the bad disposition of Mahomid Aly, the person last appointed by the Nabob to collect the rents of that part of the country. Syed Mahomed Cawn, the Deputy Governor of Muxadalabad, expresses as much resentment against that man as we do ourselves, and assures me that he has represented him in such a light to the Nabob, that he is persuaded he will immediately be dismissed from his office: this is a point I shall urge to the Nabob, if it is not done before I arrive at Mangein; and further that he be punished for his insolence, and obliged to make satisfaction for all losses which may have been incurred by the delays he has occasioned. In the mean time I have the honour to transmit you your order from Syed Mahomed Cawn to the said collector, warning him of the
APPENDIX, No. 28, 29,

had consequences of his present conduct, and charging him not to obstruct the business of
our factories; I fend likewise one from myself. These, forwarded to the respective factories,
will, I hope, remove all obstructions; and on the other hand, Syed Mahomed Cawn de
fines that our Gentlemen will take all possible care to prevent their Gomaffahs and Agents from
interfering in the business of the government, or using force in buying or selling.

I have not yet the Nabob's answer concerning the disputes between the uncle and nephew
for the Zemindary of Baboo forehead. As soon as I receive it I shall forward it to you, that you
may give the necessary directions to the Chief, &c. at Luckpore.

The answer I have received from the Nabob to Mr. Ellis's complaint I now inclose with a
translation. I think it would be proper to fend a copy to that gentleman, with directions
to apply to the Naib at Patna, if in future he should meet with any interruptions in his busi
ness: and if the Naib either refuses, or has not authority to remove them, then to apply to
the Nabob himself, from whom if he does not obtain such redress and affidence as the case
may require, then to make his representation to the board with copies of his letters to the
government, and the answers received; by this we shall be saved the trouble of hearing
complaints, except in cases where our interposition becomes really necessary.

I shall set out from hence for Monger the 11th.

I have the Honour to be, with great Esteem,

Coffimbuzar,

the 9th November 1762.

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient, and most

Henry Vansittart.

No. 28.

From the Governor and Council, to John Carter, Esquire, Chief, &c. Council at Dacca.

Gentlemen,

WE have just received a letter from the president at Coffimbuzar, acquainting us that he
understands, from the conversation he has had with Syed Mahomed Khan, that the terri
ruptions to the business at your factory, and those of Luckpore and Chittagong, have been
owing entirely to the bad disposition of Mahomed Aly; therefore the president affurses, that
dismissal from his employ is a point he shall urge to the Nabob whenever he arrives at Mong
er; and further intills that he be punished for his insolence, and obliged to make satisfaction
for all losses which may have been incurred by the delays he has occasioned.

In the mean time the president has transmitted us four orders from Syed Mahomed Khan,
and one from himself to the said Mahomed Aly, warning him of the bad consequences of his
present conduct, and charging him not to obstruct the business of our factories: The same we
now forward you, inclosed to deliver to the collector, and hope they will have the effect of
removing all obstructions.

You will please immediately to advise the gentlemen at Luckpore and Chittagong of
the receipt and tenor of these orders; and again, when you are sensible of the effect they
may have on Mahomed Aly's conduct, of which you will likewise please to advise us.

Fort William,

11th November 1762.

We are, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient Servants.

No. 29.

To Peter Amyatt, Esquire, and the rest of the Gentlemen of the Council at Fort William.

Gentlemen,

I arrived yesterday at the quarters prepared for me by the Nabob, about two miles from the
fort of Monger; his uncle, Terab Aly Cawn, met me at Goorguty, and the Nabob himself about four miles from the fort. This morning I went with Mr. Hastings, and all
the rest of the gentlemen, to the fort to return his visit.

I have been favoured with your letter of the 15th of November: I have not as yet entered
upon any business with the Nabob, but I perceive he has many complaints to make against the
Company's dependents in different parts of the country, as we have against his: I have, how
ever, found him in the disposition I wished and expected, very deferous of having our respective
pretensions equitably discussed, and such regulations made as may prevent, as far as possible,
any disputes between our people and his in future. He is as sensible as we are, that in so extensive a connection, complaints will frequently be received on both sides, but he looks upon such accidents as too trivial to affect the friendship between him and the Company; and desires only, that on all such occasions time may be taken to make a calm and dispassionate enquiry; premising, on his part, to punish with severity any of his people who shall be found guilty of opprobrium, or want of respect towards the Company's dependants; and expecting the same justice from us.

I shall proceed with Mr. Hassings's assistance and concurrence, in such inquiries as shall be necessary on the subject of the complaints now in question; and in establishing such rules between the Nabob and us as may prevent them for the future.

Mungeer, the
1st December, 1762.

I am, with Esteem, Gentlemen.

Your most obedient humble Servant,

HENRY VANSITTART.

No. 30. and 31.

To Peter Amyatt, Esquire, and the rest of the Gentlemen of the Council at Fort William.

Gentlemen,

INCLUDED I find for your perusal two Persian letters, delivered to me by the Nabob, with their translations.

One from Mr. Cartier to Mahomed Aly, the collector of the Dacca districts, which, if I understand it right (for the expressions are rather obscure) is wrote in a very improper style, as it tends to encourage and promote that evil which we have taken so much pains to remedy; I mean a jealousy and distrust between us and the Nabob: I request you will be pleased to call on Mr. Cartier for an explanation of his meaning, and give him such a caution on the occasion as to you shall seem necessary.

The other, from Messrs. Johnston, Hay, and Bolts, to Shyr Aly Cawn, Foudedar of Purna, indorsed by Mr. Bolts in English, and written, I imagine, by him, in the name of the partnership. Whoever reads this letter must naturally conclude no other Government subsisted among us; since it was left to Mr. Bolts to assert the privileges of the Firmnain, and vindicate the name of the English, the freedom of the Company's Duffuck: Such notions propagated in the country must needs be prejudicial to the Company's affairs, by weakening their Government; and it is for this reason the Company have forbid letters to be written to the country Government by any person, excepting the president, or with his approbation. I never refused to apply for redress for any grievance that the Gentlemen in the service, and all other inhabitants of the settlement have applied to me about, and in case of my illness or absence Mr. Amyatt was ready to give them the same assistance: I must therefore recommend to you to inflict such censure or punishment on Mr. Bolts as shall seem to you necessary for preventing such irregularities in future: I could with alio that it were made a rule for the chiefs of the subordinate factories, and all others, when they write letters to the country Government, to sign them, that in case of their being produced afterwards they may be known to be authentic.

I have the pleasure to acquaint you, that, to this time there is no appearance of the tranquillity of these provinces being disturbed by any enemies: Shaw Allum and Shujah Dowla remain near Correginabad, and seem to have nothing in view but maintaining the possession of those conquests they have made last year upon the Marattas near the banks of the Jurrana. The Rohellas, Tants, and other Chiefs about Delly, divided as they are upon other points, agree in opposing Shujah Dowla, which, no doubt is the reason he does not attempt to advance further towards the capital, and which occasioned him to apply to the Nabob and ask for an assistance of forces. The Nabob does not judge it advisable to comply with this application, nor in any manner to engage in the contest, which he says would be attended with a great expense and a risk of involving himself in trouble. I think this advice is also most suitable to the circumstances of the Company's affairs: Our chief object should be to preserve what we now hold in tranquillity; and indeed the continual reduction of our forces, by casualties, without any recruits, puts it out of our power to spare any considerable detachment. The Nabob keeps about four thousand horses in the Bangore country to guard that frontier, and intends, about a month hence, to march to Beteta to compleat the regulation of that district, and with some view to the reduction of the adjoining province of Napante.

I shall wait here till Major Adams's arrival, in order to introduce him to the Nabob; after which I purpose to visit the Pulha factory, and then return to Calcutta.

Mungeer,
15th Dec. 1762.

I am, with esteem, Gentlemen,

Your most humble Servant,

HENRY VANSITTART.

No. 32.
Appendix, No. 32.

To Peter Amyatt, Esquire, and the rest of the Gentlemen of the Council of Fort William.

Gentlemen,

We have had many conferences with the Nabob, on the subject of the late complaints which appear to have been chiefly occasioned by the private inland trade, or the trade from place to place, in the country. He enlarged much on the licentiousness and opprobriations exercised by our Gomasts, especially in those distant parts of the province where his government is less established, and too remote for our enquiries into their behaviour. He argued, that the trade of those parts confided chiefly in articles produced and sold in the country, from which former Nabobs had always restrained all Europeans, and to which he did not conceive that we would claim any right for our Firmans.

We agree with the Nabob in opinion, that the true intent and natural meaning of the Firmans granted to the Company was to give to them and their servants a free trade, clear of all customs, in all articles of commerce to be imported or exported by shipping; from such commerce a mutual benefit is derived to our country and to this; but the trade from place to place in the country, in salt, beetle-nut, tobacco, and other commodities produced here, bringing no general benefit to the country, but to particular only, who had the fame in their hands, we do not think the Firmans can be underfoot to include them within the privilege of the Duftuck, or to grant us a right to trade therein, on any other footing than the natives themselves; that is, paying the usual customs to the government; for if we had a right therein to trade custom-free, and the natives must pay, it follows, no one but ourselves could carry on any trade, which we cannot suppose the Firmans intended.

It is fact that the Nabobs of those provinces did formerly restrain the Europeans from carrying on this trade upon any footing, and by moving out the several articles to particular merchants, draw to themselves a considerable revenue.

After the defeat and death of Seraj Dowlah, and the establishment of Jaffer Aly Cava in the Subahship, by the affinities of the English, we began to take a share of this trade, which hitherto has been from day to day increasing. It has, however, always been a subject of dispute with the country government, our right never having been admitted by them, nor regularly claimed and established by us; and the government's duties have generally been paid.

But not content with this, the English Gomasts, in different parts, have lately begun to insist upon this trade as a Firmans privilege, equally with the foreign trade, and refused to pay any customs: The government's people, on their part, demanded the customs, and upon the refusal stopped the goods; and this contest has been the occasion of many of the complaints received by us and by the Nabob.

As on one hand, we do not see any reason why the English gentlemen, and other inhabitants of Calcutta and the subordinate factories, should carry on the inland trade with the Company's Duftuck, or in any respect more advantageously than the country merchants, so, on the other hand, we think it would be a great hardship, if we and all belonging to us were not admitted upon an equality with the merchants and inhabitants of other parts of Bengal, and suffered to trade on equal terms in all commodities, and in all places, provided our agents and Gomasts do not set up for magistrates in the country, and carry on their businesses by force and oppression; practices of this sort in many of the English agents and Gomasts, and an abuse on the part of the Nabob's officers, of the power put into their hands for the restraint of such practices, have been further causes of the many complaints lately received.

In these sentiments, the regulations we have proposed to the Nabob for fixing the manner of carrying on this trade in future, and preventing any disputes between his officers and our agents and Gomasts, are as follows:

1. That for all trade imported or exported by shipping, the Company's Duftuck shall be granted; and it shall pass unmodified and free of custom as usual.
2. For all trade from one place to another, in commodities produced in the country, as salt, beetle-nut, tobacco, &c., the Company's Duftuck shall not be granted, but it shall go with the Duftuck of the Bucknabur, or other officer of the country government.
3. That at the Time of taking out the said Duftuck, and before the dispatch of the goods, the duties shall be paid according to the rates, which shall be particularly settled and annexed to this agreement.
4. That the said duties so to be paid before exportation shall be the whole that are to be paid; so that after the dispatch of the goods nothing shall be paid at any Chokies in the road, nor at the place of sale.
5. Thus all goods being furnished, either with the Company's Duftuck, or that of the government, shall meet with no obstruction or delay.—The guards and Chokies in the road shall have nothing more to do than demand a sight of the Duftuck, unless they shall observe the

boats
boats to be laden with a larger quantity of goods than are mentioned in the Dufuck, or with other sorts of goods than those mentioned in the Dufuck; in which case they are to give immediate notice to the nearest English factory, as well as to the nearest officer of the Government, that orders may be sent to have a strict examination, but they are not to detain them in the road.

6 If any one should attempt to pass goods without a Dufuck, either from the government or the Company, or shall clandestinely procure a Company’s Dufuck, to pass falt, beeffeat, tobacco, or other produce of the country, from place to place for inland trade, such goods shall be seized and confiscated; the guards and Chokies in the road are to stop them, and give notice to the nearest English factory, as well as to the nearest officer of the government.

7. If any person, not having a Duftuck, shall attempt to pass boats or goods clandestinely, under the cover of, and in company with other boats or goods, having a Duftuck, such boats or goods so attempted to be passed clandestinely shall be seized and confiscated.

8. The Gomaffahs in every place shall carry on their trade freely, and as merchants, and shall on no account use force in buying or selling: If any dispute arises in the course of their business, they shall not attempt to redress themselves, but shall make their complaints to the Fozedar, or other officer of the government, and have the matter tried before him; in like manner, if any merchant or inhabitant shall be aggrieved by an English Gomaffah, he shall make his complaint to the Fozedar, or other officer of the government; and the Gomaffah being duly summoned, shall appear before him to answer the charge, and have the matter determined.

9. To deter the Fozedar and the officers of the government from being guilty of any partiality, they shall be enjoined to transmit to the Nabob copies of their proceedings upon all trials where English agents or Gomaffahs are concerned, and likewise to give a copy to the agent or Gomaffah, who, if he thinks himself aggrieved, may send the same to his principal, and he may make his complaint to the president, who, if the case requires it, will apply to the Nabob for redress; and when any Fozedar, or other officer of the government, shall prove guilty of such partiality, the Nabob shall punish him in the most exemplary manner.

We think it would be unreasonable to desire to carry on the inland trade upon any other footing than that of the merchants of the country; and that the attempt to carry it on free of customs, and with the Company’s Dufuck, would bring upon us an universal jealousy and ill will, and in the end prejudice the Company’s affairs as well as our own.—In the course of our conferences upon this subject, the Nabob observed, that if the English Gomaffahs were permitted to trade in all parts and in all commodities, free of duty, as many of them now pretend, they must of course draw all the trade into their hands, and his customs would be of so little value to him, that it would be much more for his interest to lay trade entirely open, and collect no customs from any person whatever upon any kind of merchandise; which would draw a number of merchants into his country, and increase his revenues, by encouraging the cultivation and manufacture of a larger quantity of goods for sale; at the same time that (he added) it would undeniably cut off the principal subject of disputes which had disturbed the good understanding between us; an object he had more than any other at heart. This scheme we discouraged all in our power, as it would immediately render the Dufuck useless, and prejudice our honourable matters by interference of the number of purchasers; and it is an argument why we ought readily to consent to the regulation now proposed, not to risk hurting the Company’s interest for our own private advantage.

The Nabob desires that our orders may be repeated, That none of the Company’s servants, agents, Gomaffahs, or other persons employed by them, shall be permitted to hold offices under the government, nor to purchase, rent or hold, lands, houses, or markets, nor to lend money to the Zemindars or collectors; as all these are sources of dispute between the Company’s people and the governments.

We have sent to Mr. Helas the Nabob’s orders for the free purchase of timber wanted for the new Fort; and the Nabob has expressed to Shyry Aly, the Fozedar of that district, his highest displeasure at the obstructions he before laid in his way, and the ill treatment which the English Gomaffahs in general complained of from him.

Included we send the Nabob’s orders to Mahomed Aly, the collector of the Dacca districts, enjoining him to release all boats that may be stopped by him, or any other person under his jurisdiction; to demand for customs nothing more than has hitherto been paid upon the inland trade of those parts; and to refund all that may have been extorted beyond that; likewise another order to the same person, requiring him to transmit a more circumstantial account of the dispute between the uncle and the nephew, about the Zemindary of Baboopor, and how it happened that three or four of our Seapois were killed there; but as both in this affair and that of Tungapore, dependant on Furne, were some of Mr. Gray’s Gomaffahs was killed, a severe example seems highly necessary, we have agreed with the Nabob to send a peron on our part along with one of his, to enquire upon the spot, and bring a full and impartial
impartial account of each of those events; and the Nabob has promised to punish his people with the utmost severity if they prove to be as guilty as they now appear. Mr. Haftings will go to Tang culto to finish that enquiry; and we desire you will direct Mr. Billers to produce the necessary proofs to the person who may be appointed by the Nabob to enquire concerning the other affairs.

Monger, 15th December, 1762.

We are, with esteem, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble servants.

Henry Vanfittart, Warren Haftings.

No. 33.

Translation of a letter from Missiiffy Johnstone, Hay, and Bolts, to Meer Sheer Ally Qawum, the Founder of Purnea, recorded on Fort William consultations. December 27th 1762.

O u r Gomafth Ramchurn-Dafs, being gone into those parts, meets with obstructions from you in whatever business he undertakes; moreover, you have published a prohibition to this effect, That whoever shall have any dealing with the English, you will seize his house, and lay a fine upon him. In this manner have you prohibited the people under your jurisdiction. We were surprized at hearing of this affair; because that the Royal Firman, which the English nation is possessed of, is violated by this proceeding; but the English will by no means suffer with patience their Firman to be broken through: we therefore expect that upon the receipt of this letter, you will take off the order you have given to the Ryots; and in case of your not doing it, we will certainly write to the Nabob, in the name of the English, and lend for such an order from him that you shall restore, fully and entirely, whatever lofts the English have sustained, or shall sustain, by this obstruction, and that you shall repent having thus interrupted our business, in defiance of the Royal Firman. After reading this letter, we are persuaded you will desist from interrupting it, will act agreeable to the rules of friendship, and so that your amity may appear, and will by no means stop the Company's Duffucks.

No. 34.

Extract of the Nabob's letter to Mohamed Ally, the Naib of Dacca.

The governor writes to me that you interrupt his own Gomafth: notwithstanding in the paper of regulations, there is no distinction of private and public, yet as the governor is my friend, I accordingly write to you, not to impede the Gomafth of his private trade, that may have with him either the governor's or Company's Duffucks.

No. 35.

To Peter Amyatt, Esquire, &c. council of Fort William.

Gentlemen,

We did ourselves the honour to write to you yesterday, and have since been surprized by the receipt of two papers (which came inclosed for your perusal) from the Nabob, and from Mahmoud Ally of this place, who defied to be informed what degree of regard we intend to pay the orders they contained; to which we replied, That we did not dare to acquiesce with the terms of these papers, as the president and council of Calcutta, on whom alone it r e f t to give f u n to such commands, had not thought proper to transmit us any such instructions. We know not in what light you will look on these directions to the Naib of this place, but hope will approve the reply we made, and will pardon us the liberty of addressing a few lines on this subject. The immediate circulation of these articles throughout the country will be attended with very bad consequences to the Company's interest, and must entirely ruin most of us at this place, who on the faith of treaties or public indulgences have large concerns abroad, which never can be collected in, if the privileges, without any previous notice, be snatched from us. The protection of our Gomaltahs and servants from the oppression and jurisdiction of the Zemindars and their Cutcheeries, has ever been found to be a liberty highly essential both to the honour and interests of our nation; and we apprehend the utility of it for carrying on every kind of business, but especially the provision of cloth, is so well known to you, gentlemen, that it is needless for us to add more, as you will at once perceive the numberless vexations and interruptions we shall meet with, if the Zemindars have authority, on every slight dispute, to summon and confine our Gomaltahs whenever they think proper. The injunctions with respect to Duffucks affects every article of commerce, except such as are imported on shipping, Mr. Cartier being enjoined not to give any one for any article that is the produce of Bengal, and to pay a duty of nine per cent. to the Nabob on every merchandise not brought in or sent by sea. This surely cannot be meant, but the
words seem too equivocal, not to make us wish to have your sense of them, on so important a point. A duty once fixed, would scarce be a burden; but if, added to this, we are subject to vexatious applications to the Nabob's officers for Duffucks, it will be a grievance we shall indeed feel. The dignity and benefit of our Duffucks are the chief badges of honour, or at least, the interest we enjoy from our Eminency, and has been held in such esteem, as to secure us our effects from those depredations which the natives suffer, in passing their goods through the country; and if these new duties on all the products of the country are thought just, may not the Nabob be properly secured of them by the Shawbunder's receipts for the customs being always affixed to the back of every Duffuck, previous to its being signed? This will surely ascertain in the most ample form, the duties to the Nabob, and free us from the principal grievance we can feel from their increase. The prohibition with respect to Tofalls is a restraint not even put on the Mogulis and natives; the liberty of creating new ones, so far from being injurious to the Nabob, absolutely enhances his customs, by clearing lands that would otherwise have been uninhabited; and the order to purchase every thing for ready money, amounts nearly to an exclusion from all such branches of trade, as the vendors will then impose on us whatever prices they judge proper.

With respect to Affam, we must beg leave to observe, that the Nabob, or his Phouladar of Rang Mattee, can have no more right to regulate the terms of our commerce with the natives of that country, than with those of China; all the power he exerts over our Commerce is arbitrary and oppressive; and neither justice or ancient customs can warrant such abuses, or regulate his officers in the collecting of taxes. Though the whole direction is now referred to his Dioga Rangamatty, no duties have ever yet been paid on lacks, Muggadooties, and other goods brought from Affam: These goods may surely be esteemed imports when they are brought into Bengal, and may be intituled to our Duffucks.

All our privileges, all our fortunes, and future prospects, depend upon the result of your deliberations on these points: And we hope, let what will be your sentiments, you will be pleased to suspend the execution of them, till our present concerns are collected in with our ancient indulgencies. No treaty of commerce in any country has been carried into execution, or fresh duties levied, without a previous declaration for as long a term as was adequate to the settlement of those concerns that were to be influenced by such new regulations; and we flatter ourselves, that we shall not become objects of unexampled severity on this occasion. The trade of the servants has ever been thought intituled to your protection; and we hope, if particular branches are now to be given up, we shall still be indulged with the influence of your authority and privilege of our Duffucks, till we can finish our present engagements: If you refuse us this request, Gentlemen, you undo us at once, as the publication of these orders from Mungheer, with the flaunt of your authority, will so affect our national credit and influence in the country, as must for ever disable us from collecting in the large sums we have outstanding.

If we have obtruded on the board more than is deemed fit, or presumed in any part of this to advise where obedience was due, we crave your pardon, and shall be ready to pay the utmost respect to any orders transmitted by your board; being with great respect,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servants,

Dacca, 10th January, 1763.

John Cartier,
A. W. Senior,
R. Leicester,
Tho. French.

P. S. We are just now informed, that Mahmud Ally has obliged the different Zemindars (in conformation of these letters from Mungheer) to give Mulkawks to have no further business with the English, or to allow of any to be transacted with them in their different Zemindaries. This, Gentlemen, in all probability, will bring on such a scene of rapine and destruction to our properties, as may reduce us to the same distress as we were brought to in the memorable year fifty-six.

John Cartier,
A. W. Senior,
Tho. French.
To Peter Amyatt, Esquire, and the rest of the Gentlemen of the Council at Fort William.

Gentlemen,

I have been favoured with your letter of the 27th December, with a copy of a letter from the director and Council at Chinsura, on the subject of the disputes between our factory at Patna and theirs, concerning the purchase of opium; also extract of a letter from our chief and council at Coochinbazar, about the difficulty they meet with in exchanging the Calcutta feecas.

I had left Patna before your letter reached me; but as we had before received many complaints from the Dutch about the opium purchases, I made it my business to get all possible information on the subject, during my short stay at that place; particularly as Mr. Tailfort wrote me to request I would endeavour to put an end to those disputes.

It has been frequently urged by the Dutch, that Mr. Ellis took obligations from the merchants and Picars, that they would not, under a penalty, sell opium to any but him; I asked the Dutch chief upon what he grounded this accusation, and whether he had ever seen such an obligation, or even a copy; to which he replied, that he had not, but that he had been so informed by his Agents. The Amuldar of Bahar having made a complaint of the like nature to the Naib, I asked the Amuldar, if he could produce such an obligation, or a copy; he answered, that a merchant of Bahar had made a complaint to him, that the English Gomafthah had extorted a bond from him not to purchase opium (which had been his usual trade) for that he, the English Gomafthah, was to receive the whole from the Picars; that he could therefore not pay the same as before to the government; at the same time producing a paper which he said was a copy of the bond, but did not deliver it to him.—It remained therefore a doubt whether this charge against the English Gomafthah was a fact, or only a pretenct of the merchant to evade paying the duties.—Mr. Ellis assured me, that he had forbid his Agents in the strictest manner from any such practices, and that he would severely punish the Bahar Gomafthah, should the charge against him prove true; and I defined the Naib to send for the merchant and require him to prove what he declared to the Amuldar.

Although I had not time to trace the affair to the bottom, it is very certain that some abuses must have been practised, to the great detriment of this trade, by the persons employed in the provision of opium; for the English factory has provided this season scarce three hundred chests, and the Dutch only one hundred and fifty; whereas the two factories and the French used to purchase without difficulty near three thousand chests.

I conclude this subject with acquainting you, that I made an accommodation between the English and Dutch chiefs, for carrying on their opium purchases for the future, in concert and in the same manner as formerly; by which I hope all disputes will be prevented, and both be provided with larger quantities.

With respect to Mahomed Ally, the Dacca collector, I should not refuse a proposal so reasonable as what the Nabob made; that is, that he should have an opportunity of answering for himself. Inclosed I send you copies of his addresses to the Nabob, on the subject of the complaints against him.

Mirza Ally Reza is appointed Ameen to go and inquire upon the spot; and orders should be sent to the chiefs at Dacca, Chuttigong, and Lucknpore, to produce what proofs they can of the facts complained of to the said Ameen.

I can venture to assure you, the Nabob will not be backward in punishing Mahomed Ally, if he proves guilty. Toorutting, the Amuldar of Tangpeoor, being convicted of killing Mr. Gray's Gomafthah, has received sentence to be hanged at the place where the murder was committed; and Shyr Ally, for endeavouring to screen him, and his ill behaviour to our Gomafthahs in general, will be dismissioned from his government of Purnea.

I observe what you mention concerning the inland trade in your letter to Mr. Hallings and me jointly; the Company's Duftuck never having been granted for those articles of trade by any former governor, neither shall I think myself empowered to grant them without the orders of our honourable masters; and therefore, to prevent our being liable to have our goods kept for duties at many different places, as is the case with the Company's merchants, I wished to have those duties made up in the most reasonable manner into one sum, to be paid at one place, before the dispatch of the goods; after getting what informations we could, I agreed with the Nabob that they should be rated at 9 per cent. upon the purchase price, which being paid before the dispatch of the goods, and the Duftuck of the country government taken, they should be liable to no further demands throughout the three provinces:—You will observe that is less than the Lucknpour Gentlemen in their letter of the 6th November last, mention they have always paid upon falt and tobacco, which are the principal objects of this trade:—In my way down.
I have read with great surprize the minutes of your consultation of the 17th ult. upon Meffrs. Johnstone and Hay's letter of the 14th, and upon the Duffuck letter of the 12th, accompanied with my anlwer to the Nabob upon the subject of the impofed regulations for the private inland trade; I will endeavour to point out the wrong you have done me, and the injustice as well as the indecenc of the reflections with which Meffrs. Johnstone and Hay's faid letter is filled; and I wonder it fhould escape your confcience, much more that they fhould gain upon your approbation.

The honourable the court of directors, as well as their fervants here, have always understood a diftinlion between the trade in articles impofed, and to be exported by fhipping, and the private inland trade; that is, the trade from place to place in the country, in commodities produced and confined in the country; of which salt, beetle-nut, and tobacco are the chief articles. For the former trade the Company's Duffuck has always been granted, but the latter has been carried on with the Duffuck of the country government, and their duties paid; but those duties being different in different places, and even varied at the fame place, according to the difpofition and authority of the Nabob's collector, and the degree with which the English Comiftals could back his refufal, a fixed regulation was thought neceffary, to prevent numberles disputes occasioned by this commerce in different parts of the province. Our honourable masters have expressly ordered in more than one of their letters, that the trade in salt and beetle-nut fhall not be carried on to the prejudice of the revenues of the country government; and yourselves, gentlemen, in your letter of the 15th November, tranffmitted me a list of the Shawbunder duties, paid by the gentlemen at Luckpore upon salt and tobacco, in order to affift me in finally settling these matters with the Nabob upon a folid plan: Can that plan be folid where nothing is fixed; and where the English Comiftals fhall be under no control, but, regarding themselves far above the magnificates of the country where they reflte, take upon themselves to decide not only their own disputes with the merchants and inhabitants, but thofe also of one merchant or inhabitant with another? Or is it poffible the government can collect their due revenues in fuch circumftances?

The plan for carrying on the private inland trade, contained in my letter to the Nabob, is the fame in inftance as the articles which in my joint letter with Mr. Haftings of the 15th December, we mentioned to have propofed to the Nabob. It is fuch a plan as seemed to me to be conformable to the Company's intentions in refpeét to that trade, moft confifent with the true rights and interefts of their fervants here, and with
common reason and equity; and I call on you, gentlemen, in the first place, to prove that I have assumed a right to which I was no ways authorized; that the regulations proposed are dishonourable to you as Englishmen, or tend to the ruin of all public or private trade; which are the terms in which you have been pleased to express your opinion: And in the second place, to form a plan yourselves which shall be more conformable to the good purposes before mentioned; and without regard to which, I am persuaded our honourable masters will not give the sanction of their approbation to this new trade. Form such a plan, gentlemen, and I will subcribe to you with pleasure, and engage the Nabob will do so too.

For my own part, I think that the honour and dignity of our nation would be better maintained by a scrupulous and careful restraint of the Duftuck, than by extending it beyond its usual bounds; and putting our Gomaftahs under some checks, than by suffering them to exercise an authority in the country every one according to the means put into his hands, and thereby bringing an odium upon the name of the English, by repeated violences done by the English.

The Dacca Gentlemen in their letter of the 10th, represent, that they shall suffer greatly if such regulations take place. It is not as to the duty they complain, but the being obliged to apply to the Nabob's officers for Duftucks, and having their Gomaftahs and servants subjected to the jurisdiction of the Zemindars and their Cutcheries. The Gentlemen at Calcutta have never found any difficulty in getting the Houghly Duftuck, for ourark to go up the country; nor have we ever thought it either inconvenient or dishonourable to apply for it to the officers of the government: This is the only article we deal in here that falls under the description of the inland trade: The Dacca Gentlemen either do not or will not understand that description; they say the chief is enjoined by the governor's letter to the Nabob, not to give a Duftuck for any article that is the produce of Bengal, and to pay a duty of 9 per cent. to the Nabob on every merchandise not brought in or sent by sea. The distinction mentioned in my letter to the Nabob is, that all goods imported, or for exportation by shipping, shall go as usual with the Company's Dufuck, and be subject to no kind of demands; and all goods, the produce of this country for inland trade, shall pay duties to the country government, and go with their Dufuck. Now the principal articles of this inland trade are, as I have mentioned in all my letters to the board, salt, beet-le-nut, and tobacco, produced and bought in one part of this country, and sent to other parts of the same country for sale and consumption; articles which before the troubles we were forbid to trade in, but which our influence since has enabled us to deal in, altho' with many objections from the country government, and frequent complaints from the country merchants, who used to live by that trade; however, it has never been regarded as a part of our Firman privilege, and we have been contented to carry it on with the Duftuck of the country government, and paying their duties. The present regulation is intended only to give us a confirmed right to a benefit heretofore always disputed, and upon terms which seem to me very reasonable.

Now as to the Gomaftahs, it is proposed in my letters to the Nabob, that orders shall be given to forbid them injuring the country people or inhabitants, or protecting the dependants and servants of the Sirens; that in case of their having a dispute with, or complaint against, any merchant or inhabitant of the country, they shall lay such dispute or complaint before the officer of the government, to be determined in the proper course of the jurisdiction of the country; and in like manner, if any one should have a dispute with, or complaint against, the Gomaftah, the Gomaftah shall appear before the officer of the government, to have it settled: In both cases, if the Gomaftah thinks himself aggrieved by the decision he may appeal to his employer, and he to the governor at Calcutta. Nothing here is meant to affect or can affect our rights over the weavers, who received advances for the Company's cloth, and who having nothing to do with rents or employments under the country government, are not understood to be their dependants or servants, and therefore may and ought to be protected against any unjust demands of the government's officers, at the discretion of the chief of the factory to which they belong: But it is not to these Gomaftahs so many acts of oppression are charged, their business is plain and simple; they have only to make the usual advances to the weavers, and see that they perform their contracts, and being immediately under the eye of one or other of the factories, they cannot be guilty of great extravagancies; the complaints come from the distant corners of the provinces; as Rumpore, Purnea, Dinagepore, Rangamatty, Gulparah, Silet, Backergunge, &c. where if those complaints are true, the English Gomaftahs being under no control of their masters, despise and ill treat the officers of the government, set themselves up for judges and magistrates, hear disputes between the inhabitants, and extort fines; force the merchants to buy their goods at more than the market price, and to sell what they require as much below it: The complaints I have received of this sort are innumerable; I have done my utmost to find out the truth and get redress, and put an end to them, by forwarding copies to the chief of the factory nearest the place where the cause of complaint has arisen, and deferring him to enquire into it; but for the most part I have got no other satisfaction than
than the Gomafal's flat denial of the facts: the place being very distant, a proper examination of witnesses is almost impossible, either before this board, or any of the subordinates: how then are such disputes to be settled, or the truth discovered? I am far from saying that the method I have proposed is free from objections, because I am sensible that many of the officers of the government will not exercise their authority impartially, and many will gladly take every opportunity of obstructing our Gomafals, and particularly in this commerce; but I cannot think of a better plan; and it is certainly more agreeable to reason, and the practice of all nations, that the decision should be in the hands of our agents and Gomafals, who are permitted to reside there only as trading factors, and where neither the laws of our country nor the powers intrusted to us by the Company do give us any judicial authority.

I wish, Gentlemen, you may form a better plan, since you do not approve of mine; but if it should appear that this trade cannot be carried on without involving our Gomafals with an armed force, and authority to execute that force over the inhabitants at their discretion, I think it should be forbid; and we content ourselves with carrying on our trade as far as the Company carry theirs, and to far we shall be sure of the protection of their forces under their direction of one or other of the factories, who will be answerable for the use they make of them, which the Gomafals are not, and therefore such an authority should not be trusted in their hands.

Messrs. Johnstone, Hay, and Bolts, complain that I sent a person to enquire into the truth of the complaint against the English Gomafals in the country, and they dignify a poor Banyan with the title of an inquisitor. My letter to those gentlemen from Mongheer will shew the only authority with which the person was invested; and as they have not laid before you a copy of the letter, I have subjoined it hereunto, as it is as least as material as some of those pieces they refer to. As soon as this inquisitor returns, his report shall be laid before you; and as every step I can take for the redress of the inhabitants of the country is complained of as an encroachment upon the privileges of the English, and also proves ineffectual, I shall for the future lay all the petitions from the inhabitants before the board, hoping that by your resolutions some effectual method will be provided for restraining the exca- cesses of the Gomafals: the most material of those that have lately been presented to me are hereunto annexed; and I think the putting a stop to any abuses that may be practiced under the authority of the English flag, is an attention so worthy of this government, that one or more members of the board, or some of the senors servants, should be sent to inform themselves upon the spot how far the complaints are true, and make their report to the board.

Messrs. Johnstone and Hay affirm, That the Nabob's ordering the Kangamatty Fouzadar to receive the usual duties on goods for inland trade, is contrary to our treaty with the Nabob, and reduces us again to those privileges we enjoyed before the time of Meer Jaffier. I have referred more than once to the treaty with the Nabob Jaffier Aly Cawn, and do not find that it grants us any new privileges of trade; and Colonel Clive, who certainly understood that treaty as well as any one, never would grant a Duffuck for falt, or any other article of trade, which had not usually been granted by former governors.

Messrs. Johnstone and Hay intimate throughout their letter, in terms not to be misunderstood, that my reason for willing to retrain other gentlemen Gomafals, is, that my own may have the more power, and procure me the greatest profit: although I am satisfied, that such intimations would obtain little credit, yet it may not be improper to produce some instances, that I suffer equally with others, when any obstructions do happen in our trade; and that I am the first to practice upon my own concerns the restraint which I think should upon our Gomafals in general. For the first, I appeal to Mr. Amyatt, whether a number of boats of falt belonging to me were stopped at Cutwal, by the collector of the Gout, at the same with others, and detained as long. For the last, I refer to my orders of the 17th of December, and 10th January, to Mr. Moore, my agent at Rumpoor, and Mr. Baillie, at Kangamatty; of which copies are hereunto annexed.

As you have been pleased to give us your opinion, that Messrs. Johnstone, Hay, and Bolts, did properly, in writing a letter to Sheer Aly, the Fouzadar of Purnea, in their own name, instead of applying to the president, of course every other merchant will take the same authority. I am by no means sorry to be relieved from the trouble of such applications, yet I think it my duty to give it as my opinion, that this entire levelling and equality will not be for the good of the Company's affairs, nor the benefit of the society; and therefore do declare my disapprobation.

One reason Messrs. Johnstone and Hay give for writing this letter, deserves to be taken notice of: an unwillingness in the president to believe complaints of this nature. I request the board will call on them to produce any one instance where I have refused or delayed to give them, or any other merchant, every assurance they have asked of me, in the carrying on their private business, and obtaining redress for their grievances.

In short, gentlemen, their letter throughout is so injurious to me as a gentleman, (to say, nothing of my station) that I should have applied to you for justice against them, did I not perceive that instead of inflewing your displeasure at such behaviour, you have thought proper to give
APPENDIX, No. 38,

give it the sanction of your approbation. I refer myself therefore to the honourable the Court of Directors, who, I am persuaded, will do me more justice.

I shall be glad to see the number of members at the board increased, and with it could always be kept to; but if I had proposed to send for particular members from the subordinates, to give their opinion on a particular subject, I should surely be accused of an intention to make a majority to carry a particular point: and it is a precedent that may be at some time applied to that purpose, and therefore I think a bad one.

As to the major, he is to be a member of the board, according to our honourable masters directions, when military affairs are in debate: how a regulation of a method for carrying on our trade in falt, and beets, nut, and tobacco, can be brought under that title, I cannot conceive; nor how he can be supposed to be a judge of such a subject. Yet if you conceive his advice can be of use, I am far from objecting to his being present. The matter in question is not with me a point of conceit or pett; I wish only to see such rules laid down, that the Nabob and we may know our proper limits, and prevent our servants from transgressing them; which will require both time and patience, and much care and attention. The said laws will be sometimes transgressed; but the inconveniences which arise from such transgressions ought not to be objected against the laws themselves, but against the transgressors, who can only be restrained by the constant care of government.

No. 38.

Fort William, 3 February 1765.

Mr. Amyatt lays before the board the following minute, in reply to that which the president delivered in, last council day:

In consequence of my having prefided at this board during the absence of Mr. Vanfittart, I shall now take the liberty to reply, in part, to the minute which he laid before council on the 14th instant.

First, as to the subject of his letter to the Nabob, in respect to the transference therein contained, I shall leave it to be debated and determined at the full board, when the rest of the members arrive, and when I make not the least doubt, having received the assent of their deliberations, but we shall be enabled to form a set of regulations equally equitable with the president's, and every way as conducive to the interest of the Country government and our own; and, I trust, of a much greater tendency to prevent future jealousies and animosities between us, of which the clause for subj ecting us to thoroughly to their judicature must have proved an inexhaustible source.

What I have therefore chiefly to point out is, that the president in this transference has acted without a proper authority. It was but last council day, gentlemen, that the proceedings in this affair were read at our board; and although I gave the greatest attention to the perusal, I could not distinguish that we vetted the president with the powers he pretends; may, I observe that he himself can only pick our one phrase to answer his purpose; from perverting even the literal sense of which, and entirely the well known meaning of the board, he draws a fmcion of ours for what he has done. Right sorry am I to find that recourse is had to playing upon words, because I think it is a custom which ought to be utterly excluded in matters so serious as generally prove the business of this board; and orders from them which are not explicit should rather be scrupulously followed, than in a vague and unlimited sense. It is needless to enlarge much more on the subject, for our proceedings on receipt of the articles from the president and Mr. Haffings (which we then understood to be only proposed) plainly demonstrate that we never gave, or intended to give, them power to conclude those, or any other; of course the president's doing it was an authority assumed: but, if he could so well understand the meaning of the board in the above particular, and act in consequence, how happens it, I should be glad to know that their directions and earnest recommendations for procuring restitution for the late losses of any individuals, were not paid an equal regard to?

Next, with respect to the letter delivered in by Meffrs. Johnstone and Hay, (which I always held as a mere secondary matter, but which I find the president has expatiated upon very largely) I must in the name of the board deny that it met from them the approbation which he alleges. Their minute, of which I think the sense cannot well be perverted, serving no further than to express their opinion, that the apology of those gentlemen was, for the transference in question, to them satisfactory. Although I cannot implicitly agree with the president that the said letter is filled with unjust and indecent reflections, yet I concur entirely that our honourable masters should become the judges in this, as of all our other proceedings.
February 22, 1763.

Received your friendly letter, which gave me much pleasure. You write that concerning the inland trade of this country, (that is to say) salt, tobacco, beetle-nut, dried fish, which being purchased in this country shall be carried for sale to other parts of the country, a duty of 9 per cent. was agreed between me and you to be paid; but that the Phouzdar and managers do not regard it, but that they want to put a stop to the whole trade; likewise that they demand duties on cloth, &c. belonging to the Company, having a duftuck with the Company's head, and which never was known to pay duties; that Shake Hiyber, a peon upon Rain-kunt Holdar, your own private Gomafth at Pantipoor, did not regard the Company's duftuck, but by force took from him the amount of 110 rupees on account duties, and as yet has not taken off the peon; also that Kaujah Alkaftuck, who through the means of Kaujah Warrens was appointed to transact your own private business at Jangymagur, and had agreed to the Company's duftuck, provided 50 bales of Cloth, 28 of which he sent first, and afterwards the two others; but that Mahomed Ally Beg Tufsildar intercepted, and detained, and demanded duties thereon: and defining I would speedily write very fully to all the Phouzdar and managers concerning this, not to take duties on anything without reason. — What you write, I understand. — The translation of your Gomafth's letter I have seen.

The whole of the dispute is this: The merchants, &c. whose names are entered in my office, always pay duties. Now you purchase goods through their means, therefore the managers to the government know not whether the goods belong to you or the merchants. Through the will of God, your Gomafthas and houies are every where; therefore, why do not you purchase and sell goods through the means of your own Gomafthas, and your own houies? and if the merchants were to have no share in it, no noise or dispute could possibly arise. Goods being purchased from the merchants who always paid duties on the goods they bought and sold, and now do not, is the cause of these disputes. — Therefore you will please to deter trading with these merchants, who from former time have belonged to the government; then there will be no disputes between your people and mine.

Inclosed.

I have wrote very fully to the managers at Nudia, Dacca, &c. not in any respect whatever to interrupt or molest any goods belonging to the Company at any of their places of trade, having a Company's duftuck with them. If any of the managers belonging to the government should be uncertain, whether the goods belong to the Company, or the gentlemen, or the English Gomafthas, and do not see the Company's duftuck, what can I do? For which reason, should the managers belonging to the Siar, if the Company's duftuck is produced, interrupt goods, or disregard my persevering, the Gomafthas belonging to the English, through their own pleasure or pride, will not shew the Company's duftuck; therefore direct all the Gomafthas very fully not to delay shewing the duftuck.

No. 40.

Instructions to Messieurs Amyatt and Hay.

To Peter Amyatt, and William Hay, Esquires.

Gentlemen,

Fort William, the 28th March 1763.

1. The trade of our factories on behalf of the Company, as well as the inland trade carried on by the agents and Gomafthas of English merchants, having for some months past met with the greatest interruptions in all parts of the country from the officers of the Nabob's government, and this having further proved the source of numerous disputes and complaints on both sides; we have had under consideration the settling of certain rules, agreeable to our respective rights and pretentions, whereby to carry on our trade, and be the means of preventing such disputes from happening in future in their points: We have already come to some regulations, and having the greatest reliance on your abilities, prudence, and zeal, as well for the interest of our honourable masters, as for the welfare and good of the community, we have thought proper to depute you to make known to the Nabob their resolutions.

2. In the first place you must again acquaint the Nabob, that the regulations made with him by the president being disapproved, are of course become void; and you are therefore to re-demand the letter which contained them; you are also to insist, in case he has not before issued such
such orders, that he do revoke all those orders which he sent to his officers in consequence of the said regulations, and inform him, that trade is in every respect to go on in its usual channel, until he (the Nabob) has settled with you the business of your depedents.

3. Accompanying this you will receive English and Persian copies of the plhurstman, and Hughulookans and treaties, on which we found a right to free trade; these we have concluded, give us an indispensible privilege for any of our trades, as well foreign as inland, throughout the provinces of this Subah, free of any deductions to the country government; you must therefore carefully and clearly explain to the Nabob, the tenor and substance of all those grants, and the justice that it follows we have on our side for abiding thereby.

4. When you have fully asserted and convinced the Nabob of these our rights and privileges, you will make known to him the resolution of council the 2d instant, for allowing him a duty on salt, with our motives therefore; first, because from general informations taken, it appears this article has from custom always paid a certain, though unfeltted, duty. Secondly, because it is not our intention through too scrupulous an attention of our rights to detriment or diminish the revenues of this government, or in any respect to let him the advantages reaped at our hands by his predecessors the former Subahs; that allowing those sentiments to weigh as far as with us in the regard for the interests of out employers and the community, and for the tenor of our said grants, will possibly admit, we have resolved to allow him (the Nabob) a fixed duty on the article of salt, at two and a half per cent. on the Rowanah price; but as we have no grounds for extending this consideration further, we cannot admit of duties being levied on any other articles of trade whatsoever.

5. To ascertain the payment of this duty, and at the same time maintain in its full force the authority of the English dutkuck, the article of salt shall be circulated equally with other articles by means of a dutuck, and be liable to no further scrutiny or interruption, provided the buckfunder or Shawfunder for the aforementioned duty appears properly granted and entered on the back thereof.

6. For regulating in future the conduct of our agents and Comaffles, and the officers and dependants of the Nabob's government, with respect to injuries committed on either side, and disputes which may arise between them, we have agreed on the following rules, which you must intimate to the Nabob, and as we think they will every way answer the ends required, you must acquaint him that they are therefore to be punctually observed.

7. The Nabob having lately affected an ignorance of the nature of this government, and the powers of the council, the president, in his answer, endeavoured to set him right on that head; but it will still be necessary that you again explain this matter per sonally to him by commision from the board, that future pretentions of the like ignorance may not be the means of detrimenting our affairs.

8. There further appears in the course of his correspondence, certain exprssions which imply a diffidence of the friendship of several members of the council towards him; these ill founded suspicions you must use your most strenuous endeavours to remove, and on the contrary, to convince him, that we shall be always, with one voice, agreeable to assist and support him and his government, provided no attempts are made towards the infringement of our rights and privileges; but that from a just observance of them, and a steady obedience to the repeated orders of our employers, we can never put up with attempts that have in the mulista degree such a tendency.

9. With respect to the regulations for trade, we think it will be the most proper method to have our rights acknowledged, and under the Nabob's own hand and seal, taking care that there is no expressions infected in it contrary to the sane we entertain of our rights by our former grants or treaties, or that may tend in any degree, to invalidate them. To such writings you may accede, referring to us the power of finallly ratifying the same.

10. As we think it absolutely necessaty, both for the interest of our affairs and the Nabob's, to have a gentleman in the service, resident at his court, we have appointed Mr. Thomas Amphlett to accompany you in the deputation, and afterwards remain with the Nabob in that capacity; you will therefore introduce him to the Nabob accordingly, and acquaint him, that all transactions between him and us are, after your departure, to be carried on by this resident; and that all orders which are infused through the country relating to the English, are to be first intimated to, and approved by him. At your departure you will leave in charge with Mr. Amphlett any part of these instructions which you may not be able to finish, and give him such further directions as you may think necessary.

11. Having had repeated inferences of the ill disposition and bad behaviour of Mahomed Aly, the collector of the Dacca districts, we here inclose you a particular proof, in copies of letters, which he wrote to Syed Buddul Cawm; and we must declare that you will in suit on his being dismissed from his offices, and obliged to make reparation for all the losses he has been the occasion of, since the beginning of these disturbanes.

12. The orders by which we took possession of the lands being only Amulnannas, we must declare that you will apply to the Nabob for proper Lacsquency Sunnads, to confirm the Company's right to the three provinces.

13. You must likewise demand from the Nabob payment of a sum of money which Mr. Mahomed Reza Cawm disbursed out of the revenues of the Chittagong province, on account of the
Appendix, No. 41.

To the Honourable Henry Fossettart, Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your favour of the 24th ultimo we received the 2d instant, and immediately dispatched your letter inclosed therein to the Nabob: as far as we can judge, he inclines not to specific incalculable; for since the receipt of your letters of the 7th and 11th ultimo, he has been constantly sending troops into this city. The commanders of his forces in different parts of the country hereabouts, are under orders to assemble at Patna, and some of them actually in motion, by which it seems as if he intended a blow at this party; on that head however we are perfectly easy, but under the deepest concern for the fate of the city, which we are hourly apprehensive will be plundered by the licentious undisciplined rabble within its walls. The suburbs are already entirely deserted, and the wretched situation of people of all ranks is more easy to conceive than describe.

Meer Mindi Cawn is the name of the person whom the Nabob has appointed his Naib here; but to this time he has not paid the chief the usual compliment of acquainting him with his arrival. He carries on the preparations for attack or defence (for as yet we know not which to call them) with more vigour than his predecessor, and thereby adds to the terror and alarm of the inhabitants:—The night before last the whole of his people were under arms on the walls, and firing their guns and small arms till morning; great part of yesterday the gates were kept shut, and the relief of our Hospital Guard refused admittance; upon which the chief wrote him a letter, a copy of it we now inclose, as likewise of his answer. The guard has been since admitted, but the Burbunna gate still remains shut.

It is commonly talked that the Nabob has sent this Mindi Cawn to drive out the English; but your honour, &c. will judge that there is not much danger to be apprehended from a man, whose talent seems chiefly to lie in founding his own praise; his insolence may however reduce us to the disagreeable necessity of taking the city from him.

With the greatest difficulty we have collected money sufficient to pay our Europeans for this month, and our Seapoys for March, and have not at this time a single rupee in cash. We therefore request your honour, &c. will take the most speedy method of supplying us.

We are with respect, Honourable Sir and Sirs,
Your most obedient humble servants.

Patna, the 5th April 1763.

W. Ellis,
Henry Lushington,
Samuel Hewitt,
W. Smith.

No. 42.

Fort William Conslutations, 14 April 1763.

The board being come to concert the measures proper to be taken, in case that a rupture should happen between us and the Nabob, the several cases were fully considered and debated on; and the following resolutions were in consequence planned and agreed.

Although it is to be hoped that the disputes with the Nabob will yet come to an amicable issue, it is thought necessary to be prepared with a plan of operations, which may be most expedient to ensure success, in case of a contrary event.

It is therefore resolved, first, that in case of a rupture with the Nabob, and the Nabob should march towards Patna, in order to attack our troops and factory there, they
they shall endeavour to possess themselves of the city, if they think they can possess themselves of it without much loss, and there remain until they receive further orders from us or Major Adams; but if they should by attacking the city think they run a risk of failing in the attempt, or losing of many men, they must then take such post as they think they can best defend themselves in, and if they can, cover the factory until they shall receive further orders as above-mentioned; that in either case they must be careful to secure all the provision they can of every kind, and also draught and carriage bullocks.

Secondly, that in case of a rupture with the Nabob, and he shall remain at Mongheer, the Patna party shall act as in the first case.

Thirdly, that in case of a rupture, and the Nabob marches down this way, the Patna party shall, after attacking and possessing themselves of the city, move down as far as Rowoonullah, to be in greater readiness to join Major Adams, and there wait for orders from Major Adams, until from an alteration of circumstances their own discretion shall direct them to act otherwise.

That in any of the foregoing cases these are our present thoughts; but that we do not mean by such a plan to restrict them from taking any advantage that may happen, in case of a rupture declared.

This plan being settled for the Patna party in case of a rupture, the question is put,

How they shall be informed of a rupture, or what they shall construe such?

Mr. Johnstone thinks the Nabob's stopping our communication by letter, and moving in conjunction with his army and artillery towards Patna, when there is no other enemy in the country adjacent, against whom he may have cause to move, or ought in reason to be believed, that he directs the march of his army this way, attended by any correspondent act of hostility of his forces stationed at or round Patna, such as stopping their provision or communication with the country, or opposing our people in the execution of their business; might in the present circumstances be construed by them as a rupture; and that they might immediately proceed to act as directed in the plan.

The president thinks, that Mr. Johnstone's proposal is extremely vague, and leaves it in the power of the Gentlemen at Patna, by an error in judgment, to involve us in a war, which we would rather avoid; and therefore would propose, that the orders to the Gentlemen at Patna should be after this manner: That they will be instantly informed from us, if we should be obliged to declare a rupture with the Nabob; and that therefore they must wait for such information before they act upon such a plan laid down, keeping in the mean time well on their guard, and defending themselves, and the Company's rights against all attacks: That he proposes these limited orders the rather, as he looks upon the party at Patna to be of such a strength as to run no risk from any attack of the Nabob.

The question being put to the rest of the board, which of these opinions shall be adopted? Messrs. Watts, Marriot, Haflings, Carter, and Billers agree to the president's.

Mr. Batson is of Mr. Johnstone's opinion, because, after the Nabob has once commenced hostilities against us, the tying up our party at Patna from acting on the offensive as well as the defensive, will give him an advantage in cases of exigency that may happen.

Major Adams thinks that the Gentlemen at Patna ought not to commence hostilities without the orders of the board; but that should the Nabob march a large force towards Patna, without any apparent reason, or otherwise commit any acts of hostility, that they should take any step for their own security, even to the taking of the city of Patna, if it should be deemed absolutely necessary, and there defend themselves, without proceeding further until they receive the orders of the board.

No. 43.

To the Honourable Henry Vansittart, Esq; President, Governor, &c. Council.

Honourable Sirs, and Sirs,

We have received your favour of the 14th instant, with the resolutions of the board, which, as far as we comprehend them, will not allow us to construe any act of the Nabob's as hostile, although ever so greatly tending to our ruin; but are to wait until we have notice from you of a rupture being declared, although who there may be then to receive your commands is hard to say; but most probably neither any of us, nor of the party now here, as we shall clearly evince.

We have had good intelligence (not from Harkarrahs) that if the army should move from Calcutta, the Nabob intends marching here to attack us; in which case he will instantly remove our dawkes, and cut off all communication by that channel. It will be the third day of his march before we can receive certain advice of it, and a single caffid will be twelve days reaching Calcutta, provided he meets with no impediment;
APPENDIX, No. 43.

It is more probable that at such a juncture he never gets there; and still more so, that your answer never reaches us. How then are we to act? This factory, it is well known, is not tenable if attacked from the city, and to abandon it will, amongst many other evils, give such a shock to the spirit of our troops, as may induce the greatest part of our Seapoy's (in whom our principal strength consists) to desert us, and go over to the Nabob, where they are better ensured of success, and will meet with ample encouragement, which has not been spared, even when there was no appearance of a rupture, to those who would desert with their arms. Another substantial reason why we cannot leave the factory is, our having sent our ammunition for its greater security in the lower part of the house, the magazine where it before lay being liable to be blown up by a common rocket.

But let us suppose for a moment, that on the Nabob's marching against us we quit the factory and take post, are we to sacrifice our garrison and sick, who reside in the city; for it cannot be supposed that they will be permitted to come out, or if they could, the situation of most of them is such, that they being brought into the air will be attended with certain death? When we have fortified ourselves in this post, our affairs are not at all mended; for the Nabob has only to surround and starve us, whilst we, dying by inches, sit waiting for your orders, which can never arrive but with the army, and that at the benefit will be forty days after his march from Mongheer.

How are we to fulfill all this time? The Nabob foizes all provisions coming from Bengal; and such is the scarcity here, that had it not been for the gange which so much pains was taken to abolish, we had long ere now been obliged to take up arms to procure our daily subsistence; but was there plenty, we have not a rupee to purchase it. With the utmost difficulty we have scraped money together to pay our troops for these two months past, and at this time have not sufficient to discharge a fourth part of the demands, that will be upon us in a few days, although we acquitted your honour, &c. of the levies of our cash so long ago as the 1st of February.

This party, 'tis true, runs no risk from the Nabob, provided we are allowed to act and make the most of every advantage, that may offer; but if our hands are tied, our destraffian becomes inevitable; such a body as this must ever act offensively and vigorously, and nip the designs of their enemy in the bud; 'tis by such conduct only that they can hope to preserve themselves; and surely it is just and laudable to make use of any means providence has put in our power, to defeat the attacks of a cruel and faithlefs enemy.

Our 'safety lies in mastering the city by a coup de main, before the Nabob gets into it, for afterwards it may be impracticable; and the consequence of our acting on the defensive, any where but in the city, we have already pointed out. Our distance from Calcutta is very great, and whenever the Nabob marches this way, our communication will be cut off, and most probably not opened but by your army: If therefore we should obey nature's first law, we hope we shall not be found culpable, though it may not perfectly coincide with your honour, &c.'s orders.

We cannot conclude, without observing to your honour, &c. that we think we have no ways merited the diffidence you express, nor given the least reason even to suspect, that we would involve the Company in a war by any rash or unpromeditated step; we rather think that we have given proofs of a contrary disposition, in bearing the many insults we have received, particularly since Mendy Ali Cawn has been appointed Nabi here, whole people have even dared to abuse and call us opprobious names, aloud from the walls.

We shall be as far as any, to whom the management of the Company's affairs are entrusted, from bringing them into difficulties; but when it is really necessary, shall endeavour to act with a spirit that becomes subjects of Britain, and servants of her greatest commercial body.

Your honour, &c.'s letters are always one and often two days earlier in date than any others from Calcutta, which gives the Nabob a great advantage over us in point of intelligence. We therefore request you will order them to be dispatched with the utmost expedition.

We are with respect, honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Your most obedient humble Servants,

W. Ellis,
Henry Lushington,
Samuel Hewitt,
W. Smith.

Patna, 24th April 1763.

No. 44.
To the Honourable Henry Vanfittart, Esq; President and Governor, &c. Council of Fort William.

Honourable Sirs, and Sirs,

We waited on the Nabob the 15th, to acquaint him of your resolutions; and in conversing on the different articles, we found it impossible to discuss separately on them; and he directing us to write down what he had to say to him, we delivered to him a Persian translation we had made of our instructions; the same being read, he desired we would leave it with him, as also the Phirmauds, &c. which we acquiesced to. The next evening he sent his Moonshy Hafia Ifferrat Cawn to us, to desire we would sign that Persian translation, or draw out a list of such demands as we were commissioned to get complied with, which we accordingly did, and sent it to him, signed and sealed. Copy of which is here inclosed. We again waited on him this morning, to desire his answer if he would comply with these articles, and give us the satisfaction required; he replied, it would take some time to consider on them, and desired two days to give his answer. We had a good deal of conversation with him on different subjects; in which it appeared, he had considered himself as in a state of war with us for some time past, and indulged orders and made preparations accordingly, which has been the cause of some of the interruptions and insults our people have met with lately; and most of the others, he said, had been occasioned by Mr. Vanfittart's letter, which he then looked on as a treaty the governor had been authorized to enter into with him, which caused him to send these orders over the country to his amils, the executing of which we now so much complain of. We remarked to him many of these interruptions we had laboured under before that letter. As far as we can judge from our last conversation, he seems somewhat convinced that our intentions are not hostile, so long as he does not attempt to infringe our rights, (which we have used our best endeavours to persuade him) and gives us satisfaction for the losses sustained by, and insults offered to, the English by his officers in different parts of the country. This we are in hopes he will comply with, though he makes great use of the argument of his having acted by Mr. Vanfittart's agreement. We cannot write you at present with any certainty of his intentions, but hope to be more so in our next. We shall again wait on him for a further conversation on the many articles he is to comply with, before the time appointed by him for giving his answer, to endeavour further to convince him of the reasonable use of them; when we shall mention to him the moving our troops to Patna, which hitherto we have declined on account of his suspicions.

We have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your most obedient humble Servants,

Mongheer, the 18th May 1792.

P. Ambar.

W. Hay.

To the Honourable Henry Vanfittart, Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council of Fort William.

We have not seen the Nabob these four days, he being indisposed, which caused us to importune him by letters, for an answer to the several demands you ordered us to insist on his complying with. This morning he sent it by Nobut Roy, which we now inclose. We had before flattered ourselves, he intended giving us a favourable one, though he did all continue to insist on our people being the aggressors, and complained of our seizing his Amils, when he was always ready to redress our grievances, without entering into just arguments, but confining it to occurrences lately happened, since his orders issued in consequence of Mr. Vanfittart's letter; but he seemed to agree, by his conversation, that the method we now wanted our business to go on in, properly observed, was just; and to appearance, he was free from apprehensions of our wanting to quarrel with him: That we now must conjecture his behaviour was only to delay time for some purpose or other.

The boats with the arms, for Patna, arrived here yesterday, and were slopped by the Nabob's Chowkey; we immediately applied for their release, and gave them a Duffuck, mentioning they contained arms; which they have kept, and the boats still continue detained: the Nabob promised an answer by Nobut Roy, this morning, who said, they were detained by having arms in them.

The letter written him to-day we have sent, hoping it will have some effect upon his mind, reflecting that our going away must necessarily bring on a rupture, to prevent which it may
APPENDIX, No. 46, 47, 48.

make him hearken to reason, and still be brought to comply with the articles required: therefore, if he desires us to stay, and releases the boats, we will continue here till such time as we receive your orders how we are to act in case of his non-compliance with any or every article; but if he continues the hostile action of detaining the arms, we will move from hence, either towards Bengal or Patna, as most convenient, if we have reason to suspect his wanting to stop us.

If you send the army, it will be necessary you take precautions about grain, which is very scarce, and none to be had on this side Muxabadab, on this side the river: we take the liberty of advising you not to think of sending the forces through the hills the Pachet way, as it is very unwholesome, this time of year, to go that way, from the excessive heats, as well as interruptions from the Nuffans being full, now the rains are coming on.

We have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your moft obedient humble Servants,
P. Amyatt.
W. Hay.

No. 46.
To the Honourable Henry Vanfittart, Esquire, president and governor, &c. council of Fort William.

Gentlemen,

I imagine we might soon be in want of money to defray our charges, we applied to the Nabob for ten thousand rupees, who immediately let us have it, for which we have given him a set of bills of exchange for ten thousand Patna Sunnaut rupees on you, payable at Sight.

Notwithstanding our repeated remonstrances to his Excellency, setting forth the hostility of the action, he has not yet released the boats with the arms, neither does he shew the least confidence in what we say, and declares (at the same time hinting to us the former resolution) he shall not put any in us, till we remove the detachment from Patna to Mongheer. We beg leave to offer it as our opinion, That the having the troops intended to be quartered in this province rationed here, at his request, would be very advisable, but cannot be thought of till such time as he complies with our demands, as it is probably made by caprice or design.

We have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your most obedient Servants,
P. Amyatt.
W. Hay.

No. 47.
To the Honourable Henry Vanfittart, Esquire, president and governor, &c. council of Fort William.

Gentlemen,

THE inclosed is a duplicate of our last, dated 29th instant, on which day we sent you a copy, made out here, which we imagined might be useful in carrying on our correspondence, in case of a rupture: a copy of the same was likewise forwarded to Mr. Ellis at Patna.

Whatever we urge to his Excellency, in regard to the release of the boats with arms, or the necessity of his placing a proper confidence in us, his general reply is, That we have taxed his Amiils; that the words of the English are not to be trusted; and that he will not release the boats, till such time as we remove our troops from Patna, either to this place or to Calcutta, although he will take no steps towards a reconciliation, or to give us satisfaction, yet he, upon all occasions, mentions his desire of peace: in short, his aim seems to be entirely to gain time.

We have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your most obedient humble Servants,
P. Amyatt.
W. Hay.

No. 48.
At a consultation; PRESENT,


BEFORE the business of the council commenced, the secretary reported to the board, that after yesterday’s consultation, having waited on the governor, to get the letter for Messieurs Amyatt and Hay transcribed in cypher, he expressed his sentiments to him in the following terms: That he thought the orders to Mongheer amounted almost to a plain declaration of war against the Nabob, and left nothing in the power of Messieurs Amyatt and Hay
APPENDIX, No. 48.

Hay to treat or promise further, even if they should find him in a disposition to conciliate, neither contain any instructions to them on a supposition that the Nabob did release the arms, and not insist on the removal of the troops from Patna as a preliminary; that the governor therefore directed the secretary to wait on Mr. Batton on his return to town, and desire him to summon another council as this day, when he would transmit to the board his full opinion on this subject, and afterwards leave to them to send such orders as they thought proper, and that on this account he desired the dispatch of the letters might be delayed till to-day; that he the secretary, accordingly intimated this to Mr. Batton, who in consequence ordered him to summon a council, and delay the dispatch of the letters.

The secretary lays before the court the following letter, which he this morning received from the governor.

To Mr. Secretary Graham,

Sir,

As my late indisposition prevents my attending the board, I must take this method of delivering my opinion upon the instructions which should be sent to Messieurs Amyatt and Hay, in answer to the last advices received from them.

If the Nabob persists in detaining the boats with arms, I think it must be deemed a declared act of hostility, and Messieurs Amyatt and Hay directed in such case to take their leave.

If the Nabob refuses to treat further with those gentlemen, without removing our troops from Patna, by way of preliminary, I think in that case likewise they should take their leave, as I am not for consenting to make any change in the station of our troops upon such a demand.

But supposing the arms to be released, and that Messieurs Amyatt and Hay find the Nabob in a disposition to treat, without insisting on the removal of our troops from Patna, as a preliminary, then I think those gentlemen should be furnished with instructions what further to say to the Nabob; and those instructions I think should be, with respect to the troops at Patna, to represent to the Nabob that they were stationed there with the view of being in readiness to assist him, wherever his affairs might require it, and that they should be ready to act in conformity to that as soon as the present differences between us were accommodated; they should be further acquainted to call upon the Nabob for his particular objections to the several articles or demands delivered him; and having transmitted the same to the board, it should be considered which of them are material to be insisted on.

Some answer should likewise be sent to Messieurs Amyatt and Hay regarding Mahomed Ally, and the other officers of the government, at present kept here prisoners: the Nabob says, As we have seized them, and have them in our hands, we may take our own satisfaction for the losses some have suffered in their private trade; we should either tell Messieurs Amyatt and Hay that we will do so, or else we should send those officers up to them, with instructions to deliver them up to the Nabob, desiring him to oblige them to make good such losses; at the same time receiving from the government's officers the accounts of losses they say they have suffered by the violations of some English agents and Goostahs; and this second method I think the most proper.

Neither the Company's nor private trade meets at present with any interruption. This is an essential reason why we ought to avoid, if possible, engaging our employers in any expensive war, and involving the country in troubles to their great loss, as well as that of the settlement in general.

The low state of our treasury, and the peace in Europe, by which the French will be repelled from their settlements in this country, are in my opinion strong reasons why we should it possible, keep on good terms with the Nabob.

Finally, I think that further instructions should be sent to the gentlemen at Patna concerning their manner of acting in case a rupture with the Nabob should be unavoidable, with reference I mean to the scion, which would prevent the troops from hence marching by land to join those at Patna, and going up in boats would take up a long time; upon this article I submit myself to the judgment of Major Adams.

I am, Sir,

Your most humble Servant,

Henry VanSittart.
APPENDIX, No. 43,

The same being read, and duly considered;

Agreed, that we write in consequence a further letter to Messieurs Amyatt and Hay, acquainting them, That supposing the arms to be released, and they should find the Nabob inclinable still to treat, without insulting on the removal of the troops from Patna, as a preliminary, they may assure him that those troops have been always stationed there for the security of his government, and to maintain the tranquillity of the country, and that they shall still continue to act in conformity to this view: That they shall then call upon the Nabob for his particular objections to the several articles or demands delivered him, and transmit them to us; when we shall consider and determine which of them are so material as to require being still insisted on, and which may be moderated: That if the Nabob should again make mention of Mahomed Ally, and the other prisoners here, we leave it to them to judge whether we had best prosecute the enquiry against them ourselves, or fend them up to them to have it finished in presence of the Nabob, and to give him their answer accordingly: that they may receive from the government's officers the accounts of any looses they say they have sustained by the violations of English agents and Commissaries, upon their being properly authenticated; and again assure the Nabob, that for whatever appears to be just he shall receive full satisfaction.

On the further subject of the governor's letter, the board are of opinion, That their utmost endeavours have been already used to prevent the country's being involved in troubles, or their employers engaged in an expensive war, and that they can now only leave it to time to satisfy them whether their endeavours will prove effectual: That the circumstance of a peace in Europe, and the supposition drawn from thence, that the French will obtain a re-settlement here, is rather a strong reason why we should employ the most spirited methods to become immediately averse of the Nabob's intention and disposition towards us, and not delay time in fruitless negotiation: That with regard to the last paragraph of the governor's letter referred to the judgment of Major Adams, the Major, with the rest of the members, think it is necessary to send further instructions to Patna than those contained in the letter of yesterday to Messieurs Amyatt and Hay, and whereof a copy was transmitted to the factory.

WM. BILLIERS,
WARREN HASTINGS,
RAND. MARRIOTT,
H. WATTS.

No. 49.

Fort William, 13th of June 1763.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable Henry Vanfattart, Esquire, President,


RECEIVED a letter from Messrs. Amyatt and Hay, dated the 6th of June, advising that the arms still continue stopped with a strong guard over them, and no discourse concerning business now pass between them and the Nabob; that he is entirely buoyed up in the notions of his own strength and power to oppose our troops, and therefore opposes our trade as he pleases; that no English boats pass by Mongheer but with much difficulty, and after many days detention; that daily some aggravating circumstances or other happen to corroborate his intentions of not complying with our demands, but really designing to break with us; that they have great reason to suspect the Armenians urge him on to refuse our measures; that they are informed he some days ago received 17 chiefs of arms, which were paid to have come from the Dutch; that he had stopped some boats of rice with an English Dutchman, going to our guns at Patna, and has detained them under pretense of its belonging to some merchant of his; that there has been many boats with smalls sent towards Bengal within these four days, and all preparations for war are making both at Mongheer and Patna; that the Nabob has received two Persian letters, the contents of which they have not been made acquainted with, and therefore desire they may be advised thereof. Their letter further ends with the following paragraph in cypfer: Notwithstanding we should not think of breaking with the Nabob, they think it impossible to avoid it, and that we should get them out of his power as soon as possible.

In respect to the remark which Messrs. Amyatt and Hay make of the two Persian letters received by the Nabob, the president desires they may be acquainted that they were his; one informed
formed the Nabob of his being out of order, and the other contained some particulars of the Europe news; and that all his other letters, to the best of his recollection, have been transmitted through the hands of Mr. Amyatt.

Agreed, that we write an answer to Meflrs Amyatt and Hay, advising them that if they continue to think a rupture with the Nabob is unavoidable, and suspect that he may have designs to detain them, or would recommend to them to temporize, in any manner they can to get themselves out of his hands, without declaring any thing that may give him room to imagine we have such intentions; and further acquaint them with the substance of the president's minute.

No. 50.

Fort William Consulations 17 June 1763.

RECEIVED a letter from Meflrs. Amyatt and Hay, dated the 8th instant, acquainting us, that the Nabob has complained of our troops, which are gone towards Kachar, having seized his Daroga appointed for providing alucoe wood, and Elephants teeth, &c. that he still continues to repeat, We may declare to him as often as we please our peaceful intentions, but that he cannot put any confidence in, or believe us, till such time as the troops come from Patna; and that they have drawn on us a bill of exchange for Crs. 2000, payable at 10 days sight to Mr. Thomas Amphlett. Received also a note in cipher, dated the 16th, advising us that the Nabob had sent a thousand horse towards Moorshedabad, and that powder and ball is delivered to all the Nabob's forces at Patna.

Received two letters from Mr. Ellis at Patna, dated the 6th and 6th instant; the first acquainting us, that the Nabob had set about inveigling away our Seapoy, by promising the men double pay and the officers promotion in rank; and in the attempt has succeeded so well as to procure the defection of 200 men since the first instant, consisting of officers and old seapoy; that in order to bring all the force he can against us, he has made up matters with Kangar Cawn, and put him in possession of his country; and that the Seapoy were stationed there to the number of a thousand, are returned to Patna. The second letter advises us, that the seapoy still continuing to desert in great numbers, he has ordered the whole party to be in readiness to march at a moment's warning, and thereby intitled them to Batta, as the only means of putting a stop to the defection.

Agreed, we add a further paragraph to the letter for Mr. Ellis, acknowledging the receipt of the, and acquainting him, that notwithstanding the great ex pense which will be incurred by putting the detachment on Batta, yet we must concur in and approve of that measure, until the present disputes with the Nabob are brought to an issue.

No. 51.

The 18th of June 1763.

At a consultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable Henry Vanfittart, Esquire, President.


RECEIVED this day the following letters from Meflrs. Amyatt and Hay at Mongheer, one dated the 11th, acquainting us that they will impatiently for the receipt of our orders, in answer to their letter of the 26th ultimo, as from that time they have not had any meeting with the Nabob, or entered on any business, he always insisting on the removal of our troops from Patna, and satisfaction for the grievances done him; further that three of their gentlemen having been that morning stopped, as they were out a riding, by a party of the Nabob's horse, and brought back to camp in a disgraceful manner, they had wrote to the Nabob on the subject, and should transmit us his answer. A note in cipher, of the same date, informs us, that the Nabob will never treat: That parties of horse are all round them, to prevent their escape; and if they are detained, they desire us to pursue measures for the English honour, without regarding them; that 500 men are ordered to Bengal; that Burdwan and about Calcutta will be attacked; that the Nabob's forces every where are fixed battalions of Seapoy and 50,000 horse; that their Duanke Collins will be drove away. Their last letter is dated the 12th, and advises us, that the Nabob has sent orders to Shir Ally Cawn, to send all his collection in grain, and to prevent any body's purchasing in Patne; and complains that Mr. Peacock
APPENDIX, No. 52.

has rented all Morning Jungles from the Zemindar for 5000 Rs. and that duties are demanded at Burdwan on the cloth his people are purchasing as usual at Kerpooj: It further incloses us a copy of the Nabob's answer to their last mentioned letter, wherein they observe that his people, to justify their proceeding, had misrepresented the affair to the Nabob, for that their gentlemen who rode out had no kind of arms with them; and that they have yet received no satisfactions for the affront: they also inclose us copies of a letter, received from Patna, which clears up the affair of the rice.

The board, having duly considered the substance of these letters from Mongheer, are of opinion that from the intelligence contained in the note of the 11th, and the aggravating circumstances which daily occur between Mefirs. Amyatt and Hay, and the Nabob, it will not be in their power to effect an accommodation; and although we do not immediately declare a repute, that we ought to be provided against such an event, and form a plan for guiding the operations of our army, if a war does ensue.

It is agreed, therefore, in order to form a front for the protection of the Company's Aurungs and lands, to secure their investment and revenues in the best manner possible, and to endeavour to collect what we can from the other provinces, to answer the expenses of the war, that our troops be immediately prepared for taking part.

No. 52.

The 23d of June, 1763.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,


RECEIVED a letter from Mefirs. Amyatt and Hay, dated the 14th instant, advising us, that it appears to them from the Nabob's dispersing of his troops, and what he has dropped in conversation that he intends at the same time attacking both Burdwan and the troops in Patna, in hopes of subduing them before they can be secured: That he continues to treat them with the greatest affliction, and they almost daily meet with insults from his people: That they are doubtful what the event may be on their delivering him the governor's letter, which expressly requires the release of the arms; as at the last time they were with him, he told them that peace or war depended on the removing our troops from Patna, with which, if we complied, he would then talk on business: That their gentlemen were again stopped that morning at the same Chekey, and carried prisoners to the Nabob through his army; for which he has been pleased to say he has confined his people, and will give them satisfaction; and that they have drawn on us a bill of exchange in favour of Mr. Anfelm Beaumont for Crs. of 600.

Received also a note in cypher, dated the 15th, advising us, that they delivered the governor's letter to the Nabob that morning; on reading which, he immediately declared there was war, but told them that they might wait till they received the governor and council's orders, and send him under their hands and seals the amount of them, when, in case they did not order down our troops at Patna, he would send them passports to go to Calcutta; but that he would detain Mr. Hay for security of his Aurungs and people in our hands being delivered up; That they concluded the Nabob's view in this is principally the safety of Petruke, and therefore recommended the immediate securing of that man, as Mr. Hay's only security, who has agreed to remain with the Nabob.

Ordered, the Mongheer bill to be accepted and paid: And,

In consequence of Mefirs. Amyatt's and Hay's representation, Agreed, That the president be defined to keep a strict watch over Petruke; and in case he should make any attempt to quit the settlement, immediately to secure him.

Received two letters from Mr. Joffulone, at Burdwan, dated the 20th instant, giving us a particular account of the intelligence which he has received of the motions of the Nabob's troops, and their designs against Burdwan province: and therefore requesting that he may be properly reinforced, to endeavour to render their attempts unsuccessful.

No. 53.
APPENDIX, No. 53, 54.

No. 53.

The 2d July, 1763.

At a consultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable Henry Vanfittart, Esquire, President.


RECEIVED a letter from Coffimbazar, dated the 28th June, acquainting us particularly with the circumstances of the floppage of our damke, &c. that it is reported with them the occasion thereof is owing to Mr. Amyatt's proceeding to Patna after having been refused leave by the Nabob: that at Duckerly bridge he met with some opposition from the Nabob's troops, but made his way good; and its said he left one gentleman a prisoner behind: that they can by no means depend upon this for fact; but from the concurrent circumstances of not having received any packet from Patna these three days, they thought it necessary to acquaint us: they further enclose an indent for medicines, which they request may be complied with; and inform us, that as the times are so precarious they shall not make any further advances for the investment without our orders.

Received a letter from Mr. Johnstone at Burdwan, dated the 27th June, acquainting us, that the inhabitants on the frontier towards Cutwall, are under great apprehensions of the Nabob's people, and that 40 buxeries from Cutwall came in the night, and carried off one of the farmers: He therefore requests to know, whether Lieut. Glen might not advance to that frontier with 600 sepoys; or, if we keep yet on terms with the Nabob, whether a company or two might be stationed there to check any disturbance to the Ryott's from the Frontiers of Cutwall: and desires to know further, whether he is to send pay for Captain Long's party at Ambon?

The president acquaints the board, that in a letter of the same date from Lieutenant Glen, he is advised that the troops at Cutwall remain in the same situation as he wrote in his last, and are building bungloos: that he (Lieutenant Glen) thinks that the apprehensions of the inhabitants arise from the calling in their sepoys; and that if they had a proper force stationed in the frontiers, the heart of the province would continue quiet.

No. 54.

The 4th July, 1763.

At a Consultation: PRESENT.

The Honourable Henry Vanfittart, Esquire, President.


RECEIVED the following note in cypher, directed on the back, "To William Ellis, Esquire:

"We are made prisoners, as far as the leaving our boats and surrounding of us can make us; the boats with arms were stopped a few miles from hence.

"Montfleur, the 21st June, 1763.

"N. B. To the bearer give 100 rupees."

The president acquaints the board, that this note came to him this morning by the hands of a Hacara, from whom, upon a strict examination, he received also the following report; that Mr. Amyatt dispatched at the same time a note to Calcutta, and another to Patna, which through mistake of the head Hacara may have been exchanged, and occasioned the Patna note coming here: that he (the Hacara) heard the English troops at Patna had taken the city: that Mr. Luffington came down near to Montfleur with a battalion of Seapoys; and that Mr. Amyatt having joined him, they returned to Patna: and that Bahadur Aly Cawn, one of the Nabob's principal officers, had joined Mr. Ellis.

Although particulars of this news are not to be depended on, yet the members of the board think it sufficient to shew that the breach between the Nabob and us is now irreparable.

No. 55.
APPENDIX, No. 46, 47, 48.

No. 55. The 5th July 1763.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The honourable Henry Vanfittart, Esq; President,

Thomas Adams, Esq; Major,—John Carnac, Esq; Major,—William Billers, Esquire,
—John Cartier, Esq;—Warren Haftings, Esq;—Randolph Marriot, Esquire,
—Hugh Watts, Esq;

RECEIVED two letters from Mr. Amyatt, the first dated from Siepgunge the 25th June, advising us, that from all the Nabob's actions Mr. Hay and he judge that he intends war, and that he will attack our troops at Patna: That, four days before the date of his letter, an Armenian commander, with a strong reinforcement of horse, foot, and cannon, went to Patna: That the Armenians solely manage him, and urge the disputes. The last is dated from Looty, the 30th June, and advises us, that on his arrival at Coffimbuzar factory, he shall comply with our orders of the 23d, and proceed himself to Calcutta, if consistent with his safety; that the Nabob has sent a man with him, and given him a Doffuck for him and his party to proceed to Calcutta.

Agreed, we write an answer to Mr. Amyatt's letters, acquainting him, that as our intelligence of yesterday has proved false, we shall suspend our determinations until his arrival; and that we therefore desire he will proceed to Calcutta as fast as possible, either without his party, or with such a part of it as he shall esteem necessary for his safety.

Henry Vanfittart,
W. Billers,
Warren Haftings,
Ran. Marriot,
H. Watts.

No. 56. The 6th July 1763.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The honourable Henry Vanfittart, Esq; President,

Thomas Adams, Esq; Major,—John Carnac, Esq; Major,—William Billers, Esquire,
—John Cartier, Esq;—Warren Haftings, Esq;—Randolph Marriot, Esquire,
—Hugh Watts, Esq;

Late last night we received a letter from Coffimbuzar, dated the 3d, advising us, that Mr. Amphlett's confumah had just made his escape from his Master's Budgerow, and brought them accounts, that Mr. Amyatt, attempting to go there, was stopped, upon which he made some resistance: That Lieutenant Cooper and some Seapoys were killed, and the whole made prisoners.

The president further reports to the board, that this morning the two packers dispatched to Coffimbuzar the 2d and 3d, were returned from Agur Deep, with a letter from the writer of the Daukes at that Chokey, advising of all the Chokeys between that and Coffimbuzar being drove away; that he had heard Mr. Amyatt and his party were attacked by the phoulvar of Ramjainul's people; that one or two Gentlemen had been killed, and the rest taken prisoners; and that he was informed Mahomed Tucky Cawn had received orders to surround Coffimbuzar factory.

After this the board are unanimously of opinion, that they have no further resolutions, but to make the best use of our forces, for bringing the war to a speedy conclusion, and firmly establishing the Nabob Meer Jaffier again in the government.

No. 57. The 7th July 1763.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The honourable Henry Vanfittart, Esq; President,

Thomas Adams, Esq; Major,—John Carnac, Esq; Major,—William Billers, Esquire,
—John Cartier, Esq;—Warren Haftings, Esq;—Randolph Marriot, Esquire,
—Hugh Watts, Esq;

RECEIVED a letter from Mr. Johnstone at Burdwan, dated the 5th, inclosing the following note from Mr. Motte:

Sir,
APPENDIX, No. 58.

Sir,

I have just received advice, that yesterday Mr. Amyatt's party on their return from Monghccr were attacked, and put to the sword, by Mahomed Tuckey Cawn. Two Gentlemen much wounded are escaped to Mahutter, and I have sent palankeens to fetch them hither; who they are, I know not; but they are in a most miserable condition. I hear also, Cossimbazar factory is surrounded.

Kewgong, the 4th July 1763. I am, Sir, Your most humble Servant,

T. Motte.

Also, another letter from him, dated the 6th, confirming the melancholy news of Mr. Amyatt's party being cut off by the Nabob's people, in proceeding from Morallah to the factory at Cossimbazar, as it has been related to him, by a Harikdar and Scapany of the grenadier company, who have escaped, and were witnesses of what passed. The Gentlemen of the deputation to the Nabob (Meer Jaffier) report to the board, that they waited on him again this morning, and delivered him the articles copied in the Persian language, which he partly read; but before he would proceed further, still requiring that Nundcomar might be appointed to his assistance; they applied to the governor for his release, who immediately ordered it, and they presented him to the Nabob. That he then perused the articles with Nundcomar, and agreed to them under a few exceptions, which he said, he would specify in a copy which he would himself draw up, and promised to sign and ratify them as soon afterwards as they could be got ready.

Agreed therefore, that the treaty be made ready for signing as soon as possible; and that in the mean time the following proclamation be engrossed fair, and to-morrow signed and published throughout the town.

No. 58.

Copy of the Proclamation of the Nabob Meer Jaffier.

Consultation, 7th July 1763.

The Nabob Meer Mahomed Cossim Allee Cawn having entered upon and committed acts of open hostility against the English nation, and the interest of the English United East India Company, we on their behalf are reduced to the necessity of declaring war against him; and having come to a resolution of placing the Nabob Meer Mahomed Jaffier Cawn Bahader again in the government, we now proclaim and acknowledge him as Subahdar of the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Ovissa; and further, as the said Cossim Allee Cawn has likewise exercised acts of violence and oppressions over many of the principal merchants and inhabitants of the country, to their entire ruin, we do hereby require all manner of persons under our jurisdiction, and also invite all other officers and inhabitants of the country, to repair to the standard of Meer Mahomed Jaffier Cawn Bahader, to assist him in defeating the designs of the said Cossim Allee Cawn, and finally establishing himself in the Subahdarree.

Given in Council at Fort William, the 7th day of July 1763, under our hands and the seal of the said United East India Company.

Henry Vansittart,
Thomas Adams,
John Carnac.
Stanlake Batton.
William Billiers.
John Carter.
Warren Hastings.
Randolph Marriot.
Hugh Watts.

L. S.

John Graham,
Secretary.
APPENDIX, No. 59.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The honourable Henry Vanfitten, Esq; President,

Thomas Adams, Esq; Major,—John Carnac, Esq; Major,—William Billers, Esquire,

— John Carter, Esq; —— Warren Haftings, Esq;—Randolph Marriott, Esquire,

—— Hugh Watts, Esq;

RECEIVED the following note from Coffimzibur, dated the 4th July, at ten at night.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

We yesterday informed you of the fate of Mr. Amyatt and his party. We were then in expectation of being surrounded; and now forces are all around us with cannon, and we expect to be attacked before morning. We do our best to keep the factory till relief can be given us, to which purpose we have wrote to Amboa, or where the party reported to be marched may be.

We are, honourable Sir and Sirs,

6 or 7,000 men and 8 pieces of cannon now are on the road,

John Chambers.

Read again the translation of the letter, received last night from the Nabob Coffin Aly Cawn; which having likewise concluded,

The board are of opinion, that it leaves no room to doubt that our troops at Patna have met with a defeat; and therefore think that Major Adams should be instructed to proceed with caution, and leave nothing in his rear which may in any manner endanger the settlement.

The proclamation drawn up last night, being wrote fair, was now laid before the board ready for signing; whereupon the president and Mr. Haftings entered the following minutes:

The president, tentable that it will be more for the public service we should appear unanimous in every measure now entered upon for prosecuting the war against Coffin Aly Cawn with the utmost vigour, and supporting the alliance with Jaffier Aly Cawn, to re-erablilish him in the government; and particularly, that it will be a satisfaction to the Nabob Jaffier Aly Cawn; contents to sign the proclamation, and all other public deeds which shall be made in consequence: Now recording once for all, that he does not mean hereby to prejudice his former declarations and opinions entered on the consultations.

Mr. Haftings's Minute

It is long since I forebode that our disputes with the Nabob would terminate in an open rupture; but as from the ill opinion which I had of his strength, I expected that our conteminations with him would be of a very short duration, nor otherwise affect the interest of the Company than in the further ill consequences of a broken and disordered state; and as I had not the same tie upon me with the president, with respect to any military charge, it was my resolution, as soon as war should be declared, to resign the Company's service, being unwilling on the one hand to give authority to past measures of which I disapproved, and of a new establishment which I judged detrimental to the honour and interests of the Company; and apprehensive on the other, that my continuance at the board might serve only to prejudice than advance the good of the service, in keeping alive, by my presence, the disputes which have to long disturbed our councils, and retarding the public business by continual disputes and protests: But since our late melancholy advices give us reason to apprehend a dangerous and troublesome war; and from the unparalleled acts of barbarity and treachery with which it has opened on the part of the Nabob, it is become the duty of every British subject to unite in the support of the common cause; it is my intention to join my endeavours for the good of the service, not as long as the war shall last, but as long as the troubles consequent from it may endanger either the Company's affairs or the safety of this colony: On the same principle, and to remove every appearance of diffusion amongst ourselves, I will freely set my hand to the declaration published by the board; though I still abide by the sentiments which I have all along expressed in the measures taken in the course of all our disputes with the Nabob here, by confirming all that I have declared in my former protestis and minutes, which stand upon record in our consultations.

These minutes being entered, the proclamation was signed by the whole board, as recorded on last night's consultation.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The honourable Henry Vanfitten, Esq; President,

John Carnac, Esq;—William Billers, Esq;—John Carter, Esq;—Warren Haftings, Esq;

— Randolph Marriott, Esq;— Hugh Watts, Esq;

Received a letter from Mr. Johnstone at Burdwan, dated the 7th instant, acquainting us, that he had received advice of Coffin Aly Cawn's having sent Cangur Cawn with a detachment of 6,000 horse and 5,000 foot by the way of the hills to enter Burdwan; and that if he drives us out of it, he is to have the Zemindarry of Deroorom.

No. 60.

APPENDIX, No. 60.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The honourable Henry Vanfitten, Esq; President,

John Carnac, Esq;—William Billers, Esq;—John Carter, Esq;—Warren Haftings, Esq;

— Randolph Marriott, Esq;— Hugh Watts, Esq;

Received a letter from Mr. Johnstone at Burdwan, dated the 7th instant, acquainting us, that he had received advice of Coffin Aly Cawn's having sent Cangur Cawn with a detachment of 6,000 horse and 5,000 foot by the way of the hills to enter Burdwan; and that if he drives us out of it, he is to have the Zemindarry of Deroorom.

No. 61.
APPENDIX, No. 61, 62, 63.

No. 61. The 11th July 1763.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,
The Honourable Henry Vanfittart, Esquire, President,
John Carnac, Esquire,
William Billers, Esquire,
John Cartier, Esquire,
Warren Hastings, Esquire,
Randolph Marriott, Esquire,
Hugh Watts, Esquire.

The treaty with the Nabob Myr Mahomed Jaifer Cawn having been finally executed yesterday between him and the members of the council, is now brought in and read at the board.

Ordered, That a copy of it be here recorded, and the original deposited with the other treaties.

No. 62.

Extract from Mr. Fullerton's Letter to the Board.

Mr. Ellis, with the rest of the gentlemen, were inhumanly butchered by Shimroo, who came that evening to the house with two companies (he had, the day before, sent for all the knives and forks from the gentlemen) he surrounded the house with his people, and went into a little outer square, and sent for Messieurs Ellis, Hay, and Luffington, and with them came fix other gentlemen; who were all terribly mangled and cut to pieces, and their bodies thrown into a well in the square, and it filled up; then the sepoys were sent into the large square, and fired on the gentlemen there, and rushing upon them, cut them into pieces in the most inhuman manner, and they were thrown into another large well, which was likewise filled up.

The 7th, the Nabob sent for me, and told me to get myself in readiness to go to Calcutta, for that though he had been unlucky in the war (which he affected with great warmth had not been of his seeking, nor had he been the aggressor, reproaching the English with want of fidelity, and breach of treaty) yet he said he had full hopes of an accommodation. He asked me, what I thought of it? I told him, I made no doubt of it. When some of his people who were present mentioned the affair of Mr. Amyatt's death, he declared that he had never given any orders for killing Mr. Amyatt, but after receiving advice of Mr. Ellis having attacked Patna, he had ordered all his servants to take and imprison all the English in the provinces, wherever they could find them; he likewise added, that if a treaty was not fett at once, he would bring the King, the Morattas, and Abdallas, against us, and ruin our trade, &c. He had finished his letters, and ordered boats and a guard to conduct me, when upon the advice of some of his people he stopped me, and said, there was no occasion for me to go. After his sending for me at first, he ordered the sepoys, in whose charge I was, to go to their quarters, two Moguls and twelve Hircarras to attend me, but to let me go about the city where I pleased. I then applied for liberty to stay at the Dutch factory, which was granted. I applied to Mendee Allee Cawn for his interest in behalf of the gentlemen in the Cheloton, who were seven in number, and were not killed till the 11th of October; but when he was petitioned about them, he gave no answer; but still sent orders to Shimroo to cut them off. I likewise applied to Allee Ibrahim Cawn, who interceded for them; but he gave him no answer, though I was present when Ibrahim Cawn petitioned for them.

The 14th of October, on the approach of our army, Cosin Allee decamped with his troops in great confusion, and marched as far as Fulwarre, five eofs to the westward of the city. The Hircarras that were with me having no orders about me, I gave them some money, which made them pretty easy.

The 25th, after giving money to a jemmadar, that had the guard to the westward of the Dutch factory, by the river side, I set out in a small pulwar, and got safe to the boats under command of Captain Welderburn, that were lying opposite to the city, on the other side of the river; and at eleven o'clock that night, arrived at the army under the command of Major Adams, lying at Jonfy.

No. 63.

Fort William Consultations, 17th September 1763.

Letter from the Governor to Cosin Ally Cawn.

I have received from Major Adams the copy of your letter to him, dated the 1st of Suffer. Mr. Amyatt and Mr. Hay were sent to you as embassadors, a title sacred among all nations, yet in violation of that title you caused Mr. Amyatt to be attacked and killed on his return, after having given him your passports; and Mr. Hay you unjustly kept as a prisoner with you:—You surrounded and attacked our factory at Cossimbazar, and carried away our gentlemen from thence prisoners, in a most difgraceful manner, to Mongheer, although they
APPENDIX. No. 64.

had no concern in the war, nor refisted your people. In like manner, in all other parts you attacked the English agents, who were carrying on their trade quietly; some you killed, and some were carried away prisoners, and their effects every where plundered:—After these proceedings, do you ask for what reason Major Adams was bent with an army?—You know the laws of God and man. It's you declared you would turn the English out of the country, and had proceeded as far as you could towards it; it became neccessary for us to take measures for our own defence, and for the care of our own reputation: thanks be to God that success has attended our army thus far! and they will continue their march in the same manner as far as the Caramanfa, that the country may be freed from disturbances, and the inhabitants relieved from the horrors of war. And although we are shocked, as must all people, of all religions and all nations, at the revenge which you threaten to take upon the lives of our chiefs, who have been unfortunately and unjustly taken prisoners by you, yet the honour of our nation, and the interests of the Company will not be sacrifised to this consideration, nor the operations of the army stopped. To put prisoners of war to death, is an act which will appear shocking and unlawful, not only to Christians and Musselmen, but to the most barbarous Pagans; such sentiments are no where to be met with but among the beasts of the field. After the battle of Ouda Nulla above a thousand of your officers and men were prisoners in the hands of Major Adams, who releaved them without the least hurt or injury:—Reflect on this, and on your own character, both in this world and the next; and remember also, that if you had followed my advice, this war would not have happened.

No. 64.
The Mongheer Treaty.

FIRST. That for all trade imported or to be exported by shipping, the Company's duttuck shall be granted, and it shall pass unmolested, and free of customs as usual.

Second. For all trade from one place in the country to another, in commodities produced in the country, as salt, beetle-nut, tobacco, &c. the Company's duttuck shall not be granted; but it shall go with the duttuck of the buxbunder, flahbunder, or other officer of the country government.

Third. That at the time of taking out the said duttuck, and before the dispatch of the goods, the duties shall be paid according to the rates which shall be particularly settled, and annexed to this agreement.

Fourth. That the said duties so to be paid before exportation shall be the whole that are to be paid; if that alter the dispatch of the goods, nothing shall be paid at any chokeyns in the road, nor at the place of sale.

Fifth. That all the goods being furnisht either with the Company's duttuck or that of the government, shall meet with no obstruction or delay. The guards and chokeyns on the road shall have nothing more to do than to demand a sight of the duttuck, unless they shall observe the boats to be laden with a larger quantity of goods than are mentioned in the duttuck; in which case they are to give immediate notice to the nearest English factory, as well as to the nearest officer of the government, that orders may be sent to have a strict examination; but they are not to detain them in the road.

Sixth. If any one should attempt to pass goods without a duttuck, either from the government or the company, or shall clandestinely procure a company's duttuck to pass salt, tobacco, or other produce of the country, from place to place for inland trade, such goods shall be seized, and confiscarted; the guards and chokeyns in the road are to stop them, and to give notice to the nearest English factory, as well as the nearest officer of the government.

Seventh. If any person not having a duttuck shall attempt to pass boats or goods clandestinely, under the cover of, and in company with, other boats or goods having a duttuck, such boats or goods so attempted to be passed clandestinely, shall be seized and confiscarted.

Eighth. The gomastahs in every place shall carry on their trade freely, and as merchants; and shall on no account use force in buying or selling: if any disputes arise in the course of their business, they shall not attempt to redress themselves; but shall make their complaints to the fouzedar or other officer of the government, and have the matter tried before him: in like manner, if any merchant or inhabitant shall be aggrieved by any English gomastah, he shall make his complaint to the fouzedar, or other officers of the government; and the gomastah being duly summoned shall appear before him to answer to the charge, and have the matter determined.

Ninth. To deter the fouzedars, and other officers of the government, from being guilty of any partiality, they shall be enjoined to transnit to the Nabob copies of their proceedings, upon all trials where English agents or gomastahs are concernart; and likewise to give a copy to the agent or gomastah, who, if he thinks himself aggrieved, may send the same to his principal, and he may make his complaint to the President, who, if the case requires it, will apply to the Nabob for redress; and when any fouzedar or other officer of the government shall prove guilty of such partiality, the Nabob shall punish him in the most exemplary manner.

No.
THE minute given in by the President the 22d March, has not in the least altered the sentiments of Mr. Amyatt, in regard to the demand proposed by him to be made from Coffin Aly Cawn, of the twenty lacs of rupees for the use of the Company, as he finds nothing in the minute to invalidate the reason which induced him to propose that the demand should be made; nor did any minute or expression of Mr. Van Sittart's ever imply such money was not to be received, but the contrary; and only retold the payment of it to the Nabob's generosity, after his other expences were defrayed, which was not risking much; for whilst we remain so powerful in this country, such a promise the Nabob will look on as binding as a bond; and the taking a bond might bear a bad appearance; for it's acknowledged that a paper was received from him, containing a promise of 20 lacs of rupees to Meffrs. Van Sittart, Caillaud, Holwell, Sumner, and McGwire. Now it's not to be imagined he would have offered so large a sum to these gentlemen, to the exclusion of the other members of the council and select committee (an offer before unprecedented) but as a consideration to engage them to conclude with him a treaty, from whence he was to reap so much advantage, without regard to the opinions of the rest of the board; as therefore they could have no right to receive money upon such terms, and Mr. Amyatt is willing to believe they have not, if they thought proper of themselves to sign a treaty on the part of our honourable matters, the consideration for doing ought to be paid to those who were to be the only losers in case of ill consequences arising therefrom. The parallels between the present received by Mr. Amyatt in common with the whole board, as well as with the army and navy, and this of twenty lacs, intended for five gentlemen only, is as unjust as it would be to make a parallel between the two revolutions: the one established in consequence of the overthrow of a common enemy, the other in direct breach of the former engagements; the act of only part of the council, and to which, had all its members been consulted, the majority would probably have objected. Mr. Amyatt wishes he could agree with the President, that the Nabob is well disposed towards us; if that were the case, there would be no necessity at this time of our sending Mr. Haftings up to him; the whole tenor of his conduct demonstrates the contrary; he is keeping up and daily increasing a rabble of an army an immense expence, which he can do from no other motive than from drift, and a desire of being independent of us; as he may command, by virtue of the treaty, the service of our troops for all occasions: he now remains at the extremity of the country, through his suplications of us; and, in order to be at a greater distance from our settlements, has determined on removing the seat of his government to Rajahmahal; and indeed it is no wonder he should entertain these supplications, as he can have no security that we will keep our faith with him better than we did with his father-in-law; to whom we were bound by engagements more solemn than those since entered into with him; nor can he ever acquit himself of his treachery to Jaffer Aly Cawn, which must ever keep alive the suplications now burning in his breast.—Mr. Amyatt does not allow the smallest degree of merit to Coffin Aly Cawn, for having discharged the payments due to the Company and his troops: his being in a condition to do so was entirely owing to the happy change of affairs, by the defeat of the Shahzadah; the same success would have equally enabled Meerc Jaffer to do so. But moreover Coffin Aly Cawn has taken the opportunity of the tranquillity of the country to commit the most unheard-of extortions and oppressions, and (as a farther proof of his regard for us) more particularly against such as were our avowed friends, Ramnarain with many others are now the unhappy influences thereof; by the giving up of whom, and becoming in every thing false subservient to the Nabob's views, without keeping up any interest or friendship with any other of the leading men in the country, there is not a man of any rank or consequence that dare so much as visit or have the least connections with any of our chiefs or commanders, as their letters to this board at different times testify.

PORT WILLIAM CONSULTATION, 4th July, 1763.

MAJOR CARNAK now delivers in his opinion, in the manner following, viz.

"Though Major Carnak entirely disapproved the revolution in favour of Coffin Aly Cawn, and did not deem the authority, by which it was effected, sufficient, from a conviction, if the whole council had been consulted, the majority would have been against it; yet, from the moment we had the advice of our employers having acquired therein, it became our common duty to support to the utmost the new Nizam, so long as our rights and privileges were not infringed by him; and the Major can safely aver, no person on the board is more truly concerned than himself at the measures we are under the indisputable necessity of taking. The Nabob Coffin Aly Cawn has, for some time past, shown such an indignation towards us as would render it the height of folly to place any confidence in him; and, however
however inclined the board have flown themselves by their long forbearance, and their
fending deputies, to the establishment of a mutual friendship, he has, by his late acts,
absolutely put it out of our power, consistently with honour, to come to an accommodation
with him; we shall therefore be justified to the Company and the world, in exerting our
endeavours for the restoration of Meer Jaffier, an atonement which Major Carnac looks upon
as due to him for the injustice which he thinks was done him in depothing him; and he is of
opinion he should be proclaimed at Calcutta, and taken up by Major Adams to Moorhead's
bad, and there placed upon the Muftund; and that a manifesto should be published, setting
forth the reasons for the change of government; and there is no doubt but that as
Meer Jaffier, from the confideration in which he has for many years been held, must have a
number of friends, several of the most considerable persons in the country will flock to his
standard.

Major Carnac begs leave to submit to the board the terms which, in his opinion,
should be made the ground work of a treaty to be concluded between us and the
Meer Jaffier.

The confirmation of the cession of the three provinces of Burdwan, Midnapore, and Chita-
tagong, with this alteration, that they be now made over to us in property, instead of their
revenues only being assigned to us, as is the cafe at present.

An universal freedom of trade to be allowed us, and the other privileges which the deputies
were commissioned to demand of Cofhim Aly Cawn.

The depraving the expenses of the war, and a full indemnification to be made to the
private sufferers, as well as to the public, for all losses sustained. To enable Meer Jaffier to
do fo immediately, the treasure of Cofhim Aly Cawn, if laid hold of, to be put into his
hands; but in case of failure herein, the revenues of the Nadia province to be mortgaged
to us till every body is reimbursed.

The farm of the Purnea Petre to be given to the Company.

The ill conquence of suffering an overgrowth of power in a Nabob being but too
apparent, he should in future be limited in the number of his forces, as to be obliged to have
his main dependence upon those of the English: the principal of our troops should therefore
be stationed at Burrumpoor (where there is a piece of ground already marked out and given to
us) where proper cantonments may be erected for them at the Nabob's expense, and the
single batta also paid by him. There they will be at hand to be detached wherever he has
occasion for their services, and this disposition will preserve our military, it being a very
healthy spot; whereas they have fatally experienced (the two last reasons particularly) the
unhealthiness of Calcutta.

No. 67.

Fort William, the 8th December, 1763.
At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable Henry Vanstirt, Esquire, President,
Commodore John B. Tinker,
Warren Hastings,
Randolph Marriott,
Hugh Watts,
A. William Senior, Esquires.

AGREED we write a letter to Major Adams, acquainting him that we have paid due atten-
tion to the contents of his, as well as of the other letters from Shuja Dowla, Sitarbux,
As. That we shall immediately fix on some proper person to send as our agent to Shuja
Dowla's court, from whom being informed of the state and interests of the several chiefs of the
empire, we may be enabled to judge of any particular engagements Shuja Dowla may propose
to enter into with the Company. That in the mean time we have determined thus far, that
Shuja Dowla's dominions lying contiguous to the provinces of Bengal, it will be for our mutual
interests to maintain a friendship and defensive alliance; and that we do therefore empower
him to promise in our name that we shall be ready to assift Shujah Dowla, either against Cofhim
Aly Cawn, or any other enemy who may invade or attack his dominions: that in return
however we shall expect from him to declare himself openly an enemy of Cofhim Aly Cawn, and
use his utmost endeavours to seize and deliver him up with all his effects: and unless an
alliance of this nature is first concluded with Shujah Dowla, or an invitation received from
him, Beny Behadre, or some other officer of note empowered to make it, we would not have
our army pass the Carmanacca; that if in return for this advance of ours towards an alliance,
Shuja Dowla on his part incline to send a principal person to treat at Calcutta, we desire he will
furnish him with the necessary passports; but that if, contrary to our expectations, Shujah
Dowla should join his army with Cofhim Aly Cawn, we desire he will on the first appearance of
such a junction write to Shujah Dowla in high terms; declaring that we look upon it as an
open act of hostility against us, and shall pursue him with all our forces wherever he goes.—
That he (the Major) will accordingly in such case advise us, and we shall immediately, with the
assistance
affiance of the squadron, reinforce him to the utmost of our power, to enable him to enter Shujah Dowla's dominions—That we observe from these letters Shujah Dowla and Beny Behadre are desirous of our becoming security for the payment of the King's revenues, in return for the subsidary fanads to be granted to the Nabob; but this we would on no account agree to; neither do we think, considering the King's present situation, and the state of the empire, that these fanads are of any such consequence as to make the Nabob anxious for obtaining them at the great expense which has hitherto attended applications to the court—That of these our sentiments he will acquaint the Nabob, and recommend to him not to make any promise of money on that head, pointing out to him at the same time that the weight and security he derives from our protection is greatly superior to any that can be conveyed him by these fanads, and that all the money he can collect will be wanted to pay his own troops, and fulfil his agreements with the Company—That from what appears to us of Shuja Dowla's circumstances, we think it very possible he would give all his affiance for obtaining the fanads, for the fake only of our offered alliance—And upon this footing therefore, he (the Major) may acquaint the Nabob that he shall request them—That as these negotiations, the neighbourhood of the King and Shujah Dowla's army, and the large force with which Coffin Aly Cawn has retired from the province, may open scenes of business of great consequence to our nation in India—we must earnestly request our request that he will remain in the command of the army until the event of these doubtful affairs is become more certain.

2d February 1764.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable Henry Vanfittart, Esquire, President.
William Billers, Esquire,
Warren Hasting, Esquire,
Randolph Marriott, Esquire,
Hugh Watts, Esquire,
Ralph Leycester, Esquire,
John Burdett, Esquire.

To Major John Carnac.

Sir,

Agreeably to the resolution of council the 30th December, you will please to proceed with all expedition to the province of Bahar, and take upon you the command of the army now stationed there. On your arrival at camp you will direct one hundred Europeans and a thousand sepoys to return to Bengal, as we intend a detachment of that force, with two pieces of artillery, shall always be cantonated at Ghyrottee, and kept in readines to execute any services which may be requisite below.

As Coffin Aly Cawn has now fled out of these provinces, into the dominions of Shuja Dowla, the principal object of the army under your command will be to watch his further motions, and guard and maintain the tranquility of the frontiers; and you will therefore please to canton the troops as near the boundaries of the province as you may think necessary for these purposes.

From the disposition which the King and Shuja Dowla has expressed, in their late letters to us, and the answers which we wrote them, we are in hopes they may determine to surrender Coffin Aly Cawn into our hands; or, at least, by stripping him of his wealth, and obliging him to disband his forces, put it out of his power to give us any further disturbance. But if, contrary to our expectations, they should resolve to join the fortune of Coffin Aly Cawn, and march with their forces towards Bengal, we desire you will advance the army to the banks of the Gurnam, and oppose and prevent any enemies from entering the country.

Our sentiments regarding the conduct to be observed towards the King and Shuja Dowla, you will find contained in our letter of instructions to the late Major Adams, dated 8 December 1763, of which a copy is herewith delivered for your information. And as the answer to the letters which were wrote all to them at the same time, must pass through your hands, you will be enabled to take your measures according to the advice which they may contain.

In this letter to Major Adams, we transmitted our opinion, with respect to the Nabob's making application for the King's fanads, and which, you will observe, we desir'd to be communicated to the Nabob. The President likewise then wrote to the Nabob to the same effect; but we are sorry to find, that notwithstanding our counsel, he continues still very earnest in this point, and has actually executed an agreement to pay to the King 28,000 rupees annually, with 5,000 rupees, with a view of obtaining these fanads, and that he is seeking means to remit above one half of that sum immediately to court. In consequence of this intelligence, we have been under the necessity of sending orders to the commanding officer of the army, of which copies are inclosed for your information. And we cannot help repeating here, that we think this flipp of the Nabob's a mark of bad policy and great imprudence; for making remittances to the King can only be considered as supplying the finances of Shujah Dowla, who seeks but an opportunity of invading and modelling the Nabob's government, may, is perhaps at this very period become his open and declared enemy. Besides, admitting the royal confirmation Z
to be a matter requisite, either for the public or the Nabob's own private satisfaction, it would certainly be a more proper time to apply for it when once all parts of the country have testified a firm allegiance to his government, and he has been fully established in his dominion over it. We shall always endeavour to carry ourselves towards the Nabob in such a manner as to give him no just cause of disquiet; but we must hope, and our employers will expect, that, for such conduct, he will not be wanting in a suitable return, by a proper observance of his engagements, and an attention to their interest; and that therefore he will, for the present, set aside the above-mentioned reflection, which plainly tends to their injury in both these respects.

The Nabob has wrote to the President, that it is his intention to return to Calcutta in the month of March next—we desire therefore you will encourage him therein, as far as you may find opportunities, having many points to settle with him, necessary for the welfare of his and our government.

As we are informed that the fort of Rotas remains still independent, we desire you will endeavour to reduce it, in case you can find an opportunity; that is to say, if it should appear that it can be done without any inconvenience to the other objects of your instructions, or occasioning the loss of much time and men.

In consequence of the opinion of yourself and the other field officers, that the small body of European cavalry we now maintain, can never prove of service adequate to the great expense which attends their establishment, we have determined to reduce them all, excepting one troop, which will be useful for the purposes of patrolling and reconnoitring. We desire therefore you will incorporate the officers and men with the battalion, and order the horces to be disposed of to the best advantage, after completing the troop commanded by Captain George Hay, which we mean shall stand to sixty private, and its proper officers.

Sensible of your regard for the Company's interest, we need hardly recommend to you to have in view the reduction of the expences of the army, whenever, and as far as the nature of the services you have to execute will admit.

We rely entirely on your prudence, courage, and good conduct; and wishing you always health and success, we are, with esteem, 

R. LEYCESTER.

HENRY VAN SITTART.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable Henry Van Sittart, President,
William Billers, Esq.,
Warren Hatlings, Esq.,
Randolph Marriott, Esq.,
Hugh Wates, Esq.,
Samuel Middleton, Esq.,
Ralph Leycester, Esq.,
John Burdett, Esq.

To the Honourable Henry Van Sittart, Esq. President and Governor of Fort William.

Honourable Sir,

I am extremely sorry to inform you, that notwithstanding all endeavours to keep the troops in due bounds; yesterday morning the European battalion forced the drummers to beat the General, without apprising any of their officers, and flew to their arms, appointing themselves a leader: after loading their pieces and fixing their bayonets, they took possession of the artillery parks, forcing the lascars and some gunners to draw out six guns, placing three on each flank; the European horce formed on the right, and the Moguls on the left; the seapows were likewise in motion, but by a timely admonition they desisted. All endeavours were used to pacify the Europeans, but in vain; in this order they proceeded through the Nabob's camp, croffed a nulla, and directed their march towards the Carumnafla. When I found they were not to be stopped at any rate, I sent Captain Stables to apprise the Nabob, who came and met them on their march—offered a lack of rupees, one half to be paid immediately, and the remainder at one o'clock in the afternoon, which was all he could produce in camp; but neither promises or threats could stop them—for want of draught bullockes, the cannon were left on the road to, and in, the Nabob's camp, which I returned to camp again.

I followed them in company with many of the battalion officers, endeavouring to persuade them to march back to camp, and receive the money the Nabob had offered. About a hundred dropt them on the march, and returned; on their arrival at the Carumnafla, they drew up on the parade in the front of the guns belonging to the detachments, and immediately secured them; in the mean time, the Mogul horse dispersed themselves among the seapows of the detachment, to influence them to join. Here I got them to halt to take a dram and biscuit; while the drums were served, we prevailed on most of the English to return; but the French, and most of the foreigners, perisfed in crossing the Carumnafla, to the amount of about three hundred, and proceeded towards Banarac; at the same time, by the influence of the
APPENDIX, No. 67.

the Mogul horse, part of two battalions of sepoys of the Carnamah detachment refused to their arms, fixed their bayonets, and followed them across the river; growing towards the evening, I took the remainder of the Europeans with the guns to the grand camp, leaving some officers to affist the sepoys officers. To-day we have got many of the sepoys to return, with some of the Europeans; and I expect most of the sepoys, with about seventy Europeans, will return this evening, on condition of being pardoned; there is a body of Frenchmen, about one hundred and fifty, headed by Serjeant Delamar, and two of the French serjeants that have halted on the banks of the Ganges, opposite Banaras, but cannot cross for want of boats. I have very little hopes of this party's returning, for it seems to have been a premeditated scheme of the French in particular, to entice the half the army over to the enemy, under the pretence of donation money, at the same were determined to refuse all offers of cash whatever.

This morning I ordered part of the donation to be paid from the haak which the Nabob sent, the Europeans received forty rupees per man, and the sepoys fix rupees each; the non-commisioned officers in proportion; this appears to have satisfied them, and I believe most of the Europeans that have returned are ashamed of their proceedings, being convinced of the bad intention of their leaders (the French) to draw them into a crime which they never intended.

I shall, with the assistance of my officers, do my utmost endeavours to regain those still missing, by their present behaviour, that the fury of the storm is past. However I think it proper that the army be kept in motion, which may partly prevent the like for the future. I purpose shifting ground often, still keeping the district between the Son and Carnamah, and should I be glad to be honoured with your orders and advice.

The Nabob proposed setting out for Calcutta two days ago, but receiving a letter from Shittabroy, that he should set out from Ilizzabad immediately with the fonnads, has detained him a few days longer.

I am,
Honourable Sir,
Camp at Sut, near Carnamah, Your most obedient humble Servant, February 12, 1764. William Jennings.

27th February, 1764.

At a Conzultation; PRESENT,
The Honourable Henry Vanfittart, Esquire, President,
William Billers, Esquire,
Warren Haftings, Esquire,
Randolph Marriott, Esquire,
Hugh Watts, Esquire,
Samuel Middleton, Esquire,
Ralph Leycefter, Esquire,
John Burdett, Esquire.

At a Conzultation; PRESENT,
The Honourable Henry Vanfittart, President,
William Billers, Esquire,
Warren Haftings, Esquire,
Randolph Marriott, Esquire,
Hugh Watts, Esquire,
Samuel Middleton, Esquire,
Ralph Leycefter, Esquire,
Mr. Burdett, absent.

Captain Jennings's Letter.

Received a letter from Captain Jennings, dated the 15th Instant, giving us a particular account of the behaviour of the troops, from the date of his last letter to the board, till the mutiny which happened among them on the 12th; of which we have already been particularly advised by his letter to the President of that date, as likewise of the clefs he took to pacify, and bring them to a proper sense of their duty: that the next day the sepoys at camp having heard of the revolt of those at the Carnamah, refused to take the fix rupees per man offered them, and immediately frind to their arms; whereupon the greatest confusion ensued, as the Europeans, being ashamed of their former behaviour, insisted on forcing the sepoys back; and accordingly fand likewise to their arms, and the artillery to their guns: that not being able to prevent this, he ordered the battalion to form on the parade, load, and fix their bayonets; but upon no pretence to use violence, without they were attacked: that finding nothing else would quiet them, he has judged it for the good of the service, that the sepoys demand for being paid half the share per man, which the Europeans had received, should be complied with, and that the havildars have accordingly received each 40 rupees, the naiks 35, and the sepoys 20: that they appear all pretty well satisfied at present, and that he shall use his utmost endeavours, with the assistance of the other officers, to promote quiet and harmony among them.

At a Conzultation; PRESENT,
The Honourable Henry Vanfittart, President,
William Billers, Esquire,
Warren Haftings, Esquire,
Randolph Marriott, Esquire,
Hugh Watts, Esquire,
Samuel Middleton, Esquire,
Ralph Leycefter, Esquire,
Mr. Burdett, absent.

1st March 1764.

Captain
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Captain Jennings's Letter.

Received a letter from Captain Jennings, dated the 18th instant; acquainting us, that the troops are again brought to good order, and at present appear extremely well satisfied; that he learns by his hirecarras, the foreigners, headed by Sergeant Delamar, have proceeded on towards Eliahbad, and that Raja Bulwant Sing has affiled them with money and guides to conduct them to Shuja Dowla's camp; although in his letter, in answer to Captain Jennings's, he affurers him, that he used all the perfuasions in his power to prevail with them to return, but that they perifed in marching forwards, to offer their service to Shuja Dowla: that by the return of that day, he finds our lobs to consist of five serjeants and 152 rank and file, with 16 private of the European cavalry, and 100 sepoys; but that the latter being in a separate body, he is still in hopes of prevailing with them to return to their colours.

12 March 1764.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,
The Honourable Henry Van Sittart, Esquire, President,
William Billers, Esquire,
Warren Hastings, Esquire,
Randolph Mariot, Esquire,
Samuel Middleton, Esquire,
Ralph Leycester, Esquire,
Mr. Burdett indentified.

To the Honourable Henry Van Sittart, Esq. President and Governor, &c. of Fort William.

Honourable Sir,

I received your favour of the 5th of February, and should have answered it sooner, but our advices for some time have been very intricate, both from Illahbad and Shuja Dowla's army.

The Nabob's intelligence, which corroborates with ours, are, that Shittahroy is stopped from coming; and that the King and Shuja Dowla are come to a resolution to affill Coffim Aly Cawn, and put him again in possession of Bengal, &c. By two Hirecarras from Banaras the 24 ultimo, I am informed that Coffim Aly, by order of Shuja Dowla, has sent Shake Small Beg Jemmadar, with two hundred horse, and four companies of of sepoys, to Bulwant Sing; who is to affill them with hackirys, and a proper buzar, for their march to Rotafigur, to carry off the treasures and effects left there. Upon enquiry, I find there is no way of preventing this party, but by crossing the Carumnafla, their route being round the hills, through Bulwant Sing's country, which brings them to the western gate of Rotafigur, without entering the Nabob's dominions.

Major Carnac being expected every day at Patna, I have wrote to receive his orders.—I have some reason to think that Shuja Dowla has sent people to our camp to corrupt our men.—I have confined a fuicer, who is accused by an European of offering his service to the revolted party on their way to the Carumnafla, promising to conduct and supply them with provision on their march up the country: and by a letter from Captain Stables, received last night from the Nabob's camp at Doudnagur, he says, 'tis now confirmed, that Shuja Dowla enticed our people to defect.

The army's only complaint is the dearness and great scarcity of provisions in our buzar. The Budgpoor country has been entirely ruined by Coffim Aly Cawn's army, and it is with great difficulty we can get supplies at any rate; most part comes from Patna. I have wrote to Mr. Batson, who has promised to affill us all that is in his power: I likewise dispatch large parties twice a week to Patna for grain; but notwithstanding which, I am greatly afraid we shall be but ill provided; at present the black troops and fervants can barely live on their pay. If it should be judged neccessary for the army to remain in the Budgpoor country, I would recommend that magazines for supplying the troops be erected at Buxar, with a proper detachment to remain there as a guard to the magazine. Buxar lies very convenient to be supplied with grain from Patna, and the adjacent countries, by water, which will greatly leffen the price of all kinds of provisions, and likewise be nearer for supplying any part of the Budgpoor country. Our present land carriage from Patna raises the price of rice, &c. in our buzar a hundred per cent. more than the Patna market, besides the uncertainty occasioned by the merchants selling at different places on the road.—I expect Major Carnac will meet the Nabob at Patna.

I am,
Honourable Sir,
With great respect,
Your most obedient humble Servant,

WILLIAM JENNINGS.

Major
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Major Carnac's Letters.

Received two letters from Major Carnac, dated at Patna the 1st and 2d instant; the former confirming, by his advice, Captain Jennings's intelligence, with regard to Shuja Dowla and Coffin Cawn; and again expressing his hopes, that the Bombay detachment have been detained here; the latter representing the great inconvenience to which the army is exposed on account of the extraordinary scarcity and dearness of all sorts of grain, and the discontent which it occasions among the troops, and requesting we will send orders to Burdwan and Coblimbazar, for forwarding them supplies as speedily as possible; likewise recommending the removal of Captain Grant's battalion of sepoys up to the army, as they have been uninfected, and having a battalion sent from camp to Chittagong in their room.

Agreed, we reply to these letters of Major Carnac's; acquainting him, that immediately on receipt of his last letter, the President wrote to the Nabob, deiring he would send orders to his officers in Purnea, Dinagepoor, and Radhy and the other districts, where grain is most plentifully produced, to collect all they could, and send large quantities to Patna; and recommending to him, as we look upon this the best and most likely expedient for procuring supplies, to repeat the necessity of enforcing these orders: that the stores for Captain Pimble's detachment are now fending up to Ghoyrottee, and that it will be ordered to march from thence as soon as they are completed: that the Bombay sepoys form a part of this detachment, but as there is no more than one battalion for the protection and service of all the Chittagong and Dacca districts, it is impossible that any part of them can be spared to go to the army: that we observe from his letters, as well as those from Captain Jennings, the reason which there is to expect, that Shuja Dowla will either come himself, or favour an invasion into Bahar: that if these advice should prove to have foundation, we think it will be more advisable to carry the war into Shuja Dowla's country, than to wait for his entering the province: that we desire therefore he will, immediately on such confirmation being received, if he thinks he can depend on the disposition and affection of the troops, march the army across the Carnamah, and proceed to act offensively against the enemy, to the best advantage: that in the mean time we shall hold further reinforcements in readiness, confining the detachment of the 84th regiment, the marines of the squadron, and a party of the artillery, which will in all make about 200 men, with two pieces of cannon, to march and join him whenever it shall be judged necessary.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable Henry Van Sittart, President,
William Billers, Esquire,
Warren Haftings, Esquire,
Randolph Marriott, Esquire,
Samuel Middleton, Esquire,
Ralph Leycester, Esquire,
John Burdett, Esquire.

Major Carnac's Letters.

Received two letters from Major Carnac, dated the 7th and 8th instant; the former advising us of his arrival at the camp, and that all accounts agree, that Meer Coffin has engaged Shuja Dowla to march this way—that the mutinous spirit of the troops is far from being suppressed; for that the officers allure him, they have intimations there will be a further demand made of the donation money; both by Europeans and sepoys—that a haillard of Captain Galtz's battalion expressed himself so insolently on this matter, he has thought proper to confine him, and send him down to Calcutta in irons; and that he has also ordered down five Europeans, who have been some time under confinement for defection and other crimes, and recommends their being sent on board the King's ships. The letter of the 8th includes duplicate of that of the 7th, and confirms the intelligence of Shuja Dowla's moving this way.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable Henry Van Sittart, Esquire, President,
William Billers, Esquire,
Randolph Marriott, Esquire,
Samuel Middleton, Esquire,
Ralph Leycester, Esquire,
John Burdett, Esquire,
Mr. Haftings indispofed.

Major Carnac's Letter.

Received a letter from Major Carnac, dated the 15th Instant; inclosing a paper of intelligence from the King's camp, and advising us, that finding Shuja Dowla was on the move towards him, he thought it incumbent upon him to advance the army towards the frontiers, to oppose the enemy's entrance into the province; that he has judged it necessary to make another
another dividend to the troops, to the amount of twenty rupees to each private European, and half that sum to each sepoy—that the seapoys have now received each 30 rupees, which he looks upon to be as much as they are intitled to, and that this was intimated to them, at this last payment—that one of the companies made a little stir on the occasion, but that it ended with his punishing two or three seapoys, who were principally concerned, and turning them out of the service; that the officers, from a conviction the men will never be in right temper, so long as any part of the donation remains due to them, have agreed, not to receive their proportions, till the soldiers have had their entire shares; that after the defection of so many Frenchmen, he could entertain no favourable opinion of the few who flaid behind, and could not avoid being suspicious they did so with some ill view, and that he has therefore ordered Captain Martin, with the remainder of his company, down to Calcutta.

29th March 1764.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,
The Honourable Henry Van Sittart, Esquire, President,
Commodore Tinker,
Warren Hastings, Esquire,
Randolph Marriott, Esquire,
John Burdett, Esquire.
Messrs. Middleton and Leycester indispaced.

Major Carnac’s Letter.

Received a letter from Major Carnac, dated the 18th instant; inclosing one he has received from Shitabroy; to which he refers us, for information of Shuja Dowla’s intention against us; and expressing his concern to find, that by the advices from Calcutta, of the 8th, the reinforcement under the command of Captain Pembld had not yet begun their march; that their being so late, renders it next to impossible for them to join him in time, and that he must therefore put everything to risk, with the force he has at present, however little to be depended on, after what has passed; further advising us, that he would fain cross the Carnamaffa, and give the enemy a meeting, as far as possible from the boundary, but that he fears the difficulties they are in for provisions, being only supplied from day to day, will not permit his doing so; and that he shall be obliged to keep close by the Ganges, to secure a conveyance by water, having had intimation, that the enemy’s design is to hover at a distance around them, and endeavour to cut off their supplies.—That a treaty of alliance has been some time in agitation, between the Nabob and Bulwantsing, the Rajah of Banaras: that the Nabob is now very anxious for its being brought to a conclusion; and proposed to him, that evening, setting his seal thereto, on the part of the English, without which the Rajah will not enter into any engagement: that he shall be very unwilling to take a step of such a nature, without first knowing whether it be agreeable to us; but that the present exigency will not admit the delay of waiting our answer.

Having duly considered this letter of Major Carnac, we are unanimously of opinion, that as Shuja Dowla has now openly espoused the cause of Coffin Aly Cawn, and encourages his design of an invasion into Bengal, we can entertain no further thoughts of entering into a treaty with him: on the contrary we think it our duty to form against him all the enemies we possibly can; that the proposed alliance with Bulwantsing will therefore be a very proper measure, and prove, as well as in all time to come a strong barrier and defence to the Bengal provinces.

Agreed therefore, that we write to Major Carnac, advising him, that we shall approve entirely of his entering into the intended treaty, in concert with the Nabob; and of his engaging to protect and maintain Bulwantsing independant, both now and hereafter.—That the detachment which in our letter of the 12th we mentioned we should hold in readiness, will march this day from Ghurrottee, under the command of Captain Weymws; so that we have now reinforced him with every man that is capable of bearing arms: that, for the defence of this part of the country, particularly the province of Burdwan, against any detached parties which may be sent to make inroads by the way of the hills, we are completing the battalions at Burdwan and Midnapoor, and shall call Captain Grant from Chittagong, with all the seapoys in those parts, excluding one battalion of the new establishment; and that this force, with what assistance Commodore Tinker may yield us, for the service of the artillery, is all we have to depend on: that we must still suppose the Nabob has issued orders to his officers, for sending to Patna all the grain that can be collected in the different countries; but that, for his satisfaction and our own, we shall write to Mr. Gray to be certainly informed, and direct him also to advise him; and if the officers have not received orders to that effect, to purchase all he can on account of the Company, and forward it on to Patna: that we incline him a letter from the President to Shuja Dowla, with an English translation for his perusal, which if he think it advisable, at the time he arrives, he will please to forward on.

Agreed, that the letter to Shuja Dowla be to the following purport:

That it is reported, he has received Coffin Aly Cawn into his friendship, and that he is marching this way, in order to support his cause: that considering the former connections subsisting between him and the chiefs of the company, we cannot give credit to this report: that we
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we are perfuaded he has the utmost regard for justice, and that he will not act in so unequitable a manner; that if however such are his real intentions, we shall not neglect to do what is necessary on our part; and that it is our resolution to keep this country free from troubles, and to carry the war into his dominions, and defeate and lay waife his country.

3d April, 1764.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,
The Honourable Henry Van Sittart, Esq. President,
Warren Hastings, Esq.
Randalp Marriott, Esq.
Samuel Middleton, Esq.
Ralph Leycefer, Esq.
Mr. Burdett, indiposed.

Major Carnac’s Letter.

Received a letter from Major Carnac, dated the 22d instant; acquainting us, That the enemy are all collecting at and near Benaras; and making preparations for throwing bridges across the Ganges: that he would willingly push over the Carumnafla, with an intention of obstructing their work; but that the Nabob is utterly averse to entering Shuja Dowlah’s country, being unwilling to do any thing that may be construed as a commencement of hostilities on his part; further repeating his complaints on account of the great scarcity of provisions, and acquainting us, that not chusing to rely on his sole judgment in so critical a cafe, he consulted Major Champion and the captains of the army, with regard to crossing into the enemy’s country, and the pation in which they are at present encamped; and that they are entirely against moving till a supply of grain is secured, and agree with him, that at Buxar they are most advantageously posted for watching the motions of the enemy: that he has ordered a bridge to be laid over the mouth of the Carumnafla, for passing the troops, as soon as he has collected a stock of grain, when he proposes advancing upon the Ganges to oppose the enemy’s crossing it, or should they be crossed to offer them battle.

Agreed, We reply to Major Carnac’s letter; acquainting him that he has already been advised of the reinforcements ordered to camp under the command of Captains Pemble and Wemyrs, so that he will send such orders to those officers as he may judge requisite, in consequence of the operations of the enemy and the disposition they may make in advancing into the country, particularly in case any detachments of their force should pass between him and Bengal:—that we are endeavouring to raise a party of the volunteers who were under Captain Wedderburn, to be employed again in the same manner in armed boats on the river, on any necessary service: that we defire therefore he will direct the boats, which we are informed are at camp, to be repaired, and kept in readiness for embarking them; or if he thinks proper he may send them down to meet the party at their march up: that expecting the Nabob’s arrival in Calcutta, we have delayed enquiring into the state of his revenues and expences, and the other branches of his government, which are necessary for settling the articles of the treaty; but that as that prospect is now very uncertain, we must request he will make the best enquiries he can, and inform us of the state of the Nabob’s finances, and how they are managed, as his complaint of want of money appears to us extraordinary, considering he has had the time for making the heavy collections of the year, and but (small) disbursements that we know of; that it is necessary we should be also acquainted with the state and expense of the Nabob’s army; what number of troops he keeps up, and what principal officers he employs and depends upon:—that we should be glad to know further who are the principal officers about his court, and in his councils:—that we know Nundcomar to be one, and to have the chief management of his correspondence:—and as we have had too frequent experience of this man’s intriguing disposition, and are certain that he has many connections in Shuja Dowlah’s court, we have reason to suspect that he will employ these connections, at so critical a juncture as this, against our government, as a security for himself in all circumstances: that we cannot be too much on our guard against any such dispositions, and we should with therefore to have him entirely removed from the Nabob’s service:—that if he thinks he can bring the Nabob to content to his dismission, we would have him done immediately; but that if he thinks the Nabob will not consent to it, we would have him keep those sentiments entirely to himself, lest it should cause a jealousy in the Nabob, or excite Nundcomar to form worse designs, from the apprehension of such an event, and content himself with taking all possible precautions to prevent his carrying on any correspondence with the enemy:—that it is evident there has been a shameful neglect with respect to collecting grain for the army, since Meer Cohin was driven out of the country before the harvest was reaped; and there never was known a more plentiful crop: that this we cannot help regarding as a particular instance of the mismanagement or wilful neglect of Nundcomar, knowing it to be his duty, from his post, to have attended to that business: that we formerly applied to the Nabob for cuncaws on account of the Company; three lanks to be paid at Patna, Meer Cohin, and five at Dacca; to which application he replied, He would grant them when he came to Calcutta; but that the time of his coming being now very uncertain, the President has wrote to him.
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him again for the same tuncaws; and that we desire he will represent the necessity of his granting them, as the Company's affairs suffer much for want of money, and we are afraid of being distressed to answer even our military expences, and our daily demands;—that there is another object of general concern, upon which also we must desire he will apply to the Nabob, if he thinks circumstances will admit of it; we mean the fund for restitution of the merchants' losses in the late troubles, for which no provision has been yet made, and which, we perceive by the accounts already delivered in, will amount to a very considerable sum, notwithstanding the regulations we have laid down for reducing the prices of every kind of goods to the lowest:—that we are obliged to request his affittance in these points, until Mr. Watts shall arrive at his station with the Nabob, when he will take the burden of them off his hands, and inform him of all his proceedings.

Consultation, 9th April, 1764.

Received a letter from Major Carnac, dated 26th March 1764; inclosing one which he had received from Captain Maclean, advising him of a very daring attempt made by one of the fudbars of his battalion, to decoy his company over to the enemy; and acquainting us that the man having been tried by a court martial, composed of black officers of the battalions, and found guilty of the charge alleged against him; and the court having given it unanimously as their opinion, that he deferred to be blown from the mouth of a cannon for the fame, he had him accordingly executed in that manner the same afternoon at the head of the army; and expressing his hopes that this public execution will strike a terror amongst the troops, and awe them into better behaviour for the future.—The letter further advises us, that there is now no doubt of a bridge being finished over the Ganges; but they have such various accounts of the different quarters by which the enemy intend penetrating the province, that though they were provided for advancing on, yet he thinks it most advisable to wait at Buxar, and watch what way they turn their principal force, that they may move thither to oppose them. Also inclosing a paper of news, which after finishing his letter he had received from the Nabob.

Captain McLean's letter, and the paper of news being read;

Ordered, They be entered after the Major's letter.

The latter, on perusal, is only found to contain advice, that the enemy are encamped at Bulwar Ghaut, on the banks of the Ganges, with the particular of their force, and that bridges for their passage are building with all expedition.

At a Consultation; PRESENT;

The Honourable Henry Van Sittart, Esquire, President,
Commodore Tinker, Warren Hatlings, Esquire,
Randolph Marriott, Esquire,
Samuel Middleton, Esquire,
Ralph Leycester, Esquire,
John Burdett, Esquire.

Received two letters from Major Carnac, dated the 2d and 4th April 1764. The former inclosing the proceedings of a general court martial held on Captain Lieutenant Baylone, which has occasioned his dismission from the service, and repeating still his complaints of the want of provisions; further mentioning, that he thinks Captain Pembble has been rather dilatory in his march, having received a letter from him of the 23d ultimo, when he was only at Plassey, although he left Ghypottee the 17th. The second advising us, that from informations which he has received from Mur Ahruff, he has been led to entertain strong suspicions of Nundcomar's fidelity and attachment, and that he apprehends he has ever been engaged in a private correspondence with the enemy; that whatever may be the truth, the tenor of Nundcomar's conduct argues strongly against him; to support which the Major mentions the little assistance we have as yet received from his administration, and particularly instance the distress of the army for want of provisions; that the countries from which we should receive our supplies, have been by him put into the hands of Mr. Collin's creatures; to which we may add, that whatever may be his disposition with regard to the Nabob, we cannot reasonably expect he should have any attachment towards us, considering the circumstances of his having been long under confinement with us on an accusation of a former criminal correspondence, and his being fully convinced that it is the intention of our government, if in their power, to get the chief management of the provinces confided over to Roy Dulub: that the very suspicion (and for which there were such grounds) of a man in fo high a degree of confidence with the Nabob, and who, if a traitor, would have it in his power to do us so much mischief, was reason sufficient for his wishing to have him removed, and that he had accordingly exerted all his influence with the Nabob for that purpose; but that he always inferred, in reply to his arguments, that he knew Nundcomar to be his friend, and that Roy Dulub was a traitor to him; and could be brought to no other conclusion, but that if the one was sent away, the other should be dismissed also: to which the Major fears he will be obliged to submit, unless some more eligible expedient can be hit upon, as he thinks Nundcomar's remaining with the Nabob after so public an accusation would alone render him our enemy, tho' he were not so before. The
The Major further adds, That the continued want of grain has obliged him to retire towards the Soane, where he can more securely depend upon supplies, and because all his late intelligence agrees that the enemy do not intend fighting us; but that their delay at the bridges near Benaras is to draw our attention that way, to give time for the division they are sending round by the back of the country to get between our army and Patna.

And agreed, in consequence of the advice contained in the latter, that the Nabob be addressed by the President, in the name of the whole board, to the following effect:

That it is with great concern we find ourselves under the necessity of remonstrating to him upon the ill administration of the affairs of these provinces since his accession to the government, strongly exemplified by the great distress our army has been in for want of grain, tho' the country was freed from any enemy before the crop was cut, and that they were as plentiful as were ever known; in the repeated complaints he has made to us of his want of money, tho' the heaviest collections of the year must have fallen into his hands, and in general from the little he now seems able to give us for the defeat of our common enemies, that we cannot impute these evils to any but Nundcomar, under whose immediate influence and direction all the affairs of his government have hitherto been conducted; that these are strong instances of his misconduct and negligence; but that what gives us still greater reason to be dissatisfied with him is, that from advices lately received from Major Carnac, we have too much reason to suspect he has been carrying on a secret correspondence with the enemy, and counteracting every measure we have been taking for the support of his (the Nabob's) government; that, notwithstanding the repeated representations which have been made to him (the Nabob) for supplies of grain, Major Carnac for want of it has been obliged to return to the Soane: that this, with other matters, which have been fully represented to him by Major Carnac, will effectually, we hope, convince him that the disapprobation we now express at Nundcomar's conduct arises only from our friendship for him, and a regard for our common safety; that therefore, however backward and cautious we should at all times be not to interfere with the officers of his government, yet the wicked mismanagement of Nundcomar in the present critical situation of our affairs, obliges us to press and insist upon the immediate removal of that man from his employ; that we take not upon us to recommend a successor, resolving to approve of any man whom he shall please to appoint, if he will but manifest a true zeal for his service; whatever opinion we may have expressed of Roy Dalub, or desire to have him employed, we are ready to acquiesce in his removal to Calcutta, if such is his (the Nabob's) pleasure, at the same time that he sends down Nundcomar, being defirous to give him every proof in our power, that we are not fawed to make this remonstrance from any partiality to the one, or personal dislike to the other; that we are not incautiously or unnecessarily interfering with his authority, which we are determined to support—but are compelled, much against our will, to press the removal of this man, who seems to be undermining both his power and ours; that as we are giving now the strongest inculcations of our attachment to him, by exerting all our strength to free his country from our common enemies, we must expect that he will so far concur with our endeavours, as immediately to remove Nundcomar from his confidence and service; as the longer any power continues in his hands, the more endangered is our common safety, by his artifice and misconduct; that we are happy in presenting this address thro' the hands of Major Carnac, of whole attachment and regard we have repeatedly had, such strong proofs, and with whom we have no doubt will be ready to concur in every necessary measure for the public good.

Agreed also, that we do write to Fort St. George, and to Dacca, Caffimbuzar, and Mantea, advising them of the appearance there is of the country's being invaded by a very numerous enemy; and that although we have no manner of doubt that our forces under the command of Major Carnac will defeat them, wherever they may be brought to engage, yet we think from their numbers there is a probability of their dispersing, and making sudden inroads in different parts of the country; and therefore judge it necessary to acquaint them, that it is not on any account our intention they should risk falling into the hands of the enemy, by attempting to make a stand at their factories, which are not calculated for defence, or provided with troops for that purpose; but that on the approach of any formidable body of troops, we would have them to retreat in time, with what effects they can with safety bring along with them.

Consultation 25th April 1704.

Received two letters from Major Carnac, dated the 9th and 17th; the former repeating and explaining fully the reasons which determined him to cross the Soane, and retire towards Patna; and advising us that he is now convinced, from Builwont Sing's behaviour (of which the Major gives us an account) that his proposed alliance with us was only a concerted scheme to draw us further on, and to favour Shuja Dowla's design of getting between our army and Patna—That in consequence of our former orders he discharged a number of boats immediately upon his arrival at Patna, in much that he has at present scarce a sufficient for the services; and that he paymaster assures him the accounts of the army have been transmitted to the end of last year, and promises to continue sending them down as regularly as possible.—The last letter acknowledges receipt of ours of the 2d; and acquaints us, That it is something remarkable that that
was precisely the day on which he had the debate with the Nabob relative to Nundcomar; that our coincidence of sentiment with him in this particular amounts to a demonstration that there are strong grounds of suspicion, however we may want direct proof against him; that yet that the Nabob is so obliquely attached to this man that he fears there will be no possibility of removing him without having recourse to force, which, at this critical juncture, it would be thinks he improper to make use of; that his Excellency is so much out of temper by this affair, that it has occasioned his being so out of order as not to be willing or able to enter upon business. for some days past; that he has deferred giving any answer to his demand on the article of retribution, but had sent orders the day before to the proper officers for the payment, three laks at Moorshedabad, the said sum at Dacca, a laks and half at Nudya, the same at Honagthy, and one laks at Patna, of which he himself advises the President: that Beny Bahadur is certainly come on this side the Carumann, by the high road, so that there is no longer any doubt of Shuja Dowla's intending to favour Meer Coffam; which is further confirmed by a letter inclosed, which he (the Major) had that day received from the Vizier; to which he advises he had replied in the following terms: That he was not to be preferred by any but of the King of England, and the English Company, whose servant he was; that he (Shuja Dowla) had gone such lengths, that we could no longer look upon him but as an enemy, and that the sword must now decide between them; that he could not doubt of succefs, as he was confident, from the justice of our own cause, we could not fail having Providence on our side.— He also incloses one to us, which he supposes is to the same purpose, and advises us further that the Bombay detachment had joined him the day before, and that he had sent on two battalions of sepoys, with a couple of guns, and proposed advancing with the army as far as he can be sure of being supplied with grain. The President also lays before the board the following Translates of Shuja Dowla's Letters, received from the Major.

From Shuja ul Dowla to the Governor and Council.

Former Kings of Indostan, by exempting the English Company from duties, granting them different settlements and factories, and affidng them in all their affairs, bestowed greater kindness and honour upon them than either upon the country merchants, or any other Europeans; moreover of late His Majesty has graciously conferred on you higher titles and dignities than was proper, and jahagiers, and other favours since; notwithstanding these various favours which have been shewn you, you have interfered in the King's country, possessed yourselves of districts belonging to the government, such as Burdwan and Chittagong, &c. and turned out and eftablished Nabobs at pleasure, without the consent of the imperial court. Since you have imprisoned dependents upon the court, and exposed the government of the King of Kings to contempt and disfavour; since you have ruined the trade of the merchants of the country, granted protection to the King's servants, injured the revenues of the imperial court, and crushed the inhabitants by your acts of violence; and since you are continually seding fresh people from Calcutta, and invading different parts of the royal dominions, and have even plundered several villages and parganas belonging to the province of Ilahabat; to what can all these wrong proceedings be attributed, but to an absolute disregard for the court, and a wicked design of seizing the country for yourselves? If you have behaved in this manner, in consequence of your King's commands, or the Company's directions, be pleased to acquaint me of the particulars thereof, that I may shew how suitable a retribution: but if these disturbances have arisen from your own improper defires, defait from such behaviour in future; interfere not in the affairs of the government; withdraw your people from every part, and send them to their own country; carry on the Company's trade as formerly, and confine yourselves to commercial affairs. In this case imperial court will more than ever assist you in your business, and confer its favours upon. Send hither some perion of distinction as your vaqueer to inform me properly of all circumstances, that I may act accordingly. If (which God forbid!) you are haughty and disobedient, the heads of the disturbers shall be devoured by the sword of justice, and you will feel the weight of His Majesty's displeasure, which is the type of the wrath of God; nor will any submissions or acknowledgments of your neglect hereafter avail you, as your Company have of old been supported by the royal favours. I have therefore wrote to you; you will act as you may think advisable; speedily send me your answer.

From Shuja ul Dowla to Major Carnac.

Agreeable to His Majesty's care for the welfare of the people, I now write to you. Consider how the Kings of Indostan have given your Company settlements and factories, exempted them from duties, and conferred greater favours upon them than upon other Europeans or the merchants of their own dominions: since then, notwithstanding all these favours, you have been guilty of ingratitude to the court; since you have turned aside from your former paths, and on the contrary have been continually marching your troops into the King's country; and since you have presumed to remove the officers of the imperial court, and to turn out and eftablish Nabobs, What
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What kind of behaviour is this? In case you have your King's or your Company's orders for these proceedings, be pleased to inform me of it, that I may know a suitable remonstrance. But if it is through your own inclinations that you have plundered villages belonging to Lilliabad, and that you pretend to your evil designs, notwithstanding the approach of the royal standards, it is proper you should desist from such proceedings, and represent your desires to me. In case of your obedience, our favours shall be conferred upon you; otherwise the guilty and disobedient shall be utterly destroyed.

Consultation, 10 May 1764.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

On the 8th in the Evening we received the following Letter from Major Carnac.

Gentlemen,

I have received your favour of the 16th, with the Persian letter from the President, and the same in English, signed by the whole board, to be presented by me to the Nabob, in order to inform my application for the dismissal of Nundcomar. I have before acquainted you of the Nabob's attachment to this man, and with my being obliged, to avoid coming to extremities, to appear reconciled to him; and for the same reason you will please my not delivering the President's letter at this juncture, as I firmly believe the Nabob is so infatuated, that he would rather give up everything than part with Nundcomar. His Excellency's conduct subjects me to the greatest inconveniences, and particularly to that of acting defensively. One would almost think he is engaged in a combination against himself; and had I drawn that from Patna to cover it as well as him, it is most likely he would have been carried off, and the city taken, there being many of the enemy's adherents both within his camp and the town; and it is more than probable, the parties which have gone behind us were for that purpose.

The preservation of the Sircarfeerang country is of the utmost importance to us for provisions; yet, in spite of all my remonstrances, it has been continued in the hands of one Ramchund, a known creature of Mr. Coon, whose troops to-day are all gone over to the enemy, so that we hourly expected news of their having entered that pargannah. As soon as Captain Wemyss arrives I shall order a detachment over for the security of that country. I propose keeping the marines, and taking this opportunity of separating our people, amongst many of whom the seeds of discontent still remain, which it has required my utmost care to prevent from breaking forth. There is certainly somebody tampering with them; and a number of letters have been lately found dropped in the camp, addressed to our foreigners, with intent to deceive them, one whereof I herewith send you.

The accompanying is Shuja Dowla's answer to the last letter from the President, which I took the liberty to open. The main army of the enemy must be pretty near us, though we can get no certain intelligence of them, their advanced parties of horse plundering and destroying every thing in such a manner that our hircarrah is afraid to approach them. I cannot conceive how they, being so numerous, will manage to subsist; and I think they must be so di-ffused as to attempt something decisive, and that very speedily.

I have completed the reform of our sepoys, and we have now ten battalions upon the new establishment pretty near complete in number, but greatly deficient in arms; some of them are extremely good; I cannot as yet say so much of the four youngest. One is stationed at Mongher, and there are two, besides the Bombay sepoys, in garrison at Patna. I have also formed Captain Hay's troop, agreeable to your directions; and the supernumerary horses, except some spare ones that was necessary to keep, have been sold on the Company's account.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Camp near Patna,
the 9th April 1764.

Your most obedient humble Servant,

John Carnac.

Sir,

We must confess ourselves uneasy at the necessity which you have been under of acting upon the defensive, and with it may soon be in your power to change this plan, as it is beyond doubt that all our successes against the powers of this empire have been owing to acting offensively, and always pushing to the attack; and this measure appears the more necessary at this time, as the ill disposition of our troops is likely to be increased by nothing so much as inaction; we are sensible of the difficulties you have had to encounter; perplexed with the Nabob's bad management.
management, and receiving no kind of assistance from him, we have an entire confidence in your conduct and care to provide against the ill effects to be apprehended from such a situation; upon which we shall give you our sentiments, leaving it always in your discretion to act as the circumstances upon the spot may direct you.

It appears to us, that Shuja Dowla's intention is to make use of the advantage which he has in a numerous cavalry, to distress you, and cut off your supplies of provisions; hoping by this plan to gain his point without the risk of an engagement, in which he might have less expectation of success, from the superiority of our discipline. In this view he has succeeded so far, and we are apprehensive of the same success which has compelled you to retire to Patna, may in like manner make it as necessary for you to retreat to Bengal; as it will be in his power, by sending parties of horse between you and this province, to intercept any supplies from reaching you.

As you have never mentioned what flock of provisions you have in the city, we have no satisfactory information upon the point; but unless it is much greater than we can flatter ourselves it is, the daily consumption, without any supply, must soon reduce it. To avoid this danger, if it is possible to take with you by any means a flock of a few days, and by forced marches bring Shuja Dowla to action, it appears to us to be an advisable measure.

If you think this impracticable, or not advisable, the next alternative that occurs to us is, to leave a part of the army strongly posted at or near Patna for the security of the city, or either conduct yourself or send the remainder of the forces across the river, to march from thence into Shuja Dowla's country, putting directly for Banaras; by which they would not only cut off the supplies which come to Shuja Dowla from that quarter, but probably induce Bulwant Singh to come over to our interests, and join in opposing him on that side. It is at the same time probable, that upon the appearance of such a force, other parties may rise upon his dominions, which may be glad to seize such an occasion to favour some pretensions of their own.

It is supposed that Shuja Dowla would leave his own country exposed to many enemies, for the sake of carrying on an unprofitable war in Bengal; but if he should, notwithstanding the march of the detachment of ours into his country, take the resolution of passing Patna, and entering Bengal, the part of the army left at Patna must come down to us by water, excepting a garrison of sepoys for the defence of the city; which when joined by the force we have at Burdwan, and the reinforcement we may soon expect from Madras and from Europe, will be sufficient to oppose him, and especially at a season when the rains will make it very difficult for horse to act.

Concerning the proceedings of the party on the other side of the river, in cafe of Shuja Dowla's retreat; we can only say in general, that we would have the war carried on in his country; for which purpose our whole force could join again in such manner as you may find the most advisable.

With respect to the Nabob, his presence will always be an incumbrance to you; and it would be much better for him to remain at Patna, or return to Calcutta.

We cannot help expressing surprise, that the parties which have harrassed our camp, have never met with any resistance from his horse: if the Nabob keeps none, it is absolutely necessary that you should endeavour to entertain a body of horse, to act under your own orders, and who must be paid by the Nabob.

Henry Van Sittart,
Samuel Middleton,
Ralph Leicester,
John Burdett.

Fort William Consul.tation, 14th May, 1764.

On the 11th instant we received the following Letter from Major Carnac, dated Camp near Patna, the 4th.

Gentlemen,

The united forces of the enemy, who were exceeding numerous, and had with them a considerable number of cannon, presented themselves before us early yesterday, in order of battle; and after cannonading some time at a distance, began a little before noon a very vigorous and warm attack. Sombre, with the choice of the infantry, supported by a large body of cavalry, made an attack upon our front; but not being able to advance upon so heavy a fire as we gave them, they lay under cover, waiting for the success of the assault upon our rear where the enemy exerted their principal efforts: it was fun:let before we had completely repulsed them: our people were to extremely fatigued with the labour of the day, and having been up most part of the preceding night in expectation of the attack, that they were not able to pursue, and the enemy took the opportunity of the dusk to carry off their cannon: I had enough to do to look to every quarter, as I was obliged to divide my attention between the city, the Nabob's camp, and our own post. All the principal officers distinguished themselves in their respective stations; and I cannot say too much of the good Behaviour of the army in general, and in particular of the sepoys, who sustained the front of the attack. The enemy must have met with
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an immense loss, as our fire was very close, and extremely well distributed. I have not yet been able to get an exact account of ours, in Europeans it is inconsiderable: Captain Nottekens and Lieutenant Gardiner are the only officers wounded, but both dangerously; the former has received such a wound as, it is thought, will occasion the loss of a leg; and the latter has had both his legs broke.

I wait with impatience to know what effect this success will have upon the designs of the enemy.

I am, with great respect,

Camp, near Patna,

the 4th May, 1764.

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN CARNAC.

Agreed, we do now reply to this letter, in the following terms: that it is with real satisfaction we have received the advice of his successes: that so fierce a repulse given to the enemy on their first attempt, we should hope may be attended with the most favourable consequences to our cause; and that being extremely sensible of the blame which may be attributed to his good conduct in this efficient service, we beg leave to return him our best acknowledgments: that it gives us pleasure to observe on this occasion that such a general perseverance and order prevailed among the troops, particularly among the sepoys; and that we desire he will return our best thanks to all the officers and men for that bravery and good behaviour.

Agreed, we do further advise the Major of Mr. Watts's return; and desire he will use his endeavours to persuade the Nabob to come down as soon as possible, as he must only be an incumbrance to him in camp, and we have many material points to settle with his Excellency here.

Fort William, the 21st May, 1764.

At a consultation; PRESIDENT,

The Honourable Henry Van Sittart, Esquire, President.

Warren Hastings, Esquire,

Robert Marriot, Esquire,

Hugh Watts, Esquire,

Ralph Leycester, Esquire,

Messrs. Middleton and Burdett indisposed.

Not having received any advices from Major Carnac, since the fourth instant,

Agreed, we write to him, that this silence has laid us under the necessity of taking our information of affairs of the army from reports and private letters. By these we are given to understand, that, even since the repulse of the enemy on the 3d instant, their army has lain within two or three corps of our camp. That, latterly, frequent messengers have passed between their camp and ours, and particularly, that Mendi Aly Cawn has come over to us with some of his dependants. That as we are convinced of the treacherous disposition of the people we have to deal with, and have no accounts from him of the plan on which he proceeds, we cannot help apprehending bad consequences from this delay, and that the enemy may be endeavouring to annull, and gain time to answer some purpose of their own, perhaps forming parties in the city of Patna, or in our camp. That he will easily perceive, by the tenor of all our letters, that we had resolved, from the beginning, not to treat with Shuja Dowlah, if ever he took the part of Meer Coddin, and that we departed not from this resolution even when our army was under some difficulties; far less shall we think of such a measure now, when he is at the head of an army which, we flatter ourselves, will be sure of success whenever they engage.

That we had a convincing proof of the good disposition of the troops from their behaviour in the last action; and as his apprehensions on this head seem to be the only point of difficulty, we hope he has, before this time, made use of their good disposition in attacking and driving the enemy out of the country. That we can entertain no thoughts of treating with Shuja Dowlah, having no conception of any concessions which it is in his power to make us: that the only ones we could ever listen to, must be the delivery up of Meer Coddin, Sombre, and our defecaters; and thence, from the part they compose of Shuja Dowlah's strength, we judge it by no means in his power to perform; nor would we have our operations suspended for the space of one hour until these persons are put into our hands. That we have much reason to imagine the Nabob may give into any overtures for a negociation, from the vain notion of holding the Subadar by the King's authority, independent of our support; but that he must by no means be allowed to carry on any correspandence without his (the Major's) knowledge, neither in the present circumstances to receive any munitions from the King or Shuja Dowlah. That in this and all other measures the Nabob must be entirely ruled by him whilst the war continues.

Agreed, that we further advise the Major of Captain Stibbert's promotion to a majority, resolved on this day in the other department.

Agreed, that we write likewise to Mr. Billers, the chief at Patna, directing him, whilst the war continues, to advise us daily of the occurrences, so far as may come to his knowledge.

C C

Received
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Received a letter from Mr. Gray, at Maulla, dated the 13th instant, acquainting us, that he cannot comply with our orders of the 7th, for purchasing grain, unless we send him a sum of money; that he however takes all opportunities of encouraging the merchants to send rice to camp, and that he has prevailed with several to a large amount.

Agreed, we write him in answer, that as it is not in our power to send him any supply of money, we must be satisfied with the measures he has taken for affisting the army with grain; and have only to desire, that he will continue to prevail on the merchants to carry thither as large quantities as possible.

HENRY VANSTITTART,
H. WATTS,
R. LEYCESTER,
JOHN BURDETT.

Consultation, 24th of May 1764.

Received a letter from Major Carnac, dated the 16th, acquainting us, that he has delayed thus long writing to us, since his last, from his confident expectation of a fresh attack, which his daily intelligence has given him reason to believe the enemy were preparing for: that he so effectually covers the Nabob, that he thinks it his business rather to receive than give the attack, especially as the manoeuvre of the enemy seems intended to draw him after them, that they may have an opportunity of detaching a party to carry off the Nabob, in which they would probably succeed was he to leave them; that besides, in his present position he can contain the forays; whereas when they are pushed forwards, there is no possibility of preventing them from pressing on and breaking, which Captain Swinton and himself have experienced in one or two skirmishes, not being able to stop them from advancing irregularly and firing, tho' they threw themselves in their front: that he is sorry to have occasion to add, as another reason to his little dependence on a part of his Europeans, occasioned by an uncommon instance of misbehaving in a detachment of about one hundred and twenty of them, which he had sent in the 13th and 14th with Captain Smith's battalion of forays to reconnoitre to the eastward of the city, in expectation of surprising some of the enemy there; that by some mismanagement they were fired upon from the walls of Patna, tho' without receiving any damage; but that the whole of the Europeans went immediately to the right about; that this may perhaps have arose from a general panic occasioned by the firing, but that he rather suspects it was done designedly by the foreigners, of whom the advanced guard was chiefly composed; that Captain Smith's forays notwithstanding proceeded in the course he had directed, but found nobody: that Captain Wemyss with the marines had joined him, but he left Captain Maugen on the other side, with the remainder of the detachment, where he has performed a very material service, in defecting a body of troops collected by the disaffected zemindars in the Sirnar Sarang district, which he hopes will secure to us that country: that as the enemy have kept so long hovering about their present station, he thinks it probable they do not chuse to involve themselves further downwards; and if they continue to keep aloof, he shall watch their motions, and wait for an opening to attack them with the least risk and the most advantage: that he has received our letter of the 26th ultimo, with the letter for Shuja Dowla: that Nundocar's late behaviour has been such as to remove almost entirely the suspicion of his being engaged in treachery, however faulty he may have been in other particular: that ever since the appearance of the enemy he has, by his master's and his own earnest request, kept close to him (the Major) which is a strict argument that he was not concerned in any treasonable practices, as he was under his eye, and could not of consequence himself reap any advantage therefrom.

The President lays before the board the following Translates of Letters which he has received inclofed in one from the Nabob.

From Shuja Dowla to the Nabob.

Dated the 12th of May, 1764.

Formerly, when these provinces were in your possession, the English making an agreement with Meer Mahomed Coillim Cawn carried you to Calcutta, and appointed him to the government; afterwards they quarrelled with him, and brought you again from Calcutta; accordingly to the hearty friendship I have for you, I was much rejoiced at hearing this news; and you must accordingly remember the letters which I wrote to you some time ago. Upon your arrival on this side of Patna, I procured you the funnuds from the King, and intended dispatching them to you, with a kellaat: in the mean time I received advice that the English were making a disturbance, and wanted to lend you by force from Saont to Calcutta. Since, notwithstanding his Majesty had conferred honours upon you, and the hearty friendship I bear you is clearer than the sun, yet the English, regardless both of the royal favours and my friendship, were guilty of such unjustifiable behaviour, I therefore marched this way, not at Meer Coillim's desire, but because I could not suffer the King's country to be ruined and destroyed, now that his Majesty has bestowed these provinces upon my son Auhuph-ul-Dowla, who is your nephew.
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nephew. Look upon yourself as the rightful manager of all the affairs of government, and deliver it from the daily infults to which it is exposed. Affairs shall not remain upon their present footing, nor shall the hand of any one be upon you; the districts which belong to the English I will get confirmed to them by the King, in case of their faith, obedience, and attachment.

From Rajah Beny Bahadre to the Nabob.

The negotiations which were some time ago carried on by Rajah Shitabroy, whether he spoke by your authority, or of his own head, went on successfully; but they were afterwards interrupted by the ministers of the court, who caused the preference to be given to the enemy's defires, and acccued me of siding with you and the English. Hitherto I have remained silent, for want of an opportunity having offered. I have overlet the cause of the enemy and his adherents; but whilst I am negotiating in this manner, I am uneasy, lest you and the English chiefs should refuse to act agreeably to my representations, and I should thereby fall into the utmost disgrace; I have therefore sent Chinta-byram to you with all expedition, who will fully inform you of every circumstance. If this affair meets with your approbation, be pleased to acquaint me with your pleasure, and, by the blessing of God, every thing will be happily settled, and whatever agreement I make will be complied with; if not, inform me so in plain terms, that we may act accordingly.

From the Nabob to Shuja ul Dowla, in Answer.

I have been honoured with your friendly letter. At the time when that tyrant, Meer Coffin, fled from these provinces to your Highness's dominions, the English were drefsous of pursuing immediately, over the bridge which he had passed, in order to bring to justice for his violences and apprehensions; but I forbid them, and prevailed upon them to encamp on Durgaonty Nulla, on this side the Caramulla, for these four months past. What earnest and repeated solicitations have been made you, both by the English and myself; but you would by no means listen to our requests; through the intrigues of wicked men you have refused justice to the English, and have proceeded to these lengths. Although in the time of former Nazims the affairs of these provinces have always been negotiated at the imperial court through the means of the head buckiny, yet on account of my hearty attachment to your Highness, I have ever represented my affairs to you; and as you were several times graciously pleased to do me the honour of declaring that you would be answerable for my business, I set my heart at ease, in full confidence in your promises, and never made application to any other person; and the English, through my persuasions, were so faithfully attached to you, that they were ready to attend you, and to sacrifice their lives in your service. Now, likewise, if you will do them justice on that tyrant Meer Coffin, they will not be negligent in shewing their fidelity to you; and my attachment and hearty obedience will daily encrease.

From the Nabob to Rajah Beny Bahadre, in Answer.

I have had the pleasure of receiving your letter, wherein you write that the negotiations which were carried on by Raja Shitabroy went on successfully, but were afterwards interrupted by the ministers of the court, who caused the preference to be given to the enemy's desires, and accused you of siding with me and the English; that till this time you had no opportunity of speaking on the subject; but now an opportunity having offered, you have overlet the cause of the enemy and his adherents; that you are uneasy left I and the English chiefs should refuse to act agreeably to your representations, and you should thereby fall into disgrace: that you have therefore sent Chintalyram, who will inform me of all circumstances: that if you meet with my approbation every thing will be happily settled, and whatever agreement you make will be complied with; if not, that I should inform you in plain terms, that you may act accordingly.

Chintalyram has acquainted me with all particulars, and I explained the whole to Major Carnac, the commander of the English army, who replied in the following terms: "When Meer Coffin fled out of this country into the Vizier's dominions, the English chiefs were desirous of pursuing him immediately, in order to revenge themselves on him; but in compliance with your desires, they halted at Durgaonty Nulla, on this side Caramulla, and, for the space of four months, made continual complaints to the Vizier, requesting him to punish Meer Coffin for his oppressions and cruelties: his Highness, far from assentintg to do us justice, even listened to the intrigues of the enemy, and complied with his desires: nevertheless, if he will now favour us, and either deliver Meer Coffin and Sumeroo into our hands, to be duly punished, or himself imprison them, in recompense for their crimes, the English are still ready to perform the duties of obedience and fidelity; but, till justice is done us, other matters cannot be treated of." In case his Highness will be kind enough to revenge the cause of the English, I likewise will not fail to throw forth a due obedience and attachment. With regard to what you write concerning your having overlet the enemy's cause, and your being uneasy lest you should not gain my consent and the English gentlemen; in case you can prevail upon the Vizier to do justice, either way, as above mentioned, and will be answerable for.
for it, be assured that you will meet with our entire approbation, as you will be fully informed by Chentylaram.

Agreed, We write to Major Carnac, inclosing him copies of these letters, and acquainting him we find from them, that the enemy have made proposals for trading, and proposals have been given them, that we might be inclined to come to terms: that we advised him in our last, and now repeat, that we shall receive no proposals from Sujah Dowlah, neither would we suffer any of his messengers to come into our camp, or the Nabob's, unless Meer Coffin, Sombre, and our defectors be sent delivered up: that the Nabob in his answer to Beny Bahadre's letter we must suppose has said in his (the Major's) name, more than ever he could allude to; but how far ever he may be made privy to this negotiation, we cannot help expressing our surprize, that he takes no notice of it in his letter now before us. Further, in answer to his letter, that we have paid due regard to the reasons which he urges for having continued to ad to long upon the defensive; but that we must say they do not carry the same weight with us: with regard to the Nabob, that he cannot possibly expect, nor can our whole army ever be allowed to remain in a state of inaction, merely to protect his person, especially when it is considered that this end may be as effectually secured by his retiring into Patna: that on this step, therefore, he must immediately determine, unless he should rather resolve to accompany our army, and take an equal chance with them in attacking the enemy: that the misbehaviour of the party of Europeans, in the night of the 13th and 14th, we hope may have been owing entirely to the unexpected fire on them from the walls of the city; but if, on the contrary, there is really any remains of mutiny or dissatisfaction among the troops, it is certain there is nothing so dangerous, or can tend more to encrease such a disposition, than waiting in inaction the attacks of the enemy: that this is a strong reason for pursuing the plan we have recommended of acting offensively; and a still stronger is, that if we allow the war to be protracted in this country, it will be impossible for us to supply him with the immense sums of money which are now required in defraying the expenses of the army; for we already find ourselves greatly distressed to discharge the draughts from the paymaster, and answer the demands of other detachments, which have taken the field, with the current expenses of the settlement: that the Nabob's welfare and interest being so intimately connected with ours, we think he cannot well refuse to assist us in this point, whenever he has it in his power; and that we therefore desire he will reprent to him the present necessity, and endeavour to obtain a general order on the Nais of Moorshedabad and Dacco, for the payment of whatever sums we may call for on our receipt: that in his letter he acknowledges to have received ours of the 26th ultimo, with the President's letter to Shuja Dowla; but does not mention his having sent it to him, that if he has not, we desire he will please to forward it according to our first intention, as we think it is proper that letter should be sent him at all events.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable Henry Van Sittart, Esquire, President.
Commodore Tinker,
John Spencer, Esquire,
Warren Hafling, Esquire,
Randolph Marriott, Esquire,
Hugh Watts, Esquire,
Samuel Middleton, Esquire,
Ralph Leycester, Esquire,
John Burdett, Esquire.

Received a letter from Major Carnac, dated the 19th instant, acknowledging the receipt of ours of the 7th, and 9th, and acquainting us, in answer to the latter, That he has long had in view the operation we recommend as the alternative, and thinks it bids the fairest for totally disconcerting the enemy; but that it cannot be begun till the arrival of Captain Wedderburn; by which time he also expects the waters will be rifen; and will then, unless in the interim he has the good fortune to perform something decisive, let about putting it into execution: that Bulvart Sing he always suspected was only amusing him with the proffered treaty, and his conduct has demonstrated it so, for that he is personally with Shuja Dowla; and his troops were amongst the most forward in the last attack: that in the precautions we have taken to have him supplied with grain, and the advantage of the river, he shall be secure of provisions: that in his present situation, he finds no other inconvenience but the want of cavalry; and that he proposes, therefore, employing Mendee Ally Cawn, to raise a body of Mogulis, amongst whom he has much interest, and to add to Mirza Shabar Beg's troops.

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The President lays before the Board, the following Translations of further Letters from the Nabob, &c. on the same Subject as those minuted on last Consultation.

From the Nabob.

Dated 15th May, 1764 (13th Zecchada of the 5th Year) received the 26th Ditto.

I have already sent you copies of letters which I have received from the Vizier of Rajah Beny Bahadre, and of my answers to them; by the contents thereof you must be acquainted with the King's having granted the three provinces to the Vizier's Son. At present Rajah Beny Bahadre and Aflud Aly Cawn, brother to Golhum Aly Cawn, deceased, who is an old friend of the Vizier's, in consequence of his Highness's directions, have written to me in answer to my letters, to give up only the province of Patna. Copies of these letters, and my answers to them, I have sent enclosed, for your observation; when you are acquainted with the particulars thereof, be pleased to let me know what you think advisable to reply to this demand, that if they again treat with me on this subject, I may write to them accordingly.

Copy of a Letter from Marajah Beny Bahadre, to the Nabob.

I have had the pleasure to receive your letter, mentioning that in case the Court will revenge the cause of the English, you are ready to perform the duties of obedience and fidelity. The sentiments of friendship, which were before engraved on my heart, are not expressed in the contents of your letter; but I imagine you have good reason for writing in such a manner: out of the great regard I have long had for you, I entered on a negotiation with you, notwithstanding your unfriendly behaviour. I was in hopes that in order to make amends for your past neglects, you would have given your content, and settle things on a proper footing; all depends upon the blessing of God, and your and the English gentlemen's approbation; as there is a hearty friendship between me and Aflud Aly Cawn, and every negotiation is carried on with his concurrence; I have fully acquainted him with all circumstances tending to our mutual welfare, and he will write them for your information. Since you are a man of understanding and experience, you will doubtless give your consent to what he represents to you. In case of your approbation, be pleased to inform me thereof, that I may send him to you; if not, whatever is the will of God.

Copy of a Letter from Aflud Aly Cawn to the Nabob.

I with Marajah Beny Bahadre preferred to the Vizier your letter in answer to mine, which I had the pleasure of receiving at 9 o'clock in the morning, and the Marajah preferred to him the letters which he had received from you, and at the same Marajah Nunderoomar's letters, and our haste were preferred to him by Hohn Aly Beg Cawn; on perusal of them, his Highness was much displeased; and said to Marajah Beny Bahadre and me, "When a person has put himself under the protection of the King and the Vizier, where is the justice and propriety of delivering him into the hands of his enemies, or imprisoning him? That they have made such demands. The contents of their letters can by no means be productive of good." After many representations, his Highness declared his final resolution as follows: "Let the province of Patna be resigned, the authority rests with us, we will appoint whomsoever we please to the naitab of the province; when this point is agreed to, we will consider about punishing the enemy, and doing justice to the English; otherwise they must be rooted out and destroyed. Moreover his Highness has given final orders that no one interferes with you; but Marajah Beny Bahadre and I have written you the particulars, agreeably to his Highness's and Marajah's orders: consider them well, and fend me such an answer, that these disturbances may be removed. Enclosed is a letter from the Marajah.

Copy of the Nabob's Answer to Marajah Beny Bahadre.

I received your letter wherein you write, that the sentiments of friendship, which of old were engraven in your heart, are not expressed in the contents of your letter; but you imagine I have good reason for writing in such a manner: that out of your regard for me you entered on a negotiation with me; notwithstanding my unfriendly behaviour you were in hopes that I would now settle matters, in order to make amends for past neglects: that all depends upon the blessing of God, and mine and the English gentlemen's content; that you have acquainted Aflud Aly Cawn with all circumstances tending to our mutual welfare; that I shall be informed of them by letter from him, and you will fend to me in case of my approbation; if not, whatever is the will of God.

Aflud Aly Cawn's letter has acquainted me of the particulars of this affair. As I had the greatest confidence in your friendship, I did not expect you would have written to me in such a manner; I am in the utmost surprize at your making to unexpected a demand of money, and at your regarding my request, that the English may have justice done them, as contrary to the ties of friendship. Had you formerly promised to punish the enemy on condition of my attending to so improper a demand as you have now made in Aflud Aly Cawn's letter, my obedience would...
would not have carried me so far as to engage me in any thing productive of shame and repentance; nor should I have neglected the care of honour. Since you are inclined to war, you will not be pleased with any reasonable or just proposal that I may make you. If such are your views, no agreement can be made, and till an agreement is made, the sending Afful Aly Cawn would be useless; as for the rest, whatever is the will of God is best; he that cannot procure justice from the King, will procure it from God. I have written an answer to Afful Aly Cawn's letter; by that you will be acquainted with the particulars.

P.S. From the contents of your last letter, I perceive that what you said to me by Chintalryam, and what you wrote me in the letter which you sent by his hands, was all a dream.—Where such inconsistency appears, it is a difficult matter for a kingdom to flourish. In all cases I am very ready to obey any reasonable and just command: a little attention and consideration is necessary on your part also.

Copy of the Nabob's Answer to Afful Aly Cawn.

I have been favoured with your letter, acknowledging the receipt of one from me; and mentioning that you, with Mahrajah Beny Bahadre, presented it to the Vizier; and that at the same time my azeem to his Highness, and Mahrajah Nundcomar's letters, were presented to him by Hofern Aly Beg Cawn: that he was displeased on peril of them, and said to Mahrajah Beny Bahadre and you, "When a person has put himself under the protection of the King and the Vizier, where is the justice or propriety of delivering him into the hands of his enemies, or imprisoning him? that they have made such a demand. The contents of their letters can by no means be productive of good; that it his Highness's final resolution that Afful shall resign the province of Patna; that he will appoint whomever he pleases to the ministerial office thereof: that when this point is agreed to, he will consider about punishing the enemy, and doing justice to the English, and that otherwise we must be rooted out and destroyed: that he has given strict orders for no one to correspond with us but Mahrajah Beny Bahadre, and you, and that you send me inclosed a letter from the Mahrajah." What shall I write to do unjust and unreasonable a demand? How can I consent to a proposal so foreign from my own inclinations; and contrary to the rules of friendship? As his Highness has been pleased to retract his doing justice to the English upon so equitable a condition, it is evidently his resolution not to do them justice; you could yourself represent in a proper manner the unreasonable nature of this proposal, but that you are restrained by the fear of offending: I have by no means neglected the duties of obedience and fidelity: notwithstanding it has always belonged to the head buckify to negotiate the affairs of these provinces, yet I placed my whole dependence upon his Highness the Vizier, and not to any one else; and now this is the reward I reap. My letters contained nothing but a petition of justice, and professions of fidelity: since then his Highness is nevertheless offended at it, to what can this be attributed but to deceit and artifice? Since my sincere and just representations are not consented to, but produce such unreasonable demands in reply, I shall remain silent in future; if you think it unjust and improper to inflict due punishment on such a tyrant and murderer, on account of his having put himself under the protection of the King and Vizier, with what right do you order me to give up the province of Patna, which has so lately been confirmed to me by firmans and munusuds under their seals? With regard to what you write about me considering this affair, the past is gone; the future is uncertain. This is my fate at present; what will it be to-morrow? In case I now consent to this demand, what remains for me to do hereafter?—Since such are his Highness's intentions, it is unnecessary and useless to carry on any further correspondence. With regard to the rooting us out, and destroying us, we depend on the blessing of the Almighty, and trust that he will fulfill our hopes. I have sent for your perusal, copies of two letters in answer to those received from Mahrajah Beny Bahadre.

As by these letters it appears, that a correspondence, and steps to negotiation are still carrying on between the Nabob and Shujah Dowla, we think it absolutely necessary to have a gentleman stationed at the durbar, to lend us the necessary advice, on this and many other material points; and as in the present situation of affairs it would be too much time lost to fend a resident from hence;

Agreed, Mr. Bafton be appointed to attend constantly at the Nabob's court, and that we do write him the following instructions.

Sir,

As the constant attention which Major Carnac is at present obliged to pay to the motions of the enemies, and the operations of our own army, may prevent him from obtaining and sending us the necessary information of what passes from the Nabob's court, we have thought proper to appoint you resident at the Durbar: we direct therefore, that you enter upon this office immediately on receipt hereof, transmitting to us daily advice of every thing that occurs.

By the enclosed copies of some letters which have passed between the Nabob, Shujah Dowla, Beny Bahadre, and others, you'll perceive that terms have been proposed for a negotiation; but we have yet heard nothing on this subject from the Major; we must desire you will inform
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inform yourself, as far as you can discover, what may be the Nabob's motives and views in such a scheme, and what steps have been taken in it; for our own part we are resolved to enter into no treaty with Shuja Dowla, unless Meer Coffim, Sombre, and our defectors, be first part into our hands, as a preliminary; you will therefore acquaint the Nabob that this is our resolution, affuring him we will accede to no treaty he shall make, on any other terms.

In our letter to Major Carnac of the 3d April last, we desired he would inform himself, and advise us of the state of the Nabob's finances, and how they are managed; the state of, the number, and expense of his army; the names of the principal officers he employed, and depends upon, and of the principal persons about his court, and in his councils; we have also desired in later letters to the Major, that he would apply to the Nabob for general orders on the nabirs of Moorshedabad and Dacca, to pay us whatever sums we may have occasion to demand, on our receipt, in order to defray in defraying our present heavy expenses, and for rations for twenty

lacks of rupees towards the payments of losses from the restitution fund. The execution of all these points will now become your duty, and we desire you will exert your best endeavours to satisfy our inquiries, and obtain the orders and rations as soon as possible; we should think a compliance with the money demands cannot subject the Nabob to any inconvenience, as he has had the time in his hands for making the heavy collections of the year, and no large disbursements that we know of.

We have acquainted Major Carnac of your appointment, and sent him a copy of these instructions, recommending to carry on any business he may have with the Nabob jointly with you.

We have only further to recommend to you the greatest vigilance and attention, and to desire that you will be particularly careful in conducting yourself towards the Nabob, in order to preserve as great a confidence as possible between his and our government.

As Mr. Barton may possibly have left Patna before these instructions can reach there;

Agreed, Mr. Billers do in that case take the duty of resident upon him, leaving the business of the Patna factory, as far as may be necessary, in charge of the second.

Agreed therefore, that another paragraph be added at the end of the instructions, advising of this intention, and that the outer address be to Mr. Billers in case of Mr. Barton's absence.

Agreed, we write to Major Carnac, advising him of this appointment, enclosing him copy of the instructions, and recommending to him, agreeably thereto, to carry on any business he may have at the durbar, jointly with the resident;—further, in answer to his letter, that the measure of croffing over the river with part of the army, and carrying the war into Shuja Dowla's country, was only an alternative proposed on the supposition that it would not be in his power to bring the enemy to action; that this is far from being the case at present; as they have for some time past kept our army in a manner-involved; and we would therefore by no means recommend that measure now, until he has first brought them to action on this side, and defeated them, and then of course he must pursue them, and prosecute the war in the most advantageous manner; that we have now repeatedly given him our opinion for attacking the enemy; but if he really thinks this measure imtractacle, we desire he will acquaint us fully with his reasons, and what plan he would propose for bringing the war to an issue; and that we must beg he will be very particular in every circumstance, that we may be enabled to form a proper judgment, and co-operate with them to the utmost of our power: that we do not think any confidence can be proposed in Mendee Aly Cawn, or any other person that deferts from the enemy; and we therefore cannot approve of his proposal to place him at the head of a body of cavalry; on the contrary we must recommend his keeping a watchful eye over him, to prevent his engaging in any treacherous designs; that in riding the Mogul cavalry, we should chuse he should entertain only the inferior officers and private men, and give the command of them to Captain Spelman and the other former officers of our cavalry: that according to the country establishment, they are for the most part liable to be so defrauded of their pay by their jemadar, which renders them remiss in their duty, and indifferent for the good of the service they are engaged in; whereas by becoming subject to our discipline, and receiving their pay in a regular manner, we may expect they will in a short time be attached to us and our officers, as much as our sepoys are.

H. WATTS,
SAMUEL MIDDLETON,
R. LEICESTER,
JOHN BURDETT.

Henry Vansittart,
J. Spencer.

Consultation, 7th June 1763.

Dear Sir,

I have received your favour of the 12th instant. On the 23d in the morning, the enemy left the ground where they have for some time laid encamped, and retired about three corps from our army, where they again pitched their tents; we have not been able to discover with certainty, whether
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whether the whole or only part of their forces remain there; at least there is reason to believe, from the motion of their baggage and some other circumstances, that their intentions are to quit our neighbourhood.

Major Carnac having thought proper to fix the departure of the private letters from hence to two days in the week only, you will not be alarmed if the dawks do not arrive with you frequently as usual.

I am, dear Sir,

Patna,
the 25th May 1764

Your most obedient humble Servant,

William Billers.

He further acquaints, that by a letter from the Nabob of the 25th May, he is advised that Shuja Dowla, dispirited by the ill success of his troops in the Sircar Serang country, and of thole collected under the Rajah of Carrickpore, had broke up his camp the 23d, and was retiring towards his own dominions, but he (the President) is informed by other letters, that their army had retreated no further than Pulwarse the 28th, and that our army still remained in their first encampment.

Agreed, we do write to Major Carnac, advising him of the purport of Mr. Billers’s letter, and the further information which the President has received: that this being the only intelligence we had received of such an alteration in our affairs in the Bahar province, we have not sufficient grounds for giving him any further instructions; but that we cannot help declaring ourselves highly offended at his neglecting to write to us, from the 19th to the 29th, after receiving our orders to write every day; and we must desire he will acquaint us with his reasons for this disobedience: that we also desire to know the reason for his having limited the departure of private letters from Patna to two days in the week, as by his own letter of the 19th, he apprehended no danger of our correspondence being interrupted; and it appears that this order was not issued till after the receipt of our directions to write daily, and after the enemy had quitted their encampment and retired from us: that we desire in future there may be no alteration made in the course of the dawks, and that the President, at our desire, has accordingly directed Mr. Billers to dispatch them every day as usual: that we shall hope for satisfactory reasons for his having suffered the enemy to retreat so much at their leisure without molesting them; and we should imagine it is unnecessary to repeat here the sentiments we have already so explicitly declared to him, forbidding any proposals for a negociation to be received, unless Meer Coffin, Sombre, and our deferrers, be first delivered up.

Consultation, 11th June, 1764.

Received a letter from Mr. Billers, dated the 31st ult. acknowledging receipt of our orders of the 22d, and acquainting us that the enemy had moved off, and, by the best intelligence he could get, were near the Soane.

Received a letter from Major Carnac, dated the 1st instant, acquainting us, that the enemy have been so continually shifting their ground round the city of Patna, at the distance of above four miles, that there was no possibility of judging their intentions; that he therefore could not address us, without the risk of deceiving us; and so various were their accounts, that each day’s letter would have been a contradiction of the past; and that this has been the reason of his long silence: that it is probable, that the enemy’s so frequent change of their position was in order to prevent his acquiring such a knowledge thereof, as would have enabled him to attack them with advantage; and that their cavalry has been so properly disposed of, that he could never reconnoitre without skirmishing, nor get near enough to make the necessary discoveries. That the enemy’s keeping so short a distance from him was no doubt through the hope of being able to get into the city, or to carry off the Nabob by some treachery, and for the better opportunity of debauching our troops; and that his precautions have effectually defeated their schemes: that one of the Nabob’s officers in the city had engaged to give the enemy admission at his post; he had him hanged at the place which he was appointed to defend. That three Frenchmen have got off to the enemy, a fourth was taken in the attempt, for which he ordered him instantly to be hanged, without the ceremony of the court martial; and that no attempt has been made since. That Shuja Dowla, finding himself deceived in the fond hopes he had of carrying all before him, has evidently, for some time past, wanted to introduce a negociation, in order that he might go back, and yet save his credit. That he has letters in proof thereof from most of his great men, which, he thinks, are dictated by Shuja Dowla, though his pride would not permit him to make the advance directly for himself. That he includes us some of the original letters, with the copy of one which he has received from the King, most likely written in his own hand; and that he has written him the answer, which he has invariably given to all who have interfered: that he would hearken to no terms of accommodation whatever, unless Meer Coffin and Sombre were first delivered up to him. That, with regard to Captain Swinton, he has acquainted the King he would comply with his request, provided a person of the first rank amongst them was sent to remain with him as a hostage; that he was in expectation of some one being sent accordingly, but that the Vizier, he supposes, could not be brought
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brought to submit to his demands. That the whole marched off the 30th, and great part got to the mouth of the Soane that evening, and that he expected shortly to hear of their having crossed it. That he is selecting a detachment to be crossed directly over to the Gauzepoor country, under the command of Major Champion, where he shall order him to do all that the ini- 
cutive he can till the rains are set in, during which he may canton at Chupra, and the whole 
may then be ready to renew the campaign in the enemy's country: the moment the season will 

That we are determined to prosecute the war against Shuja Dowla; and being of opinion 
that the rains will not be any impediment to the operations; but, on the contrary, with regard 
to receiving provisions and stores, rather a convenience, from the advantage of the rivers, we 
hereby direct, that he do immediately put the army in motion, leaving the necessary garrisons 
in Patna and Mongheer, and crosses the Soane, and pursues the enemy as far as the Gauges, oppo- 
site to Benaras, endeavouring, if possible, to bring them to an action. That in any operations 
on the other side of the river, it is our view to make as much advantage as we can, without 
leaving greatly the strength of our army, by the detachment that is sent; that they may therefore endeavour to take possession of the Gauzepoor country, and collect its revenues, to 
affix in defraying the expenses of the war; that we direct the officer commanding may be 
instructed, and that it may also be observed as a general rule on all other occasions, to prevent any 
ravages being committed on the country, or injuries being done to the inhabitants; on the 
contrary, that all manner of encouragement and protection be given them, in order to gain 
their affections. That we have directed Captain Grant, with the two battalions of sepoyes, 
and two guns, which are at Jelliagurree, to march on to Patna, from whence they may be 
ordered on such service as the Major may think proper. That having many necessary and 
material points to settle with the Nabob, we have wrote to him and Mr. Batson to come down 
to Calcutta, and have directed the Nabob to leave with the Major such part of his cavalry as he 
thinks may be of service, and recommended to him to discharge all the useless troops of his 
army; allo to deliver into the Major's hands securities for the payment of two lacks of rupees a 
month, to defray the expenses of the army.

Fort William, the 14th June 1764.

At a Consultation: PRESENT,
The Honourable Henry Van Sittart, Esquire, President.
Commodore Tinker.
John Spencer, Esquire,
Warren Haftings, Esquire,
Randolph Marriott, Esquire,
Samuel Middleton, Esquire,
Ralph Lecester, Esquire,
John Burdett, Esquire,
Mr. Watts indisposed.

Received a letter from Major Carnae, dated the 5th instant, acquainting us, that he forgot in 
his last address to acknowledge the receipt of our several letters of the 14th, 17th, and 21st ult. and 
that he has since received that of the 24th. That the plan he has purposed, has been to the 
full as disagreeable to them, as he finds it is to us; yet the rate of our affairs seemed to require 
it, and so probably we would ourselves have judged, had we been upon the spot: that had he 
acted otherwise, he must have run counter to the unanimous sentiments of all the principal 
officers whom he consulted upon the occasion, which was more than he could answer to, where to 
much war at stake: that the event has in some measure decided in favour of this sentiment, as 
the enemy have been reduced to the necessity of withdrawing, without his putting anything to 
the risk: that our army, if it was, was a full match for the enemy, must by all be readily 
allowed; but it was generally believed, especially by such as had been witnesses of the former 
ill behaviour, that disaffection still prevailed amongst many of the Europeans, which was 
refrained from breaking forth, only through the fear of punishment, and the want of opportu- 
nity; and that a number would have defected, but that it was rendered exceedingly difficult to do, 
by the position he had taken, and the good look-out that was kept: that how far the spirit of 
mutiny is yet from being thoroughly quelled, we may judge from the proceedings of a general 
court martial held on two men, which he incloses: that he thinks it very natural the Nabob 
should be very desirous of holding the nazamut by virtue of the Royal phirmaud, the religions 
well as education of all Mussulmen teaching them to regard this as the only regular constituted 
authority; yet Meer Jaffier has not appeared to them to be of himself over forward for a negotia- 
tion: that in this particular he certainly has been influenced by Roy Dalub, who has all along 
been extremely devious of one: that he well knows meffages frequently paffed between him 
and the enemy on the subjéct, but as this was not the proper channel, he gave himself little 
trouble about it, and deemed it unnecessary to give us any: that when offers were made to him- 
self, the reality whereof he was assured of, he immediately communicated them, with his 
answers, which were conformable to our orders: that he deferred forwarding the letter from 
the President to Shuja Dowla, in hopes he might at length be induced to deliver up Meer 
Ee

Cofin
Coftin and Sombre, for the getting of whom into our hands, he persuaded himself we would with pleasure have sacrificed our resentment against Shuja Dowla; but as that point is not likely to be obtained, it will serve as an introduction of our detachment into his country, and he will take care to have it transmitted to him by the first safe opportunity, with one from himself to the same purpose: that the Nabob is very ready to make the several arrangements we require, but wishes to have it deferred till his arrival in Calcutta, for which place he purposes shortly setting out, and is extremely anxious that himself should accompany him: that he only waits our permission to come down accordingly, to prepare for his passage home, which he is determined to take this season: that the enemy are all over the Soane, and Major Champion has crossed the Ganges, but his embarkation was a good deal retarded by the strong easterly winds which have of late prevailed: that the detachment consists of upwards of three hundred Europeans, rank and file, including the marines, and Captain Mangent's Company, three battalions of seapoy, with 5 six-pounders, and 2 or 3 smaller pieces: that he has gleaned the foreigners from this detachment, and would recommend their being disarmed (except some few, of whose attachment he is convinced) and sent to serve on board his Majesty's ships: that by this means a confidence may again be acquired in our troops, without which no vigorous measure can ever be undertaken.

This letter of the Major's having been fully considered;

Agreed, We do write him the following answer—1 that we think it absolutely necessary to proceed against Shuja Dowla without loss of time, nor stop till we have convinced him that we are capable of acting offensively as well as defensively; otherwise we shall not only be liable to have the provinces invaded, whenever the state of affairs in his own country will admit of his turning his thoughts this way: that we must, therefore (with the exception herein mentioned) repeat our orders of the 11th instant, for the army's crossing the Soane without delay; and we have great reason to believe, that the plan therein laid down will be rendered more effectual by the attacks which it is probable Shuja Dowla will receive from Gauzoorin-Cawn, the Jauts, and the Marattas, who are reported to be actually on their march to invade his country: that we have always been of opinion, and still continue to think, that the force under his command is quite sufficient to act offensively against Shuja Dowla; and that himself was of the same opinion, in his letter of the 17th of April, which was some time after the mutiny, and before he was joined by Captain Weymyrs's detachment: that we must also here repeat our sentiments, that a spirit of mutiny is much more likely to break out in an army acting upon a defensive, than an offensive, plan, however he mentions, that the principal officers have all along agreed with them in the expediency of acting defensively. We desire he will now communicate our orders of the 11th instant, and this letter, to the other field officers, the commandant of the King's troops of the Bombay detachment, and of the artillery, and the three senior captains, which with his own is in all nine voices, and let them give their opinions separately in writing, whether they think our plan practicable with the force at present under his command—If not, what addition of troops will be requisite, that may reinforce them accordingly; it being absolutely necessary, for the reasons above mentioned, to act upon the offensive: that these opinions, after taking a copy, he will please to transmit immediately to us, and if two thirds of their opinions should concur, that the present force is insufficient for executing the plan proposed, we would not have the army advance farther than the banks of the Soane, until the reinforcements arrive; and we desire he will, in such case, caution Major Champion not to advance so far as to be compelled to engage with a force too superior to his own: that such of the foreigners, particularly Frenchmen, whom he has reason to suspect of being mutinously inclined, we desire he will send down to Calcutta; and that we have ordered Captain Kinlock to march up immediately with his company: that we have already, oftener than once, expressed a desire of seeing the Nabob in Calcutta, and are glad to find he intends coming soon: that with regard to the Major's request, he has our permission to come down whenever he thinks proper, leaving all our instructions with Major Champion, for his government in commanding the army.

Samuel Middleton,
R. Leycester,
John Burdett.

Henry Van Sittart,
J. Spencer,

At a Consultation, 21 June 1764. PRESENT,
The Honourable Henry Van Sittart, Esquire, President,
Commodore Tinker,
John Spencer, Esquire,
Warren Hastings, Esquire,
Randolph Marriott, Esquire,
Hugh Watts, Esquire,
Samuel Middleton, Esquire,
Ralph Leycester, Esquire,
Mr. Burdett, indisposed.
APPENDIX, No. 67.

The Confultation of the 18th instants being wrote fair, was now read, and approved.

Received the following letter from Major Carnac, dated the 19th instants:—Myr Beychu has been again with me, and brought me letters from the King Munyr o Dowla, and Shakhir o Dowla, with assurances that Myr Collin should be arrested and punished; and Shujah Dowla has himself wrote to me, declaring he would abide by what Munyr o Dowla promises. I have returned with him this general answer: that nothing could procure them a reconciliation with the English, and their friendship, but the actual delivery to us of Myr Collin and Sombre. The Nabob and his Ministers are of opinion that this will at least be confined to: I cannot favr a better myself with the happy event, yet, whilst there are the faintest hopes of these villains being confined to our vengeance, surely we owe so much regard to the memory of our murdered friends and countrymen, to bring it about; to effect which, I think we ought readily to forgive Shujah Dowla's invasion. I entirely concur with you, Gentlemen, that peace ought not to be made with him upon any other terms; and that he is defirous of an accommodation seems probable, from his having dispatched express to call to him Shitabroy, who is daily expected at their camp. Shujah Dowla must come to a speedy determination, as the scene of war is now shifting towards his country, Major Champion having begun his march, though I fear he will not be able to proceed far, as the rains appear to be setting in, and our troops have suffered too much from the former campaign as not to have strength sufficient to bear the fatigues of another; however, they may be cantoned so near as to have it in their power, in case matters be not accommodated, to commence the campaign in the enemy's country early the next season, by which time it is to be hoped our army may be so weeded and reformed as to act with a confidence of success.

I have been favoured with your letter of the 29th ultimo. I shall give over all thoughts of employing Mundy Aly Cawn, as you disapprove thereof; but must beg leave to differ from you in opinion, that a serviceable body of cavalry can be formed upon the plan you propose; the Moguls, who are the only good horsemens in the country, can never be brought to submit to the ill treatment they necessarily receive from gentlemen wholly unacquainted with their language and customs. We daily see the ill effects of this among our troops, and it will be much more amongst horsemens, who deem themselves of a far superior class; nor have we a sufficiency of officers for the purpose. I am forry to say, not a single one qualified to afford a prospect of success to such a project. Captain Spelman is entirely wore out, and no longer fit for service in the field.

Received two letters from Mr. Batfon, dated the 9th and 10th instants; the former acquainting us, that he has taken charge of his office at the durbar; that a correspondence has been some time opened between the King, Shujah Dowla, Beny Bahadre, and others, and the Nabob; and that Major Carnac has also received letters from them; that he finds the Nabob has an inclination to treat and come to an accommodation with the enemy, though there appears to him but few signs of sincerity on their part; neither can he conceive what motives or views the Nabob can have therein; that he conjectures he is desirous of making a friend of Shujah Dowla, at present a troublesome and dangerous enemy to him, and that he wishes to fee his interest strengthened by his alliance, rather than to depend upon us alone for support; and he supposes, for the accomplishment of these ends, he is willing to make considerable facrices: that in the fresh letters from the King, Shujah Dowla, &c. they are very earneali for having Captain Swinton sent to them, in order to promote an accommodation; and they promise our Meer Collin shall be punished, but not delivered up, of which letters he will procure and send us copies; that the Nabob promised to give him an answer the next day to his application for general orders on the naibs of Moorhedabad and Dacca, and the 20 lanks of rupees towards the reftitution fund; and that he shall inform himself as particularly as possible, and daily advise us on the other points recommended in his instructions, as well as of every thing that passes at the durbar, worthy our notice. In the second letter he informs us, that the Nabob says, he cannot give the general orders required, nor the money for the reftitution fund, until the Poona is past, which is to be fixed in a short time; Shitabroy is shortly expected, in order to carry on a treaty for an accommodation, though he knows not what good can be expected from it; and that the Nabob thinks Shujah Dowla will demand the province of Bahar, in return for the delivery of Meer Collin.

These letters having been read, and considered;

Agreed, We write the Major the following answer:

The object we have in view is the same as your's; that is to say, the obtaining the surrender of Meer Collin, Sombre, and our detractors, into our hands; but we have always been, and still continue to be of opinion, that we never shall carry on this point, or any other, by negotiation, unless our army is at the same time in condition, and actually in motion, to enforce the demand. In our last, we desired the opinion of the nine principal officers, whether they think our force sufficient to act offensively against Shujah Dowla? If they do, a vigorous use of that force is the most certain way to obtain the concessions we require: if not, to treat is only to expose our own weakness; for it never can be supposed that Shujah Dowla will give up points so much to his own dishonour, to an enemy, whom he is convinced is capable of acting against
against him in all cases. Therefore we are of opinion that no good can come by treating, but that it may be productive of dangerous consequences, from the opportunity it may afford the enemy of carrying on treacherous designs under that cover. For these reasons, we have frequently, in former letters, forbid treating on any other terms than the preliminary before mentioned; and, for the further explanation of our sentiments, we now positively direct, that the next messenger who comes from the enemy's camp be sent back, with an answer in writing to Shujah Dowlah, declaring plainly, That he is not to hope for a reconciliation with us on any other terms than the surrender of Meer Coffim, Sombre, and our defectors; and that any person whatever, who afterwards may come to the camp with any other proposals, shall be imprisoned as a spy; and if, notwithstanding this declaration, any such should come, you are, without fail, to treat him accordingly.

As we perceive, by Mr. Batton's letters, that the Nabob seems much inclined to an accommodation, and thinks that Shujah Dowlah will probably require some concessions on our part, such even as the surrender of the province of Bahar; we judge it necessary to acquaint you that we will not consent to the giving of any money on the cessions of any territory, either as Jaghier or otherwise; and that nothing shall be Ripulated on our part, in return for his compliance with our demands, but a promise, that we will not invade his country in return for his attack upon us, nor join or affi ait his enemy.

All these directions we mean shall be equally binding on the Nabob as yourself, our interests in this respect being inseparable; and we therefore direct, that no messages be suffered to pass between him and the enemy, nor treaty be carried on between them on any other terms than those prescribed to you; and of course, that no cessions of money or territory to Shuja Dowlah be allowed of; you will accordingly acquaint the Nabob with the directions we have given you, with respect to any messengers from Shuja Dowlah, defiring he will give the same answer to the first messenger who comes to him, and inform him that we expect he will treat all who may come afterwards in the manner we have ordered you.

With the copies of the letters you sent us from the King, &c. you omitted to forward copies of your answers, neither have you sent us the letters which Meer Coffim brought at his last coming; we desire you will send us those, as well as the copies of all your correspondence with the country powers, that after perusal they may be transmitted to the Court of Directors: We further desire you will send us a copy of the orders you have given to Major Champion; and that it may be always a rule, when any such considerable detachments are sent out, to transmit us a copy of the instructions given to the officer in the command.

You speak of Major Champion's carrying the war into Shuja Dowlah's country as a measure to be pursued, if the rains do not prevent him: We desire to know the plan upon which you intend he should proceed; as we cannot conceive how you can supposit him, with the part of the army under his command, to be able to act offensively in Shuja Dowlah's own country, when you with the whole army could not take the field against him here, or attack him when he was within a single march of the city of Patna; and how the whole army will be more able to act offensively after the rains than they have in this campaign.

Consultation 25th June 1764.

Received a letter from Major Carnac, dated the 15th instant, acquainting us that the detachment he ordered over the Ganges has procured the effect he expected from it; for upon advice of their having crossed the Dewa, and begun hostilities in the districts of Gauzypoor, Shuja Dowlah has judged it necessary to retire towards his own country; that whilst he continued in the neighbourhood of the Soane the Major did not think proper to quit his station near Patna; but he now proposes crossing the Ganges himself immediately, though he fears himself the season is too far advanced for his being able to do much more than strike the alarm, the troops already to feel the effects of acting in the rains.

Received two letters from the resident at the durbar, dated the 14th and 16th instant; the former inclosing a list of the principal officers employed at the Nabob's court; and acquainting us, that Nundcomar Roy is the person in whom he chiefly confides, and by whose advice he is guided in all principal affairs; and that next to him the Kinmen Haken Beg are in the greatest trust: that the Kealiram, a person belonging to Shitab Roy, is come from the enemy with letters, and messages and letters are frequently coming; that as far as he can judge they are endeavouring to prevail on the Nabob not to take away the jagheers pollied by Shuja Dowlah and other principal persons belonging to him and the King, and to prevent Major Champion's expedition against Gauzypoor from being put in execution. In the second he incloses a paper of news lately received from Delhi, explaining the dispositions of the chief powers of Indostan towards one another, and confirms the intelligence contained in the Major's letter, as to Shuja Dowlah's further retreat.

Shuja Dowlah having now decamped from his last post on the other side of the Soane, and taken the rout towards his own country, there remains no kind of argument for the Nabob's making any longer stay at Patna; and as the points which we have to settle with him are of the most essential consequence for the security both of his government and our own:

Agreed,
Appendix, No. 167.

Agreed, we write to Mr. Barton, desiring he will repeat to the Nâob for his coming to Calcutta in the most urgent manner, and prevail on him to set out without loss of time—in further explanation of the Company's orders in regard to the method of conducting the correspondence with the country government, and with a view to render their intentions in this point more effectual.

Consultation, 28th June 1764.

Received the following letter from Major Carnac, dated the 17th instant.

Some time after the dispatch of my address to you yesterday I received your letter of the 7th, together with its duplicate.

I have already alluded to you the reason of my so seldom writing to you; viz. that I was unwilling to deceive you, which I must have frequently done had I wrote daily, so various were the movements, and contradictory our accounts, of the enemy; whenever I had certain intelligence I never failed immediately communicating it to you.

It was natural enough to conjecture that the enemy, as they had not been able to effect any thing, would be for going away; and upon this conjecture Mr. Billers, I suppose, gave his information; for they had been only shifting their ground for several days, and did not actually move off till the 30th ultimo, nor did they take any Pulwary road; and of this movement we were brought in doubt the next day by a pair of Hircarrahs, who declared they were just come in from them, and that they had drawn nearer to us. It was necessary to be fully ascertained in so material a point before I wrote to you; by a reconnoitring party I found these Hircarrahs had grossly imposed upon me (I have some suspicion they were tutored to do) and this occasioned a delay of one day in addressing you.

So many letters were daily dispatched from camp, that our daaks, in case of being intercepted, had it not in their power to secure their packer; I therefore, upon advice that the Kiviningpur Rajah had crossed some people over the river, thought it best to limit the private correspondence to twice a week, that so the public letters might have a better chance of passing, which were still to go in the usual course; so that Mr. Billers had no occasion to delay the forwarding his letter to the President; I don't recollect the exact time when I recommended this regulation to take place, but it was soon discontinued.

I judged the pulling away a strong detachment over the Ganges, and entering the enemy's country by that side, to be the most effectual means of precipitating them homewards; and this we did have answered. I doubt, if they had not been obliged to look to their own frontier, whether they would have so quickly quitted ours; and as their principal force consists in cavalry, which appears to be extremely good, and to be well verified in what their peculiar advantages consist, they might have led us about the country, without aiming at any thing decisive.

Read the letter included from Major Champion to Major Carnac.

Agreed we write the following answer to the letter from Major Carnac.

That we are resolved to continue the war against Shuja Dowla, until he submits to the conditions we have preferred; viz. the delivery of Meer Coffim, Sombre, and our deserters; that the object therefore of the detachment on the north side of the Ganges must be to prevent Shuja Dowla from crossing the river, by destroying any bridges he has made, or may attempt to make, over it; taking possession at the same time of as large tract of his country as they can, and, if possible, of the city of Benaras, and collecting the revenues; but avoiding all manner of plunder and ravage, particularly should the detachment advance so far as to seize the city of Benaras, special care must be taken that no plunder is committed there; that we suppose the remainder of the army which was left at Patna, has, agreeable to our orders of the 14th, advanced to the banks of the Sonne; if not, that this will be a necessary caution, as long as Shuja Dowla remains on this side the Ganges, to prevent his recrossing into Bengal; and the army likewise, from that station, will be nearer at hand to join Major Champion, or to reinforce him, in case Shuja Dowla should have marched so far as to get to Benaras before him, or any other circumstances render it necessary: that whenever Shuja Dowla shall submit to the terms above mentioned, we desire our troops may be withdrawn out of his territories.
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No. 68.

Fort William the 20th February, 1765.

To John Johnstone,
Ascanius William Senior,
Samuel Middleton,
Ralph Leycester, Esquires.

Gentlemen,

HAVING thought proper to nominate you a deputation from the board to get the treaty with the new Nabob, Najim ul Dowla, and some consequent arrangements and instructions executed, we herewith enclose the treaty in two copies, executed on our part; and when the Nabob has acceded to the articles on his, you will deliver our copy to remain in his possession, and return the other to us; you will afterwards see him seated in due form on the muftud, and cause proclamation to be made of his accession at the city, and places adjacent, giving us immediate advice thereof, that we may have him also proclaimed at Calcutta, the army, and the subordinate factories.

For your more particular information and government on the subject of your deputation, and the other instructions we have to give you, we refer you to the enclosed extract from our Consultation of the 14th instant, and recommend your proper attention to the whole, and that you will keep us punctually and fully advised thereon.

With respect to the business intended to be allotted between Roydulub and Nundcomar, we have however to observe here, that when you have made such a division thereof as you think will, agreeably to our intentions, bring their powers nearly upon an equality, you will advise and explain the same to us for our further instructions, before it is carried into execution, and in the mean time the collections are to be continued in the hands they now are.

The late Nabob having thought proper to consider the services of the squadron under the command of Mr. Tinker, by giving them a grant for twelve laaks and a half of rupees, we promised our assistance for procuring the punctual payment thereof, so far as it might appear to us in his power confident with the performance of the engagements of his treaty; we have therefore further to recommend your engaging the new Nabob to a confirmation of the grant; and herewith we enclose a copy of the terms to be left with the President at the durbar, that he may afterwards press the payments as they become due. We understand that a small balance of the donation to the army remains still unpaid, which you will therefore also endeavour to procure the immediate discharge of.

The officers in command of the troops stationed at the city will receive the orders of the deputation through Mr. Johnstone.

We are,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient Servants.

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Extract of Company's separate Letter to Bengal, 24 December 1765.

Par. 5. THE war being begun against Coftirm Aly Khan, we approve the measures you took in conducting it till the battle of Buxar. But the demand of the Gauze-poor country, the undertaking to conquer Souja Dowla's country for the King, and the treaty you have made with him, we shall give our opinion of separately. The demand you made of having Coftirm Aly Khan, Sonbare, and the deferter, delivered up to you was confident with the objects of the war, and your success enticed you to add reparation for the expences of the war; but to demand the Gauze-poor country, a frontier surrounded with warlike people, we conceive was a measure by no means adequate to the end proposed, and absolutely a contradiction to our repeated directions not to extend our politions. The anxiety we feel on this occasion is not to be compared to what we suffer at the engagement you have entered into with the King to conquer Souja Dowla's country for him; had you pushed on after the battle of Buxar, the force of your arms must have brought Souja Dowla to confess to your terms; but giving away his country rendered him desperate. In his conference with Major Munro, he plainly tells you he can expect no affittance till you have conquered the country, and then he shall have friends enough; and the illuc, as far as your advices reach, is such as we imagined; you are entangled by your connections with him, seem to doubt whether you can accept even your own terms from Souja Dowla, and in the mean time your new ally so far from a support is even to be supported in the expenses of his household; and Nudjeef Cawn, the only man the King pretended to a connection with, by your last advices, is marching against you.

Par. 17. We are much concerned for the death of Jaffir Ally Cawn, the more so for the critical juncture at which it happened, while the army was at so great a distance; the acknowledging his son seems to have been the most prudent measure for preserving the tranquility of the country; we with this circumstance may have checked your views of conquering Souja Dowla's country for the King; a scheme which seems to exclude all possibility of peace, which alone can make our successes profitable; nor are we without our apprehensions that you may be led on to support the King in his claims to the whole empire; for as you have, by taking polition of the Gauze-poor country, deviated from our repeated orders, and departed from the spirit of our political views, not to enlarge our politions, so we know not what bounds can flop you when our orders prove ineffectual.

Par. 18. The converting the temporary alignment of five lacks per month into a perpetual one would be an enlargement of our revenue that would be flattering indeed, could we persuade ourselves it was consistent with that permanency which is our only object, and with the peace of the country; but unless we find you adopt some system which clearly marks out the barriers of the country government and ours, how they may aid and support each other, and unite their strength against all foreign enemies, we shall deem all those advantages merely temporary, and this height of prosperity subject to a fatal reverse, the first check our arms may meet with.

Par. 19. As our servants have too readily laid hold of every opportunity to exact contributions, or procure donations from the late Nabob, we hope nothing of this kind has happened upon the succession of his son, the present Nabob; however we would have you make the strictest enquiry therein, and inform us of every circumstance, if any such exactions have been made, and in particular of the names and conduct of all and every the several persons concerned, and oblige them to refund the amount thereof into the Company's chest for our further orders.

Extract of Company's Letter to Bengal, 19th February 1766.

27. WITH respect to the treaty with Nazam-o-Dowla, it is proper here to insert at length the 6th article, which runs in these words: "I do ratify and confirm to the English, the privilege granted them by their phirmaund and several hubbulhoo-kums, of carrying on their trade by means of their own dutlbuck, free from all duties, taxes, or impositions, in all parts of the country, excepting in the article of salt, on which a duty of 2½ per cent. is to be levied on the Rowanz (or Houghly market price.)"
APPENDIX, No. 71.

"price." This fifth article is totally repugnant to our orders contained in our general letter, by the Kent and Lapwing, dated the 1st of June 1764; in which we not only expressed our abhorrence of an article in the treaty with Meer Jaffier, literally corresponding with the present 5th article, but in positive terms directed you, in concert with the Nabob, to form an equitable plan for carrying on the inland trade, and transmit the same to us, accompanied by full explanations and remarks as might enable us to give our sentiments and directions thereupon. We must remind you too, that in our said general letter we expressly directed, that our orders in our letter of the 8th February preceding, which were to put a final and effectual end to the inland trade in salt, beetle nut, and tobacco, and in all other articles produced and consumed in the country, should remain in force until an equitable and satisfactory plan could be formed and adopted: as therefore there is not the least latitude given you for concluding any treaty whatever respecting this inland trade, we must and do consider what you have done as an express breach and violation of our orders, and as a determined resolution to sacrifice the interest of the Company and the peace of the country to lucrative and selfish views.

This unaccountable behaviour puts an end to all confidence in those who made this treaty, and forces us to resolve on measures for the support of our authority and the preservation of the Company. We do therefore pronounce, that every servant concerned in that trade stands guilty of a breach of his covenants with us and of our orders; and in consequence of this resolution, we positively direct, that if that treaty is now subsisting, you make a formal renunciation, by some solemn act to be entered on your records, of all right under the said treaty, or otherwise, to trade in salt, beetle nut, and tobacco; and that you transmit this renunciation of that part of the treaty in form to the Nabob in the Persian language. Whatever government may be established, or whatever unforeseen circumstances may arise, it is our resolution to prohibit, and we do absolutely forbid this trade of salt, beetle nut, and tobacco, and of all articles that are not for export and import, according to the spirit of the phrismund, which does not in the least give any latitude whatever for carrying on such an inland trade; and moreover we shall deem every European concerned therein, directly or indirectly, guilty of a breach of his covenants, and direct that he be forthwith sent to England, that we may proceed against him accordingly; and every native who shall avail himself of our protection, to carry this trade on without paying all the duties due to the government, equally with the rest of the Nabob's subjects, shall forfeit their protection, and be banished the settlement; and we direct that these resolutions be signified publicly throughout the settlement.

No. 71.

Copy of the 58th Paragraph of the General Letter from Bengal, dated 12th November 1761.

WE directed Major Carnac and Mr. McGwirr, and afterwards Colonel Coote and Mr. McGwirr, to apply, as soon as Shah Allum should be acknowledged King, for annuities for the Company's pollitions and privileges in Bengal; viz. the Zemundary of the Purgannahs granted by the late Nabob Jaffer Aly Cawn, the jagars of the provinces of Burdwan, Munnpoor, and Chittagong, granted by the present Nabob, and the confirmation of the freedom of our mint, all directed also applications to be made at the same time for the annuities for the province of Arcot, in the name of the Nabob Aly Verdi Cawn, otherwise called Mahmad Ally Cawn, with whom we have been so long allied:—these requests were made by Major Carnac, who was detached by Colonel Coote to escort the King to the borders of the province; and the King wrote upon the papers of requests, that they should be granted whenever a proper pretence or tribute was remitted. The Major transmitted to us copies of the said papers of requests with the King's superscription; and advised us at the same time, that the King had offered to confer on the Company the duannce of Bengal, on condition of our being answerable for the royal revenues; but as we are sensible that our accepting of this part would cause jealousy and ill will between us and the Nabob, we thought it more prudent to decline it; all which you will observe more fully in our Consultation of the 4th July.

Copy of 55th Paragraph of the Company's General Letter to Bengal, dated 9th March 1763.

Your refusal of the duannce of Bengal offered by the King was certainly right, and we are well satisfied with the just and prudent reasons you give for declining that offer: however, it seems something extraordinary to us, that at the time the King makes this advance, he should return the applications made to him for the annuities, to confirm our pollitions and pollitions in Bengal, granted by the late and present Nabob, in so hasty and unprofitably a manner, and even to require a pifca or pretext before he passes the order in due form. The great services we had rendered his Majesty, and the generous treatment he met with from us, as well as from our ally the Nabob, during his stay at Patna, surely claimed a more distinguished treatment, and at least a full grant of our request, without such an expensive
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expensive demand annexed; the time and manner of the refusal seem likewise very extraordinary; your applications being returned at the very juncture Major Carnac was escorting him to the Carumnafla, or borders of the province; a service which must then be fresh in the King's memory; and therefore we think there is reason to apprehend the King is not so cordially attached to us as we might have expected: however, if you judged the obtaining such funds to be absolutely necessary, you have, we doubt not, continued your application to have them perfected. It was a prudent consideration in you to add to your applications on this subject our ally, Ally Verdi Cawn, otherwise called Mahmud Ally Cawn, as Nabob of Areot, which we suppose you have or will continue to do when you think proper to move again in this affair; and though the King succeeded in his pretensions to the throne, the sooner the grants are obtained, the less we apprehend will be the expence attending it.

No. 72.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honourable the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honourable Sirs,

1. THIS ship, the Admiral Stevens, having been purchased to proceed to you as a packet, in consequence of a recommendation from the Select Committee, we embrace the opportunity of transmitting you by her some general necessary informations since our last address of the 11th of March by the Bute.

2. You were then advised of the arrival of the Lord Anson, but that we had not as yet received any accounts either of the remaining transport, the Prince of Wales, or of the Kent; the former imported with us at last on the 17th of April, having for the purpose of refreshing her recruits put in at St. Salvador, on the Coast of Brazil, and the Cape of Good Hope. This indeed considerably retarded her, but the good consequences thereof were happily experienced by the people, almost all of them having been landed here in perfect health: the Kent stopped also at Rio Janeiro, and the latter place; and having at Lord Clive's particular desire put in afterwards at Fort St. George for a few days, and landed, at the request of the president and council, the recruits on board, about 50 in number, arrived with us on the 3d of May, when his Lordship, being accompanied to town by a proper deputation, took charge of the government from Mr. Spencer: a letter of thanks was at the same time addressed to this gentleman for the regard he had shewn to the company's affairs, in continuing in the mean time to hold the charge: and at the return now of the proper season he will proceed immediately to his station at Bombay: Mefieurs Sunner and Sykes having also arrived, took their seats at the board, according to their appointments.

3. We have only yet this season had the honour to receive your commands of the 21st of November last by the Tilbury, which ship imported at Fort St. George the 15th of July: the Horsenden and Royal Captain arrived there also the 23d and 24th of June; and we hence learn proceeded on their destination for China the 19th of July, the Tilbury being to follow them about the beginning of this month: we have not received any intelligence of your other expected ships on this side, but we are apprised from Fort Malbo' that the Thames and Grosvenor imported with them on the 28th of June and 4th of July.

4. We have further the pleasure to acquaint you with the safe arrival of the Earl of Middlesex at Fort St. George, the 27th of May, from Fort Malbro' and Batavia, having been under a necessity of returning to the last port, after an unsuccessful attempt to gain her passage against the northerly monsoon; and as this ship was now on high demorage, the gentlemen thought it would be for the interest of the company to return her to Europe, and resolved to keep her accordingly for their first dispatches. We have been informed from Fort Malbro' of her having with them from the French islands the remainder of the prisoners of war, who were left there, and chose to return.

5. The Caernarvon sailed from Fort St. George the 25th of March, and the Afa having been dispatched from Bombay on the 13th of April, to call on the coast for timbers and plank there provided for us, arrived here the 3d of June; we were at the same time advised that the Calcutta and London were under dispatch to Europe from the presidentcy, and of the departure of the York and Talbot from Trellickery for Canton, on the 30th of April: from Fort St. George we learn that the Duke of Gloucester, Duke of Richmond, and Earl of Elgin, bound likewise for that place, were at Batavia by the last advices they received from thence, dated the 27th of April: the Argo frigare, with the convoyment of treasure to the supra cargos, having sailed by the Pitt's passage on the 9th of January; and from these gentlemen we are informed, under date the 5th of March, of the arrival with them of the Prince Augustus on the 12th of January, and that she was then under dispatch to you together with the Earl of Lincoln.

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6. Having
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6. Having taken immediately under consideration your advices with those we had before received from the gentlemen at Fort St. George and Bombay, and from Canton, with respect to the ships which would be ready on hand this season, and attending to the state of our investment, and other necessary circumstances, we thereupon formed a disposition of those, which is entered for the sake of reference after our proceedings; and from which you will please to observe, that besides this packet, carrying a cargo chiefly of fine goods, and the Earl of Middleton, under dispatch from Fort St. George, we expect to provide for five from this side; viz. the Pacific, Grenville, Poniborne, Falmouth, and Speake; of these the former will proceed to that presidency in the month of December with a supply of salt petre, which they have requested may not be less than 200 or 250 tons, as the Middleton would take off most of what they had on hand, to be returned from thence home in February: the three following we shall certainly return direct from hence fully laden; and we hope our investment will enable us to send you the remaining one also; but if that should not be the case, we propose employing her to carry the annual supplies from hence to Fort St. George for Fort Malbro', and then proceed on to China, to berthe no you at the season of 1766-7.

7. The great assistance which the gentlemen at Bombay received from us last season, in the article of salt petre, and what we mean to supply them with this, at least 25,000 maunds, will, we expect, enable them to return home the four ships confined to their side, as well as the Kent of last year, which we shall immediately send round to them: her late arrival having prevented her proceeding last season: we also intend returning the Aria, leaving to that presidency her further dispositions, either by dispatch to Europe, or providing her with a flock, and sending her to be returned from China in the following season.

8. This plan however, we must observe, is made upon a supposition, that the Falmouth comes out on the same terms and footing as the rest of the ships, in which case we conclude it may stand good; but, if on the contrary, he is an old vessel for sale in India, we can forward home the whole of our investment by encreasing the bare cargoes of the other three from one thousand or twelve hundred bales, to fourteen or fifteen hundred; and left any accident should happen to either of these, we shall defer the dispatch of the Aria till the beginning of November, when we hope to be upon a certainty, and shall determine accordingly.

9. The confignments to the supra cargoes at Canton, for the service of this season, are so very considerable, including the remittance of ten lacks of rupees made to them by the Argo, and what the gentlemen at Fort St. George advise us they have sent them by the Tilbury, Hortenion, and Royal Captain, being pagodas 357.237.6.66. That they will be able to return home all their ships, and the three of last year here-mentioned, to be at Batavia, as well as the York and Talbot from the Malabar Coast, with cargoes to the full stipulated amount in your present commands of lft. 30,000, for each, and upon a computation from their advices, have afterwards remaining in their hands a large balance, near lft. 120,000, in order to begin their investment for the following year.

10. Having thus considered the subject, we gave immediately the necessary advice to the gentlemen at Fort St. George and Bombay.

11. On the arrival of the Kent the former presidency borrowed from Mr. Sumner, to assist in making up their confignments to the supra cargoes, the quantity of 38,000 ounces of Spanish silver, to be repaid him here, at the valuation in our mint, making ARs.91.437.2.9. We afterwards, upon their representation, that the gentlemen at Bombay depended upon them to complete the flock for the Talbot and York, which was sufficient near five lack of rupees, offered to assist them therein, by drafts, as far as for lack: and if the Aria should, as we at present intend, proceed to Bombay, we shall, in case of her after unavoidable detination to Canton, make further provision for that branch of your commerce, by a remittance of two or three lacks.—We must here add, that we pay due attention to your fresh instructions and commands respecting it, and shall, on all occasions, afford it every assistance in our power.

12. Reckoning upon the Aria's proceeding to Bombay accordingly, she is now receiving 400 tons, or 1200 maunds, of the proposed supply of salt petre; and we have also shipped on the Kent 100 tons, or 300 maunds: we have likewise supplied that presidency with money since our last advices, to the amount of above five lack of rupees, and shall continue honouring such further drafts as they may make on us, either by immediate payment, or interest bonds, which they advise they shall leave to our option, on the terms on which they grant them.

13. The Bute did not receive her dispatches from Ingelee till the 25th of March, owing to very tempestuous weather, and other difficulties and impediments in receiving on board the latter part of her cargo: after all, 280 bales and cheifs were returned to town, besides 79 bales, which we are sorry to mention were lost in one of the floods as the
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was waiting to deliver them, making together tens 64. 10. These Captain Maitland afterwards represented to us he was unable to take in, on account of the detachment of troops we had put on board the ship, and the large quantity of baggage they had carried with them, for which we had refused to make him any allowance of tonnage; but we beg leave to refer you, for a full relation of all the circumstances, to his letter, and the master attendant's and export warehouse keeper's reports, entered on our Consolations of the 25th of March, and 1st and 4th of April; upon the last of which you will also particularly observe a protest and counter protest on the occasion from the master attendant, and Captain Maitland, together with our remarks and sentiments; and we shall only add further, that the returned bales and chests are now sent you by the Admiral Stevens, marked as we directed with the letter D, to denote, in distinction from the rest of the cargo, their having been intended for the Butt, as also the warehouse keeper's account of them, and of the lost bales referred to in his reports.

13. We mentioned to you in our last address from the secret department the arrival of Mr. Law, the French Commissary on the coast; and we are now to inform you, that having received the retributions to be there made to that nation, he proceeded to Bengal, and on the 15th of June was put in possession of Chandernagore by Mr. George Van Birttan, whom we appointed on this occasion the commissary for his Britannic Majesty; having afterwards advised us of the nomination of his deputies for receiving the subordinate settlements at Sydhabad, Dacca, Jugdea, and Bafapore, the necessary appointments were also made on our part, and the two first places have been accordingly reftored.—We have yet heard nothing concerning Jugdea; and with respect to the Bafapore factory, some objections have occurred upon its not being in the condition required by the terms of the treaty, which has prevented its being yet made over to Mr. Law has, however, now given his orders for its being received in its present state, leaving those circumstances to be adjusted between us upon further accounts from our respective commissaries; he has further set forth the title of the French Company to two forts of ground at Singbia and Chuprah, near Patna, which we have advised him should in like manner be restored, upon his appointment of a person to receive them. We transmit you in the packet, for your information, copies of the acts of restitution of Chandernagore, those for the other places being the same, only with the necessary alteration of terms.

15. Upon this occasion we received a representation from Mr. Law, touching the inconveniences and difficulties the French company and their agents would be exposed to from our direct adherence to the terms of the treaty, which refrains them from erecting fortifications, or entertaining any troops in these provinces, accompanied by the copy of an answer on the subject, the original whereof he had before communicated to Lord Clive, which the minister for the India affairs had on his departure from France received from the Secretary of state; he therefore expressed his hope that we would be induced to allow them a small number of armed Europeans and feapoy's, with a few pieces of cannon, and a proper lodgement to which they might retire in case of any surprize from the country people, alluring us particularly that he meant not to elude in the least by this application, the effect of the conditions of the treaty.

16. Having properly considered the same, we agreed, with a reference to ourselves of the right of withdrawing the terms whenever we might have reason to apprehend an improper use of them, to permit one officer and twenty European infantry, with one hundred feapoy's, to be entertained at Chandernagore, and fifty of the latter at each of the subordinate; also to allow them a wall at Chandernagore, such as they formerly had at Cohimbugar, and twenty pieces of cannon, not of a heavier weight than fix-pounders, for the purpose of salutes on the usual occasions, which would at the same time fully answer the end of imposing a proper respect on the country people; we further agreed to allow them five artillery men, for working the guns; and having communicated our determination to Mr. Law, we received his thanks in the name of the nation for the same; and a further assurance that no improper use would be made of any indulgence we might grant them.

17. Having also received an application from him, soliciting a supply of eight or nine thousand maunds of salt petre, on the same terms as the Dutch, to assist in completing their cargoes hence and their other settlements; and finding by advices from Patna that our investment this season would enable us without any inconvenience to comply therewith, we agreed to spare them accordingly the last mentioned quantity, and gave orders for their being furnished with seven thousand maunds immediately, and the remaining two thousand in the month of December, remarking, however, to Mr. Law at the same time, that no right to any part of this branch of commerce was from hence to be established, though we should with equal readiness assist the Company when it could be done with the same convenience.

18. Immediately upon the arrival of Lord Clive we proceeded to fix the appointments of the field officers, agreeable to the establishment in your commands of the 1st of June 1764, and General Carnac and Colonel Smith were in consequence stationed to the 1st and 2d battalions.

19. The command of the 3d being vacant by the death of Major Knox, it would in course of time have devolved to Sir Robert Fletcher; but Lord Clive informing the board that although Sir Robert Baker was only mentioned in the letter as commandant of the artillery, he knew from what had passed between him and some of the gentlemen in the direction, respecting the appointments, that it was their intention he should have the choice of succeeding to one of the battalions
in case of a vacancy; and being at this time desirous of having the 3d, it was agreed to appoint him thereto accordingly.

20. Sir Robert Fletcher became in confanguinity Lieutenant Colonel of the 1st battalion; and it was also agreed to promote Major Peach to the 2d, till the point of priority in rank between him and Major Champion was determined by your answer to the applications made to you, respecting that gentleman and Sir Robert Fletcher.

21. Proceeding then to the 3d appointment of Lieutenant Colonel, Lord Clive further informed the board, that on his arrival at the Cape he found there on his passage to Europe, Major Charles Chapman, of his Majesty's 7th regiment, and that Mefiers. Sumner and Sykes with Colonels Smith and Barker represented to him, that as the number of field officers was not complete according to the establishment, and opportunity offered in their opinion of doing the Company great service by introducing that gentleman as one, having on account of his particular merit been solicited by the president and council to remain at Fort Saint George in the command of their troops under General Laurence, which although he had declined, he was willing to come to Bengal with his Lordship, provided he had rank next after Major Peach—that he joined in sentiment with those gentlemen, and brought the Major here accordingly under such a promise; and his Lordship therefore proposed he should have this appointment, not doubting in the least your confirmation thereof.

22. Some debate passed at the board on this occasion; upon which his Lordship informed them, that in virtue of the power vested in him, for which he referred to the 36th paragraph of the general letter, we should certainly grant the commission in question, but would wish to have their concurrence, and defined the sentiments of the several members might be collected, which you will find recorded accordingly on the proceedings; and Major Chapman was appointed the 3d Lieutenant Colonel.

23. Majors Champion and Stibbert, and Captain Hugh Grant, were afterwards appointed the Majors of the three battalions: and in consideration of the long and faithful services of Captain Christian Fisher, and as the former objection to promoting him was now removed by the appointment of so many officers of superior rank, a major's brevet was also granted to him.

24. Before Colonel Smith proceeded to join the army we received a representation from him, touching his appointments at this presidency; setting forth, that he was positively assured he was to succeed to all the fame, both civil and military, which General Carnac now holds in the service; and expressing therefore his surprize at finding himself on his arrival precluded from the former, by the 19th paragraph of your letter; which expressly says, that after the death or departure of the general, no officer shall have a constant seat at the board without your leave, but only when military affairs are under consideration; we beg leave to refer you to the representation itself, of which a copy is transmitted in the packet, and we request your answers in answer; taking at the same time liberty to offer it as our opinion to you, that the commanding officer of the troops should upon all occasions have a seat at the board.

25. The feleéct committee agreeably to your appointment was also formed directly upon the Kent's arrival; their powers were therefore communicated to our subordinate factories, and to the presidencies of Fort Saint George and Bombay, and the necessary directions given in consequence to the former, to obey all orders which they might receive from them; and the committee have from time to time laid before the board such of their proceedings as they judge advisable and proper.

26. The covenants which you were pleased to send out regarding the acceptance of presents from the country government, not having been at this time subscribed to, this was the subject of their first consideration; and they thereupon communicated to the board their opinion that the same should be immediately executed in the form prescribed by the members of the council, and the other servants of the Company, which was conform'd to accordingly by the members present; and the secretary was ordered to prepare and transmit sets for the several other gentlemen, both in the civil and military service: Those to the former have been all returned duly executed, as well as the greater part of the latter; but the distance the army has been from us, and the officers being variously dispersed, has occasion'd some trouble and delay in getting these completed, and we wait the remainder of them to forward to you the whole together.

27. The next proceedings which the committee communicated to the council contained their resolution for enforcing immediately the board's orders with respect to the return of the European agents from up the country, granting them a further indulgence of two months, to the 1st of August, which was afterwards prolonged to the 21st of October: Public notice was accordingly given of this resolution; in consequence whereof, we understand many are arrived in Calcutta, and we shall take care that the rest return also in due time.

28. The subsequent proceedings, for some time, were upon enquiry into the circumstances of some sums which had been received from the present Nabob, and others by the gentlemen who composed the deputation for the execution of the treaty with his Excellency, on the decease of his father, viz. Mefiers. Johnfons, Senior, Middleton, and Leyceller; as also by the other members at the presidencies, Mefiers. Spencer, Pladdell, Bartlett, and Gray upon the fame occasion. We beg leave to refer you to the proceedings themselves on this subject, and to the several minutes and defences entered thereupon in the registers of council and of the committee, and request your sentiments and determination on the whole.—We have only here to notice to you in particular, that Mr. Johnstone has in consequence, and for other reasons, set forth in his minute, resigned your service, and proceeds home by this opportunity.
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29. At our consultation of the 24th of June, Lord Clive entered a representation and complaint against Mr. Burdett, for having in his office of Zemindar combined and detained, after application for his release, a Ghaut-Manjec, or overseer of boats, employed by his Lordship on the occasion of an intended expedition up the country, to take upon him the command of the army, and settle affairs with the powers in those parts; Mr. Burdett not being present at this meeting, an order was immediately given to him for the man's enlargement: and his answer to the same having been received, assigning the reasons for his proceedings, which did not appear sufficient, and conceived in terms deemed disrespectful to the board, they determined that he should make a proper acknowledgment both to Lord Clive and themselves. His Lordship at the same time took leave of the board, to proceed on the business before intimated.

30. Mr. Burdett complied afterwards with this determination; and his Lordship having desired to be acquainted therewith, it was accordingly communicated to him; but Mr. Burdett entered a minute on the style of his letter, in consequence whereof further proceedings occurred; and their being likewise transmitted to his Lordship, we received an answer from him, confirming the opinion he had before given of that gentleman's conduct, in terms which determined Mr. Burdett, having before intimated his intention of returning this season to Europe, to fit no longer at the board, and he also resigned your service accordingly.

31. Lord Clive has since delivered in a minute, setting forth that he cannot accuse himself of having given any cause for the resentment expressed by Mr. Burdett, and his opinion concerning his representation; referring to a letter from Raja Doolubram to Mr. Summer, when president, in respect to a note of hand for a sum of money, which he represented he had given to Mr. Burdett, upon the Nabob's accession to the government, under the promise of his endeavours to procure him a share in the administration, which he had not fulfilled, and therefore soliciting Mr. Summer's assistance for the recovery thereof; of this minute and letter Mr. Burdett has had a copy, and we expect his answer.

32. Lord Clive having arrived in town, and returned his seat at the board, the 9th instant laid before them an extract from the proceedings of the select Committee held the 7th upon his return, accompanying the copy of a treaty of peace concluded by him and General Car- nac, on the part of the honourable Company and the Nabob, with Suraj Doolubram, together with the translation of a grant and Sunnuds obtained from the King for the Dewanee of these provinces, and of an agreement subscribed to in consequence by the Nabob, through the means of his Lordship and Mr. Sykes; as also translations of other Sunnuds from the King, confirming to the Company their former promises, and securing to them the reverence of Lord Clive's jaghire; for his Lordship had before, on his way up, obtained the Nabob's Sunnund in duplicate, one of them to be forwarded to you if we judged it proper, which is accordingly transmitted in the packet, with an attached copy of the translation; we also send you like copies of the several papers above-mentioned, to which we beg leave to refer you, and to offer you at the same time our hearty congratulations on this event of the return of peace; which we hoped and have now all, reason to expect, from our established influence and power, will remain in future uninterrupted; the same was proclaimed here in proper form on the 12th, and ordered to be also published at the subordinates.

33. At the consultation of the 6th of June, Mr. Sykes entered a minute, informing the board that the select Committee had ordered him to proceed to Morshedabad, on affairs of importance, which would be communicated to them when the committee returned; he laid before them the 7th instant, and that he should set out accordingly without loss of time; Messrs. Leycester and Gray differed upon this occasion, not being able to judge of the object of Mr. Sykes's committee, or the necessity of his appointment, and as Mr. Middleton, a member of the board, was already stationed resident at the Durbar, to transact whatever points of business might occur with the country government, had acted in that capacity to the entire satisfaction of the council, and could not be superceded without a reflection on his ability to conduct such business. The proceedings were afterwards laid before the board, when those gentlemen confirmed their different opinion, excepting Mr. Middleton till the proper person to transact the business entrusted to Mr. Sykes; and upon Mr. Middleton's receiving information from the select Committee of this appointment, he addressed the board, as appears in consultation the 18th of the same month, setting forth, how much it must lessen the weight and influence which it absolutely necessary he should maintain in his station, and that he could not with any credit to himself remain in it longer, more especially as Lord Clive told him, on his way, that it was intended to remove him shortly, and place Mr. Sykes in his room; and soliciting in consequence the chieftip of Patna which became vacant a few days before, by the sudden death of Mr. Billers; to this he was accordingly appointed, and ordered by the majority to proceed immediately, delivering over to the chief at Coffilhazar, such business as he has been entrusted with from the board, Mr. Summer being the only member of the Committee then present, minute at the same time a declaration on their part, that no reflection whatever on Mr. Middleton, nor derogation from his necessary weight and influence as public resident, was intended by them, and produced the copy of the letter wrote him on the occasion, setting forth the impropriety of charging any other than a member of the Committee with the management of business which had not been disclosed.
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to the council, as an argument for his satisfaction. Mr. Sykes having proceeded conformably to his deputation, returned to the presidency with Lord Clive.

34. Mr. Verelst upon being called to Calcutta, to take his seat in the Committee, to resign the chieffhip of Chittagong factory; in which Mr. Playflell succeeded him; and upon the resignation of Mr. Johnstone, he was appointed by the Committee to the charge of superintendence of the Burdwan revenues.

35. At the consultation of the 22d of July, a motion was made by Mr. Burdett for filling up the vacancies in council, from Mr. Johnstone's late resignation, and the death of Mr. Billers, agreeably to your last appointment and orders; upon which Mr. Sumner informed him, that the Committee had already taken the subject of those orders under their consideration, and should determine on them at their first meeting, upon the return of the absent members to the presidency, and therefore desired that the filling up the vacancies might till then be postponed. The majority of the board entering their opinions, that the matter should not be deferred, and proposing therefore to call to the board the two next Gentlemen on the list, Mr. Sumner disapproved thereof in his own and the name of the Committee, referring to them a revival of the measure. But the majority confirming their opinions, Meffrs. Francis Charlton and Thomas French were in consequence ordered from Dacca, to take their seats.

36. Upon the assembling again of the Committee, Mr. Sumner related to them accordingly what had passed at the board, and they recorded their sentiments thereon; offering at the same time their reasons for not enlarging the number of the council; which latter were, that the collection of the Burdwan revenues should no longer be managed by a chief and council, but as proposed in a representation to them from Mr. Verelst, at the same time communicated to the board, by a junior servant, referring always on the spot, and a supervisor, who, if a member of the board, might still retain his seat as such, his charge would only require an occasional attendance. Secondly, with respect to the Mide-napore province, that it was not of sufficient consequence to require the direction of a member of the council, and might be as well conducted by a junior servant. And, thirdly, their having under their consideration the recalling the factory at Benaras, in consequence of the treaty concluded with Sujah Dowlah. Upon which different circumstances, they recommended to the board to reconsider the appointments of Meffrs. Charlton and French. We beg leave to refer you to the proceedings of the Committee for those sentiments, and a particular explanation of their reasons for the proposed changes respecting Burdwan and Mide-napore, as also the opinions of the several members of the board thereon; and shall here only add, that the majority being of opinion the first alteration should take place, and the members of the board joining with the Committee as to the latter, the appointments of the new members were in consequence set aside, and orders given to the factory at Dacca accordingly. Mr. Leycester, however, entered a minute, confirming the opinion against a reduction in the number of the council, which we further refer you to.

37. We received a letter from Lord Clive, during his absence at Benaras, representing his opinion of your title to a moiety of the money obtained there by our army, in consequence of the deed of gift from the King to the Company, of such proportion of all plunder, &c. which should be taken in India by his forces on land, and their orders, putting their own military on the same footing, and referring to them the other moiety. He, at the same time, pointed out, as an argument, the fluctuation in favour of the Company, of one half of what should be taken at Manilla, esteeming it a similar case with the one in question, and referred the subject to the consideration of the board.

38. It appearing, on reference to the registers of council before his Lordship's arrival, that the board considered the said money as a voluntary gift from the merchants, rather than a ransom for the town obtained by military force, and that for the reasons assigned they thought proper to content to the army's receiving it, without referring any claim to the Company; the other members did not think, this being the case, that a demand on them for a share of the money could now, with any propriety, be made; and they communicated these their sentiments accordingly, in answer to his Lordship, transmitting, for his particular information, extracts of these registers; viz. Of the letters to the commanding officers of the 6th of November, and 6th of December last. And,

Of the consultation of the 2d of January, upon an application received from the officers and men of the 56th regiment, and his Majesty's Marines.

To which we beg leave to refer you upon the occasion.

39. Upon his Lordship's return to the presidency, he informed the board, that, while he was with the army, he had formed it upon the establishment and plan laid down in your commands of the first of June 1765; and proposed, for the better regulating their pay in future, and the prevention of any abuses, that there should be separate paymasters, with deputies, and a commissary to each brigade.

The board agreed with him entirely in the propriety of those appointments, and the paymasters were accordingly nominated, and the other officers remaining to be fixed at a future meeting.

40. The
The select Committee having taken under consideration your orders, touching the inland trade in the articles of salt, beetle-nut, and tobacco, they communicated to the board in their next proceedings a set of regulations formed thereon, as the groundwork of a plan for carrying it on in future; we beg leave to refer you to the proceedings themselves for your particular information of this plan, and have here to inform you, that Mirf. Summer, Verey, Leycester, and Gray, were in consequence constituted the Committee for receiving the charge thereon, and managing it on behalf of the body of proprietors, with authority to correspond with the subordinate factories, and to pursue all such measures as might, contumably there to, appear to them eligible and proper; and that the necessary advice and orders were given accordingly to the subordinate officers, and publication made, prohibiting all persons depending on the country's government from entering into any new engagements in those articles, unless as contractors with the Committee, for the purchase or sale of them. We have also to note to you, that Mirf. Leycester and Gray intimated to the authority the select Committee had taken upon themselves on this occasion, effecting it in no wise delegated to them by the terms and intention of their appointment; and that the subject should have been considered and determined on in council.

The Committee of trade having entered upon the prosecution of the plan, we have received from them a representation for having the society secured against any innovations in the course of their present engagements, and soliciting from us such a deed as we may think sufficient to intitle to them the exclusive right to the trade till those engagements are concluded, the same to be renewed every season, so long as it shall be agreeable to you that this plan should subsist; we could not but agree with them entirely in the propriety of this measure, and have given directions for drawing accordingly such a writing as may be thought sufficient to secure the Proprietors the right in question, and we now request your permission to renew the same for the future, on the plan already stated with your approbation.

Commodore Tinker having received from the late Nabob, Meer Jaffer, a grant of 12,50,000 rupees, as a donation to himself and the squadron under his command, for their services in the war against Meer Coflin, he presented to the board, on his departure, a translation of the same, and requested their assistance in procuring regular payments, conformably to the terms, to which the board replied, expressing their satisfaction at the Nabob's having thought proper to consider the services of the squadron, and affuring Mr. Tinker, that, so far as might appear to them in his power, consistently with the performance of the engagements of his treaty, the Commodore might depend on their compliance with his application. Two of the periods of payment having expired, and no part been yet received, the agents have now addressed us, inclosing the translation of a letter from the present Nabob, with a confirmation of his father's grant, and soliciting our interposition for procuring the amount due; representing, with a view of adding weight to their application, that many of the officers and men of the squadron having contracted debts during their abode in Calcutta; their drafts on the donation had, upon the strength of the board's promise, been accepted in discharge thereof, by merchants of the place, whose private fortunes have already suffered, and must suffer still more by any further delay of payment.

The representation having been considered and debated on, the majority of the board were of opinion, that, in consequence of our acquisition of the Duanney of these provinces, and the agreement thereupon made with the Nabob, by which, after the stipulations for the King and his Excellency, the remaining part of the revenues devolves to the Company, they could not of themselves determine upon the subject, but that it should be referred to your decision; and the circumstances being accordingly thus stated to you, we wait your answer and orders thereon.

The ships Lord Antion and Prince of Wales having been reported clear of their conflagment on the 29th of April and 24th of June, they were immediately dismissed your service, and their journals and other books of their voyage required, conformably to your orders, to be returned to you; the same are transmitted you by this opportunity; and we have discharged the balances of freight remaining to be paid the owners in India, as per their respective accounts received in the Packets: we have also reimbursed the commanders for sundry necessaries provided in the course of their passages, for the use of the recruits whom they brought out; viz. to the former Crs. 1,989 : 5 : 7, and to the latter Crs. 9,244 : 6 : 0, both accounts being properly vouched and certified.

The Solebay, one of the two ships taken up last year for furnishing your presidency of Fort Marblo' with slaves from Madagascar, having concluded her voyage, arrived with us on the 22nd ult. and we received by her a packet from the president and council, under a general address to either of the three settlements, inclosing several papers respecting her, in consequence of a demand on the commander upon account of the owners, for the sum of 250£. advanced to them in England, which he refused payment of. These papers they therefore transmitted, pointing out particularly to the observation of those who might receive them, that your instructions to them were very explicit, although the Charter-party appeared rather defective in the wording; that, if it appeared eligible, an attempt might be made to recover the money by course of law. We perused and examined the different papers, but not viewing to proceed upon our own judgment upon a case of this nature, we referred
referred them to the attentive consideration of an attorney in the Mayor’s Court, Mr. Richard Whitall, who, we understood, was most capable and veracious in his profession, requiring his sentiment at full, whether or not there was sufficient ground on which to found a prosecution here on the occasion; and having received an answer from him, stating his opinion in the affirmative, we have directed him to repeat the demand in due form, and, upon a refusal full of payment, to commence an action against the owners accordingly.

46. We send you further the general books of the presidency, with their subordinates to April 1764, and hope, from the sub-accountant’s report, to forward to you the subsequent in the course of this session, having, upon his application some time ago, wrote in very urgent terms on this subject to the subordinates. The entire loss of their books and accounts, at least some of them, in the late troubles, have unavoidably occasioned great delay in bringing them up.

47. We are to advise you of the decease of Capt. Alexander Scott, our master attendant, on the 12th ult., and of Capt. Page Kehoe’s succedence to the charge of that office, agreeably to your nomination. On this occasion we received a petition from the deputy, Mr. Richard Deane, representing his long services to the Company, in the different gradations of the marine, which he hoped had fully qualified him for the appointment, and soliciting it. Accordingly, he was advised, in answer, that Capt. Kehoe had obtained it in pursuance of your orders; with an assurance however, that we had a just estimate of his services, and should take care to make proper mention of him to you, and we beg leave therefore to recommend him to your notice.

48. Mr. Robert Hunter, whom you have this session been pleased to appoint a factor on the Fort Marlborough establishment, having some months before come over to this presidency had, on account of his particular merit and abilities in the profession, been entertained as one of our principal surgeons; on being therefore advised of your appointment, he delivered in a letter to us, representing, that it was obtained entirely without his knowledge and intention, while he was detained on the French islands, and fix years after his first application; and having then quitted the place, with leave from the president and council, and upon his admission into the service here, had from a dependance upon continuing in it, entered into connections and concerns with others, whose interest must suffer, and attend his own by a speedy removal: he for these reasons, solicited our permission to relinquish that appointment, and he continued in his situation here; expressing at the same time, his just sense of the favour and honour thereby conferred on him, for which he returned you his grateful thanks, and his hope, that in consideration of his misfortunes and long services, you would not be displeased with his proceeding; from this representation, and the character before given of him, we could not but very readily acquiesce in his desire, and, as we are extremely solicitous of his continuance with us, we hope for, and earnestly entreat, his confirmation here accordingly.

49. We further beg leave to recommend to you, for an appointment on your list of civil servants, Mr. Sutton Banks, a gentleman who has for a long while resided in the place as a private merchant, much esteemed, and is entirely deserving the favour we solicit for him.

50. Captain George Burchall, of the corps of engineers, having been accused by Captain Martin, his superior officer, of disobedience of orders, he in consequence, of the opinion of a court of enquiry, underwent a trial by a court martial, appointed and approved by Major Munro, before his departure; at which having been found guilty of the charge, he was cashiered the Company’s service by the sentence of the court, and he proceeds home, with his family: By this opportunity Major Munro carried with him the proceedings of the court martial.

51. You will find the reasons of the select Committee, in which the board acquiesced, for the purchase of the Admiral Stevens on the occasion of this dispatch, and not employing the Lapwing, which still remained upon our hands, recorded on the Committee proceedings of the 21st June, and 4th of July; and the steamer now opening, we shall forthwith determine on some method of employing the latter, or otherwise dispose of her as may appear most eligible. The board, previous to the arrival of the Kent, had had some intentions of sending her to Fort St. George, to return to you with early advices from thence and this presidency.

52. Upon a report from the master attendant, of the condition and value of the Admiral Stevens, we agreed to pay for her, at the price demanded by the owners of 59,000 Acre rupees; and Captain Griffin, who we advised you had quitted the Lapwing to proceed to Fort St. George, in his private concerns, having returned to the place, we gave him the command of her, appointing, upon proper recommendations, Mr. M’D. James Angus, James Lenox, Edward Wilson, and Robert Fairfull, her officers; we at the same time wrote to Commodore, and Duces, to send us down from each factory for her 169 bales of their finest piece of goods, and we have the satisfaction to find she carries you upon the whole, considering her size, a valuable charge, the amount being as per invoice C. Rs. 794, 100.

53. With a view to increase it as much as possible, we determined, upon an application from the Captain and Officers on the subject of their privilege, to make them a tender, in lieu of any allowance in her tonnage, of the sum of 6,000 Acre rupees, and the same having been accepted, we required from them an acknowledgment of it, with an obligation not to ship, in consequence thereof, any merchandize as adventures.

54. We
54. We have also given in charge to Captain Griffin 1500 ounces of foreign silver, for the use of the ship, in case the school should be under a necessity of touching at any place, and advanced him the sum of A. Rs. 3918: 4., on account of four months' imprest of himself, officers, and Europeans, his table allowance for the voyage, and usual batta on this account, from his appointment to this time.

55. Since writing the foregoing, we have received advice from the gentlemen at Fort St. George of the arrival at that place of the Grenville and Fox, on the 6th and 7th instant, the former having touched at St. Jago and Cabo bay, from whence the failed the 21st of July, and lost there by detention thirteen of her recruits, besides twelve buried on her passage; but we are very to learn at the same time the long detention which the Spruce, Pacific, and Pothorne met with at Spithead from contrary winds; we hope, however, they took the opportunity of failing at the same time as the Fox, and that we shall soon have some accounts of them in these parts; we now find, by your advices to that presidency of the 4th January, that the Falmouth is not to return to you, but only taken up for the run to India, to affhit in bringing on our recruits: Those gentlemen expected to give the Earl of Malden her dispatches about the end of this month, and at their request we transmit you a copy of the invoice of provisions put on board her here for victualing the prisoners from the French islands, that the commanders may account with you for the same. We also forward a packet received from them to your address, with one from the gentlemen at Fort Malboro'. The Buckingham having concluded her definition to that place, we understand, is likewise arrived at Fort St. George.

56. The mint matter having laid before the selected committee a representation, setting forth the inconveniences resulting to the company, and the public, from the stop put to the issuing of new pieces, and the difficulties and dangers consequent on any attempt to a general recoinage, or abolition of the annual fall of the batta on fissa rupees, the same has been referred to us, and is at present under our consideration; he has now presented an address to the board, with separate statements of the mint for a year before and after he took charge of it, and the affay book; from the latter time, to which he referred us for an explanation of the advantages arising from the regulations proposed by him in the month of January; and, at his request, we transmit you in the packet copies of those different addresses, as also the affay book, and copies of the statements accompanying the list to the board, that by referring them to and consulting the tower office, you may be perfectly satisfied of the nature of the improvements he has made, and how far his appointment to the direction of the mint has answered expectation.

57. The members of the selected Committee have entered a minute in reply to Mr. Lecyceker's before mentioned, confirming his dissent to the diminution of the council, Melleis. Lecyceker and Gray have also on their parts delivered in other minutes, upon the sentiments recorded by the Committee on their conduct, and Mr. Burdett's, in not conforming to Mr. Sumner's desire upon the same subject; Mr. Lecyceker, a further one, touching the powers of the Committee, to which last they have informed him they shall reply to you in their own department, and Mr. Gray, another in consequence of imputations laid to his charge before Lord Clive, with which he has defir'd may be enquired into before the board, and his Lordship has acquainted him, shall be communicated to them accordingly. You will find all these recorded in the proceedings of the 25th instant, and we beg to refer them with the rest to your perusal and consideration.

58. We have also received an answer from Mr. Burdett to Lord Clive's minute upon his resignation, and the letter referred to in it from Raja Dulubram, confirming his first reason assigned for quitting the service at the time he did, and declining to answer to the demand from Roy Dulub, till he should be first informed what punishment would be inflicted on him, if he should prove him guilty of a falsehood; upon which, his Lordship has minuted, That he has not leisure at present to reply thereto, but will do it fully by the next ship.

59. Upon the perusal of a draft of the letter, Lord Clive remarked on the circumstances mentioned in Mr. Middleton's address to the board, quoted in the 23d paragraph, That he did not tell him as there related, "It was the intention of the Committee to remove him shortly, and place Mr. Sykes in his stead;" but only, "That this gentleman was soon to proceed to the city on particular business from them."

60. The selected Committee have laid before us a copy of their proceedings, containing their conclusion of the plan for carrying on the inland trade, with respect to the Company and the classes of proprietors; and the same has been delivered over to the Committee for managing the trade, with instructions to proceed conformably thereto.

61. General Carnac having declined receiving a present from the King, as he had not the consent of the governor and council, his Majesty has written a letter to the board, representing, that the General has always refused to accept any reward for his great services; that to permit him to remain unrewarded, is injurious to his royal dignity, and that it is therefore his Majesty's pleasure, that we grant General Carnac permission to receive from his Royal bounty the sum of two lacks of rupees.

62. You are so well acquainted with the merits and moderation of this gentleman, that we need not add our sentiments on the subject: The great attention and respect he has always paid the King, from the time of his Majesty's misfortunes, when he surrendere himself at Patna,
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No. 72.

Patas, to his present state of peace and affluence, together with the attachment shown to him on many occasions in the field, demand some return of gratitude; and we trust you will rejoice that an opportunity should at last offer, of placing General Carnac in a state of independence, at the eve of a long and faithful service.

63. There being some doubts, whether the power of permission, upon such occasions is intended to be lodged with the governor and council, we have not absolutely granted it, but refer it to you; and should be glad of your instructions for our guidance in future. We beg leave only to observe, that such power would perhaps be a means of keeping the military in proper subjection to the civil authority in this settlement.

64. Mr. Peter Downes having, some time ago, requested permission to quit his offices, in order to prepare for his return to Europe, has now resigned his services, and proceeds by this ship.

65. The Mayor’s court have presented to us a list of several law books wanted for the use of the court, which they request may be sent them by the first opportunity, and the same transmitted you in the packet.

66. We have only further to add, that the necessary papers respecting this ship are enclosed; and willing her safe and speedy arrival with you, we have the honour to remain, with respect,

Honourable Sirs,

Your most faithful

And obedient humble servants,

Fort William,
the 30th Sept. 1765.

Clive.
W. B. Sumner.
H. Verelst.
Charles Sykes.
R. Leycester.
George Gray.

Postscript.

1. Since concluding this address, it has occurred to us, that we are much in want of several printed sets of the Act of Parliament for the punishing of mutiny and desertion among your troops here, with which we request you will furnish us by the first opportunity.

2. At the consultation of this day for the dispatch of the ship, Mr. Leycester entered a further minute respecting the present which he received from the Nabob when in a deputation to him. Mr. Gray recorded one likewise, on the same subject as that mentioned in the 57th paragraph, upon certain imputations laid against his charge, which he requested might be enquired into; to both which we beg, as before, to refer you. And we remain, with respect,

Honourable Sirs,

Your most faithful

And obedient humble Servants,

Fort William,
the 30th Sept. 1765.

Clive.
W. B. Sumner.
John Carnac.
H. Verelst.
Charles Sykes.
R. Leycester.
George Gray.
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No. 73.
Cockatta, 30th September, 1765.

Gentlemen,

By the letter from the select Committee, and copy of their proceedings, which are transmitted to you by this conveyance, you will be enabled to form a general idea of the state of this settlement on the arrival of the ship Kent, together with the measures we thought necessary to pursue, in order to settle the Company's affairs in these provinces upon an advantageous and permanent foundation. You will permit me, however, to lay before you my own sentiments in particular, concerning these measures, and to communicate also, by this earliest opportunity, such others, as I wish should be adopted before I quit the government, and which I hope will not only be approved of, but likewise be fully confirmed and established by the Court of Directors, that the abuses which may otherwise be revived by the ambition and avarice of some future governors or councils may be effectually prevented.

Upon my arrival, I am sorry to say, I found your affairs in a condition so nearly desperate as would have alarmed any set of men, whose sense of honour and duty to their employers had not been strained by the too eager pursuit of their own immediate advantage; the sudden and, as it were, the unwarrantable acquisition of riches had introduced luxury in every shape, and in its most pernicious excesses. These two enormous evils were hand in hand together through the whole presidency, infecting almost every member of each department; every inferior seemed to have grasped at wealth, that he might be enabled to assume that spirit of profusion, which was now the only distinction between him and his superior. Thus all distinction ceased, and every rank became, in a manner, upon an equality; nor was this the end of the mischief, for a contest of such a nature among our servants needlessly destroyed all proportion between their wants and the honest means of satisfying them. In a country where money is plenty, where fear is the principle of government, and where your arms are ever victorious; in such a country, I say, it is no wonder that corruption should find its way to a spot so well prepared to receive it. It is no wonder that the lust of riches should really embrace the proffered means of its gratification, or that the instruments of your power should avail themselves of their authority, and proceed even to extortion, in those cases where simple corruption could not keep pace with their rapacity. Examples of this sort, set by superiors, could not fail of being followed, in a proportionate degree, by inferiors; the evil was contagious, and spread among the civil and military, down to the writer, the enign, and the free merchant.

3. The large sum of money acquired by donation, besides the means I have already mentioned, were so publicly known and vindicated, that every one thought he had a right to enrich himself, at all events, with as much expedition as possible; the monopoly of salt, tobacco, &c. was another fund of immense profits to the Company's servants, and likewise to such others as they permitted to enjoy a share, while not a rupee of advantage a accrued to the government, and very little to the Company from that trade. Before I had discovered these various sources of wealth, I was under great apprehension to find individuals suddenly enriched, that there was scarce a gentleman in the settlement who had not fixed upon a very short period for his return to England with influence. From hence arose that forward spirit of independence, which in a manner fet all your orders at defiance, and dictating a total contempt of them, as often as obedience was found incompatible with private interest. At the time of my arrival, I saw nothing that bore the form or appearance of government: The authority and pre-eminence of the governor, were levelled with those councilors; every counsellor was as much a governor as he who bore the name, and distinction of rank, as I have already observed, was no longer to be found in the whole settlement. Notwithstanding a special order from the Court of Directors, founded on very wise and very evident reasons, that all correspondence with the country powers should be carried on solely in the governor's name, I found that our whole correspondence with the Great Mogul, the Subah, Nabobs, and Rajahs, had been of late carried on by and in the name of the whole board, and that every servant and free merchant corresponded with whom they pleased.

4. Your orders for the execution of the covenants were positive, and expressly mentioned to be the resolution of a general court of proprietors: Your servants at Bengal, however, determined to reject them; and had not the Select Committee resolved that the example should be first set by the council, or a suspension from your service take place, it is certain they would have remained unexecuted to this hour. You will not, I imagine, be much surprised at this breach of duty, if you look over the general letters, where you cannot avoid seeing how many are annually committed, and how fast every thing was tending to a contempt of your authority. From a short survey of the late transactions, I was convinced that no other remedy was left, than an immediate and vigorous exertion of the powers with which the Committee were invested. Happy, in my opinion, was it for the Company, that such
Power was granted; for that the settlement, so conducted, could have subsisted another
twelve months, appears to me an impossibility. A great part of the revenues of the country,
amounting to near four millions sterling per annum, would have been divided among your
servants, and the acquisition of fortunes being so sudden, a few months might have brought
writings into council, infamy must have been admitted as a just claim to a seat at the board,
without the qualification of age or experience, because the rapidity of success did deny the
attainment of either.

3. Nor were these excuses confined to your civil servants alone, the military departments
also had caught the infection, and riches, the base of discipline, were daily promoting the
ruin of our army. The too little inequality of rank rendered the advantages of captains,
lieutenants, and ensigns, so nearly upon a par, and so large, that an independent fortune
was no different prospect, even to aubaten; If a too quick succession among those from whom
you expect the study of commerce and policy is detrimental to your civil concerns, how ef-
fectually destructive, must that evil prove to your military operations? The most experienced
European Office, when he has entered into the East India service, although he may be able
in many points to suggest improvement to others, will nevertheless find that something new
remains for himself to learn peculiar to this service, which cannot be attained in a day—
judge then how the cafe must hang with youths, who are either just sent out from the academy,
or, which more frequently happens, who have no education at all; for to such have we often
been reduced to the necessity of granting commissions. How much must the expectations of
your army be raised, when they are suffered, without control to make position, for themselves,
of the whole booty, donation money, and plunder, on the capture of a city? This I can
assure you happened at Benares: and what is more surprising, the then governor and council,
so far from laying in a claim to the moiety, which ought to have been reserved for the Company,
agreed to those positive orders from the Court of Directors a few years ago, when they were
pleased to put their forces upon the same footing with those of his Majesty, gave up the whole
to the captors—You have heard of the general mutiny that happened among your Seapoons
a little before my arrival—What would have been your conformation, had you also heard of
an unanimous detestation of your European Soldiers. These were very serious events indeed,
and had it not been for one well-timed vigorous act of Major Munro, and the unwavering zeal
and military abilities of General Carnac, who totally suppreised the spirit of mutiny among the
soldiers, your possessions in India might at this time have been delitute of a man to support
them, and even the privilege of commerce irrecoverably crushed: Common justice to the
principles and conduct of General Carnac, oblige me further to add, that I found him the
only officer of rank who had reflected the temptations to which his station he was constantly
subject, of acquiring an immense fortune: and I question much whether he is not the only
man who has of late years been honoured with the command of your forces, without ac-
quiring a very large independency. The letter from the Great Mogul to the governor and
council, requesting the permission for him to accept a present of two Laks, which his majesty
is defirous of bestowing on him as a reward for his disinterested services, will corroborate what I
have said in his favour; and as this affair, agreeable to the tenor of the covenants, is referred to
the Court of Directors, I make no doubt they will readily embrace the opportunity of shewing
their regard to such distinguished merit, by confirming his acceptance of his Maj-
esty's bounty.

4. If the picture I have drawn be a faithful likeness of the presidency, (and I call upon the
most guilty, for guilty there are, to shew that I have aggravated a feature) to what a deplor-
able condition must your affairs soon have been reduced? Every state (and such now is your
government in India) must be near its period, when the rage of luxury and corruption has seized,
upon its leaders and inhabitants. Can trade be encouraged for public benefit, where the ma-
agement unfortunately devolves upon those who make private interest their rule of action? And
further, has sudden affluence ever failed, from the infancy of military discipline to the present
perfection of it, to corrupt the principles and destroy the spirit of an army? Independency of
fortune is always avertive to those duties of subordination, which are inseparable from the life of
a soldier; and in this country, if the acquisition be sudden, a relaxation of discipline is more
immediately the consequence. I would not be thought by these observations to exclude riches
from the military: Honour alone is a sufficient reward for the toilsome service of the
field. But the acquisition of wealth ought to be far greater, as to admit not a prospect of com-
pleting it, till success, by merit, to the rank of a field officer should have lain a good foun-
dation for the claim. Such is the idea I entertained of this matter, when I delivered my
sentiments to the Court of Directors, in my letter of the 27th April 1764; and I have acted in
conformity thereto, by regimenting the troops in the manner I then proposed. I need not re-
peat the observations I troubled you with in that letter. It is sufficient to remark here, that the
good effects of the plan are already visible, that subordination is reestablished, abuses corrected, and
your expenditures, of course already greatly diminished.

7. The
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7. The war which, to my great concern, I found extended above 700 Miles from the presidency, is now happily concluded, and a peace establisht upon terms which promise lasting tranquility to these provinces. This event has, I find, disappointed the expectations of many, who thought of nothing but a march with the king to Delhi. My resolution however, was, and my hopes will always be, to confine our affiance, our conquest, and our polflfions, to Bengal, Bihar, and Ovnta: To go farther would be, in my opinion, a scheme so extravagantly ambitious and absurd, that no governor and council in their frenzies can ever adopt it, unless the whole体系 of the Company's interest be flrst entirely new modelled.

8. I forbear troubling you with a detail of the negociations of General Carnac and me, with the country powers, and the particulars of the treaty of peace with the Vizier of the Empire, as they will be spoken of at large in the letter from the select Committee, and appear likewise upon the face of our proceedings. I will however just remark, that our ref- toring to Shujah Dowla the whole of his Dominions, proceeds more from the policy of not extending the Company's territorial polflfions, than the generous principle of attaching them for ever to our interested gratitude, though this has been the apparent, and is by many thought to be the real motive. Had we ambitiously attempted to retain the conquered country, experience would soon have proved the absurdity and impracticability of such a plan. The establishment of your army must have been added to your life, and more chieftffips appointed; the aids of oppriffion, and innumerable abuses, which would have been committed, and which could neither have been prevented nor remedied, at so great a distance from the presidency, must infallibly have laid the foundation of another war, destructive and unsuccessfui; our old privileges and polflfions would have been endangered by every supply we might have been tempted to afford in support of the new; and the natives must have finally triumphed in our inability to sustain the weight of our own ambition.

9. To return to the point from which this digreflion has led me, I must carry you back to the description above given of the situation in which I found your affairs on my arrival. Two paths were evidently open to me: the one smooth, and ftrewed with abundance of rich advantages that might easily be picked up; the other untrstred, and every step opposed with obstacles. I might have taken charge of the government upon the same footing on which I found it; that is, I might have enjoyed the name of governor, and have suffered the honour, importance, and dignity of the post, to continue in their state of annihilation; I might have contented myself, as others had before me, with being a cypher, or, what is little better, the first among sixteen equals; and I might have allowed this passive conduct to be attended with the usual Douture of sharing largely with the rest of the gentlemen in all Donations, Perquifites, &c. arising from the absolute government and disposal of all places in the revenues of this opulent kingdom; by which means I might soon have acquired an immense addition to my fortune, notwithstanding the obligations in the new covenants; for the man who can so easily get over the bar of confidence as to receive presents after the execution of them, will not scruple to make use of any evasions that may protect him from the consequence. The settlement in general would thus have been my friends, and only the natives of the country my enemies. If you can conceive a governor in such a situation, it is impossible to form a wrong judgment of the inferior servants, or of the Company's affairs, at such a presidency. An honourable alternative however lay before me: I had the power within my own breast to fulfil the duty of my station, by remaining incorruptible in the midst of numberless temptations artifally thrown in my way; by exposing my character to every attack which malice or reftentment are so apt to invent, a-gainst any man who attempts reformation; and by encountering, of course, the odium of the settlement. I hesitated not a moment which choice to make; I took upon my shoulders a burden which required resolution, perseverance, and confitution, to support. Having chose my part, I was determined to exert myself in the attempt, happy in the reflection that the honour of the nation, and the very being of the Company, would be maintained by the success; and conscious, that if I failed, my integrity and good intentions, at least, must remain unimpeached. The other members of the Committee joined with me in opinion, that, in order to proceed upon business, it was absolutely necessary for us to assume the powers wherewith we were invested.—We saw plainly, that most of the gentlemen in council had been too deeply concerned themselves, in the measures which required amendment, for us to expect any assistance from them; on the contrary, we were certain of finding opposition to every plan of Innovation, and an unanimous attempt to defeat the intentions of the proprietors who solicited my acceptance of the government. The Committee therefore immediately met, and I had the happiness to find myself supported by gentlemen whom no temptations could seduce, no inconveniences or threats of malice deter. Our proceedings will convince you, that we have dared to act with firmness and integrity, and will at the same time demonstrate, that temper, unanimity, and difpatch must ever mark the proceedings of men imbued by private interest.

10. The gentlemen in council of late years, at Bengal, seem to have been actuated, in every conflagration, by a very oblique and mischiefous spirit. The office of governor has been in a manner hunted down, stripped of its dignity, and then divided into sixteen shares. Whether
ambition, obstinacy, pride or selfish-interest is usually the motive to such a pursuit, I will not take upon me to determine; but am sure it can never arise from a just idea of government, or a true sense of the Company's interest. In my opinion, it is the duty of the council to make the power of the president appear as extensive as possible to the eyes of the people; that all correspondence with the country princes should be carried on through him alone, some particular cases excepted; that the council should, upon all occasions, be unanimous in supporting, not in extenuating, the dignity of his station; and that he ought to be considered among the natives as the sole manager and conductor of political affairs. This should be the outward appearance of administration, though in reality the council must be allowed a freedom of judgment, and when they perceive in the governor a tendency to abdicate or unjustifiable measures, it then becomes their duty to check him. If they at any time have reason to doubt the rectitude of his principles, they should not allow him to execute designs, even of the smallest moment, without previously laying them before the board, and obtaining their approbation. In short, the best governor should not, except in cases of necessity, be suffered to conclude any points of importance without the sanction of the board. But the expedient of a select committee equally prevents any ill conduct in the governor, and is besides attended with advantages, which can rarely be expected from the whole body of counsellors. Five gentlemen well versed in the Company's true interest, of abilities to plan, and resolution to execute; gentlemen, whose fortunes are honourably approaching to affluence, and whose integrity has never suffered them to exceed the bounds of moderation; a select committee, composed of such men, will transact more business in a week, than the council can in a month. The opinions and judgment of five members are as arbitrary, as they are to be relied upon, from their fidelity, as the advice of a pane. They are less liable to dilution, and it may be said beyond a contradiction, that their administration is more distant from democratic Anarchy. The council, however, would not be a useless body; for whilst the attention of the committee was chiefly engaged in watching and requiring the main springs of government, the council would as materially serve the company in attending to the many other movements of the grand machine, which are as essentially necessary to the public advantage and security. And that the committee should not be able to carry their powers to any dangerous length, they might be ordered annually, before the dispatch of the Europe ships, to submit their proceedings to the review of the gentlemen in council, who might transmit their opinions thereupon to the Court of Directors. Your present select committee have from time to time laid most of their proceedings before council, and we intend to continue the same; because, except in any political cases of secrecy, when prudence may require that our resolutions should be confined to the knowledge of a few people only, I think the more credit are due to the whole body of council, for which I have given you my opinion upon the fort of government I could wish to see established in this settlement; nor shall I think my duty done, till I have pointed out every measure that teems to me best calculated to preserve your affairs from distraction. At Bengal the rule of succession among your servants is perniciously exact: There are frequent occasions where it ought to be set aside; where experience, understanding, integrity, moderation, ought to take place of accidental seniority. The demerits of near your superior servants have been too great, as you will learn from the committee proceedings, that one can hardly imagine their future behaviour will intitle them to farther favours than you have hitherto bestowed on them. I do not pretend to furnish what sentience you may pronounce upon: the gentlemen who came under the confidence of the committee; but whether it be moderate as out, or severe as it deserves, it will not much concern them, since all of them are now in very affluent circumstances, and will probably return to Europe by this or the next year's shipping. Peru then the lift of your covenanted servants upon this establishment: You will find that many of those next in succession are not only very young in the service, and consequently unfit for such exalted stations, but are also strongly tainted with the principles of their superiors.—If your opinion shoul communicate with mine, some remedy will be judged necessary to be applied, and I confes I see but one. The unhappy change which within these few years has arisen in the manners and conduct of your servants at Bengal, is alone sufficient to remove the objections I once had to appointments from another settlement; and the difficulty which now too plainly appears of filling up vacancies in council with the requisite attention to the company's honour and welfare, inclines me to with such appointments more frequent. In the present state of this proclivity, no measure can, I think, prove more fallacious, than to appoint five or six gentlemen from the coast to the Bengal establishment, and there to poft them agreeable to their rank and standing in the service; Meirs. Ruffell, Flyler, Alderley, and Kelsall are among those who would be well worthy your attention, if this plan shoul be adopted. I cannot help further recommending to your consideration, whether, if every other method should be found ineffectual, the transplanting a few of the young Bengal servants to Madras, would not be of signal service both to themselves and the Company. You will likewise consider whether the settlement of Bombay is capable of furnishing us with a few meritorious servants. With regard to Madras, the conduct of the gentleman upon that establishment
ment is in general so unexceptionable, that to prevent Bengal with such examples of regularity, discretion, and moderation, would, I think, be a means of rectoring it to good order and government. It is past a doubt, that every attempt of reformation must fail, unless the superior servants be exemplary in their principles and conduct. If we see nothing but capacity among counsellors, in vain shall we look for moderation among writers.

12. The sources of tyranny and oppression which have been opened by the European agents acting under the authority of the Company's servants, and the numberless black agents and sub-agents acting also under them, will, I fear, be a lasting reproach to the English name in this country: it is impossible to enumerate the complaints that have been laid before me by the unfortunate inhabitants, who had not forgot that I was an enemy to oppression. The necessity of securing the confidence of the natives, is an idea I have ever maintained, and was in hopes would be invariably adopted by others; but ambition, success, and luxury, have, I find, introduced a new system of politics, at the severe expense of English honour, of the Company's faith, and even of common justice and humanity. The orders so frequently issued, that no writers shall have the privilege of dispatches, I have strictly obeyed; but I am sorry to inform you, that all the wished-for consequences are not to be expected; the officers of the Government are to sensible of our influence and authority, that they dare not presume to search or stop a boat, protected by the name of a Company's servant; and you may be assured that frauds of that kind, so easy to be practised, and so difficult to be detected, are but too frequent. I have at last, however, the happiness to see the completion of an event, which, in this respect as well as in many others, must be productive of advantages hitherto unknown, and at the same time prevent abuses that have hitherto had no remedy; I mean the deswance, which is the superintendancy of all the lands, and the collection of all the revenues of the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa. The affluence which the Great Mogul had received from our arms and Treasuries, made him readily behold this grant upon the Company; and it is done in the most effectual manner you can desire. The allowance for the support of the Nabob's dignity and power, and the tribute to his Majesty, must be regularly paid; the remainder belongs to the Company. Revolutions are now no longer to be apprehended; the means of effecting them will, in future, be wanting to ambitious Mussulmen; nor will your servants, civil or military, be tempted to foment disturbances, from whence can arise no benefit to themselves. Reconstitution, donation money, &c. &c. will be perfectly abolished, as the revenues from whence they used to issue will be perfec ted by ourselves. The power of superintending the provinces, though lodged in us, should not, however, in my opinion, be exerted. Three times the present number of civil servants would be insufficient for the purpose: whereas, if we leave the management to the old officers of the Government, the Company need not be at the expense of one additional servant; and though we may suffer in the collection, yet we shall always be able to detect and punish any great offenders, and shall have some satisfaction in knowing that the corruption is not among ourselves: by this means also, the abuses inevitably springing from the exercise of territorial authority, will be effectually obstructed; there will be a Nabob, with an allowance suitable to his dignity, and the territorial jurisdiction will still be in the chiefs of the country, acting under him and the Prefidency in conjunction, though the revenues will belong to the Company. Besides, were the Company's officers to be the collectors, foreign nations would immediately take umbrage; and complaints preferred to the British Court might be attended with very embarrassing consequences: nor can it be supposed, that either the French, Dutch, or Danes, will acknowledge the English Company Nabob of Bengal, and pay into the hands of their servants the duties upon trade, or the quit-rents of those districts, which they have for many years possessed by virtue of the Royal Firman, or by grants from former Nabobs. In either case, therefore, the Nabobs.

13. Your revenues, by means of this new acquisition, will, as near as can justly, not fall far short, for the ensuing year, of 220 lack of Sicea rupees, including your former possessions of Burdwan, &c. Hereafter they will at least amount to 20 or 30 lack more. Your civil and military expenses, in time of peace, can never exceed 60 lack of rupees; the Nabobs allowances are already reduced to 42 lack, and the tribute to the King is fixed at 26; so that there will be remaining, a clear gain to the Company of 122 lack of Sicea rupees, or £1,653,500. Sterling, which will defray all the expense of the investment, furnish the whole of the anna treasure, answer the demands of all your settlements in India, and leave a considerable balance in your treasury: besides, in time of war, when the country may be fully in the invasions of bodies of cavalry, we shall, notwithstanding, be able to collect a sufficient sum for our civil and military exigencies, and likewise for our investments; because a very rich part of the Bengal and Bahar dominions, are situated to the southward of the Ganges, where we can never be invaded. What I have given you is a real, not imaginary, rate of your revenues, and you may be assured they will not fall short of my computation.

14. Permit me here to have the honour of laying before you one striking circumstance which has occurred to me, in considering the subject of the Dewnance, and the consequences of your large increase of revenues. I have already observed, that our acquisition will give no umbrage to foreign nations, with respect to our territorial jurisdiction, so long as the present appearance of
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of the Nabob's power is preferred; but I am convinced they will, ere long, entertain jealousies of our commercial superiority. Public complaints have indeed been already made from both French and Dutch Factories, that the dread of the English name, added to the encouragement of your servants at the different Aurungs, has deterred the weavers from complying with their usual and necessary demands; and I am persuaded, that, sooner or later, national remonstrances will be made on that subject. Perhaps one half of the trade being referred to the English Company, and the other divided between the French, Dutch, and Danes, in such proportions as may be settled between their respective confidentials, might adjust their disputes to the mutual satisfaction of all parties. Besides, as every nation which trades to the East-Indies constantly brings out silver, for the purchase of merchandise in return, and as our revenues will, for the future, enable us to furnish all our inventions, without any remittance from England, it seems necessary that we should, in some degree, encourage the trade of others, in order that this country may be supplied by them with bullion, to replace the quantity we shall annually send to China, or to any other part of the world. It is impossible for me to be a sufficient judge of the practicability or propriety of admitting other nations to such a proportion of trade with us in these parts; nor will you suspect that I entertain a thought of taking any step, without instructions from you, in an affair of such national importance. I do not even presume to argue upon the subject; I only mention it as a point which has occurred to me, and which, I think, well merits your most serious consideration.

15. Considering the Excellencies we have of late years manifested in our conduct, the princes of Hindostan will not readily imagine us capable of moderation, nor can we expect they will ever be attached to us by any other motive than fear. Meer Jaffer, Colifim Ali, the nabob of Arcot (the late Mufulman I ever knew) have afforded instances sufficient of their inclination to throw off the English superiority. No opportunity will ever be neglected that seems to favour an attempt to extirpate us through the consequences, while we keep our army complete, must in the end be more fatal to themselves. This impatience under the subjection, as I may call it, to Europeans is natural, but so great the infatuation of the natives of the country, that they look no farther than the present moment, and will put their all to the hazard of a single battle. Even our young nabob, who is the issue of a prostitute, who has little abilities, and loves education to supply the want of them, mean, weak, and ignorant, as this man is, he would, if left to himself, and a few of his artful Plaftemers, pursue the very paths of his predeceffors. It is impossible therefore to trust him with power, and be safe. If you mean to maintain your present possessions and advantages, the command of the army and receipt of the revenues must be kept in your hands; every wish he may express to obtain either, be affured, is an indication of his desire to reduce you to your original state of dependency, to which you can never now return, without ceasing to exist. If you allow the nabob to have forces, he will foon raise money; if you allow him a full treafury without forces he will certainly make use of it to invite the Maffattas, or other powers, to invade the country, upon a supposition that we shall not fupport the part he takes, and that success will reftore him to the full extent of his sovereignty; for he ignorant is he, even of the nature of his own countrymen, that he would never imagine the very men he had paid to relieve the dominions from us, would only conquer to feize the fpoil for themselves. Such is he whom we now call Nabob, and such are the faithlefs politics of Hindostan. We have adopted however a plan, which if strictly adhered to, must effectually prevent his involving the Company, or himself, in any difficulties: Mahomed Reza, Cawn, Roy Dullub, and Jugutt Saffi, men of the most approved credit and moderation, are appointed jointly to the management of all his affairs, nor is either of them to actfingly in any measure of Government. The Roval Treasury is under three different locks and keys, and each of thefe Ministers of State has a key, so that no money can be illufed for any service whatever, without the joint knowledge and conflent of them all. Our Resident at the Durbar is to inspect the Treafury accounts from time to time, as he or the Governor and Council may think proper: but we are never to interfere in the appointment or complaint of any officer under the Government, nor in any particulars relative to the above-mentioned departments, unless extraordinary conduct of the Miniftry should render alteration requisite. This form of Government I thought proper to recommend, in order to purge the Court of a fett of knaves and parasites, by whom the Nabob was surrounded, and who were always undermining our influence, that they might the more firmly eflablish their own, So far you will obferve we have exerted ourselves in the arrangement of the Nabob's affairs, but it is a meafure of the utmost confequence, since it lays the foundation of that tranquillity, moderation, and regularity, which will support the Government against any future attempts to a revolution; and we are determined to interced ourselves at the city in no other refept. I need only add, that Mr. Sykes, for whom we intend the Residenthip, is a Gentleman, from whose inflexible integrity, and long experience in the country polities, we have reafon to expect the moft exact performance of every duty in such an important station.

16. The regulation of the nabob's miniftry, the acquisition of the dawannes, and the honourable terms on which we have conducted a peace with the viceroy of the empire, have placed the dignity and advantages of the English East India Company on a basis more firm than our most sanguine
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A few months ago have suggested. These however alone will not ensure your stability; these are but the out-works which guard you from your natural enemies, the natives of the country: all is not safe; danger still subsists from more formidable enemies within; Luxury, Corruption, Avarice, Rapacity, these have possession of your principal posts, and are ready to betray your citadel. These therefore must be extirpated, or they will infallibly destroy us; for we cannot expect the same causes which have ruined the greatest kingdoms should have different effects on such a state as ours. That sudden growth of riches from whence those evils principally arise, demands our most serious attention. The affairs of Bengal, however glorious and flourishing the prospect may now be, cannot be successfully managed by men whose views extend not beyond a year or two, and who will for all orders from the Court of Directors at defiance, well knowing they must have acquired an affluent fortune, or at least a comfortable independency, before resentment can reach them. A competency ought to be allowed to all your servants, from the time of their arrival in India, and advantages should gradually increase to each, in proportion to his station; but I would have few of them entertain hopes of returning to their native country, till they shall have attained the rank of councillor; then the prospect should open to them, and they should be certain of being enabled to return in a few years with independent fortunes. This certainty would arise from the freight ships, from the privileges of trade (the advantages of which you are not unacquainted with) and also from the profits upon salt, beetle, and tobacco, agreeable to the new regulation which we have made, in order to rectify the abuses that have so long committed in those branches of trade, to the great detriment of the country government, without view of benefit to the Company.

17. The regulation now established for the salt trade, will, I hope, be entirely to your satisfaction. I at first intended to propose, that the Company and their servants should be jointly and equally concerned in the trade itself, but upon better consideration, I judged that plan to be rather unbecoming the dignity of the Company, and concluded it would be better that they should give the trade entirely to their servants, and fix a duty upon it for themselves, equivalent to half the profits. This duty we have computed at the rate of thirty-five per cent. for the present, but I imagine, it will be able, next year, to bear an increase. The articles of Beetle and Tobacco, being of less consequence, and yielding much less advantage, the duties upon them, of course, must be less. For farther particulars of these regulations, I beg leave to refer you to the Committee's letter and proceedings, as I would not here trouble you with the repetition of a matter which is there so fully laid before you.

18. The advantages proposed for the Governor and Council, would undoubtedly appear extremely large, to those who are unacquainted with the riches of Bengal, and the numberless opportunities which the Company's servants have of acquiring money; but you, who are now perfectly informed of the revenues of these kingdoms, and the prodigious emoluments within the reach of gentlemen high in the service, will, I am persuaded, agree with me, that if some plan, of the nature proposed, be not adopted, the Governor and Council will not fail to acquire much larger fortunes, by other means, in a much shorter time; which must always be productive of that quick succession, not only fo detrimental to your commercial interest, but so totally incompatible with the Acquisition of political knowledge, which ought now to be considered as a very material qualification in all your civil as well as military servants. To obviate an objection which may arise, that they may possibly proceed in the old way of procuring money, notwithstanding they accept of these allowances, I would have an oath tendered to them of as strong and solemn a nature as can be penned; I have drawn out the form of one, agreeable to my idea of the expedient, and have the honour to enclose it for your consideration. This may be annexed a penalty bond of £ 150,000 to be executed by the Governor, and of £ 50,000 to be executed by each of the Council. Thus the conscience of some will be awakened by the legal consequences of perjury; and pecuniary punishment will be a sure guard over the honesty of others. Could the hearts of men be known by their general character in society, or could their conduct in a state of temptation, be ascertained from their moderate attention to wealth, whilst the sudden acquisition of it was impossible, the proposal I make would be an affront to religion and to morality; but since that is not the case in any part of the World, and least of all so in the East, we must for our own security impose such restraints, as shall make it impossible even for hypocrisy to introduce corruption.

19. Having thus fully submitted to you my sentiments on the civil department, permit me to trouble you with a few observations on the military, which deserves a no less serious attention. In the former part of this letter, I have mentioned that luxury, and an abhorrence of subordination, had overspread your army, but that the good effects of appointing field officers had already become visible. The Committee letter will include a general return of their number, and enlarge upon the necessity of keeping each regiment complete to the establishment; I therefore avoid saying anything here upon those subjects. That letter will also specify the proportion of emoluments proposed for the field officers, from the new-acquired advantages upon salt. The same objection may perhaps be made to this, which I supposed was likely to occur with respec.
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I refer to the plan for the benefit of the civil servants; if so, I beg leave to refer you to my proposal and remarks upon that subject, which are equally proper and applicable to this. These points then I conclude are sufficiently before you; and I proceed to recommend to your consideration, that the regimenting of the troops has introduced a much larger number of officers of rank, than has hitherto been admitted upon your establishment; and that this regulation beneficial and necessary as it is, will, notwithstanding, be productive of one dangerous evil, if not constantly guarded against by the authority of the Governor and Council, supported and enforced by the higher powers at home. The evil I mean to apprise you of, is the encouragement of the military upon the civil jurisdiction, and an attempt to be independent of their authority. A spirit of this kind has always been visible; our utmost vigilance therefore is requisite to supersede it, or at least to take care that it shall not actually prevail. I have been at some pains to inculcate a total subjection of the army to the government, and I doubt not you will ever maintain that principle. In the field, in time of actual service, I could wish to see the commander of your forces implicitly relied on for his plan of operations; orders from the prefidity may frequently embarrass him, and prejudice the service: at such a time, it is certainly the best judge of what measures should be pursued, and ought therefore to be trusted with discretionary powers; but he should by no means be permitted to vary from the first general plan of a campaign, nor, from his own idea of the Company's interest, to prosecute operations of importance, when they are not also of real utility and emergency. I dwell not however entirely upon the conduct of a commander of the forces, as such in the field; he is to understand that upon all occasions, a gentleman in the Council is his superior, unless he also has a seat at the Board, and then he will of course rank as he stands in that appointment. The whole army should in like manner be subordinate to the civil power; and it is the indispensable duty of the Governor and Council to keep them so. If at any time they should struggle for superiority, the Governor and Council must strenuously exert themselves; ever mindful that they are the trumpher for the Company in this settlement, and the guardians of public property under a civil instituted.

20. It would give me pain to see a regulation so fatal as that of the appointment of field officers attended with any inconveniences; and therefore I would earnestly recommend the following very easy and effectual mode of prevention. Let the Equality in civil and military rank be immediately settled by the court of Directors. Were disputes about precedence the only points to be adjusted, they would not be worth a moment's reflection: but we are to consider, that opportunities will sometimes happen when military gentlemen may assume power and authority from the rank they hold among the civil servants, and perhaps pay no attention to orders illused from their supposed inferiors. Such contentions may have disagreeable consequences; and to prevent them, I propose, that all the Colonels (the commanders of the troops excepted, who is entitled to the rank of 3d in Council) shall be equal in rank to the counsellors, but always the youngest of that rank; the lieutenant-colonels should rank with senior merchants; the majors with junior merchants; captains with factors; and lieutenants and ensigns with writers. The rank of all officers below colonels, and of civil servants below counsellors, may be considered according to the dates of their commissions and appointments respectively: when such a regulation has taken place, I think the appointment of field officers cannot be charged with a single inconvenience.

21. Before I quit the subject of the army, I must repeat what, if I mistake not, I mentioned to Mr. Brown before I left England, the propriety of appointing Sir Robert Barker to the command of a regiment in case of a vacancy. On the death of Colonel Knox, I hesitated not to appoint Sir Robert to the 3d regiment, but it met with opposition, not only from some of the gentlemen in Council, but afterwards from Sir Robert Fletcher, who thought himself aggrieved, though at a time when Barker was a captain, he was only a volunteer in your service; and besides Sir Robert Barker must on all occasions, as the elder officer, have commanded in the field in the absence of General Carnac and Colonel Smith, even if this appointment had not taken place. If I could imagine that his seniority in the service did not sufficiently entitle him to his preferment, I would urge his experience, which is greater than that of the other gentleman, and his disinterestedness, which made him accept what is so infinitely inferior, in point of emoluments, to the command of the artillery. Lieut. Colonel Peach has in like manner been objected to by the majors appointed by the governors and Council; but it has always been customary to prefer officers of your own appointment to those of the same rank nominated by the governor and Council: I need not point out the propriety of your confirming this gentleman's Commission. The introducing Lieut. Colonel Chapman also to that rank has met with the same objections; with regard to him, permit me to acquaint you, that he is a very old major in the king's service; that he was strongly solicited at Madras to continue there, and on very advantageous terms, when his regiment was ordered home; but that I found him at the Cape in his way to Europe; and it was with the utmost difficulty that Meffrs. Sumner and Sykes and myself could prevail upon him to return to India next in rank to Lieut. Colonel Peach. His merits on the coast have been very great, and I consider him as a very valuable acquisition to your service; I therefore
most earnestly request you will be pleased to confirm his appointment as lieutenant Colonel on this establishment. Neither of these three gentlemen I have here spoken of can be censured for that spirit of licentiousness and independency, which I have pointed out as the great evils we ought to guard against; and the variety as well as length of their services will certainly be of considerable advantage to corps like ours. I must at the same time confess, that I cannot be responsible for that discipline and reformation we mean shall take place, unless the field officers are men I can depend upon. Most of the captains now in your service have had so little experience, and are, I fear, so liable to the general objection, that I could wish to have five or six captains sent out who have seen service, who understand discipline, and who are well recommended by their colonels. If you should think proper to extend this plan to majors, it will be so much the better; but there is no occasion to go higher. Among the appointments you may be pleased to make in England, I could wish to find a majority upon this establishment for Major Pembble, agreeable to the date of the brevet given him upon his arrival at this place. That gentleman has seen much service, both on the coast of Coromandel and Manilla, and at Bengal; but being on the Bombay establishment, where the rife is so very low, he has had the mortification to see himself constantly superceded by the coast and Bengal officers. You may be assured I would not trouble you with this recommendation, if I did not know him to be worthy of your notice.

22. The enquiries I have found myself under the necessity of promoting, the regulations which I judged proper should take place without delay, together with those I have here had the honour to propose for your mature deliberation, will, I doubt not, meet with that candid discussion which the importance of the subject requires. You will be pleased, upon the whole, to observe, that the great object of my labour has been (and it must also be yours) to item that torrent of luxury, corruption, and licentiousness, which have nearly overwhelmed the interest, and I might add the existence, of the Company in these parts; to reduce your civil servants to a sense of duty to their employers, and moderation in the pursuit of their own advantages; to introduce discipline, subordination, economy, into your army; and to prevent, in general, that sudden acquisition of riches, which is evidently the root of almost every other evil, both in the civil and military department.

23. Is there a man anxious for the speedy return of his son, his brother, or his friend, and solicitous to see that return accompanied by allusions of fortune, indifferent to the means by which it may have been obtained? Is there a man, who void of all but selfish feelings, can withhold his approbation of any plan that promises not sudden riches to those of dearest connexion; who can look with contempt upon measures of moderation; and who can cherish all upstart greatness, though stigmatized with the spoils of the Company? If there is such a man, to him all arguments would be vain; to him I speak not.—My address is to those who can judge coolly of the advantages to be derived for their relations and friends, nor think the body corporate wholly unintitled to their attention. If these should be of opinion, that an independent fortune, honourably acquired in a faithful service of 12 or 15 years, is more compatible with the interests of the Company, than to the late rapidity of the acquisitions, and at the same time satisfactory to the expectations of Reason; I will venture to assert, that the regulations already made, together with those proposed, will, when enforced by the authority of the Court of Directors, infure to the Company their commercial and political advantages, and be productive of certain independence to every servant who endeavours to deserve it.

24. The general terms in which I have mentioned the depravity of this settlement oblige me to point out to your attention the inferences, the very few inferences, of distinguished merit among the superior servants. To find a man who, in the midst of luxury and licentiousness, had retained the true idea of commercial economy; who, inferior in fortune to most of your civil servants in the rank of counsellors, was yet superior to all in moderation and integrity; whose regard for the welfare of the Public, and for the reputation of individuals, had made him warn others from falling into the temptations of corruption, which he saw were approaching; and who could actually reftitute their temptations himself, when a thar was allotted him of money he thought unwarrantably obtained: to find such a man in such a settlement would appear incredible, to those who are unacquainted with Mr. Verulam. I have reprehended this Gentleman to you, as I should every one, in his real character; and shall only add, that, if you will see the measures we are now pursuing supported with integrity, abilities, and resolution, you will endeavour to prevail on him to continue in your service, by appointing him to succeed Mr. Sumner in the government. To omit mentioning Mr. Cartier would be injustice, as he also stands high in my opinion: his character is clear, and his attachment to your service, what it ought to be, unblasted by any mean attention to his own advantages. I wish sincerely your lift of superior servants would enable me to detain you longer on subjects of commendation; but I have finished the picture, and I cannot add another figure that deserves to be distinguished from the group.

25. Having filled for many pages upon the subject of public affairs, you will indulge me with a few lines upon a circumstance which concerns myself. Mr. Johnstone, in his last minute in council, has thought proper to throw out some observations upon the validity of my title to
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the Jafhire; intimating that the defect which he pretends to have discovered was not known at the time of his litigation with the Company. As I would not with that a point in which my honour is concerned should pass unnoticed, I must observe that the King's Suzund, which Mr. Johnstone affirms was requisite to be obtained within six months from the granting of the Jafhire, for the confirmation of it, is a matter of form only, and not understood to be essential. As a proof of this, I include transcriptions of various Jafhire grants, properly attested by Mr. Vansturt, the Persian translator; as also an attestation of the same gentleman, that the grant to me was as complete as other grants of that nature generally are; but to put this matter out of dispute, the paper of agreement which Mr. Johnstone alludes to, is of no more consequence than a piece of blank paper, since it was never executed by me, or by any agent or vicar on my account; nor was any agent ever named or thought of by me. Included, I transmit you a transcription of the very paper, attested by Mr. Vansturt.

26. Permit me now to remind you, that I have a large family, who stand in need of a father's protection; that I sacrificed my health, and hazard my fortune, with my life, by continuing in this climate: the first great purposes of my appointment are perfectly answered; peace is restored, and my engagement to procure for the Company the reversion of my Jafhire, is completed in the fullest manner, since it is not only confirmed by the present Nabob, but by the Great Mogul: I now only wish to be informed, whether my conduct thus far be approved of, and whether the whole or any part of the regulations I have had the honour to lay before you are conformable to your ideas of the reformation necessary to be established; if they meet with your approbation, I doubt not you will immediately employ me, in conjunction with the Select Committee, to finish the business so successfully begun, which may easily be effected before the end of the ensuing 1748; when I am determined to return to Europe, and hope to acquaint you in person with the accomplishment of every with you can form for the prosperity of your affairs in Bengal.

27. I now conclude this tedious letter, by observing, that my anxiety to know whether you approve of my conduct or not, can proceed from no other motive than my concern for the Public; since I continue invariable in the resolution I formed, and expressed in a General Court long before the covenants were proposed, of acquiring no addition to my fortune by my acceptance of the government; and I beg leave also to assure you, that, in order to obviate all suspicion of a collusion in this delicate point, I have not permitted either of the gentlemen of my family to hold an employment in your service, nor to receive presents, although they are not bound by covenants to the contrary. The small congratulatory nazar, elephants, horses, "etc. which I have been under a necessity of receiving, do not, I imagine, amount to any considerable sum; but whatever it may be, not a farthing shall go into my own pocket. I have hitherto been too much engaged in matters of public importance to attend to a particular valuation; but I have caused an exact account to be kept of every, even the most trifling, present, which, at my return shall be submitted to your inspection; and in the mean time, the amount of the whole shall go towards defraying my extraordinary expenses as Governor. The only favour I have to solicit for myself is, that although your Treasury here will for the future be so full as to render it difficult for individuals to obtain bills upon the Company, payable at home, you will be pleased to indulge me with the usual channel of remittance of my Jafhire, until it reverts to the Company. I have the honour to be, with the utmost respect,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient, and most humble Servant,

C I V I E.

28. I cannot help requesting your attention to Mr. William Wynne, a young gentleman whom I brought out to India with me, and whom I was in hopes of finding appointed a writer on the list of that year. I have caused him to transcribe this letter, that you may see he is qualified in point of penmanship; and as he has lived constantly with me, and acted as assistant to my secretary, I can take upon me to be responsible for his conduct and abilities in every respect: it is therefore my particular request that you confer on him the station of a writer, to rank from the time of his leaving England.

29. I beg also to recommend to your protection Mr. Maddison, a gentleman of a liberal education, and who promises to be a very valuable servant to the Company, from an uncommon facility in acquiring the Persian Language. As he is 27 years of age, you will not think me unreasonable in soliciting for him the appointment of a factor.

C I V I E.

No. 74.

Extrait of a Letter from the Court of Directors to the President and Select Committee at Fort William in Bengal, 17th May 1766.

1. On the 19th of last month we received the several packets committed to the care of Captain Grimm, in which was your letter of the 30th of September, one from Lord Clive, and a general letter, both dated the same day.

2. As
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2. As some of the most important affairs have fallen under your management, which have never occurred since the Company had a being, it is with the utmost satisfaction we observe with what zeal and true regard to the interest of your employers you have pursued such measures, not only with respect to the political system of the country, but the arduous task of discovering, and laying open to our view, the iniquity, rapacious, and misbehaviour, of our servants in general; of all which, you may be fully assured, we have the highest and most grateful sense.

3. As fidelity to your plans for a peaceable possession of our acquisitions, and a thorough reformation in our servants in general, are objects of the greatest importance, and in which the presence of Lord Clive is essentially necessary; we made it our unanimons and earnest request, that his Lordship would continue another season in Bengal; and which we here again repeat, in confidence and hopes of his Lordship's ready acquiescence to complete what he has laid so good a foundation for, as you will observe by the accompanying triplicate of a letter we addressed to his Lordship, dated the 2d instant, which as the occasion was so important, we felt overland, for fear the mercury, by which you will receive this, should not reach Bengal before the departure of his Lordship.

4. Although we think you have made a most unexpected progress in investigating the many new and important affairs that have come before you, yet we consider what you have done as necessarily imperfect, till you have had some experience of the effect of your regulations. You must not therefore look on the following observations and directions as carrying any disapprobation of your conduct in general, but as reflections that occur to us on the first view of affairs so totally new to us. We trust entirely to the continuance of your zealous endeavours to bring this great work to perfection.

6. From the sentiments we expressed in every one of our late letters, you will easily judge the great pleasure it gave us to see the war with Souja Dowla ended so conformable to our wishes. We always esteemed the power of that populous field the strongest barrier we could have against the invasions of the northern powers, and of the Mahrattas, which have so long laid desolate the northern provinces; and, had the impolitic, injudicious and ill-timed councils of our late governor and council been followed, and the king, or Nudjjeef Cawn, been left in possession of Souja Dowla's Country, we are convinced they would not have had weight and abilities to have supported themselves, and we must either have had their wars to maintain at that immense distance, or they would have been drawn back on us, and brought the war down to our own frontiers, or even into our own provinces. Nothing could so effectually reile the country to its former state, as putting its natural prince in the full possession of his dominions; and we are equally pleased to see the care that has been taken of all those who fluxed their attachment to us in the course of the war. But whatever joining us at the time he did, was of fangal service, and the flipation in his favour was what he was justly intitled to.

7. Equally politic and prudent are the concessions in favour of the king, whose interest was, but considered by the rejoining Souja Dowla to his country, the only Subah in Indostan who is ever likely to support him in his pretensions to the Empire. The revenue agreed to be paid him must be, in the eyes of the Indian powers, a mark of our respect to the royal blood, and an acknowledgment of his right. We approve also the being guarantee for Nudjjeef Cawn; and finally we hope the moderation and attention paid to all those who have expliced our interest in this war, will reile our reputation in Indostan; and that the Indian powers will be convinced no breach of treaty will ever have our sanction. We also hope the 50 Lacks stipulated to be paid by Souja Dowla will be, before this reaches you, discharged, and his Dominions entirely evacuated by our troops; and that none will remain under pretence of broke to the king's person, for that may lead to pretensions to support him in his claim to the Empire, a measure quite contrary to our views; being determined to make the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, the utmost bounds of our political views or pretences.

8. The article in the treaty with Souja Dowla, flipulating a trade duty-free through his dominions, we directly to be confined solely to the Company's trade; and even in that sense of it, we mean only, if his dominions produce any goods fit for the European markets, or if it can be made the means of extending our trade in the woollen manufacture, or any other European goods.

9. We come now to consider the great and important affair of the Dewannee, on which we shall give you our sentiments, with every objection that occurs to us.

10. When we consider that the barrier of the country government was entirely broke down, and every Englishmen throughout the country armed with an authority that owned no inferior, and exercising his power to the oppression of the helpless Native, who knew not whom to obey; at such a crisis, we cannot hesitate to approve your obtaining the Dewannee for the Company.
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11. When we look back to the system that Lord Clive and the gentlemen of the Select Committee found caitiffed, it presents to us a Souba disarmed, with a revenue of almost two Millions Sterling, (for so much seems to have been left, exclusive of our demands on him) at the mercy of our servants, who had adopted an unheard-of ruinous principle, of an interest distinté from the Company: This principle shewed itself in laying their hands upon every thing they did not deem the Company's property.

12. In the province of Burdwan, the resident and his council took an annual ripend of near eighty thousand Rupees per annum, from the Rajah, in addition to the Company's salary. This stands on the Burdwan accounts, and we fear was not the whole; for we apprehend it went further, and that they carried this pernicious principle, even to the sharking with the Rajah of all he collected beyond the circulated Mulgazurry, or land revenue, over-looking the point of duty to the Company, to whom properly every thing belonged that was not necessary for the Rajah's support. It has been the principle too on which our servants have falsely endeavoured to gloss over the crime of their proceedings, on the accession of the present Souba, and we fear would have been soon extended to the grasping the greatest share of that part of the Nabob's revenues which was not allotted to the Company. In short, this principle was directly undermining the whole fabric, for whilft the Company were sinking under the burden of the war, our servants were enriching themselves from those very funds that ought to have supported the war. But to Lord Clive and our Select Committee we owe that the Company are at last considered as principals in the advantages as well as dangers.

13. We must now turn our attention to render our acquisitions as permanent as human wisdom can make them. This permanency we apprehend can be found only in the simplicity of the execution. We observe the account you give of the office and power of the King's Dewan in former times, was the collecting of all the revenues, and after defraying the expenses of the army, and allowing a sufficient fund for the support of the Nizamut, to remit the remainder to Delhi. This description of it is not the office we wish to execute; the experience we have already had in the province of Burdwan, convinces us how unfit an Englishman is to conduct the collection of the revenues and follow the subtile native through all his arts to conceal the real value of his country, to perplex and to elude the payments. We, therefore, entirely approve of your preferring the ancient form of government in the upholding the dignity of the Souba.

14. We conceive the office of Dewan should be exercised only in superintending the collection and disposal of the revenues, which office, though vested in the Company, should officially be executed by our resident at the Durbar, under the control of the governor and Select committee; the ordinary bounds of which control should extend to nothing beyond the superintending the collection of the revenues, and the receiving the money from the nabob's treasury to that of the Dewannah or the Company. And this we conceive to be neither difficult nor complicated; for at the annual poonah the government fetteles with each Zemindar his monthly payments for the ensuing year; to the monthly payments of the whole, from the nabob's dewan is but the total of the monthly payment of each Zemindar; which must be strictly kept up, and if deficient, the Company must trace what particular province, Rajah, or Zemindar, has fallen short in his monthly payments; or if it is necessary to extend the power further, let the annual poonah, by which we mean the time when every landholder makes his agreement for the ensuing year, be made with the consent of the dewan or Company. This we conceive to be the whole office of the Dewanny. The administration of justice, the appointment to offices or Zemindarries, in short, whatever comes under the denomination of civil administration, we understand is to remain in the hands of the nabob or his ministers.

15. The resident at the Durbar being constantly on the spot, cannot be long a stranger to any abuses in the government, and is always armed with power to remedy them; it will be his duty to stand between the administration and the encroachments always to be apprehended from the agents of the Company's servants, which must first be known to him; and we rely on his fidelity to the Company's servants, which must first be known to him; and we rely on his fidelity to the Company's servants, which must first be known to him; and we rely on his fidelity to the Company's servants, which must first be known to him; and we rely on his fidelity to the Company's servants, which must first be known to him.

We gave you our sentiments on the office of resident in our letter of the 24th December last, which were what we thought suitable to the office as it then stood; but now that is become of so much more importance we shall leave the regulating of it to you, and desire you will be very explicit on the subject, and shall only here bring out some few thoughts upon it.

16. We would have his correspondence to be carried on with the select Committee through the channel of the president; he should keep a Diary of all his transactions; his correspondence with the natives must be publicly conducted; copies of all his letters sent and received must be transmitted monthly to the presidency, with duplicates and triplicates, to be transmitted home in our general packet by every ship.

Letter from the Court of Directors to Lord Clive.

My Lord,

1. We have received your Lordship's letter of the 30th September last, which, with the letter from the select Committee, and their proceedings, have given us a clear view of the state in which
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which your lordship found our affairs on your arrival, and the state in which they were at the time of the said advices.

2. When we consider the penetration with which your lordship at once discerned our true interest in every branch, the rapidity with which you restored peace, order, and tranquillity, and the unbiased integrity that has governed all your actions, we must congratulate your lordship on being the happy instrument of such extensive blessings to those countries; and you have our sincere thanks for the great and important advantages thereby obtained for the Company.

3. We have the strongest fears of the deplorable state to which our affairs were on the point of being reduced, from the corruption and rapacity of our servants, and the universal depravity of manners throughout the settlement; we agree entirely with your lordship, that the train our affairs were then in would in a very few months have brought us to a most dangerous situation.

4. The war in which we so impolitely engaged against Suja Dowla, was carrying on at such an immense loss to the Company, as would in a short space have sunk a great part of our capital, and the funds that ought to have been directed to the support of that war were diverted to the beneficent purpose of corrupting our servants: nor was this the only fatal consequence of this war, ruin to the Company might have sprung even from our success; for either the king, unable to maintain himself, would have been driven back on the Bengal provinces; or, if he had been successful thro' our assistance, the vassalry or ambition of our servants might have urged them on to have marshaled our forces with him to Delhi: Your Lordship and the select Committee have happily relieved us from these apprehensions, and put a period to the war, and all future wild projects, by restoring Suja Dowla to his dominions.

5. Your Lordship justly observes our danger from within was yet greater than that from without.—The general relaxation of all discipline and obedience, of both military and civil, was hitherto tending to a dissolution of all government, the quick progress of private fortunes was big with very alarming consequences, which we do not dwell on, as you have expressed yourself so fully on the subject; we hold the means by which they were obtained in every sense unlawful.

6. Our letter to the select Committee expresses our sentiments of what have been obtained by way of donations; and to that we must add, that we think the vast fortunes acquired in the inland trade have been obtained by a scene of the most tyrannical and oppressive conduct that ever was known in any age or country; we have been uniform in our sentiments and orders on this subject, from the first knowledge we had of it; and your lordship will not therefore wonder that after the fatal experience we had of the violent abuses committed in this trade that we could not be brought to approve it even in the limited and regulated manner with which it comes to us in the plan laid down in the Committee's proceedings: we agree in opinion with your lordship on the propriety of holding out such advantages to our chief servants, civil and military, as may open to them the means of honourably acquiring a competency in our service; but the difficulty of the subject, and the short time we have at present to consider of it, have obliged us to defer giving our sentiments and directions thereupon until the next dispatch.

7. For the same reasons your lordship will observe, by our letter to the select Committee, that we are under the necessity of postponing the consideration of the present intended for general Carnac by the King; but by the next dispatch your lordship may be assured we shall have due regard therein to your lordship's recommendations, and his particular merit.

8. As the inland trade has been abolished, principally with a view to the encouragement of the natives, we hope your lordship will find the means to prevent its becoming a Monopoly in any hands, but more particularly in the hands of any powerful native, from whom the poor might suffer those very inconveniences, for the prevention of which we have forbidden our servants to trade in it, and have relinquished those advantages that we ourselves might make by such a Monopoly.

9. We have had too much occasion to remark the tyrannical and oppressive conduct of all European agents who have got away from under the eye of the presidency; and we with your lordship would make it an object of your consideration, how to confine the said Europeans as much as possible to the presidency, and to those subordinates where the interest of the investment may require it to be conducted by covenanted servants, preferably to gomatas.

10. We have not at present time to enter into the thorough examination of what your lordship proposes, respecting the establishing of rank and precedence between our civil and military servants. In our letter of the 24th of December, we determined, that the president and council might delegate their authority to any civil servants they pleased; and every military officer, be his rank what it might, should pay the same obedience to the orders of such civil servant, as to those of the president and council. It is not meant however that such civil servant is to controul the military officers in the execution of military operations, which is his proper department.
APPENDIX, No. 75.

II. We have the most perfect sense of your Lordship's disinterestedness in every part of your conduct, and we shall not fail to represent this to the proprietors, and shall at the same time inform them of the many great advantages your Lordship has obtained for the Company; but we fear, my Lord, past experience will teach them as it does us, that the permanency of those advantages will depend much on your Lordship's continuing in India, till you have seen the regulations firmly established for the conducting these important affairs: Another year's experience and peaceable enjoyment of our acquisitions, might fix them on a basis that would give hopes they may be as lasting as they are great; and there is no doubt, my Lord, but the general voice of the proprietors, indeed we may say, of every man who wishes well to his country, will be to join in our request, that your Lordship will continue another year in India: We are very sensible of the sacrifice we ask your Lordship to make, in defying your continuance another year in Bengal, after the great service you have rendered the Company, and the difficulties you have passed through in accomplishing them, under circumstances, in which your own example has been the principal means of restraining the general rapaciousness and corruption, which had brought our affairs to near the brink of ruin: These services, my Lord, deserve more than verbal acknowledgments; and we have no doubt that the proprietors will concur with us in opinion, that none solid and permanent retribution, adequate to your great merits, should crown your Lordship's labours and success. We are,

My Lord,
Your Lordship's loving friends,

Charles Chambers
J. Pardoe,
Jo$ du Pre,
Thos Saunders,
George Cuming,
John Harrison,
J. Purling,
John Roserts,
Peter du Cane, Junior,
George Woodwell,
Rob. Jones,

Geo. Dudley,
Tho Rous,
John Stephenson,
Chas. Cutts,
Heny Savage,
Christy Baron,
Fred Pigou,
F.W. Barrington,
Edwn. Wheeler,
Lure Srafton,
E.H. Cruttenden.

No. 75.

Berkeley Square, 14th January 1768.

Gentlemen,
I conceived that my answer to your secretary's letter of the 1st instant might have induced you to reflect, that if there were any materials in my possession, which did not appear in the public proceedings of my government, they were unnecessary, if not improper, for public communication; but I find that my letter, instead of having such effect, has almost produced a requisition of some papers, which you have been informed, have been in my hands, containing proofs of Mr. Vanfittart's having received seven Lucks of Ruppers for making the Mongheer treaty; as you have thought proper, thus to press this matter, I will not decline to acknowledge that I am possessed of some informations upon that subject; I must at the same time acquaint you, that I transmitted from Bengal to Mr. Dudley, your chairman, my reasons for not entering into every public enquiry directed in your letters by the Camden, and I now inclose a copy of such part of my advices to him, for your observation. I have to add, that upon my arrival in England I communicated to your chairman, Mr. Rous, the informations now alluded to: After such proceeding on my part, I might have hoped, that if at any time these private materials became necessary to the Court of Directors, on grounds of public utility, the application for them would have been in a private request from the chairman, with whom I have ever been most ready to co-operate, and whose representation of a real necessity of producing the particulars would have had weight with me. I will hope, that upon due consideration of what I have now laid before you, no farther expositions will be thought necessary for me.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen, your most obedient and must humble servant,

Clive.

Extract
APPENDIX, No. 76, 77, 78.

Inclosure in No 75.

Extract of a Letter from Lord Clive to George Dudley, Esq., dated Calcutta, 6th September 1766.

After having explained myself so fully upon this subject, give me leave to expostulate with you as chairman, in that friendly manner, and on that intimate footing, which I would always wish to be with the present Court of Directors. After a general court of proprietors had repoised so much confidence in me, and that confidence was so strongly confirmed by a letter which I received from the Court of Directors, where was the necessity of pointing out to me so many very disagreeable and odious enquiries? Could not the directors have postponed their sentiments until they had seen in what manner I had conducted myself? Could a Court of Directors, for whom I had so high an esteem, imagine that I would leave ought undone; or unenquired into, that would tend to their honour, or the advantage of the Company? Certainly I would not; my own reputation was too much at stake to admit a thought to the contrary.

You may be assured it gives me pain to be reduced to the necessity of declining obedience to any of your orders; but retrospection into actions, which have been buried in oblivion for so many years; which, if enquired into, may produce discoveries which cannot bear the light; which can be of no advantage to the Company, but may bring disgrace upon the nation, and at the same time blast the reputation of great and good families, who will suffer for the Iniquity of individuals; wantonly to occasion so much uneasiness is what I cannot reconcile to those principles of humanity by which I have always been actuated; neither do I think it found policy to enquire into the proceedings of that committee which placed Colliam Ally upon the Mufnad: The bad actions of servants frequently reflect dishonour upon their masters; the present flourishing condition of our East India Company cannot but occasion much national jealousy; and proceedings of such a nature, made public, might occasion a parliamentary enquiry, and that enquiry might extend to the India House itself: upon reflection, I am persuaded the Directors will approve of my conduct in discouraging this examination, in the manner pointed out in their general letter of Lord Camden.

With regard to the other enquiries, where the Company's interest and honour are more immediately concerned, they shall be fully investigated.

No. 76.

Gentlemen,

I have received another letter from your secretary, demanding, a second time, some papers relative to Mr. Vanfittart's conduct in Bengal. Although I still persevere in thinking you have a manner of right to require the papers from me, yet as Mr. Vanfittart himself seems desirous, by his letter to me, copy of which he informs me he has inclosed to you) that those papers should be sent, I have given my attorneys instructions accordingly to deliver them into your hands, to be used as to you in your discretion shall seem meet, if he still persists in the same way of thinking. I have the honour to be,

your most obedient humble servant.

Pefinas, 20th April, 1768.

Clive.

No. 77.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to be, with respect,

To the Court of Directors.

Your most obedient,

Gentlemen,

And most humble servant,

John Walsh.

No. 78.

Sheik Hedayat Alla deposeth,

THAT in the year 1762, in the month of December, when Mr. Henry Vanfittart, accompanied by several other gentlemen, waited on the Nabob Colliam Ally, Cawm, at Monghyr, he then acted in the office of treasurer under his excellency; and that, in pursuance of the Nabob's commands, he issued the sum of two lacks, at four or five different payments,
APPENDIX, No. 79, 80.

for Mr. Van Sittart; and that two ladies who were in company with the Governor went into the Zenana, and received Jewels.

This, being a faithful translation from the Persian original, is attested this 18th day of January, by me,

W. H. COXE, sworn translator.

The Mark [-] of Sheik Hedayet Alla.

Sworn to before me,

H. VERELST.

No. 79.

The Deposition of Bollackidas, Schicar, or Banker.

IN the year 1762, in the month of December, Mr. Henry Van Sittart arrived at Monghyr, and had an interview with the Nabob Coffim Ally Cawn: I was employed in negotiating bills for the said Nabob one or two days before the departure of Mr. Van Sittart for Azimebad; his excellency retiring with me into a private apartment, signified to me his pleasure that I should transmit the sum of five lacks of rupees to Mr. Henry Van Sittart in Calcutta; in consequence of whose excellency's instructions, I wrote an order to Gurdharry Boll, my Gomaffah in the factory of Hughly, to pay the aforesaid amount into the hands of Mr. Van Sittart; afterwards, on the return of this gentleman to Calcutta, the Gomaffah-caused the money aforesaid to be delivered to him, and gave me information thereof, which I made report of to his excellency the Nabob.—The strict truth of this transfection I have faithfully related. Written this 6th day of Shawban (January) in the eighth year of his Majesty's auspicious reign.

The above, being a faithful translation from the Persian original, is attested this 18th day of January 1767, by me,

W. H. COXE, sworn translator.

The hand Writing of Bollackidoos.

Calcutta, the 19th of January 1767.

sworn before me,

H. VERELST.

No. 80.

London, 15th September; 1768.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors of the East India Company.

Honourable Sirs,

I HAVE received from your secretary the copies of two papers delivered to the Court by Lord Clive; one being a declaration of Boolakydass; setting forth, that a day or two before I took leave of Meer Coffim, at Mongheer, he received orders to pay me five lacks of Rupees; the other, an information of Sheik Hedayet Colla, importing, that he by the same order, paid me two lacks of Rupees; and that the ladies who were with me visited the Nabob's ladies, and received a present of Jewels.

Nobody is better acquainted with the customs of that country than Lord Clive, who has brought these informations before the Court. I appeal to his own candour, whether, upon visits of this sort, presents are not customary, and in a manner indispensable.

But I do not mean to recriminate upon his lordship; much less upon any ladies who had the honour of being in his company upon such occasions. I shall content myself with defending my own character; and shall expose to you very fairly the principles upon which I acted at all times in your service.

From the earliest date of the Company's settlements, presents from the people of the country made a part of the benefit of your governments; and this advantage increased in proportion to the extent of your connexions, until, by a fresh covenant, in the year 1765, you thought fit to put a stop to it.

In such circumstances, I hope some praise is due to those servants who made the most moderate use of the opportunities their situation presented to them; who preferred always the Company's interest to their private emolument; who never directly or indirectly fought for presents; but, on the contrary, refused all such as could in any manner affect or retard payments due to the Company, or lay the perfon offering it under any difficulties or inconvenience.

Let Lord Clive say if any inhabitant of Bengal has a complaint to make against me upon this head, or indeed upon any other: As to Boolakydass and Sheik Hedayet Colla, whole names appear to the informations laid before you by his lordship, it will be seen that the former complains only of the authority by which he was forced to give that information; and as to the latter,
All Meer Coffin's payments were made, either by Boolakydafs, Coja Petrus, or the Roy Royn, or in assignments payable to the Chiefs of Patna and Coffimubzar.

In the different ways I received all that was due to the Company; I received likewise several presents of Lord Clive, and other gentlemen, for the remaining part of a present, stipulated in the year 1757, and upon various other accounts, but I do not remember that Sheik Hedeyet Alla was employed upon any of those occasions.—Soon after Boolakydafs had given to Lord Clive the writing which he had laid before the Court, he wrote me a letter to acquaint me, that in compliance with his lordship's commands he had signed a paper, of which he sent me a copy.

Herewith I have transmitted the original letter, and a translation; and can only lament, that at a time when the degrees of confidence and of praise were measured upon the scale of his lordship's good pleasure, it was my misfortune to have him take so determined a part against me.

But supposing for a moment that the informations were true to their full extent; which, however, I do not admit; what do they import? that the chief of the country having fulfilled all his engagements with the Company, paid off the arrears of his predecessors' troops, and brought his finances into good order, made presents of money and jewels to his friends in the customary manner.

But it seems by your letter to Lord Clive, of the 6th January last, that his lordship had represented the presents alluded to in the informations in question, as a consideration given by Meer Coffin for the treaty of Mongheer. If the regulations contained in that treaty had been asked or proposed by Meer Coffin, or had conveyed any benefit or advantage to his Government, there might have been some show of reason for his lordship's unfriendly construction; but when it is seen that the object of those regulations was to give the English traders a decided right to partake in the inland trade upon the most moderate terms, a duty of 9 per cent. upon a trade which the Company have since rated at 40 per cent, and that Meer Coffin contented only, as he declares in many letters, for the sake of preserving good harmony with the English; when both the parties concerned in the treaty regarded it as an acquisition to the English traders, and a concession on the part of the Nabob; in such a case, for what should be given a consideration? shall he who gives up his pretensions, give money likewise to induce the other party to accept his resignation? such a supposition is so contrary to reason, that the attempt to propagate it could proceed only from the most ungenerous design to prejudice me in your opinion; but, I flatter myself, without effect; for you are far from regarding the articles proposed at Mongheer, as a regulation in favour of the Nabob, that you call it "A treaty exacted by force to obtain a function for a trade to enrich ourselves." The Nabob could be little inclined to give presents for such a consideration, it might rather have induced him to omit the usual civilities.

I have never endeavoured, gentlemen, to make you or the World believe that I passed through the government of Bengal without receiving presents, at a time when there was no law against it, and so many great examples for it; but this I have laid, and with the utmost truth, that I never received one that could prejudice the Company, or distress the country, or put back, even for a day, any public or private payments depending for others. Whenever any thing of this sort interfered, and in short, whenever the least objection could arise, I constantly refused all presents; and retailed them absolutely and without reformation.—It is well known that upon this principle I rejected all Meer Coffin's Offers of presents in the last part of his government. You have an instance of this in the consultations from Bengal, the January, 1751; which, though the turn in question was not very large, may still serve to show that I had a certain rule of conduct in which I persevered invariably. I might otherwise have been tempted by the offer which Meer Jaffier pressed on me, by means of Nundcooni and Juggutchund, just before I left Bengal.

They told me that Meer Jaffier enticed on receiving a present of five lacs for the charges of my voyage. I was not then restrained by any orders or convenants, but the state of the Nabob's circumstances was sufficient in my opinion to forbid it; and accordingly my answer was, that being unable of the many engagements he had to fulfil, I would by no means add to his distresses.—This fact is mentioned by Juggutchund in his examination, which is before the Court, and partly also by Nobkiflen, who, as he knew such an offer was made me, must also have known the result, although he chuses to be as short as possible upon it.

Here, gentlemen, I shall leave the matter to your candid and impartial consideration, persuaded that the more you examine my conduct, the more you will be convinced that the love of money was never my ruling passion. If it had, my opportunities were many, and I could have gratified it to as great an extent as any of my predecessors; I speak this without envy.
APPENDIX, No. 81, 82.

envy or resentment; but I really think his lordship might have spared his reproaches upon
this score.

I am with respect,
Honourable Sirs,
Your most obedient humble servant,
HENRY VAN SITTART.

No. 81.

Letter from Buolakdyafa to Mr. Vanfittart, dated the 20th of Shouwam, in the 8th Year of the Reign.

YOU are well acquainted with my situation. Lately Lord Clive sent for me, and said, the
 Nabob Coffam Aly Cawn gave Mr Vanfittart five lacks of rupees through your hands,
is it not true? I answered, it is true. But in that amount was a bill for the expences of Mr.
Ellis the chief of Patna, and there was likewise included the price of the jewels deposited by the
Nabob Jaffier Aly Cawn. This was the state of the matter.—Lord Clive then said, write, and
give me a declaration under your hand, of five lack of Rupees.—Being without remedy,
I wrote it conformably to his order, and gave it him; and I have sent you herewith an exact
copy of it for your perusal.—As you are my only friend and protector, I thought fit to acquaint
you with the matter.

No. 82.

Copy of a Letter from Lord Clive to Thomas Ross, Esquire, dated at Madras, the 17th April 1765.

Dear Sir,

We arrived at this place the 10th instant, and shall proceed to Bengal next Saturday. The
Prince of Wales kept us company the greatest part of the way to Ceylon, and is by
this time, I hope at her defined port, all well. I must now enter with you into the politics of
India. The particulars of our late success, and now very flourishing condition of the Compa-
y's Affairs in Indostan, you will have been informed at large, before this reaches you. I shall
therefore only trouble you with my sentiments, in consequence of those successes, and truft to
your co-operating with me in carrying into execution, and in establishing upon the most solid
hulls, such parts of my plan as appear capable of anfwering what we have both so disinterestedly
at heart, the Company's honour and prosperity.

We have at last arrived at that critical period, which I have long foreseen; I mean that pe-
riod which renders it necessary for us to determine, whether, we can or shall take the whole to
ourselves. Jaffier Ally Kan is dead, and his natural ion is a minor; but I know not whether
he is yet declared successor. Sujah Dowla is beat from his dominion; we are in possession of it,
and it is scarcely hyperbole to say, to-morrow the whole Mogol Empire is in our power.
The inhabitants of the country we know by long experience have no attachment to any obliga-
tion; their forces are neither disciplined, commanded, nor paid, as ours are. Can it then be
doubtful that a large army of Europeans will effectually preserve us sovereigns, not only holding
in awe the attempts of any country prince, but by rendering us so truly formidable, that no
French, Dutch, or other enemy will presume to molest us. You will I am sure imagine with
me, that after the length we have ran, the princes of Indostan must conclude our views to be
boundless; they have seen such instances of our ambition, that they cannot suppofe us capable
of moderation. The very Nabobs whom we might support, would be either covetous of our
poffessions, or jealous of our power. Ambition, fear, avarice, would be daily watchings to de-
tray us, a victory would be but a temporary relief to us, for the dethroning of the first Na-
ob we must be followed by the setting up another, who, from the fame principles, would,
when his treafure admitted of his keeping up an army, pursue the very path of his predeceffor.
We must indeed become Nabobs ourselves in fact, if not in name, perhaps totally fo without
difficult; but on this subject I cannot be certain until my arrival in Bengal. Let us, and with
out delay, complete our three European regiments to 1000 men each; fuch an army, together
with 500 Light Cavalry, three or four companies of Artillery, and the forces of the country,
will certainly render us invincible. In short, if riches and security are the objects of the Com-
pany, this is the method, the only method, now for securing them. Our troops you will hear
are at this time above half way to Delhi, a march I highly difapprove of: I mean absolutely
to bound our poffessions and conquests to Bengal. Never shall the going to Delhi be a plan
adopted by me, if possible to be avoided; and you may depend upon my putting a fap to it;
nor should I ever have thought of going fuch length, if others had not rendered it neceffary.
I could have wished that our operations had been carried on upon a plan of more moderation, and
that we had not been obliged to maintain any other military force, than what might be fejici-
cent to preferve and purge our commerical advantages; but since our views are extended, and
since
APPENDIX, No. 83.

since commerce alone is not the whole of the Company's support, we must go forward; to retract is impossible. One word more: Increase our army to the establishment above mentioned; 20,000 small arms, with gunpowder sufficient, and remember that the Light Cavalry are most necessary. The establishment for Madras is sufficient, no addition is wanted there; but Bengal requires your attention. Give me leave now to lead you for a few moments into the civil department. See what an Augean stable is to be cleansed. The confusion we behold; what does it arise from? Rapacity and luxury; the unwarrantable desire of many to acquire in an instant, what only a few can or ought to possess. Every man would be rich, without the merits of long services; and from this incessant competition undoubtedly springs that disorder, to which we must apply a remedy or be undone; for it is not only malignant but contagious. The new covenants (though I do not entirely approve of their present shape) will make a beginning. Many of the civil servants will probably resign their employments, the Court of Directors must supply the settlement with young men, more moderate or less eager in their pursuit of wealth; and we may perhaps be reduced to the necessity of drawing some senior servants from the other settlements. — It must be your care, and I trust you will do all in your power, to fend out proper gentlemen: Affairs seem to be coming to such a pass, that in a little time there will be hardly any person at the council board, above the rank or age of a writer. In short, the evils, civil and military, are enormous, but they shall be rooted out. Whatever odium may be thrown upon me, by the malice or disappointment of individuals, I am resolved to act for the advantage of the Company in every respect. I have not time here to inform you of my whole plan of reformation, but the motives upon which I have founded it being no other than the public good, you may safely exert yourself in its support, if it should stand in need of your assistance, which I hardly think it can, even though faction should be still raging. I propose no advantage to myself — I am determined to return to England without having acquired one farthing addition to my fortune—Surely then I cannot possibly design any thing but public good.

Our affairs are now in such a situation as to require the conduct of them should be managed with the utmost secrecy, and consequently the knowledge of them confined to few. — I mention this because I find that your secret Committee is abolished, and I wish to hear very soon that it is re-established.

As I have written to Mr. Walsh upon this subject, and thought proper to use the same precaution I have to you, I must beg you to furnish him with the key, and likewise with a copy of this letter.

I am, Dear Sir
Your obliged Friend, and humble servant,
(Signed) CLIVE.

No. 83.

Madras, 17 April 1765.

Copy.

Dear Walsh,

Memorandum: Those Parts in Cypher,
are distinguished thus " "

I have directed Mr. Rous to furnish you with a copy of my letter to him of this day's date, likewise with the cypher, that you may be enabled to understand what follows: "The contents are of great importance, that I would not have them transpire. Whatever money I have in the public funds, or any where else, and as much as can be borrowed in my name, I desire may be without loss of a minute invested in East India stock. You will speak to my attorneys on this point. Let them know I am anxious to have my money to "disposed of, and prefer them to hasten the affair as much as possible." — If a successor to Mr. Palk is not absolutely fixed upon, I beg you will exert your whole influence with Mr. Rous in favour of Mr. Call. I can assure you he appears to me by far the most proper person in this settlement to succeed to the government; in him both the civil and military qualities are united; and I need not add, that in the recommendation of him I am biased by nothing but the good of the Company.

I am,

Dear Walsh,
Your affectionate Friend,

CLIVE.

No. 84.
HAVING, in a council held the 6th instant, read and duly considered the paragraphs of the honourable Company's general letter, under date the 1st June 1764, whereby the right honourable Lord Clive, William Brightwell Summer, Esquire, Brigadier General John Carnac, Harry Verelst, and Francis Sykes, esquires, are appointed to constitute a select Committee, in order to restore peace and tranquility to the Company's affairs in Bengal: We do now, by virtue of these powers assembled ourselves, in the manner enjoined by our instructions, as the only means which occurs to us, in the present situation of affairs, for obtaining the salutary end proposed.

Resolved, that the following oath be taken by the several members of the select Committee:

"I A. B. do swear, that I will not reveal to any person whatever, any of the proceedings of this Committee, until the same be laid before the council, or until this Committee be dissolved."

Agreed, That Mr. Alexander Campbell be appointed Secretary, Mr. Edward Barber Sub-secretary, and Mr. William Rooke, Assistant, to the Committee; and that the following oath of secrecy be administered to them:

"I A. B. do swear, to be true and faithful to the trust reposed in me by the select Committee, and to reveal to no person whatever the proceedings of that department, until the same are laid before the council."

The right honourable the president having delivered a letter, containing a full declaration of his lordship's own intentions, and his sense of the particular duty of the Select Committee; Ordered, that the same be here entered.

The Right honourable the President's Letter to Committee.

Gentlemen,

Little did I imagine, when I resigned this government five years ago, that I should ever enter upon it again; nor are you ignorant that my present circumstances and situation of life render such an appointment on my part by no means an object either of necessity or choice; but the late distracted state of affairs in these parts having alarmed the proprietors of Fock, their mutual interests necessarily became the serious consideration, not only of the Court of Directors, but also of several general Courts; and at one of the most numerous of those, it was proposed, that I should be desired to resume the government of Bengal; a motion which was warmly seconded, and approved of by every member present: thus solicited by the unanimous voice of the proprietors, thus flattered with the opinion they had conceived of my abilities to settle their affairs upon a solid plan, my zeal for the service took place of every private consideration; and I accepted the appointment upon such conditions as I judged expedient for the public good.

The successes of the forces I had the honour to command in the year 1767, completed a revolution in favour of Meier Jaffar; an event on which the existence of the East India Company at that time absolutely depended, and which afforded the fairest prospect of future tranquility to this country: The treaty concluded with him was productive of large advantages to the nation, as well as to individuals, and tended to insure to the company the benefits of commerce in a much wider extent than they had heretofore enjoyed.

My successes, soon after my departure, thought proper to raise Coffin Aly Cawn to theSubahship; doubts, because he thought such a step necessary; the consequences however, from whatever cause, were unfortunate; but let us draw a veil over those distressing transactions; let us consider only the present state of the politics and commerce; and let our whole attention be employed in establishing the Company's affairs upon a firm and lasting foundation: nor do I in the least despair of seeing this important business accomplished, since I have the peculiar happiness of finding myself afflicted by a committee of known abilities and incorruptible integrity. If at any time we should happen to differ in opinion, we shall differ like gentlemen, with temper and cool reasoning. The minutes of our consultations will not, I trust, be prolonged by dissension, nor disgraced with the prejudice of faction; we will endeavour to be unanimous.

A very few days are elapsed since our arrival; and yet, if we consider what has already come to our knowledge, we cannot hesitate a moment upon the necessity of alluming the power that is in us of conducting, as a Select Committee, the affairs both civil and military of this settle-
APPENDIX, No. 84.

ment: what do we hear of, what do we see, but anxiety, confusion, and what is worse, an almost general corruption. To remedy, or at least to prevent, these evils in future, is a duty incumbent upon this Committee, which we owe to that Company we have engaged to serve, and a duty which we owe to ourselves, if the peace of honour, reputation, and confidence, are worthy your attention. Happy, I am sure you would have been, as well as myself, had the late conduct of affairs been to irreproachable, as to have permitted them still to continue in the hands of the Governor and Council; a very transient view, however, of what has passed since Meets Jaffter's death will convince us, that the great point of reformacon we aim at cannot be attained through that channel.—The Committee therefore, in my opinion, must immediately act: a measure so necessary, that I conclude you can have no objection to it. For my own part, I will venture to assert, that the critical situation of the Company renders it absolutely indispensible, for the speedy settling of their affairs, that the power should be vested in the hands of a few; and give me leave further to add, that, without the spirit of their orders in that respect be purified, it is but too evident, that the general body of the Proprietors, when they honoured me with their solicitation to accept of this government, will be baffled and delayed, if not totally eluded, by their servants.

To establish a country government, to secure the commercial interest, and to perpetuate the revenues of the Company, to form the military and to amend the civil departments; these will be the objects of our serious attention. By this Committee I shall hope to see these important matters completely regulated, before I resign the government; and you know that my intention is to remain in it no longer than my assistance may be thought necessary towards accomplishing these great and salutary purposes.

I shall now only repeat what you have often heard me declare, That I totally disclaim any emolument to myself; I will not add to my fortune one single rupee, by the opportunities I might have as Governor; on the other hand, be assured that every advantage to others, consistent with my idea of the Company's honour and interest, shall be promoted to the utmost of my power here, and of my influence at home.

To this letter from the Right Honourable the President, Messrs. Sumner and Sykes agreed to deliver in an answer at the next meeting of the Committee.

After duly considering the Honourable Company's instructions, in their general letter of the 1st of June 1764, relative to the covenants; it is the opinion of the Committee they ought immediately to be executed in the form preferred, by such members of the Council, and other servants of the Company, as have not already signed this obligation.

Agreed, That the abstracts of such proceedings of the Select Committee, as may be deemed of material consequence, be transmitted to Brigadier General Carnac, and that the above oath, administered to the members of the Committee now present, be also tendered to him by the Company's senior servant on the spot.—Alfa, That we acquiesce him of our having formed ourselves into a Select Committee, agreeably to the Company's instructions, and require that he correspond with us accordingly.

Agreed, That an office, with every necessary for the Secretary's department, be immediately provided.

Agreed also, That Mr. Verclifl be advised of the meeting of the Select Committee, and his immediate attendance required.

Having read a letter from General Carnac, under date the 21st of April, the Select Committee resolve to write him an answer; the same to be entered after the proceeding.

May 7th, 1765.

To Brigadier General John Carnac, Commander in Chief of the Army.

Sir,

Agreeably to the instructions of the Honourable Company, specified in several paragraphs of their general letter, we have this day assumed the powers of a Select Committee, with which we are vested; and as a constant intercourse with you, as a member of this Committee, will be expedient to the public service, we expect you will favour us with a communication of every occurrence that may relate more immediately to this department.

Copies of the paragraphs referred to, and of the oath administered to the members of the Committee now present, will be transmitted to you; and it is our desire that you receive the oath from the Company's servant on the spot, in order that our correspondence may be without reserve.

Your letter of the 21st of April, addressed to the President and Council, is come to our hands; but, as we have not yet found leisure to obtain sufficient information respecting the
APPENDIX, No. 34,

points you mention, we submit the necessary measures to be pursued to your own discretion, sensible that your zeal for the public interest, and the honour of the Select Committee, will enable you to give entire satisfaction to,

Fort William, the 7th May, 1765.

Sir,

Your most humble Servants,

Fort William, 11 May, 1765.

At a Select Committee;

P R E S E N T,

The right honourable Lord Clive, president,

W. B. Sumner, Esq;

Francis Sykes, Esq;

Read, approved, and signed the proceedings of the 7th instant.

The Select Committee, observing, with regret, the contempt shewn for the positive and repeated orders of the governor and council recalling free merchants refunding up the country,

Resolved, that the former orders on that head be now enforced; and letters dispatched to the chiefs of the several Subordinates, requiring them, at the expiration of one month after notice given, to convey in safety to Calcutta all who refuse to comply with a measure to facilitate to the Company, and necessary to the peace and good order of the country.

Being informed also that a great number of Europeans, Stragglers from ships, and others, who have no claim from indentures to any share of the Company's countenance or protection, are variously employed up the country, and dispersed all over the nabob's dominions, to the great prejudice of the Company, and molestation of the nabob;

Resolved, they be immediately secured, and brought to Calcutta.

The Committee finding some difficulty in procuring an exact account of the names of such Europeans;

Agreed, that the chiefs of the subordinate factories be made acquainted with the resolutions of the Committee, and required to transmit, without delay, the most accurate lists in their power of all Europeans not immediately in the Company's service, who reside in or about their respective districts.

The secretary representing that another assistant will occasionally be wanted for the dispatch of business;

Agreed, that Mr. William Wynne be employed as a monthly writer, after taking the oath of secrecy.

Mellieurs Sumner and Sykes delivered in their answer to the president's letter, entered in the proceedings of the 7th Instant.

Ordered, It be entered.

Agreed, we acquaint General Carnae of the several detachments on their way to Patna, either to join him, or to form an army of observation, as circumstances may require; and that we desire he will not suffer the public dispatches to be retarded by private letters.

Ordered, the same be entered after the proceedings.

Clive.

W. B. SUMNER.

FRANCIS SYKES.

11th May, 1765.

To the right honourable Robert Lord Clive, president of the Select Committee.

My Lord,

The situation of the Company's affairs, which have been described, and the measures proposed by your Lordship for retrieving them, are perfectly agreeable to our sentiments: We are sensible of the difficulty of establishing order and tranquillity, where anarchy and confusion have so long prevailed; but the experience we have of your Lordships great abilities, the frankness with which we have seen you counter danger and difficulty, and the regard we are sensible you have for your own honour, and the interest of the Company, encourage us to hope for the most fortunate issue to the proceedings of the Select Committee. The sentiments which your Lordship is pleased to entertain of our attachment to you, and to the interest of our employers are just; we will, my Lord, express ourselves with freedom on every subject that regards the public; but we can never be wanting in temper and decency, where we entertain so much respect. We are urged, my Lord, by the most powerful motives to that unanimity which you recommend. The present unhappy situation of the Company's affairs arises more from the dispositions, than the incapacity, of those gentlemen into whose hands your Lordship resigned the government; it will be our ambition to approve ourselves deserving of the trust reposed in us by the Company, to assist your Lordship with our utmost abilities, to fulfill the hopes conceived from your prudence and capacity, and to enable you to retain, as you ardently wish, to your native country, with the satisfaction of having baffled the malice of faction, rendered commerce flourishing, and peace permanent, and the peculiar
APPENDIX, No. 84.

peculiar honour of raising the Company's affairs in Bengal a second time, from that desperate state into which they were sunk, through the luxury and corruption that prevailed among their servants.

We have the honour to be,
my Lord,
your Lordship's
most obedient and
most humble servants.

Fort William,
the 8th May 1765.

To Brigadier General John Carnac, Commander in Chief of the Army.

Sir,

Since we wrote to you on the 7th instant, we are advised by private letters, that Nudjuf Cawn has surrendered himself to the Marathoes; which advice is confirmed in a letter dated the 1st instant, from the chief at Benaras: We wish their intelligence of such consequence had been communicated by yourself, but we imagine your silence on this head may be owing to your particular situation, which will not admit of procuring any certain information.

It is the request of the Select Committee, that henceforward all advices of any consequence, which come to your knowledge, may be sent alone, and not retarded with private letters; since it has frequently happened, by this means, that matters of the last importance have been known by every inhabitant of Calcutta before they reached the board.

The detachment lately sent under Captain Muir, that under Major Champion, and these troops, were under orders to march from Ghyratty, will form a body of six hundred men, rank and file: With these different reinforcements we imagine you will be able to form a second army, which may be stationed either at Patna, or on the Gahmnund, as you will think expedient.

Our reasons for mentioning this, proceed from our apprehensions, lest a part of the enemy's numerous army should invade the province of Bahar, which would reduce you to the necessity, either of retreating or detaching; both of which we would, if possible, avoid in our present circumstances.

We hope you have formed sufficient magazines of provisions to enable you to keep Shujah Dowla at bay, until the rains are well set in; should there be a deficiency of these, the consequences is easily foreseen; for as to his making an impression on so formidable an army as you now command, we are under no apprehensions.

The field officers, and others on duty, are under orders for marching up the country; and should a separate corps be judged necessary, Colonel Smith, and the field officers under him, will of course have the command; the reit will join you with all possible expedition. However, as we can entertain no doubt of your zeal for the service, we will leave it to your prudence and discretion to act as circumstances may require, since we at this distance cannot possibly be judges of the exigence of affairs.

We are,

Fort William,
the 11th May 1765.

At a Select Committee;

PRESIDENT,
The Right Honourable Lord Clive, President,
W. B. Sumner,
Harry Verelst,
Francis Sykes, Esquire.

Read, approved, and signed, the proceedings of the 11th ultimo. The oath of secrecy being administered to Mr. Verelst, that gentleman took his seat at the Committee, agreeable to the honourable Company's appointment.

His excellency the Nabob having, immediately on his arrival in Calcutta, and previous to any enquiries into his situation, delivered a letter to the right honourable the president, addressed to his Lordship, and the gentlemen of the Committee;

Agreed, that a translation of the above letter be read, and the same entered after the proceedings.

The facts advanced in this letter, and other circumstances which have this day appeared before them, being maturely weighed and considered, the Committee are of opinion, that Mahomed Reza Cawn, since the death of the late Nabob, has distributed among certain persons near twenty Lacks of Rupees;

And that it is incumbent upon them to discover to whom such sums have been paid, and for what consideration, in order that the most effectual measures may be pursued, to remedy for the present, and to prevent for the future, any dangerous consequences which may have arisen,
APPENDIX, No. 3.

arisen, or which may arise, not only to the country government, but likewise to the company, from such practices.

Since our last meeting, we have received six letters from General Carnac, dated the 28th and 30th of April, the 2d, 3d, 7th, and 14th ult. The first acquainting us, that, in consequence of advice that Sujah Dowlah, with Caz Dyn Cawn, was on his way to Kora, to join Mulhan, who is there with the Morattoes, he had crossed the Ganges; likewise, that Captain Graham had had a smart skirmish with a disaffected Zanydar, wherein the latter, with a considerable number of his men, was killed; and that we had sustained a material loss, in one Tarbeg, Leader of our few Persian Horfs, who died of his wounds. The second informs us, that Sir Robert Fletcher had left under an arrest, at Illahabad, Captains William Smyth and McKenzie, and Lieutenant Harpur; and includes copies of the charges delivered in against them; further, that unless the enemy fall back, we may expect soon to hear of a battle. The third is found to contain an account of Nudjuf Cawn's return, with 600 or 700 horfe, and the greatest part of the two companies of Scaposys that went with him, together with the General's sentiments thereon. The fourth advises us of his having routed the enemy; and the fifth of his having removed the army to Jajamana, on the banks of the Ganges, on account of intelligence received, that Sujah Dowlah and the Morattoes had separated; that the latter were crossing the Jumna; and that Sujah Dowlah was returning to Fierneuchabad, the Capital of Akinud (Chan's Bungah) polifions. The fi&th contains a particular reply to a letter addressed to him, dated the 8th of April, and includes a letter from his majesty.

Received a letter from Mr. Marriot, dated the 11th May, advising, that Nudjuf Cawn had surrendered to the morattoes, and that Sir Robert Fletcher had gained the banks of the Ganges; also, that he had deferred his proposed journey to Illahabad, as Captain Dow expected that place would in a few days be invaded by the enemy.

To the above-mentioned letter the secretary was ordered to reply, requesting that Mr. Marriot would in future transmit the earliest advices in his power.

Received a letter from Fort St. George, dated the 20th, advising of their being obliged to hand 48 recruits from the Kent, in order to do duty at their garrisons, which have been drained to oppose the approach of Nizzan Aly, who had already entered the province of Dalmarchery.

Received a letter from Dacea, dated the 30th ult. acknowledging the receipt of our orders of the 15th of May, for recalling European agents, and promising all due obedience thereto. And

Another from Mr. Hugh Watts, resident at Midnapore, to the same effect.

Colonel Smith tends in a letter, acquainting us that he is prevented from setting out for Patna as soon as he intended by an unfortunate accident (a very severe fall from his horfe) which obliges him to keep his chamber.

Received a letter from the chiefs and Council at Benaras, wherein they acknowledge to have received our secretary's letter of the 12th inst. to Mr. Marriot; and inform us, that, for two days past, no advices had been received from camp; that Captain Galliez had a flight skirmish; and that his majesty had marched from Illahabad, to receive the submissions of several Roshillah Chiefs, who are willing to acknowledge him.

The following letters were likewise dispatched by the Committee since their last meeting.

On the 12th ult. we wrote to General Carnac, acknowledging the receipt of his letters of the 28th and 30th April, commending his diligence in effecting a junction with Sir Robert Fletcher, under such difficult circumstances; and advising, that the select Committee postponed any resolution in respect to Captain M'Pherfon's promotion till further enquiry, and submitted Captain Smyth's conduct to the judgment of a court martial.

On the 15th ult. orders were dispatched to the subordinates to recall all free merchants.

On the 18th ult. a letter was dispatched to General Carnac, in answer to his of the 2d; congratulating him on his success over the enemy, and advising him of the strong reinforcements on their way to join him.

On the 24th ult. orders were issued for Colonel Smyth to take the command of the detachments proceeding to Patna, where he was to be governed by General Carnac's instructions.

Colonel Smyth having lent in a letter, acquainting the Committee, that he was indispofed, in consequence of a fall from his horfe, orders were issued the 29th ult. to Sir Robert Barker to succeed to the command of the detachments till Colonel Smith's recovery.

On the 30th ult. General Carnac's letters of the 2d and 14th were answered, the Asperity of his tone to the Board considere&; and directions given to take no resolutions respecting Nudjuf Cawn, till Lord Clive's arrival in camp.

Clive, 
Wm. B. SUMNER, 
H. VERELST, 
TRAN. SYKES,
Appendix, No. 48.

Translation of a Letter from his Excellency the Nabob Najim-o-Dowlah to the Right Honourable
Lord Clive, President, &c.

Gentlemen of the select Committee,

The Situation which I am now in will not permit me to acquaint you with all the circumstances which have happened; but I will make part thereof known to you, which is as follows:

My father, leaving Calcutta, arrived at Moonshtabad, where he continued in perfect health for some time; after which he fell sick, and finding his disorder increasing every day, and growing irrecoverable, he delivered me a paper of advice, and on the 7th day of Shawburn, he was pleased to deliver to me the Kelaut received from the king, and several other presents. He recommended Mah Rajah Nundcomar to my notice; and ordered him to send for Mr. Middleton, and the other English gentlemen, Mahomed Irick Cawn, &c. friends, and all the servants belonging to the Nizamut (or Government); and before them to fet Nabob Najim-o-Dowlah Bahadre in his place, and on the Nizamud Mussnaud; and to order the people in general to give Nuzzers of congratulation, and also to make them strictly know that they must obey Nabob Najim-o-Dowlah in every respect as they did him, and be always ready at his command. According to the above orders of my deceased father, the above named Mah Rajah has fully performed; and I myself being willing and desirous to execute the business laid to my trust. On the 14th of the aforesaid Month my father departed this life; after the usual solemnization of his funeral, I have comforted and enlivened the people in general, and began to manage the affairs, and ordered a proclamation to be made throughout the city, and Messrs. Middleton and Grey, and all the Nizamut servants, came and presented Nuzzers.

Through the will of God, all the business is carried on in the same good manner as before.

Six days afterwards Mr. Middleton came and acquainted me, that two of the counsellors were coming up from Calcutta for my comfort. This deception I certainly thought was coming for my benefit and welfare: the day Messrs. Jonstone and Leycefter arrived at Coflimbaazar, I sent Mah Rajah Nundcomar Bahadre to meet them. Mr. Johnstone was somewhat displeased with the said Mah Rajah before, about the Pergunnah Tumalook, therefore his meeting these gentlemen was not agreeable to Mr. Johnstone.—The next day the above gentlemen, &c. came to me; I was confident that these my friends and well withers would have done me the compliments of condolence, and comfort me; but they did not to me the least thing of this kind: instead whereof, they began to incumer me with many troublesome things, and at the same time they sent out all the people which were present, together with my brother Nabob Syed Dowlah, and then they told me to lend for Mahomed Reza Cawn from Dacca, and let him as Naib of the Nizamut. This troubled me much; and they told me also, that till Mr. Mahomed Reza Cawn arrived from Dacca, and till he was set up as Naib of the Nizamut, I must not sit in the Dewan Connah, and that I must live in the same place where I was, and put a stop to all public business.

The abovementioned Reza Cawn has had long ago evil intentions on the Nizamut; my father, therefore deemed him always as his enemy; and besides there is a large sum of money due from him to the Sircar. For these reasons I thought proper not to acquiesce to any of the above proposals which were made to me. I told them to prudence the paper of advice of my deceased father and see how it directs, and which I shall readily follow. In answer to this, they replied, that your paper of Advice was of no force or virtue; and every thing must be done as we think proper.

In this manner they have vexed me, by sitting almost every day from the first of their arrival to their departure. They preferre me with a paper, and requested I would sign it. This paper was that which they brought with them, and insisted on me to comply with their request. I sent for Mr. Mahomed Irick Cawn, Mah Rajah Nundcomar Bahadre, &c. the first acquainted the gentlemen, that whatever paper they wanted to be signed, they would have it difficulty in 1 at the same time it was proper for all of them to peruse it first: Messrs. Jonstone and Leycefter being much displeased at this, offered in a very angry manner, who they were that wanted to peruse the paper? after this Moufthly Srudler Oo Dy, who was near my presence, told me to bring the former treaty, and compare that with this, and then to sign it.

At this Mr. Johnstone turned out the Moufthly; and they told me, that in i. case I did not set up Mahomed Reza Cawn in his Naiship, and immediately sign the paper, I should have no great chance of being in the possession of the Subaderry, and then I should be extremely fort for it. When I saw him pressing me so eagerly, and in an unkindly manner, I thought proper to sign and deliver the paper to them, and they carried it away. After this Mahomed Reza Cawn arrived, and sat as Naib. He, for the better securing his Naiship, above twenty lack of rupees (in money and goods) out of my treaty, has distributed among each people as he thought proper, and this without my knowlege. Besides, there is a balance due from the abovementioned Cawns of about 20 lack of rupees on account of Dacca Subaderry; which of he does not chafe to pay a single cowry. The above said Mahomed Reza Cawn made Mr. Johnstone his protecter, and Mr. Leycefter his Vakeel, and

8

and
APPENDIX, No. 84,

and made Rajah Dullubram his fellow partner, and took from the Mountebans, Maccles papers under their hands: he keeps my seal under his own seal, and there is nothing to be done with my will or order. Titles, employments, kuels, elephants, horses, and jewels, are granted and distributed to others as he pleases.

Mah Rajah Nundcomar, my intimate well-wisher, when he has occasion to ask any question, they answer him in the Negative, and with this displeasure, while this man continues in the service, they cannot impose upon me any extraordinary charges. They, for the sake of their own pride, have centered him with an old acculation, which was long ago strictly examined by General Carnac, who acquitted him of it; and now they maliciously accuse him again; and by this means they lent him down to Calcutta with a guard of sepoys.

There is a balance due to the Sircar, from the Selladars, of Fifteen Lanks of rupees, and now new employments are granted to them, and the lands divided into several divisions.

Calypthus, Jagheer, &c. rents were duly collected all the time, while the aforesaid Mah Rajah had the management. They have disposed of the present year's rents and pynnos as they pleased. When I intended going down to Calcutta, I was much distressed for money for paying my servants wages, and other current expenses.

Mr. Johnstone's bad treatment to me after my father's death, and Mahomed Reza Cawn's station, are to me as if I was day and night in a flame; but the news that his lordship was coming to this place has relieved me of my Anxieties. At last God Almighty was pleased to hasten his lordship's arrival at this place: this has put into me fresh life and vigour. Now I beg your lordship, &c. as my protector and sincere friend, to put my affairs, which were ruined by these people, on a proper footing, as they were in my father's time. In doing this I shall think myself happy.

N. B. The following lines are written in the nabob's own hand.

Gentlemen,

I have wrote my sentiments in the above lines as brief as possible, and beg you will hear my Petition,

Fort William, the 5th June 1763.

At a Select Committee;

PRESENT

The Right Honourable Lord Clive, President,

W. B. Sumner,

Harry Vereiff,

Francis Sykes, Esquires.

Read, approved, and signed the proceedings of the 18th instant.

Taking into consideration the many attempts which have been made to destroy the unanimity and corrupt the integrity of the members of the Committee, both separately and jointly, by the nabob, through Nundcomar's influence, and other ill disposed persons who were admitted into his presence;

Resolved, that all intercourse with the nabob, his ministers, and country powers, be main-

tained, and conducted by the right honourable the president, as the most effectual method to convince those ill disposed persons, that no motives of private advantage, no desire of increasing their fortunes, can ever reduce the members of this board from the duty they owe to themselves, the confidence they reposed in each other, or the steady resolution they have formed to pursue every method that tends to promote the Company's interest, and the peace, prosperity, and happiness of the country. And the president observing how necessary it will become, for the se-

curity of his own reputation, and the rights of the Committee, that all his transactions with the nabob, &c. should be confirmed with the sanction of this board;

Agreed, That his lordship be required to lay his correspondence, from time to time, before the Committee, and to communicate to them every measure of importance before it be carried into execution.

Several papers, written in the Persian language, being offered to the consideration of the Commit-

tee;

Agreed, that Mr. George Van Sittart be employed to translate them into English, after taking the following oath of secrecy:

"I, A. B. do swear to be true and faithful to the trust reposed in me by the Select Com-
mitee, and to reveal to no person whatever, such parts of the proceedings of that depart-
ment as shall be communicated to me."

Received a letter, dated the 13th ult. from Mr. William Maltby, requesting we will grant
him a further indulgence of time, than that specified in the order for recalling free merchants.

Agreed, that four months be allowed him, from the 21st instant; and that the secretary
acquaint him with this our resolution.

Received a letter from the president and council at Bombay dated the 13th April, congrat-
ulating us on our success against Sujah Dowlah, and requesting their detachment may be sent
back immediately.

Agreed
APPENDIX, No. 84.

Agreed. We wrote in answer, that our present circumstances will not possibly admit of our complying with their request.

Received a letter from the chief and council at Benaras, dated the 25th ult., acquainting us of the motions and disposition of the army.

CLIVE,
W. B. SUMNER,
H. VERELST,
FRANCIS SYKES.

Fort William, 6th June, 1765.

At a Select Committee;
P. R. E. S. E. N T,
The Right Honourable Lord Clive, President,
W. B. Sumner,
Harry Verelst,
Francis Sykes, Esquires.

Read, approved, and signed the proceedings of yesterday.

in consequence of a minute entered in our proceedings of the 15th instant, and since laid before the council, we have made the enquiries therein specified, and received the following attested accounts from Mahomed Reza Cawn and Juggutt Seet.

Agreed, the above mentioned accounts be entered after the proceedings of this day.

Agreed likewise, that a council be called by the right honourable the president, in order to lay before the board evidences of so much consequence; and that Mr. Johnstone's presence be required.

The Select Committee think it necessary to observe that the following circumstance might be added, "When the gentlemen demanded an acknowledgment from me, I asked, Is not this to be a general affair, and are not the other gentlemen to have a share? &c." To which they replied, "No, this must be for us: Let them look to themselves."

Received a letter from General Carnac, dated the 21st ultimo, advising that he had entered the province of Agra, after several fatiguing marches.

Received a letter from Islamabad, dated the 28th ultimo, and another from Patna of the 23rd, in answer to our orders for recalling free merchants.

Colonel Smith finds in a letter, acquainting us of his recovery, and resolution to go out for Patna as soon as he can be supplied with boats.

CLIVE,
W. B. SUMNER,
H. VERELST,
FRANCIS SYKES.

Narrative of Mahomed Reza Cawn.

The circumstances of the gentlemen of council's application for presents from the Nabob, as hereafter specified, are as follows: After his excellency had been feasted on the Mufnad, the general of council first of all sent a message by Mootyram, and afterwards himself, and to me, the gentlemen who have added former Nazims have obtained presents, now that we have feasted his excellency on the Mufnad, and rendered him service, we hope that he will make presents to us also. Do you represent this to his excellency? I answered, "Do you gentlemen, yourselves mention it." At length, as they were earnest with me, and I perceived they would be offended at my refusal, I represented it to his excellency in conformity to their desire: His excellency said to me, it must be done; do you make out a list, and bring it me: I replied, "Your excellency is the matter; yourself determine upon whatever may be your pleasure." Accordingly an account of the presents for the gentlemen was made out before the Nabob's face, and given under his hand and seal to Mr. Johnstone, in the presence of all the four gentlemen; after three or four days, Mr. Johnstone carried this paper to the Nabob; and laid, "If your excellency has given this paper unwillingly, and contrary to your inclination, we do not want it." His excellency answered, "I have given it to you at my own pleasure and inclination." After this conversation had passed, Mr. Johnstone laid: "What shall we do with this paper? Let orders be given to Mahomed Reza Cawn for the payment of the money," his excellency accordingly commanded me to pay the money according to the paper; I made some days delay, and upon Mr. Johnstone and the other gentlemen making again a demand upon me, I presented the following cord—Sevaul (a) to his excellency with regard to giving the money for the gentlemen's presents; whatsoever is your excellency's pleasure; his excellency signed thereon, "let Mahomed Reza Cawn Bahadur pay it," Accordingly, from the 20th of Shevaul, of the 1178 year of the Hegira, to the 10th (b) of Zecadal inclusive, 875,000 Rupees were given to nine gentlemen, 250,000 by four bills upon the House of the victuals, the date of the payment whereof will appear from their books; and the remaining 625,000, in ready money from the treasury; the date of the payment of which shall be particularly specified upon the arrival of Jumma Kerk Papes from Moor- shockdab.

6th June 1765.

GEORGE VAN ITTART, Persian translator.

(a) A Paper of Enquiry, Petition, or Representation. (b) 12 April, 1765.
Account of Prefents from the Nabob.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mr. Spencer received, by a bill on the Sect's Houfe, dated the 7th of Zecada of the 1178 year of the Hegyra</th>
<th>Received</th>
<th>Due</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<td>Mr. Paydell received</td>
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<td>Mr. Burdett received</td>
<td>D(^o)</td>
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<td>Mr. Gray received</td>
<td>D(^o)</td>
<td>D(^o)</td>
<td>50,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Johnfone received by Mootyram, in ready money from the Treasury, from the 20th Shevaul of the 1178th year of the Hegyra, to the 10th of Zecada, inclusive</td>
<td>D(^o)</td>
<td>D(^o)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Middleton received, by Santyrang Sing, his muttadud, in ready money from the Treasury, D(^o) date</td>
<td>D(^o)</td>
<td>D(^o)</td>
<td>112,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Senior received, by his man Moonshy Rambullub, in ready money from the Treasury, D(^o) date</td>
<td>D(^o)</td>
<td>D(^o)</td>
<td>112,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Leycester received</td>
<td>D(^o)</td>
<td>D(^o)</td>
<td>50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Johnfone's younger brother received, by Mootyram, in ready money from the Treasury, D(^o) date</td>
<td>D(^o)</td>
<td>D(^o)</td>
<td>50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Cartier, by means of Mr. Johnfone, a bond was given to this purport, that representation should be made to the Nabob, and the money caused to be given</td>
<td>D(^o)</td>
<td>D(^o)</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total** 1875,000

R 350,000; 1,225,000

A true translation.

**GEORGE VAN SITTART**, Persian Translator.

*25th April, 1765.*

With regard to the prefects which I made to the Gentlemen of Council, the state of the affairs is this: Mr. Johnfone sent me a message by Mootyram, as follows: Whereas you have been appointed his Excellency's Nabih, it is proper that you make use some pretence from yourself. I represented my situation, that I would do what was in my power, but that I could not furnish any very great matter. In the end, the sum of 475,000 rupees was agreed upon, of which I have paid 225,000, and 250,000 remain due, according to the underwritten particulars.

**Account of the Prefents from Mahomed Reza Cawn.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mr. Johnfone received, by two bills on the House of Moo-tychund, at Burdwan, payable to Mootyram, dated the 13th of Rumzaun of the 6 year</th>
<th>Received</th>
<th>Due</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Received, by a bill on the Houfe of Juggut Seet, at Hoogly, payable to Mootyram, dated the 14th of Rumzaun</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Leycester received a bill on Juggut Seet's Houfe at Hoogly, payable to Mootyram, dated the 13th of Rumzaun of the 6 year</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Senior received, in ready money, from the 19th of Zecada of the 6 year to the 25th D(^o)</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Middleton</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Johnfone's younger brother received, by a bill on Oody-chund's Houfe, at Hoogly, payable to Mootyram, dated the 21st of Rumzaun of the 6 year</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total for Mr. Johnfone and Co.</strong></td>
<td>225,000</td>
<td>250,000</td>
<td>475,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mr. Spencer. There was not any agreement made with him; but formerly, and now, I have given him presents according to the underwritten particulars; e\(\ldots\)

In the time of the late Nabob, when I came to Moorshedabad about the affairs of Dacca, I went from Moorshedabad

From Dacca | 20,000

After my appointment to the Neabut, I gave, by a bill on Juggut Seet's Houfe, payable to Ramage Paul, dated the 12th of Rumzaun | 50,000 | 90,000 | 90,000

**Total** 315,000

A true translation.

**GEORGE VAN SITTART**, Persian Translator.

*6 March, 1765.*

† 7 March, 1765.
PRESENTS received by the undermentioned Gentlemen from the Nabob Mahomed Reza Cawn, and Juggut Seatt.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names of the Gentlemen</th>
<th>From whom presented.</th>
<th>How received.</th>
<th>Total Received</th>
<th>Remaining to be paid</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Nabob</td>
<td>Mahomed Reza Cawn</td>
<td>Juggut Seatt.</td>
<td>By Bills on Mootyehund at Muxadavud</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Spencer</td>
<td>2,00,000</td>
<td>90,000</td>
<td>150,000</td>
<td>150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Playdell</td>
<td>1,00,000</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Burdett</td>
<td>1,00,000</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Gray</td>
<td>1,00,000</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Johnstone</td>
<td>237,500</td>
<td>150,000</td>
<td>387,500</td>
<td>387,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Senor</td>
<td>1,12,500</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>212,500</td>
<td>212,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Leycester</td>
<td>1,12,500</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>212,500</td>
<td>212,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Middleton</td>
<td>1,12,500</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>212,500</td>
<td>212,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Johnstone’s younger brother</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>75,000</td>
<td>75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Messieurs Johnstone, Leycester, Senior, and Middleton</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Cartier</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>12,25,000</td>
<td>5,05,000</td>
<td>1,25,000</td>
<td>1,25,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX, No. 34.

Narrative of Jugutt Sect.

When Mr. Johnstone, and the other gentlemen of council, went to Moorshedabad, and applied themselves to the regulation of the whole subadury, they sent me the following message by Mootyram: "Make me some acknowledgment, and we will settle all your business according to your hearts desire, otherwise we shall be displeased, and your business meet with no assistance; for you formerly made an acknowledgment to Lord Clive and other gentlemen." I informed them that Lord Clive never said a word on this subject, and that I did not give him even a single daam. They sent me a message in answer as follows: "You may not be acquainted with it, but your fathers did make an acknowledgment; give us five lakhs of Rupees." I answered, "Our fathers never did give Lord Clive a single daam." They replied, "If you would have your business go freely on, make us some acknowledgment." Being remiss, I contented to give 125,000 Rupees, 50,000 immediately, and the rest when I could collect in my debts from the country. The gentlemen agreed to this; and accordingly I sent them 50,000 Rupees by my Muttefuddies and Mootyram: In fine, there were none of my debts collected in when Mr. Johnstone, Esq. returned to Calcutta; and I also came to Calcutta to pay my respects to Lord Clive; so that thus the affair refled." Inquiry having been made of me, I have written these particulars, in which there is by no means a word of untruth.

Written the 15th of Zeechidja of the 6th Year, 5th June, 1765.

Fort William the 7th June, 1765.

At a select Committee,

PRESIDENT,

Mr. B. Summer, Esquires.

Mr. Francis Sykes, Esquires.

Read, approved, and signed, the proceedings of the 6th Instant.

Upon advice being received that certain bills specified in Mahomed Reza Cawn's attested accounts, and these paid to be received, had been since offered back to the said Mahomed Reza Cawn by one Buffunt Roy, employed for that purpose by Mootyram the Phouzedar of Hoogly.

The Committee judging such voluntary restitution to be of a very extraordinary nature, and suspecting it was designed to screen Mootyram from detection, and cover transctions with which it might highly concern the public to be acquainted,

Resolved, that the said Buffunt Roy be seized, brought before the Committee, and sworn to answer truly to such questions as shall be propoed to him.

Buffunt Roy being sworn before the Committee, deposed as follows:

Q. Did you go this day to Mahomed Reza Cawn, and offer him back the obligations which he gave for the payment of money to several gentlemen?
A. They are not obligations, but bills.
Q. Did you carry the bills to M. R. C.?
A. I did.
Q. By whose order did you carry these bills?
A. By Mootyram's.
Q. At what time did you receive them from Mootyram?
A. At eight this morning.
Q. At what hour did you carry them to M. R. Cawn?
A. At eleven this day.
Q. Where did you receive the bills from Mootyram?
A. At his own house.
Q. What order did Mootyram give you when he delivered the bills?
A. To carry them to M. R. C. and nothing more.
Q. Did you ever carry the bills before M. R. Cawn?
A. No.
Q. What answer did M. R. Cawn make when you offered him the bills?
A. He was angry, would not receive them, and asked why I brought them.
Q. Did you know if these bills were ever offered by any one else to Mahomed Reza Cawn?
A. I don't know.
Q. Do you know on what account these bills were granted to Mootyram?
A. No I don't, having since that time been received into his service.
Q. Did you return from M. R. Cawn's to Mootyram; and what did he say to you?
A. I
Appendix, No. 84.

A. I heard he was under a guard, and no one permitted to speak to him; and I have not seen him since.

The bills being produced, appear to be drawn for the following sums, and all in favour of Mootyram.

No. I. A bill for A. Rs., 25,000, drawn by Mootyram, at Moorshedabad, on Jugjeun Dafs Gain Chund, at Hoogly, in favour of Mootyram, dated the 10th chat (March) payable at ten days after sight.

No. II. For A. Rs., 50,000, dated the 3d chat.

No. III. For A. Rs., 50,001, dated the 4th chat.

Each drawn on Sect Manan Chund and Anan Chund at Moorshedabad, on Jugjeun Sect Futter Chund, and Sect Anan Chund at Hoogly, in favour of Mootyram, both payable at 10 days after sight.

No. IV. Each for Sunat Rupees, 25,000, dated the 30th chat, drawn by Mootyram, Jooy.

No. V. Chund at Moorshedabad, on Jugjeun Sect Futter Chund, and Sect Anan Chund at Hoogly, in favour of Mootyram, payable at 10 days after sight.

Total per the above bills, Rupees Arcot and Sunat 175,001.

Clive.

W. B. Sumner.

Vereeff.

Fra. Sykes.

Fort William the 8th June, 1765.

At a Select Committee.

Present,

The Right Honourable Lord Clive, President,

W. B. Sumner, Esquire.

Harry Vereeff, Esquire.

Francis Sykes, Esquire.

Read, approved, and signed the proceedings of the 7th issue.

It appearing from the evidences of Mahomed Reza Cawn and Jugjeun Sect, and also from the deposition of Buffut Roy, that Mootyram Phouzedar of Hoogly, was deeply concerned in all the pecuniary transactions specified in those evidences, bills to great amount having been drawn in his favour:

The Committee resolve that he be sent for, sworn, and examined in their presence, and also that he be confronted by Mahomed Reza Cawn and Jugjeun Sect, in order that it may appear with certainty whether the said Mootyram was authorized to demand money of the Sects, or whether he presumed to profiteer the characters of the Gentlemen of the deputation, by making use of their names without the sanction of their express authority.

The deposition of Mootyram Phouzedar, of Hoogly.

Q. Did you go to Jugjeun Sect to Demand money?
A. I did.

Q. Who sent you to Jugjeun sect?
A. Mahomed Reza Cawn sent Hameal Ally Cawn with me to Jugjeun Sect.

Q. Who sent you to Mahomed Reza Cawn?
A. Mr. Johnstone.

Q. What Message did you carry from Mr. Johnstone to Mahomed Reza Cawn?
A. I was ordered to desire him to ask the Sects for presents.

Q. Did any of the other gentlemen join in this Message to Mahomed Reza Cawn?
A. I had my order from Mr. Johnstone only.

Q. Did Mr. Johnstone send you in his own name, or in that of the deputation?
A. He sent me in his own, and in the names of Messrs. Senior, Leycestor, and Middleton.

Q. What passed when you went to Mahomed Reza Cawn; did you ask him for money from the Sects?
A. I did, I asked him for three Laaks.

Q. What day did you go to M. R. Cawn?
A. I cannot say for certain, but the affair was about twenty days in settling.

Q. Can't you determine within a day or two of the time you first mention?
A. I cannot, but it was about the twenty first of Rumzaun.

Q. What answer had you from Mahomed Reza Cawn when you desired he would make this demand on the Sects?
A. He first said, "very well, I'll try what I can do," but on my application, he said, "if it was very improper to ask money of the Sects,—it will get me a bad name."

Q. Do you confess the contents of Jugjeun Sect's letter to be true?
A. I do.

Q. What?
APPENDIX, No. 84.

Q. What did you say to Mahomed Reza Cawn about stopping the business of the Seet? unless they complied with the demand?
A. I did tell him that the gentlemen would protect their business, if they would make a present; if not, the business of the Seets would meet with no protection or countenance.

Q. You say that Imeeff Ally Cawn was sent wish you to the Seets; what passed there?
A. When Imeeff Ally Cawn demanded three Lakhs of Rupees for the gentlemen, Juggut Sect answered, "If the gentlemen will be satisfied with rings, jewels, and such presents, from ten to twenty-five thousand rupees, I will comply." But on Imeeff Ally Cawn's preluding him further, he agreed to give 50,000, which was not accepted: And then Juggut Sect said, well, I will speak to Mahomed Reza Cawn myself.

Q. Was you present at all this conversation?
A. I was, but did not speak.

Q. Do you know how the affair was settled?
A. Yes, I heard that Juggut Sect afterwards confed to give 75,000 Rupees, then he refe to a Lakh, and at last confed to give 125,000. This I heard from Mahomed Reza Cawn. Juggut Sect being present, at this examination, was asked, "If he ever communicated the "conversation between him and Mootyram, as for forth in his letter?" He answered, "yes, "to my brother, to Brigualoul my Mounfhy, and to Checkumull my Vakeel."

Q. Did you demand the money of the Seets in your own name, or on the gentleman's account?
A. I demanded it on account of the gentlemen truly, and those that lent me.

Q. When the money was lent by Juggut Sect to M. R. Cawn's house, did he forward it immediately to Mr. Johnstone at Mootyram in a Stackeree, and was Mr. Johnstone angry?
A. He did forward it to Mootyram in a Stackeree, with which Mr. Johnstone was angry, and said, why was not the money given to Mootyram, or sent more privately.

Q. You are charged by Juggut Sect with having visited him thrice, once when he was alone, once in presence of Imeeff Ally Cawn, and once when his brother was with him.—Is this true?
A. It is true, I did visit him thrice.

Q. Had you any conversation with him about the demand in any of these visits?
A. I had I must confess. At the time I visited Juggut Sect when he was alone to them he would agree to give 75,000 Rupees to the gentlemen, and deified I would repreffed to them that his circumstances would not afford more, which I promffed to do.

Q. Did you go to Mahomed Reza Cawn and offer to return some bills, defiring he would take them until all things were settled? and he was part of the way on his return from Calcutta, specifying, you would meet him at Hoogoyle, and there take their amount?
A. I did. I went by Mr. Johnstone's order about 12 or 14 days ago, and tendered the bills to Mahomed Reza Cawn, and deified he would take them, and told him that as soon as disputes were over, I would receive their amounts if he then confed to pay; but Mahomed Reza Cawn refused taking the bills.

Q. What Number of bills, and to what amount did you offer back?
A. Five bills drawn in my own faveur, amounting to 175,001 Rupees.

Q. What is become of those bills?
A. I lent them yesterday morning by Buffint Roy to Mahomed Reza Cawn.

Q. On whose account did you receive those bills?
A. They were the amount of a present to be paid by Mahomed Reza Cawn to Meffs. Johnstone and Leycefter, and to Mr. Johnstone's younger brother.

Q. Do you know how much for each of the gentlemen?
A. For Mr. Johnstone 105,001, Rupees, for Mr. Leycefter 50,000, and for Mr. Johnstone's brother 26,000 Rupees.

Q. What money have the gentlemen received from the Nabob?
A. Mahomed Reza Cawn had the management of that business.

Q. To what amount might have come through your hands of the Nabob's money?
A. Mr. Johnstone first received through my hands from the Nabob 157,500 Rupees, and afterwards a Lakh more, making 337,500 Rupees, besides which, his brother received afterwards 50,000 Rupees of the Nabob, but what was paid to the other gentlemen I know not, their own Mutuddies transacting that business for them.

Q. Do you know whether these demands were the act of Mr. Johnstone singly, or whether they proceeded from the deputation jointly?
A. I received my orders from Mr. Johnstone only.

Q. Was it of your own accord, or was you ordered to tell Mahomed Reza Cawn, that if the Seets complied with their demand, their busines should be protected, otherwise it would have no countenance or encouragement?
A. I was ordered by Mr. Johnstone.

Q. Is this evidence which you give true in every circumstance according to the best of your Judgment?
A. It
A P P E N D I X, No. 34.

A. It is, and I never will retract it; but if there should appear any thing contradictory or unsatisfactory at first, it was owing to the confusion I was under when brought before this company.

Clive.
W. B. Sumner.
H. Verelst.
Fra. Sykes.

11th June 1765. At a Select Committee,

P R E S E N T,

The Right Honourable Lord Clive, President.
Harry Verelst, Esq. and Francis Sykes, Esq.
Mr. Sumner indispersed.

Read, approved, and signed, the Proceedings of the 8th Instant.

Letters from General Carnac of the 28th and 27th ultimo, advising that Sujah Dowlah, as his last resource, had thrown himself upon our generosity, and was now actually in camp, ready to receive such terms of peace as we shall prescribe; and this appearing to the Committee a favourable opportunity for establishing the tranquillity of the country on a permanent foundation, by demanding no other conditions than such as shall appear to be for the mutual interest of the contracting parties, equitable in themselves, and evidently calculated for the publick benefit;

Resolved, That the general’s letters be acknowledged, his sentiments approved, and the following instructions sent to him for settling preliminary articles with Sujah Dowlah, which he is not to conclude definitively until Lord Clive’s arrival in camp.

Bulwant Sing to be secured in the possession of his country, Nudjuff Cawn to be restored to the possession of his former dominions, and all those who either joined or assisted the English to be encouraged, the king’s honour, safety, and subsistence to be consulted; Cossim Ally, Sumroo, and the defectors to be demanded or put to death by Sujah Dowlah himself; but this last article not to be considered as essential, though obtaining it would be agreeable, it being the opinion of the Committee he should be engaged to our interest by the ties of gratitude, and not by compulsion.—To acquaint the general that full powers will be given to Lord Clive, in conjunction with them, to settle every thing they shall think proper and necessary to the stability of the intended peace, also to direct he will use his influence to prevail on the Vizier to shorten Lord Clive’s journey, and meet his lordship at Benaras, or at Patna.

Received a letter from General Carnac, dated the 22d ultimo, advising he had repulsed the enemy, and was returning to Tajeman to meet Sujah Dowlah, who had defined an interview.

Ordered, The general’s letters minute in the former part of these proceedings, and also the Committee’s answer, be entered.

Agreed, That the secretary send copies to Mellis. Senior and Middleton of the proceedings of the 11th, 5th, 6th, and 8th instant, requiring their immediate and explicit answers to such particulars in the above-mentioned papers as relate to them.

Received a letter from the chief and council at Dacca, dated the 8th, setting forth the prejudices that must arise to the affairs of the gentlemen of the factory, should the order for recalling free merchants be immediately enforced.

Agreed, that four months beyond the time limited in those orders, be allowed to their several agents; and that we write them to this effect.

Clive.
H. Verelst.
Fra. Sykes.

To the Right honourable Lord Clive, President and governor, &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

My Lord, and Gentlemen,

I have been honoured with your letters of the 7th, and 12th, and with one from the council under date the 6th, inclosing to me a copy of the paragraphs from the honourable Company’s last general letter relative to the Committee, but the copy of the oath which I am to take, is not yet come to my hands.

I have the highest and most grateful sense of the confidence you are pleased to repose in me, and beg leave to assure you, it will be ever my earnest study and wish, to act in such manner, as to merit your approbation.

I advised the board in a letter under date 28th ultimo, of Nudjuff Cawn’s having joined Sujah Dowlah. It must frequently happen that particular news will reach Calcutta, previously to the advice thereof from me, as others write upon mere Hearsay and Report, whereas I cannot with propriety do so but in consequence of certain information.
You may depend upon my punctually observing your directions, to send my letters alone, in case of any material advice; a rule which, to the best of my recollection, I have hitherto constantly observed.

I arrived here yesterday, having left the army to follow in two divisions by easy marches. The first division I expected in to-morrow. I acquainted the board the 22d (a Duplicate of which address will be dispatched by this conveyance), with the reasons of my being in such a hurry to return, viz. on occasion of a letter from Sujah Dowlah; the copy of the original, a translation thereof, and the substance of my answer, your Lordship, &c. will receive herewith. If we can make a friend of Sujah Dowlah, which I really believe we may, provided we use with moderation our success, and do not urge him to despair, I am firmly of opinion that he, from the extreme regard in which he is held throughout the country, even in his present distress, will prove a much better security to our frontier than any one we can put in those dominions in his room: I beg to be favoured as soon as possible with your sentiments on his head.

I am, with the greatest respect,
My Lord, and Gentlemen,
your most humble servant
John Carnac.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, President, and Governor, &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

My Lord, and Gentlemen,
Hearing that Sujah Dowlah was drawing near, I sent Captain Swinton with Rajah Shittabrow to meet him. He arrived in the evening on the opposite side of the river, and immediately crossed it with his brother-in-law Salar Jung and a very few followers, in order to wait upon me. I received him with all possible marks of distinction, at which he expressed much satisfaction. He appears, however, a good deal dejected at his present condition, which must bear very hard upon him; and he must find himself without resource; or being, as he undoubtedly is, the most considerable man in the empire, and of an uncommonly high spirit, he would not have submitted to such a confederation. It will, in my opinion, greatly add to the English name throughout the country, our behaving with generosity towards a person who has all along bore a high reputation in Hindostan.

I am,
Jajeman,
the 27th May, 1765,

with the greatest respect,
My Lord, and Gentlemen,
your most obedient Servant.
John Carnac.

A translation of Sujah Dowlah's Letter to general Carnac, received the 19th May, 1765.

It is known all over the world, that the illustrious chiefs of the English nation are constant and unchangeable in their friendship, which my heart is fully persuaded of. The late disturbances were contrary to my inclinations; but it was fo ordered by providence. I now see things in a proper light, and have a strong desire to come to you; and I am persuaded you will treat me in a manner befitting your own honour. You have shown great favours to others; when you become acquainted with me, you will see with your own eyes, and be thoroughly sensible of my attachment, from which I will never depart while I have life. I am this day, 26th of the moon, arrived at Bilgram: please God, in a very short time I shall have the happiness of a meeting with you. As for other particulars I refer you to Mouyro Dowlah, and Rajah Shittabrow.

With his own hand.

My Friend,
I regard not wealth, nor the government of countries; your favour and friendship is all I desire. Please God I will be with you very soon, when you will do for me what you think best.

General Carnac's Answer, the 24th May, 1765.

I have been favoured with your Letter, in which were some lines wrote with your own hand, declaring your intentions of coming to me; that you were arrived at Belgrum, and expect such a reception as becomes a brave man to give; and that I will be sensible of the warmth and sincerity of your friendship, after we become acquainted; and that you do not look for country nor wealth, but the friendship of the English nation; and that, please God, you will be very soon with me.

The Receipt of this letter gave me great pleasure: You were before unacquainted with our customs and dispositions; thanks be to God that you are now become sensible of the justice and upright intentions of the English. Now that you are pleased to come to me in a friendly manner, you may depend on the best reception in my power suitable to our customs; and I will not be deficient in forwarding whatever is reasonable for your interest; and when your excellency shall shew a real attachment to the English, their friendship towards you in return will be
To Brigadier General John Carnac, Commander in chief of the Army,

Sir,

Your letters of the 26th and 27th ultimo afford us great pleasure; the intelligence they convey is important, and the sentiments you express generous, and such as we are determined to adopt. We join with you in opinion, that every appearance of insult and violence to a person of Sujah Dowlah's character ought to be carefully avoided in the terms we demand. Among men of honour and sentiment, a peace can only be permanent where the advantages are reciprocal.

Lord Clive, who proposes to set out for the army in four or five days, will be impowered, in conjunction with you, to settle every thing in whatever manner shall appear most conducive to the great object we have in view,—that of immediately restoring the publick tranquillity, and establishing peace on a lasting and solid foundation. The honourable reception you propose giving the Vizier will put him into such good humour with the English, that he probably may be prevailed on to shorten Lord Clive's journey, and meet his lordship at Benaras, or even at Patna.

In the mean time the settling preliminary articles, and adjusting a plan of pacification with him, will greatly facilitate matters; but you must come to no final determination until his lordship's arrival.

The points we would chiefly recommend to your regard in sketching these preliminaries are, that Bulwant Sing be pardoned, and secured in the possession of his country, on the same terms as when he was under the government of Sujah Dowlah; that Nudjuff Cawn be also restored to the possession of Korea, his country; and that all others who have joined, or afforded assistance to the English, meet with equal favour and encouragement. The king's honour must be consulted, and his safety and subsistence secured where-ever he chooses to reside. Coffin Ally and Sumroo we would be glad to have delivered into our hands, if Sujah Dowlah will do it voluntarily, or else put to death by himself; but if neither can be effected without disturbing him, and thereby endangering the stability of the peace, it must be left to his own humour. In short, we would rather bind them to us by the ties of gratitude, than by force and compulsion.

In money affairs we must appear generous and disinterested; and if you stipulate for any sums to be paid, they ought to be on account of the company, who have some claim to an indemnification, and whose interest ought to be our principal object. In other particulars we rely on your own discretion and approved zeal for the good of the service, being, with great esteem,

Fort William,
the 10th June, 1765.

Your most obedient,
and humble Servants.

P. S. We would further recommend, that you stipulate with Sujah Dowlah for the establishment of factories, and an entire liberty of trade in every part of his dominions; but we mean not to support this privilege by any military force, nor to introduce troops or garrisons into his country.

21st June, 1765. At a Select Committee,

The Right Honourable Lord Clive, President,
W. B. Sumner,
Harry Verelst,
Francis Sykes, Esquires.

Read, approved, and signed, the proceedings of the 11th inst.

Having perused a letter under date the 7th Instant, addressed to the select Committee, from General Carnac, wherein he intimates his intention of speedily concluding peace with Sujah Dowlah, and differs in some material particulars from the sentiments of the select Committee; Agreed, That we immediately write to the general, repeating our instructions of the 10th instant, to enter into no definitive engagements before Lord Clive's arrival in camp:—And,

Ordered, That the general's letter, with the Committee's answer, be entered after these proceedings.

The several evidences, depozitions, and letters, relative to the application of money issued from the Nabob's treasury, since the death of Meer Jaffier, and of presents from Mahomed Reza Cawn and Juggut Sect, to Moffirs. Johnston, Senior, Middleton, and Leycelier; also the minutes
The Select Committee are unanimously of the following opinions:

That Mr. Johnstone has actually received the several sums, in money and bills, specified for his use in the general accounts of Mahomed Reza Cawn and Juggut Sett.

That he appears, from the evidences entered in our proceedings, agent and manager in obtaining and distributing the presents, but unacquainted, we would willingly suppose, with the menaces used by Mootyram, in his name, to Mahomed Reza Cawn and Juggut Sett, in order to extort a sum of money from the latter for the use of the Deputation; and lastly, That he is guilty of actual disobedience to the Company’s orders, in arranging indecently, and refusing positively, to acknowledge the authority wherein the Select Committee are invested by the Honourable the Court of Directors, and by urging their usurped powers in excuse for declining any reply to charges that do deeply affect his character.

That Mr. Senior has received all the money specified for his use in the evidences already mentioned, and also the further sum of 50,000 rupees from Mahomed Reza Cawn on his own account, but that he neither authorized the messages delivered by Mootyram, nor was active in obtaining or distributing the presents.

That Mr. Middleton has received presents from the Nabob and Juggut Sett only, firmly believing them to be voluntary, and that he always intended to refuse the present designed by Mahomed Reza Cawn.

That Mr. Leycester has received the several sums alluded to his name in the above-mentioned accounts, but that he neither did nor intended to receive the bills lodged with Mootyram for his use, nor was any way concerned in the menaces thrown out by that person to Mahomed Reza Cawn and Juggut Sett; all which is further confirmed by the oath which he voluntarily took before the whole board.

That Messrs. Playfair, Burdett, and Gray, have each received 50,000 rupees from the Nabob, in the full persuasion that the same was a free gift to the gentlemen who then composed the board, without any application on their parts, or consideration on the Nabob’s, for services performed.

That Mr. Carter was utterly a stranger to any demands made in his name, and that he would absolutely have refused a less of rupees intended for him by the Nabob, as specified in the above-mentioned general account of Mahomed Reza Cawn, had it been ever tendered to him.

That upon the whole the gentlemen who sat at the board, as well as those who negociated at the Durbar, were guilty of actual disobedience to the Company’s positive Orders relative to the covetous, both in delaying to execute them, and in receiving presents contrary to the express letter and spirit of those obligations; yet to avoid every appearance of exerting with rigour the powers wherewith they are intrusted, or of being actuated by any other motives than those of honour, and a firm attachment to the interest of their employers;

Resolved, That the Select Committee leave to the Honourable Court of Directors to pass final judgment, and refer to their minutes, entered in consultation of the 2nd instant, for a justification of their proceedings.

Such are the sentiments, and such the resolution of the Select Committee, on a subject which they entered upon with pain, and prosecuted with reluctance; and now they appeal to the Honourable Court of Directors, and to the common sense of mankind, to judge whether they have pursued their inquiries with decency and candour; whether they have pried officiously into facts that were not publicly known to the settlement; whether they have handled private characters with indelicacy, fought occasion to condemn where they possibly could acquit, or divulged what the duty they owe to themselves, their employers, and the public, would suffer them to conceal; and lastly, whether they have extended beyond the bounds of the utmost moderation those powers with which they are vested, “To pursue such ways and means as to them shall appear necessary for restoring peace and tranquillity?”

Taking into consideration the youth, inexperience and incapacity of the nabob, the necessity of placing the administration in the hands of men capable to support the weight of government, and attached to the Company’s interest, and likewise the great danger that may arise to the stability of the present establishment, from suffering the whole power and absolute management of the three provinces to rest in a single person.

Resolved, That Mahomed Reza Cawn be advised to relinquish the title of Naib Subah, and also a part of the unbounded authority wherewith he was vested by the late treaty, as a measure not only agreeable to the Nabob, but necessary to the safety of the present government, and the future tranquillity of the country; in justification of this resolution, the Select Committee think it necessary to observe, that notwithstanding Mahomed Reza Cawn is accused by the Nabob of dissipating his treasure, and withholding his revenues, yet, to open and candidly has he accounted to the Select Committee for every rupee disbursed from the treasury, they cannot, without injury to his character, and injustice to his conduct, during his short administration, refuse continuing him.
APPENDIX, No. 84.

him in a share of the government, although they judge it necessary to retrench his authority and balance his power, in order to produce that perfect equilibrium of influence which alone can remove the nabob's jealousies, and give permanency to the measures they are taking to prevent the necessity of future revolutions.

Taking likewise into consideration the character and abilities of the several great personnages about the nabob's court and person, their influence in the country, and their attachment to the English;

Resolved, That Roydulub and Jugmut Sete be associated in the administration of the government, with Mahomed Reza Cawn, as Persons whose characters afford us the fairest prospect of giving stability to the present government, and that each enjoy an equal share of power and authority.

And that the Honourable Court of Directors may be satisfied of the reasons which determined the committee to this choice, they beg leave to remind them, that Roydulub was a principal agent in effecting the revolution in 1757, in favour of Meer Jaffer, since which time he has continued firmly attached to the English; and that Jugmut Sete is son and nephew of the two great men plundered of their effects, and cruelly put to death, by that tyrant Collim Ally Cawn, on account of their faithful services to the company.

Ordered, That the regulations for the administration of the country government be entered after their proceedings.

The right honourable the president having acquainted the Committee; that he intends leaving Calcutta in a few days, to take upon him the command of the army, and directing he may be intrusted with powers, in conjunction with general Carnac, for concluding peace with Sowiah Dowlah, and regulating the Company's interest with the country powers;

Ordered, That the necessary powers, and the Committee's sentiments respecting the term of pacification, be drawn out and conveyed to his lordship in the form of a letter.

A draft of the above-mentioned letter being prepared, read, and approved,

Ordered, That a fair copy be sent to his lordship, and the letter entered after these proceedings.

Resolved, That Mr. Verelst be appointed supervisor of the Burdwan revenues, and empowered to make such inquiry into the late deficiency and present situation of the rents of that country, as may enable the Committee to form a plan for regulating the future collections in such manner as shall appear most conducive to the happiness of the people, and interest of the Company.

Also that the Council at Burdwan be advised of his appointment, and directed to correspond with him accordingly, but without interruption to their intercourse with the board.

Having considered the important dispatches, it will be necessary to transmit to the Court of Directors, as early as the feason will permit, the advantages which will result from employing a ship of burthen, on this service, and also the time requisite for equipping her;

Agreed, That we recommend to the Council the purchasing the admiral Stevens, and having her immediately surveyed.

Meliss Vanluttart and Plowman, setting forth in a letter to the Committee the lab that must arise to Mr. Henry Vanluttart, should his agent, Mr. Hargrave at Rungpoor, be recalled at the time required by the late order of the Committee, and requesting that an indulgence of three or four months longer may be granted:

Agreed, That the secretary acquaint them Mr. Hargrave will be allowed four months from this date, for collecting Mr. Vanluttart's affairs, and that he likewise inform all who may in future apply, that the Committee are resolved to see the Company's orders rigidly inforced at the expiration of this period.

Mr. Skinner sends in a letter on the same subject.

Ordered, his request be granted, and that the secretary acquaint him of the above-mentioned resolution.

Received a letter from Mr. Scotney at Patna, representing to us the prejudice it would be to his own affairs, as well as those of his constituents, should he be obliged to return to Calcutta in the space of one month.

As Mr. Scotney's representation was thought disrespectful and improper,

Ordered, The secretary write him an answer, that such applications, it is expected, should be made in terms more moderate and respectable, but that influenced by no consideration of the manner in which he chose to ask for an allowance of time, we do agree to grant him four months longer from this date, for collecting his affairs, at the expiration of which he is desired to repair to Calcutta, without further Notice.

This month's proceedings examined by Edward Baber, sub. secretary.

Clive.
W. B. Summer.
H. Verelst.
P. Fra. Dykes.
To the right honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

My Lord, and Gentlemen,

I have been honoured with your letters of the 14th and 18th ultimo, and have received from your secretary, by your order, the extracts from the Company's general letter, and the copy of the oath of secrecy. This I cannot at present take, there being no Company's servant with me, but I will not fail doing it the first opportunity; and in the interim you may depend on my observance thereof, with the same strictness as if sworn.

The introduction of Captain M'Pherson upon the Bengal establishment was doubly an injury upon our officers; first, as it was directly contrary to an assurance which had been made them in public orders by Mr. Vanstwart, that the officers of the Bombay Corps should not be admitted into ours; and secondly, on account of the motive of his reception, which was awed only no other than in consideration of his paying to Captain Whitcher the sum of 10,000 seeroot rupees. This I set forth to plainly to the board, as your lordship, &c. may observe, in the course of my correspondence, that I never could have imagined they would have perished in keeping him upon our establishment.

It is hard to account why Sujah Dowlah did not unite the forces under Sombre to the Mahommedans in their late incursion; either they were intended to enter by another quarter from which they were deceived by the quickness with which we accomplished our business in this; or, which is more probable, Sombre was afraid to enter the lift against us, and his matter had not power sufficient to oblige him; but for however contemptible he may have been at the time, yet having, as I am assured, still near 300 Europeans with him one foot or other, and from five to six thousand laaposys, with some guns, Sujah Dowlah must have been in awe of him, and appears to me to be glad to have got clear of him. This villain is now said to be negotiating for service with the Jauts.

My last address was dated the 27th ultimo, advising you of Sujah Dowlah's being come in to me, since which I have not troubled you, having nothing material to communicate. I have deferred coming to any absolute agreement, till I have seen the king, and know his pleasure. He has left Ilahabad, and has got to Manipur on his way hither; but as the rains are near setting in, I think it most advisable to have him that trouble, and that we should move towards him. I am accordingly crossing our troops over the Ganges speedily as possible for that purpose, and in the interim, that no time may be lost, we are proceeding on the trials of the several gentlemen in arrest. I have undertaken so far as to give Sujah Dowlah hopes of the Subah of Aud, being assured that his majesty will gladly deliver it to him, as the only means to secure tranquility to the country, and that it cannot be made over to any other, who will be able to maintain it longer than while our army remains. I have intimated to him, that some indemnification will be expected by us from him, for the immense expense in which he involved us, and shall hereupon infall thereon; and I flatter myself of succeeding, though he pleads poverty, and has solemnly offered to me, in the name of God and his prophet, that he has not two hundred rupees; should you be of opinion with me, that the Sanyadary of Benaras, &c. is at too great a distance to be worth our keeping, this may also be hereafter ceded to him, in consideration of a sum of money in exchange for the same.

Major Stilbert, whom I detached towards the frontier on this side of Lucknow, has been very active and diligent, and has entirely removed the dispersed parties that still remained in that neighbourhood, by means of a forced march. He fell in with, on the morning of the 2d instant, one Mungul Chan, a Jemadar, who had been particularly troublesome. After a short skirmish, the enemy were put to the rout, Munig Chan himself, with several of his people were killed, and a parcel of country guns, which they had with them, all taken.

I have been reduced to the necessity of forcing some other forts near our camp; and as we lost a volunteer, and a few men on the occasion, the ill-fatedvented have paid the forfeit of their lives for their obstinacy.

I have discovered a most flagrant fraud in the muster of the quarter-master's coolies belonging to the Bombay detachment. Finding that their number greatly exceeded what their quantity of stores required, I examined the quarter-master's books, who acknowledged his having taken from the Bazar upwards of three hundred men to stand the muster. I immediately confined the acting quarter-master, the officiated being sick at Ilahabad, and you may be assured I will use every endeavour to trace the fraud to its source, that an exemplary punishment may be inflicted on those capable of so shameful an imposition.

Camp at Nagapur,
the 17th June 1705.

I have the honour to be with the greatest respect, my Lord, and Gentlemen,
your most obedient humble servant,

John Carrac.
APPENDIX, No. 84.

To Brigadier General John Carnac, Commander in Chief of the Army.

SIR,

We have just received your Letter of the 7th inst. in which you express your expectations of concluding matters very speedily with Sujah Dowlah. By this we imagine you have referred the adjourned certain preliminary articles, to serve for the outlines of a peace, to be finally concluded on Lord Clive’s arrival in camp. You are already informed that his lordship, in conjunction with you, will have full power to pursue such measures and form engagements, as he may think necessary, and you will perceive from our Letter of the 10th inst. that the intentions of the ficide committee respecting the terms of pacification are different in some material particulars from those you express; for this reason, we hope it will reach your hands soon enough to prevent you entering into any definite engagements.

Captain M′Pherson’s appointment would probably never have taken place, had Lord Clive been in charge of the government. As things are now circumstanced, we are of opinion the officers ought to be satisfied with his losing rank, and coming in the next officer on the English establishment, as a further concession cannot be made with any propriety by the Board. We are with great regard,

Fort William the 21st June, 1765.

Your most humble Servants.

To the Right Honorable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c. Gentlemen of the select Committee.

My Lord, and Gentlemen,

I have received a letter, signed by your secretary, dated the 13th inst., conveying several extracts and papers from your proceedings, touching an inquiry made by you into the conduct of the late deputation, of which I had the honour to be a member, and requiring me to answer to such facts as related to myself, which I shall now do, and in as clear a manner as possible.

That I have received a present from the nabob I will not take upon me to deny, but not in the manner set forth in the narrative, No. 1; and am much surprised that Mahomed Reza Cawn should have forgot him self so much. I had heard that the nabob did intend a present to the gentlemen in council, but what it was I never knew, till one evening that Meflecs Johnstone, and Leycefer came to lop with me at Madopoor, when the latter told me, that Mahomed Reza Cawn had been at Mootyjil that afternoon, and brought a paper from his excellency, offering a sum of money to the gentlemen of the deputation, and desired to know my opinion of the matter, whether or not I intended taking of it; to which I replied, if it is a voluntary gift, I should have no objections, nor did I think the world could blame me for it. Much more pleased on the occasion, which I cannot now recollect; but as it was only made a secondary part of our Conversation, it is not material to the subject.

He further told me, that Mahomed Reza Cawn would be at Mootyjil the next morning, and desired I would come over. Accordingly Mahomed Reza Cawn came at the appointed time, and presented us with a paper, wrote upon in the Persian Language, which he explained, and was to this purpose: The nabob Nizam ul Dowlah desires the gentlemen of the deputation to accept of a present as follows: To Mr. Johnstone, 137,500; to Meflecs Senior, Midleton, and Leycefer, 1,122,500 each; which paper we returned to Mahomed Reza Cawn, and, to the best of my Remembrance, told him, That if the nabob designed us such a present, it must come directly from himself, and not through the hands of, M. R. Cawn, or words to the same effect. A short time after having bussines at the Durbar, we waited upon the nabob, and after some conversation with him, he himself presented us with the before-mentioned paper, which we again refused, telling him, that as he had in a manner expressd a dissatisfaction at our proceedings, how could he think we would accept a present from him? He upon this appeared something alarmed, and told us, That he was by no means displeased with our behaviour to him; on the contrary believed us his friends; but if we still persisted in the refusal, he should look upon us hereafter as his enemies; and that we had some other reason for it, or words to that effect. Upon which we accepted the paper, and delivered it to Mahomed Reza Cawn for payment. No more was said of the matter; as I know of, till such time Nundcomar was ordered to Calcutta, when about three Days after we returned the paper again, as we heard his excellency had been greatly displeased at this proceeding of calling down his minister, and laid the whole blame upon the gentlemen of the deputation. He accordingly appeared to lose all confidence in us, and said, that he was now convinced we were his enemies, and were determined to remain so, &c. which induced us to take back the paper, and it seemingly gave him perfect satisfaction. Mahomed Reza Cawn, thereupon became answerable for the payment of the money, which was accordingly made.

With regard to the present received from Mahomed Reza Cawn, as clear from his narrative, (No. 2.) I am greatly surprized he should assert that the proposal came from the members of the deputation; and do solemnly declare, that it never was done in my presence, or to my knowledge, nor did I ever consider it in the light mentioned, but as a token of his gratitude for the many
many good offices he has repeatedly expressed to have formerly received at my hands; as to what he mentions regarding the rest of the council, I am entirely ignorant of the matters; nor did I believe that such a question was ever put to him, or such an answer made by him, by any of the members.

Touching the Seer's present, I do declare upon my honour, that I never knew of any threatening messages being sent him on the occasion, either through Mootyram, or any others; but always looked upon it as an offer made by himself. Nor would I by any means have agreed to the receiving of it, had I in the least suspected that even an application had been made to him for it.

Thus have I answered, as far as is in my power, the particulars requested of me. It is possible my not being perfectly acquainted with the language of the Durbar may have occasioned some small variation in trifling circumstances, but I am conscious of having acquitted myself in the late deposition, truly for the honour as well as interest of my employers. I cannot therefore accuse myself, or think I stand liable to the censure of others, by beneting something my private fortune in a service which has ever been known to prove advantageous to such gentlemen, as have heretofore been employed on the occasion.

I am, My Lord, and Gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

A. W. SENIOR.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

My Lord, and Gentlemen,

Having received a letter, dated the 13th instant, from your secretary, including copies of your proceedings of the 11th, 18th, 7th, and 8th June, relative to some presents said to be received by the Members of the deputation from the Nabob, Mahomed Reza Cawn and Juggut Seet, with their narrative of the affair, and requiring me to declare how far those parts relating to myself are true;—I beg leave to trouble you with the following remarks and answer.

In Mahomed Reza Cawn's narrative, (No. 1.) I observe the following paragraph, said to be a speech from us to him.

"The gentlemen who have affiled former Nazims have obtained presents; now that we have received his excellency on the maunifid, and rendered him service, we hope that he will make "preents to us alfo; do you reprent this to his excellency:" And that he defined we would mention it to his excellency ourselves; but that on our further pressing him, (the apprehensive of our being offended at a refufal) did apply to the Nabob, and obtained his consent. To this I reply, That no conversation to this effect did ever pass in my presence, or to my knowledge, nor did I ever know of any present being demanded either from the Nabob or Mahomed Reza Cawn. The latter, on a visit to us at Mowry's house, produced a paper, with the Nabob's seal, containing an offer of 47,500 rupees, to be distributed as follows:—to Mr. Johnston 137,500, to Mr. Senior 112,500, to Mr. Leycoster 112,500, and to myself 112,500, which we then rejected, and defined Mahomed Reza Cawn to return it to the Nabob. About two days after this, being at the Kella on business, the Nabob himself presented us with the paper, which we again refused; and it was not till after his most earnest and repeated solicitation (and being feemingly offended at our refusing it,) that we agreed to take it; and he then ordered Mahomed Reza Cawn to see it paid.

In Mahomet Reza Cawn's second narrative, I observe the following Message, said to be delivered to him by Mootyram as from us: "Whereas you have been appointed his excellency's "nab, it is proper that you make us some present from yourself." I deny that any message of the kind was ever sent to my knowledge, or by my consent, either by Mootyram or others; nor did I ever desire any acknowledgment from Mahomed Reza Cawn, but was informed by Meffrs. Johnston and Leycoster, that a present of one lakk was intended by him to each of the deputies. I avoided receiving any part of this, and afterwards determined on refusing it, with which I acquainted Mr. Leycoster, on my arrival at Calcutta; and then he told me, he had intended the same for some time.

Juggut Seet in his narrative says, that he received by Mootyram the following message as from the deputation: "Make us some acknowledgment, and we will settle all your business "according to your heart's desire; otherwise we shall be displeased, and your business will meet "with no assistance; for you formerly made an acknowledgment to Lord Clive and other gentle-"men." That on his declining it was again repeated with threats, and he was thereby obliged to promise 125,000 rupees, 5,000 of which he paid down. I must here declare I know of no message being ever sent, or application made, to Juggut Seet, regarding a present or acknowledgment from him to us. Mr. Leycoster acquainted me, that Juggut Seet intended something to the gentlemen of the deputation, but he did not then know how much. Some time
Appendix, No. 34.

Time after Mahomed Reza Cawn at Mootyjill laid in my Presence, that Juggut Sect intended 115,000 Rupees to be divided between the four Deputies, that 40,000 was paid to them; and I some Time after received from him 10,000 Rupees as my Proportion. The above is all I know relative to this Transaction, being entirely ignorant of Mootyram's being employed in this Business. In your Proceedings of the 8th instant, containing an Examination of Mootyram, I find the above Narrative of Juggut Sect confirmed by the Deposition of Mootyram, who, however says he received his Orders from Mr. Johnstone alone; but in the Name of all the Gentlemen of the Deputation: I think it necessary, in Justice to my own Character, to declare, I never authorized Mr. Johnstone to give such Orders, nor did I ever hear from him that such Messages were sent, as I ever esteemed the Sum I received from Juggut Sect a voluntary Offer of his own.

I observe that Mahomed Reza Cawn desires that it may be minutely in your Proceedings, that on the Gentlemen desiring a Present from him, he asked if it was not a general Affair, and if the other Gentlemen of the Council were not to have a Share? To which the Deputies replied, 'This must be for us, let them look to themselves.' Of this I declare myself entirely ignorant, as I never heard of such a Question being put, or such an Answer being given.

Having now, as far as came to my Knowledge, replied to every Particular concerning myself, and as you have been pleased to take upon you to enquire into their Transactions, I freely submit it to your Determination, being conscious of having never acted contrary to the strict Principles of Honour, or in the least deviated from the Duty I owe my Employers. I am with great Respect,

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Moradbaug, the 18th June 1769,

Your most obedient Servant

Samuel Middleton.

Regulations for the Provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Oryxa.

The Nabob Nudjum-ul-Dowlah, Meer Nud jum-ul-Deen Ally Cawn Bahadre, Nazim, the Nabob Maen-ul-Dowlah, Syed, Mahomed Reza Cawn Bahadre, Nayb, Mharaja Doolabram Br. Dewaan, Juggut Sect Coochaulchund and Mharaja Odweichund, Chiefs of Trade.

The appointing and displacing of the Fougzdares, Aumile, and other Officers of the Nisam, and the Regulation of the whole Buziness of the Revenues and the Country under his Excellency, shall be managed by the Nabob Maen-ul-Dowlah Br. Mharaja Doolabram Br. and the Sects, and his Excellency shall consent thereto.

If any one be apprized, his Effects seized, or his Life endangered, the aforesaid Gentlemen shall use their Endeavours to put a Stop to such Proceedings, and if they suspect that it is not in their Power to put a Stop to them, they shall advise the Governor thereof with all Speed, that he may inform the Gentlemen of the Council or Committee of such Proceedings, and put a Stop to them.

After the necessary Expenses of Government have been provided for, if there be any Overplus, it shall be deposited in the public Treasury, under the Care of the aforesaid Gentlemen; and there shall be three different Locks to the Door of the Treasury, and three Keys, one to remain in the Possession of each of the aforesaid Gentlemen, that neither of them may be able to take out any Money without the consent of the others.

Of these three Gentlemen Maen-ul-Dowlah Br. Mharaja Doolabram, and the Sects, if any one act contrary to the Opinion of the other Two, those Two shall give Advice thereof to the Governor, that he may lay the Matter before the Gentlemen of the Council or Committee, and take proper Measures on the Occasion.

Such Number of Horse and Foot shall be kept up as the aforesaid Gentlemen shall judge necessary for the Business of the Collections, and all needful and improper Expences shall be reduced.

Let
Let them remove from the Durbar all mischievous men, deceitful and evil counsellors, and not put it in their power to make any disturbance.

Let not the aforesaid Gentlemen go to the Durbar without each other's knowledge, nor attempt any Thing to each other's Prejudice.

For the Preservation of friendship and harmony, and the care of the Nabob's affairs, and the company's money, a Gentleman of Council, of probity, and abilities, shall be appointed to reside at the capital, on the part of the Company. A monthly allowance shall be made him by the Government proportionable to his rank, and the accounts of the receipts and expences for the business of the Government, &c. shall be laid before him monthly for his perusal.

Appendix, No. 84.

Instructions from the Select Committee.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c. &c.

My Lord,

We greatly approve your resolution to embrace the present favourable opportunity of establishing a general peace, and effecting a cordial and lasting friendship with the country powers.

These important ends, so necessary to the prosperity of the Company, will more effectually be answered by a personal interview with Sujah Dowlah, and the other chiefs, than from a correspondence carried on at this distance, as many circumstances leading to a direct knowledge of their real sentiments will occur in the course of your conferences.

It is from a consideration of these circumstances that we apprehend any particular instructions to your Lordship will be unnecessary. Much must be left to the discretion of those who act on the Spot; and we are happy in the assurances that your Lordship's perfect acquaintance with, and zeal for, the Company's interest, will enable you to fulfil our most sanguine wishes.

The preliminary articles transmitted the 11th instant to General Carnac contain our general sense of the terms which we ought to demand; and to restrain your Lordship to express instructions, would only serve to retard and embarrass your negotiations.

We therefore empower your Lordship, in conjunction with Brigadier General Carnac, to stipulate such conditions with Sujah Dowlah, to form such connexions with the country powers, and to pursue such means as you shall judge necessary to the Company's interest, the public welfare, and the obtaining a safe, honourable, advantageous, and lasting peace. At the same time we must request your Lordship's particular attention to the preliminaries already conveyed to the General, and now incluse, upon which we shall beg leave to enlarge, since we consider them as essential to the stability of the public tranquillity.

Experience having shewn that an influence maintained by force of arms is destructive of that commercial spirit which we ought to promote, ruinous to the Company, and oppressive to the country, we earnestly recommend to your Lordship, to exert your utmost endeavours to conciliate the affections of the country powers, to remove the jealousy they may have conceived of our ambition, and convince them that we aim not at conquest and dominion, but security in carrying on a free trade, equally beneficial to them and to us.

With this view policy requires that our demands be moderate and equitable, and that we avoid every appearance of an inclination to enlarge our territorial possessions. The sacrifice of conquests which we must hold on a precarious tenure, and at an expence more than equivalent to their revenues, is of flight consideration to us, yet will such restitution impress them with a high opinion of our generosity and justice.

For this reason we think Sujah Dowlah should be reinstated in the full possession of all his dominions, with such limitations only as he must fee are evidently calculated for our mutual benefit, the good of his country, and happiness of his people. We would decline inflicting upon any terms that must prove irksome to his high spirit, and imply our suspicion of his sincerity. Retaining possession of any of his strong holds may be deemed a necessary pledge of his fidelity; for our parts, we would rather consider it as the source of future contention, and an unnecessary burden to the Company, unless it is proposed one day to resume the thoughts of extending the...
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their dominions—a measure very opposite to the sentiments in which we left the Proprietors and Court of Directors.

Thus by engaging the Vizier to a strict regard to the conditions of our amity by the ties of Honour, Gratitude, and Interest, we form the most secure barrier to the Nabob's dominion on this quarter that can well be devised. It is General Carnac's opinion, and it is likewise our's, that no other person can be placed in that station, whose authority, influence, and popularity, will so effectually answer this intention, or whose character promises fairer to become a faithful ally, when wrought upon by motives of gratitude and interest. He has thrown himself into our arms, he veils his hopes on our generosity, it becomes us therefore not to disappoint his expectations, and urge him on to despair.

It will be necessary, however, that your Lordship obtain a full grant, in the fullest terms, for carrying on a free trade through his dominions, with the privileges of establishing factories wherever we shall think proper, to which shall be annexed such contiguous lands and districts, as may be found necessary to the convenience and support of the settlements. We mean without charge to Sujah Dowlah, or diminution of his revenues. But the keeping possession of Chinsurah, and other strong holds, and protecting our commerce by military power, is a measure concerning the expediency of which your Lordship will judge from a further enquiry into circumstances.

That Bulwaut Sing be secured in the possession of his Zemindary, Nudjoff Cawn referred to the same situation and circumstances as at the commencement of the war, and all possible protection and favour obtained for those who affist us, are terms which Justice and Honour demand.

That Coffin Ally, Sombre, and the deserters, be surrendered to us, or put to death by Sujah Dowlah, is a point we extremely with to obtain, if it can be effected without violence to his inclinations, and danger to the stability of the peace; but hitherto Sujah Dowlah has appeared to averse to this concession, which so deeply affects his honour, that we doubt whether your Lordship will meet with success.

We would likewise recommend, that provision be made for the security of the king's person and dignity; but in what particular manner we leave to your Lordship and General Carnac to determine, from a consideration of the circumstances and situation of the country.

And this, my lord, would appear to us the most favourable occasion that may ever occur for obtaining Sunnuds from the king for the Dewanee of Bengal; a point of great consequence to the Company, much desired, and strongly solicited, by General Carnac, but without effect; a price being expected and demanded that was thought by the Governor and Council more than equivalent to the advantage. Times are since altered. The King is now dependant on our bounty; his whole hopes of protection and subsistence rest upon us. It cannot therefore be supposed he will prove obdurate in denying a request of little consequence to him in his present circumstances, but advantageous to us his greatest benefactors, and, we may say, his only friends. We therefore beg leave to recommend this as one of the most important points to be negotiated.

Lastly, We are of opinion your Lordship should require such indemnification for the great expences incurred by the Company as justice demands, Sujah Dowlah may be brought to think reasonable, and the country can afford, without oppressing the people, and thereby laying the foundation of fresh discontent.

Upon the whole, my Lord, notwithstanding we have reason to conclude, from the report of Sujah Dowlah's character, that acts of generosity are the most likely means to secure his friendship and fidelity, yet we must submit to your Lordship's judgment, formed on a more intimate knowledge of his sentiments and disposition, how far it will be necessary to guard against a breach of faith, and the disaffection of our hopes. Princes are not always confined to the laws prescribed by Honour and Justice, nor governed by the dictates of good policy. Sparks of resentment may be concealed in his breast, ready to be kindled into a flame by the first gush of passion or ambition. In course of their conferences many opportunities will occur of penetrating into his most secret wishes, from which your Lordship may determine, whether it will not be expedient to bind him down by stronger ties than those of Honour and Gratitude, and operate on his fears, when we despair of engaging his affections. It is not in his power, should we even retain Chinsurah and Jassouar, is more than he can possibly hope in his present situation; yet should this retribution appear the only obstruction to a cordial and permanent peace, we think it ought to be relinquished.

These, my Lord, are the principal objects which we beg leave to offer to your attention; the rest we readily submit to the conduct of that prudence which has so often aided our employers in more difficult situations. We have only further to request, that your Lordship will favour us with a communication of such of your negotiations as you may think more immediately
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diately interesting to the Select Committee; and be assured of our best wishes for your health and success, being with equal esteem and respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,

Fort William, 21 June, 1765.

And most humble Servants.

Fort William, 21st June, 1765.

At a Select Committee,

PRESENT.

W. B. Sumner, Esquire, President,
Harry Verelst, Esquire,
Francis Sykes, Esquire.

Read, approved, and signed, the proceedings of the 21st ult.

The Right Honourable the President having transmitted to us a letter, under date the 23d ult. which he received from Mahomed Reza Cawn, the same was attentively perused by the Committee, who unanimously agree,

That Mahomed Reza Cawn has, in this letter, related facts with great candour and precision, confirming in the strongest manner the several particulars set forth in his former evidence.

That he positively affirms, and with the greatest appearance of truth, that neither the presents from the Nabob, nor from himself, were voluntary, but granted after some altercation and tedious negociations with the Gentlemen of the deputation.

That, "Mr. Johnston at first desired a very large sum; but after a great debate," and many conferences, Mootyram contented to accept 625,000 rupees from the Nabob, and 475,000 rupees from Mahomed Reza Cawn; of which sums the whole has been paid by the Nabob, and 225,000 by M. R. Cawn, in money and bills.

That over and above 137,500 rupees, which Mr. Johnston obtained from the Nabob, as a joint member and junior servant on the deputation, the same gentleman stipulated, "That 100,000 rupees for himself, and 50,000 rupees for his brother, should be paid secretly from all the other gentlemen."

That, besides the above sums clandestinely obtained from the Nabob, Mr. Johnston, as principal agent and manager, thought proper, without the consent or knowledge of his colleagues, likewise to appropriate 50,000 rupees to himself, and 25,000 rupees to his brother, out of the money granted by Mahomed Reza Cawn, over and above his allowed proportion, as a member of the deputation.

And lastly, the Committee agree,

That Mahomed Reza Cawn's letter be entered on the face of their proceedings, as undeniable testimony to all whom it may concern, of the necessity of the impartiality of their proceedings, and the great lenity of their resolution, in submitting final judgment to the Court of Directors, notwithstanding their conduct has been bitterly censured, their powers assigned, their characters aspersed, and their authority insufficient to enable them to proceed, and justify them in proceeding to the last extremity.

The Select Committee think it necessary on this occasion to assign the reasons which induced them to recommend to the Board to purchase the Admiral Stevens.

That after waiting till the 4th of July, in daily expectation of the Royal George, or some other packet from Europe, they now have the utmost reason to apprehend no veiell will arrive soon enough to be returned with the important advices, which they propose transmitting to the Court of Directors early in September, in order they may receive the Company's further instructions by the ships to be dispatched in March, April, or May following.

The
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That as the season is now so far advanced, as scarce to allow the time requisite for repairing and equipping a ship for the voyage, they think it absolutely necessary to come to a determination, and to enter on immediate preparations.

That they apprehend the Lapwings, being an exceeding bad failure, might arrive too late in England, to answer the very purpose for which advices from the committee are dispatched, and at best would only answer the end of a packet, whereby the company would incur a very considerable expense.

Whereas, on the other hand, the Admiral Stevens, being an excellent ship, and prime failure, offered at a very reasonable price, has this additional advantage, that she will carry home a rich and valuable cargo, at a season, when it must prove very acceptable to the company, who will find themselves disappointed of great part of the goods they expected to receive by the Bute, having received no advices from general Carnac since our last meeting.

Agreed, we acquaint him with our surprise at his silence at so critical a juncture; and that lord Clive was on his way to camp, to take upon him the command of the army, and negotiate a peace with Sojah Dowlah, in conjunction with him.

Agreed also, we write to lord Clive, informing him, that a warrant for his holding courts martial will immediately be sent, and enclosing a copy of our letter to the general.

Ordered, that both these letters be entered after the proceedings.

Mr. Marriott having applied for leave that his brother should remain with him at Benaras, agreesably to the resolution of the board last December,

The secretary is directed to acquaint him, that we grant his request.

Mr. Billers also representing how much his private affairs would suffer, should he be deprived of Mr. Hutchinson's assistance, by his compliance with the order for recalling free merchants, and requesting he may be allowed to remain with him at Patna,

The secretary is directed to inform Mr. Billers, that his request is granted, in consideration of the necessity he is under of giving his whole attention to the publick business.

Mr. Thomas Motte letting forth in a letter to the committee, that his fortune must be entirely ruined, should he be obliged to return to Calcutta agreeable to the late order, on account of the balance of rents due to him on the farms held from the company in Burdwan,

The secretary is ordered to acquaint him likewise, that the time necessary for collecting his debts will be allowed.

Mr. Amyatt also represents the complicated state of the late Mr. Ellis's affairs, for which he is administrator, and requests that his agents, Mellis, Tamlin, Jefferon and Helaft, may be indulged with a longer time than that specified in the late order.

The secretary had directions to acquaint him, that four months from the 21st ultimo will be allowed them for collecting the affairs of the deceased in their hands.

Having just received a letter from general Carnac, under date the 19th ultimo,

Agreed we immediately acknowledge his letter; and order it, together with the committee's answer to be entered.

This month's proceedings examined by

Edward Barker, Sub-secretary.

Mahomed Reza Cawn's Letter to the Right Honourable Lord Clive:

"I have had the honour to receive your letter, wherein you write, That the account "I gave of the money received by the gentlemen from the nabob and me has been "laid before the council, that now all the gentlemen say, That the nabob made them "presents of his own free will; that you are informed by Mr. Senior, in a letter he "has written you in answer, that the money, viz. 137,500, rupees for Mr. Johnstone, "112,500 for Mr. Middleton, 112,500, for Mr. Leverelder, and 112,500 for Mr. "Senior, was distributed by me; and that you, therefore, requesl I will immediately "acquaint you whether the distribution of the money was made by the nabob of "his own free will, or by me, or by the direction of any other person."

Sir, I have already fully represented, and do now again fully represent, on this sub- ject, what is the real state of the case. There is one paper to which his excellency has set his hand and seal for 475,000 rupees, which sum was given by his excellency agree- able to my representations, and my representations were in consequence of Mr. John- stone's desire, who sent me a message by Mootyram that the gentlemen wanted some money, and that I should procure them some from the nabob. As I perceived that in case of my not representing this matter to the nabob, the gentlemen would have offended with me, I was therefore obliged to do it. I was for some days meeting with Mootyram on this subject."
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Mr. Johnstone at first offered a very large sum, but after a great deal of debate, the nabob gave under his hand and sealed one note for 475,000 rupees, and another two notes for 100,000 rupees for Mr. Johnstone, and 50,000 for his brother, the whole amounting to 625,000 rupees for Mr. Johnstone, Mr. Middleton, Mr. Senior, Mr. Leycester, and Mr. Johnstone's brother. When this sum was fixed, I showed the letter to Mr. Johnstone. At that time no distribution of the money had been settled, but it was afterwards settled in his excellency's presence, agreeably to Mr. Johnstone's directions concerning it. I gave all the three notes into his excellency's hand, and likewise acquainted him, that it was Mr. Johnstone's pleasure that the 100,000 rupees for himself, and 50,000 for his brother, should be paid secretly from all the other gentlemen; the note for 475,000 rupees his excellency delivered with his own hand in presence of all the four gentlemen, to Mr. Johnstone, who at first refused it, but at last received it out of his excellency's hand; and said, "What shall the gentlemen do with a bare note?" His excellency delivered the note to me, and told me, Do you pay all this money? I accordingly did so, agreeably to his excellency's orders. With regard to the gentleman's attention, that the nabob gave the money of his own free will, in such case why did he complain to you, Sir, that I had taken away the money belonging to his house, and distributed it amongst the gentlemen? Do you yourself judge I did neither, and obey the orders of both sides? My representations to his excellency were in consequence of the gentlemen's orders, and his excellency himself also told me, that I must do whatever was their pleasure.

With regard to the notes I gave from myself, the amount thereof is 475,000 rupees, Mootyram came to me, and told me, that I ought to make some present to Mr. Johnstone, and the other gentlemen, from myself also. I sent a message in answer suitable to my circumstances, but Mootyram returned and acquainted me, that the gentlemen were not satisfied, but were even offended with me. Agreeably to their pleasure, therefore, I gave notes for 175,000 rupees, one for 75,000 rupees, the other to be equally divided between Mofif, Johnstone, Senior, Middleton, and Leycester, and one which the other gentlemen knew nothing of (for 75,000 rupees) 50,000 for Mr. Johnstone, and 25,000 for his brother. Of the above sum 225,500 rupees have been paid, 175,000 by five bills which you have seen, and 50,000 in ready money to Mr. Senior; and there is a balance due of 250,000 rupees, 100,000 to Mr. Middleton, 50,000 to Mr. Senior, 50,000 to Mr. Johnstone, and 50,000 to Mr. Leycester. I formerly showed you copies of the nabob's three notes, and now also I transmit you copies enclosed. My two notes Mootyram received from me, and carried to Mr. Johnstone, in whose hands I imagine they now are. You will demand them from him and peruse them. What I formerly represented, and now again represent, deviates not a hair's breadth from the truth. I then acquainted you fully with the particulars, and now I relate the substance to you: this matter I have already written to the committee. I arrived to-day, being Sunday, at Dowlador, where I was honoured with your letter; I shall set out to-night for Moorshedabad, and have the honour of waiting on his excellency to-morrow.

Dated the 23rd June 1765.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c. &c.

My Lord,

We now forward to you under cover our letter to general Carnac, and to-morrow we shall dispatch the warrant for your lordship to hold courts martial.

The secretary acquaints us, that you approve the extract sent you from the proceedings of the 21st ultimo.

We shall therefore put an end to that tedious business the first meeting of the board, and open our next committee with Mohamed Reza Cawn's letter to your lordship, and a few general remarks upon it, as it cannot with any propriety be entered in the proceedings of the 21st.

You may be assured, my lord, we shall give the most attentive perusal, as you desire, to the proceedings of the court martial, of which your lordship will be able to form a still more accurate judgement when you are in camp, and a witness to many leading circumstances that cannot be expressed on paper.

We remain, with the warmest sentiments of esteem,

Fort William, the 1st July, 1765.

Your Lordship's

Most humble Servants.
To Brigadier General John Carnac, Commander in Chief of the Army,

SIR,

Pursuant to our advices transmitted to you the 20th, lord Clive left this place the 25th ultimo, proposing to stop a day or two at Moorhedabad, and then to proceed with all possible dispatch to the army, of which you will resign the command to his lordship immediately on his arrival.

We have veiled his lordship, in conjunction with you, with full powers to negotiate with Sujah Doulah and the country powers, and you will perceive from the tenor of our instructions, that our great aim is to obtain a lasting and honourable peace, to revive our languishing commerce, to impress the natives with a sense of our justice and moderation, and to reduce their heavy military charges, which have hitherto rendered our extraordinary successes, and even the cession of rich provinces, fruitless to the company.

From the contents of your letter, under date the 7th ultimo, it appears to us, that circumstances of the highest importance must daily occur, which it is absolutely necessary should be communicated to the committee. We are sorry therefore to observe your silence at a critical juncture, when you must be sensible that every article of intelligence would enable us to judge more clearly, and determine precisely on many points of which we can now form only general and imperfect ideas. We earnestly recommend to you, therefore, that you will omit no opportunity of writing to the committee until lord Clive's arrival, and that you will then co-operate with his lordship in pursuing such measures, as shall appear necessary to the company's welfare, and the happiness of the country.

We remain, with esteem,

Port William, the 1st July, 1765.

SIR,

Your most humble Servants.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c. &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

My Lord, and Gentlemen,

I have been honoured with your letter of the 30th ultimo, and with a duplicate thereof.

I am thoroughly sensible of, and truly thankful for, the attention you have been pleased to show me, so different from the behaviour towards me of the late administration. If I have expressed myself with too much warmth on occasion of their ill treatment, I hope you will be kind enough to make allowances for the repeated flights I had received, and that you think they, in some measure, justify my resentment.

As soon as I had dissolved the court martial, I judged it most advisable to make the best of my way to the king, who chose to halt at ManikPUR, and there wait for me. Accordingly I pushed forwards, leaving Major Jennings to bring on the army by easy marches, Sir Robert Fletcher being somewhat indisposed, and being on that account gone by water to Ilahabad. I arrived here yesterday, and immediately waited upon his majesty, who expressed much satisfaction at Sujah Doulah's being come in, and confess he had had no other expedient but by a reconciliation with him of maintaining himself longer than while supported by us. I am to present Sujah Doulah to him to-morrow; I wait with the greatest impatience for your lordship's, &c. Answer to my address of the 22d ultimo, being in hopes it will bring me some intimations whereby I may judge how far you are willing to favour Sujah Doulah, and to serve me, as a foundation to proceed with the greatest confidence.

Before I cropt the Ganges, Daym Char, the adopted son of Akmud Ghan (Bungyo), waited upon me on the part of his father, and both Akmud Chau himself, and Hafez Rahman, another considerable Rohylkhah Chief, signified to me their desire of visiting me; but neither the season nor the business I was upon would admit of the loss of so much time as would necessarily be taken up in receiving their visit.

The Jouts have been much alarmed by our entering the Sulah of Agra, and have set all their hands at work in setting that, and the other posts in their polizzazione, in the best Police of defence.

Our troops are so exhausted, and have suffered so much from the excessive heat, as to require being thrown into quarters of refreshment as soon as possible; I propose dispatching the greater part of them in the neighbourhood of Jumpr, within twenty Kofs of Benaras, which is represented to me as an exceeding healthy situation.

I am with respect, my Lord, and Gentlemen,

Your most humble Servant,

John Carnac.

Manypur,
the 10th June, 1765.
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To Brigadier General John Carnac, Commander in Chief of the Army.

SIR,

Your letter of the 19th, which we received yesterday, gave us great pleasure, by removing the uneasiness we found on account of your silence, at a time when your correspondence alone could afford any information on many important subjects, which necessarily demand the attention of the select committee.

This occasioned the paragraph in our letter to you the 1st instant, wherein we request that you will write more frequently; and also acquaint you, that lord Clive had left Calcutta the 25th ultimo, to take upon him the command of the army, and jointly with you to conclude a definitive treaty of peace with Sujah Doula.

Again we exhort you to co-operate heartily with his lordship in this necessary and salutary measure, adhering as nearly as possible to the preliminaries specified in our instructions.

We approve much of your resolution to put the army into quarters of refreshment after the fatigue of a long campaign, and we submit entirely to you the choice of those quarters, being with much esteem,

SIR,

Your most humble Servants.

Fort William, the 4th July, 1765.

7th July, 1765. At a Select Committee, Present,

W. B. Sumner, Esq; President
Harry Verclift, Esq;
Francis Sykes, Esq;

Read, approved, and signed the proceedings of the 4th instant

It appearing from the right honourable the president's letter, under date the 3d instant, that our plan, formed with a view of giving stability to the nabob's government, by dividing the administration equally between Mahomed Reza Cawn, Juggnd Seet, and Dullooobram, is in danger of being subverted through the ambition of the latter, and the excessive moderation or timidity of the former.

And it likewise appearing to the committee of the last importance to the company's interest to prevent any breach of the plan of the regulations for conducting the country government, as entered in their proceedings of the 21st ultimo, to check the aspiring views of Dullooobram, and to support and maintain each of the three ministers in the precise share of authority allotted to him, without encrease or diminution of the power specified in the above-mentioned regulations.

Resolved, That as the business of the committee will necessarily be at a stand until Mr. Verclift returns from Burdwan, Mr. Sykes be appointed to reside a few weeks at the Durbar (but without injury or diminution of the weight and influence of the present resident) in order that he may support the present established system of administration, and thereby obviate the bad consequences which may arise to the company from any revolution in the government, at a juncture when the whole attention of the committee is employed on the means to secure the future tranquillity of the country, to revive our commerce, to perpetuate our revenues, and to establish the interest of our employers on the most solid and durable foundation.

Resolved, That in consideration of the low state of the treasury, the right honourable the president be requested to exert his influence in obtaining five or six lakhs of rupees for the company, to answer immediate exigencies, until the revenues are brought into proper order.

Resolved also, That we acquaint Mr. Middleton, Mr. Sykes intends visiting the Durbar, to conduct some business now under consideration of the committee, and desire that he will aid and assist him, as far as in his power, in whatever he may require.

Agreed, That we write to Lord Clive, to acquaint him of Mr. Sykes's appointment, and that his letter to the committee, together with their's to his lordship, and to Mr. Middleton, be entered after the proceedings.

Agreed also, that we draw out instructions for Mr. Sykes, for the regulation of his conduct at the Durbar.

This month's proceedings examined by

Edward Baber, Sub-secretary.

William B. Sumner.
H. Verclift.
Francis Sykes.

A Letter
A Letter from the Right Honourable Lord Clive to the Members of the Select Committee.

Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure I can acquaint you, that the move I have of Mahomed Reza Cawn, the stronger is my conviction of his honour and moderation; but at the same time I cannot help observing, that either from timidity or some erroneous principle, he is too ready to submit to encroachments upon that proportion of power in the government which has been allotted him. When we established him and the other two ministers, we intended, their departments being distinct and separate, that they should never interfere with each other's authority, but preserve an equal sway in the management of the nabob's affairs.—Roy Dallub, however, has already attempted to destroy this balance of power, and Mahomed Reza Cawn rather approves than refits it; the appointment of all the officers for collecting the revenues is grasped at by the one, and submitted to by the other. This is certainly subversive of our intentions, as it has a tendency to increase the power of Roy Dallub, and diminish that of Mahomed Reza Cawn; and I am of opinion, that if we do not prevent it, the government which we so deliberately planned for the honour and security of the nabob will at long be disturbed by jealousies, discord, and numerous other evils which generally prognosticate a revolution in this country. An early appointment of a proper person to reside at the city, on the part of the company, seems to me to be the best means of preserving tranquillity. Mr. Sykes is the gentleman we proposed should fill this employment as soon as it might be thought not improper for him to vacate his seat in the committee. At present to be sure he cannot be spared, except for two or three weeks; and as there will probably be a suspension of impertinent business in the committee till General Carnac and I shall have the honour of communicating to you our negotiations with Sujah Doulah, I would propose that Mr. Sykes should, in the mean time, go to Maxadavad, and remain there about a fortnight; which, I apprehend, would effectually prevent any diffusion among the three ministers of fate, and over-awe that encroachment of one of them which I have represented, as they will then be thoroughly convinced of the reformation to support the plan we have formed. Mr. Middleton, I think, should be given to understand, that Mr. Sykes's visit at the city will not be to his prejudice; and I make no doubt he will be happy in the honourable and moderate conduct of his successor; nor will Mr. Sykes with the company to be at any additional expense for so short a residence.

If what I have proposed should meet with your approbation, I shall be glad to find it carried into execution as soon as possible.

I have nothing farther to add at present, than my assurances of communicating to you punctually, from time to time, such of my transactions as I may judge worthy your observation, and that I have the honour to be, with great esteem,

Gentlemen,

Maryjill, the 3d July, 1765.

Your most humble Servant,

Clive.

To Samuel Middleton, Esq: Resident at the Durbar.

SIR,

Having deputed Mr. Sykes to conduct certain affairs at the Durbar, now immediately under the consideration of the committee, you are not to regard his visit as derogating in the smallest degree from the weight and influence it is proper you should maintain as public resident from the board.

You will easily see the impropriety of charging any other than a member of the committee with the management of business that has not yet been disclosed to the board, which alone will sufficiently point out our intentions.

As Mr. Sykes acts unprovided of every thing necessary to support the dignity of a deputy from the committee, you will please to affix him all in your power with whatever he may require. A company of leopards for his guard will be absolutely necessary.

We are with great esteem, Sir,

Fort William, the 7th July, 1765.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c. &c.

Your most humble Servants.

My Lord,

Last night we were honoured with your letter of the 3d, and this morning a committee met to deliberate on the important advices you were pleased to communicate.

We concur with your lordship in opinion, that it is of the utmost consequence to the company's interest, to provide, by every means in our power, against any change in the
the country government as now established, and to support that equal partition of power between Mahomed Reza Cawn, Doolubram, and Jugger Sect, as resolved in our proceedings of the 21st ultimo, every encroachment on the share of authority assigned to Mahomed Reza Cawn must be checked in time, and his timidity and moderation sustained by our influence, in order to demonstrate that we are determined to suffer no violation of our regulations, nor of our agreement, which we regard as equally binding on each of the three ministers.

For this reason we have requested Mr. Sykes to proceed to the Durbar, and remain there as long as he can possibly be spared from the business of the committee, that he may have an eye over the conduct of Doolubram, and penetrate whether his views extend to the arrogating to himself a greater share of power than we originally intended. This task Mr. Sykes has cheerfully accepted, without other considerations than those of promoting the publick interest, and forwarding the measures of the committee, and that Mr. Middleton may not conceive himself injured by this appointment, we propose to acquaint him by letter, that Mr. Sykes's visit to the Durbar is intended merely to promote certain measures now under deliberation in the committee, which cannot with any propriety be trusted in other hands.

The present state of the treasury requires, that we request of your lordship to exert your influence in obtaining five or six lacks of rupees for the company, to answer immediate exigencies, until their revenues are reduced into their proper order; after which we have the greatest prospect of being able to supply every necessity from our own collections and duties.

We are farther to request of your lordship, that you will direct Mr. George Vanfittart to translate the late regulations of the government, (the original of which you have with you), and transmit copies of the same to us by the first opportunity, it being necessary it should appear in our proceedings.

We have the honour to be,

My lord,
Your lordship's most obedient,
and most humble Servants.

Fort William,
the 7th July, 1765.

To Francis Sykes, Esquire.

SIR,

Pursuant to our resolutions of the 7th instant, we would recommend to you, that you proceed with all convenient dispatch to the Durbar, and there support, with all the influence of the committee, those regulations which we lately made for the administration of the government.

It appears from lord Clive's letter, that dangerous encroachments are designed by Doolubram on that balance of power, and partition of authority, which we judge necessary to the security of the present establishment; he has already infringed on the agreement with his colleagues, and exceeded the line we drew from the limitation of their several authorities, by claiming to himself the right of nominating the officers of the collections. Mahomed Reza Cawn has yielded his point with such sullenness of disposition, and apparent avertoon to whatever can occasion disputes, as will serve rather to encourage than to moderate Doolubram's ambition.

You are therefore to keep the most watchful eye over this minister, to check every symptom of his aspiring at a greater share of the administration than we have allotted him, to convince him that we are determined to support the present regulation of the government, and that any tendency in his conduct to deviate from a measure which we consider as essential to the due management of affairs, and the peace and happiness of the country, will necessarily incur our displeasure, and exclude him from the proportion of power he now enjoys.

We have already, in our letter of the 7th to lord Clive, and also in our proceeding of that date, touched upon the low condition of the treasury, requesting that his lordship will exert his influence in obtaining five or six lacks of rupees for the company, to answer such exigencies as may occur before their revenues are reduced to the proposed order. Should therefore our advice to his lordship have arrived too late for him to make the necessary application, we would recommend it to you, that you promote this measure, in the name of the committee, with all your power and interest.

As these are points of the utmost consequence to the company, we must request that you will maintain a constant correspondence with lord Clive, and with us, during your residence at the Durbar, which we apprehend need not, at this juncture, exceed the space of three weeks or a month, when your presence will be necessary at the committee.

We shall desire of Mr. Middleton to aid and assist you all in his power, in whatever you may require;—and that he is to consider your visit to the Durbar, as intended only to conduct certain affairs now under consideration of the committee.

Your
A P P E N D I X. No. 85;

Your own zeal for the publick good, and your prudence, will sufficiently direct you how to act in other particulars without further instructions from us.

We remain, with great esteem,

SIR,

Your most humble Servants,

For William, the 7th July, 1765.

No. 85:

Fort William, the 7th June 1765.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The Right Honourable Robert Lord Clive, President,
William Brightwell Summer,
Charles Stafford Playdell,
Harry Verey,
John Johnston,
Francis Sykes,
Ralph Leycester, and
John Budett, Esquires.

MR. Leycester, agreeably to his intimation at the last meeting of the board, delivers in the first following minute on the style of the Nabob's letter to the select committee, entered on their proceedings then perused.

The Nabob's address to the select committee is a most extraordinary production, whether the matter or style of it be taken into consideration. It is an appeal to these Gentlemen against the conduct of a committee of the board, from whom, I suppose, he would have had redress, had he been able to support a complaint of this nature; but, so far from that, I believe he has repeatedly expressed his content and satisfaction in many letters to the governor. Whether I consider myself as a member of this board, or as a Gentleman, I can by no means allow myself to be treated with such unbecoming language; nor will the board themselves, I presume, deem it decent to have me termed the Vaequeel of Mahomed Reza Cawn, while I have been acting by commission from the board; and I call on you, Gentlemen, to do me justice, and must request, before I even attempt a refutation of the Nabob's assertions, that you insist on apologies being made for the insult offered this board through me; your silence on such an occasion must be interpreted into approbation.

(Signed) Ralph Leycester.

The board are, in consequence, unanimously of opinion, that a letter should be wrote to the Nabob by the president, expressing, in the strongest terms, the impropriety of his using such a style in any representation he might have occasion to make touching the conduct of the members of the board, which the president informs them he shall do accordingly.

And Mr. Leycester thereupon enters the following further minutes in vindication of his conduct, on the subjects of the Nabob's complaints.

The honourable motives on which I acted Muxadabad leave not a wish to conceal any part of my transactions; I have, however, one objection to entering on my defence, though that shall not prevent my attempt to vindicate myself to you, Gentlemen; but I think it merits consideration, how far it appears decent and proper to allow the conduct of a committee, and of course the representatives of the whole board, to be thus arraigned for transactions which have not at the time been complained of. As my commission terminated a month and a half before the authority of that board expired which made my appointment, I think an appeal should only have been made to those Gentlemen, for the conformity of my conduct to views which the present board cannot be such ample judges of. And, that the Nabob and I may not go on in endless contradiction of each other, I beg the matter may be put on some certain issue; and that, if the nabob's allegations appear false, the board will determine what measures to pursue, in order to prevent in future such unwarrantable attacks, which every Gentleman must otherwise be for ever exposed to, who shall be prosecuting any views that may be injurious to a first minister or favourite of the nabob. I was aware that if ever Nundcomar was able to influence the nabob, he would urge every thing which malice and villany could invent, out of enmity to me for the flare I had in his removal. I am sorry to fee the nabob begin his government with a proceeding that must create so much uneasiness and jealousy between him and some members of the council, and which must, in a manner, destroy all confidence and cordiality between them; but as the particular displeasure expressed against me by the nabob
nabob has solely been incurred by a steady pursuit of the company's welfare, it shall not give me much pain; for I am sensible their interest would have been sacrificed, had we attended to each idle and evasive argument with which Nundcomar took care from time to time to supply him. But to reply more particularly to the nabob's charge:

Letters of condolence had been wrote from the Governor on his father's death; and the first half hour of our first interview was employed in compliments of one kind or other. We then acquainted the nabob we had some private busineses with him, and requested he would order his attendants to retire, and that his brother, being young, might do the same, which he complied with without reluctance. Mahomed Reza Cawn had already been ordered down from Decca by the board; but it might appear as much as possible the nabob's own act, he was also desired to send a like order. He, or rather Nundcomar, were guilty of a shameful imposition on our resident at the Durbar, on whose application, the nabob told him, orders to that effect should be sent, but transmitted orders directly contrary. This was an apparent breach of confidence. Mahomed Reza Cawn had however set out, and the nabob was prevailed on by us to send his Persannah for that purpose. When he had subscribed to the treaty, he was affied, when he chose to be feated on the Muhiin; then, or when Mahomed Reza Cawn arrived? He chose the latter, willing, and I believe altogether, to defer it, in daily hopes of receiving munuds from the king, from which authority he rather wished to hold his government. The morning before we went to the Kellah, we acquainted the nabob, that as we had particular busineses to Transact with him, it would be advisable that he should receive us in a private apartment, and not in the Dewan Connah; and that no injustice might happen in this transact, it would be required to write a note to the nabob, except the day he was feated on the Muhiin, in any other apartment than that in which he first received us. It is absolutely false, that he was told not to fit in his Dewan Connah till Mahomed Reza Cawn's arrival; that he must live in the place he was; or that he must put a stop to all busineses. Mahomed Reza Cawn, I think, arrived the third day after our first visit.

We found that people about the nabob had endeavoured to inspire him with a suspicion of our designing to seat Mahomed Reza Cawn on the Muhind; but when we pointed out to him the improbability of such intent, and how needless our present declarations in his favour were, had we any such view, he seemed satisfied, and called on us to pledge our honour to the performance of the treaty, which he read over two or three times. He endeavoured to evade coming to any point, wanted to consult Nundcomar, and to have him to bring the paper of advice of his deceased father. We knew this was only to gain time, and that a delay would only increase every difficulty we had to contend with. We replied we came not to treat with Nundcomar, but with him; that the council and the English were heartily inclined to his interest; and that he should only consider them as his friends and protectors. I do not recollect the use of tho' words about the paper of advice; but probably he was told it was his best part to act conformably to the council's sentiments, fully expressed in the treaty. After discussing over every article of the treaty three or four times, and taking pains to make him understand it, we prefied his acceptance, and seemingly satisfied his principal objection; still he desired to have Nundcomar's opinion, but when we saw he had been tutored to do nothing without his concurrence, and that he was sure to encourage the nabob to the warmest opposition, we pointed out to him the necessity of his complying with the resolutions of the board, and that we could not acknowledge him as Souliab till he had promised his assent. This was not. I believe, told him in the terms he has used, though it was my firm opinion, and I believe it was the board's, that he ought never to be acknowledged on any terms that should still leave the sole power in the hands of Nundcomar, whose character was even then at least a very doubtful one. He spoke at that time very handomely of Mahomed Reza Cawn, and only mentioned what he says about the Dacca collections: he at last promised his compliance. Nundcomar and others were called in, and upon their beginning to start objections, they were told, we were not come to receive their opinion, but to negotiate with the nabob. Some one, I forget who, proposed that the treaty with his father should be sent for. Some of us remarked it was unnecessary, as the additional articles had been particularly pointed out; however, the treaty was brought. When it was first called for, we were told, a Faquir had the treaty, who was sitting upon a Mir Jaffier's tomb some miles from the Kellah; but upon finding such evasions would not avail, it was presently produced. No Moonby was turned out as mentioned by the nabob, though one was checked for offering his sentiments and objections.

He then goes on to say, Mahomed Reza Cawn has taken twenty lacks out of his treasury and distributed it without his knowledge for securing his nabobship: this is a most shameful inination, and appears to indirectly levelled at those who supported this measure, that I must take notice of it, though done, I believe, solely with a view to injure Mahomed.
Mahomed Reza Cawn. The opinion, I entertain of Mahomed Reza Cawn's understanding and integrity inclines me to believe this a groundless assertion. If he has done so, I will allow I have mistaken his character; and I can declare, and am ready to declare on oath, that I have never received a single rupee from Mahomed Reza Cawn. The assertion from him can be false, and Mahomed Reza Cawn himself has yet to prove it. I hope, I believe, to be able to clear up to the board's satisfaction; and if we consider the struggle the nabob has made to have that villain Nundcomar still about him, no man will be surprised at the attack on Mahomed Reza Cawn, or those who promoted him; and when all circumstances are taken into view, I can only be amazed to find such a seeming degree of credit given to the nabob's assertions, which, I think, must appear to every unprejudiced person the performance of Nundcomar, who has such an influence over the nabob, as to make him believe all those enemies to himself who have been concerned in his removal. Though four gentlemen were appointed on the deputation, and concurred in every measure, Mr. Johnston and I only are named, Mr. Johnston we are told was supposed to be previously at enmity with Nundcomar; and I, who never, but the day I took my leave, saw the nabob, except in the presence of Mr. S. Johnston, Senior, and Middleton, am particularly attacked, by reason, I suppose of my repeated refusal of large offers made me by Nundcomar for support, and on account of what immediately followed regarding Nundcomar when I returned to the board; I am fully persuaded that Nundcomar is the sole author of this address from the nabob; and am, I confess, very much provoked to think that that villain shall entertain a momentary hope of gratifying his resentment by urging the nabob to this attack, for from himself I am positive it could not have proceeded. All the difficulties and all the unceremonies we had in executing our commission at the city, proceeded from Nundcomar and his creatures, as we repeatedly informed the board. The nabob of himself made but weak objections, and such seemed removed by the arguments we used, till he was again tutored by Nundcomar, when he would as falsely contradict himself as a man possibly could; he complained to the board very bitterly of our proceedings about Nundcomar, when we were ordered to send him down; relates a long history, which he the day before declared he had never heard of, and alleges that we obliged him to sign such a paper as we thought proper. This was Nundcomar's last struggle, at least it would have been the last, had not he and the nabob been taught to expect an entire change upon the arrival of Lord Clive and the committee. As the nabob had confidence enough to exclaim against us to the board in such terms, why failed he to add what he now urges? the paper he says we forced from him regarded only Nundcomar. I am firmly persuaded that the same influence, which has on several occasions led the nabob into the most palpable contradictions, has now urged him to these shameful inquisitions, in hopes of afflicting Nundcomar by this attack on those who promoted his removal. No confidence can be placed in his word and promise so long as Nundcomar or his creatures have access to him; and I am satisfied if they were removed he would soon reflect on the impropriety of his present conduct, and repent of it.

I admit the nabob was at first much averse to the appointments the board had made; whence arose it? From the informations of Nundcomar, as I before said, that we really meant to place Mahomed Reza Cawn on the Mussnad; when he was in the conviction of our real design, and had engaged us to pledge our honours to the performance of the treaty, he appeared more satisfied, and would I believe have remained so, had he not been encouraged to expect the release and reinstatement of Nundcomar on Lord Clive's arrival. And if we were necessitated to urge some points in terms we would wish to have avoided, we were drove to it by the opposition we met with from Nundcomar and his adherents. It was our desire and our aim to treat the nabob with a becoming respect; but the struggles of those people to thwart every measure the board had recommended, obliged us now and then to enforce them in more positive terms, and to explain to them the mischiefs they would unavoidably draw upon themselves by such a procedure, and how evidently they were farcising the nabob's welfare to their private views. I always esteemed it a contest with the nabob's officers, not with him; the executing the service we were sent on alone engaged us in many disagreeable altercation; and I am persuaded had we been less earnest it would not have been accomplished.

The company have by this treaty an additional income confirmed to them of sixty laeks of rupees per annum, have the whole military force of the province in their own hands, and have obtained the power of interfering more or less in the affairs of government, and nomination of its officers, as circumstances may render necessary for their welfare and success: more they can fear with; and in my opinion a less influence could not have been inflicted on without a sacrifice of their interest, had Nazem o Dowla been once acknowledged by the board Soubah, on the terms of, or without any additional articles to, his father's treaty, neither justice nor honour could have afterwards warranted our imposing on him any other terms; but when the government became vacant, which could only be secured to Nazem o Dowla by the power of the company's
force, we had a right to prescribe such condition for that support as seemed most conducive to their welfare, on which the nabob's indeed does now so intimately depend; where no public treaties of promises are infringed, no tie, no regard to Mr. Jaffier's family can stand in competition with their interests; and I esteem myself happy in having had a share in confining to the company such desirable benefits.

R. Leycester.

The president now informs the board, that he summoned their meeting to-day in order to lay before them an extract of the proceedings of a select committee held the 16th instant, in consequence of the resolution record in their last, communicated to the board, which he does accordingly, and the same having been perused is returned to him.

Some debate ensuing thereupon, on the subject of receiving presents from government and the officers of it,

Mr. Johnson defines the question, whether the acceptance of all presents is improper may be put severally to the members of the board for their opinions.

The same being put accordingly;

Mr. Burdett is of opinion, That such presents may be received or not, according to the particular circumstances. That the nabob has a right to dispose of his own property; and that the presents on the occasion in question might with great propriety be received.

Mr. Leycester, That where they are not the price of services they may very properly be received.

Mr. Sykes, That presents at all times from the nabob or his officers are very improper, as tending to the prejudices of the company's interests.

Mr. Johnston minutes it as his opinion, That where they are not the price of unworthy services, and no truft is betrayed for the acceptance of them, is no way improper; and in the present case, as being previous to the execution of the deed of covenant, as warrantable as in time past, by any who have received them.

Mr. Vereiett is of opinion, That the receiving of presents at a time the board are doing their duty in supporting the government, and in the interest of the company, is highly improper, and the more so in the present instance, since he is informed that the company's orders and covenants were arrived in Calcutta before the tender of them.

Mr. Playdell agrees in the opinion given by Mr. Leycester.

Mr. Sumner is of opinion that the acceptance of presents after the receipt of the company's orders to the contrary, and the covenants, was very improper.

The president's.

That no presents whatever ought to have been accepted after the receipt of the covenants, except in the manner specified therein.

Fort William, the 11th June, 1765.

Mr. Leycester now delivers in the following minute on subject of the last select committee proceedings perused at the board.

When the company's interest were altogether secured, and the orders of the board fully executed, it is very true that I accepted of a present from the nabob; I never made a secret of it, as the custom of this country on such occasions, well known to every body, sanctifies the acceptance; and where presents have not been esteemed the price of improper services, I never heard a reflection cast on those who did receive them, I went up to the city without the thought of any private emolument, presuming the benefit I had to induct on for the company would render me too obnoxious to be considered as others have been on like occasions; many have felt the benefits of such a custom, and when I had done my duty to the company, I thought myself at liberty to accept a present from the nabob, which I am confident can in no shape prove injurious to the company; whilst the settlement of the government was under consideration, I declined every overture that was made; many knew that such were made in Calcutta, and honourably refused. Mr. Spencer, though he afterwards accepted an offer of two lacks from the nabob, refused a previous one of eleven lacks; this offer alone considerably exceeded the whole of what the nabob afterwards gave, and might have been received by Mr. Vereiett, could he have been brought to think it consistent with the interest of the company to have deferred for a short time the settlement of the government affairs. The man who came down from the city to make this offer to Mr. Spencer, waited all on me with the same intent; he told me he had particular business, and despaired to allow his coming to me in a more private manner, which I declined, as I knew his errand, and was resolved not to accept any offer he could make. Again, while I was at the city, offers were repeatedly made me from Nundcomar on the part of the nabob, as well as of himself, which I as oft refused; and as I gave no encouragement
ment to such messages no particular sums were named, but it was said they should be such as would fully satisfy me, if I would but endeavour to keep things in the file they were. And it is certain, if we had let quiet in Calcutta immense fortunes might have been made, could we have brought ourselves to accept them on such terms.

All previous offers having been thus refused, it was intimated to Mahomed Reza Cawn, when the business was all settled, that he might hint to the nabob, that our former objections no longer subsisting, we were ready to receive any marks of his favour, as the nabob's previous offers were a proof of his intent to make presents. These intimations did not seem improper; I know of no arguments being used to make Mahomed Reza Cawn think he would have offended us by declining this; and, if I recollect right, he told us the first motion came from the nabob; when the paper was presented by the nabob, we more than once told him we wanted no such offer if it was not entirely with his own inclination, which he repeatedly assured us it was; and I am confident the gifts to us were the real consequence of custom on like occasions.

Mahomed Reza Cawn made the offer he speaks of, but I did not know that the arguments he mentions were made use of to him; when every thing which regarded Mahomed Reza Cawn appeared settled, I thought there could be no impropriety in my acceptance of his offers; but afterwards, when I recollected that his appointment might one day or other become a matter of contest, I resolved not to give the smallest room for any imputation of my being improperly influenced, and therefore declined accepting a bill of fifty thousand rupees which he lent me down; I never took it into my possession, and as a proof that I did not intend it, I subscribed to the covenants while I had so large a sum in my power; and I could produce letters in testimony of my resolution not to receive it; if Mahomed Reza Cawn has not been properly advised of this my resolution, it has not been owing to any mistake of mine. As to Jugger Seat's, I say that before I left Muxadavid it had been intimated that he was desirous of making a present, and that his father had made presents on like occasions with a view to raise the credit of his house. We had treated Jugger Seat with particular respect and civility, but I saw no reason for such offers; I always understood they came first from him, and I am totally ignorant of the arguments he mentions having been used to induce him to make them. This I know of Jugger Seat's offer, when I returned to Calcutta, and ten thousand rupees for his house was afterwards received on my account; it has always been my opinion, that in a country not under the most absolute tyranny, every man's property was at his own disposal, and everyone was at liberty to accept what was offered without fear or compulsion, the same not being a consideration for improper services: the adopting opposite maxims is contrary to the known practice of those who have gone before us; and though absolute orders, with a penalty annexed, may make the receiving the presents improper and inconvenient, yet they cannot alter the relative privilege of the act itself; and I will venture to appeal to the common sentiments of mankind, which I am persuaded will condemn that man as a very absurd one, who, having an opportunity of obtaining a comfortable maintenance for no dishonourable sacrifice, should decline the occasion.

However, I do not see with what candour or propriety any body can enquire into a circumstance of this kind; if Jugger Seat had been oppressed, he knew, or should be told, that his appeal was to the board. It does not appear he of himself made any such complaint; if leading questions were put, they were improper, he would from thence discover that such an intimation of what he gave would be agreeable; and I would be glad to know if he was not called on to commit these circumstances in writing.

I think the committee did only their duty in laying before the board the nabob's address to them, but that the subsequent measures should have been taken in the presence of and with the concurrence of the board. The committee summoning any person before them to impeach the members of this board, is in my opinion extremely improper.

If any interest of the company has been sacrificed to private views, it is incumbent on every good servant to point out such misconduct; but where presents have not been accepted for any such sacrifice, I am sure it is doing the company no service to be making such minute researches into occurrences of this kind, unless complaints of oppression are first made, and then the enquiry should be as free and open as possible.

It is true that the covenants had arrived before these presents were accepted, which the then governor and council, for reasons they would have assigned to the company, thought proper to defer putting in force. Many instances of a like deviation may be quoted without incurring the displeasure of our honourable matters, as I trust will be the present case.

Since the contests which have prevailed amongst the proprietors at home, the orders from the court of directors have been so fluctuating, that it has really been difficult to collect the sentiments that were to guide our conduct abroad.
APPENDIX. No. 85.

It has been intimated that the covenants were rather the effect of party, than the cool judgment of our masters; and I have heard it was probable, parties would unite in abolishing covenants, that could only injure individuals, and do the company no service. And indeed had these been executed without assurances of the inland trade being put on a proper footing, no man could have honestly got a competence in their service; a strict observance of the order about the inland trade had very materially injured many of our fortunes, and that even at a time when the orders were repeated. We might as well expect the abolishing the covenants; and why, in a second instance, were we to lay ourselves under restrictions unknown to any of our predecessors, at a time when it was possible the very orders for that purpose were revoked. I urge these as arguments which probably might induce the then governor and council not to inform the covenants, and in opposition to the former which some members of the board lay on the supposed breach of those orders; had the authority then submitting thought proper to put them in force, obedience would have been my part; and I believe though the company's orders about the inland trade and taffals, were well known to the servants, that no individual judged them obligatory on himself till the board's orders in consequence were issued.

When the nabob complained of the proceedings of the deputation of this board, it was very proper his letter to the committee should be laid before the board; and the nabob should at the same time have been informed, that the power of confining the members of this board rested only with the president and council, from whom we might expect all possible protection and redress.

Mahomed Reza Cawn should have been examined in presence of the board only, on the nabob's charge of his having distributed, unknown to him, twenty lacs for the purchase of his present employ.

Beyond the charge that there was made, nothing should have been sought for or enquired into. Mahomed Reza Cawn had been led to the mention of circumstances he would with to have concealed; and as well as I can recollect or know, has been mistaken in part of his detail. Where charges are made, justice to the accused and accuser demands an examination; but it should not be the business of any person to be seeking occasions of this kind.

On the whole, if I have received presents, I have sacrificed no interests of the company's in order to obtain them; the presents that were made me, I conceived to be willingly and voluntarily made; if it has been otherwise, the first injury has been done me in not making it known to me. My declining to receive the fifty thousand rupees sent by Mahomed Reza Cawn, from a determination not to give the least room to suppute me in properly influenced, and my refusal of repeated offers made through Nundcomar, are very strong presumptive proofs, that I would not benefit my fortune by any means that I thought could possibly be deemed improper.

R. Lecesier.

Fort William, the 17th June, 1765.

Mr. Lecesler delivers in the following further minute on the proceedings of the feale committee of the 7th and 8th instant.

The proceedings of the feeel committee of the 7th, wherein the evidence of one Mootyram is recited, would seem to imply a supposed collusion in my refusal of Mahomed Reza Cawn's bill for Rs. 50,000, which obliges me to remark further, that I firmly believe the man was never authorised to deliver the message mentioned, but to return the bill unconditionally into the hands of Mahomed Reza Cawn. Nothing ever passed between me and Mootyram, Buffuntroy, or any of his people, on the subject of this bill; but I did imagine it had been received back by Mahomed Reza Cawn.

No such conversation as mentioned in Mahomed Reza Cawn's narrative, No. 1, ever passed in my presence. I have already declared myself ignorant of the arguments related in Mahomed Reza Cawn's narrative, No. 2, having been used to induce him to make presents. I always believed his offer came first from himself; but as much seems laid on the bill's having been tendered by Mootyram the day before this narrative was laid before the board, I must observe that I know not of such bills having been issued by Mahomed Reza Cawn till the fifth May; that on the 9th I signed the covenants, and on the 15th I wrote to a gentleman at Coffinbazar, that if the whole of the nabob's offer had not been paid, none was to have been received after that day, a proof that I would not have been guilty of a breach of them; and it is evident I had not received the bill in question. On the 22d, I wrote to the same gentleman in the following words:

You know the objections I made at Muxadabah to receive a present from the quarter you mention; they appear as strong as ever; for though it would not in the least bias
my conduct, I would not put it in any body's power to suppose a view to it could have had influence in the choice of Mahomed Reza Cawn, whose abilities and character were my sole inducement for willing to have so large a share of the government under him. The draft you mention was sent down; but I decline the acceptance of it, though I have yet been silent to Mahomed Reza Cawn, lest he should apprehend, from my res- fusion at this time, a resolution to forfake him, as is a common notion in this country: I have not a thought, however, to accept it.

The bill had never been put into my hands, nor in the hands of any of my people. The person who acquainted me that Mootyram had such, was defied to direct him to return them; and, as I never heard more of them, I did believe Mahomed Reza Cawn had possession of them, till his narrative was laid before the board.

I must particularly remark on the minute entered on close of the committee proceedings of the by desire of Mahomed Reza Cawn, That I never heard him mention a syllable about a present from himself; that I never knew he asked if the present he proposed was to be a general affair, or if the other gentlemen of council were to have a share; or that he was answered, This must be for us; let them look to themselves. He says the deputies made this reply; I declare, I never knew of such question, or such reply.

I had heard the nabob intended presents; but I knew not the sum allotted me till Mahomed Reza Cawn presented the paper, by order of the nabob, who, I conceived, had himself assigned that particular sum.

There is no one circumstance collected through the whole of their inquiries, which I knew of, that I would not have communicated, had I been properly called on; and though the disagreeable terms, in which it has been endeavoured to disclose the secret of these presents, of which no secret was made, has obliged me to instil particularly on my declining to accept Mahomed Reza Cawn's bill, yet, considering the manner and time it was offered to me, I should not have thought the acceptance any ways dishonourable.

As nothing passed personally between me and the Seals, so as to make me quite positive that the present he made was with his own inclinations, though I never before had a doubt of it; and as the messages said to be delivered by Mootyram implies some unwillingness on his part; I acquaint the board, that my intention was, to order back to the Seals house what was thence received on my account, and am ready to make oath, that I was totally ignorant of the message said to be delivered to the Seals on this subject.

The declarations I have already made, touching this matter, and my declining to accept Mahomed Reza Cawn's bill for 50,000 rupees, which I might, if I had chose, been this moment in possession of, will, I shall presume, sufficiently evince the rectitude of my intentions through the whole of this transaction.

R. Leycester.

Messrs. Playdell and Gray also enter the following minutes on the whole of the proceedings on the same subject.

Observing my name inserted, with other gentlemen, in a paper laid before the board the 7th instant, containing a list of several sums of money the nabob complains have been distributed by Mahomed Reza Cawn without his knowledge amongst different gentlemen, as I am entirely ignorant of such unjust measures having been taken, and cannot suppose it to be true, I desire to vindicate my own character, and clear myself of such an allegation, by declaring I knew nothing of the matter until informed by a gentleman of the board, that it was the nabobs intentions to make the council a present; and, as I understood this was entirely the free will of the nabobs, I, on that account, received what was sent me, knowing it to be on no other footing whatever.

C’s. Sd. Playdell.

Mr. Gray's name being inserted in the paper laid before the board by the president, on the 7th instant, relative to presents from the nabob, he solemnly declares, that no request or solicitation was made on his part to obtain any present or gratification whatever; nor was he informed that a present was intended, till it was actually tendered. He further affirms the board, he would not have accepted of it, had he not been fully satisfied it flowed from the nabobs free inclination. He knew not of, and never should have contended to have used persuasion, far left threats, to obtain presents from any person, and he has all along entertained too good an opinion of the members of this board, to suppose any of them capable of such an underhand proceeding. However, if allegations of this nature are laid to the charge of any, they cannot affect those gentlemen who, being in Calcutta, could have no opportunity of using improper means to acquire presents; and that they did not, appears very evidently from what Mahomed Reza Cawn observes in the latter part of his declaration to the select committee.
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It can never be thought, that for this gratification, he gave up a single advantage he could have acquired for the honourable company. He was a member of that board who procured an additional yearly revenue of eighty lacs of rupees to the poiffessions they held before; making, with these, in all, at least one million eight hundred thousand pounds sterling, per annum. Had the gentlemen of council been disposed to spare the nabob in his aflignments, he would have given them much larger sums, and no complaints would have made their appearance.

Certain, therefore, that what he received was the effect of the nabob's free will, he perceived no impropriety in benefiting by his Excellency's bounty, on an occasion where former precedents have warranted the acceptance, and where his confidence could not tax him with the smallest breach of the trust reposed in him by his employers. It is true, the covenants had come to hand some time before Mr. Gray's arrival from Madura; but they had not been executed by any of the board, all of whom concurred in deeming them the greatest severity the honourable company could impose on their servants, and agreed to write home a remonflance to our employers, setting forth the particular hardship, not doubting but, on a due representation, they would repeal them: This they were encouraged to hope from several instances of orders detrimental to the company's servants having been reversed on a proper application. However, the attention of the board being deeply engaged on the transactions subsequent to the late nabob's death, the taking the covenants into consideration was postponed, and never referred till Lord Clive's arrival. Mr. Gray confidered the covenants as meant to be a check upon fraud, or rendering the government services with a view of some pecuniary gratification, without confidering the company's advantage. But, in laying this reftriction on tho' they might sufpeet base enough to betray their trust for a bribe, they have also cut off from their honest and faithful servants of the present flanding, the advantages which were enjoyed without reftriction ty those of former times; a particular of severity with which Mr. Gray cannot believe the honourable company meant to frighten or to diftrust the present lot of servants; for our employers must enten a reprehensible opinion of us, if they believe the reftRAINT of confience, heretofore considered a sufficient eye on the conduct of our predecessors in the service, is not enough to bind our hands from doing them injustice; and to cut off from their servants every source of benefit which their service affords, is surely diftrusten them in the severest degree. The salt and inland trade was some time ago very beneficial; but the company believing it was a principal occasion of, although he is convinced it was in fact only a pretext for, the war with Mir Coffin, seem determined to reduce it and deprive us of that source. The foreign Marine trade was once a fund of advantage to the company's servants, but that was before Sujarja Dowla's war, when commerce flourished both in Bengal and in the Marts abroad; since that time, the internal communions in which these countries, wherein the principal part of our trade used to be carried on, as well as Bengal itself, have been involved, have rendered that branch to very precarious, that voyages miscarry as often as succeed; and the company's servants, especially those station'd at subordinate factories, labour under particular inconvenience in this trade; for through want of time and opportunity to apply to it properly, and to inform themselves of every requisite for carrying it on, the free merchants have the greatest advantage over them. The latter are at liberty to proceed on their voyages, and can themselves dispose of, or purchase, goods to the left account at the foreign markets, thereby saving many charges, as well as devoting that care and attention to their own concerns which can scarcely be expected from agents, whom we are under the necessity of employing: Very different was the situation of the gentlemen of the service in that period he has mentioned, from the present; secure in their perions and properties, and enjoying a profound tranquility, they saw the profits of their trade coming in regularly to them; but ever since Mr. Gray has had the honour to serve the company, there has been almost a constant series of warfare in Bengal; he has been witness to two revolts, wherein the greatest part of his most intimate friends have fallen the unfortunate victims of Moorish barbarity; at both times, his life in such imminent danger, that he can attribute his escape from the unhappy fate that attended his fellow-servants, to the interposition of Providence alone; his property seized by the rapacious relentless enemy; his circumstances brought to the lowest brink of ruin, not only by the loss of his own fortune; but also by the accumulation of a heavy debt taken up in the course of his trade, for which he was answerable, without the means left to discharge it; his health destroyed by the fatigues and hardships he underwent, and himself reduced to the utmost distress and misery, as well as alienation from the sufferings of those held most dear to him, as from the consideration of his own misfortunes; the very idea of what he has endured, shocks his recollection, and the particulars of his situation, and the vicissitudes to which he has been subjected, have painted forth independence to him in two defirable colours to admit of his self-denial, when he can obtain it without the least deviation from that integrity and fidelity to the interest of
of his employers, which he has ever made the rule of his conduct; nor could it have been expected, that whilst his hands were not tied up by those covenants to which his will did not consent, and which, though ordered, he did not conceive to be so positively enjoined as totally to exclude all exploitation, and even without any penalty in case of refusal; from whence it might be inferred, the company would not insist on their execution, if their servants were from reasonable motives averse from them. Under these circumstances, Mr. Gray says, it could not be expected, that he would reject a present offered to his hands from a government that could very well afford it; he considered it as some compensation for his sufferings, as well as for the deficiency in his lofes, not made up by the public retribution; for, although it is true, that after our enemies were drove out of the provinces, retribution was allowed for the damages we had sustained, yet it was on a footing that still left the sufferers considerable losses; the goods plundered or destroyed were rated at the prime co$t and charges, and a very unequivalent advance for risk, with an allowance of ten per cent. on the whole for interest.

This valuation of the goods was very short of the price they would have sold at, and the allowance was less than a third part of the real interest; for it is now above three years that we have laid out of our money, and but one year's interest is given. He means not here to blame those gentlemen who stipulated the terms of this retribution, for he thinks the whole of our losses was more than the nabob could then bear to discharge; but he states the case fairly between the government and himself; and if what he has lost by them be compared to what is set down to his account, in the end he would have to receive a balance.

On the whole, Mr. Gray, deprived, as he believed, of the only trade by which he could raise any benefit, and unprovided for by the honourable company with an allowance adequate to his necessary expences, accepted of the present offered him, on conviction it was entirely consistent both with his duty and the honour. He hopes that what he has urged will prove satisfactory to his employers, and procure him their content and approbation.

George Gray.

Mr. Burdett likewise enters the following minute:

As Mr. Playdell and Mr. Gray have thought it necessary to clear up their characters from the imputation of having extorted presents from the nabob, I likewise beg leave to inform the board that I looked upon the 50,000 rupees sent me as a voluntary gift from the nabob, and in such light only I received it; the manner in which it was paid will I presume sufficiently exculpate me from that heavy charge of extortion. I cannot look upon myself as culpable in receiving presents before the covenants were signed; so far from it, I must ingenuously confess, that had ten times the sum been offered in the same manner I received the first, and my covenants not signed, I should without the least scruple have received it, well satisfied that I was doing no more than those who came before me; nor should I then have acknowledged the power of any committee to array my conduct, unless they shewed me a special power for that purpose from those whom I esteem my masters.

John Burdett.

Mr. Johnston having agreeably to his application received the copies of the whole proceedings, sends in his answer to them in the following minute:

The select committee have been pleased to lay before the board several narratives of Mahomed Reza Cawn and Juggeftect, touching presents that have been made to fundry gentlemen by the nabob, and which in their proceedings they call evidence of the greatest consequence.

As no complaint was made, either before or now to the board, by either Mahomed Reza Cawn, Juggeftect, or the nabob, against the gentlemen therein mentioned, that any unfair means or compulsion had been used towards obtaining these presents, nor any redress found for, I am at a loss to know whose suit I am to reply to, or to whom as judges I am accountable. The nabob's addresses and letters to the select committee, accusing Mahomed Reza Cawn of having given away without his knowledge twenty lacs of money and goods to different people to secure him in his naidship; this was laid before the board, and it refied with Mahomed Reza Cawn to disprofe this, and to shew he had suffered no money against the nabob's inclination, but with his content and order under his hand and seal.

The committee however, assuming as it would appear the office of inquisitors, call upon Mahomed Reza Cawn to declare before them on oath, not only to the matter laid against him, but whatever else he knew, or they pleased to ask, touching his own concerns; from him overawed by the opinion of their supreme power, on which his poet and honours depends, and that nothing of consequence now reds with the council, they extort what they call evidence of the greatest consequence.

Juggeftect in like manner, without having made any complaint of oppriffion, compulsion, or any injury being done his business, is now called upon for his evidence on his observation of messages being delivered; they being sent as represented is false, and
can never be proved. The committee would ground a charge of which they would become the judges, and are themselves the complainants.

To support these evidences thus procured, Mooteram, who is mentioned as the person entrusted by the gentlemen, is arrested at Calcutta by a party of sepoys, confined close prisoner in his house under a sergeant's guard, with all the terror attending a man already convicted and condemned of capital offences; thence he is brought next day with his military guards attending him, and ignorant of our laws and rights, obliged, contrary to all law, to swear that he will answer all the questions they shall please to put to him, whether to get him to betray the confidence they imagine may have been repzed in him, or that tend to condemn himself.

Buffuntroy, his duan, supposed also entrusted by Mooteram, is in like manner seized by sepoys, and under this terror and confusion hurried before his accusers and judges, and obliged to give evidence on oath to all questions put to him to betray the secrets of his master, or make against himself.

Had Mooteram been accused of any capital crime, or of having done any thing contrary to law, if subject to be tried by the laws of our country, under the English flag, and by Englishmen acting with a lawful authority as his judges, we premise in an open and public manner, he ought to have had his indictment, and been allowed counsel, a liberty never denied to any under the protection of the English government, and who has like him a house and family within their land, instead of being shut up, and denied communication with any but with his menial servants; counsel was allowed Ramchurn, and I believe to others tried before the honourable board, and Nundcomar was promised an open and fair trial.

Mooteram, though he is in the present employ of the nabob, has his house and family in the company's district, and under the company's protection, in whose service he has been for many years. He is not impeached by the nabob, nor any charge laid against him in particular that appears; but if he were, a fair trial, had the nabob submitted him to the committee as his judges, was what he had a right to expect, and that he should not be thus compelled by force, imprisonment, and fear of his life and honour, to give evidence that might make against himself, or in order to be brought as a proof against any subject of British, and enjoying the rights and protection of her laws and liberties. I do therefore for myself object to and deny such evidence, and enter my solemn protest against every matter or evidence that has been and shall be obtained from either Mahomed Reza Cawn, Jugguttfeet, Mooteram, Buffunt Roy, or any other person where such undue influence, unlawful means, and violence has been or shall be used to get them to declare or to answer on oath to all queries that should be put to them while under restraint, imprisonment, and fear; and that I will answer to no charge or imputation found on such.

I think it proper however to declare, and am ready to take my oath, that I never did authorize Mooteram or any other person to ask presents of Jugguttfeet in improper or unlawful terms, or by any threats or intimations that his business should otherwise meet the smallest impediment or obstruction from us; and that no compulsion or violence was with my knowledge ever made use of or intended, to induce him to give any presents.

If the nabob, Mahomed Reza Cawn and Jugguttfeet had ever complained of themselves, and could prove that I had by force or threats extorted, or by unfair means obtained presents from them; or if it could be shewn wherein I neglected or sacrificed the company's interest, and the business I was intrusted with on this occasion, with a view to such consideration; or that I did not support it to the utmost of my power, or had done or promised any dishonourable service; I should then have thought it incumbent on me, and readily would have put myself on my defence and justified my conduct agreeably to the laws of my country, and the constitution of the company. But when I see the honour and credit of the council trampered upon, infomuch that not one man belonging to the country government of distinction, since the committee were formed, and dared to receive or pay visits from or to the members of the council, from a notion that has been propagated that they have now no authority, and are made dependants on the committee; when the select committee usurp authority they have no right to; where I see force and violence take the place of law and liberty; where military guards and imprisonment appear, and to overawe and extort evidence; I must beg leave to decline for the present to plead my cause before a tribunal and judges whose laws and rights we know not the bounds of, and whose powers the president has declared is what their own will shall think fit to assign, or in words to the same purport.

It seems the aim of the committee to render the proceedings of the late president and council if possible obnoxious, instead of striving to promote the cordiality so much to be wished. To what caucls must we attribute this temper of the committee; one would almoft think they were piqued to find the interest of the company so well secured before their arrival; only they must know that their coming at all was doubtful, and the gentlemen who had felt the defects of the former treaty, were fully as well qualified to remedy them in the new one; and have no doubt their matters will approve their services. I had heard that the governor has expressed much
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Chagrin that the affair of his Jaghire has been settled according to his agreement with the company without his interposition, though a better opportunity could not have occurred to get it done. Mr. Spencer, than whose merit none stands in a fairer light with the company was, if I may so call him, the darling of that party which in England opposed Lord Clive and the gentleman of the committee; any attack on him or his measures is an attack upon the party who espoused him; and though I would not affert that any such sentiments influence any member of the board, yet I cannot help being surprised at the uncommon neglect and disregard shewn to Mr. Spencer by Lord Clive, though he joined with the board in thanks to Mr. Spencer for the zeal he had shewn for the company's welfare. I cannot help in this place noticing the late treatment of Nundecomar; the board, before the change in our administration, had such strong reason to suspeet Nundecomar of ill designs against our government, and ill advising the nabob, that it was thought of the utmost importance to have no dangerous a person immediately removed from him. He was accordingly sent down and confined in Calcutta, and witnesses were summoned from Patna and other places to support that charge; notwithstanding this resolution of the board, he was immediately allowed access to the nabob on his arrival at Calcutta, without any reasons being assigned to the board for a conduct so directly opposite to their sentiments, and I think they should be strong ones to justify so extraordinary a deviation. The witnesses too have been returned without any trial or examination that we yet know of; and now again I find it has been deemed expedient to forbid Nundecomar access to the nabob. These inconsiderabilities I shall with to see accounted for, more particularly as I think the sentiments of a former administration on such a subject merited more consideration and respect; and I must further remark, that though the gentleman of the committee, from his long absence from India, could not possibly be at first proper judges of the company's affairs and interests; they have never on any occasion consulted with, or asked the sentiments of the board. With regard to presents in general, we have the approved example of the president Lord Clive himself for our guide, who though this nabob's father's princely bounty on his coming to the government, had made his fortune easy, and the company's welfare his only motive for staying in India, yet acknowledges his having made use of the influence of Juggeett to apply for a Jagheer, which, though amounting to 30,000l. per annum, was not thought improper by him to accept of, even in the circumstances of distress he then represented the old nabob to have been in, his life twice saved from his troops mutinying for their arrears, only by the use of our arms, and large balances then due to the company, which were not at all paid till after the revolution 1760.

The committee have been at great pains to lay open to the public what sums have been paid to the gentlemen of the deputation and council on this occasion. We think it will appear strange however, that what they have received alone should be scrutinised into with such fervent zeal, while the sums that were bestowed on others now and heretofore not also specified; these by the same methods that the committee have proceeded may doubtless be obtained. The arresting and confining under guards those entrusted and employed on the occasion; they appeal to the world if Ramchurn Rao, who his lordship certified served him entirely to his satisfaction; if Coja Petruft, Mukheleen Mudhi, Nundecomar, or any other of those able conveyancers, were to be seized, and confined close prisoners, and made to answer whether they willed or not on oath to every question that a future committee or governor and council should put to them, as to the sums their matters have received; or if the books of the nabob's treasy, from the time that the Meer Jaffier got the government, down to this day, were to be referred to as proof, as they have been now by Mahomed Reza Cawn, whether those gentlemen who have hitherto raised immense fortunes by the nabob's bounty and treasy, would think themselves well tried by such violence and force used on those that were entrusted by them, or by a retrospect and scrutiny into their proceedings, where no complaint has been offered by the people who were alone concerned to make it against them, or whether we should have much cause to be ashamed by such a contrast.

We should be glad to know what gentlemen in the military or civil, from colonel Clive down to this day, that have had the opportunity, and have not received prebends while in their power, and no duty in opposition to it; we do not infer they were improperly biased by it, or that there was any thing in the receiving of those customary acknowledgments dishonourable, the cullion of the country, and the example of men of the best characters sanctify it; but I beg leave to compare in some respects our proceeding and that of some who now so rigorously, and with so much violence call our conduct in question. At the same time the rupture with Serajah Dowla, and the settling up Meer Jaffier Aly Kawn; I proceeded to Mr. Spencer in the station of Persian translator for carrying on the correspondence with the country government, under Lord Clive: Mr. Lutlilngton was appointed to affit under me; I continued in this office for some months, and wrote the very last letter that was sent to Serajah Dowla, informing of our setting out to meet him.

During this period Mr. Scrafton returned from the city with the secret negotiations concerted with Meer Jaffier Aly Kawn; it was thought to contain matters too delicate
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for me to be entrapped with, but my assistant was called in, and he, with the rest of the committee took their oaths of secrecy. I appeal to those gentlemen if it was not then that the terms of the treaty with Meer Jaffier Aly Kawn was adjourned, and that the sums agreed for the secret committee, as well as for the other accounts, were settled before the army was ordered to move.

The day the troops embarked I was told by Colonel Clive to return and do my duty in the artillery; I did, and I believe was the only person that had acted under the colonel during that negotiation that was afterwards omitted in the nabob's private bounty when the affair was crowned with success. Mr. Scrafton, who supplanted me, from being not worth a shilling, got a fortune; Mr. Lullingston, my assistant, had 30,000 rupees, with numbers of others of the colonel's friends, who as well as himself became easy in their fortunes from the bounty of that very nabob, who it was reported could not find money in the treasury, to pay the sums publicly stipulated for the company, restitution, navy, and army, to be paid on his being put in possession, but the half deferred to be paid within a term of three years, and by assignments at last on the revenues of the provinces. This affected the army and navy in the discount they were necessitated on this pretext to allow the company for advancing their shares in ready money; the restitution sufferers lost the interest and advantage they would have had of their money if then paid, besides running the risk of never receiving part of it at all; and the company depended on the success of the war for three years to secure their balance.

After we had executed the service we were sent upon in behalf of the company, without any promise or prospect of reward, while the nabob was under no incumbrances, was not behind in the Kiflungsuks for the army or restitution, Laxaks lying in his treasury in Calcutta, let the world judge whether we might receive presents, or his lordship and friends sums infinitely larger, eight years ago, and the Jagheer afterwards, with the greatest propriety.

The gentlemen who made the treaty with Meer Coffin, claim some merit in having then rejected his offer, which was not to have been disbur aged till the deaths Jaffier Aly Kawn left still owing to the company, and the arrears to the troops were paid, yet I never heard any of these gentlemen pretend they would not receive it afterwards, nor can some of them, I believe, say they did not.

I think then, I may apply the noble lord's own observation, that I believe it would have appeared absurd, after so many years services, after having risked my life so often, and, let me add, after the reverses I have lately experienced, had I refused this only honourable opportunity that ever was likely to offer of becoming independent, and to have trusted to the future kind offices of Lord Clive.

At the same time the nabob conferred these favours on us, there was a demand on him for the money of the Jagheer, which the nabob had received since the company stopped the payment of it to Lord Clive. In regard to this, some observations have occurred to me, which I have not yet heard solved. The copies of the Devanee Sunnud of the nabob Meer Mahomed Scadue Kawn, which was given to the deputies from the secretary's office, takes notice, that, in consequence of the nabob Jaffier Aly Kawn having signed on the Furd Sunu, the Furd Huckekeet and Mutchulca had also been signed to. Now these five papers are all connected and annexed to one another, the Sunnud, Dervannee Jakheer, Furd Sunu, Furd Huckekeet, and Mutchulca. The Furd Sunu represents, that Sabut Jung, Colonel Clive, having been honoured with the rank of 20,000 and 5,000 horve, and having now a formidable force ready for the King's service, the expense of which he could not defray for want of a Jagheer, hopes the nabob's pleasure may be signified, whether on condition of giving a Mutchulca for procuring the King's Sunnud, and adjusting the doul or terms until these should arrive, he should receive the sum of 223,958. to, the rents of that Jagheer of the Nazim.

The Mutchulca of the Varqueld of Sabut Jung expresses fully the terms on which this assignment on the Athais o Calcutta, &c., was, as it is, to be received as a Wudah referring to the rents of the Jagheer of the Nazim, and as an Elmaun referring to the Calis Lands, on condition of answering for all that should be collected therefrom, unless he obtained the King's Sunnud, and delivered it into the Devanee Duf tore, within six months, and adjusted the Doul of the Jagheer. Now, though there appears a translation of the nabob's Purswannah to the president and council, for paying the rents of the Jagheer to Lord Clive, 1758, yet I cannot say that I have any where met with the transcripts of any of the above papers except the Sunnud Devanee, though they form of a nature to fit his lordship's claim to that Jagheer in a very different light to what it must have appeared when the Mutchulca or obligation and Furd Sunu were not considered, and when the King's Sunnud and Doul, or terms of the Jagheer, are therein expressed as being absolutely requisite to be procured to make it valid, and which I never have yet heard were of gained.

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Though I had the satisfaction to find my conduct in the trials committed to my charge approved of, in repeated letters from the board here, and my services recommended home in terms very favourable to our honourable masters, who have likewise expressed their pleasure for my attention to their interests, yet, from every circumstance and proceeding, there seems a predetermination in the committee to injure my character and ruin my fortune, I cannot, considering the rank of credit I have hitherto supported as a member of the council, resolve to submit to further indignities, or to act in a station now become of so little consequence in the eyes and opinion of every body. The committee, instead of aiming to extenuate the supposed offence, that is done in courts of justice where the greatest criminals are arraigned, have evidently strove to aggravate every circumstance that they would endeavour to charge upon me, even in regard to the bills, which I alleged, and do maintain, were ordered to be given back to Mohomed Reza Cawn, after we had signed the covenants unconditionally, though, had we chose, we might have received their amounts long before. The obvious question was never put to Mootyram, whether he had ever informed me, that Mohomed Reza Cawn had refused to receive them; and whether, on the contrary, he had not informed me repeatedly that they were given back?

The very night before Mootyram's arrest, and his being confined, he brought me a message from Mohomed Reza Cawn, defiring I would lend him 50,000 rupees to pay in on account his Dacca rents for Lord Clive's Jagheer money, and the answer I returned was, Why did he not use the money of the bills that were given back? Though the examination of those they would make witnesses was in a language in which none of the gentlemen of the committee are at all perfect, and that it must have been of the greatest consequence to be certain that all the questions and answers were strictly and fully rendered, and that whatever was offered or said by the prisoners, in the terror and confusion they were in, should be taken down in their own words, especially as expressions in this language so often admit of interpretations that may be rendered for or against; yet Mootyram and Buffontroy, were confronted with Mohomed Reza Cawn and Juguffeejets were first called upon to compose their narrative. I must observe too, with how little candour the seelat committee have related their proceedings. In that of the one 7th they mention, that Buffontroy was ordered to be seized and brought before them; and in their proceedings of the 8th, in regard to Mootyram, who was expected to be so principal an evidence, they say he is only ordered to be sent for; no notice is taken that he had been seized the day before by a serjeant party of seapoy, and was kept prisoner, with three centrs over him, without liberty of seeing any but his military servants, as if they purposely evaded the assoal of such unwarrentable acts. He still continues to this day in the same close confinement, as also Buffontroy, under military guard; and under these circumstances, Lord Clive proposed in council he might be called and examined, as if such treatment was not sufficient to deter any black man from retreating, however much inclined, whatever he might have said before, false or contradictory, where he could not but expect that retreating would draw on him still more disgrace and unhappy consequences. The sufferings of Mootyram point out too plainly what others have to expect from such arbitrary power, and seem well calculated to excite every accusation that can possibly be forged together from such selfish disappointed men, against the gentlemen who have had the administration, and managed the affairs of the company with so much credit and success.

I cannot avoid taking notice of another instance, to shew how much it has been the aim of the president to render me cheap and of no consequence in the eyes of the very country people. When I presided as chief, even the interest of the company required that respect should be kept up. The board having long since established a chief and council for the management of collectors, and conducting the business of the Bardwan district, and all orders have hitherto been influenced to them from the public department, and all accounts, balances, remittances, &c. made by them to the board, and all accounts and orders have been, since the establishment of the chief and council, sent from the president or the board to the Rajah, but whatever concerned the business has been constantly addressed from the board to them only. This branch of the company's business, which has little connection with the business of the committee as investments at the fortunates, or the lands of Calcutta, Chittagong, or Midnapore, they have taken under their jurisdiction, and without once desiring to make the least enquiry of me in any one point, though here present, or even consulting the board, or examining a paper or public account. A letter is wrote from the president to the Rajah, demanding 7,90,000, as the balance due from him, requiring it to be paid in seven days, otherwise should stand to the consequences, for he would hear no excuse. The balance, according to a statement which I gave Mr. Sumner, to the end of March last, supposing the revenue 1763 to be flated at 34 laks, to which the Rajah never agreed, and this year at 32 laks, it appears, that, from the beginning of our proceedings to the end of March there is due only about 3 laks in the receipts of large a sum as 142,85,284 rupees. The accounts of the several years will shew clear enough under whole management the business has been left kept up, and most rents collected. This Rajah
Rajah has not the power remaining with him of recovering the balances due from the farmers, but through the gentlemen superintending the collections, and I believe the balances outstanding may amount to 14, or 16 lacs, the cash account will show the receipts and disbursements of whatever money has been collected. Notwithstanding these circumstances, and that the Rajah receives at the rate of about 22,000 rupees, per month from the cash, he has not sent the balance due out of his own private allowance, but represented these circumstances. My Lord Clive, without consulting the board, or saying a word to the chief, ordered him down at the very time he ought have been there prudent to make Punja, which is not made yet. By the same rule, he may extend his authority, and send for every Zemindar at Madnapore or Chittagong, and to all that are the company's debtors at every subordinate factory. Since the Rajah arrived in Calcutta, which is about fifteen days, he has not even dared to visit me, apprehending that guards might be put upon him, after the example of Mootiram. With what credit could I now pretend to return to that factory again, where I must be considered of so little consequence, that even those placed under me dare not come near me for fear of his Lordship's displeasure.

I observe, Mahomed Reza Cawn has thought proper to include Mr. Carter amongst those he has named partaking in the presents from the nabob. It is true, I did mention to Mahomed Reza Cawn my wishes that the nabob might shew the marks of his favour to Mr. Carter, a gentleman every way so worthy of it, and meriting so well of his family; but this, in justice to that gentleman, I must declare, was without his knowledge. Mahomed Reza Cawn said he would take some opportunity of hinting it to the nabob, but he never informed me what he had done in the affair.

I shall at all times be ready to give every satisfaction, in every part of my transactions, whether pecuniary or otherwise, to every candid enquirer, as it is well known, I have done on former occasions. But as, from the tenor of the proceedings of the idéal committee, I cannot but consider them as my avowed enemies, I am resolved no longer to continue in the service, while they have the lead, and usurp the whole power into their own hands, and do accordingly now resign the company's employ, expressing my warmest wishes for the constant success of the affairs, and with most grateful thanks for their favour, during the fifteen years I have devoted myself to their service, not doubting that I shall be able to satisfy them and the unprejudiced, as to the propriety and legality of my actions, and of my steady and inviolate regard for their interest on every occasion.

John Johnston.

17th June, 1765.

This minute having been perused, the members of the committee desire the board will meet to-morrow, that Mootiram may be examined in council on the evidences he gave before them.

Ordered,

That the secretary do acquaint Mr. Johnston, that he is permitted to resign the service.

Port William, the 18th June, 1765.

At a Consultation: PRESENT,

The Right Honourable Robert, Lord Clive, President,
William Brightwell Sumner, Charles Stafford Playdel, 
Harry Vereeff, Francis Sykes, Ralph Leycester, 
John Burdett, George Gray, Esquires.

The board being met agreeable to the desire of the idéal committee, then minuted, that Mootiram might be examined in their presence, on the evidence he gave to the committee, touching the pecuniary distributions lately made at the city, he was accordingly called before them, and his examination taken through the interpreter in the different courts, who was particularly sworn on this occasion, as was Mootiram also again.

On reading to him separately the several parts of his evidence to the committee, he literally confirmed the whole of it, except in the following particulars.

To the first question, What did you say to Mahomed Reza Cawn, about flapping the buffests of the seers, unless they complied with the demand? he answered to the same purport as to the committee, but made use only of the term Cootch Boolega Ny, for what is rendered by the committee meeting with no protection or countenance; whereupon the committee observed, that he indifferently and repeatedly made use of both the expressions Cootch Sycur riga Ny, and Boolega Ny.

In his answer to the subsequent question, he now differed, saying, that Juggutfec r made no offer of rings or jewels, but told them only, that as far as twenty or five and twenty thousand rupees he would comply; that Mahomed Aly Cawn then said, that would not do; and Juggutfec replied, that he would then speak to Mahomed Reza Cawn himself; and that when he went to him, he promised the sum of 50,000 rupees.

To the question, Was it of your own accord, or was you ordered to tell Mahomed Reza Cawn, that if Sects complied with the demand, their balances should be protected, otherwife it would have no countenance or encouragement? he confirmed his answer to the committee, using only the same expression already remarked.

The examination having been concluded.
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Mr. Leycester desired the following question might be put to Mooktram:

If when Mr. Johnston related to him the reasons why he thought the Sects might make presents, whether he ordered him to mention them to Mahomed Reza Cawn, and to desire Mahomed Reza Cawn would urge them to the Sects? which being put to him accordingly, he replied, That Mr. Johnston did tell him to express himself to Mahomed Reza Cawn in the same terms which Mr. Johnston did to him.

Mr. Leycester, in addition to the several minutes already entered in vindication of his conduct, on the subject of this inquiry, and agreeably to the intimation in the close of the last, desired further to take the following oath, which was accordingly administered to him by the president; viz,

I swear that I am totally ignorant of the messages said to be delivered by Mooktram to the Sects. So help me God.

(Signed)
Ralph Leycester.
Clive, Wm. B. Somner,
H. Verelst, Francis Sykes,
Ralph Leycester, J. Burdett,
George Gray.

No. 86.

To the Honourable Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honourable United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies,

Honourable Sirs,

1. The accompanying proceedings of the select committee will explain our motive of purchasing the Admiral Stephens to convey to your hands these dispatches which, we hope, will be deemed of sufficient importance to merit any extraordinary expense thereby incurred; an expense which, we flatter ourselves, will be fully defrayed by the valuable cargo the carries home at this early season.

2. By the general letter of this date you will be informed by the president and council of every material concern that has been transferred before the board. At the same time, we beg leave to refer to the letters dispatched by the Vanfitrar and Bute, whereof duplicates are now included, for a detail of the military operations, political occurrences, and especially the very important transactions previous to our arrival, and subsequent to the death of Meer Jaffier: an event that furnished the most glorious opportunity of establishing your influence and power, on so solid a basis as must soon have rendered the English East India company the most potent commercial body that ever flourished at any period of time.

3. It is from a due sense of the regard we owe and profess to your interest, and to our own honour, that we think it indispensably necessary to lay open to your view a series of transactions too notoriously known to be suppressed, and too affecting to your interest, to the national character, and to the existence of the company in Bengal, to escape unnoticing and unconfined; transactions which seem to demonstrate that every spring of this government was inoculated with corruption, that principles of incapacity and oppression, universally prevailed, and that every spark of sentiment and public spirit was lost and extinguished in the unbounded lust of unmerited wealth.

4. To illustrate these positions, we must exhibit to your view a most unsparing variety of complaints, inquiries, evidences, accusations, and vindications, the particulars of which are entered in our proceedings and the appendix, affuring you that we undertake this task with peculiar reluctance from the personal regard we entertain for some of the gentlemen whose characters will appear to be deeply affected.

5. At Fort St. George, we received the first advices of the demise of Meer Jaffier, and of Shyjah Dowla's defeat. It was there firmly imagined that no definitive measures would be taken, either in respect to a peace, or filling the vacancy in the Nizamut, before our arrival, as the Lapwing arrived in the month of January with our general letter, and the appointment of a committee, with express powers to that purpose, for the succeful exertion of which the happiest occasion now offered. However, a contrary resolution prevailed in the council. The opportunity of acquiring immense fortunes, was too inviting to be neglected, and the temptation too powerful to be resisted. A treaty was hastily drawn up by the board, or rather transcribed, with few unimportant additions, from that concluded with Meer Jaffier; and a deputation, consisting of Messrs. Johnston, Senior, Middleton, and Leycester, appointed to raise the natural sum of the deceased nabob to the Subahdary, in prejudice of the claim of the grandson; and for this measure two reasons are assigned as ought to have dictated a diametrically opposite resolution. Mira's son was a minor, which circumstance alone would have naturally brought the whole administration into our hands, at a juncture when it became indispensably nece-
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fary we should realize that shadow of power and influence, which, having no solid foundation, was expoed to the danger of being annihilated by the first stroke of adverse fortune; but this insensitivity was not regarded; nor was it material to the views for precipitating the treaty, which was prefixed on the young nabob, at the first interview, in so earnest and indecent a manner as highly disgusted him, and chagrined his ministers; while not a single rupee was stipulated for the company, whose interests were sacrificed that their servants might revel in the actuals of a treaty, before impoverished, but now totally exhausted.

6. This scene of corruption was first disclosed at a visit the nabob paid to Lord Clive and the gentlemen of the committee, a few days after our arrival. He then delivered to his lordship a letter filled with bitter complaints of the insults and indignities he had been exposed to, and the embarrasment of near 20 lacks of rupees issued from his treasury, for purposes unknown, during the late negotiations. So public a complaint could not be disregarded, and it soon produced an enquiry. We referred the letter to the board, in expectation of obtaining a satisfactory account of the application of this money, and were answered only by a warm remonstrance entered by Mr. Leycester against that very nabob, in whose elevation he boasts of having been a principal agent.

7. Mahomed Reza Cawn, the Naib Subah, was then called upon to account for this large diminution from the treasury; and he soon delivered to the committee the very extraordinary narrative entered in our proceedings the 6th of June, wherein he specifies the several names, the facts, by whom paid, and to whom, whether in bills, cash, or obligations. So precise, to accurate an account as this of money issued for secret and venal services, was never, we believe, before this period exhibited to the honourable court of directors; at least never vouch'd by such undeniable testimony and authentic documents; by Jugutt Sett, who himself was obliged to contribute largely to the sums demanded by Moother, who was employed by Mr. Johnstone in all these pecuniary transactions; by the nabob and Mahomed Reza Cawn, who were the heaviest sufferers; and lastly, by the confession of the gentlemen themselves, whose names are specified in the distribution list.

8. Jugutt Sett expressly declares in his narrative, that the sum which he agreed to pay the deputation, amounting to 125,000 rupees, was extorted by menaces; and since the clofe of our enquiry, and the opinions we delivered in the proceedings of the 21st of June, it fully appears that the presents from the nabob and Mahomed Reza Cawn, exceeding the immense sum of 17 lacks, were not the voluntary offerings of gratitude, but contributions levied in the weakness of the government, and violently exacted from the dependant flute and timid disposition of the minister. The charge is indeed denied on the one hand, as well as affirmed on the other; your honourable board must therefore determine how far the circumstance of extortion may aggravate the crime of disobedience to your positive orders; the expelling the government in a manner to file, and receiving the infamous wages of corruption from opposite parties and confiding interests. We speak with boldness, because we speak from conviction founded upon indubitable facts, that besides the above sums specified in the distribution account, to the amount of 228,125 pounds sterling, there was likewise to the value of several lacks of rupees procured from Nundcomar and Roydullah, each of whom aspired at and obtained a promise of that very employment it was predetermine to bestow on Mahomed Reza Cawn. The particulars of this extraordinary bargain came too late to our hands to be inferted in the proceedings; nor do we think it material, since to inful on further proofs than are already fully and clearly exhibited, in order to convince you that our enquiry was necessary, and our decision moderate, would, we apprehend, serve rather to exhaust your patience, than confirm your belief.

9. These particulars being submitted to your consideration, it may be necessary to offer a few remarks on those arguments urged by the gentlemen in their several minutes, either in their own justification, or with a view that our proceedings should appear arbitrary and oppressive. Moffis, Johnstone, Senior, Leycester, Burdett, and Gray, vindicate the receiving presents by arguments which in our opinion renders their conduct still more culpable. They urge, that as the covenants were not then executed they could not be obligatory. In answer, we will beg leave to ask those gentlemen, whether the company's orders were not then received? Whether the intention and spirit of those orders were not clearly and perfectly understood? Whether the covenants themselves were not transmitted from England ready to be filled up and executed? Whether a single motion for fulfilling the company's instructions appears on the face of the confutations? Whether it was not incumbent on them as the superior power, to let this example of respect and deference to the orders of their constituents? And whether they conceiv the company would have obtained any detriment by this act of their obedience? How then came the orders to be totally neglected, at a juncture, especially, when the letter and spirit of those obligations clearly manifested that particular regard should be had to their execution?

10. The same gentlemen arraign the conduct, and even deny the powers, of the false committee. Mr. Leycester in particular affirms, that coward and decency required the truth of a charge brought against any of the members of the board should be determined by the board. You, gentlemen, will be able to judge of the force of this argument, and of the propriety of the measure.
measures proposed, when we acquaint you, that of a board then sitting at the presidencies, confiding of the present and eight members, five of those members were themselves accused, who, by having a majority of voices, would of consequence become the judges of their own conduct. We will not enter into a discussion of the precise powers intrusted to the committee; but we may venture to affirm, that unless the facts of their instructions be executed to the correction of abuses, the detection of corruption, and the punishment of disobedience, the ends proposed, of "restoring peace and tranquility," will be frustrated, and their appointment rendered ridiculous and absurd.

11. Mr. Johnstone is pleased to assert that no proofs can be produced of menaces being used to obtain a sum of money from Juggutt Sect. To this we reply by a reference to the evidence of his own agent Mootyram, where it is declared upon oath that he delivered by Mr. Johnstone's express orders the very meffages recited in his examination, meffages of such tendency as certainly would bear hard on Mr. Johnstone's character. As to what he further adds of our obtaining this evidence by military force and terror, we are sorry to see a gentleman reduced to the necessity of retelling his defence on the subterfuge of so pitiful an evasion. Mr. Johnstone certainly knows, at least he ought to know, as the proceedings were immediately sent to him, that Mootyram was seized in the commission of a clandeline illegal act, of interferring consequence to the public in general, and to Mr. Johnstone and the gentlemen of the delegation in particular; Mootyram was actually detected in an attempt to supplea bills to the amount of 175,000 rupees, which had been wrongfully obtained from Mahomed Reza Cawn; and to discern from discovery a circumstance which it highly important the committee to know, and which Mr. Johnstone should have made known were he licentious to exculpate himself from a charge that deeply affected his reputation, and of such irreproachable conduct as he would endeavour to persuade the world. But that not the least shadow of a doubt might remain of the candour and equity of the measures we pursued, we readily confess that the fame Mootyram might be re-examined in the presence of the council, where he confirmed without contradiction or evasion every material circumstance fet forth in his first evidence. The remainder of Mr. Johnstone's minute you will perceive doth not affect the Committee as a body; it consists entirely of personal invective, loose and vulgar declamation, the genuine effect of enraged disappointment and detraction; yet should any thing further be required in answer, we beg leave to refer you to the replies made by lord Clive and the members of the committee, which we flatter ourselves will appear full and explicit.

12. One circumstance more occurs in the course of those gentlemen's minutes that merits our observation: It is declared by Mr. Leycester upon oath that he did not receive the present intended him by Mahomed Reza Cawn, and that his letters will demontrate his intention was to have refused it. This is a fact, of the truth of which we entertain not the least doubt; but it proves nothing more than Mr. Leycester would not receive a sum of money after the covenants had been enforced by the committee, and an enquiry set on foot concerning the distribution of that very money, a part of which was now privately tendered back to Mahomed Reza Cawn. He will not deny that he knew of the intended present when he entered the Committee; the letters of Moftra. Senior and Middleton prove that he did. He will not deny that bills to the amount of 50,000 rupees were made out in his name; their being now offered back to Mahomed Reza Cawn, and Mootyram's being detected in the fact, evince it. The whole therefore of this odious refervation amounts only to an evasion in respect to time and circumstances, which no way affect the nature of the act itself.

13. Having now explained the origin and prospects of this disagreeable enquiry, we beg leave to touch upon a few circumstances in justification of the lenity of our opinions delivered, and resolutions entered in the committee proceedings of the 21st of June. And here we must observe, that notwithstanding we believed a reformation of abuses to be actually our duty, yet we could not think the same duty neccearrly extended to the punishment of tranqululent; we owed a regard to the persons and characters of some of the gentlemen concerned, who must suffer enormously by a dificision or dismission; the great object of our wishes were, that your service might in future be conducted with integrity, diligence, and economy, without a retrospect to the past, where it could be avoided. The subject indeed of the present enquiry was so recent, it was of so interesting a nature to the public, and recommended to us, or rather was forced upon us, with such peculiar circumstances, as rendered our proceeding to a scrutiny necessary to our own reputation; but the severity of judgement, and a dicision which would have left so great a void in your council, was not equally necessary either to your interest or to your honour. Such an event might have impressed the minds of the natives with strange ideas of the fluctuating situation of our councils; and it would unavoidably have admitted a number of your junior servants to the supreme direction of this vast machine of government, at an age little exceeding that period fixed by the laws of their country for entrusting them with the management of their own private fortunes. We must further observe, that many of the most aggravating circumstances
circumstances had not then reached our knowledge; at the same time we were under the necessity of coming to some determination; Shuja Dowlah impatiently expected Lord Clive in camp to conclude the proposed treaty, and the regulations of the government lately established; and other matters then transacting, absolutely required Mr. Syke's attendance at the Durbar; some of the extraordinary facts above related we obtained since their departure; and had they come sooner, they would have served only to perplex and embarrass us the more. In a word, to obviate future evils, we considered as our immediate duty; The punishment of such misconduct we chose rather to refer to your honourable board, that malice itself should have no foundation for affeising, that we had allumed and exercised a power not fully and expressly authorized by the court of directors. We think it necessary to declare, in justice to Mr. Carter, whose character stands irreproachable in the list of your servants, that he never knew of or consented to the receiving any the smallest present, either from the nabob or from Mahomed Reza Cawn.

14. Although it will not take upon us to declare, that we entirely approve of the covenants in the form in which they have been transmitted; yet we are persuaded, from the insignificance just related; that some restraint is necessary, to prevent the abuse of the customary indulgence to receive presents. This indulgence has certainly been extended to the most shameful oppression and flagrant corruption, and is otherwise attended with manifold inconveniences to the service. We therefore determined immediately to enforce your instructions relative to those obligations, and to bind down by laws all such as are not to be checked by a sense of honour and justice. You will accordingly observe, that carrying those orders into strict execution throughout every department, civil and military, was amongst the earliest transactins of your select committee.

15. We also took an early opportunity of considering the tendency of your repeated instructions for recalling free merchants, and other Europeans, who, without the least claim to your protection from indemnities, were nevertheless permitted to reside up the country, and in all the different parts of the nabob's dominions. Sorry we are to observe, that this indulgence has frequently given birth to grievous acts of insult and oppression, at places remote from the presidency and subordinate factories; and that carrying your order into execution became daily more necessary. By this measure, however, the business of your servants will suffer considerably from their being now obliged to employ black Comaffals on many affairs that demand the vigour and activity of Europeans. Hence likewise will many persons of real merit be deprived of the means of subsistence; yet, in consideration that private interests must give way to public benefit, and that it is our duty to obey where your immediate interests do not absolutely require a deviation from your orders, we determined to call all the Europeans residing up the country, under protection of the English name, by the 21st of October next, and have, for that purpose, circulated advertisements and orders to the different subordinate stations.

16. Regulating the country government was the next object of our attention. We found the nabob highly dissatisfied with the plenary powers vested in Mahomed Reza Cawn; who, by virtue of the treaty, acted in quality of prime minister, and enjoyed uncontrolled authority. This unlimited sway, lodged in the hands of a single person, appeared dangerous to the potent establishment, which we thought it becoming the company's honour to maintain, as having been solemnly ratified by the governor and council. To amend the very obvious defects in the treaty, without overruling the principles on which it was founded, was consistent with equity, while it met with the nabob's own approbation; and the most effectual means of doing this seemed to us to consist in an equal partition of ministerial influence. As Mahomed's Reza Cawn's short administration was irreproachable, we determined to continue him in a share of the authority; at the same time that we associated with him men of weight and character, to that each became a check on the conduct of the others. Accordingly we fixed on Jugmat Sett and Roydullah, for the reasons assigned in the proceedings; and we now have the pleasure to acquaint you, that the business of the government goes on with unanimity, vigour, and dispatch.

17. By the last dispatches you were advised, that Shuja Dowlah was making fresh and formidable preparations to penetrate a second time in the nabob's dominions. He had found means to engage Mulhah, a considerable Marathah chief, in his alliance; and if the judicious and vigorous measures perfued by general Carnac had not prevented a junction of the numerous forces defined for this invasion, a ruinous war must have been supported through the course of another campaign. The enemy's situation rendered their design for some time uncertain, and obliged the general to great circumspection in his movements, lest he should leave the frontier exposed. Having however, at length, received undoubted advice they had taken the Korah Road, he suspected their intention was to fall upon Sir Robert Fletcher, who commanded a separate corps in that district. Accordingly he made some forced marches to
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to effect a junction, which he happily accomplished, and the united army moved in pursuit of the enemy. On the 9th of May the general came up, attacked, and entirely defeated them; in consequence of which Shuja Dowlah departed from his allies, while the Marathas retired with precipitation towards the Jumma. In 1803, this blow appears to have been decisive; for Shuja Dowlah never again attempted to join the Marathas, who, observing the general drop the pursuit in order to watch the vizier, made a second effort to re-enter Korah, in which they were disappointed. Persuaded, that to stop the incursions it would be necessary to drive them beyond the Jumma, the general crossed the river the 22d, disbanded them from their post on the opposite side, and obliged them to retire to the hills. Here he quieted his pursuit, and returned to his stations at Jajeman, to receive Shuja Dowlah, who had intimated a desire of submitting to whatever condition we should think fit to prefer. His letter to the general expressed his feelings; and the reception he met with in our camp was such as policy dictated should be given to a vanquished enemy of Shuja Dowlah's rank and character.

18. A peace with the Vizier became the next immediate object of our deliberations; in adjourning which we endeavoured to extend our views beyond the present advantages that might possibly be obtained. We regarded Shuja Dowlah's personal character, and high reputation over the whole empire, the situation of this country which we had conquered, and the great risk and expense of maintaining this conquest, if we closed with the plan adopted by the late governor and council of giving it up to Nudjaff Cawn, who had neither weight of reputation nor force sufficient to keep possession, nor to form a secure barrier to the nabob's dominions. The words of our instructions to Lord Clive, when he left the presidency to adjust the conditions of a peace, express the sentiments which we still entertain on this subject: "Experience having shown that an influence maintained by force of arms is destructive of that commercial spirit which we ought to promote, ruinous to the company and oppressive to the country; we earnestly recommend to your Lordship, that you will exert your utmost endeavours to conciliate the affections of the country powers, to remove any jealousy they may entertain of our advances; we aim not at conquest and deposition, but security in carrying on a free trade equally beneficial to them and to us."

"With this view policy requires, that our demands be moderate and equitable, and that we avoid every appearance of an inclination to enlarge our territorial possessions. The facrifice of conquests which we must hold on a very precarious tenure, and at an expense more than equivalent to their revenues, is of little consequence to us; yet will such restitution impress them with a high opinion of our generosity and justice."

"For these reasons we think Shuja Dowlah should be reinstated in the full possession of all his dominions, with such limitations only as he must see are evidently calculated for our mutual benefit. We would decline inflicting upon any terms that must prove irksome to his high spirit, and imply a suspicion of his sincerity; retaining possession of any of his strongholds, may possibly be deemed a necessary pledge of his fidelity: For our parts we would rather consider it as the residue of future contentment, and an unnecessary burthen to the company, unless it be one day proposed to resume the thoughts of extending their dominions: A measure very opposite to the sentiments in which we left the court of directors."

19. Agreeable to these instructions, his Lordship and General Carnac concluded a treaty of peace with Shuja Dowlah, that will, if any thing can, secure his friendship and fidelity, and render the public tranquility permanent. They found him agree to the establishment of factories in his dominions, which he considered as laying the foundation of a future rupture, and the only thing that could possibly disturb our army; he very justly observed that our encroachments in Bengal, the great abuse of the company's servants, and extraordinary extension of the privileges originally granted to the English, had been productive of much confusion and bloodshed in Bengal, and he feared might produce similar consequences in his country. Accordingly Lord Clive and General Carnac judged it advisable to omit the word factories in the treaty; but with our relinquishing the right, should it be found expedient after mature deliberation to enforce it. To speak our own sentiments freely, we can foresee no benefit that can arise to the company from maintaining settlements at so vast a distance from the presidency, whatever advantages may arise to their servants. At least the prospect is so remote, while the expenses are so certain, the risk so evident, and the disputes it will occasion so probable, that we are at present of opinion the factory lately established at Benaras ought immediately to be withdrawn; we mean as soon as the agreement between the company and Bulwant Sing is expired. The limits of the nabob's dominions are sufficient to answer all our purposes. Thence we think ought to constitute the boundaries, not only of all your territorial possessions and influence in their parts, but of your commerce also, since by the grasping at more you endanger the safety of those immense revenues, and that well-grounded power, which you now enjoy, without the hope of obtaining an adequate advantage.

20. With respect to the articles of the treaty, you will observe that a sufficient provision is secured for the support of the King's honour and dignity, without danger of his becoming a future incumbrance; and that 20 lacs yearly are granted to him on the revenues of Bengal: a revenue far more considerable than he ever before enjoyed. —In gratitude for this instance of our attention to his interest, his Majesty has been pleased to bestow on the company the most important grants ever yet obtained by any European state from the Mogul court. Besides confining to the company all their former possessions, and fe
curing to them the reversion in perpetuity of Lord Clive's Jagheer, he has conferred on them the Dewanny of Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa, and ratified in the strongest terms the agreement we proposed concluding with the nabob, if the King's consent could be procured:—Subjefts which it will be necessary to explain in a separate paragraph:—Another article stipulates that Shuja Dowlah shall fly to the company's flticks ill pages way of indemnitv for the charges incurred by the war. This indemnification we know is inadequate; but his circumstances would not afford more without oppreffing the country, and thereby laying the foundation of future contention and trouble, and accordingly you will perceive that no money is granted for any other consideration whatever:—As to surrendering Coffsinn Ally, Sombrene, and the deffapers, compliance with such a demand is now utterly out of his power. The former, we hear, has fought shelter in the Rohillah country, and the latter resides under the protection of the Jaufs, screened both from Shuja Dowlah and from us; so that making this an essential preliminary would be highly unreasonable and absurd. However, it is stipulated that they never meet with encouragement or assistance from Shuja Dowlah, or be ever again admitted into his country. Upon the whole we have paid such regard to Shuja Dowlah's character and interest, and to what justice as well as policy requires, without any the smallest sacrifice of your honour or interest, that we entertain the moft flattering hope, this treaty of peace will be laffing, and our frontiers on that quarter will be perfectly sccurc against future irruptions.

21. The time now approaches when we may be able to determine with some degree of certainty, whether our remaining as merchants subjected to the jurisdiction, encroachments, and insults of the country government, or the supporting your privileges and possessions by the sword, are likely to prove most beneficial to the company. Whatever may be the consequence, certain it is, that after having once begun and proceeded to such lengths, we have been forced to go on from step to step, until your whole possessions were put to the risk by every revolution affected, and every battle fought. To apply a remedy to these evils by giving stability and permanency to your government, is now and has been, the constant object of the ferior attention of your feiet committee.

22. The perpetual struggles for superiority between the nabobs and your agents, together with the recent proofs before us of notorious and avaricious corruption, have rendered us unanimously of opinion, after the molt mature deliberation, that no other method could be suggefted of laying the axe to the roots of all the dangers of the Dewanny of Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa, for the company:—By establishing the power of the great Mogul, we have likewife establishing his rights, and his Majesty from principles of gratitude, equity, and policy, has thought proper to below this important employment on the company, the nature of which is, the collecting all the revenues, and after defraying the expenses of the army, and allowing a sufficient fund for the support of the Nizzamut, to remit the remainder to Delhi, or wherever the king fhall reside or direct. But as the king has been graciously pleased to bellow on the company for ever such furplus as lhall arise from the revenues, upon certain stipulations and agreements expresfed in the Sunnud, we have settled with the nabob, with his own fre will and content, that the sum of 53 licks fhall be annually paid to him for the support of his dignity and contingent expences, exclusive of the charge of maintaining an army which is to be defrayed out of the revenues ceded to the company by this royal grant of the Dewanny. And indeed the nabob has abundant reason to be well satisfied with the condition of being perpetually without generating daffertion, and having a fund of 53 licks annually secured to him without trouble or danger, adequate to all the purposes of fuch grandeur and happiness, as a man of his sentiments has any conception of enjoying:—More would serve only to disturb his quiet, endanger his government, and sap the foundation of that solid structure of power and wealth, which at length's has happily reared and completed by the company after a vast expence of blood and treasure.

23. By this acquisition of the Dewanny, your possessions and influence are rendered permanent and secure, since no future nabob will either have power or riches sufficient to attempt your overthrow, by means either of force or corruption. All revolutions must hencelover be at an end, as there will be no fund for secret services, for donations or for restitutions. The nabob cannot answer the expectations of the venal and mercenary, nor will the company comply with demands injurious to themselves, out of their own revenues.——The experience of years has convinced us, that a division of power is impossible in the present, and has occasioned diversion all round to the company or to the nabob, and we leave you to judge which alternative is the moft desirable, and the most expedient in the present circumstances of affairs. As to ourselves we know of no system we could adopt, that could lefs affect the nabob's dignity, and at the same time secure the company against the fatal effects of future revolutions, than this of the Dewanny. The power is now lodged where it can only be lodged with safety to us; so that we may pronounce with some degree of confidence, that the want that will happen in future to the company, will proceed from temporary ravages only; which can never become so general as to prevent your revenues from yielding a sufficient fund to defray your civil and military charges, and furnish your investments.

24. But to secure those valuable possessions, a constant regard must be paid to your military establishments. By the regimental returns which we inclafe in the packet, and which are very exact, you will fee, at one view, the deplorable condition of our infantry; to compleat which, agreeable to your directions, and to the propositions made by lord Clive, not less than nine hundred men will suffice. We therefore most carefully request that you will, next year, send out twelve or fourteen hundred men for this establishment, giving such peremptory orders as must be obeyed, that none of this number be detained, upon any consideration, upon the coast of Coromandel,
remanded. Our numbers once completed, we shall require, for the security of your immense possessions in this country not more than six hundred recruits to be sent out annually, in the following manner, viz: five hundred infantry, sixty artillery, twenty cavalry, and twenty lieutenants for the sepoys. To this number must be added, thirty volunteers and officers; and it would be of the utmost benefit to our plan, that you send out, every year, six or seven gentlemen from the academy at Woolwich for artillery officers; this being a service that officers extremely, for want of persons properly instructed to conduct it; since no officer, who knows the benefit of the infantry service here, will chuse to quit it for any advantage the artillery will afford.

25. Already we feel the good effects of regimenting your troops; discipline, subordination, economy, begin to take place. Had General Carnac's merit been much greater, if possible, than it is, he could not effect this of himself, unassisted as he was by field officers, and thwarted, as he always has been, by the late governors and councils. We have already fulfilled our orders for striking off half the double batta, and shall, in a very few days, put your forces entirely upon a footing with the troops on the coast of Coromandel, which will be reducing your military expenses as low as they can well bear, consistently with your interest, and the good of the service.

26. Before we quit this subject, we must remark, in the strongest manner, that you will supply us, for the last year, with 15,000 stands of small arms, and afterwards with 4,000 annually, which will in future answer all our demands, if proper care be taken in the purchase. Of late years, the bad quality of your small arms, in general, has exposed your possessions to the greatest risk and danger. The locks are ill finished, and the metal so badly tempered as to yield the heat of the sun, in this climate. We are therefore persuaded it would prove in the end, much to your advantage, if you purchased all the small arms of the same persons who furnish the government, and pay at the rates of 27 instead of 18 shillings per firelock; for experience demonstrates they will continue serviceable for double the time without being liable to the inconveniences above represented. The iron-founder, whom you sent out in the Kent, died on his passage to this place; but as the casting of shot and shells in this country is an object of great importance, we strongly recommend that you will supply the loss as soon as possible, by sending three or four persons well versed in that business, that our whole design may not be frustrated by such an accident in future. It also merits your serious consideration to provide, by every possible means, against the illicit importation of small arms to your settlements in India, and particularly in Bengal. Of late years this has become a profitable branch of trade with the European captains, as well as of furnishing the natives with ammunition; and they chide the searches of your officers, by sending round small vessels to meet them at sea in certain latitudes, or to Feneriff and Saint Jago, or elsewhere, out of the reach of your enquiries. However, as their continuing such practices any longer may prove fatal in their consequences to all your possessions in this country, we earnestly exhort that you will immediately apply the most effectual remedy you can suggest, either by way of prevention, or by the vigorous and exemplary punishment of the offenders. At the same time you may depend we will take every step in our power to detect the least breach of your orders on this head, and obstruct the sale of all kinds of fire arms.

27. Having observed the reluctance that appeared in bidding for your farms, at the last sale of your lands in the Burdwan province, the great annual deficiency in the collections, and the numerous complaints made of grievous exactions and oppressions, we determined, upon Mr. Johnston's resigning your service to appoint Mr. Verell, in quality of supervisor of those revenues, in order to form the best judgment possible of the caufe of this yearly deficiency of the real value of the lands, the best method of improving and letting them; and also to prosecute the necessary materials for a plan to conduct the collections, in future, in such manner as shall appear most conducive to your interest and likely to promote the happiness of the people. It is with pleasure we acquaint you, that we have the greatest reason to be satisfied with Mr. Verell's attention to the several objects recommended, and the diligence he has exerted during his short residence in that country; of which you may form some judgment from his memorial to the committee, annexed to our proceedings of the 14th of September.

28. It was in consequence of this memorial that we formed our resolution of that date, to withdraw the factory, and also to recall the member of the board resident at Midnapoor, the collections and business of which may as conveniently be transacted by a junior servant, at a much less expense. Many are the inconveniences, besides the extraordinary charges incurred, that result from such appointments, which we consider as necessary only at those stations where your principal investments are made. We are convinced, by very late experience, that the most flagrant oppressions may be wantonly committed in those employments, by members of the board, which would not be tolerated in junior servants, and that the dread and awe annexed to their station, as councillors, has too frequently screened them from complaints, which would be lodged, without fear or scruple, against inferior servants.

29. But there are other manifold inconveniences, of still more pernicious effect to the service, that result from those appointments: Hence it was found necessary to enlarge the council from twelve to sixteen members, that there might be a sufficient number to conduct the business of the presidency, and also to manage your affairs at the out settlements, either in quality of
APPENDIX, No. 26.

of chiefs or residents. What is the consequence, but such perpetual changes and revolutions at the board as render it impossible for any of the members to acquire a competent knowledge of your interests, and of the particular duty of their own station? The board is also productive of a further inconvenience, of the deepest concern to your interests, in the present situation of your affairs. To keep up to the letter of your instructions, we must fill the vacancies in council from the next in succession, without regard to the qualifications they possess for the discharge of so important a trust; and thus commit into the hands of rash, inexperienced and ignorant young men, the conduct of a system of government which demands the discretion, judgment, and steadiness of more advanced years and longer services.

Circumstances are now widely different from what they were a few years since, when you confined your whole attention to commerce, and were happy in being able to complete your investments without intemperate or exaction from the country government. You are now become the sovereigns of a rich and potent kingdom; your subjects is held with jealousy by the other European nations who maintain settlements in India, and your interests are so extended, so complicated, and so connected with those of the several surrounding powers, as to form a nice and difficult system of politics.

Their weighty considerations determined us to avoid filling the vacancies lately occasioned in council by the death of Mr. Billers, and resignation of Mellis, Johnstone and Burdett. We carefully examined your orders, respecting the appointment of a board. We compared the different paragraphs of your letter, the more clearly to ascertain the spirit of your instructions; and are unanimous in our opinion your reasons for encreasing the number of the board were founded on a supposition that this measure would conduci to the benefit of the Company. Experience convinces us of the contrary; and we shall be wanting in duty to our constituents, if, from a servile regard to the letter, we neglected the evident sense and meaning of your instructions by admitting to the government of your affairs, a number of persons who have certainly no other claim to this distinction than that of standing next in succession.

It is with the utmost regret we think it incumbent on us to declare that in the whole list of your junior merchants there are not more than three or four gentlemen whom we could possibly recommend to higher stations at present. In this number, justice requires we should mention Mr. Campbell, secretary to this committee, whose abilities and indefatigable diligence, of which we had the most convincing proof in the course of our proceedings, entitle him to this instance of our regard, and to your particular notice; and, as the same qualifications will distinguish him in any station of your service, it is our joint request that you will please to remove the restriction on his rising, as a covenant servant, and suffer him to take rank according to the date of his appointment. At all times it has been found expedient to deviate occasionally from this general rule of preferring seniority. It now becomes your indispensable duty to admit no claim but that of merit, if you would preserve the valuable positions you enjoy, and realize the very near prospect you have of establishing your affairs on so firm and solid a basis as nothing but misconduct can overtop. So much rests with the board, that in your judicious, impartial selection of the members, it depends, whether you hold a foot of land, and enjoy a privilege, in Bengal, or whether you continue in possession of the most ample revenues, and extensive influence ever established by any European mercantile body. We therefore most earnestly exhort you, that no consideration of favour and prejudice be suffered to bias you in the important business of composing your council, and that no other distinction be admitted, except what is due to ability, to integrity and faithful efficient services. Were we to speak our sentiments further, we would content it to be our firm opinion, founded on the experience now before us, that the business of this government can never so effectually be conducted, as by a select, unanimous committee. By dividing the power into many hands, you weaken the authority, promote dilution, and deprive your measures of that ferocity, steadiness, vigour, and dispatch, necessary to their success. The same means by which you obtained the great advantages you now enjoy, must be continued and constantly exerted to secure and perpetuate them: And, indeed, we can think of no other form of government so well adapted, so perfectly congenial to your particular present circumstances in Bengal.

It will not be necessary, we apprehend, to dwell upon a refutation of the flimsy, but specious arguments advanced by Mr. Leycester for immediately filling up the vacancies at the board, and purging the literal sense of your instructions, where you enlarge the board to sixteen: We have already shewn, and Mr. Leycester, does not deny it, that the business of Bundwan andMidnapoor may be conducted to greater advantage by junior servants than by members of council. We have also shewn, that enlarging the council, beyond the number required for the business of the presidency and subordinates has proved injurious to the Company.

He knows it is our determination that seven or eight members should constantly reside at the presidency, while all proper attention shall be given to your investments and collections; and this will be fairly judged to be the spirit of your orders. But if that gentleman means that no act can be valid that is executed by a less number of agents than you have expressly appointed, he renders void every deed, covenant, contract and obligation, entered into by the council, since the first establishment of this settlement. He even renders null and of no effect the treaty with the present Nabob, in which he himself had a principal share, and which we believe is not signed.
signed by more than half the Company's agents. In a word, we foresee so many inconveniences consequent on a literal compliance with your instructions, that our duty obliges us to suspend, and we think our powers authorize us in suspending, at least, if not revoking, those orders, until your further pleasure be known.

32. By consulting our proceedings of the 10th of August and 18th of September, you will be able to judge of the progress we have made in carrying your orders into execution, relative to the trade in salt, beetle-nut, and tobacco. This subject we considered with all the attention possible, and regard to your interest and the good of the service. We found, that to remove the inconveniences of a free trade, prevent the opprobrious daily committed, save this valuable article of commerce from ruin, and diffuse the benefits resulting indiscriminately among all your servants invited to duplicates, it was necessary to vest the whole in an exclusive company composed of the three first classes of your covenanted servants, the field-officers, chaplains, and head-surgeons. In admitting the field-officers, and stating the proportions allotted to each class, we had particular regard to the present situation of your council and field-officers, who are now excluded many encomiums they before enjoyed. It is our opinion, that Gentlemen who have riled to their stations with credit and reputation are certainly entitled to something more than a subsistence; they even have a right to expect such advantages in your service as may enable them to return in a few years with independence to their native country.

With respect to the Company, we are unanimously of opinion, it is more for their interest to be considered as superiors than proprietors; and as the said royal grant of the demeanny renders the 11th article unecessary, we are thereby enabled to subject the trade to a duty which will produce a clear annual revenue of 120,000 pounds sterling. Whatever surplus of their revenues the Company may find themselves possessed of, after discharging all the demands on this presidency, we may imagine may be employed much more to their benefit, in supporting and extending the China trade, and affording the wants of the other presidencies. However, should it either appear, that we have miscalculated the Company's real interest, or that the profits of the trade will admit of encroached duties, it is our resolution to give all possible satisfaction on these points to our honourable masters, and to lay before you a fair, full, and candid representation of the amount of the costs, charges, and sales of the first year.

33. We think it incumbent on us to observe, that the management of this important business was committed to Mr. Sumner. If the plan therefore should prove so fortunate as to meet your approbation, the merit is chiefly due to that Gentleman, who spared no pains to acquire a thorough insight into the subject, at the same time that he discharged the duties of the presidency during Lord Clive's absence much to our satisfaction. Mr. Sumner would have cheerfully accepted the post of resident at the Durbar, now grown an employment of consequence since the grant of the demeanny; but we judged it to be more becoming his station, more agreeable to your intention, and more for the benefit of the service, that he should remain at the presidency, to take charge of the government in case of Lord Clive's absence. We therefore determined to appoint Mr. Sykes to the Durbar, as he has already sufficiently manifested his capacity and diligence in that employment.

34. When these dispatches are finished, we resolve to apply ourselves heartily to the reformation of the abuses which have crept into almost all your public offices, and every department civil and military. The task is arduous, but not impracticable; and we are assured it becomes highly necessary to the service. The same unanimity that has enabled the Committee to dispatch to great a variety of important affairs since their establishment, shall, we hope, be firmly continued and vigorously exerted, until we have accomplished every end proposed at our appointment, until we have stemmed the torrent of luxury and corruption, and established a spirit of industry, economy, and integrity, throughout every class of your servants.

35. We beg leave to conclude with assuring you, that it is the highest ambition of this Committee, to merit the confidence reposed in them, by promoting, with their utmost diligence and abilities, the honour and interest of the East India Company, which have ever been the object of their most fervent wishes.

We have the honour to be with respect, Honourable Sirs,

Your most faithful humble Servants,

Fort William, the 30th September 1765.

Clive.
Wm. B. Sumner.
John Carnac.
H. Vereill.
Fras. Sykes.

Supplement,
Supplement.

56. In justice to the memory of the late Nabob Meer Jaffier, we think it incumbent on us to acquaint you, that the horrible massacres wherewith he is charged by Mr. Holwell, in his "address to the proprietors of East-India Stock," (p. 46) are cruel aspersions on the character of that prince, which have not the least foundation in truth. The several reports therein affirmed, and who have been generally thought to have been murdered by his order, are all now living, except two, who were put to death by Meemun, without the Nabob's consent or knowledge; and it is with additional satisfaction we can assure you, that they were lately released from confinement by the present Subah; which fully convinces the entire confidence he repose in the Company's protection, against all attacks on his government.

57. We are further to acquaint you, that, not satisfied with paying all due attention to the confirmation and security of your positions in Bengal, Lord Clive has also obtained from the king Sunnuds for the five Northern provinces, and the firmest ratification, under his majesty's hand and seal, of all your former grants in the Carnatic.

58. Mr. Sykes has exerted his utmost diligence in procuring an exact estimate of the amount of the revenues of the Nabob's dominions, of which you are now not only the collectors but the proprietors; and we were in hopes of transmitting an accurate account of the same by the Admiral Stevens; but the books of the Sircar are so much behind, so many balances are outstanding, and such negligence appears in the collection of the revenues for some years past, owing, in some measure, to the constant disturbances in the country, which prevented any regular collections from being made, that he has not been able yet to succeed to his entire satisfaction; and we therefore think it better to postpone the subject till our next dispatches, when we can write with precision and certainty. At present, we can only affirm, that the acquisition of the dewanny, and the agreement with the Nabob, will necessarily turn out a prodigious encroachment of your revenues, at the same time they must give liability to your power and influence.

59. You will observe, in our general letter from the public department, what has passed in council on the subject of the donation to the navy, which is, indeed, no more than a transcript of our consultations. We here think it necessary to remark, that we cannot, in the present circumstances of your affairs, and consistently with our late engagements with the Nabob, either take upon us to pay so large a demand out of your revenues, or inflict on the Nabob's paying it out of his limited stipend; more especially as it appears that the donation to the navy was never voluntary, but obtained from Meer Jaffier by dint of solicitations, and other means which never had his entire approbation.

60. It is with some regret we acquaint you, that we apprehend it will be necessary to resume our late inquiry into the conduct of the Gentlemen of the deputation, having just received information from Nundemar of further sums paid to them out of the Nabob's treasury, during their residence at Murdabad. Mr. Johnstone makes a principal and conspicuous figure in this account also, having obtained a very large sum besides what is specified in the distribution-list, or the narratives of Mahomed Reza Cawn and Juggut See, which, with the sums received by the other Gentlemen, fully accounts for the Nabob's donations, in his letter addressed to the Committee. The necessity we are under of dispatching the ship, in order to receive the earliest notice of your sentiments on our proceedings, and your further instructions, prevents our entering immediately upon the enquiry; of which, however, you may be assured, we shall transmit a faithful and particular account in our next advices.

We have the honour to be, with respect, honourable Sirs,

Your most faithful humble Servants,

Fort William, the 1st
October, 1765.

Clive.

Wm. B. Sumner.

John Carnac.

H. Vereeff.

Fras. Sykes.

No. 87.
Copy of a letter from Lord Clive to Wm. B. Sumner, Esquire, &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee, dated Great Ganges, 11th July, 1765.

To Wm. B. Sumner, Esq; &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

Gentlemen,

We have often lamented that the Gentlemen of council, by precipitating the late treaty, had loft the most glorious opportunity that could ever happen of settling matters upon that solid and advantageous footing for the Company, which no temporary intrusion could endanger. The true and only security for our commerce and territorial possessions in this country, is, in a manner, to always have it in our power to overawe the very Nabob we are bound by treaty to support; a maxim contrary to this has of late been too much adopted; and from that fundamental error, as I must confess, it has sprung the innumerable evils, or at least deficiencies, in our government, which, I have now the pleasure to inform you, are in a fair way of being perfectly removed.

The Nabobs, upon my representation of the great expense of such an army as will be necessary to support him in his government, the large sums due for restitution, and to the navy, together with the annual tribute which he will be under a necessity of paying to the king, hath consenting, and I have agreed, provided it should obtain your approbation, and be duly ratified and confirmed by the king’s Firman, That all the revenues of the country shall be appropriated to these purposes, fifty lacs of rupees per annum for himself excepted. Out of this sum is to be defrayed all his expenses, of every nature and denomination. Mahomed Reza Cawn, however, being of a disposition extremely timorous, is desirous of having the payment of the cavalry and sepoys paid through his hands, though included in the said fifty lacs. This, I think will be complied with.

I am of opinion also, that certain stipends (out of the aforesaid sum) should be fixed for the Regent, for the Chota Nabob, and for the rest of the Nabob’s brothers and nephews. (Momin’s son included) or else we must be subject to frequent complaints from these quarters; for I am persuaded, that the dependants and parasites of the present Nabob will always keep him in dittrefs, be his income what it may.

Although the sum proposed to be stipulated for the Nabob, considering the present great expenses and demands, may appear large, yet by what I can learn, his expence exceeds the sum to be allowed; and, although it is certain that neither his education nor abilities will enable him to appear to any advantage at the head of these great and rich provinces; yet, I think, we are bound in honour to support the dignity of his station, so far as is consistent with the true interest of the Company.

The particulars of this matter may be further adjusted in my presence by Mr. Sykes (to whom I have communicated my ideas) if the plan be approved by the Select Committee; and the whole may be finally concluded to our satisfaction, upon the Company’s being appointed the king’s Dun, who will be empowered by the nature of their office, as well as by the Nabob’s consent, to settle every point.

Mr. Sykes, I imagine, will find no difficulty in procuring the five or six lacs of rupees from the treasury to answer the immediate exigencies of the Company, agreeable to the representation made to me in your letter of the 7th instant, which did not come to my hands till late in the evening before I left Muttyil.

In conformity to your request in your last letter, I inclose Mr. Vanfittart’s translation of 37 the late regulations, the original of which I had the honour to transmit to you on the 9th instant. I have the honour to be with the greatest respect,

Gentlemen, your most obedient humble Servant.

Great Ganges, the 11th July, 1765.

Clive.

No. 88.

To Wm. B. Sumner, Esq; &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

Gentlemen,

We had yesterday a conference with Sujah Dowlah, wherein we informed him of the full powers with which we are invested by the Select Committee, and our resolution, in consequence thereof, to establish a solid peace, upon terms honourable and advantageous to the country princes, as well as to the Company. We then opened to him such part of
our plan as related to himself; in particular, we told him that the whole of his country, except Ilahabad and its dependencies, should be restored. His expressions of joy and gratitude upon this occasion were many and warm; such an instance of generosity in a victorious enemy exceeded his most language expectations, and, we doubt not, will be the best foundation of that union and amity, in this part of India, which we so earnestly wish to secure. He contents to pay fifty laks to the Company, for indemnification, in the following manner; ten laks in money, and ten in jewels, on the conclusion of the treaty; five laks on his being put in possession of his country; and the remaining twenty-five laks in the course of twelve months. These terms are, we think, moderate and equitable, both for him and the Company.

We have been informed, that the king is desirous of possessing Ilahabad, which together with its dependencies, produces ten laks per annum; and also the province of Corah, which produces about eighteen. The former, we are of opinion, may with great propriety be ceded to him, as a royal revenue; but the latter, we rather wish, should be in the possession of Sujah Dowla; we shall not, however, make a point of refusing it to his Majesty, if he should be very solicitous to obtain it, unless we judge it incompatible with the rest of our plan.

We shall not be able to give you any further information, till we have had a conference with his Majesty, which, we hope, will be in a few days, at Ilahabad. We are with great respect,

Gentlemen, your most obedient and most humble Servants,

Benares, 3d Augst,
1765.

No. 89.

To Wm. B. Summer, Esq; &e. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

Gentlemen,

Yesterday we paid a visit to the King upon business. His Majesty presented Lord Clive with his demands in the Persian language, a translation of which is inclosed. He intimated very explicitly that his revenues should be made agreeable to the engagements entered into by the late Nabob Meer Jaffier and Coffin Ally Cawn, viz. twenty-six laks of rupees in money, and five and a half laks in jaggers. This last article we could not consent to; and the King, with some difficulty, was persuaded to give it up, on our representing the great expense of supporting an army for the defence of the provinces, and the large demand of the young Nabob for the maintenance of his forces.

His Majesty then demanded the payment of all arrears due to him from the late Nabob Meer Jaffier, Coffin Ally, and the present Nabob Nizam ul Dowla, amounting in the whole to thirty-two laks; in answer to which, we pleaded the absolute impossibility of paying one rupee, from the poverty of the treasury, occasioned by the long and expensive war we had been engaged in, partly on his Majesty's account, and the great balance still due from the Nabob for restitution to the sufferers. He expressed some warmth and displeasure at our obstinacy on this point; however, after some debates, he at last acquiesced.

The next demand was, that the countries of Ilahabad and Corah (Bulwanting's Zamin-dary excepted) should be ceded to him as a royal domain for the support of his dignity. This we very readily consented to, as Sujah Dowla made not the least objection, well knowing that after our departure he could easily settle this matter with the King to the satisfaction of both parties. His Majesty engages, however, to allow Najif Cawn an handsome annual allowance, for which the King's revenues of Bengal are to be security.

We then prefented the King with two Arzies, defining he would grant to Nizam a Dowla the Nizamud of Bengal, Bahar, and Oria, and to the Company the Dewannce of the same provinces; to both which his Majesty has signed his flat, and the proper instruments for both are now drawing out.

As the king has been prevailed upon to assign to Sujah Dowla five laks of rupees on his Bengal revenues, there will be no farther delay on account of the first payment of indemnification, which is to be twelve laks in money, and eight in jewels.

The treaty therefore between Sujah Dowla on the one part, and Nizam a Dowla, and the Company on the other, is now drawing out, and we make no doubt of sending you in a few days the agreeable news of every thing being finally settled; and shall follow it ourselves with all possible expedition. We are, Gentlemen,
APPENDIX, No. 92,

Treaty between the Nabob Shujah ul Dowlah, the Nabob Nadum ul Dowlah, and the English Company, executed at Ilahbad, August 16th, 1765.

(Sealed and approved by the King.)

WHEREAS the Right Honourable Robert Lord Clive, Baron Clive of Plassey, Knight companion of the most Honourable order of the Bath, Major General and commander of the forces, president of the council, and governor of Fort William, and of all the settlements belonging to the united Company of merchants of England trading to the East Indies, in the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa; and John Carnac, Esquire, Brigadier General, Colonel in the service of the said Company, and commanding officer of their forces upon the Bengal establishment; are invested with full and ample powers on the behalf of his excellency the Nabob Nadum ul Dowlah, Subahdar of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, and likewise on behalf of the united Company of merchants of England trading to the East Indies, to negotiate, settle, and finally to conclude a firm and lasting peace with his highness the Nabob Shujah ul Dowlah, Vizier of the Empire: Be it known to all those to whom it shall or may in any manner belong, that the above-named plenipotentiaries have agreed upon the following articles with his Highness.

1. A perpetual and universal peace, sincere friendship, and firm union, shall be established between his highness Shujah ul Dowlah and his heirs on the one part, and his excellency Nadum ul Dowlah and the English East India Company on the other; so that the said contracting powers shall give the greatest attention to maintain between themselves, their dominions, and their subjects, this reciprocal friendship, without permitting on either side any kind of hostilities to be committed from henceforth, for any cause, or under any pretence whatsoever; and every thing shall be carefully avoided which might hereafter prejudice the union now happily established.

2. In case the dominions of his highness Shujah ul Dowlah shall at any time hereafter be attacked, his excellency Nadum ul Dowlah and the English Company shall assist him with a part or the whole of their forces, according to the exigency of his affairs, and so far as may be consistent with their own security; and if the dominions of his excellency Nadum ul Dowlah, or the English Company, shall be attacked, his highness shall in like manner assist them with a part or the whole of his forces: in the case of the English Company's forces being employed in his highness's service, the extraordinary expense of the same is to be defrayed by him.

3. His Highness solemnly engages never to entertain or receive Coffin Ally Khan, the late Subahdar of Bengal, &c., Sombre, the afferain of the English, nor any of the European deserters, within his dominions, nor to give the least countenance support, or protection to them; the likewise solemnly engages to deliver up to the English whatever Europeans may in future defect from them into his country.

4. The king Shah Aham shall remain in full possession of Korah, and such part of the province of Ilahbad as he nowpossesses which are ceded to his Majesty as a royal demesne for the support of his dignity and expenses.

5. His highnesses Shujah ul Dowlah engages in the most solemn manner to continue Bulwanting in the Zemindarrees of Benares, Gazzapore, and all those districts he possessed at the time he came over to the late Nabob Jaffer Ally Khan and the English, on condition of his paying the same revenue as heretofore.

6. In consideration of the great expense incurred by the English Company in carrying on the late war, his Highness agrees to pay them (fifty) 50 lacks of rupees, in the following manner, viz. (twelve) 12 lacks in money, and a deposit in jewels to the amount of (eight) 8 lacks, upon the signing of this treaty; (fifty) 50 lacks by monthly payments, so as that the whole may be discharged in (thirteen) 13 months from the date hereof.

7. It being firmly resolved to restore to his Highness the county of Benares, and the other districts now rented by Bulwanting, notwithstanding the grant of the same from the King to the English Company; it is therefore agreed that they shall be ceded to his Highness in manner following, viz. They shall remain in the hands of the English Company, with their revenues, till the expiration of the agreement between Bulwanting and the Company, being on the 21st November next; after which his Highness shall enter into possession, the fort of Chunar excepted, which is not to be evacuated until the 6th article of this treaty be fully complied with.

8. His highness shall allow the English Company to carry on a trade duty free throughout the whole of his dominions.

9. All the relations and subjects of his Highness, who in any manner assisted the English during the course of the late war, shall be forgiven, and no ways molested for the same.

10. As soon as this treaty is executed, the English forces shall be withdrawn from the dominions of his Highness, except such as may be necessary for the garrison of Chunar, or for
APPENDIX, No. 91.

The defence and protection of the King in the city of Illahabad, if his Majesty should require a force for that purpose.

11. His highness the Nabob Shujah ul Dowla, his excellency the Nabob Nadjr um ul Dowla, and the English Company, promise to observe sincerely and strictly all the articles contained and settled in the present treaty; and they will not suffer the same to be infringed, directly or indirectly, by their respective subjects, and the said contracting powers generally and reciprocally guarantee to each other all the stipulations of the present treaty.

Signed, sealed, and solemnly sworn to, according to their respective faiths, by the contracting parties, at Illahabad, this 16th day of August, in the year of our Lord 1765, in the presence of us,

Edmund Maccelyne, Archibald Swinton, George Vanfirtart.

Fort William, September 30th, 1765.

(A true Copy.)

Alex. Campbell, S. S. C.

Clive L. S. John Carnac (L. S.)

Shujah ul Dowla's Seal (L. S.)

and ratification.

Mirza Coffin Khan, Rajah Searubroy, Meer Mushalha.

Articles of agreement between the King Shab Ailam and the Company, relating to the tribute to be paid to him from the revenues of Bengal, Babar, and Orixa, dated August 19th 1765.

The Nabob Nadjr um ul Dowlah agrees to pay to his Majesty out of the revenues of Bengal, Babar, and Orixa, the sum of 26 lacks of rupees a year, without any deduction for Batta on bills of exchange, by regular monthly payments, amounting to rupees 216,666, 10, 9. per annum, the first payment to commence from the 1st September of the present year; and the English Company, in consideration of his Majesty's having been graciously pleased to grant them the Dewanee of Bengal, &c. do engage themselves to be security for the regular payment of the same. It shall be paid month by month from the factory of Patna to Rajah Shihubroy, or whenever his Majesty may think proper to nominate, that it may be forwarded by him to the court; but in case the territories of the aforesaid Nabob should be invaded by any foreign enemy, a deduction is then to be made out of the stipulated revenues, proportionable to the damage that may be sustained.

In consideration of Nudjuf Khan's having joined the English forces, and acted in his Majesty's service in the late war, his Majesty will be graciously pleased to allow him the sum of two lacks of rupees a year, to be paid by equal monthly payments; the first payment to commence from the 1st of September of the present year; and in default thereof the English Company, who are guarantees for the same, will make it good out of the revenue allotted to his Majesty from the territories of Bengal. If the territories of Bengal should at any time be invaded, and on that account a deduction be made out of the royal revenue, in such case a proportionable deduction shall also be made out of Nudjuf Khan's allowance.

Dated the 19th of August 1765.

Fort William, 20th September 1765.

(A true Copy)

Alexander Campbell, S.S.C.

No. 91.

Firmans from the King Shab Ailam, granting the Dewanee of Bengal, Babar, and Orixa, to the Company. Dated August 12th, 1765.

At this happy time, our royal firmans, indispensably requiring obedience, is issued: that whereas, in consideration of the attachment and services of the high and mighty, the nobility of exalted nobles, the chief of illustrious warriors, our faithful servants and benefactors, worthy of our royal favours, the English Company, we have granted them the Dewanee of the provinces of Bengal, Babar, and Orixa, from the beginning of the Fullil Rubby of the Bengal year 1764, as a free gift and ultimatum, without the satisfaction of any other person, and with an exemption from the payment of the customes of the Dewanee, which used to be paid to the court; it is requisite that the said Company engage to be security for the sum of twenty-six lacks of rupees a year, for our royal revenue, which sum has been appointed from the Nabob Nadjr um ul Dowla Babadar, and regularly remit the same to the royal Sircar: and in this case, as the said Company are obliged to keep up a large army for the protection of the provinces of Bengal, &c. we have granted to them whatsoever may remain out of the revenues of the said provinces, after remitting the sum of twenty-six lacks of rupees to the royal Sircar.
A P P E N D I X, No. 92.

Sirar, and providing for the expenses of the Nizamut: it is requisite that our royal dependants the Viziers the beflowers of dignity, the Oamahs high in rank, the great officers, the Mutufuldies of the Dewanees, the managers of the businesses of the Sultanah, the Jagernoots and Croories, as well the future as the present, using their constant endeavours for the establishment of this our royal command, leave the said office in possession of the said Company, from generation to generation, for ever and ever; looking upon them to be imbued from disposition or removal, they must on account whatsoever give them any interruption, and they must regard them as excused and exempted from the payment of all the duties of the dewanees, and royal demands. * Knowing our orders on the subject to be most strict and positive, let them not deviate therefrom.

Written the 24th of Sothar of the 6th year of the Jaloos *(the 12th Aug. 1765.)*

Contents of the Zimmah.

Agreedably to the paper which has received our sign manual, our royal commands are issued: That, in consideration of the attachment and services of the high and mighty, the nobility of exalted nobles, the chief of illustrious warriors, our faithful servants and sincere well-wishers, worthy of our royal favours, the English Company, we have granted them the Dewanees of the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, from the beginning of the Fulfil Rubby of the Bengal year 1772, as a free gift and Ultungam, without the assent of any other person, and with an exemption from the customs of the Dewanees, which used to be paid to the court on condition of their being security for the sum of twenty-six lacks of rupess a year for our royal revenue; which sum has been appointed from the Nabob Nadum ul Dowla Bahadar; and after remitting the royal revenue, and providing for the expenses of the Nizamut, whatsoever may remain we have granted to the said Company.

The Dewanee of the province of Bengal.
The Dewanee of the province of Bahar.
The Dewanee of the province of Orixa.

No. 92.

Firmans in confirmation of Lord Clive's Jagheer.

Whereas a Sumud has been presented to us under the seal of the Nabob Nadum ul Dowla Bahadar, to the following purport; viz. "The sum of 2,22,958 fisc rupees and odd, agreeably to the Dewane Sumud, and the Sumud of the high and mighty Shuja-ul-Moolk Kifam-ul-Dowla Meer Mahomed Jaffier Cawn Bahadar, has been appointed from the Pergunnas of Calcutta, &c. in the Sircar of Satagama, &c. in the province of Bengal (the paradise of the earth) the Zemindary of the English Company, as an unconditional Jagheer to the high and mighty Zubdut-ul-Moolk Nusseer-ul-Dowla Lorid Clive Bahadar; now likewise the said Pergunnas are confirmed as an unconditional Jagheer to the high and mighty aforesaid, from the 16th of May of the 1764th year of the christian style (answering to the 14th of Zecada of the 1177 of the Hegyra) to the expiration of ten years, they shall appertain as an unconditional Jagheer to the high and mighty aforesaid; and after the expiration of this term, they shall revert as an unconditional Jagheer and perpetual gift to the Company; and if the high and mighty aforesaid should die within the said term, they shall revert to the Company immediately upon his death. And whereas the said Sumud has met with our approbation, at this happy time therefore our royal firmans, indispensably requiring obedience, is issued, that in consideration of the fidelity of the English Company, and the high and mighty aforesaid, the said Jagheer shall confirmed accordingly to the aforesaid Sumud. It is requisite that the present and future Mutufuldies, the Chowries, Canongoes, Muccundins, Ryotts, Muzzaries, and all other inhabitants of the Pergunnas of Calcutta, &c. in the Sircar of Satagama, &c. regard the high and mighty aforesaid, during the forementioned term, and after him the Company aforesaid as unconditional Jagheer, and regularly pay them the revenues of the said Pergunnas."

Written the 24th of Soffar of the 6th year of the Jaloos (the 12th of August 1765."

(h)

Contents
APPENDIX, No. 93.

Contents of the Zimmun.

Agreeably to the paper which has received our sign manual, our royal commands are issued, that whereas the sum of 2,224,958 sicca rupees, and odd, has been appointed from the Purgunnahs of Calcutta, &c., in the Sircar of Sautoon, &c., the Zemindary of the English Company, as an unconditional Jagheer to the High and Mighty Zubdul-ul-Moook Nufteer-ul-Dowla Lord Clive Bahadur, agreeably to the Dewanee Sunnudd, and Sunnudd of the Nazim of the province; in consideration therefore, of the attachment of the High and Mighty aforesaid, we have been graciously pleased to confirm to him the said Purgunnahs for the space of ten years, commencing from the 16th of May of the 1764th year of the Christian style, or 14th of Zecada, of the 177th year of the Hegyra; and in consideration of the attachment of the English Company, we have granted the said Purgunnahs to them, after the expiration of the aforesaid term, as an unconditional Jagheer and perpetual gift; and if the High and Mighty aforesaid should live within this term, the said Purgunnahs are to revert immediately to the English Company.

A true translation.

GEORGE VANSITTART,
P thứcian Translator.

No. 93.

Firmaun from the King Shah Adurun, confirming to the Company the Chuchlas of Burdwan, Midnapore, and Chittagong, and the twenty-four Purgunnahs of Calcutta, &c., before ceded to them by the Nabobs Meer Coffin Ally Khan, and Meer Jaffier Ally Khan. Dated August 12th 1765.

At this happy time, our royal Firmaun, indispenfably requiring obedience, is issued, that the Chuchlas of Burdwan, Midnapore, and Chittagong, &c., and also the twenty-four Purgunnahs of Calcutta, &c. (the Zemindary of the High and Mighty, the noblest of exalted Nobles, the Chief of illustrious warriors, our faithful servants, and sincere well-willers, worthy of our royal favours, the English Company) which were granted to the said Company in the time of Meer Mahomed Coffin, and Meer Mahomed Jaffier Khan deceased; we, in consideration of the attachment of the said Company have been graciously pleased to confirm to them, from the beginning of the Fufful Rubby of the Bengal year 1752, as a free gift and Ultungaun, without the association of any other perfon. It is requisite that our royal descendants, the Viziers the beholders of dignity, the Omrahs high in rank, the great officers, the Mututzudshes of the Dewanee, the managers of the business of the Saltanat, the Jagheerareds and Croories, as well the future as the present, using their constant endeavours for the establishment of this our royal command, leave the said districts and Purgunnahs in poftession of the said Company, from generation to generation, for ever and ever. Looking upon them to be infured from diminution or removal, they must on no account whatsoever give them any interruption; and they must regard them as excluded and exempted from the payment of all manner of customs and demands. Knowing our orders on this subjedt to be moft strict and positive, let them not deviate therefrom.

Written the 24th of Sophar, of the 6th year of the Jalooz, (the 12th of August, 1765.)

Contents of the Zimmun.

Agreeably to the paper which has received our sign manual, our royal commands are issued, that the Chuchlas of Burdwan, Midnapore, and Chittagong, &c., and also the twenty-four Purgunnahs of Calcutta, &c. (the Zemindary of the English Company) which were granted to the said Company in the time of Meer Mahomed Coffin and Meer Mahomed Jaffier Khan, deceafed, be confirmed to the said Company, as a free gift and Ultungaun, without the association of any other person.

-Chuchlah of Burdwan.
-Chuchlah of Midnapore.
-Chuchlah of Chittagong.

The twenty-four Purgunnahs of Calcutta, &c. (the Zemindary of the English Company.)

Fort William, September 30th 1765.

(A true copy.)

Alex. Campbell, S. S. C.
Firmaun confirming the Company's possession in the Carnatic

At this happy time, our Royal Firmaun, indispensably requiring obedience, is issued, that whatsoever in the Sircar of the Carnatic was granted by former Kings, or has lately been given in the neighbourhood of Madras, &c. by the Nabob Seraj-ul-Dowla, to the High and Mighty, the noblest of exalted Nobles, the chief of illustrious warriors, our faithful servants and sincere well-wishers, worthy of our royal favours, the English Company; We, in consideration of the attachment and services of the said Company, have been graciously pleased to confirm to them as a free gift and Ultumgau, without the allocation of any other person. It is requisite that our royal descendants, the Viziers the beflowers of dignity, the Omrahs high in rank, the great Officers, the Muttafuddles of the Dewannce, the managers of the business of the Sultanaul, the Jagheerdars, and Croories, as well the future as the present, using their constant endeavours for the establishment of this our royal command, leave the said Sircar in possession of the said Company, from generation to generation, for ever and ever. Looking upon them to be injured from dismission or removal, they must on no account whatsoever, give them any interruption, and they must regard them as excluded and exempted from the payment of all manner of customs and demands. Knowing our orders on this subject to be most strict, let them not deviate therefrom.

Written the 24th of Soffar, of the 6th year of the Jaloo, (the 12th of August, 1765.)

Contents of the Zimmun.

Agreeably to the paper which has received, our sign manual, whatsoever in the Sircar of the Carnatic was granted by former Kings, or has lately been given, in the neighbourhood of Madras, &c. by the Nabob Seraj-ul-Dowla, to the High and Mighty, the Noblest of exalted Nobles, the Chief of illustrious warriors, our faithful servants and sincere well-wishers, worthy of our royal favours, the English Company; We, in consideration of the attachment and services of the said Company, have been graciously pleased to confirm to them, from the beginning of the Fuffil Rubby Tuceacovy-al of the Bengal year 1172, as a free gift and Ultumgau, without the association of any other Person.

A true translation,
George Vanfittar,
Perfian Translator.

Firmaun for Secacool, &c. being for the five Northern Provinces.

Whereas Salahud Jung, Saladar of the Daccan, having given the Sircar of Seccacool, &c. to the French Company, and this not being approved of by the Court, nor the royal Firmaun granted, the English Company, who are our sincere well-wishers, sent a large force and drove them out. At this happy time our royal Firmaun, indispensably requiring obedience is issued; that in consideration of the fidelity of the High and Mighty, the noblest of exalted Nobles, the Chief of illustrious warriors, our faithful servants and sincere well-wishers, worthy of our royal favours, the English Company, we have granted them the said Sircars, agreeably to the Zimmun, as a free gift and Ultumgau, without the association of any other person, from the beginning of the Fuffil Rubby of the Bengal year 1172. It is requisite that our royal descendants, the Viziers, the beflowers of dignity, the Omrahs high in rank, the great officers, the Muttafuddles of the Dewannce, the managers of the business of the Sultanaul, the Jagheerdars and Croories, as well the future as the present, using their constant endeavours for the establishment of this our royal command, leave the said districts in possession of the said Company, from generation to generation, for ever and ever. Looking upon them to be injured from dismission or removal, they must on no account whatsoever give them any interruption; and they must regard them as excluded and exempted from the payment of all manner of customs and demands. Knowing our orders on this subject to be most strict and positive, let them not deviate therefrom.—Written the 24th of Soffar of the 6th year of the Jaloo (the 12th August 1765.)
Contents of the Zimmun.

Whereas Salabud Jung, Subadar of the Dacca having given the Sircars of Secacool, &c., to the French Company, and this not being approved of by the Court, nor the Firman granted, the English Company, who are our sincere well-wishers, sent a large force and drove them out, agreeably to the Azeez of the 24th of Soffar of the 6th year, which has received our sign manual; our royal commands are inflight, That we have granted to the high and mighty, the noblest of exalted Nobles, the chief of illustrious warriors, our faithful servants and sincere well-wishers, worthy of our royal favours, the English Company in consideration of their fidelity, the said Sircars as a free gift and Ultumgau, without the affiance of any other person.

Sircar Secacool,  
Sircar Rejemundry,  
Sircar Eloor,  
Sircar Muftapha-Nuggur,  
Sircar Moorlazi-Nuggur or Cputer.

A true translation.

George Vansittart,  
Persian translator.

No. 96.

Agreement between the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowla and the Company, relating to the allowance to be paid him for the support of the Nizamut of Bengal, dated September the 30th, 1765.

The King having been graciously pleased to grant to the English Company the Dewanee of Bengal, Bahar and Orissa, with the revenues thereof, as a free gift, for ever, on certain conditions; whereof one is, That there shall be a sufficient allowance out of the said revenues for supporting the expenses of the Nizamut; be it therefore to all whom it may concern, That I do agree to accept of the annual sum of Sicca ruppees 5,386,131. 9., as an adequate allowance for the support of the Nizamut; which is to be regularly paid as follows; viz. The sum of Sicca ruppees 1,778,854. 1. for all my household expenses, servants, &c. and the remaining sum of ruppees 3,607,277. 8., for the maintenance of such horse, Seapoy, Peons, Bercundaffes, &c. as may be thought necessary for my Scwairy, and the support of my dignity only, should such an expense hereafter be found necessary to be kept up, but on no account ever to exceed that amount; and having a perfect reliance on Meeen ul Dowla, I desire he may have the disbursing of the above sum of ruppees 3,607,277. 8., for the purpouses beforementioned. This agreement, by the blessing of God, I hope will be inviolably observed, as long as the English Company’s factories continue in Bengal.

Fort William, the 30th  
September, 1765.

(A true copy.)  
Alexander Campbell, S. S. C.
APPENDIX, No. 97.

No. 97.

A STATEMENT of charges which were allowed for the collections of the BAHAR PROVINCE, in Bengal year 1172, or English year 1765, viz.

WAGES.

Amulah Sapaw, or wages to Affwars, Burgundaffes, &c. from 1st of Jumadil Owel to the end of Rubby Sanny Shon 6 is twelve months.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Affwars</th>
<th>874169 3 10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Burgundaffes</td>
<td>108709 11 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khailburdars</td>
<td>49000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cubdars, Kifnurgars, Sutaburdars, &amp;c. Servants</td>
<td>236648 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juzzoulburdars, or musqueteers</td>
<td>24510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tellingah Seapoya</td>
<td>7394</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sirishta Dewanny ha Esm Nabob Ackramut Dowla Bahadre, &c. Barunjeena Tufif Allahyda, or wages of the aforesaid Nabob and his people. Particulars of this shall be hereafter wrote, as soon as they can be obtained from the Patna Congos

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>139042 10 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Mutufurcaut, or wages to people of distinction that have been serviceable in the government; viz.

| Nabob Ackedutmund Cawn, at 220 Rs. per month for 12 Months, is | 2400       |
| Shaih Mahmud Punnah                                      | 1745 12    |
| Fuzz Ally Cawn                                          | 11550      |
| Mirza Mahmud Huffen                                     | 1654       |
| Himmut Cawn, fon to Muffill Cawn                        | 2990       |
| Nabob Abdul Ally Cawn                                    | 12000      |
| Share Ally Cawn                                         | 3600       |
| Abdool Cadcr Cawn                                      | 260        |
| Murrallydur, &c. Hircarrahs                             | 10676 15   |
| Meer Cullen, Perfume maker                              | 275        |

| Meer Mahmud Jummaul, &c. Tyaut Hoozor Junab Ally or Meer Muhmad Jummaul, &c. who is the presence of Nabob Najemud Doula in Muxadavad, but receives his and his people's wages from Subah Bar; viz. | 47231 11 |
| Meer Mahmud Jummaul                                     | 366697 12 10|
| Mirza Mahmud Ruffy                                      | 44100      |
| Connuck Sing Chowdry and Beldars                        | 31594 3    |

| Crutch Khonfummany, or charges of Nabob's elephants, camels, horses, bullocks, &c. | 65000   |
| Ze-affut Ingrez Sau-ha, bon Husbul Crutch, or invitations and entertainments of English gentlemen, charges already made | 45373 2 5 |

| Rupees of forts | 2153934 2 10 |

(i)

HUCKECUT
HUCKECUT BUNDABUST, SUBA BAHAN, or Statement of Revenues to be received from the Bahar province in Bengal year 1172, or English 1765, the collection to conclude in Aflin year 1173 or English September 1766, viz.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joyguires, c&amp;c. to be received, particulars of these shall be wrote as soon as procured, viz.</td>
<td>51000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nahob Najemul Dowlah</td>
<td>92960 8 15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Babut Yatf, Subadavry ou Dewanny, or the Amount whatever to be received by the Nabob of that province for himself, and the Padshahs Dewanny, as their real profits</td>
<td>500000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deduct allowed Rajah Doolubram, and Mahmud Reza Cawn, as Duffore or custom</td>
<td>171000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deduct Crutch Bemurjem Affrad Allahiddah, or charges allowed to the Nabob, &amp;c. for collecting in the revenues, even other contingent charges attending the same, as now settled, viz.</td>
<td>63,19,170 7 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affiars</td>
<td>210000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bugundaffes</td>
<td>80000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nabob’s own servants, as Chubdars</td>
<td>120000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caturbudars, &amp;c</td>
<td>120000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sirrefiah Dewanny, or wages of Nabob, &amp;c. viz. Nabob Ahatarunut Dowlah, and his family, A. Rs. 15000 per Menfem</td>
<td>180000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maharaza Deruzmarrain 7500 A. Rs. per Menfem</td>
<td>90000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maddut Cruch or wages allowed yearly to people of distinction, that have been serviceable in the government, viz.</td>
<td>270000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nabob Abdul aly Cawn</td>
<td>12000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nabob Echydutmund Cawn</td>
<td>2400</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ally Cooly Cawn</td>
<td>12600</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share Ally Cawn</td>
<td>2400</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Himmut Cawn</td>
<td>2400</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fyz Ally Cawn’s children</td>
<td>13800</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meerlydhur, &amp;c. excepting Hircarras</td>
<td>7800</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golaum Caddaur Cawn</td>
<td>360</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meer Cullen, perfume maker</td>
<td>360</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Imael Ally Cawn</td>
<td>1800</td>
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<td>Shaik Abdul Hiffen</td>
<td>600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moloyt Sing</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>58920</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rupees 5568250 7 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
To Amount which is to be paid Annually to different Persons in Consequence of their having Sunnunds, as per Account:

| Joyguires | 477/14 | 1/5 |
| Altummuggah | 977/300 | 5 |
| Muddutmolth | 50/6/4 | 1/5 |

To Amount allowed to Mahmud Reza Cawn and Doolahun as Difiore - - 171000 0 0

To Muddut Crutch, or Charges as now settled for the collections of this Year by Mahmud Reza Cawn, &c. cannot be reduced - - - 750920 0 0

825046 2 15

1746666 2 15

By Amount of particular Accounts of what the Subah, &c. received Yearly for charges formerly to the Year 1173, are now brought to account, viz.

| Joyguires, viz. |
| Nabob Najim ul Dowla 925/960 | 8 | 15 |
| Joyguier-daron, or Joyguires, as allowed to different Persons | 675/212 | 12 | 5 |
| Altummuggah or Charity | 865/202 | 12 | 0 |
| Muddutmolth | 775/39 | 9 | 0 |

1375/72 5 10

20187/14 10 10

By Yafit Subadarray on Dewanny, as per Account - - - 500000 0 0

5568250 7 5

Rupees 7315216 10 10

No. 98.

Fort William, the 7th September 1765.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c. &c.

My Lord,

It is with the utmost satisfaction we have the honour to congratulate your Lordship on your safe return to the presidency, and to express our earnest approbation of the prudent and effectual measures you have purposed to stop the effusion of human blood, to lay the foundation of future tranquility to these unhappy provinces, which have long been the scene of desolation, to save the Company from the insupportable weight of a ruinous war, and to bring to a prosperous issue the several important objects recommended to your attention by this committee.

The obtaining so extraordinary an acquisition of revenue and influence to the Company, by means of the most likely to conciliate the affections of the country powers, and secure their repose and happiness, are services of such evident and essential consequences, as cannot fail to inculcate your Lordship's high reputation with the public, and justify your constituents in vesting this committee with plenary powers, to pursue whatever measures should appear to us conducive to the public good.

Firmly
Firmly persuaded that it is necessary to the security of the valuable possessions they now enjoy, and to the very existence of the Company in Bengal, as well as conformable to the spirit of our appointment, that we continue to exert our authority, in order to effect that general reformation in necessary in itself and agreeable to the wishes of the honourable court of directors; we beg leave to repeat to your lordship, that the same confidence and unanimity which have hitherto subsisted among the several members of this committee, shall be continued in the prosecution of this arduous but salutary undertaking.

We remain, with sentiments of the greatest esteem, My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient, and most humble servants.

Fort William, the 7th September 1765.

No. 99.

To Brigadier General John Carnac.

Sir,

We embrace with pleasure the opportunity which your return to the settlement affords us of offering you our thanks for the faithful services done the public, particularly for your steady perseverance in reducing Sojah Dowlah to the necessity of submission; and the farther attention you have shewn to the interest of the Company, and honour of this committee, by co-operating so cordially with Lord Clive, in attaining the several important objects recommended in our instructions.

Justly sensible of the regard you have ever paid to the interest of your constituents, we assure ourselves that you will continue to exert the same zeal, as a member of the select committee, and join heartily with us in affixing his lordship to bring to a happy conclusion the many and essential points that still remain to be adjusted, if we would secure the important advantages already obtained, give stability to the regulations we have established, and permanence to the treaties we have executed.

We beg leave to assure you that we are, with great esteem,

Sir, your most obedient humble servants.

No. 100.

Lord Clive's Letter to the Court of Directors, the 28th November, 1765.

Sir,

I embrace the opportunity of a ship being under dispatch for Buffora, to make known to you the occurrences as have happened here since the failing of the Admiral Stevens on the 19th of the last month, in hopes that it may arrive in time for us to receive your commands by some of the latter ships of the year 1766.

2. The resignation of Meffrs. Senior, Burdett, and Grey, and suspension of Mr. Leycester, has reduced us in committee to the necessity of deiring the gentlemen of Madras to spare us Meffrs. Ruffell, Aldersey, Kellet, and Floyer, who we propose shall give us their assistance in council until your pleasure be known.

3. To enter into particulars would take up too much time, and might be imprudent in a dispatch of this nature: I shall therefore only repeat what I have already had the honour of representing to you, that luxury, extravagance, and corruption, together with an independent way of thinking and acting, have arisen to such a height in this settlement, that the most vigorous measures are absolutely necessary; and if you, Gentlemen, do not strengthen my hands by approving the steps we have taken, particularly by confirming the Madras gentlemen in the posts of which we have appointed them, and by entrusting me with sufficient powers, I am convinced that the service I may have rendered the Company, by my re-acceptance of this government will be in many respects of a very short duration since every thing will intahili revert to the old channel as soon as my back is turned: The measures hitherto proposed and pursued for the attainment of that reformation which must take place, have been resolutely supported by Meffrs. Carnac, Verefelt, and Sykes. General Carnac intends resigning the service and accompanying me to Europe. Meffrs. Verefelt and Sykes are highly deserving of every encouragement that can be offered, to prevail upon them to continue in this country: Not one of the gentlemen next to the councilmen, even so low as Mr. Bolts, (Mr. Rumbold excepted) is worthy a seat at the board; many of them are deficient in abilities and all in principle; and
and as to the gentlemen of lower standing, they are not only too young, but too strongly tainted with the corruption of late times, to be so soon intrusted with power. The only measure therefore that can insure stability to the plan of government and reformation which I have been labouring to establish is, the appointment of the Madras gentlemen, and the limiting (I do not mean curtailing) the advantages of future governors; together with a power lodged somewhere to nominate the members who shall compose the select-committee after my departure.

I can now, with the greatest pleasure inform you that the rate of the treasury is such, and the revenues of the country since the acquisition of the Dewanee have flowed in so fast, that we shall not through necessity, draw upon you for a rupee, although we have determined to send £500,000 this year to China: The returns for coral and small bills drawn upon you for necessaries may amount to five or six lacs.

The refusal to grant bills will undoubtedly throw large sums into the hands of foreigners, particularly of the Dutch, as immoderate riches have been lately acquired: But I do not think we can be justified in wantonly drawing upon our employers to the amount of several hundred thousand pounds, while we have more call than sufficient to answer every purpose for the Company. However, as the acquisition of fortunes will not be so rapid in future, some method may be fixed on, for the remitting of money by your servants, without so much benefit to our rivals.

In the course of the ensuing year, we shall certainly pay off upwards of thirty lacs of the Company’s bond debt.

By this conveyance I shall only further add, that it is my resolution to adhere firmly to the true interest of the Company in these parts, notwithstanding the odium I undergo, in the pursuit of impartial and disinterested measures.

Permit me, gentlemen, to hope, that whilst I am framing and carrying into execution such regulations, in every department abroad, as I am convinced are most essentially and immediately requisite, you will not be insensible to the danger of their being soon relaxed, and perhaps totally neglected, unless supported by the strictest orders from home.

If what I have done be approved, and, by the authority of the court of directors, rendered incapable of being subverted by my successors, I shall return from the laborious accomplishment of your wishes and expectations with the fullest satisfaction.

I have the honour to be with the greatest respect,

Gentlemen,

Calcutta, 28th November 1765

Your most obedient, and most humble servant.

Clive.

No. 101.

Company’s letter to Bengal, 19th February 1766.

21. No success in carrying on the war against Sujah Dowla, to give his country to the King can justify the measure. Sujah Dowla’s letter of the 3d January, offering to withdraw his protection from Cosim Ally, to enter into friendship with you, and join your army in pursuing him, was the opportunity that ought to have been embraced for putting an end to the war; that failed, your fatal engagements with the King were left to operate with their utmost force; all flight of the Company’s interest was from that moment lost, and one error has plunged you into many more. The reply you make to the above offer of Sujah Dowla, when you demand he shall put them to death, we cannot suppose seriously meant; for if the law of hospitality forbade his delivering them up, surely it forbids his murdering them.

22. In the consultation of the 28th January, mention is made of some subsequent letters from Sujah Dowla to Major Fletcher, which are but lightly mentioned therein, and appear no where entered in your correspondence; the only observation made on them is, that you were too far engaged with the King to recede. In the last letter, we in general terms condemned this treaty with the King, and flattered ourselves you would have seen the folly thereof, or Meer Jaffier’s death, or the arrival of Lord Clive, would have prevented the execution of it; but being disappointed in our expectations, we now shall give you our sentiments at large. The dispossessing Sujah Dowla of his country, is, we apprehend, breaking down the strongest barrier we could have had, against the Afghans, Morattas, and all the invaders of the empire, who were checked from penetrating into the easter provinces, by a power so respectable as his was throughout Indofan. The raising the King on his ruins, renders this danger still more striking; because all the northern powers are his natural enemies, being attached to the Vizier Gar-o-din Cawn; and you own yourselves, in the reply to Mr. Gray’s Minutes, in consultation 20th February (k) 1765.
APPENDIX, No. 101.

1765, that though the tide to the crown is contested, all parties seem to unite in opposing the claim of him you acknowledge King; and it is to be feared they will come down upon him before his strength is confirmed; and thus you may have drawn the war that have so long distracted the northern countries, to your own frontiers.

23. We have no opinion the King can possibly maintain himself without your utmost assistance, nor do we imagine Bujafl Dowla is so reduced as not to make head again; and the result will be, we shall have a war to maintain six hundred miles from our own settlement, from the facets of which no possible advantage can be derived, and one defeat may be the total loss of the province.

24. In your engagements with the King, we remark the fluctuation for the charges of the war was unsettled, and we have much reason to apprehend the whole expense will be left on the Bengal government.

25. We now come to consider the measures you took on the death of Jaffier Ally Cawn. — We could have wished the succession had been left undetermined until Lord Clive's arrival; but if it was absolutely necessary to come to a sudden determination, and that some one must be immediately acknowledged Soudbah, it was consistent with the faith we owed the father, to adopt the succession he designed; and the inexperience of the young Soudbah considered, you did right to appoint him a regent; but in the choice of Mahim Reda Cawn we think you passed too lightly over the charge urged against him, of being too deficient in accounting for the revenues of the province, of which he had been governor.

26. The appointing of independent duanas appears highly improper to us; for it is intruding on the powers of the regent, weakening his government, and tending to anarchy; nor can we conceive that any Englishman is master enough of the forms of government, to undertake the dividing their departments, without introducing confusion.

27. With respect to the treaty with Nazem-o-Dowla, it is proper here to insert at length the 5th article, which runs in their words, "I do ratify and confirm to the English the privileges granted them by their Phirnnaund, and several H'fubullookums, of carrying on their trade by means of their own dufuck, free from all duties, taxes, or impositions, in all parts of the country, excepting in the article of hit, on which a duty of 25 per cent. is to be levied on the Rowana or Houghly market price." This fifth article is totally repugnant to our orders, contained in our general letter, by the Kent and Lapwing, dated the 16th June 1764; in which we not only expressed our abhorrence of an article in the treaty with Meer Jaffier, literally corresponding with the present 5th article, but in positive terms directed you, in concert with the Nabob, to form an equitable plan for carrying on the inland trade, and transmit the same to us, accompanied by such explanations and remarks as might enable us to give our sentiments and directions thereupon. We must remind you too, that in our said general letter we expressly directed, that our orders in our letter of the 5th February preceding, which were to put a final and effectual end to the inland trade in hit, beetle-nut, and tobacco, and in all other articles produced and consumed in the country, should remain in force until an equitable and satisfactory plan could be formed and adopted. As therefore there is not the least latitude given you for concluding any treaty whatsoever respecting this inland trade, we must and do consider what you have done as an express breach and violation of our orders, and as a determined resolution to sacrifice the interest of the Company, and the peace of the country, to lucrative and selfish views.

28. This unaccountable behaviour puts an end to all confidence in those who made this treaty, and forces us to resolve on measures for the support of our authority, and the preservation of the Company; we do therefore pronounce, that every servant concerned in that trade charged guilty of a breach of his covenants with us, and of our orders; and in consequence of this resolution we positively direct, that if that treaty is now subsisting, you make a formal renunciation, by some solemn act to be entered on your records, of all right under the said treaty, or otherwise, to trade in hit, beetle-nut, and tobacco; and you transmit this renunciation of that part of the treaty in form to the Nabob in the Persian language. Whatever government may be established, or whatever unforeseen circumstances may arise, it is our resolution to prohibit, and we do absolutely forbid this trade of hit, beetle-nut, and tobacco, and of all articles that are not for export and import, according to the spirit of the Phirnmaund, which does not in the least give any latitude whatever for carrying on such an inland trade; and moreover, we shall deem every European concerned therein, directly or indirectly, guilty of a breach of his covenants, and direct that he be forthwith sent to England, that we may proceed against him accordingly; and every native who shall avail himself of our protection to carry this trade on, without paying all the duties due to the government, equally with the rest of the Nabob's subjects, shall forfeit that protection, and be banished the settlement. And we direct that these resolutions be signified publicly throughout the settlement.

29. With respect to the 11th article of the treaty, which settles the restitution for private losses, we gave you our sentiments on that subject very fully in our letter of the 24th December, in which we remain confirmed, and our orders relative thereto stand in full force. We also continue in the same sentiments upon the donation to the Navy, which we see is again taken up in the instructions to the resident at the Durbar.

30. We
32. We repeat, that we have left all confidence in those servants, which nothing can restore but a strict obedience to our orders, and a more scrupulous attention to the Company's true interest; in the mean time, and until their conduct shall have reestablished them in our good opinion, we must, and do rely solely on our president Lord Clive, and the select Committee, whom we do hereby invest with all requisite powers for securing to the Company all sums paid on account of restitution, till our orders are known. We further expect that they shall give us a clear investigation of the motives that influenced the governor and council to engage in a treaty with the King, so repugnant to our true interest.—That they shall examine into the reasons of the Burdwan lands being let for as thirty-two lacks, when, by the accounts transmitted to us, the collections exceeded fifty lacks.—We also rely on the Committee to put a stop to the shameful demand made on the Nabob for the Navy, and supported by the council, to their great dishonour. And if any further corrupt or oppressive practices come to their knowledge, that they impend those who shall appear guilty of them, and give us the fullest information thereof. And lastly, we cannot avoid taking notice, that the late president and council neither acknowledged the receipt of the covenants relative to the receiving presents from the country government, nor have they taken the least notice of them. We hope there is no further meaning in this neglect than the deferring it till Lord Clive's arrival; yet when we consider the total disregard of our most solemn orders on the most important subjects, we know not where their disobedience will stop.

31. We have received two letters from Mr. Spencer, the first dated the 5th of February 1763, the last the 14th March: copies of which we inclose for your information; as they both urge his own merit in so strong a manner, we find ourselves obliged to give our sentiments on his conduct in Bengal.

32. It came down to that settlement with the general good opinion of the world, and without our approbation of his conduct during his services at Bombay, with this peculiar advantage, that he was free from all the embarrassments and party spirit that prevailed in Bengal, and had the plain path of the Company's interest before him.—We shall therefore recapitulate the censure we have past on that part of the administration of our affairs in which he was concerned, and which we take for granted he approved, as no different is entered by him.

33. First, The very same letter that carried his appointment to the government, carried our most positive orders to put a total and effectual stop to the trade of salt, beetle-nut, and tobacco which we expressed to be the source of the war, and incompatible with the peace of the country, and the interest of the Company. Yet in the consultation 17th October, wherein that order is taken into consideration, he signs to a resolution to carry on that trade of salt and beetle-nut, paying the Nabob on salt 2½ per cent. in direct breach of our orders; and in the treaty with the new Nabob, he stipulates for that right by an express article of the treaty.

34. Although the treaty with Meer Jaffier Aliy Cawja was entered into before Mr. Spencer's arrival, yet he gave his sanction to every part of it, particularly that which stipulated restitution for loans, which we make no doubt he knew to be wholly unfounded in an illicit trade; and, preferring the interest of the servants to the honour of the Company, countenanced the aggravating circumstances which accompanied that shameful profusion of our authority, in rising the demand, till by flinging in outstanding debts, it was carried to the exorbitant sum of fifty-three lacks; and Mr. Spencer, though no way interested therein, joined in the ungenerous proceedings, by which Meer Jaffier's content was extorted for the payment of these demands; and in the treaty with the new Nabob makes it an act of his own, by carefully stipulating for it therein; and to our great astonishment we see his name to consultation 15th November 1763, wherein he engages the authority of the Company to obtain the sum of twelve lacks and a half for the Navy, though, as far as appears to us, the demanding this sum was a private act of his predecessor, unknown to him, but so strongly adopted, that we see he never loses sight of it, but makes the recovery of it part of the inducements to the residuary at the Durbar, on the accession of the new Sudder.

35. In the administration of our revenues, he has so overlooked the accounts of the province of Burdwan, that though it appears in them the Rajah collects fifty-one lacks of rupees, yet he has approved the agreement with the Rajah for thirty-two lacks, which is even lower than the preceding year; nor has he taken any notice of the sum of eighty-thousand rupees, applied to the use of our servants, under the head of charges of refituation.

36. In this letter of the 14th, March, he urges the general flourishing state of the Company's affairs as a matter of merit to himself; in which we totally differ from him, as he will learn from our sentiments in our letter of the 24th December, and the present, of which you will transmit him copies, as far as relates to the administration of our affairs during his being of our council in Bengal.

37. In the Packet by the Bute you transmitted to us a copy of the treaty with the Nabob Najm-oo-Dowla, which is attested by your secretary, Mr. Majendy, to be a true copy, whereas it has neither date, or the names of our council, who signed the treaty, nor the
APPENDIX, No. 102.

Nabob's name, to it, which might have been very well added, as it appears by your consultations of the 6th March last, that you then received it properly executed by the Nabob. You are to inform Mr. Majendie of his inattention, and let him know he must be more careful for the future.

No. 102.

Letter from Lord Clive, General Carnac, and Mr. Sykes, to the Governor and Council of Fort William, dated 30th April, 1766.

To William Brightwell Sumner, Esq; and the Gentlemen of the Council at Fort William Gentlemen,

YESTERDAY we held the Purnesh, agreeably to the custom of the country, and to those ideas which we entertain of the Company's honour and interest. His Excellency the Nabob sat in quality of Nazim, and the Right Honourable the president took his place, as collector of the revenues for his Majesty.

We thought it by no means advisable to deviate, upon flight occasions, from the established forms and customs of this anniversary, and therefore accepted, for ourselves, and for you, the usual present of a drelf and elephant to each, which shall be forwarded by the first opportunity. This expense hath formerly been charged to the government, it must therefore, now, of course, be brought to the Company's account; but as the amount is inconsiderable, it was scarce worth while to introduce any innovation that might tend to lessen their dignity in the eyes of the people.

The Zemindars, and other public officers have consented to pay to the amount of rupees 5,20,000, as first fruits of the ensuing collections; of this sum four lacks are now already received, and the remainder, we have reason to expect will be paid, in a few days, into the treasury.

All possible dispatch will be used in closing the balances of the present year, so as to complete, for the province of Bengal, a collection of 140 lacks:—A revenue that must far exceed expectation, when it is considered that six months were elapsed before we took charge of the collections, and that the more weighty and considerable balances were actually incurred before we received the investiture of the Dewanny.

We propose transmitting to your board, an explicit account of the particulars of the present collection, and also of the statement for the ensuing year, as soon as the same can be prepared, and the whole business duly completed; and we flatter ourselves that nothing hath been done, nothing undone, which had not the public interest for its immediate object, and which, for that reason, will not meet with your approbation.

As to the increase of the revenue by the new statement, although it cannot yet be ascertained, yet there is great reason to believe it will not fall short of ten lacks of rupees; which additional sum may be collected without rigour or oppression.

Before we conclude, we beg leave to mention, that Mr. Campbell attended here, by our direction, as mint matter, to explain and conduct a scheme proposed by the Select committee, for establishing a gold currency, the result of which we hope to transmit in a few days to the board.

Moortajil, 30th April 1766.

We are, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servants.

Clive,
John Carnac,
Fra. Sykes.

No. 103.
PARTICULARS of the sums on which Roydulub received his Commission.

In Three Payments.

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<th>Description</th>
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<td>Army and Navy</td>
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<td>106,31,761</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deduct Army and Navy, on which no commission was drawn</td>
<td>23,41,797</td>
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<td></td>
<td>82,89,963</td>
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<tr>
<td>Committee</td>
<td>414,498</td>
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<tr>
<td>A Present from Col. Clive, being 5 per Cent. upon 25 Lacks</td>
<td>57,500</td>
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<td>5,96,998</td>
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An Account of Money agreeable to the Receipts of Rajah Dolevaram.

Received Account Commission; viz.

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<tr>
<td>Dacca Sonauts</td>
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<td>Arcot Good</td>
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<td>Sonauts of Sorts Leis</td>
<td>153178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rupees</td>
<td>596,229½</td>
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</table>

N. B. The above sums are given to Rajah Dolevaram by Coja Petrufe, the bags containing, some 1000, and some two thousand; the said bags were sealed with a Mohur of Nabob Surozut Dowlah; and regularly the above sums were received by Dolevaram; but those bags that were left to the Amount of 767½ Rupees, which was likewise received by him.
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REPORT
FROM THE
COMMITTEE
APPOINTED BY THE
HOUSE OF COMMONS,
ASSEMBLED AT WESTMINSTER IN THE SIXTH SESSION OF THE THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF GREAT BRITAIN,
TO ENQUIRE INTO
THE NATURE, STATE, AND CONDITION
OF THE
EAST INDIA COMPANY,
AND OF THE
BRITISH AFFAIRS IN THE EAST INDIES.

LONDON:
SOLD BY T. EVANS AT NO. 54, IN PATER-NOITER ROW.
MDCC LXXIII.
THE PRESENT STATE of the ENGLISH EAST-INDIA COMPANY’S AFFAIRS, comprehending the Accounts delivered by the Court of Directors to the Treasury, which were laid before the COMMITTEE OF SECRECY, appointed by the HOUSE of COMMONS, assembled at Westminster, in the Sixth Session of the Thirteenth Parliament of GREAT-BRITAIN, to enquire into EAST-INDIA AFFAIRS; drawn up by Mr. Hoole, Auditor of India Accounts, and Others; together with the Plans proposed by the different Directors for the re-establishment of the Company’s affairs, and several other accounts equally important and interesting; drawn up for the Use of the Directors, &c. To these Accounts is prefixed an Address to the Public. Price 3s. 6d. Royal Paper 5s.

II. REPORT from the COMMITTEE of PROPRIETORS, appointed on the 1st of December, 1772, by the General Court of the United East-India Company, to enquire into the present State and Condition of the Company’s Affairs. Price 1s.

III. A LETTER to the above Committee of Twenty-five Proprietors of India Stock, by a Member of the Committee. 6d.

IV. The GENUINE MINUTES of the SELECT COMMITTEE, appointed by the House of Commons, assembled at Westminster, in the Fifth Session of the Thirteenth Parliament of Great Britain, to enquire into East India Affairs. Containing the most authentic, historical Account of the various Revolutions, and other extraordinary Events, that have happened in India, from the Commencement of Lord Clive’s Government, to the latest Advices received by the Honourable English East-India Company. Price 3s. 6d. fewed.

V. The GENUINE REPORT of the above, made to the House of Commons. 1s.

VI. First REPORT from the COMMITTEE of SECRECY appointed by the House of Commons, to enquire into the State of the East India Company. 2s.

VII. Second, ditto. 4s. 6d.

VIII. Third, ditto. 10s. 6d.

IX. First REPORT of the SELECT COMMITTEE 1773. 10s. 6d.

X. Second, ditto. 5s.

XI. Extract of a Letter from the Governor and Council at Fort William, to the Court of Directors, dated 21 November, 1772, transmitting a Letter from the Committee of Circuit at Calcuttah, and a Plan, framed by that Committee, for the Administration of Justice in Bengal 1s.

XII. An Inquiry into the late Mercantile Difficulties in Scotland and England, with a few Thoughts on the Causes of the Difficulties that now prevail amongst the greatest Part of the Inhabitants of the whole Island, in a Letter to the Earl of ———. Price 2s. 6d.

XIII. The History of the Ten First Years of the Reign of George the Third, King of Great Britain, &c. to the Conclusion of the Session of Parliament ending in May 1770. To which is prefixed, a Review of the late war. Price 3s. fewed, or 6s. bound.

XIV. An Essay on the Revolutions of Literature, translated from the Italian of Sig. Carlo D’Vina, Professor of Eloquence and Belles Lettres in the University of Turin, by John Murdoch. Price 3s. fewed.

SECOND REPORT
FROM THE
COMMITTEE,
APPOINTED BY THE
HOUSE OF COMMONS, &c.

The Committee appointed to enquire into the Nature, State, and Condition, of the East India Company, and of the British Affairs in the East Indies,

NOT having been able, for want of time before the recess, to insert in their last report the progress they had made in their enquiries respecting the trade in salt, beetle nut, and tobacco, they have since employed in arranging the several matters they had collected upon that head, in the manner that appeared to them most conducive to the information of the house.

And your Committee finding that the house is apprised (by the fourth report of the Committee of secrecy, p. 16) of the general state of duties upon salt, beetle nut, and tobacco, according to the evidence of Mahomed Reza Cawn, and other circumstances therein recited, they have only to add upon that subject, that they find an alteration was attempted to be made upon the ancient establishment of duties, by the regulations which were settled between Coffin Ally Cawn and Mr. Vanfittart at Mongleer; whereby it was stipulated, that the Company's servants should in time to come pay nine per cent. on the Rowanna price of salt: But this treaty having been rejected by the council, as having been concluded without sufficient authority on the part of Mr. Vanfittart; and also as subjecting the English and their servants, upon all disputes, to the jurisdiction of the Nabob's Officers; the old regulations as to duties were continued, and the English, by treaty made with Myr Jaffier, were placed upon a footing with the most favoured among the natives; viz. to pay the duties of 2½ per cent. on salt.

And your Committee also observed, from the appendix in the abovementioned report of the Committee of secrecy, No. 44, that the house is in possession of the 21st paragraph of general letter from the court of directors to the governor and council of Bengal, dated the 8th of February 1764; wherein the court of directors order, "that from the receipt of the said letter a final and effectual end be forthwith put to the inland trade in salt, beetle nut, and tobacco, and in all other articles whatsoever produced and consumed in the country; and that all European and other agents or gomastahs, who have been con-"
" cerned in such trade, be immediately ordered down to Calcutta, and not suffered to return " or be replaced as such by any other person;" and the above is the first express order which your Committee have discovered upon the records of the Company against this trade, though your Committee find, from the evidence of Mr. Batson, that the English began to trade in salt about the end of the year 1757, and that it soon became general. And it also appears by the evidence of Mr. Mac Gwire, and by a letter from Governor Vanfittart to Mr. Mac Gwire of 5th December 1761, printed in the appendix to the former report, No. 9, that they had large concerns in salt on their joint account, which was fold at Patna in the year 1761.

Your Committee further find, that the court of directors in their general letter of the 22d of February 1764, paragraph 35, a copy of which is hereunto annexed, No. 1, gave a general and positive order against every kind of monopoly in trade. And your Committee think proper to remark, that the prohibition of the trade of the Company's servants in salt, beetle nut, and tobacco, was recommended to the court of directors, in a letter from Lord Clive, dated 27th April 1764, and entered on the proceedings of the general court, 2d May 1764, extract of which is annexed, No. 2.

The next circumstance your Committee think necessary to lay before the house, is the resolution of the general court of the 18th of May 1764; and the paragraph of the general letter of the 1st of June 1764, wrote in pursuance of that resolution, and your Committee find them conceived in the following terms:

RESOLUTION.

"It is recommended to the court of directors to re-consider the orders sent to Bengal, relative to the trade of the Company's servants in the articles of salt, beetle nut, and tobacco; and that they do give such directions for regulating the same, agreeable to the interests of the Company and the Subah, as to them may appear most prudent, either by settling here at home the restrictions under which this trade ought to be carried on, or by referring it to the governor and council of Fort William to regulate this important point in such a manner as may prevent all future disputes betwixt the Subah and the Company."

The 57th paragraph of the general letter, dated 1st June 1764 (wrote in pursuance of the above resolution.)

"You are hereby ordered and directed (viz, the governor and council) to consult with the Nabob as to the manner of carrying on the inland trade in salt, beetle nut, and tobacco, and other articles produced and consumed in the country, which may be most conducive to his satisfaction and advantage, the interest of the Company, and likewise of the Company's servants."

N. B. The house is in possession of the other paragraphs of the said letter, relative to the inland trade, in the above-mentioned appendix of the report from the Committee of secrecy, No. 24.

Having thus stated the orders of the court of directors, your Committee think proper to observe, that the salt society, which afterwards took place, appears to have been originally proposed at sea by Lord Clive, during his passage to India; and the evidence upon which your Committee ground this fact is in a letter from Lord Clive to the court of directors, dated 1st February 1766; extract of which is in the appendix, No. 3.

And it appears to your Committee, from the evidence of several witnesses here following, that in the beginning of June, being a few days after the arrival of Mr. Vereeff from Chittagong, and about the time of the third meeting of the select Committee, a private partnership was formed, in the names of Lord Clive, Mr. Sumner, Mr. Vereeff, and Mr. Sykes, for purchasing large quantities of salt, then in the hands of private merchants. Your Committee are prevented stating the extent of this transaction so fully as they might otherwise have done, by Mr. Vereeff declining to answer a question put to him upon that subject; because as he alleged, the court of directors had threatened him with a prosecution upon that concern; but your Committee having examined Mr. Vereeff to such other circumstances as he thought he could answer without prejudice to himself, he informed your Committee that on his return from Chittagong to Calcutta, on the 29th of May 1765, finding there was a necessity for his giving up his chiefship, and retiring at Calcutta, he made some purchases of salt of the produce of some former years from several European gentlemen, and some few Armenian and black merchants: That at the time he was making these purchases on his own account,
count, Lord Clive mentioned to him a desire of forming some provision for the gentlemen that he had brought out with him, and asked the witness's opinion in what manner it could be done; that he told his Lordship he knew of no advantage but what resulted from trade; that he mentioned the purchases he had made, adding he could extend them, if his Lordship thought proper; that the purchases were accordingly extended with his Lordship's assent, Mr. Sumner and Mr. Sykes taking a part of the concern; that this partnership was formed about the beginning of June following, in the names of Lord Clive, Nathaniel Sumner, Sykes, and Vereeffl, each one quarter-part; and all the purchases on account of the partnership were made in the month of June; and that Lord Clive advanced his proportion, but was not concerned on his own account; that the witness always considered the concern to be merely on the account of the three gentlemen his Lordship brought out with him; that the witness chose it should stand in his Lordship's name, preferring to have the accounts in the name of one person, rather than three or four; and being asked, Whether those gentlemen received the advantage of it? he said, He himself saw the advantages divided amongst them; that he believes half purchased before the establishment of the Society of Trade, was not liable to any duty, except the 28 per Cent. to the country government, and that it paid none to the Company; that he has no doubt but the Nabob received his duties on the whole of the said partnership last; that the greatest quantity was purchased of Meffrs. Marriott, Gallopin, Governor Spencer, Meffrs. Playdell, the Attorneys of Mr. Haftings, Mr. John Johnstone and Mr. Amyatt; that the largest quantity was purchased of Mr. Johnstone. Being asked, With whom Mr. Johnstone made the bargain for the half he told on this occasion he said, Mr. Johnstone told it to the witness's Banyan, who offered the witness, Vereeffl, as a security for the payment of the money; that he supposed Mr. Johnstone was perfectly satisfied with his bargain, for he gave a receipt in full for principal and interest, and that he never complained of having been oppreffed in any degree upon that occasion; that he believes Mr. Johnstone's half balances at Burdwan were lefted entirely to his satisfaction; that Mr. Johnstone, and all other persons concerned in the half trade, were at liberty to sell their half to whom they pleased; that there never was any restraint, nor did he ever hear the least murmur about any; that notwithstanding the institution of the Society of Trade, every individual was allowed to dispose of the half on hand to whom he pleased; that the Society had no power to prevent it, nor did they ever attempt it; that if those persons who sold their half at that time kept it longer, the profits to them would have been the same as they were to the partnership. Being asked, Whether any orders of the Court of Directors were in force at the time of forming the above partnership, forbidding their servants to trade in half? he said, That, to the best of his remembrance, there were, but that he considered them as made with a view to the future, and not extending to the half already made. And being asked, Whether it was known at the time, to the different partners, that the monopoly in the half trade, which was afterwards established, would be formed? he answered, That he believed not, for he was far from considering it as a thing determined: And being further asked, If they had had any conversation on the subject, or if the matter had been in contemplation? he said, He could not recollect; that there might have been some cursory remarks made relative to that subject, but it never biassed him in the purchases he made. And being asked, Whether he thought the partnership was a breach of the orders of the 8th of February and the 1st of June 1764, which were read to him? he said, That he did not, because he considered the orders of the Company to allude only to new engagements for half to be made, and not to affect the property of individuals, in respect to any half they might have on their hands; that he did not consider the servants to be prohibited from extending their purchases to any amount for half already manufactured. And being further asked, Whether he knew of any orders of the Company which made a distinction between half already manufactured, or to be afterwards manufactured? he answered, No. Being asked, whether Mr. Tom Lewis was one of the agents for the partnership? he said, No; that he transacted some business for Mr. Sykes in the half concerns, and that he (Mr. Vereeffl) acknowledged the book publifhed in his name, in the year 1772, to be his writing, and that it contains a full account of the affairs relating to Mr. Lewis.

Mr. Sumner being examined upon the subject of the abovementioned partnership, informed his Committee, that, some time in the month of June 1765, Mr. Vereeffl mentioned to him his having made some purchases of old half upon his own account, and at the same time proposed his taking a share therein, together with Lord Clive and Mr. Sykes, which the witness agreed to; that each of them had a quarter part, and that Mr. Vereeffl undertook the management of the concern, and the keeping of the accounts; that the witness told his quarter to Mr. Vereeffl, about the middle of September, for a certain profit; that he had at this time advanced his whole share of the money required for the purchase, amounting to 2,500l.—that the amount of the agreement was extended to the 12th of April—that the net amount of the profits, deducting for deficiencies in contract and calculatis interest of money, at the rate of 10 per Cent. (which is the common interest of the country) from the time he advanced it, amounted to 4,485l., which is precisely 36 per Cent. net profit, upon the 12,500l. for nine months; that Mr. Vereeffl having had the charge of the
the concern and keeping the accounts, and the witneses having told his share to him, he can give no particular account as to the precise quantity purchased, or the ultimate disposition thereof; but that he judged the quantity of salt purchased was about 460,000 mounds.—Being asked, What proportion he thought this bore to the ready made salt in the country? he said, He could only judge from the quantity produced the two following years, which, to the left of his reckoning, was 2,820,000 mounds per annum, on an average.—Being asked, Whether a profit of 30 per Cent. in the space of nine months (after deducting ten per Cent. on the money advanced) was an unusual or extraordinary profit upon that trade in the hands of an European? he said, That upon any other article he should have considered it as a high profit, but upon the article of salt by no means so: And being asked, Whether this concern in salt was more advantageous than the concern held under the Society of Trade? he said, The ultimate conclusion of the Society's concern he was ignorant of; but with respect to the share he held himself, he told his share in the first year's trade of the Society, after holding it about 14 months, for a profit of 54 per Cent. exclusive of interest upon a capital of 20,000l. That his second year's concern told for a profit of 41 per Cent. also, exclusive of interest upon a capital of 14,300l. The first year's concern was told the 28th of October 1766, to Hufiramaul and Co. black merchants, they running all risks of loss and bad debts; and the second concern was told to Mr. Chevallier, the 6th of November 1766, two months after the establishment of the second year, he likewise running all risk. And being further asked, Whether the Proprietors, upon advancing their respective shares, received interest upon their advances, besides their profit in the trade? he answered, Yes. Being asked, Whether in his apprehension the partnership was contrary to the Company's orders? he said, He did not consider it so; if he had, he should not have entered into it; that he considered the Company's orders of the 8th February and 1st June 1764, as confined to new contracts and engagements, and no way relating to the old salt then upon hand, which every person was at liberty to dispose of as he thought proper. And being asked, Whether, at the time of the commencement of the partnership, it was determined to lay a duty of 35 per Cent. on future salt; and whether any other circumstance, that must necessarily raise the price of salt, was in contemplation at that time? he said, That no certain duty was at that time determined, nor was it determined whether the Nabob or Company were to share in the salt trade as proprieters, or to receive a certain fixed duty—that the Company had committed the regulations to the Select Committee, in a letter, under date the 1st June 1764, which letter arrived in Bengal on the 24th January 1765, and lay open to the whole settlement—that from that letter it appeared that the Company expected to be considered in the advantages of the salt trade, and that the Nabob was to be fully satisfied on his part—that every body must have known that these two objects could not have been accomplished but by an advance of duty, which must be considerably more than the then established rate of duty, and consequently that the price of salt must considerably rise in Calcutta. Being asked, Whether he imagined the partnership salt was disposed of and concluded, before the salt of the Society could come into circulation? he said, He apprehended it might have been disposed of, but could not say whether it was or not: And being asked, Whether Lord Clive entered into this concern on his own account, or on account of the three gentlemen mentioned by Mr. Verelst? he said, That Lord Clive's name stood in the partnership; but that the witneses always understood it was upon the account of those three gentlemen, and that the profits were to be divided amongst them. Your Committee then examined Francis Sykes, Esquire, a Member of the House; who being asked, Whether he remembered any partnership between himself, Lord Clive, Mr. Sumner, and Mr. Verelst? said, That a quantity of salt was purchased by them, the time he could not recollect, but he believed it might be about two months after their arrival; that the said salt was bought of many black people, and many English gentlemen; Mr. John Johnstone, Mr. Hadding's Attorneys, and others; that they bought it on their own private account, and that it was salt manufactured the year before their arrival. Being asked, Why they dealt themselves in salt, before they had proceeded to regulate the trade? he said, He did not know that they did, previous to their entering on the subject, or to the intention being publicly known; that this partnership salt was not told to the Society, but to the country people; that the gentlemen concerned were drawn upon for money agreeably to their shares; that the witneses's proportion was about a lack of rupees; that the advantages of the said partnership, to those who continued their concern, reckoning loss of interest and balances, might be 50 per Cent. he said, That he did not recollect who made the proposal to Lord Clive relating to this partnership, but that his Lordship was not concerned in it from the beginning; that it was begun by Mr. Verelst; that the witneses afterwards accepted a concern; and that some time after Lord Clive and Mr. Sumner did the same. And being asked, Whether Lord Clive entered into this partnership, or did the benefit of other persons? he said, He remembered very well that at the time Lord Clive took the concern, he declared he would not benefit himself six-pence by it; that he intended the profits which might arise from it for Mr. Stracheys, Mr. Miskeleyne, and Mr. Inglam the surgeon, the three gentlemen who had accompanied him to India. And
And your Committee observing, that the first orders of the select Committee at Bengal for the recall of the free merchants, as stated in their former report, happened about three weeks before the time when the partnership was formed; they examined Francis Sykes, Esquire, to that point, who being asked, What orders of the government and council, for recalling free merchants residing up the country, were alluded to in the minute of the select Committee of the 11th May 1765 (which minute was read) and is in the Appendix of the former report of your Committee, No. 84? he said, he did not recollect, but did imagine there were grounds for orders of that kind. And being further asked, if there were any complaints from free merchants, made to the select Committee? he said, there was a general complaint of the misconduct of free merchants residing in the interior part of the country, with respect to the country government; but at this distance of time he could not point out any one. And being asked, whether he thought a month a sufficient time for any man up the country to adjust his affairs for his departure? he answered, No — but he understood a much longer time was allowed to the free merchants; that the time limited first by the select Committee, for the recall of the free merchants, extended to all of them, except upon representation of their particular situation, that their affairs could not be settled within the time specified; in which cases, upon their representations, some deviations were permitted.

And your Committee thinking this a proper occasion to lay before the House the other circumstances alluded to in their former report, relative to the recall of free merchants, they have inserted in their Appendix, No. 4 to 31, several extracts from the Company's records, beginning the 23d February 1765, which is the earliest period your Committee have thought it necessary to refer to, in order to show the different representations that were made, and the different regulations and orders that existed, upon this subject, and likewise the remission of such orders and regulations in particular instances.

And your Committee find, that the letter of the 8th of February 1764, referred to in a former part of this report, arrived in Bengal the 13th of July 1764; that consultations were had on the said letter, on the 21st of the said month; and further, that the Governor and Council, on the 17th of October following, in consequence of the orders contained in the said letter, and likewise in consequence of representations from the Nabob, resolved, that the inland trade should in general be prohibited, with such exceptions, and qualifications as will appear in an extract from the consultations in the secret department of that date, and annexed in the Appendix, No. 32.

And your Committee find, that the general letter from the court of Directors, of the 1st of June 1764, arrived in Bengal on the 24th of January 1765; and that on the 25th the Governor and Council agreed to defer proceeding upon the orders therein contained, relating to the inland trade, as Lord Clive and the other gentlemen might be soon expected to arrive.

And it appears to your Committee, that on the 10th of August 1765, Mr. Sumner and Mr. Vereiff, constituting a select Committee, took into consideration the subject of the inland trade, in the articles of sail, beetle-nut, and tobacco, and resolved on a plan for conducting the same; and for the full information of the house upon that plan, your Committee have inserted in their appendix the necessary extracts from the proceedings of the select Committee of that date, No. 33.

And your Committee find, by an extract from the consultation hereunto annexed, No. 34, that, on the 12th of August, Mr. Sumner, the preceeding member, laid before the Council the above mentioned plan, as a ground work for carrying on the trade in future: That a Committee, consisting of Mefirs. Sumner, Vereiff, Leycester, and Gray, were then appointed for conducting the said plan; and the chiefs of the several subordinate factories were ordered to pay due regard to such instructions as they might receive from time to time from the said Committee; and extracts of the circular lettersent to the subordinate factories are inserted in the Appendix, No. 35.

And your Committee further find, from the consultation of the 18th of September 1765, that a letter from the Committee of trade, dated the 11th of September, was laid before the Council; requesting that a deed might be granted from Lord Clive and the Council to the said Committee of trade, for securing to the Society the free and sole purchase of the articles of sail, beetle-nut, and tobacco, from the 1st of September 1765, to the 31st of August 1766; and it appears to your Committee, that such a deed was afterwards executed, the particular evidence respecting which is inserted in the subsequeant part of this report.

And your Committee find, that on the 18th of September 1765, the select Committee resumed the consideration of the plan for carrying on the inland trade, which they completed on that day; that the said proceedings were laid before the Council, on the 25th of September, and transmitted to the Committee of trade, with instructions to proceed accordingly thereto; and a copy of the proceedings of the select Committee of the 18th of September, together with an abstract from the consultation of the 25th of September, are inserted in the Appendix, No. 36 and 37.

And it appears, that the select Committee, in the 31st and 32d paragraphs of their letter of the 32d of September, 1765, and Lord Clive, in the 17th and 18th paragraphs of his letter the same date (copies of which letters are in the Appendix of your Committee's former report)
which appears, the select Committee, on the 29th of October 1765, consented to the appointment of European Agents to conduct the business of the Society in different parts of the country; and copies of their proceedings of that date, and their letter to the Committee of trade, of the 1st of November, are annexed, No. 39 and 40.

And it appears, by a letter from the Committee of trade to the select Committee, dated the 1st of November 1765, copy whereof is annexed, No. 41, that 9 persons were then appointed Agents to the Society; and that on the 5th of November, the select Committee, in their answer to the Committee of trade, copy whereof is annexed, No. 42, made several rectifications respecting the said Agents.

And it appears, by a letter from the Committee of trade to the select Committee, dated the 8th of January 1766, that they proposed the Agents of the Society should be permitted, notwithstanding the original regulations before referred to in the Appendix, under which they were employed to dispose of the falt then on hand belonging to private traders; to which the select Committee on the 9th of January consented; and copies of the said letter of the proceedings of the select Committee thereupon, and their answer thereto, are annexed, No. 43, 44, and 45.—And it appears, by the letter of the select Committee of the 31st of January 1766, paragraphs 8, 9, 10 and 11—copy of which letter is annexed No. 46—that they informed the court of Directors of the deviation they had made from their general order for recalling free merchants.

And your Committee have annexed in the Appendix, No. 47, 48, 49 and 50, extracts of such letters from the court of Directors, upon the subject of the inland trade, as were received in Bengal after the general letter of the 18th of June 1764, and before the establishment of the second plan for conducting the falt trade; which was proposed by Lord Clive to the select Committee on the 3d of September 1766.

Your Committee do not find any further remarkable transactions respecting this trade, which are not already before the house, till the 15th of August 1766, when certain merchants were brought before the select Committee, and required to refund the surplus profit upon their sales, being 41,535 rupees, as an excess of the price they took beyond what the select Committee thought they had a right to take; copies of the proceedings of the select Committee of that date are annexed in the Appendix, No. 51.

And the plan which was proposed by Lord Clive, for carrying on the falt trade a second year, notwithstanding the orders from the court of Directors of the 19th of February 1766, together with his Lordship's reasons for such proposal, are entered in the select Committee proceedings of the 3d September 1766, and copy thereof is annexed in the Appendix, No. 52.

And it appears by the confutations of the 8th of September, extract of which is annexed in Appendix, No. 53, that the abovementioned proceedings were laid before the Council, the new regulations approved, and a Committee of trade were appointed to carry the plan of the salt trade into execution.

And your Committee find, that Lord Clive, in the 18 and 20 paragraphs of his letter to the court of Directors, dated 6th September 1766, and the select Committee, in the 25th paragraph of their letter of the 8th of the same month, and also in the 4th and 5th paragraphs of the letter of the 5th of December 1766, copies of which are annexed, No. 54, 55 and 56, communicated to the court of Directors the alterations which they had made in the plan for carrying on the salt trade, together with their arguments on the subject.

And your Committee find, that the Court of Directors, by their letter to the Select Committee, dated 17th of May 1766, paragraphs 4 and 31 to 39 inclusive, in answer to the Bengal dispatch of 32d of September 1765, and which arrived at Bengal the 8th of December 1766, disapproved of the plan which had been transmitted in the said letter of the 30th of September 1765, for trading in falt, bettle nut, and tobacco, and accordingly confirmed their former orders for its entire abolition; declaring their opinion, that all who had been concerned in this trade were guilty of a breach of covenants; and in their letter to Lord Clive of the same date, paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 9 and 11, they repeat the like prohibition.—And your Committee have added to their appendix, No. 57, extract of a letter from Lord Clive to the Select Committee at Bengal, dated the 10th January 1767, relative to the abolition of the salt trade—and it appears, that on the same day the Select Committee resolved, that the Society of Trade should be abolished and the inland trade totally relinquished on the 1st day of September following; and it further appears, that in their letter to the Court of Directors, dated the 24th of January 1767, extract of which is in the appendix, No. 58, sent by the Britains, in which ship Lord Clive embarked for Europe, they informed them of the abovementioned resolution.

And it further appears, that on the 15th of February 1767, the Select Committee laid before the council their resolution for abolishing the Society of Trade, and that the council then ordered publication to be made of the same.
But your Committee think proper to state, that the Society was not in fact dissolved till the 14th of September 1768, as will appear by the evidence of Doctor Semple in the subsequent parts of this report, and likewise by a public advertisement, proved to have been compared with the original by Mr. Whitall.

Your Committee also find, that Lord Clive, after his arrival in England, in a letter, dated the 28th of August 1767, used many arguments with the Court of Directors to induce them to continue the benefit of the salt trade to their servants, as will more fully appear by the letter in the appendix, No. 59.

And your Committee further find, That Lord Clive, in another letter, dated Bath, the 14th November 1767, in the appendix, No. 60, remonstrated with the Court of Directors against the opening of the salt trade, and taking only a duty of 10 rupees per hundred maunds: And your Committee find, that the Court of Directors, in their general letter to Bengal, dated the 20th November, 1767, paragraphs 88 to 118, copies whereof are hereunto annexed, No. 61, ordered, that the duty on salt should be fixed as to produce a revenue of 100,000l. at least, and not to exceed 120,000l. and in consideration of having confined the trade of their servants to articles of import and export, they ordered a commission of 2 per cent. of the nett territorial revenues to be distributed amongst their principal servants, in the proportions therein named.

And your Committee find, That after all the abovementioned prohibitions of the inland trade, in salt, beetle-nut and tobacco, the Court of directors, on the 15th September 1769, as appears by the 27th paragraph of the instructions to the supervisors, copy of which is hereunto annexed, No. 62. laid open the said trade to all persons, as well Europeans as natives but your Committee do not find, when the said Court of directors laid the inland trade open to such of their servants as were not prohibited from trading by the general subsisting regulations, that they gave any directions for withholding the proportion of the 21 per cent. on the territorial revenues allowed to such servants, notwithstanding it has been originally given to them in consideration of their being confined to imports and exports.

In order to elucidate these transactions, your Committee examined several witnesses; and that they might not break the periodical succession of facts as contained in the Company's records cited above, they have referred the evidence to lay before the House together:

And first, Mr. Sumner was called upon to state to your Committee the grounds upon which the Society of Trade was established; and it appearing by Mr. Sumner's answer, that he had very maturely considered this subject, and that he had thought proper to enter into a full detail thereupon, Your Committee think it advisable to give his evidence verbatim, so far as it relates to that question.

The subject on which I am now to reply, of all others, opens the widest field for misrepresentation, because it was the least understood by the Court of Directors, and has proved the severest check to the interested views of individuals: the joint trade in salt, beetle-nut, and tobacco having been held forth to the world in the odious light of an oppressive monopoly, it has wrought upon the feelings of a generous people as a most intolerable grievance; supported however by a confcioufness that the Select Committee at Bengal perfectly understood, and closely pursued, the public good, when they instituted the society; I shall without fear of reproach, as one of the members of that Committee, enter into an explanation of the motives which governed their conduct: It will be necessary to recall your ideas to the state of the inland trade in former times; the article of salt in particular, prior to 1756, was farmed at from 25 to 35000 per annum; the revolution in 1756 extended the views of the Company's servants to advantages beyond what they had hitherto derived from a trade confined to imports and exports, and from that period they began to participate in the benefit of an inland commerce, and some even in those early days of our influence, entertained hopes of a right, founded upon our Plurimands, to an exemption of duties upon salt: It was not, however, till after Meer Coffin's accession in 1760, that such right was publicly avowed; then it was that the Company acquired possession of Burdwan, Midnapore, and Chittagong, on which, and the Company's Calcutta Lands, near two thirds of the whole quantities of salt for the consumption of Bengal is manufactured: by possessing their countries the English considered themselves now the proprietors, and became the principal original dealers in that article: Some were content with the profit arising from salt in Calcutta, whilst others launched out farther to seek the profits through the country: the magnitude of this branch of trade, and the manner in which it was now carried on, became the subject of contest and dispute between Meer Coffin, and our government, the particulars of which having been laid before this Committee, not to trespass on their time, I beg leave to refer to.

On Meer Jaffier's re-instatement to the government, in 1765, our influence with respect to the manufacture of salt, by the possession of these countries, continued in full force; and our uncontroverted right to trade in salt, on paying 24 per cent. duty, was first established, the nation being subject to a duty of 7 per cent.: how far this distinction was proper, I cannot pretend to determine but certifi it is, that the proprietors of the India Stock, as well as the Directors, considered it as a grant too partial in itself, and which they apprehend might involve us in fresh disputes with the country government. Lord Clive being appointed.
pointed in 1764 to take the charge of the Company's affairs in Bengal, the inland trade was then considered, by I believe, almost every proprietor, as one of the great sources of contention with the country government; it therefore became the subject of serious debate at repeated general courts; by some it was recommended to restrain the servants, as formerly, to the usual articles of import and export; others forewore the difficulties of inducing men, under the circumstances of power and influence, quietly to relinquish advantages they had long enjoyed, unless some adequate equivalent was proposed; various persons produced the following motion: "That it be recommended to the Court of Directors to give information to the presidency of Bengal, to settle such regulations in carrying on the trade in fats, beets-nut, and tobacco, as shall prove most advantageous to this Company, without prejudice to the full rights of the Nabob of the provinces; and that such regulations be transmitted home to the Court of Directors by the first opportunity, with every information which can enable them to determine on so important a subject."

This motion implies a total suspension of at least two years of any regulations; the forming a plan in Bengal, which should be transmitted to England for the approbation of the Court of Directors before it was adopted, would have left this important branch of trade open so long, and it was evident such delay would necessarily hazard further disputes with the country government, which it was the carnal desire of the Court wholly to remove. The motion was opposed, from a full conviction of the bad tendency of delaying the proposed regulations, in which I joined with many intelligent proprietors; it was in consequence withdrawn, and the general court came to the following resolution; viz.

"That it be recommended to the Court of Directors to reconsider the orders sent to Bengal relative to the trade of the Company's servants in fats, beet-nut, and tobacco; and that they do give such directions for regulating the same, agreeably to the interest of the Company and the Subah, as to those may appear most evident, either by settling here a home the restrictions under which this trade ought to be carried on, or by referring it to the Governor and Council of Fort William, to regulate this important point in such a manner as may prevent all future disputes between the Subah and the Company.

If actions and words convey any meaning, certainly the withdrawing the first motion, because of the delay and suspension of necessary regulations, which it implied, and subsisting in the room of that motion this new resolution, clearly explains the meaning of the Court to be, that some regulations should immediately be established, either at home or abroad; the Directors expressly declare their inability to form a plan, definite as they are of the necessary lights and informations; yet as they now chafe to join in the general clamour, and throw an odium on their servants, they have been pleased to continue their own orders into a meaning directly opposite to the beforementioned resolution of the General Court, and to file this an unauthorized trade. The servants, never once imagining that the Court of Directors had allured to themselves an authority superior to that of their constituents, adopted the sentiments of the General Court of proprietors, at which court they themselves molt of them were present; they believed the orders of the Court of Directors, although loosely expressed, were intended to convey the spirit of the above resolution. Amidst many injurious reflections which have been thrown out, it has been said, that self-interest influenced the conduct of the Select Committee in this institution; and that the whole was calculated to bring advantages to themselves. In answer to this, I beg leave to observe that every member of the Select Committee, under the advantages they consequently poffessed from their rank and situation in the service, from their local knowledge and extent of credit, must have derived to themselves much greater benefit from an open, free and unrestrained trade subject to a duty even of 35 per cent. each carrying it on on his own account, than they could possibly expect from the share assigned to each in this joint trade, subject to the same duty, and where the profits were limited. So far as concerns myself in point of interest, I solemnly declare I would rather have preferred the former to the latter.

With respect to the plan adopted for the first year, for carrying on this joint trade, the same was formed upon the best knowledge we could then obtain of the quantities of fat consumed in the country, and the medium prices of fat at the different markets. We actually searched back for near 20 years, and the prices in consequence of this research were paid at the several markets, at which the society transported fat, from 10 to 15 per cent. lower than the medium prices of the said term; from these markets it was dispersed through the country by the natives: Our contracts for the purchases were likewise left open to the natives, and others indiscriminately; so that it may be here observed, we sought not the ultimate profits either in the purchase or the sale. The plan was thus calculated to bring fat at a more reasonable price to the hands of the consumer; to create the revenues to the Company £120,000 per annum; and to hold out such rewards of fidelity to their servants, as might engage them, by ties of interest and gratitude, to a cordial discharge of their duty; but experience having pointed out, in the course of a year, some defects in this first plan, further regulations were imposed in that adopted for the second year. The duties to the Company were augmented from 35 to 50 per cent. or from 120 to £160,000 per annum: The profits to the servants were diminished; it was ordered that all fat should be sold in Calcutta at 2 rupees per maund to the native merchants, into whole hands, and under whole management, it was then entirely thrown, with such limitation of profits at the different markets,
as yielded a sufficient encouragement to the merchant, and at the same time brought salt to the hands of the consumer at a more moderate price than had been known in the preceding years. Such were the plans which are now figmented with the odious appellation of a monopoly: There are the plans precipitately abolished by the court of directors, notwithstanding, to this hour, they have not substituted any thing in their room, which deserves the name of regulations. I must here observe, that many circumstances concurred to render this plan the most eligible that could then be adopted. The Company at this period having just come into the possession of the dawnee, the Nabob's interest, with respect to the duties, was of course no longer a consideration; but it became an object with the select Committee, how to enable the Company to derive to themselves, through the channel of their Commerce, all possible benefit from their new acquisitions: This could not be effected but by an increased investment in the manufactures of Bengal; to secure this increase, it became necessary to restrain the servants from proceeding to largely as they had been accustomed to on private account; goods of the same assortment with the Company's raw silk was earnestly fought for by the court of directors, and the servants were particularly restrained in that article, from which they had always derived the greatest profits. Moreover, the whole body of proprietors having thought proper at this time to bind down by covenant their servants from the receipt of presents, and the salaries allowed by the Company to their council being inadequate even to the charge of a house rent, no prospects of returning to their native country remained to the servants, except from the advantages of an inland trade. These are the reasons which induced the select Committee to lose no time in forming a plan to carry on this important inland trade. What were the reasons which operated with the court of directors to abolish and suffer the trade to relapse into its former anarchy, they alone can best explain; they have abolished a plan of the inflated trade, from which the Company gained first £ 120, and next £ 160,000 per annum; from which their servants derived an honourable reward of their fidelity, with a reasonable prospect of independency at the close of their servitude; from which the native merchants received their full share of the advantage; and from which the consumer received his salt at a more moderate rate than he had done for many years preceding; a plan equally advantageous to the Company, to the country, and to the servants; and which, in my opinion, they will soon be obliged to adopt again, or one similar to it.

And the witnesses being asked, whether he thought the quantity of salt made in Bengal, was equal to the consumption? he said, There were different opinions upon that subject, but in his own opinion, more than the consumption was made; and that this opinion was formed from observing the difficulty the society found in disposing of their salt; and that speaking at random, he should imagine two millions of annas would be sufficient for the consumption, and in favourable times 2,800,000 annas were made: That salt was also imported into Bengal from the coast of Coromandel, and from Persia; the quantities in general but small, and that from Persia principally used medicinally: That the regulations did not extend to the salt imported; and that no salt is exported. And being asked, whether the Committee of trade, or governor and council, lent the money of the society of trade to the treasury in Bengal, and received the interest, and that interest being made principal was lent again, and so on from two months to two months? he said, That no such transaction ever passed to his knowledge: That on a report of that kind prevailing some weeks ago, he had made it his business to search the Company's records upon that subject; and that he found on the consultation of the 28th of January 1772, mention made that 10,000 rupees, principal money, was lent by the society to the Company, on the usual terms of 8 per cent. per annum interest: That it appeared by the same consultation, that this same sum had been paid into the treasury to bear interest as the 23rd of November; and that the bonds granted for the same were to bear interest from the time the money was paid into the treasury, though they were not executed till two months after the payment, according to the usual custom of the service; and that he since understood that it was upon this circumstance, misapprehending that two months interest had been paid, that such report took its rise.

And being asked, if the governor and council ever pay interest for their bonds, except yearly? he said, Never, when they pay the bonds off in ready money; but that it has been a custom for many years past, on the dispatch of the ships to Europe, that bonds are received with the interest made up thereon, without any regard to their dates, and cancelled for bills of exchange on Europe.

And the witnesses being questioned as to the prices of salt at Calcutta in the year 1761, and at other times previous to the establishment of the society; he informed your Committee, that in November 1761 he sold 55,000 annas at 155; in December 1762 at 165.—Those figures and the subsequent ones, were at a time when no duties were payable in Calcutta; but that the merchants who bought of him were subject to the duties of the country government; and all the taxes, stoppages, and vexations in the course of the boat up the country; that he sold the following parcels as marked:

December:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Maunds</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 1767</td>
<td>2,200 at 167</td>
<td>For himself only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3,444 at 160</td>
<td>October 17 1,100 at 173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12,383 at 167</td>
<td>October 22 224 at 170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,551 at 162</td>
<td>December 541 at 170</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

January 1762 — 2,710 at 167, 3,065 at 167

And the witness being asked, if he knew of any books of accounts being kept by the Society of Trade, the trade in flax, beetle-nut, and tobacco? He said, 'That a one set of books, comprehending the accounts of the Society from the 1st of September 1764 to 31st of August 1766, was opened on the 1st of September 1765, under the denomination of Society of Trade, letter (A). Another set of the same sort were opened in the following year.

And being asked, at what time the tax of 35 per Cent. was payable, and by whom? He said, in the first year the duties were payable by the Committee of Trade, as guarantees for the proprietors; but no time was stipulated for the payment in the deed of incorporation: That the duties upon flax were computed at 90 rupees the 100 maunds; upon beetle nut, at the price at which the Society purchased; and that the Society never bought any tobacco.

Your Committee also examined William Bolt, Esq; respecting the price of flax before and after the establishment of the Salt Society; and he informed your Committee, That at a public sale, in the Mayor's Court or Townhouse of Calcutta, on the 2d or 3d of April 1764, 178,991 maunds were sold in small lots, 1,200 at 101, the rest from 97 to 60 rupees per 100 maunds, and that the flax was at Saltkey, opposite the town of Calcutta; on the 22d of November 1764, 20,000 maunds were delivered at Nullon, about a day's journey from Calcutta, to Mr. Thomas Rumbold at 89; from October 1764, to March 1765, another quantity, of 15,725 maunds, were at the same place delivered to Mr. Walter Wilkins, at the same price; upon an agreement made in December 1764, 30,000 maunds were delivered by him in Calcutta, in April 1765, to Mr. Rudell Skinner, and Mr. Thomas Hewett, and others, at 80 rupees.—On the 20th of June 1765, his agent, Mr. Peter Gallopine, as a custodian to Mr. William Hay, deceased, sold Harry Vertell 25,193 maunds, at 95 rupees. In August, 1765, and July, flax sold from 112 to 116 — September and October, to 141 — November, 150 — August, 1766, 230 — October, 280. These were the current prices of flax at that time. At Calcutta and at Dacca, the prices were according to the following original account of sale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Maunds</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On the 13th September and 18th November 1765</td>
<td>179</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 1766</td>
<td>——</td>
<td>——</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th February</td>
<td>——</td>
<td>——</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 1768</td>
<td>——</td>
<td>——</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

And it was at the same price at that time at Rajahberry, a market two days journey from Dacca, as appears by an attestation under the Kazi's seal, produced by the witnesses. The prices of flax at Patna were, on the 13th March 1763, at 279 per 100 maund—from 34th January 1766, to 11th July, the witnesses by his agent, Cojamaul, 7,200, at Balhoo, Safferuin, and Chouna, at 4 rupees 7 annas per maund, or about 4,44 rupees per 100 maund—from 18th June 1766, to 14th May 1767, flax was sold by his agent, Cojamaul, on the borders of the Patna province, at near 0 rupees per maund, or near from 57 to 60 rupees per hundred maunds, retail, at Chouna and other places within the distance of 5 or 6 days sail from Patna.

The witnesses further said, That the rupees mentioned above were Benaras Sonauts; the maunds were 80 and 82 Sicas weight.

And being asked, Why flax was at so low a rate at Patna in the year 1763? He said, Because it was very low at Calcutta at that time, which was the time of the troubles.

Being asked, Whether every body at that time was selling their flax and all other commodities for what they could get? He said, He was not under any apprehensions, longer than the first months of the breaking out of the war.—All the general alarm was over after the battle of Garee, which happened on the 2d of August 1765.

Being asked, What were the distances of Chouna and Safferuin from Patna? He answered, Two days; by water, four, or five, according to weather and current.

And the witnesses being directed to inform the Committee, at what prices he had sold flax at preceding periods, and having consulted his books for that purpose, by desire of the Committee, he transmitted an account, as follows: "In answer to the question which was put to me, relative to the duties and price of flax in Bengali and its dependant provinces, at periods previous and subsequent to the establishment of the Exonclusive Society at Calcutta in the year 1765; upon a careful examination of authentic papers in my possession, I find, that at Patna,

- "In May 1762, Mr. Henry Lushington sold 2,000 maunds, at 3. 5. 0. per maund, or at 331 rupees per 100 maunds.
- "In May 1763, Mr. John Harris sold 1,200 maunds, at 2. 11. 0. per maund, or 268 rupees per 100 maunds.
- "At Murshedabad, in February 1763, Mr. P. Harney sold 2,400 maunds, at 188 rupees per 100 maunds.
- "In
In April 1765, Mr. Asfanius William Senior sold 1000 maunds, at 150 rupees per 100 maunds.

At Calcutta,

In the year 1761—from my transactions with Mr. John Wolfaflon, Sooberman—by fink, and others, I find the medium price of felt for the whole year, sold and delivered at Calcutta, the ground duties being paid, was 170 rupees per 100 maunds.

In the year 1762. It was from 170 to 170 ditto, the ground duties being also paid by the seller or importer.

In January 1763—Upon the same conditions I sold to a black merchant, named Chaund Haldar, 10,000 maunds, at the then market price of 159 rupees per 100 maunds.

I have already given evidence of what the prices of felt were in the years 1764, 1765, 1766, 1767, and 1768.

In the year 1769, I find, that Meffieurs Archibald Keir and Comp. sold to Mr. William Young, delivered at Calcutta, the duties being paid, 10,000 maunds of felt, at 125 rupees per 100 maunds.

And to Kebooranghoole, upon the same terms, maunds 1800, at 130 rupees per 100 maunds.

And too Sook deb Mullick 59,393 maunds, deliverable at Calna, the ground duties being paid, at 140 rupees per 100 maunds.

The Khallery or ground duty upon the making of felt, all over Bengal and Oriaux, was always extremely inconsiderable, before the establishment of the regulations made by the various Committees of the English Council at Calcutta, from the year 1762 to the present time; informuch that a salt merchant making his felt at first hand, in a great part of the salt countries, could have made, transported, and landed his felt in Calcutta, within the expense of 25 rupees per hundred maunds.

In the years 1762 and 1763, I was myself concerned in a large parcel of felt, which being imported from the provinces of Jellahore and Midnapore, and landed on the Shore opposite to Calcutta, ground duty and all charges included, stood the concerned at the rate of fifty-five rupees per hundred maunds; upon the exportation of felt from Calcutta our own accounts, I and my partners always paid the Rownanah duties establihed with the country government; and upon the flottage of some of our boats for the new duties, after Governor Vanfittart had settled the Mongheer treaty with the Nabob Cofin Ali Cawn, we actually paid the duty of 9 per 100, established by that treaty during the convent upon that subject, to avoid any appearance of a dispute upon the value of the duty.

The medium of the charges of transporting the abovementioned felt from the provinces of Jellahore and Midnapore to Calcutta was about 7 3/16ths rupees per hundred maunds.

The Committee of lands at Calcutta, during Mr. Vanfittart's government, about the year 1762, established a ground duty, which continued to 1764, upon all felt made in the Company's twenty-four Pergunnas, of thirty Sicca rupees per Khallary, or set of felt pans, which were estimated to produce in one manf from 250 to 300 maunds each Kullah; that duty was establihed as an improvement of the Company's revenue, which it certainly was, but it was at that time looked upon as a great encroachment on the laws of the country; upon the establishment of the Exclusive Society, by the Right Honourable Lord Clive and the Select Committee at Calcutta, in 1765, the above Khallary duty was by their regulations abolished, though afterwards paid to be continued, and felt through-put the country was subject by that Committee to a duty of 17 per Cent. valuating the felt at 50 Arect rupees per hundred maunds; and in the year 1766 they fixed this duty at 50 per Cent.—By a paper in my possession, which is a copy transmitted to me from Bengal, of an order published in the Bengal language, by the Governor and Council of Calcutta, dated the first of April 1769, it appears the whole and sole duty on felt was fixed at thirty rupees per hundred maunds, payable upon the dispatch of the felt from the pans.

Before the establiishment of the before-mentioned exclusive society, Calcutta had so far become a general repository and mart for felt, that it was from thence transported to every part of the country, even to Luccypore and other places, much nearer to the felt grounds than Calcutta; so that the prices which felt could have been afforded to be sold for at all the inland places, upon a free inland trade, may be very nearly and fairly computed by calculating the risk and charges to the respective markets, and adding them, with an equita-ble profit, to the Calcutta price.

And Mr. Bolts being desired to give an account of any boats belonging to him being stop-ped; he informed your Committee, that in the month of October 1766, 24 boats of old felt, belonging to him were stop-ped by the Phouzdar at Rajamal — they had the Company's duttuck, and the permit of Hooghly, having paid the 21 per cent. the Phouzdar told his agent, as he informed him, that he did it by Mr. Sykes's orders; he applied to Mr. Sykes, but in the mean time the Phouzdar infilted upon having money, and took 100 Sicca rupees from his agent; the boats were detained, and at a considerable expense to him; that Mr. Sykes on his application got them released, and ordered the 100 rupees to be returned; he had no allowance for losses sustained by demorage, nor did he ever learn that the Phouzdar was
was punished.—The obstructions he met with everywhere induced him to fell many parcel of fat, at various places, much lower than he should otherwise have done; that he told 7,582 maunds, to Mr. Sykes, at Salta Gunge, near the Dinagepore province, at 250 rupees per 100 maund, in August 1766; which fat he might have sold at the same place, and at that time, for 300 rupees per 100 maund, if there had not been any obstructions.

And Francis Sykes, Esquire, being defir'd to relate what he knew of the above transaction, said, he recollects that Mr. Bolts wrote to him relative to the flopping of some fat boats; that on the receipt of his letter he applied to the ministers at Muxadabad, who enquired into the circumstances; the Phouzdar's answer was, That the Duftuck which Mr. Bolts's people were poiffessed of had not been produced to the proper officer; but on further inquiry into it, he found that Mr. Bolts's people had the duftuck, and he could not get at the true knowledge why the boats were detained; but he defin'd the administration would order the Phouzdar to return the money he had taken; which they did accordingly, and the money was returned; and that he recommended to them to punifh the officer. — He declared that no officer of the government ever received any orders for the flopping of any boats whatever.

— Rajamaul, where the boats were detained, is two days journey from Muxadabad.

And for further information respecting the prices of fat at different periods at Patna, your Committee examined Gregory Cojamaul; who said, that in March 1765 he found by enquiry, the market price was 225 rupees the 100 maund; and he hold some fat, the 14th of June following, to Kifing Chund and others, at 250 rupees;— at Saffaran, the 30th of August 1766, he fold fat at 575 rupees; — those fold at Patna, were for Patna Sonatus, those at Saffaran were Benaras.

And being asked, what was the price of beetle-nut at Patna, at the same time? he said, On the 14th of March 1765 beetle-nut was at four rupees per maund; 28th of January 1767 beetle-nut was bought for him at 10 rupees per maund; on the 13th of October 1767 he bought of Mr. Rumbold's Banyan at 13 rupees per maund.

Your Committee next examined Thomas Rumbold, Esquire, relative to the prices at which the fat, belonging to the Society of trade, had been sold at Patna during his chiefship; and he inform'd your Committee, that he was chief of Patna from November 1766 to November 1767; and that a small parcel of fat in 1767 fold at 400 rupees and 12ths the hundred maund: That at the end of 1767 the greatest part was contracted for, by some black merchants; at 575 Aroon rupees; — the retail price was four rupees to four rupees 12 annas — or from 450 to 457 rupees per 100 maund; — that of late years the price of fat has varied very much, according to whether there were troubles in the country or not; he does not know of his own knowledge, but always understood that the medium price in former years was about 350 rupees per 100 maund; — that by an account of sales, on the 15th of September 1768; it appeared that part of the fat was fold at 400, and a large part at 312. 6 annas.

The witness being asked, What quantity of fat sold to be imported into the province of Bahar, before the establishment of the fat society? — he said, he found, by his own observatons at Patna, that the consumption was about 400,000 maunds a year.

And being asked, whether the markets in Bahar were sufficiently supplied? he said, there was so large a quantity sent up by the Society, that when he left Patna, in October 1769, there was no greater quantity of the Society's fat remained uncleared for by the contracting merchants than what the Society sent up their fat, there was a great quantity of private merchants' fat then at Patna, which hindered the sale of their fat.

Being asked, whether any fat was imported into Bahar by individuals, after the establishment of the fat society? he said, the merchants who purchased the Society's fat, the latter end of 1769, had agreed with them, that no fat belonging to individuals should be allowed to be imported into Bahar till September 1768: — That the Society referred that time to themselves for disposing of their own fat — all the Society's fat sold before the above contracts from 412 to 425; no orders ever came to Patna for fixing the price of fat.

And being asked, whether any applications were made to him to hinder the natives making fat in 1768? he said, The Company's fatpetre works were under his direction as chief of Patna. In the district of Durbangar the Society's agents Mr. Lethieuiller, complained to him that the fatpete manufafturers, instead of making the fatpete they ought to do for the Company, were employed in making fat, to the great detriment of the sale of the Society's fat; it had always been cufomary, from the refufe of the petre, to make a small quantity of fat, which fat paid a small duty to the Phouzdar, he also paying a duty to the government. — He acquainted Mr. Lethieuiller that he could not put a flop to the making of that fat, as it would interfere with the duties to the government — on this he complained to the Society of trade; in consequence of which he received a letter from the president and Council, dated May 1768, to which, and his answer on the records, he referred.

And being asked, whether he knows of any orders from Mahomed Reza Cawn for flopping the boats going to Patna? — he said, there were orders from the Society of trade to him, and from M. R. Cawn to Shetabroy, that no fat was to be allowed to pass into the province till September 1768; that he has not the letter to ascertain the date, but he has his answer, which is dated the 25th of May 1768; that the nature of the order to Shetabroy was much the fame as that to himself; that he, Mr. Rumbold, on the receipt of his letter, defir'd Shetabroy to regulate that matter himself, and that he never afterwards interfered in it — That
applications were made to him for boats that were float in consequence of that order; and that he has always referred them to Shetabroy, who had the execution of that business.

And in order to obtain further information, relative to the sales of salt, your Committee examined Doctor William Sample, who informed your Committee, that he went to Bengal as a free merchant, and was appointed a salt agent the beginning of April 1766 — That his instructions were to take the opinion of the gentlemen of the factory in settling the price, and report it to the Committee for conducting the trade — That he found the gentlemen at a loss and therefore consulted the Black Merchants: The price he recommended was 250 rupees the 100 maunds; at which price, with the approbation of the Committee of trade, he sold upwards of 300,000 maunds — That in the course of the ensuing winter, as he believed a little after Christmas, and the beginning of 1767, he raised the price, being informed that it was customary in a dry season for the salt to rise, and sold 30,000 maunds at 325 rupees in the course of the spring, and 21,000 at 320 thereabout: This was before the conclusion of the first year's sale, which finished in August 1767 — That the second year's sale he opened at 300 rupees 100 maunds, on the first of September 1767 — That the merchants complaining to him, that the price was rather too high, he reported it to the Committee, who authorized him to reduce it; and that he settled it, with the perfect consent of his employers and the purchasers, at 200 rupees, and sold 470,000 maunds, or thereabouts; at that price — That he finished the second year's sale in September 1768 — That the Committee furnished to him, that the society was to be dissolved, and he therefore notified it by their desire to the public, by a public advertisement. — And being asked, if on the second year's establishment he had any fixed price delivered to him at which the salt should be sold, and from whom? — He said, he was instructed by the Committee of trade to open the sale at 300 rupees for 100 maunds, which was the price he had recommended; and that there were no other alterations made in the price of salt than those he had mentioned — And being asked, if all the salt produced in the lower districts of Dacca was sold by him at Rajaberry, or whether part of it was re-sold by him to the other agents at different places? — He said, that the first year part of it was so disposed; that the second year he sold the whole himself, and to black merchants, agreeable to his orders to do — And being asked, if he went to Dacca, and whether he had any orders or instructions from Lord Clive before he went? — He said, he arrived at Dacca in the beginning of May — That when he waited on Lord Clive before he set out, his Lordship told him that the salt trade was settled in the best method they could think of — That there were many arguments for and against that trade, amongst the strongest of which, in his opinion, was, sending so many Europeans into the country where they were frequently guilty of many outrages; and that he hoped better things of the witnesses — That the intent he had any well-looked fact of that sort against any one of the agents, he should be called down — And being asked, what proportion salt sold at Rajaberry at 250 rupees bears to salt sold in Calcutta at 203, allowing for the difference of ricks, and proximity of Rajaberry to the great markets of the country? — He said, At Rajaberry they were liable to great interests, and therefore their price was obliged to be higher; that the salt coming over the open sea, great losses often happened; whole fleets of the boats being cast away; and he concluded by saying, that there were not any murmurs at the price of 250 rupees.

Your Committee proceeded next to inquire into the nature of the deed, mentioned, in the former part of this report, and also in the report of the Committee of Secrecy, to have been solicited by the Committee of trade, on the 16th of September 1765, and into the transactions respecting the same.

And your Committee examined Mr. Richard Whittall; who being asked, if he knew any thing of a deed to protect the salt trade, and to indemnify the Committee of trade? — He said, he was a sworn attorney of the Mayor's court at Calcutta; — That in October 1765, Mr. Verelst applied to him, and gave him instructions to prepare a deed of indemnity from the president and council of Bengal to the Committee of trade; that he accordingly drew one up and which upon being shown to Mr. Verelst, he having made some alterations, approved of it; that the witnesses afterwards had a fair copy of it before the governor and council for their approbation; that by direction of the board he made some further alterations and additions in his own hand, and ingrossed it, and delivered it to Mr. Laurell, the secretary to the Committee of trade; that about ten days afterwards he waited on Mr. Laurell, who desired him to fill up the penalty, and alter the date, which was the 11th of September, to some subsequent day, to make it consistent with the other deed from the society to the Committee of trade; the date of which had been altered, before execution, from the 12th of August to the 18th of September; — And being asked, if he could speak with certainty as to any time posterior, to which the deed referred to must have been executed, supposing it was ever exerted? — He said, That in the beginning of November he rented another house, where he was very certain both the deeds referred to were ingrossed; and the seal which the deed from the society to the Committee of trade was sealed, he had from the owner of that house after he went into it; — That 16 the best of his remembrance he delivered both deeds to the Secretary about the middle of November, about ten days after which he altered the date, and filled up the blank for the penalty; — That he was therefore induced to believe it must be the end of November, or beginning of December, before either
either of them were executed. And being asked, if he had ever been either of them after they were executed; he said, In September 1766 he waited on Lord Clive, to receive instructions to prepare another deed, when his Lordship informed him, that he had been perforating those two deeds, and which were then laying before him on the table;—that his Lordship observed to him that there was not any valuable consideration expressed, and asked him, if he thought them valid? —that he said, he could not ascertain how far they were valid in law, but that he had prepared them agreeable to the instructions he had received. And being asked, If he was sure the deed, if ever executed, must have been executed after the 15th of October?—he said, He was positive of it.—And being asked, With what sum the blank for the penalty was filled up?—he said, he believed 300,000, and that Lord Clive talked of those deeds to him as deeds executed.—And being asked, Whether he had any instructions to keep this transafion secret?—he said, He had not; but that he never did mention it to any body but Mr. Banks, which was in the year 1769;—that he did not mention it, because he thought it was a matter that should not be made public, from the nature of the transafion, it being an agreement to carry on a trade contrary to the orders of the Company.—And being asked, What were his motives for mentioning it to Mr. Banks, after keeping it secret for three years?—he said, That talking to Mr. Banks, whom he esteemed his friend, about a contract he had made for the Committee of trade, he mentioned it in common conversation.—And being asked, when and on what occasion, he first mentioned the deed in England?—he said, That he mentioned it soon after his arrival, which was in November 1766, because he thought it ought to be made public, and that he was not bound in honour to keep it secret;—that he first spoke of it to Mr. Bolts, and in December 1771, was called before the Court of Directors to be examined about it. (The copy of the rough draft of the deed produced by Mr. Whittall, as referred to him in the above evidence, is hereunto annexed, No. 63.)

Then William Brightwell Sumner, Esquire, being asked, If he knew any thing of a deed entered into between the Governor and Council, and Committee of trade, to enforce the carrying on the East India Company for one year?—said, That such a deed was entered into; the express terms of the deed he did not recollect; but he said he considered it as an engagement on the part of the proprietors to pay to the Company certain stipulated duties, and on the part of the Governor and Council to secure to the proprietors the carrying on that trade for the space of one year, or to save and bear them harmless.—Being asked, whether any mention was made of that deed by the Governor and Council upon record?—he referred your Committee to the consultations 10th of September 1765, and to the 40th and 41st paragraphs of the letter from the Governor and Council to the Court of Directors, dated the 30th of September 1765 (copies of which are annexed in the appendix to the former Report of this Committee.)—And Mr. Sumner being asked, Whether the deed, which he had formerly said was executed, was drawn up by Mr. Whittall?—he answered in the affirmative.

Some days after the above examination, Henry Strachey, Esq; a Member of the Committee, produced a paper, which he said he believed to be a copy of the deed of indemnity to protect the Society of the East India Company from any injury that may happen to them by the carrying on trade:—That he ordered a copy to be made, when he was in Bengal, in 1766 or January 1767:—That the paper is in the hand writing of Mr. William Hippley Cox, who was in his office at that time, as to the body of it; and that the names of the contracting parties are inserted in it, and the indentures are in the hand writing of Mr. William Wynne, who was also an assistant in his office;—and that he believed it to be the copy he so ordered to be made. —And being asked, When he found that that copy was in his possession?—he replied, A few weeks ago, but could not say exactly. —And being asked, If he could say, that the deed was executed before the 15th of October 1765?—he said, He did not know when it was executed. —And your Committee have also annexed a copy of the said deed produced by Mr. Strachey, No. 64.

Your Committee having thus stated all the circumstances they have been able to collect respecting the deeds of indemnity in 1765, they think proper to remark, That by a letter from the Committee of trade, dated the 15th of July 1765, entered in general consultations of the 27th of the same month, it appears that a second deed of indemnity must have been entered into with the Committee of Trade for that year, viz. Mellrs. Carter, Ruffell, Aldersey, and Floyer; but no such deed has appeared before your Committee, nor can they discover any traces of it in the records of the Company.

Your Committee is next proceeding, in pursuance of their original plan, to enquire into the several matters therein contained, and they will report from time to time, to the House, the progress they shall make therein.

Your Committee have added to the Appendix, No. 65, 66, and 67, State of the Duannaee revenue of the East India Company's territorial acquisitions, from May 1765 to the last advices, with the amount of charges, collecting, &c, and civil and military charges, with the nett annual balance; and also the state of the receipt of the northern Sicsars from the time of the grant of them to the last advices; and also copy of the minute of Mr. Johnstone, October the 1st 1765, in answer to the additional declarations of Mahomed Reza Cawn, in his letter of the 23rd of June 1765; and the resolutions of the Select Committee thereupon, on the 4th of July following; which papers are referred to in the body of the last report from this Committee, but were omitted to be annexed in the Appendix thereto.

APPENDIX.
APPENDIX.

No. 1.
Company's Letter to Bengal, 22d February 1764.

33. We cannot avoid taking notice, that in the course of the proceedings between the commissaries of this company, and those of the Dutch, among other of the latter's alleged grievances, they complain that the opium trade at Patna had been monopolized by Mr. Mc'Gwire; and we find by your registers, that the said complaint was too well founded: you are therefore to signify to Mr. Mc'Gwire our displeasure at this transaction of his; and as such a proceeding in future must prove very prejudicial to individuals, and be the means of occasioning embarrassments to the company, it is our positive orders, that you take care to prevent every kind of monopoly; and if you find any person or persons guilty of such unfair practices, he or they are to be forthwith dismissed from the Company's service.

No. 2.
Extract of a Letter from Lord Clive to the Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the United East India Company, dated at Berkeley Square, 27th April 1764.

"I think it is likewise true, that the encroachments made upon the Nabob's prescriptive rights, by the government and council, and the rest of the servants, trading in the articles of salt, beetle, and tobacco; together with the power given by Mr. Vansttart to subject our go-vernors or agents to the jurisdiction and inspection of the country government; all concurred to hasten and bring on the late troubles; but still the groundwork of the whole was the Nabob's independency. It is impossible to rely upon the moderation and justice of Muf-su-lum men; strict and impartial justice should ever be observed; but let that justice come from our-selves. The trading therefore in salt, beetle, and tobacco, having been one cause of the present disputes, I hope these articles will be restored to the Nabob, and your servants absolutely forbidd to trade in them. This will be striking at the root of the evil. The prohibition of duf-tucks to your junior servants will, I hope, tend to restore that economy which is so necessary in your service. Indeed, if some method be not thought of, and your Council do not heartily co-operate with your Governor to prevent the sudden acquisitions of fortunes, which have taken place of late, the Company's affairs must greatly suffer. What power it may be proper to invest me with, to remedy these great and growing evils, will merit your serious consideration: as a means to alleviate in some measure the dissatisfaction that such restrictions upon the commercial advantages of your servants may occasion in them, it is my full intention not to engage in any kind of trade myself; so that they will divide amongst them what used to be the Governor's portion of commercial advantages, which was always very considerable."

No. 3.
Extract of a Letter from Lord Clive to the Court of Directors, dated Calcutta 1st February 1766.

14. Permit me, Gentlemen, to return you my most grateful acknowledgments for the confidence you are pleased to repose in me, by the 40th paragraph of your general letter of the 15th of February 1765, in relation to the important article of the salt trade; and though I hope my conduct in your service will entitle me to your approbation in every other instance, I cannot but congratulate myself on the success of that particular plan, since it was originally proposed by me, during my voyage to India.—The only doubt that arose with me was, whether the management of the trade of salt, beetle, and tobacco, should be intrusted to Europeans or to natives; and although I acquiesced with the rest of the members of the Select Committee, in having it carried on by the free merchants, give me leave to assure you, my acquiescence proceeded rather from a principle of humanity, than a conviction that it was more for the interest of the Company, or for the interest of the society; but as every day's experience demonstrates the impropriety of the present mode, it becomes my duty to explain to you my sentiments on that subject.

15. The original capital for carrying on this trade being 24, which is speedily to be increased to 32, and the salt being to be disposed of at so many different and distant parts of the country,
country, gives room for boundless expense; an astonishning number of boats must be provided, and kept in constant repair, and armies of sepoys must be maintained to protect them, as well as the agents at their several places of residence. These sepoys, under the function of their masters names, will lay the whole country under contribution; wherever they go, remonstrances and complaints without number will be made by the country government; and the revenues, in which you are more immediately affected, will fall short: these agents, besides drawing 5 per cent. upon the net sales, will build elegant houses for their own convenience; and I verily believe that an hundred and fifty thousand pounds will scarce defray the extraordinary, and in my opinion useless, expense, by confining the sale of salt to Calcutta, Dacca, and two or three other principal places where the salt is produced: all these inconveniences will be remedied; the company will receive as much as the proprietors will receive as much as they do upon the present plan; the immediate charges of agents, boatmen, houfe, boats, and sepoys, will be saved; the capital need be but half of what it is now, and consequently the interest of a large sum of money will not be lavished; instead of confused and complicated account and returns, not in two years, the accounts will be simple and plain, and the returns immediate: but what weighs more with me than all the arguments hitherto advanced is, that we shall avoid the odious imputation of monopoly: thousands of the natives will have profits out of this article, by purchasing it at two or three places only, and disposing of it afterwards all over the country; for I propose that no European whatever shall have any further concern in it.

6. If you should think proper to adopt this new mode of carrying on the salt trade, and agree with me in the expediency of withdrawing all the free merchants, humanity will call upon you to make some provision for those who are deferring of your favour; and I cannot, in justice to the characters of the following gentlemen, avoid recommending them to your consideration; their age, behaviour, and experience, intitle them to the rank of factors; and I doubt not they will become meritorious servants of the Company.

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The very finable behaviour of Mr. Ducarel, upon the signing of the memorial of the servants to the Court of Directors, obliges me to point him out to you, as particularly deserving of your favour; although he was only appointed a writer last year, yet his age and understanding qualify him for a higher station; some encouragement you will undoubtedly bestow upon him for his conduct in the late affair.

No. 4.

Fort William Conflation, 22d February 1753.

Copy of the Imperial Mandate.

To all Governors, Officers, and Managers of our Affairs, Jagirdars, Fauzdars, Kavuries, Rahdars, Guzrdians, and Zemindars, of the present and time to come, in the Provinces of Bengaul, Bahar, Oorla, Ports of Hugli, and other Ports of the aforesaid Provinces, who hope for the Imperial Favour.

Be it known unto you, that in these days of our triumphant reign, Mr. John Surmon, and C. Hunjah Sherad, agents on the part of the English Company, have preferred a petition in our just and equitable presence to the following purpose:

In confluence of a decree of his most Sacred and Imperial Majesty Shah, deceased, and former grants, the English Company are exemped from all customs in all parts of our dominion, except the port of Suratt, pay annually into the imperial treasury at Hugli three thousand rupees, as a tribute in lieu of customs; and hope that, according to former grants, our royal mandate will be vouchsafed to them.

Our absolute and high command is palled, That you, knowing well whatever goods and merchandise their agents may bring into, or carry out from, the ports, borders, and quarters of these provinces, either by land or by water, be exempt from duties, shall leave them to buy and sell at their own free liberty, shall annually receive the estabished tribute, and upon no other account impede or interrupt them. Moreover,

If any where the least article of their effects shall be made away with, you are to use all diligence in the recovery thereof; and shall deliver over the thieves tocondign punishment, and the goods to the proper owner: further, wherefoever they may set up a factory, and buy and sell goods and merchandise, you are to afford them help and support in all matters of contract, and with all justice and fairness cause to be repaid unto their agents whatever demands they may have upon any merchant, weaver, or other person; and you are to allow no one to molest their agents; or shall you stop boats hired by them, or of their own property, for toll, or on any other account whatever. They
APPENDIX, No. 4.

They also represented to our most Sacred and Excellent Majesty as follows:

In our provinces the petty officers infit upon the original grant and attestation under seal of the nazim and deewan of the province; but transmitting the original grant into all parts being difficult, they hope that, accordingly, credit may be given to copies under seal of a czazy magistrate, and the original grant not be demanded, nor they interrupted for want of an attestation from the nad nazim and deewan. Moreover,

That in Calcutta the Company have a factory; that the right of holding Calcutta, Sacleutte, Gobindpoor, in the eminate of the Pergunnah, Ameercabad, &c. of the province of Bengal, which they bought of the Zemindars, has been a long time made over to them; that they pay annually, as a tax for it, one thousand one hundred and ninety-five rupees, six annas: also, that there are thirty-three villages at the taxation of eight thousand one hundred and twenty-one rupees, eight annas, pertaining to the said districts; they intreat that the right of holding the said districts be granted to them, the tax for which they being annually to pay into the royal treasury.

Our most high and equitable decrees have been made to this effect: Copies of the original grant, under seal of the chief czazy magistrate, shall be deemed valid; and we have been pleased graciously to confirm them in their right of holding the said regions they have purchased, upon the former conditions; and granted them the power of keeping the other districts, for which they petitioned the deewan of the province shall suffer them to make the purchase of the lawful owners.

They further intreat as follows:

From the reign of his most bounteous Majesty Shah, deceased, in the provincial treasuries, an exchange has been taken on their money coined at Cheenapatan; now seeing that the silver of their said money is of equal fineness with that of Suratt, they, our subjects, though petitioners, accordingly suffer a loss; and humbly beg that our imperial order may be passed, that they be not molested on account of the value of their coins, equal in goodness to that of Suratt and other places. Moreover,

That if any of the Company’s servants indebted to them should make his escape from any of their settlements, he may be sent back to the chief of their factory; also, that they be not interrupted on account of the foudary duties, or any other abuab foudary practices not allowed, because of which the Company’s agents and officers do suffer inconvenience.

An order from our most high and authoritative court has been passed to the following effect:

From the fifth year of this blessed reign, if the silver coined at Cheenapatan shall in fineness be like unto the coin of the royal harbour of Suratt, there shall be no discount required on the cufiores, or the exchange. — And,

Any one of the Company’s servants who shall be indebted to them, and make his escape from any of their settlements, you are to apprehend and deliver up to the chief of their factory; nor shall you throw any impediment in their way, on account of collecting the customs not allowed.

They have also represented, that,

In Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, the Company have factories, and being desirous of erecting factories in other places, humbly beg, that wherever they may set up a factory forty begals of ground will be granted them from the lands of the empire: moreover, their vessels at famine times, through storms of wind, are forced on shore in our ports, and are stranded; the governors of the ports injuriously make prize of the cargo, and in divers places insist upon a fourth part of it; further, in the island of Bombay, belonging to the English, the European coin is current, may be struck into fiscas as at Cheenapatan.

Our absolute decree is, that ye shall act as is the custom at all factories in our other provinces; and ye are to protect these people, who hold factories in all parts of the empire, and extend their traffic even into the imperial camp, with their effects and vessels stranded or damaged, and supply them with all things necessary. — And,

In the island of Bombay fiscas shall be struck, and be current in like manner as the fiscas in other parts of the kingdom of equal fineness with the coin current in our happy realms shall pass for equal value. — Moreover, in all affairs ye are to act conformable to this glorious decree, and strictly abstain from and avoid what is repugnant to the order of our most high court; nor shall you every year insist upon a tenth fanned grant; herein use all care and diligence. Written on the 27 of the moon Maharam ul Haram, the 5th year of his Majesty’s auspicious reign.

Translat. No. 3. Copy of a Purwannah under Seal of the Grand Vizier Camfed Deen Chan Cheen Bahadur, directed to Nawab Scifaraz Chan, viz.

May His Excellency of eminent and high rank, the glorious Lord Siefaraz Chan, be distinguished with the imperial favour. At this time the deputy on the part of the English Company has petitioned as follows:

The Company have obtained the imperial mandate, comprehending an exemption on all customs, on their paying annually the tribute of three thousand rupees into the royal treasury at the port ofHughley, and they do pay that tribute into the said port; but the people under the
the maxim, and the deivans in the provinces, fouzdras, and others, contrary to the order of his most sacred and august Majesty, to molest them in their way, they being in humble expectation, that an haftbat hukin, directed to your Excellency of eminent and high rank, comprehending an exemption and uninterrupted, in conformity to the imperial mandate, may be granted them; and it appearing, on the face of the books in his Majesty's office, that the sum of three thousand rupees, in lieu of customs in the English Company, is annually established; his most excellent Majesty's haftbat hukin is accordingly, That you shall resolve to act in pursuance of the imperial mandate, not interrupting or molesting them, by any manner of excitation; in this matter use the exactest diligence and utmost dispatch. Written on the 17 of Rajabut Marejah, the 9th year of the reign.

Translation, No. 5. Copy of his most Sacred and Imperial Majesty's Haftbat Hukin, under Seal of Cotab ol Melk Yameen ed Dowlah Seyed Abe Ellah C. Han Bahadur, victorious in War, Commander of the Forces, trusty and well beloved; viz.

To the Ministers of State of the present, and Time to come, in all Parts and Provinces of these happy Realms.

Be it known unto you all, that at this time Mr. John Surman, and C. Hwajah Serhad, and Mr. Stevenson, petitioners on the part of the English Company, have intreated in the most gracious and august preference, that the most sacred and imperial orders might be passed in their name to the following effect:

"Every Company's servant indebted to them, that may defect their settlements, shall be sent back again to the chief of their factory."

Which being allowed—his imperial Majesty's haftbat hukin is written, that ye shall apprehend every such person of the servants of the Company as shall defect their settlements, and deliver him up to the chief of their factory: in this matter use all diligence. Written on the 9th of the moon Dze Hijaj, the 9th year of the reign.

No. 6. Copy of his most Sacred and Imperial Majesty's Haftbat Hukin, &c. &c.

Be it known unto you all, that at this time Mr. John Surman and C. Hwajah, and Mr. Stevenson, petitioners on the behalf of the English Company, have intreated as follows:

The Company's agents and officers in most places being troubled on account of Forainsh Abusub Mummmah, collecting the customs not allowed, they request his Majesty's orders may be passed, that they be not impeded on account of fouzdray or zemindary duties, or the other customs not allowed.

A decree of the most high court, exempting them from the customs not allowed, being made, and the imperial mandate granted them; his most sacred and excellent Majesty's haftbat hukin is accordingly written, that ye act in strict compliance with the glorious edict, shall not in any manner impede or molest the said people on account of customs not allowed by the imperial court, to the end that they may carry on the business of their trade to their own satisfaction. In this matter use the exactest diligence. Written on the 9th of the moon Dze Hijah, the 5th year of the reign.

Copy of the Imperial Haftbat Hukin, under Seal of Jemlattul Mulk Modarul Moham, the Grand Vizir of the Realms, Eatemadod Dowla Camarod Deen C. Han Cheen Bahadur Nafisat Jaug Mahamed Skahy.

To the Officers of State of the present and time to come, in the Provinces of Bahar, Paradise of Nations, Bengal, and Oriba. Be it known unto you all, that at this Time, Aneep Chand, Deputy on part of the English Company, has petitioned as follows:

The Company have obtained a special mandate of exemption from customs, on paying the annual tribute of three thousand rupees at Hughly Port, and they do pay the established tribute at the said port; but the people of the nadzim and deivans in the provinces and fouzdras, and others, contrary to his Majesty's most inviolable commands, molest them in their way; they being in humble expectation, that an haftbat hukin of exemption from duties and uninterrupted, pursuant to the imperial mandate will be granted them, since also from the face of the books in his Majesty's office it appears, that the sum of three thousand rupees pehkukh, in lieu of customs on the English Company, is established in Hughley Port. Accordingly the imperial haftbat hukin is written, in order that, pursuant to the contents of the special mandate which they have obtained, ye may proceed, and in no manner or way hinder or molest them in this particular year, to use the exactest diligence and utmost dispatch. Written on the 29th of the moon Shaaban, the 9th year of the reign.

No. 13.
APPENDIX, No. 4.

No. 13. Copy of a Diftah under Seal of Jemlattul Mulk, &c. Grand Vizir Camarod
Decan Chan Behadur.

To all Gomaffahs, Fouzddars, Rahdars, Gurznabds, and Zemindars, and others, Guards
ians of the Roads and Palles in the Provinces Bahar, Paradise of Nations, Bengal,
and Orixa, this Diftah is written; viz.

The English Company are exempt from all duties, pursuant to the Emperor's special mand
date, and they pay annually three thousand rupees into the treasury at Houghley in lieu of cur
tons; and in the aforesaid provinces they are allowed to have annually, for the time to come,
flote of boats passing and repassing:—the imperial hasbut hukin is in confequence written, that
you shall not stop or interrupt them on account of taking toll, and the other customs not al
lowed by the court, but shall suffer them to pass in safety. In this particular use the most ex
act diligence and utmost dispatch. Written on the 17th of Rejat ul Morajah, the 9th year of
the reign.

Translate, No. 16. Copy of the Imperial Hasbut Hukin, under Seal of Colabut
Mulk Seyed Abdallah Chan Bahadur, &c. &c.

To the Officers of State of the present and Time to come, in the Provinces of these happy
Realms.

Be it known unto you, that at this time Mr. John Surman and C. Huajill and Mr. Stevenson,
petitioners on the part of the English Company, have represented in the most sacred and au
picious presence; as follows:

At the ports that the Company have factories established, the English people buy and sell in
most of the ports and aurungs; but in sundry places and aurungs, whither the sending of Eng
lishmen can't be effected, they make contracts with the merchants and traders of their
country, and defpofit their money with the merchants and traders, to purchase the commodities
and bring them to them; they hope that his Majesty's order may be given to the officers of flate,
that they shall not hinder or interrupt any person that with a duftuck from the chief of their
factory may make any purchase in these ports and aurungs.

His Majesty's absolute decree being made, that you shall take the list of the account under seal
of the chief of their factory; and according to that list give a fannad under your own seal; the
imperial hasbut hukin is written, for you to proceed in conformance to his Majesty's decree,
and taking a list of the account under seal of the chief of their factory, you shall give a fannad
under your own seal, agreeable to that list:—in this matter use the exacteef diligence and ut
most dispatch. Written on the 5th of the month Decese Hijah, the 5th year of the reign.

No. 21. Copy of the Imperial Hasbut Hukin, under Seal of Seyed Abdullah Chan,
&c. &c.

May his Excellency of eminent and princely rank, Azaram C. Han, be favoured with the
Almighty protection.

At this time Mr. John Surman Chutjah and Mr. Stevenson, petitioners on the part of the
English Company, have represented in the most high and respectable court as follows:

The gold and silver, on account of the Company, used to be coined in the mints Johangi-
nagar and Akbarganar:—But a mint being some years past eftablished in Harceemabads, they
humbly hope that the Company's money may be coined therein as heretofore, and that the
officers of the mint may ask no more than what is customary, and take only the appointed
charges; and that when the merchants may have a great deal of bullion, three days in the week
may be allotted for coining the Company's money; his Majesty's most authoritative decree be
ing passed, That your Excellency do cause such regulation to be made; the imperial hasbut
hukin is accordingly written, that you do eflablish that the gold and silver of the Company,
according to former custom, be coined in the mint of Karigemabads; and when the merchants
may have a great deal of bullion, upon condition the government suffers no loss therefrom, you
shall cause that three days in the week be set apart for coining the money of these people.
In this matter observe the exacteef diligence and utmost dispatch. Written the 9th of Dzechihjah,
the 5th year of the reign.

No. 22. Copy of a Charter under Seal of the most excellent Meer Mahomed Jaafir Chan
Bahadur, Mahahatt Jang, from the 27th of the Month Showal, the 4th Year of the
Reign. To the Officers of State of the present and Time to come, Lieutenants,
Fouzddars, Zemindars, Chowdhries, Canunofes, Officers, and Managers, in the
Paradise of Nations, Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa.

Be it known unto you, seeing that the English Company is exempt from duties, in confe-
quenee of the special mandate and imperial hasbut hukin:—Therefore we have written, to the
end that on those goods, which the Company's factors carry backwards and forwards by land or
by water, with a duftuck under seal of the chief of their factory, at their factories, aurungs,
and other places, you are not to demand the least duty or custom, but to allow them free liberty

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to buy or sell, not interrupting them in any manner whatever, nor requiring any thing by way of fillive, mangan, or other customs of the zemindary—and the Company's agents shall buy and sell the Company's goods, nor shall there be a broker concerned therein without the Com-
pany's consent; and you shall afflict them wherever they may make purchases or sales of any
commodities. Whosoever shall act to repugnant to this order shall be delivered up to the dispo-
fall of the English, and receive the recompence of his deeds; and if in any place a single article of
the Company's effects shall be made away with, you are to find out that very fame, and return it
to the Company, or else be answerable for the fame yourselves; and you shall cause to be repaid
unto the Company's agents whatever demands they may have upon merchants or other people
for failure of contract:—nor shall it be in the power of any one to molest their agents. More-
over, you shall not float boats hired by them, or of their own property, on account of toll or
other customs: you shall give credit to copies of the Company's grants attested by the magi-
strate, nor demand the original grants; and any one that is dependant on the Company, and
shall defect their bounds, you shall not protect or support him, but deliver such person up to
the chief of their factory.—Moreover, ye shall not molest the Company's agents or people, on
account of collecting the fowzday duties, or any other customs not allowed by the government.
Further, the Company have factories in the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, besides
which, wherever the Company have a mind to set up a factory, you are to give them as be-
gains of ground; and if vessels of the English, through storms of wind and rain, run ashore in
our ports or other places, and suffer shipwreck, you are to give them all assistance; take par-
ticular care of stranded vessels, and deliver them as faved to the Company, and are not to
demand a fourth part, or any thing else forbidden by his Majesty. Moreover, a mint is esca-
blished at Calcutta, and the Company have a perpetual right to coin gold and silver, which may
be equal in weight and fineness to the annafoes and rupees of Moorshedabad; it is to pass cur-
rent in all his Majesty's treasuries.—Use all diligence to act strictly in conformance to the herein-
written; nor shall you annually demand a fresh charter.

Treaty with Serauje Dowla.

First. Whatever rights and privileges the King has granted the English Company, in their
pirmaund, and the hubbulookumns sent from Dilly, shall not be disputed or taken from them,
and the immunities therein mentioned be acknowledged and stand good: whatever villages are
given the Company by the pirmaund shall likewise be granted, notwithstanding they have
been denied by former fubahs; the zemindars of those villages not to be hurt or displaced
without cause.

Signed by the Nabob. I agree to the terms of the
pirmaund.

Second. All goods passing and repassing through the country by land or water with English
dutbucks shall be exempt from any tax, fee, or imposition, from whokeys, caulwales, ze-
mindars, or others.

Signed by the Nabob. I agree to this.

Third. All the Company's factories seized by the Nabob shall be returned—All monies,
goods, and effects, belonging to the Company, their servants, and tenants, which have been
seized and taken by the Nabob, shall be restored.—What has been plundered and pillaged by his
people, made good, by the payment of such sum of money as his justice shall think
reasonable.

Signed by the Nabob. I agree to restore whatever has
been seized and taken by my orders, and ac-
counted for in my siccary.

Fourth. That we have permission to fortify Calcutta, in such manner as we may think
proper, without interruption.

Signed by the Nabob. I confer to it.

Fifth. That we shall have liberty to coin fiscus both of gold and silver, of equal weight and
fineness to those at Muxadav, which shall pass in the provinces.

Signed by the Nabob. I confer to the English Company's
coining their own imports of bullion and gold into fiscus.

Sixth. That the treaty shall be ratified by signing, sealing, and swearing, to abide by the
articles therein contained, not only by the Nabob, but his principal officers and minifters.

Signed by the Nabob. I sealed and signed the articles
before the prehence of God.

Seventh. That Admiral Charles Watfon, and Colonel Robert Clive, on the part and behalf
of the English Nation, and of the Company, do agree to live in good understanding with the
Nabob;
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Nabob; to put an end to these troubles, and to be in friendship with him, while those articles are performed and observed by the Nabob.

Signed by the Nabob.—I have sealed and signed the foregoing articles upon those terms: that if the Governor and Council will sign and seal them with the Company's seal, and will swear to the performance on their part, I then consent and agree to them.

Translation, No. 24. Copy of a Sannad or Charter, under Seal of his Excellency the Nawab Meer Mahomed Jaffier Chan Bahadur Mahabatt Jung, directed to the Rajahs, Zemindars, Jaluckdars, (Verbally the same as No. 22.)

No. 25. Copy of a Daftakh taken on the 20th of the Moon Deccadaadh, the 4th Year of the Reign, under Seal of Suja al Malik Haflam od Dowlah Meer Mahomed Jaffier C. Han Bahadur, Mahababut Jung; viz.,

To the Foudzars, Zemindars, and Chokeydars, Guzrbans, and Guardians of the Roads and Passes, in the Provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa, this Daftak is written.

The goods of the English Company should have always a free passage backwards and forwards, both by land and by water, agreeable to the order of his most imperial Majesty, in the provinces aforesaid, accompanied with the daftak of the English Company. Now also know it to be again established and appointed: it behoves you to acknowledge the Company's dutiful Steward, and in no manner or way to impede or hinder their goods, either passing or repassing in the way, or account of collecting the hattharag mangan, and other customs not allowed by the imperial court, but to let them pass without taking the leaf duty or custom whatever, and without molesting the dependants on the said Company. In this matter using the exact due diligence attending good offices, this daftak will be accepted as the original and written.

Translation, No. 23. Copy of a Grant for a Mint, under Seal of his Excellency of Senatorial Rank, the Nawab Meer Mahomed Jaffir Can Bahadur Mahabatt Jung, from the 15th of the Moon Deccadaadh, the 4th Year of his Majesty's Reign: viz.,

May their Eminencies of high rank, of illustrious and directorial dignity, the most honourable Company of Merchants of England, be the object of the imperial favour.

You have a mint established in Calcutta: you the most honourable of merchants are to coin pieces, bearing the name of Calcutta, of gold and silver, equal in fineness and weight to the afsarfees and rupees of Morshedabad: your coin shall be current in the provinces Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa, and shall pass in the imperial treasury, nor shall any one fet or impede it because of batta.

Copy Translation of a Treaty between the Nabob Meer Mahomed Caffim Cawn and the Company.

Company's Seal.

Meer Mahomed
Caffim Cawn
Bahadur.

Two treaties have been written of the same tenor, and reciprocally exchanged; containing the articles under mentioned, between Meer Mahomed Caffim Cawn Bahadur, and the Nabob Shums's Dowlah, Governor, and the rest of the Council, for the affairs of the English Company, and during the life of Meer Mahomed Caffim Cawn Bahadur, and the duration of the factories of the English Company in this country, this agreement shall remain in force.

God is witness between us, that the following articles shall in no wise be infringed by either party.

First Article.—The Nabob Meer Mahomed Jaffir Cawn Bahadur shall continue in possession of his dignities, and all affairs be transacted in his name, and a suitable income shall be allowed for his expences.

Second Article.—The Nabob of the Subahdarree of Bengal, Azimabadan, and Orissa, shall be conferred by his Excellency the Nabob on Meer Mahomed Caffim Cawn Bahadur: he shall be vested with the administration of all affairs of the provinces, and after his Excellency he shall succeed to the government.

Third Article.—Between us and Meer Mahomed Caffim Cawn Bahadur, a firm friendship and union is established; his enemies are our enemies, and his friends are our friends.

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Fourth Article.—The Europeans and Jologas of the English army shall be ready to assist the Nabob Meer Mahomed Coffin Cawn Bahadur in the management of all affairs, and in all affairs dependant on him they shall exert themselves to the utmost of their abilities.

Fifth Article.—For all charges of the Company, and of the paid army and provisions for the field, &c. the lands of Burdwan, Midnapore, and Chittagong, shall be affiguated, and furnished for that purpose shall be written and granted. The Company is to lend to all lofes, and receive all the profits of those three countries; and we will demand no more than the three annuities aforesaid.

Sixth Article.—One half of the Chunam produced at Silkett for three years shall be purchased by the gomastahs of the Company, from the people of the government, at the customary rate of that place. The tenants and inhabitans of those districts shall receive no injury.

Seventh Article.—The balance of the former runcaw shall be paid according to the riff-bundic agreed upon with the Roy Royan. The jewels which have pledged shall be received back again.

Eighth Article.—We will not allow the tenants of the fircar, to settle in the lands of the English Company, neither the tenants of the Company be allowed to settle in the lands of the fircar.

Ninth Article.—We will give no protection to the dependants of the fircar, in the lands or in the factories of the Company, neither shall any protection be given to the dependants of the Company in the lands of the fircar; and whoever shall fly to either party for refuge shall be given up.

Tenth Article.—The measures for war or peace with the Shahrzada, and raising supplies of money, and the concluding both those points, shall be weighed in the scale of reason; and whatever is judged expedient shall be put in execution; and it shall be so contrived by the joint council, that he be removed from this country, nor suffered to get any footing in it, whether there be peace with the Shahzada or not. Our agreement with Meer Mahomed Cawn Bahadur we will (by the grace of God) inviolably observe, as long as the English Company’s factories continue in this country. Dated the 15th of the month Seffer, in the year 1174 of the Nejra.

Sign Manual of Meer Mahomed Coffin Cawn.

This was sealed on the 18th of the month Seffer, in the eleven hundred and seventy-fourth year of the Nejra; and the proposals are agreed to.

Extract of the Company’s General Letter to Fort William. Dated the 26th February 1702-3.

You must insist upon it as our right, that we be custom-free in Bengal, Patna, and Orixa, on the payment of 3000 rupees a year; that our duftucks pass in all places; that our grant of Calcutta and adjacent towns be continued; and that all the other privileges and advantages obtained by the old Company formerly, or by them or the new Company of late, be enjoyed by this United Company, according to the true meaning and full intent of the said grants; and we would have the servants of each Company do all they can to keep us in quiet enjoyment of the said privileges, by representing to the government, you are now the English national Company, justly intituled unto those privileges.


Our privileges in Bengal of being custom-free, except the yearly acknowledgegement of 300 rupees, are of essential a property to this Company, and of such great importance to us, that it requires the utmost steady care and fidelity to preserve them: it was an expensive war, a stoppage of trade, and other accidents, that retrieved them after they had been left chiefly by the feuds among our servants, who, to justify their own quarrels, exposed the unfaithfulness of their chief to the government; that he covered the Moors, and other nations, goods by our duftucks, and thereby defrauded the Nabob and other governors of their duties. To prevent the like evil for the future, we order you to cause a common seal or chop to be made, for the sealing of duftucks, and other public uses, with such words or motto as you shall judge most proper; which seal or chop we would have remain in the custody of the secretary, under the keys or seals of our two chairman, not to be used but in the presence of them both; and the secretary must attest and register all duftucks which you grant, and which we hereby direct shall be granted for English people’s goods, and no others.

Copy 72 Paragraph of the Company’s General Letter to Fort William. Dated the 4th February 1772.

Although you have frequently been warned by us against all manner of illicit trade, that our affairs might not be embarrassed with the country government, and yet many evils have we frequently
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As many disputes arise with the country government, from a licentious use of the privileges granted to the Company, particularly by giving our duftucks to such who are not intitled to have them, either by virtue of the Mogul's phrmaund, or by any authority from us, or by the abuse of them, even by such as may have a right to them; and as we cannot with reason expect to have our affairs carried on in a quiet amiable manner, while our servants are committing or conniving at such malpractices, to the prejudice of the royal revenues, and the support of clandestine traders, which must manifestly be hurtful to the true interest of the Company; we frieely enjoin you to take care, that for the future all abuses of that nature be effectually prevented; and that we may have cognizance of all duftucks granted, and the uses that are made of them, we order that on receipt of this no duftuck be granted to any person, but on their application for the same by request in writing to the Council; in which the person making such request shall set forth the quantity and for of goods intended to be imported, and from what place they are to come, and shall declare for whose account they are; and the Council finding such requests consistent with the rules of the Company, are to order duftucks to be made out and delivered accordingly: minutes are to be made in a book, kept for that purpose, of all such requests, distinguishing which are granted, and which are rejected; copies thereof must be sent home, at least yearly, signed by the Governor and Council; and a book shall be kept, in which every duftuck taken out shall be registered, whether it be for the Company's account or for account of others; the particulars of each duftuck shall be entered on one side of the folio of this book, with the person's name for whose account it is, and a blank shall be left on the other side of the folio, opposite such entry, for the purposes hereafter mentioned.

And that there may be no doubt as to the persons who are to enjoy the benefit of the duftuck, it is hereby declared, that all goods imported and exported by the Company, or for their account, are to be sent with duftucks, and every merchant who contracts with the Company, shall be intitled to a duftuck, for importing whatever he may have to contracted for; but not for the exportation of the same, unless in case of damages, in order to fend them back to the auroons to have the goods new washed or repaired; all merchants who buy goods of the Company to fend into the country for sale, shall be intitled to duftucks for that purpose, for which goods only besides them, our immediate covenant servants are to be intitled to duftucks, and them under these regulations; but every person making a false declaration, on requesting for a duftuck, or importing or exporting goods, with duftucks, otherwise than allowed as above, or prostituting the duftuck in any way whatsoever than it is asked for, shall be immediately dismissed from our service, and sent home; and every merchant, dealing with the Company, who shall commit any fraud in the duftuck, shall be excluded from having any further dealings with the Company, directly or indirectly; and all the goods imported or exported in fraudulent manner, shall be deemed unlicensed trade, and shall be confiscate accordingly; one third to the Company, one third to the informer, and the remaining third to the register of the duftucks.

And in cases where the Company's affairs are involved with the country government, by means of any abuses of the duftucks, the person who shall have committed such abuses shall be answerable for the same to the country government out of their estate; or if a native, shall be delivered up to country government, as a person having forfeited the protection of the Company, if he do not make such satisfaction as may immediately extricate the Company's affairs.

Every person dealing in Bengal falt, or any other reveral or prohibited commodity, contrary to the known established laws of the country, shall be dealt with as if he or they had committed a fraud in the duftucks; but in case the country government pretend, by any new laws or prohibitions, to enroach on the privileges granted to, and hitherby enjoyed by, the Company, and those under our protection, you are at all events to resist such unjust attempts; and if you cannot procure relief by amicable means, you are to obtain it by making use of all
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the force you have, as we wish on no account to submit to any innovation, which may, either at present, or hereafter, disgrace the Company, or be prejudicial to his interests.

Copy of the 66, 67, 68 and 69 Paragraphs of the Company's General Letter to Fort William, dated the 25th March, 1757.

It is with much concern we observe, in your detail of transactions with the country government, that every circumstance and opportunity affords pretensions for exceptions; it is impossible for us to mark out any precise rules for your conduct in general, we can only say, that you are to be zealous in preserving our phirmaud rights and privileges; and when any sums of money are demanded, or any oppressions endeavoured to be laid on our trade, or otherwise, that you will obviate or settle them upon the belft terms you can; in doing which, our great dependence must be placed on your sense and care.

Among many other unreasonable demands, that made upon you for the Cottah's effects is of a very pernicious nature, as it tends to render our protection of no effect, and subjecting the English flag to contempt. We find this affair was not brought to an issue upon the coming away of your last advice; but we hope your headnights and resolution will disappoint Hookumbe in his oppressive and lucrative views, and confirm the rich natives, who refuse in the Company's limits, that their perfons and effects will be secure.

A further instance of very unfair proceedings appears in the affair of the Chekey; for after you thought our trade was sufficiently and effectually secured from their oppressions, by ample grants from the Nabob, a pretence was set up, of an equivalent to be made for those left out under the Puckowtrah Droga, amounting to above twelve thousand rupees, which we find was left to Mr. Watts, and his council, to settle with Hookumbe, with a caution, and indeed a very proper one, that it should not be made a precedent for the like demand from his successors; we hope to hear that this affair has been settled accordingly; and here we must add, that, as many of these oppressions take their rise from great abuse in the duties, we shall depend upon your regulating them, in such a manner as will most effectually prevent all pretences for complaint in future.

We observe, upon Hookumbe's making a peremptory demand for 600 rupees 2,300, on account of the sugar purchasers, you had empowered the gentlemen of Cozimbuzar to pay him that sum; this is another instance of oppression, which is now become in a manner annual; you must use your best endeavours to prevent its being established as a custom; and we do expect that you will take care to collect, from these persons who have the benefit of that trade, all impositions it is the occasion of.

Copy of the 102 Paragraph of the Company's General Letter to Fort William, dated the 1st April 1760.

The real grievances and clogs to the fair trader are well known to you all; those removed, every merchant would cheerfully submit to the moderate duties we have directed to be levied; and this is confessed by the principal subscriber to the merchants letter now in England. The hardships we mean, are the grofs and iniquitous abuses that spring from the power of duties, they being confined to our covenant servants; trade has been subjected to very heavy impositions; it is a well known fact, can be proved abroad, and also in England, that our chiefs at subordinating gain full twenty per cent. upon the goods they provide the private trader, and often exclusive of commission so that the merchant carries his goods to market at an advance perhaps of 25 per cent. upon their value in Bengal; the black merchants they apply to our junior servants, and for valuable considerations receive their goods covered with our servants names, even a writer trades in this manner for many thousands, when at the same time he has often not real credit for an hundred rupees; for the truth of these affirmations we need only appeal to yourselves; this then is the stream from whence have flown numberless mischiefs, perhaps the capital cause of your late dreadful misfortunes. To fetter trade is opposite to all good policy; and we believe Calcutta the only colony where manufactories are locked up from the merchant; we therefore must, we will have a reform in this important branch if it is evident; the expeeece of that phirmaud privilege for commerce is ruined by these unfair practices; the merchant can bear no more, and fearful to speak out, demurs to our just duties, and ascribes his inability to remote causes; the government annually defrauded of immense duties, and even their subjects property covered by the Company's name, must ever look upon us a vile faithless people, strangers to honour and (we must now add) gratitude; such are the consequences resulting from the abuse of a privilege obtained at a very heavy expense, for our particular advantage. In the regulating of this branch, we wish to maintain a respectable character, secure the government from being injured, and preserve to the fair trader such freedom and benefits, as are common to all our other settlements, and which he certainly has a right to. It is not in our power to obviate all difficulties, but however, points out the remedy, to fix trade upon an equitable basis.—He may depend upon receiving signal marks of our favour; perhaps the Nabob may find it his interest to settle for a certain annual sum upon the general trade, his own subjects included, which will be farming the commercial duties dependant upon Calcutta. This scheme
scheme must, we apprehend, answer every good purpose; it removes all causes of contention with the government, duftucks will be abolished, the merchant will gladly employ, and cheerfully allow four per cent interest for the provision of his goods; but if more than five per cent. commission is charged, upon complaint he is to be reftored, and the Company will be reimbursed the annual sum they may pay for farming the general duties, by an additional impost of two or more per cent. on the goods brought down by Europeans, and a larger duty on what may be imported by the Indians; and if the amount should exceed the annual sum stipulated with the Nabob, we are willing to add the surplus to our President's small emoluments: if this plan should take place, let us view the trader's situation; he is relieved from the present exaction, from twenty to twenty-five per cent. he will pay five per cent. commission on his goods, two per cent. to the duties farmed, and four per cent. customs, and he will therefore export his goods from nine to fourteen per cent. advantage. If you can form a better scheme, adopt it; but remember, at all events we shall expect the duftucks are put upon such a jufi footing, as to secure the government their duties, and enable the merchant to pay our customs.

Copy of the 110 to 118 Paragraphs of the General Letter to the Court of Directors, dated the 16th January 1761.

110. The observations concerning the privilege of duftucks, contained in the 101 and 102 paragraphs of your commands, dated the 11th of April 1762, have been confidered, with that attention which to earn an injunction from your Honours ought, and always will, excite in us: we beg leave to assure you, that we have confidered it with minds free from any view to our own private interests; and that, if the regulation proposed by your Honours, or any other that we could imagine or have been informed of, had appeared capable of putting trade upon a better footing, for all traders in general, without prejudicing the Company's investment, we would most readily have endeavoured to obtain the Nabob's consent.

111. Your Honours, perhaps, have not been sufficiently informed of the difficulty that is continually met with, at most of subordinate settlements and aurungs, in procuring a sufficiency of clouts for the Company's investment; I would indeed be absolutely impossible ever to fulfil your orders, were there not many reftrictions in favour of the Company at the subordinates; the gentlemen in the service are forbid to make any purchases for themselves, until the quantity required for the Company is secured; the gentlemen at Calcutta are not permitted to fend gomaffahs to purchase at the aurungs dependant on any of the subordinates, nor the gentlemen of one subordinate to make purchases at another. It is the fame with the outaurungs dependant on Calcutta; none of the gentlemen in the Company's service are permitted to fend gomaffahs to any place where there is a gomaffah purchasing any goods for the Company, without giving notice to the Committee of Aurungs, and getting a letter from them to the Company's gomaffah; who is to take care that he does not interfere in any thing prejudicial to the Company's investments. These reftrictions are calculated to keep the traders confined, as much as possible, to the Company's fortsments; which we believe would fail extremely short, as well as grow continually dearer, if the free merchants had the privilege of duftuck equally with the Company's servants; the great number of purchasers at the aurung muft of course make the price of labour rise; purchasers also, who having no dependence on the Company, would not willingly submit to any regulations we might make, nor think it just that any preference should be given to the Company; the trade would suffer so much by the number of competitors, that we think the effect of such a change would be very difficult from what your Honours propose; and that, instead of being a relief to trade, it would be a great hurt to the merchants in general, and to the interest of the Company in particular.

112. We flatter ourselves, that your Honours will, for the reasons beforementioned, approve of our not endeavouring from the Nabob, his acceptance of a certain yearly sum to be paid by the Company, in lieu of the duties now collected by the government from the merchants of Calcutta; so that all without exception might have the privilege of duftucks; but we believe, if we had found it so confident with the Company's intereft to put the trade upon that footing, the Nabob's affent could not have been obtained. The Preident when at Murshabad asked, Whether such a proposal would be agreeable? But far from approving it, he seemed much alarmed; fensible of the great detriment it would be to the revenues of Houghly, which are made up chiefly of the customs upon goods going to, and from, Calcutta.

113. The sum to be paid the Nabob in lieu thereof, in cafe such an agreement had taken place, would have been to considerable, that the duftuck duty to be levied here for the Company's reimbursement, must have been a very heavy addition to your other customs; nor is it to be doubted, but those merchants who complain now of the preference given to the Company's servants, in regard of duftucks, would have complained yet louder of this additional duty.

114. Those gentlemen who have signed the letter referred to by your Honours, have for the most part not the least reason to complain of unreasonable dealings in the Company's servants; some of them who have employed Company's servants to provide their goods have had them at very moderate
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moderate rates; but in general they have been unwilling to make any contracts, and have chosen rather to take the chance of the market, which has proved sometimes favourable to the seller, sometimes to the buyer; at this time goods made at Cossimbazar yield little or no profit here, while goods made at Dacca and Lucknow yield twenty-five or thirty per cent. and these last, five or six years ago, were so extremely low here, that several of the gentlemen of the Dacca factory suffered much in their fortunes, by providing them, as they could not get their prime coat; this risk the Company's servant runs; it is the fair chance of an open market, with the free merchants for the most part, as we have before observed, prefer to contracts, and they have no more right to complain when the price in the market happens to be high, than the seller; when it happens to be low, when they themselves bring goods to sell from foreign markets, they are not wanting in their endeavours to sell them for as high a price as they can.

115. Such therefore have no just reason of complaint, as they have not contracted or endeavoured to contract with Company's servants; but there are some, whom we understand have had sufficient grounds for complaint, we mean those who formerly had concerns under the Governor and Council in the freight ships; in which we have been informed it was a practice for each gentleman of the Council to load his own proportion in goods, and these goods every one charged at what price he thought proper: the Captain and Supercargo, depending on the Governor and Council to provide their goods, were obliged to take their concern in a cargo made up after that manner; and now under the voyages turned out extremely ill, an unreasonable profit having been made on the goods before they left the port.

116. But we beg leave to assure your Honours, that the gentlemen, now concerned jointly with us, received a very different treatment; such goods as are bought at market here, not having been contracted for before, are bought on the best terms possible, by managers appointed out of the concerned, and no profit of any sort charged upon them here; such goods as are provided from the aurungs by ourselves, or by contract with the gentlemen at the subordinates, are delivered at moderate a premium as barely to answer the interest and risk of providing them, with a small consideration for the time and charges saved by means of the duftuck; an advantage which was undoubtedly intended to be referred to the Company's servants, when the indulgence of the duftuck was granted them; the calculation of the advance proposed to be put upon the goods provided at the several subordinates and aurungs, in proportion to the distance and the risk, is entered on the minutes of the Consultation of the 24th of November, to which we beg leave to refer you.

117. That the abuse of this indulgence, formerly too common a practice, we have reason to think is but a just reproach; but we are equally convinced, that no such practice has been followed since the attention given to this matter last year, and the oath preferred to be taken by all who have the benefit of this privilege; we doubt not but this solemn tie, added to the regard which the gentlemen in your service have for their own reputation, will be sufficient to make them abhor so dishonourable a practice; if any there be, who, strangers to these sentiments, shall venture to abuse an indulgence for which they ought to be thankful, we shall hold them unworthy of your service, and make a severe example of all who shall be discovered. The President will be particularly observant of the applications made to him for duftucks, and he has already recommended to the Nabob, to caufe all his guards, at the several choukeys, or watch- ing places, upon the river, to be more frict in the examination of boats, and to seize all who shall be found with English colours without a duftuck; this is an imposition often practised by Portuguese, Armenians, and the country people, to defraud the government of their customs; and through the indulgence of no knavery of the choukeys has doubtles successed very frequently, and been the cause in great measure of the complaints that have been put under- servedly to the account of the gentlemen here.

118. We shall leave this subject with assuring you, that we shall acquiece, without murmuring, in the loss of the advantage of the duftuck, if your Honours, after considering all that we have taken the liberty to say, shall continue to think such an alteration would be for the benefit of trade in general, and consistent with the Company's interet; at the same time, we cannot help giving it as our opinion, that the Company's servant has a very reasonable pretension to some indulgence in the matters of trade over the fere merchant, considering that the latter has his whole time to apply to the management of his private concerns, while the former is employed for the most part in attending his duty to the Company.

Copy of the 43 and 44 Paragraphs of the Company's General Letter to Fort William, dated the 19th February 1762.

By the directions we gave in our letter of the 1st April 1760, we meant, that the Nabob should not be defrauded of his duties by an abuse of the duftuck, nor private traders oppre pled—but as it appears, by your advices of the 16th January 1761, that the farming the duties of the Nabob, and the other methods we have pointed out, are not practicable, we must therefore acquiece in their not being carried into execution; at the same time, we repeat and enforce what
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what we mentioned in our said letter, that at all events the duffucks are to be put upon such a footing as to secure the government their duties, and enable the merchants to pay our customs.

It has been intimated, that some of our late servants had engrossed the sale of beetle and salt, to their own great emolument, but highly prejudicial to the interest of the Nabob; as such measures tend greatly to the embroiling our affairs, as well as being injurious to the community, we entreat you to take the utmost care, that neither our servants, or any persons residing under our protection, have any concern in such farms for the future.

Due attention having been paid to the perusal of these several papers and extracts, the several members of the board are desired to give in writing, next Tuesday, their sentiments of the President's letter to the Nabob, considered with all the forefined papers, and also on the following questions;

1st. Whether, by the piramand and subsequent treaties, we have a right to trade in every article, whether for foreign or inland trade, duty free?

2d. Whether any duties ought to be paid to the country government on salt, beetle nut, tobacco, or any other articles?

3d. Whether the Company's duffucks shall be for the future granted with such articles?

Of late, the trade of salt, from Calcutta up the country, has been carried on by the English inhabitants in general, who having first paid the duties at Houghly, and having got the plowzer's duffuck or rovanna, had then a passport or certificate from the President to accompany it.

4th. Whether certificates should in future be granted to any but Company's servants?

5th. Whether the English gomstabs, in any parts of the three provinces, shall be subject in any manner to the control of the officers of the country government, and how far?

6th. If not, how are we to regulate the disputes that may happen between them and the country government, and particularly in those parts where we have no factory?

Received another letter from Luckypore, dated the 16th instant, acquainting us of further extraordinary acts of violence and injustice committed by Aga Nazam Comar Ally and Buddul Cawn: the same having been read at the board.

Agreed, we write an answer thereto, directing the gentlemen at Luckypore to seize the persons of Aga Nazam Comar Ally and Buddul Cawn, and send them down to Calcutta, that we may either point them ourselves or inflict upon the Nabob's doing it; that on this service, they will take care to send force enough to execute it with a certainty of success; for that reason rather wait for a reinforcement from Chittagong, than engage in the enterprise with an insufficient number; that in case the detachment ordered from Chittagong to Dacca should not have passed Luckypore before the receipt of this letter, they may direct the officer to execute this service before he proceeds thither; or, if any part of it lies nearer and more convenient to the districts of Chittagong, they may write to them to carry such part into execution from thence.

As a full board was intended to have been summoned to consult on the subject of the late regulations, Mr. Johnston moves, that the opinion of the absent members, M'Guire, and Vereiff, be also asked on this subject, and the papers relative thereto be forwarded to them, which he thinks will obviate the objection made to this proceeding, of summoning the absent members to the board on affairs of such consequence, as it stands minutely by the President, the 1st February.

This Motion being approved; Ordered, that the secretary do prepare copies of the several papers, to be forwarded to the above mentioned gentlemen as soon as possible.

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Fort William Consulation, 18th March 1763.

AGREARLY to the order of council, the 22d February, the several members now deliver in their opinions in the questions therein proposed.

Ordered, They be here entered in the following manner:

First, Mr. Watts is of the opinion in an answer to the questions proposed last council day; viz.

That by the piramand and fubbukanum the English East India Company have an undoubted right to trade in any articles produced in the Indostan empire, either for foreign or inland trade, and that duffucks ought to be given with any articles, and that Meer Mahomed Jaffer Ally Cawn, in his treaty, has very particularly confirmed the same, for the provinces under the suzerainty of Bengal.

Secondly, That duties ought not to be paid to the country government on salt, beetle nut, tobacco, or any other articles that have a duffuck with them.

Thirdly, That duffucks be granted with such articles for the future.

Fourthly, That no passports or certificates should be granted to Company's servants, or others; but that salt have a duffuck with it, if the title property of a Company's servant, but not to other English inhabitants.

Fifthly,
Fifthly, That the President, in his letter to the Nabob, has given up the privilege which the Company enjoyed by the phirmaund, and therefore he continued in the same sentiments as in the consolitation of the 17th January.

Sixthly, That subjecting our English gomafthas to the country government would entirely prevent us from carrying on our trade, nor is there any necessity for any regulations in those parts where we have an English factory; but in the distant parts of the province something is necessary to be established, as well to prevent our gomafthas from being guilty of oppressions to the country people, as to keep the officers of the government from behaving in the manner they have lately done; that this point can only be settled between the Nabob and us.

Mr. Marriott is of opinion, That the President ought to have waited till he could have received an answer from the Board, before he wrote the letter to the Nabob, as no paragraph of the Board's letters to the President appear to authorize him to conclude a treaty without their approbation, unless their willingness to have affairs settled with the Nabob on a solid basis, with the security of our rights and privileges, be confirmed in that sense, which he does not imagine was the intention of the board.

That in regard to the treaty itself, it differs far from our phirmaund and funwads, granted in consequence of our treaties with Seer Rajah Dowla and Jaffer Ally Cawn, particularly in giving up our right in granting duffucks for the inland trade; tho' some few articles may have been denied us trading in by the country government, unless we paid duties on them; notwithstanding our honourable masters strongly recommended the being jealous of our phirmaund privileges; and also in submitting our gomafthas and dependants to be under the government's jurisdiction, and liable on every occasion to be called before their courts, which is greatly derogatory to the English name, and must take from us that sway we ought to have in the country, and without which no business will be able to be carried on; and will greatly prejudice not only the quality and quantity, but also enhance the price of every article of the Company's involvement; so far from submitting our gomafthas and dependants to the government's courts of judicature, our phirmaund expressly orders all our dependants that are indebted to us, and run away, to be immediately delivered up to us; and that the government's people should give us all assistance they can on such an occasion, in order to recover our demands.

That in regard to exchange of money, as we have an undoubted right to coin siccas from our phirmaund and funwads, we ought to insist on those we coin should pass; but to obviate any loss that might arise by batta on siccas of a different mint at another place, we should get stamps of the several mints where we have occasion to lend money and coin with those stamps accordingly.

For these reasons I entirely dissent to the treaty, the ill consequences of which must now appear too plain to every one; it being a dangerous system to trust the government's people with so great power; their character of being rapacious and tyrannical would, I thought, have been well known to every one: I am further of opinion the said privilege of the President's to the Nabob should be demanded back, or hereafter bad consequences may arise from it.

In reply to the different articles proposed to the Board, Mr. Marriott is of opinion, That by the phirmaund and subsequent treaties, we have a right to trade in foreign and inland articles of trade; if a direct affection is a sufficient proof, and not one single article of trade prohibited us by the phirmaund, &c. That the government denying us to trade in a few articles, without we pay duties on them, is usurping an authority they formerly were forbid, as by the tenor of the phirmaund it appears, that further usurpation and limiting our trade, were attempted by Allverdi Khan's ministers, in respect of paying duties on sugar, and which the Company resist much against, and desire we will take care these things may not be brought into a precedent; which shews the opinion they entertained of those encroachments; and by these regulations and orders concerning duffucks, it plainly appears they only meant their servants should not lower any black merchants goods, or others that had not the privilege of a duffuck, and by that means deprive the government of the duties they would have otherwise collected on the said merchants goods, which in case of being detected might have been made a plea for stopping the Company's business and imbrogiling their affairs.

That in consequence of the government's collecting a duty on salt, which we for the most part have acquired in, a duty should be paid them at one place, and a stated sum for each hundred maunds at the rate of the Moore merchants pay, and the salt pans with the Company's duffuck; more particularly as it is the produce of their own juggere, and the collector of the said duties receipt for the same; after which the boats not to be detained at any gate or chowkey, further than to give the chowkeyard time to take a copy of our duffuck; that as the Company's duffucks have been granted for beetel nut and tobacco they are articles we should not give up, but continue the Company's duffuck for those articles accordingly: that our acquiescing in paying duties on salt, ought to be looked upon as a concession on our part; as the demanding them is certainly an infringement of our phirmaund privileges; but as other tributes have received them, the Nabob has custom to plead for his receiving them also; and as we have supported him in all his ancient privileges, we ought to continue this to him, that it might not be detrimental to his revenues.

That
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That in granting a certificate to English inhabitants trading in said for what they purchase, after paying the government's duties, he can perceive no bad consequence attending it, as this trade interferes not with any branch of the Company's; and therefore thinks the President should grant them to those who are not covenanted servants.

That the subjecting our gomaihahs to the control of the officers of the country government must, he conceives, be attended with the worst of consequences, as it is giving up one of our phirmaund privileges, which must make us esteemed very light in the eyes of the generality of people, and consequently treated with contempt by them, and be the means of depriving our gomaihahs of the influence necessary for carrying on the leaf business; that in order to prevent our gomaihahs from making a bad use of their authority, and injuring or diminishing the government's revenues, or interfering the leaf in them, this being one of the chief articles of complaint against our gomaihahs, they should be again positively forbid holding lands, villages, gunges, &c. of the government, and an immediate example made of those that disobeys, and then no other matters of dispute can arise but in those of trade; when the party injured should apply for redress to the chief of the nearest English factory, who, no doubt, is invested with authority sufficient to make the gomaihah complained against, appear and answer to the complaint, which if appearing true, and a few severe examples made on the gomaihahs, would, I flatter myself, in a short time have the desired effect, and no injustice be committed by English gomaihahs in future.

Mr. Hay's.

My reasons for joining with other members of the Board, present the 17th January, in passing the measure on the President, minutely on the Consulatation of that day, are, That by the treaty or written treaty made with the Nabob, the principal rights and privileges of the English Company, granted them by the King's phirmaund and hulbulookums from Dilley, confirmed and fully explained by the treaties with Serajah Dowla and Meer Jaffier Cawn, and enjoyed since those treaties almost in full, are given up in full, without one single advantage gained by the Company; but, on the contrary, the total loss of the English credit and reputation in these provinces, which has been greatly declining these two years past, was the visible consequence of this agreement, to every one who saw it and were the leaf acquainted with the nature of the country people; and it now grieves me that the whole regulations, and the most kindly conduct of this Board, will not be able to prevent the immediate bad effects of this ill-conceited and unauthorized proceeding of Mr. Vanfitart, as too plainly appears from the letters received from the subordinates, and the general complaints of all our agents and gomaihahs; which shew there is almost everywhere a drop to our great incumbrances on our business, and that our servants are particularly ill-used and oppressed.

In considering the arguments for and against the present treaty entered into with the Nabob by the President, it is absolutely necessary to form the true judgment on the affair, that the unjust methods used in the country courts of justice, as well as the methods practiced by the country merchants in conducting their affairs, should be continually in your mind.

The impossibility of carrying on business when subject to the country courts, I think must appear plain to every one; when it is considered, that for all sums of money recovered in them you are obliged to pay, besides the expenses of the court, a shunt, or 25 per cent. on the money recovered; if the English do not submit to pay, it will always be the interest of the remi-ndards to decide against them; this I only mention as one of the numberless grievances we should suffer, if subjected to their authority; the country merchants are liable of the impossibility of carrying on business under such disadvantages, and are therefore obliged to buy the protection of some person of authority in the government, if their own influence is not sufficient; which sets them above the reach of the lower zamindars of the country, protects them from the violence of all, and at the same time gives them a kind of judicial authority, so far as to confine the weavers and pears when they cannot recover their balances from them otherwise; this being well understood, I imagine, was the principal reason for the Company's being so great an expense in procuring their phirmaund, and hulbulookums; which exempt the Company from those inconveniences, and likewise of the great care that was taken to preserve them in their full force by the treaties with Surajah Dowla and Meer Jaffier Cawn.

Before I come to consider the different articles of the treaty, it is necessary to remark, that the Governor's argument, both in his letters and minutes, in support of this transaction, is on a supposition, that the greatest enormities have been, and are, committed by the English gomaihahs throughout the country, to the great detriment of the Nabob's revenues and government; but that this has not been the case, I think, plainly appear, from the several complaints made against them, being no further supported than by the assertion of those by whom made, and whose interest it was to make complaints of that kind, as some excuse for their non-payment of what was demanded of them; when, if there was any foundation of these complaints, it was too much in their power, and so agreeable to the present government and to the President, that they should be proved, that they could never have wanted means to have done it; and likewise by the numberless oppressions that our gomaihahs and people have suffered through-
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out the country for many months past; for it is not to be conceived, that people treated in the manner they have been, could have it in their power to be guilty of those extravagant violences and enormities which they are represented by Mr. Vanfittart. This much premised, I shall now consider Mr. Vanfittart's written security or obligation to the Nabob, article by article.

In the first, Mr. Vanfittart has given up the right which the Company have, by their privilege, to have their goods paid for, and subsequent treaties, of granting duties, except for ship merchandise; laid a tax of 9 per cent. on all other traffic; and, in a manner, acknowledges that the English do carry on their trade by force or violence, extortion, or unfair dealing.

I think the Board could never have justified themselves for giving up the Company's privileges in this manner; and of course that Mr. Vanfittart, unauthorized as he was to enter into any treaty, could have no right to do it; but suppose it otherwise, How was it to be determined which were and which were not ship merchandise? Mr. Vanfittart indeed, in a subsequent article, has left that to be determined by those whose interest it must be to determine them to be not so. In the argument used for the tax of 9 per cent. on the trade from one part of the country to another, it is throughout intimated, that this is less than what has been usually paid; and Mr. Vanfittart says, That on all the trade of this kind that he has carried on in salt, &c. he has paid the country duties; but from my own knowledge, as well as enquiry, I have reason to think, that of the innumerable articles traded in this way, only salt and tobacco have paid any, the former of which, by far the most considerable, I believe last year on a medium did not pay above 3 per cent. although we submitted to pay the established country duties. Mr. Vanfittart, on being asked in council last Tuesday, What those were that he meant by salt, &c.? replied, Only salt, for that he never traded in any other. How ill then is his argument supported by his declaration, when explained! On the whole, I believe we are by this article, instead of trading duty free, which I think we have an undisputed right to, loaded with a duty more than double what is paid by the Dutch, Armenians, or any people of the country.

The acknowledging thus, in a public writing, that the English do carry on their trade by force or violence, extortion or unfair dealing, as I imagine without any foundation for such assertion, is so hurtful to the reputation of the English in this country, that I look on it in the same light that I do the giving up the privileges of the phirmaund.

By the second article, contrary to the privileges that the English enjoy by grants and treaties, themselves and gomafahs are subject to the jurisdiction of the meanest officer that the Nabob employs, without the liberty of an appeal.

I find so many objections, of the same nature as were made to the last, to be made to this, and every article of this treaty, that I shall only remark on the whole of the remaining articles, That by being debarred the liberty of making salt, we are deprived of a privilege that every person, Europeans and others, in the country have, but ourselves.

That the giving up the right of coinage in the different mints is overcharging a privilege granted from Delby.

That the throwing the whole trade of Affam and Rangamally into the hands of one person is a monopoly most destructive to trade, and more particularly if what Mr. Vanfittart advances be just, that the duty on cotton alone in that country brings in a revenue of 40,000 rupees, which if you supposed at 5 per cent. must be raised on 800,000 rupees worth, which if thus monopolized must greatly raise the price of that article, and of course the price of cloth.

Upon the whole, I think the written security should be demanded of the Nabob, and destroyed, to prevent, in future times, when our affairs may not be in the flourishing situation they are at present in Bengal, in regard to force, a bad use being made of it; for it is probable that the government would, in case of having the upper hand in the country, make use of it to invalidate the privileges the English enjoy by their phirmaund, hubulookums, and treaties.

In answer to question the first I say—Yes.
To question the second—No.
To question the third—Yes.
To question the fourth—that certificates should be given after the duties are paid.
To question the fifth—not at all.
To answer to question the sixth I say, as formerly, Agreeable to the phirmaund: but that a plan be laid down by the board to prevent any injuries being done by the English gomafahs, and for punishing those that are guilty; which I think may be well done by a Committee appointed for that purpose, who should receive all complaints and appeals from subordinate agents residing with authority of the board in those quarters, and examine them; and as it appears that great part, if not the whole, of the troubles that have happened to the English and their gomafahs of late, are owing to the orders sent over the country by the Nabob, I think it highly necessary that we have always a senvorvant resident with the Nabob, who should be acquainted with all orders regarding the English; this I think we have a right to demand, and is what we should insist on, as it will in future prevent our so long being ignorant of the source of our troubles as we have lately been.

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Mr. Johnstone thinks the President's letter to the Nabob, containing the new regulations he intended to establish, is, from its abrupt tone, as well as concessions, highly dishonourable to us, and such as could not fail of ruining our trade and influence, and reducing us lower than ever the English were at any period in this country; that the President, without authority, or any urgent necessity that yet appears, or can be conceived, reneged to the Nabob those rights and privileges we are entitled to by the phirmaund, and subsequent treaties, and have hitherto enjoyed by virtue of them: First, by discounting the Company's trade from that of their servants, and agreeing to an exorbitant duty of nine per cent, on all articles of the inland trade, without distinction, or examination of what had usually been paid on any of these articles at the different subordinates; establishing the rate upon that paid by the gentlemen of Luckapore, though expressly mentioned by them to be more than what was paid at Dacca, and known to be above double the duty paid heretofore at Hughley, and though faut was the only article in his own private inland trade that the President remembers to have ever paid any duty on or before this time: Secondly, in subverting the English, and their gomasths, under the authority of the Moores courts of judicature, contrary to the privileges we have ever enjoyed of protecting those employed under us, and ourselves judges of their actions; the many ill consequences of which, and the entire loss of that credit and pre-eminence we have ever maintained, is evident to every body, of which we have had ample proof, since the circulation of the regulations, as appears from the complaints of every quarter of the abuse of the power so easily put into their hands, by the baggage of our trade and attacks openly made on those entitled to our protection: Thirdly, the prohibiting at once, without reason, or ever consulting the Board, the Company's servants, at the factories at Luckapore, Isままab, &c. from making salt works themselves, which is a liberty not denied to any native of the country, and by which their fortunes have been and are endangered, as no time was allowed for collecting in the money they had laid out, and the balance due could only be recovered by receiving the salt from the Molonies they had employed.

The articles ordering, without any limitation, that all purchases of land made by any of the servants of our factories should be resigned, was, I think, unjust and dishonourable to us, as if our servants, where they paid the due demands to the government, were not entitled to our protection.

The article directing, that the chiefs and servants of the factories are not to hinder the weavers and brokers of the government, has been considered as giving a full power to the Nabob's officers over them people, and may turn to the ruin of the Company's investments, as appears by the proceedings of Mahomed Aly at the Dacca surungs.

The foregoing the privilege we had of coinage in the mints of Patna and Dacca, while no provision was made for the currency of our pieces at those places, without discount, was giving up what the Company could demand of right: And, Ordering all purchases at Gualparah to be made entirely through the Nabob's orogen, was an infringement of our rights of a free trade in that quarter, and against the treaty with Jaffier Ally Khawn, by which we are freed from being even obliged to buy by the intervention of delools.

The minute of the Board the 17th January, on the proceedings of the President, therefore to me appears well grounded; and I think the treaty ought to be recovered from the Nabob, and destroyed, that so had a precedent may never be established and used against us.

Next, in regard to the questions proposed, he thinks first, that by virtue of the phirmaund, husbulbookums, and the treaties with Serajah Dowla and Meer Jaffier Ali Khan, I think the Company and their servants have a right, without any restriction or limitation, to trade in and grant duftucks for every article, whether for foreign or inland trade: our having been restricted by the power of the Subahs, before the revolution, from the full enjoyment of these rights, can never be urged as a good argument to invalidate them; when we became powerful enough to affect them, they were established as fully and clearly as could be expressed in the public treaties then concluded, and in fumnuuds and duftucks, afterwards issued in consequence, by Seraj Dowla and Jaffier Aly Khan, for the uninterrupted currency of our trade, through the indubitable authority of the duftuck, wherever it was granted; and these fumnuuds were not merely for such quarters where the Company had factories and surungs, but comprehended also all the distant frontier provinces, where they had not the least trade of any kind, as Runpore, Furnca, Rangamatty, Damgepror, Syllet, &c. And Jaffier Ally Khan yet agrees, that he understood the treaty in this sense; that wherever a Company's duftuck was granted, no duty could ever be demanded. If custom, and what privileges we enjoyed under the Moores government before the revolution, are to be established, as what only we have a right to trade in now by virtue of our grants, phirmaund, &c. there is scarce an article of the gruff trade, whether for export or consumption, in Calcutta and other places in the kingdom, but we must give up: for it is known we could not profitably in our names trade in these articles, though willing to pay the duties and arbitrary exactions required on such occasions; these various other articles of gruff are no more particularized or expected in any treaty or phirmaund, &c. than the two articles of salt and tobacco, and have been ever since the treaty with Serajah Dowla carried on with the Company's duftuck.

That we have acquiesced in paying duty on the single article of salt, and passing it with the K

\[\text{Shaubund,}\]
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The English gomafhahs in any part of the three provinces should be subject in no manner to the jurisdiction of the country government; they are not in my opinion, more than their principals, to be accountable to them; I believe they never were; and no people could possibly have been taken more freely to ruin our trade, influence, and respect in the country, than acknowledging them as absolute masters and judges; the Company have ever been protected, their gomafhahs and those of their servants; while we have subordinate factories, and a fixed government here, justice may always be had, when complaints are well grounded, and can be proved by the government's dependants; nor need we be startled with these laid before us, but from the subject, exaggeration, and groundless names of most of them, conceive a state of wretched dependence we should fall into, were we liable to be called upon every such like absurd complaint preferred to the country government. In those more distant quarters, where the Company have not factories, the trade is generally managed by gentlemen who have had the approbation of the Board to go up the country, and given security for their good behaviour; they may be presumed more to be dependent on determining equitably any disputes about points of trade, which is all they should or need have any connection with them, any Zemindary Court; an appeal might nevertheless always lie from them to the nearest subordinate; and when such persons are publicly known in those quarters, as under the protection, and acting with the permission and authority of the Board, to whom they are to be accountable, they may, without any new regulation or innovation, carry on their trade to the satisfaction of the people, and without any detriment to, or interfering with, the collection of the revenues.

Mr. Haftings.

My name already appearing to the letter proposing the regulations which form the substance of the President's letter to the Nabob, it will hardly be expected of me to join in the harsh and unmerited cenure put upon them by the members which then formed the Board: I at that time regarded these regulations, not as a concession of any new rights to the Nabob, but a confirmation of those which he held by the treaties in force; nor has any thing appeared since to make me change that opinion.

My sentiments upon the extent of our duftuck, and the privilege of our gomafhahs, I shall fully hereafter, observing only in this place, that the settling the duties on the inland trade at 9 per cent. by the Governor only fixed the trade, which was before variably levied, with continual disputes, to the great detriment of the fair trader; and in this he acted in strict conformity to the plain and literal instructions of the Board, whatever sense they were intended to convey.

The President has so fully explained the motives and reasons for this tranfaction, that it is needless for me to take up the time of the Board with a repetition of them: upon the whole, I declare it as my opinion, that the regulations in question were calculated in the best manner to our trade upon a proper footing, to distinguish our right from those of the Nabob, to preserve the English name from reproach, and the affairs of the Company from suffering by continual disputes and contentions in which they had no concern.

To understand the meaning of any treaty, where the expressions are doubtful or defective, recourse should be had to the circumstances of the parties concerned, at the time in which they were made; regarding the firman in this light, we shall make no scruple to pronounce, that the Company could not, where they obtained that grant from the court of D'elhée, understand it to extend beyond their own trade, or include privileges of which they could not make any use; and which, I may add, they never dreamt of.

The commerce in imports and exports ever bounded, as of necessity it must, their concerns in this country, for the encouragement of a trade beneficial to the country and its revenues; the court, at that time in its most flourishing state, and supported by wife and able ministers, indulged the Company with the freedom which they petitioned for from duties; then the trade, in such commodities as were produced and sold in the country, was entirely confined to the natives; they were either farmed out where they were considerable enough to make an article in the public revenues, or circulated through the province by the poorer sort of people, to whom, whilst
whilst they afforded a subsistence, they at the same time added to the income of the state by the duties gathered upon them: let us suppose the Company's agents had petitioned for the liberty of trading in thev articles without paying duties; can it be conceived that the government could have been so blind to its own interest as to have given a privilege to strangers which would have enabled them to monopolize the whole trade of the country, to impoverish the natural subjects, and exhaust the country of its wealth, without making any adequate return for it? The privileges therefore claimed by the Company, and allowed by the government, were originally designed by both for such a trade only as was carried on by the former, that is, in goods brought into the country, or purchased in it for exportation; in effect, it was ever limited to that; nor can it be proved that the dufluck was ever allowed to pafs for any other, from the first engagement of this grant until the death of the Seraja Dowla; the Company, in their standing orders before that time, prohibited their servants from meddling with what we now term the Inland Trade, and name it illicit; nor can there be any difference of power convey to us a right from former treaties, which we confidently believed before, though since the relolation of the Company's privileges we have by degrees dealt in the inland trade, yet it was always with a tacit acknowledgement of the invalidity of our dufluck for that trade, having generally paid the government a duty thereon; and where it was attempted without, it has constantly been the subject of complaints and opposition on the part of the Nabob's officers. I am well aware of the objection which I have frequently heard repeated in the course of the debates upon this subject, and which it may be proper in this place to reply to; I mean, That we should not be too rigorous in calling in question our own privileges; but where the sense of a treaty is not sufficiently clear, interpret it in such manner as may tend to our own advantage, leaving it to others to dispute it; and that therefore, as the firmans give us a general right to trade duty free, without mentioning any exceptions, we should insist on a free trade in every thing, without exception. Without examining this principle, I shall only say, that if it be just at all, it can only be so where the points controverted are of real importance; but where they are either trivial in themselves, or have a pernicious tendency, it must be an absurdity to insist upon them.—I must beg leave for the first time to distinguish between the interest of the Company and that of individuals, which I am afraid have been too much confounded in these debates; that the Company will not suffer by a restriction of the dufluck to foreign merchandise is manifest, since, with that restriction, it will answer every purpose for which they want it. Besides, the odium which a monopoly is injurious to the natural rights of the country merchants must unavoidably cast upon the English name, and the perpetual jealousies which, from experience, we know it to be attended with, prove that this privilege is in effect highly prejudicial to the real interest as well as honour to the Company. As they have been pleased to permit us to share with them the benefit of the dufluck, we may fairly consent ourselves with the enjoyment of that privilege within the same bounds to which they have limited themselves. To attempt to extend it beyond that, and, for the sake of our own private advantage, to make this a point of contest with the power in alliance with the Company, is both a violation of justice and a breach of the duty which we owe to our employers.

My opinion then, upon the three first questions before us, is, first, That we can claim no right from the phirmans, nor, of course, the subsequent treaties, which were but intended as copies of that; in the articles regarding our commerce, to an exemption from duties on any but foreign trade; that is, in goods imported or carried out of the country. Secondly, That duties ought to be paid to the country government on salt, beetledew, and other articles, which are produced and sold in the country. And, thirdly, That of course the dufluck ought not to be given for those articles, but that they pass with a rowana or certificate from the officers of the customs, in the same manner with the goods belonging to other merchants. The fourth article I deem altogether unnecessary, whether we trade in salt with the Company's dufluck, or, as other merchants, without them, the dufluck being a sufficient distinction in the first case, and the latter requiring none.

My opinion upon the fifth question is, That the English gomahals, in every part of the three provinces, wherever in the districts of the Nabob or of the Company, shall be subject to the magistrate; but with this distinction to be observed between private gomahals and those of the Company, that the former shall be equally accountable to the magistrate, for any misdemeanor, with any one of the Nabob's subjects that shall at any time reside in the territory of the Company, nor enjoy any advantages above other merchants, but such only as the firmans give them, viz. that their goods shall pass duty free wherever they have the protection of the dufluck; the magistrate shall not oppose, but afflilt them, in the recovery of their just debts; nor suffer any one to injure or oppress them; but, as the Company's gomahals have a weightier charge, and are none of them situated at such a distance from the Company's factories, but that complaints against them may be both easily heard and speedily redressed, it should be only permitted to the magistrate to oppose them in the actual commission of any violence, or the assumption of any right not belonging to them; but in any disputes with their immediate dependants, such as the weavers, pykers, or dollars in their service, he shall not interfere, otherwise than by affliting them in carrying their complaints to the prelidency, or the factories to which the gomahals belong, for redress; but the gomahal shall not therefore protect his own dependants from any lawful claims of the government, nor their perfons from justice in any criminal case. This
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This to me appears the only equitable method for preventing any misbehaviour in our people, or disputes between them and the Nabobs. If the magistrate at any time should abuse his authority, the Nabob should be required, upon proof, to dismiss him from his office, or inflict any other punishment suitable to the degree of the offence. If this justice, so essential to the Nabob's own interest and the tranquillity of the country, be refused, or from the defiance of his residence cannot be timely obtained, we have always the means in our power, when such extraordinary occasions may demand it, to vindicate our right, and call the infringers of it to justice.

From the peculiarity of the times, and a natural propensity in the weaker part of mankind to run from one extreme to another, it has unfortunately happened, that the power suddenly placed in the hands of the Nabob's officers, for the protection of his people, has been far extravagantly abused, as to give occasion to a persiflalion in many, that no power can with safety be trusted in their hands. As I have formerly lived amongst the country people, in a very inferior station, and at a time when we were subject to the most flagitious dependence in the government, and met with the greatest indulgence, and even respect, from the zamindars and officers of the government, I can with the greatest confidence deny the justice of this opinion; and add further, from repeated experience, that if our people, instead of erecting themselves into lords, and oppressors of the country, confine themselves to an honest and fair trade, and submit themselves to the lawful authority of the government, they will be everywhere courted and respected, and the English name, instead of becoming a reproach, will be universally revered; the country will receive benefit from our commerce; and the power of the English, instead of being made a bugbear to frighten the poor inhabitants into a submission to injury and oppression, will be regarded by them as the greatest blessing and protection.

It is as impossible for any state to subsist with a divided power as with none. Our servants are as likely, at least, to make an ill use of their power as the Nabob's are, but are not so easily to be restrained. In whole hands, therefore, can it be so properly lodged as in those of the government, to whom it belongs? To take from them that right, a right which we should never suffer to be contested in our own districts, will be to introduce oppression, rapine, and anarchy, into the country which we are engaged to protect; and whatever temporary advantage individuals may gain from such a scene of troubles, the affairs of the Company must inaffitably suffer by it, if not be involved in one common ruin with the country. That this consequence may not appear too forcibly drawn, permit me to add, it has been observed, that the wildest and most permanent states have ever left to conquered nations the exercise of their own laws, and by that means infured their subjection. The power which we have acquired in these provinces has reduced them into a condition as nearly resembling a conquest as it is for our own interest to wish it; but if we take fo ungenerous, as well as impolitic, advantage of their weakness, as to put it in the power of every Banyan who calls himself an English fendant, to tyrannize over the inhabitants without control, this is not only to deprive them of their own laws, but to deny them even of the benefit of any.

Mr. Cartier gives it as his opinion, that the President's letter to the Nabob was in every respect improper, and naturally intended, from the concessions contained therein, to bring upon the English name discredit and real disgrace; the late violations, as well as insolences, committed by the natives, are a certain argument of its impropriety, and which were clearly foreseen the very instant the said letter was made public; that the hope given them of being constituted judges and arbitrators of all disputes, that might happen in the interest of our subjects, gave caufe to the many inconveniences and tyranny that we have lately suffered, and do suffer: the subjecting us to such a controul would have effectually destroyed our influence and reputation in the country, and would unavoidably have led us, from the manifold oppressions we must have fell under by such regulations taking place, to the necessity of taking up arms for the redress of those grievances every member of this colony must have felt by so arbitrary a jurisdiction; as it is, the evil has spread wide, and has acquired such strength, that no other methods, I doubt, but forcible ones, will be able to remove it; that he can't think the members of the Board gave, or intended giving, a direct consent to the President's entering into treaty with the Nabonbon points to very interfering to our privileges, or did they imagine such a step was any ways necessary; but what he thinks most condemnable is, that the said regulations, previous to the approbation or disapprobation of the Board, were made known to the Nabob, and the same ordered by him to his different officers, to be carried into execution, before such agreement could have the concurrence of the several members of the Council; he is likewise of opinion, that the said regulations, and the said letter to the Nabob, were in no respect agreeable to the tenor and spirit of our phirmaund, and the subsequent treaties entered with the Nabob Serajah Dowlah and Meer Jaffier, but would have been the means of confirming our privileges into much narrower bounds than the grants and treaties are intended to restrain us in.

First, On the true extent and meaning of the phirmaund, and all subsequent treaties, Mr. Cartier thinks, that by the privileges involved in us by our phirmaund, hubballookums, and our late treaties, that trade is under no limitation whatever, either in foreign or inland commodities; that the want formerly of power to avert the importunities of the phirmaund, cannot, as he imagines, be construed to an absolute and entire deprivation of them: this reason now no longer
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longer existing, we ought to exert our privileges to their fullest intent and latitude, nor submit to the capricious conduct and encroaching behaviour of the country government.

Thirdly, On the trade on salt and tobacco, he can have no objection to the payment of an equitable duty, more particularly as we have hitherto, both at the presidency and the factories of Dacca and Lucknapore, submitted to pay on one or both of those articles; but let that be fixed at a medium of what has been paid at the different settlements, and furthermore to be considered as a concession made the Nabob, and not claimed as a right paid as a thing which custom has established, and not to be confirmed by any treaty.

Fourthly, It is allowed that the trade in salt and tobacco is in every respect agreeable to our phirmaund privileges: he sees no reason why a duty should not be granted for those articles as well as for all others; tho' at the same time, as a duty may probably be laid on those two articles, they should be accompanied with the buxhundar, or the shawbundar's receipt, to ascertain that the full duties have been paid, and that nothing further is to be demanded on any account.

Fifthly, As certificates have been granted indiscriminately to the Company's servants, as well as to the inhabitants of Calcutta, he thinks the same should be continued to the latter, on their application to the President, on producing the buxhundar's receipt for duties paid; tho' at the same time the duty stipulated and agreed upon to be levied on these branches of trade, the properties of Company's servants, should serve as no regulations for what may be demanded from them.

Sixthly, The nature of the government in every part of Indo-pan in all respects oppressive and venal, and the decision of all causes depending more on the ability of the parties engaged in bribing their judges than the legality of them, it can scarcely be thought even equitable, that the servants and gomasifs in our employ should, on any complaint or misdemeanor, be subject to their determination. It is likewise a known truth, that in every dispute concerning property and money matters, a fourth part is appropriated for the service of the government and offices: this probably might not be inferred upon from us, tho' its not being so would in all likelihood be rather prejudicial than the contrary, as the other party might be subjected to the established custom of the country, which, if so, it must appear to every one what a superior influence would be acquired on that side; but even independent of this custom, and should it not be expected or demanded from either party, yet the integrity of our proposed judges is so little allowed of, that it would be the highest absurdity to expect it, or even to demand in their having the least power or authority over our people: should this be even permitted, it will not be presumption to declare that we may then begin to date the commencement of our declining influence in the country, and would most certainly be productive of continual broils should we have spirit sufficiently remaining to resent the injustice and indignities we must in such situation be exposed to.

Sixthly, Tho' he thinks it improper to allow the officers of the government any kind of control over our gomasifs, yet he is far from wishing their actions should be uncontrollable: let the person injured, if not in our employ, lay his complaint before the magistrate of the district he is in, to be by him forwarded with the complaint to the President, or Chiefs and Council, of the different factories as be most near the district where the complaint comes from; when the gomasif is complained against shall be ordered down to justify himself as to the accusation lodged against him; should complaints arise in parts distant from either the presidency or the factories, he thinks a confidence might be repose in the gentlemen employed as our agents in those parts, as they are men of character, and their appointments been approved by the members of the Board, and each depended upon to settle the complaints brought against their own gomasifs: should this not be approved, he can only propose the method pointed out as to the determination of those disputes that may happen in the neighbourhood of the different settlements, or by an amicus, properly authorized to make an inquiry into them. It is necessary we should become our own judges in all disputes in which we may possibly be concerned; must true it is, it has not the most equitable appearance; but every gentleman must be convinced how highly beneficial such a privilege is for the supporting our influence, and avoiding chicanery and perplexities of a Moorish court; and he can't help thinking, but a power so lodged in our hands is liable to less abuses, and will be exercised with the finest impartiality, notwithstanding we may in some respects be interested in the decision of the cause.

Mr. Biller's.

The first part of the President's letter to the Nabob contains the agreement for our paying a duty of 9 per cent, on all articles for inland trade; the phirmaund, and subsequent treaties, are certainly the only guides that can enable us to form a proper judgment on this subject; and having given the greatest attention to them, when read at the board last council day, I think they give us an undoubted right to trade, duty free, in all commodities whatever, either for foreign or inland trade, upon the consideration of our paying annually the piffush therein stipulated in lieu thereof. These being my sentiments of the meaning of the phirmaund, &c. it follows of course that I must disapprove of the President's entering into an agreement which so evidently deprives us of one of the greatest advantages we have gained thereby, and particul-
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lately of his having done it on the bare supposition that it would be approved by the other members of the board; however, as the Nabob's revenues would suffer, were we to carry on our commerce of every kind without paying any duties, I think it would be proper that some reasonable consideration should be made him for the privilege of the inland trade; but that he should at the same time be made sensible that he is by no means intitled thereto, and that it is entirely a mark of favour.

With regard to the regulations the President has laid down for the determination of all disputes which may happen between our agents or gemmahals and the country inhabitants, it is well known that those people cannot confine themselves within the limits of the authority with which they are invested. The many daring insinuations and oppreftions which have been committed by the Nabob's officers, ever since his orders for enforcing those regulations were first issued, are evident proofs of the truth of this observation, and sufficiently point out the impropriety of them, without the use of further arguments. Upon the whole, I think the President might be defired to recall this letter, leaf, by falling into the hands of any of the Nabob's successors, it might hereafter be used by them as a plea for the fame purpose for which it was now designed.

I have already declared my opinion of the first query proposed, in giving my sentiments on that part of the President's letter which related to the 9 per cent. duty; with regard to the second and third, I think the Company's duty should be grants to the inland, as well as the foreign, trade, when it has been settled whether we shall pay any and what duties, as it will effectively cut off all subject of dispute, by putting it out of the power of the officers to make any objection to the passage of the goods; and that none but Company's servants should have the President's passport for the salt which may have paid the government's duty at Hughley.

As to any disputes which may happen between our gemmahals or agents and the people of the country, I think the only scheme for the determination of them will be to oblige the person who may think himself aggrieved to apply for redress to the nearest factory, wherever distance may be from the place where the dispute happened, and if he is not content with their decision he may appeal to the Governor and Council.

Wm. Billers.

Mr. Batton thinks the President's letter to the Nabob detrimental to the interest of the and the nation in general; because, by a forced and groundless explanation, it invalidates the privileges granted by the King's phirmaun, and sundry hubullhookums, and confirmed by the treaties with Serajah Dowlah and Meer Jaffier; such an explanation coming from the chief of the English may give great advantage to Nabobs, and to other European nations against us, in future negotiations which we may happen to have with them. By this letter also, the advantage of coming in the mints of Patna and Dacca is given up, at the same time the Calcutta mint rendered of little or no service; for by our being prohibited from using any authority over the shrofs, the currency of rupees coined at Calcutta will be dropped in most parts of the country; and this is actually the case at present at Colimbuzar and Murthiabad; he was much surprised to see those advantages, which were fo strenuously contended for many years together, given up without any public consideration: he thinks also the said letter tends to destroy the national influence in this country, and to bring us into contempt; because the form of addresses, and several expressions, are unbecoming, submissive, and condescending but chiefly, because it submits the English agents, not excepting the Company's factories, to the jurisdiction of the Nabob's officers, which would immediately put a stop to great part of the private trade, and would furnish the Nabob with continual pretences for subjecting the Company to the same oppreftions which they underwent before the rupture with Serajah Dowlah, whenever he should think himself in a condition to proceed to such lengths; he therefore thinks we should infult on the Nabob's sending back the said original letter.

In answer to question the 11th, He thinks by the phirmaun, hubullhookums and subsequent treaties, the Company, and under them their servants, have a clear right to trade in every article, whether for foreign or inland trade, which is right, it is our duty to preserve entire and undisturbed; and that the arguments used by the gentlemen on the other side of the question, to prove the contrary, do really prove no more than that former Nabobs had the power and means of hindering us from enjoying the King's grant in its full extent.

In answer to question the 2d, He thinks we should acquiesce in paying the same duty on salt and tobacco that have been paid since Meer Jaffier's coming to theubble, but that the same should not be agreed to by any public deed or writing; and here he thinks proper to remark, that the salt trade being formerly farmed by Cojo Wazeed for an inconsiderable sum, could be no great advantage to the Nabob's revenue; and by means of the monopoly he allowed the merchants and dealers at the first hand, a very small price, from 25 to 30 rupees per 100 maunds; but since the English have had a part of this trade, the price of salt has risen to 70 or 80 rupees per 100 maunds at the aurangs; from hence any person acquainted with the country must see, that from the English trading
trading in this article the Nabob has received benefit, not suffered loss; his complaints on this head therefore proceed not from any real grievance.

In answer to question the 3d and 4th,

He thinks duffucks should be allowed to the Company's servants in future for such articles, but not others.

In answer to question the 5th,

He thinks the English agents should not be subjected to the authority of the country government.

In answer to question the 6th,

He thinks the businessmen may be carried on as it has been before, without any ill consequences; however, as a regulation concerning disputes is required, he thinks the officers of the government may enquire into such matters, and send reports of them to the nearest English factory, or to the presidency, as they may chuse.

**Major Carnac's.**

At the consultation of the 17th January, Major Carnac concurred in opinion with the whole of the gentlemen then at the Board, on the regulations established by the President and Mr. Haftings; and his reasons for so doing, were, fifth, that he deems highly dishonourable our being thereby subjected to the Moolith jurisdicticn, as this is acknowledging a dependancy on the country government, the deliverance from which he had ever regarded as the great happiness resulting from our first resolution; nor can any but iniquitous decisions be expected from courts of such notorious partiality.

Secondly, Major Carnac deems dishonourable, as also extremely prejudicial to our trade, the agreeing to the duty upon all articles of inland trade, without distinction, none of which were ever before subjected to the duties to the establishment of Meer Jaffer, except salt and tobacco; and this must have been through confederation on our part, as our having an universal freedom of trade is so particularly specified, both by our phirmaunds and treaties, as not to leave the least open for cavilling. Major Carnac,thirdly, deems it a dishonourable concession (and the gentlemen at Patna have shown it will be detrimental to the Company) the yielding up the coinage in the mint at Patna, to which he believes we are entitled from our phirmaunds; but, exclusive thereof, we had a very good claim from our having constantly enjoyed that privilege during the time of the preceding Nabob. The Major, in consequence, thinks the letter from the President to the Nabob, containing the said regulations, should be withdrawn.—Thus much being premised, answers, on the part of Major Carnac, the first and fifth questions.

With respect to the second and third questions, Major Carnac is of opinion, that whatever rights we may have, from our phirmaunds, and our different treaties, should be inflicted on; and therefore, that the Company's duffucks should be granted for all commodities, without exception; and that no duties whatever shall be paid to the Nabob, but in lieu therefore, a duty be levied upon duffucks, for the benefit of the Company; however, should the Board think this would occasion a great diminution of the Nabob's revenue, he hopes they will not consent to any other duties, but the continuance of those upon salt and tobacco, the former at the Houghley rate, and the other according as has been paid at Dacca; and that in such case, it will be clearly explained to the Nabob, that it is pure indulgence from us, and which we may retract at pleasure—The Company's duffucks, nevertheless, equally given for salt and tobacco, as for all other articles of trade.

If it be determined to make a compliment to the Nabob of a duty upon salt, the other gentlemen of the Board are the best judges how far the privilege of trading therein ought to be extended, and whether it should be confined to the Company's servants or not. Major Carnac begs leave to wave giving any answer to the fourth question, not being sufficiently master of the subject.

That the black people in our employ are guilty of great irregularities, and commit many abuses under the sanction of our authority, has been a frequent subject of complaint; and it certainly bespeaks to us a very possible remedy thereof, except such a one as has been proposed, which is worse than the disease; there can be no difficulty at the places which are in the neighbourhood of any of our factories, the chiefs and council whereof should be empowered to inquire into the conduct of the English goomahals; and we are not to doubt that the decisions will be fair and equitable; in the places at a distance from our factories, such as Rungpoor, Guhlpore, &c. there are generally some English gentlemen of character resident; and then in cases of complaint, should be directed by the Board to take informations upon the spot, and to spare no colt or pains to get at the truth, which should be transmitted either to the nearest factory, or to Calcutta; and upon conviction of any goomahal of misbehaviour, the most exemplary punishment should be inflicted, in order to deter others from the like practices.

Mr. Amyat—Mr. Vanfittart in his minute of the 1st of February, complains of the harsh and indecent opinion of the Board, on the 17th of January, against his treaty entered into with the Nabob, and that his negotiations therein did not merit such treatment from us.

We are unanimous on the regulations being detrimental and dishonourable, which every article
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article contained therein, I think, clearly denounced—the government formerly must have underfoot our phirmaund gave us a full and extensive trade in every thing, without distinction; and as far as our gentlemen were in capacity to carry on the inland trade, they practiced for many years; but particular articles being turned out to the government to particular persons, our trading therein gave untrouble, and Governor Stack house, I think, was obliged to give a muchulka that the English would derive from further dealing in salt, filk, and beetle nut; this was at a time they could not maintain by force the Dilley grants, fo through necessity complied with, an order at this time would have had the same effect; but they obliged the then governor to invalidate the phirmaund, by giving this muchulka which shewed they thought our right good, and by compulsion got this paper to overstep our future pretensions, and has been ever since the argument against us, therefore detrimental, and dishonourable. Mr. Vanfittart renewing this muchulka, the adding an additional duty to what we have already paid through a condefecution, is doublets detrimental, the subjecting us to the Moorlsh laws, and which, to our honour be it known, in the war of times we never were; but now, not even an appeal to the Nabob or the Council is mentioned; this, doublets, is both detrimental and dishonourable: how prejudicial, partial, and unjust the nature of their courts, cuftoms, and laws, are fo well known to you all, Gentlemen, it's needless for me to take up your time in giving you my sentiments in full thereon; the mentioning that our servants, gomaffaths, &c. shall not carry on trade by oppressions, &c. are dishonourable terms to be inserted in a public treaty; freely the English judgments and honour was sufficient for the government to be satisfied, that we should surely chastifie any of them who dared to profite our name, by any illicit action, without making it an article for them to do it: many complaints have appeared, but none proved, and I flatter myself none will, of any confluence; the Nabob's orders in circulating Mr. Vanfittart's treaty, are dishonourable to us, and in a manner an act of hostility, bidding us open defiance.

The foregoing were my reasons for concurring with the rest of the Board on the 17th of January, in cenfuring the Governor's proceedings: and I am also to remind you, that we thought he had also been guilty of a breach of our privilege in acting without our concents; and I still think for I formally declare, I never suspected he could defire such an independent power, or to material or national a concern, or imagine the deffire of the gentlemen would have been more explicit and peremptory in their letters to him; nor is it consistent with reason, any council should give such powers.

Doublets, Mr. Vanfittart will ask, What regulations we wanted to have settled with the Nabob, which we hoped from his influence with the Nabob? for he seems to know no one else would be such as tended to our advantage, and not to his prejudice; for if trade went freely on, we would readily acquiesce in paying duties as had hitherto been collected; but the removal of several vexations we had lately laboured under, was the point we wanted to fee happily efectual; and our goods were certified to the English property, not to meet with any impediments.

I now come to the first question the Nabob and Mr. Vanfittart seem to think, and affect we have not, a liberty to an unconstrained trade. We have, Gentlemen, carefully perused all our phirmaunds, treaties, &c. and I think it clearly appears to me we have; therefore, as the Nabob wants to invalidate those grants, we ought to have them properly explained to him; and insit on our parts to the utmost of the Company's prerogative, and demand the treaty back and destroy it.

To the second, I am to say, Since the Nabob has wanted to impose on us a breach of our liberties, we should not pay any duty on any thing, but support our rights: the Company may want to trade in these articles, when we consider their vast tract of lands and production thereof, especially falt, on which article they raise a very large duty themselves.

To the 3d and 4th questions, Duftucks cannot be granted to any but Company's servants, unless it is for such goods produced upon the Company's lands, and paid their duties; but certificates should to such as have paid the Nabob's any where, on a proper ruwanna being fhewn to the governors or any chief, satisfaction that the Nabob's cuftoms have been duly discharged. To the 5th and 6th, the servants and gomaffaths of the English should not on any account be under the least constraint of the government; but begs leave to defer fhaying any thing further on this head for the present; however, to regulate the disputes that may happen between them and the country government; and indeed among themseffes, till such time as he has heard it properly difcelluted at the board, where the mutual advantage of the country and ourselves will be impartially confidered and deliberated on.

Major Adams does not think the agreement made with the Nabob, as contained in the Governor's letter to him, calculated to answear the end propofed by it; viz. To fettle things on such a footing as may prevent future disputes with the country government, of whole justice Mr. Vanfittart feems in that treaty to have entertained a much better opinion than their subfquent conduct fhews they deferv'e.

In answer to the 1st question.

Major Adams is of opinion, That by the phirmaund and subsequent treaties, particularly the second article of that, with Surajah Dowlah, the English East-India Company are intitled to carry on any kind of trade duty-free, and in any part of the three provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa.
To the 3d,
That the abovementioned phirmaund and treaties entitle the said Company to carry on their trade, free from any duties; but that to prevent, as much as possible, any disturbances in the country, such duties as have been collected on any species of trade, since the last revolution, should be continued. In answer to the 3d and 4th questions, Major Adams is of opinion, that as the privileges in the abovementioned phirmaund, &c. were granted to the English East India Company, they, and their representatives here, are the proper judges for what, and to whom, districts should be granted; and as he looks upon the above questions to be a private nature, begs to be excused giving his opinion upon them.

In answer to the 5th question, Major Adams thinks that the experience we have had of the tyrannical and rapacious disposition of the officers of the country government almost renders this question unnecessary; however, as his opinion is required with the rest of the gentlemen at the Board, his duty to the public obliges him to declare, that he thinks that it should by no means be allowed.

To the 6th and last question, that wherever any considerable trade is carried on, however far distant, a Company's servant should use the same power to enquire into any disputes, and punish the delinquents; and that when the trade carried on is not of consequence sufficient to require a refident, upon any complaints against gomafials, or English factors, the persons complained of should be immediately summoned to the nearest English factory, as well as all the evidence against them; and that the Chief of such factory, with his Council, should be impowered to inflict the severest punishment on such gomafials and factors,—if found guilty; and that no expense should be incurred to bring offenders to justice.—But should the complaint be found to be false or frivolous, the complainant should pay all the costs and damages.

The regulations contained in my letter (A) to the Nabob of the 26th of December, are such as appears to me to be conformable to the true intent and meaning of the phirmaund and subsequent treaties, considered with the Company's orders relative to the trade of their servants, and particularly the 24th and 25th paragraphs of their letter, of the 27th June 1748.

I am aware that the abuses, which some of the Nabob's officers have exercised, upon the appearance of these regulations, will be urged as an objection to them; but this is arguing by confessions; and I answer, that these, or whatever other regulations may be proposed, will sometimes be abused by both parties, especially on their first establishment; and the only remedy for this evil is, to punish all servants of ours who shall break through rules, and insist on the Nabob's doing the same: although some men are licentious as to break through all laws, it is not a reason why these laws should be abolished.

But to proceed to the particular articles objected to: First, it is said, That the inland trade, that is the trade in salt, and other articles produced in one part of this country, and sent to another part of the same country for sale and consumption, shall not be carried on with the Company's duftuck, but shall go with the duftuck of the country government, after paying them a duty of nine per cent. The phirmaund says, That whatever goods or merchandise the gomafials of the English Company shall bring into any port or place of the province, by sea or land, or carry out, shall be free of duty: for my part, I can understand this no otherwise, than that the goods they shall bring in from foreign parts may be transported to any part of the province, by sea or land, duty free; and the goods they purchase in any part of the province may in like manner be carried out. This I imagined to be all the Company asked; and it is not to be supposed more was granted: by such a trade, the country reaps the benefit of the goods and money imported; but all that is gained by us in transferring from place to place in the country, in articles of its own produce, is in truth so much lost to the country.

The subsequent treaties confirm the privileges of the phirmaund; and particularly the second article of the treaty with Serjah Dowlah declares, That all goods going to or coming from any place, by land or water, with the Company's duftuck, shall be free. It remains still to be limited by firmanz, and the Company's orders, for what occasions the duftuck shall be granted; and I think it behoves us greatly to take care they are not granted for any purpose beyond the intention of the firmanz, and to answer those ends the Company had in view when they put themselves to the expense of applying for it. With respect to the power of our gomafials, the firmanz says, That in every place where they buy or sell, the officers of the government shall assist them in their lawful demands; and every merchant, weaver, or other person, on whom the English gomafials shall have a just demand, the officers of the government shall oblige them to pay it, and suffer no one to oppose the gomafials; and if any servant of the Company's, being in their debt, shall run away, the officers of the government shall take him up, and deliver him to the chief of the factory.

The Nabob Jaffier Aly Cawn, in his general firmand, 1757, confirms all the phirmaund privileges; and adds, that the Company may buy or sell without employing a banyan, or broker, and that the officers of the government shall assist them in all their just demands: nothing here can be said to give our gomafials power to decide their own causes, or make use of any force of their own; but they are to apply to the officers of the government, and obtain redress through their means. As to the coinage, there is an order, granting the Company permission to coin at the King's mint, at Calmamabad; and, in case it can be done without loss to the King's revenue, three days in the week are to be set apart for the English Company's bullion; but
there is no particular indulgence. As to the rate of coinage, they are to pay the same mint chevugs as other merchants; and this is all the Nabob desired, as I mentioned in my answer to Nobles Trois complaints; of which answer I gave Mr. Ellis a copy; besides, I think this privilege now unnecessary, as we have a mint of our own, in which we may coin the rupees of Dacca and Patna, as we do those of Murshabad. With regard to making toffals or salt pans in Sunderbund, I confess my letter to the Nabob does not fully express what I intended; I meant, that we ought not to take away the grounds which other merchants have cleared, nor the workmen; which as appears by my letters to the chiefs of Chittagong, which I delivered to the Nabob at the same time, they have heard. And as to the trading by our gomafthas with the mountaineers, who come with cotton to Rangamatty, if it has been customary for that article to be farmed out by the country government, and it is from that only the revenue proceeds, I think, we have no right to over-rule that custom. Any innovations to the prejudice of the revenues of the country government, and the exclusion of the country merchants from that share of the trade which they have long inherited, I think, should be avoided, as such proceedings must render us universally the object of jealousy and ill will.

To the proposed questions I therefore say, first, that I think we have not a right, by phirmaund and subfrequent treaties, to carry on the inland trade, or the trade from place to place in the country, in commodities produced in the country; but that we have a right to carry on all other trade custom-free.

Secondly,—That I think duties might be paid to the country government on salt, beetle nut, tobacco, and all other articles of inland trade; and that a grant should be obtained from the Nabob, confirming to us a right to carry on that trade upon those conditions, so that it may not hereafter be disputed. I mean, that duties should be paid to the country government upon articles produced in the country, sent from place to place in the country, for sale and consumption there; but when sent to Calcutta, for consumption or exportation, they should go with the Company's duftuck, and pay no duties to the country government; in such cases, the country has its advantage in the vent given to their manufactories or produce by the trade of this settlement, and the Company receive the customs; but on the inland trade we pay no duties at all, unless we pay to the country government, and yet that trade will afford duties better than any other.

Thirdly and fourthly. I think the Company's duftuck should not be granted for any article of inland trade, but that certificates should be granted by the Governor of Calcutta, or the chief of any factory, to accompany the duftuck of the country government; and that such certificates should be granted equally to Company servants; any other licence English merchants who have first duly paid the government duties, and got their duftuck.

Fifthly and sixthly. I think the English gomafthas should not be under the control of the officers of the country government, as these aurungs which are under the charge of any of the subordinate factories; but, in case of any complaint against them, the officers of the country government shall apply to the chief of the factory for redrefs; and in case the gomaftha has a dispute with, or demand upon, any of the country people (not the weavers or other immediate servants of the Company) he shall apply to the officers of the government for redrefs; and if the officers of the government neglect or refuse to grant it, the gomaftha shall then make his complaint to the chief of the factory, who shall require, and if necessary exact, an immediate compliance, giving a full account of the matter to the Board.

But at those autums which are not under the management of any of the Company's factories, but only some particulars have their agents or gomafthas, those, I think, such an authority cannot be trusted in their hands, nor indeed is it possible, as there may be several different gomafthas in one place who have all an equal right to authority; I think they should apply to the country government for redrefs on all occasions; and if the officers of the government do not grant them the satisfaction the matter requires, the gomaftha may then make his complaint to his principal, and he to the Board, which will infift on the necessary preparation for all unreasonable fellows: I do not, however, mean, that in case of complaint against an English gomaftha at such place, the officer of the country government shall have authority to foize the gomaftha, stop his goods, or interrupt his busineses; but he shall give him notice of the complaint, and recommend to him to get it settled; and in case the gomaftha refuses or neglects to give such satisfaction as shall appear to the government's officer to be reasonable, he may then transmit the complaint to the government of Calcutta. I see nothing in the firmans or subfrequent treaties which forbids the officers of the government from doing themselves justice on such occasions; but yet, the nature of the people is such, that it would be dangerous to admit it, of which their present violent proceedings is a sufficient proof.

The opinions having been all read at the Board, the sum of the answers to the several questions, stand as follows.

To the first question,
In the affirmative, ten voices.
In the negative, with respect to the inland trade, two.

To the second,
In the affirmative, seven.
In the negative, five.
APPENDIX, No. 6.

To the third,
In the affirmative, nine.
In the negative, two.

Major Adams silent.

The fourth question, being altered by the determination of the second, should stand thus:

"As it is determined that duties should be allowed on certain articles, Whether certificates shall be granted to those who pay that duty, but are not Company's servants?"

and it being accordingly put, the sum of the answers stand as follows:

In the affirmative, Messrs. Hay, Carter, Amyatt, and the President—four voices.
In the negative, Messrs. Watts, Marriott, Johnstone, Haftings, Billers, and Batfon—six voices.

Major Carnie and Adams silent.

To the fifth and sixth questions, The opinion of all the Board, excepting Mr. Haftings, imports, That the English gomafthals shall not be under any actual control of the officers or the country government, but be restrained by such regulations as may be laid down.

As it is the opinion of the majority of the Board, That a consideration ought to be paid to the Nabob on certain articles of the inland trade, the members from the subordinates are asked, What duties they have hitherto paid, and on what articles?

No. 6.

Fort William Consultation, 5th March 1763.

TAKING now into consideration the necessary regulations for restraining our agents and gomafthals from interfering with any affairs of the country government, injuring the people, or being injured by them, and for deciding of disputes which may arise between them;

It is agreed,

First, That at all those aurungs which are adjacent to or under the management of the subordinate factories, the gomafthals, in case of being injured by any of the officers of the government or their dependents, shall first make their application for redress in writing to the officer of the government residing on the spot, from whom if he does not receive immediate satisfaction, he shall send his complaint to the chief of the nearest factory, who shall be empowered to take cognizance of the same, and demand or exact, if necessary, the satisfaction which the case may require: but that it is to be understood, in respect of weavers, pykars, and all others who receive advances of money for goods to be provided, or are indebted for goods bought, the gomafthals shall retain their power as usual, to call such debtors to account; that on the other hand, where the government's people shall have reason to complain against English gomafthals or agents, shall give the said agent or gomafthah notice of the complaint in writing, requiring and recommending to him to settle it in an amicable and equitable manner; and in case the agent or gomafthah refuses or neglects to settle it in such a manner as shall appear reasonable to the government's officers, he shall then transmit an account of it to the chief of the nearest English factory, and deliver a copy of the said account to the gomafthah; and the chief of the factory is hereby required strictly to examine into the affair, and decide it according to justice, giving a copy of his determination to the officer of the government who made the complaint. That the gentlemen of the subordinates shall keep a register of such complaints, with the decisions passed on them; a copy whereof shall be forwarded monthly to the presidency.

Secondly, With respect to the distant places where trade is carried on, such as Runfpore, Purnaeh, Gual Parah, Rangamatty, there is at present no resident on the part of the Company; but at Runfpore a provision of silk is made by a gomafthah from Coffinsuazer factory; which provision, it is hoped, may be increased and improved by the care of a covenanted servant. At the same time, the situation of this place is such as will be convenient for examining the complaints, and deciding the disputes which may arise in most of those places.

Agreed, therefore, That the addition of a tenor servant be made to the Council at Coffinsuazer, and appointed resident at Runfpore.

That the order forbidding our servants or dependents from holding of lands, ganjes, rents, or employments of any kind, under the country government, shall be again repeated.

That such, however, as have inherited talooks, from purchase, or other good right, shall not be obliged to give them up, but hold them as other talookdars in the country; being informed once for all, that, in respect to such rents held from the government, they are not to avail themselves of our protection to invest them with any particular privileges.

That such complaints as have already been made, and transmitted to the several subordinates, shall be enquired into and decided, conformable to the above regulation, and that such as have not yet, shall now be forwarded to the proper subordinate for that purpose.

Agreed, in consequence of the above mentioned resolution, That Mr. Lyon be appointed third of the council at Coffinsuazer, and resident at Runfpore.

HENRY VAN SITTART,
W. BILLERS,
RAND. MARRIOTT,
H. WATTS.

No. 7.
RECEIVED two letters from the Nabob, dated the 26th of February, in answer to those written to him by the President, in consultation the 15th February.

The same being now read at the Board, it appears, that in one of them he contains his answer with respect to trade, in the Three following Demands or Proposals.

Extract of a Letter from the Nabob to the Governor, dated the 12th Shaban, or 26th February; received the 7th March 1763.

Three demands which I formerly put to you I now again repeat: the first is, From the beginning until now the Nazim of Bengal corresponded with the Governor of Calcutta, just as I have been acquainted with you, my friend, and am now acquainted with you, and not having a single word of correspondence with the rest of the Board.

The second is, viz. I formerly represented to you, that the Company's trade has been fixed time immemorial, at this present besides the Company's trade, the gomafths of the English gentlemen have set up the trade of salt, tobacco, dried fish, timber, &c. and make purchase of the country people with force and extortion, and are continually contriving unjust disputes and wranglings with my officers, so that the poor, the inhabitants, the merchants, and manufacturers of my country are oppressed, and both you and myself are troubled with unjust vexations. Now I say also, that your gomafths are to trade as in customs in the merchandizes imported and exported, which has been the practice in this country; and are to refrain from those articles of trade which perplex the revenues due to my administration, and are a cause of disputes, and be the ruin of the inhabitants and poor people.

The third is, Whether your Excellency's will is, at all events, to commit the expences of the army, and management of the country and his Majesty's revenues, to me; and your own gomafths are to carry on those branches of trade which were never practised in the country; and my country is to be oppressed, under pretences of trade, and the officers of my government are to have no concern in the affairs of the administration, or be allowed to say a word.

In the other there appears throughout a general disinclination to give us any satisfaction for the interruption and ill usage which we have received from Mahomed Aly and other officers of the government; and that both his letters seem, upon the whole, rather an evasion than an answer to the President's representations.

Agreed therefore, That a letter be immediately wrote to him by the President, acquainting him with this our opinion of his letters, and giving him a full account of what has been hitherto resolved on by the Board, in consequence of the phirmaund and other public orders of the court, and of the subsequent treaties, which have all been referred to, and strictly examined; and by the tenor of which the Board are determined to abide.

That copies of all those phirmaunds, hubbulhookums, and treaties, together with the regulations which we have now resolved on, will be sent to him by Messrs. Amyatt and Hay, and whom we shall depute from the Board to explain to him more fully the injustice of those rights and pretensions, and settle the rules for levying the custom, which we have agreed shall be paid. That with respect to the complaints already made, we do insist on justice against all those officers of the government who may be proved guilty of the obstructions and extortions laid to their charge, and that reparation shall be made for the losses occasioned thereby: that, on the other hand, all the complaints made by his officers, in different parts of the country, against English agents or gomafths, have been referred to the examination of the gentlemen of the factories nearest to those places from whence the complaints have come; and whatever injustice it may appear they have committed, we shall be particularly careful to cause them to make amends for.

Mr. Johnstone moves, That a letter be now wrote by the Board to the Nabob, in answer to the first of his three demands, explaining to him the powers of the Council, that it is with them that in fact he acts, although their opinion is transmitted through the channel of the President; that therefore he should consider them in the first degree:—further, that in the Governor's letter, containing the regulations, should be re-demanded; and that the letter now sent should be signed by the Board, and sealed with the Company's seal.

The secretary being directed to collect the opinions of the Board on this motion of Mr. Johnstone's, the several members delivered the same as follows:

Mr. Watts is of opinion, that a paragraph should be inserted in the letter to be wrote to the Nabob, explaining to him the powers of the Board; and that the letter sent by Mr. Vanfittar to the Nabob should be demanded back as from the Board, but that the letter now sent be forwarded under the President's seal.

Mr. Marriott is of the same opinion with Mr. Watts.

Mr. Hay thinks the explanation regarding the powers of the Council should be made to the Nabob in a public letter, agreeable to Mr. Johnstone's motion; but that a demand for the letter, containing the regulations, should be made in a letter under the President's seal.

The Company plainly declare their intention, that all correspondences with the country...
powers should be carried on through the channel of the Governor; and as an alteration of this custom will subject the Nabob, who has not been used to such a method, nor can be a judge of the propriety of it, to great perplexities, and tend, to create a breach between us, I object to any letter being wrote to the Nabob but with the President's seal.

As to an explanation of the powers of the Board, the Nabob, to my knowledge, is well acquainted with them, nor is such an intermission in any wise necessary.

It is also unnecessary to demand back the Governor's letter to the Nabob, will of course be annulled by the new regulations.

Mellis, Cartier and Billers are of the same opinion with Mr. Watts.

Mr. Hatton agrees with Mr. Johnston in opinion, That the authority of the Board should be affected, and the Governor's written agreement be demanded back; and that it is the interest of the people, that the correspondence should be carried on by the Board.

Major Carnac is of opinion, That the Nabob does not, or will not, understand the powers of the Board, and therefore they ought to be so explained to him as to admit of no disputes; which cannot be done any way so effectually as by a letter under the public seal, as proposed by Mr. Johnston in his minute; and that in the same letter the Governor's, containing the regulations, should be demanded back.

Mr. Amyatt is of Mr. Watts's opinion.

Major Adams is of opinion, That the Nabob's letters should be answered by the President, in the name of the Board, under his own seal, which, with the purport of letter, will sufficiently convince the Nabob that the power is lodged in the majority of the Council; and that he thinks the demanding the letter will more properly become part of the instructions to Mellis, Amyatt and Hay.

The President observes, That he has already explained to the Nabob, more than once, the power of the Board, and that he acted, in his own opinion, by the powers of the Board when he wrote the letter in question; but that as the Nabob affects to be insensible of the powers of the Board, and, instead of complying with the agreement, endeavours to make the world use possible of the letter, he thinks he should be wrote to, in the terms proposed by Mr. Johnston, but that it should be wrote in the usual manner, through the channel of the President, as any other method is contrary to the Company's standing orders, as well as detrimental to their affairs.

The majority of the Board being of Mr. Watts's opinion:

Ordered,

That two additional paragraphs, expressing the sense thereof, be added to the letter which is above directed to the Nabob by the President:—that the whole letter be drawn up by the secretary, from the resolutions of Council, and, when approved by the members, be sent to the translator, with directions to render it into Periian, applying to the President for the moonfhey, who usually writes the letters for that purpose.

In conformity to the resolution contained in the above letter, Mellis, Amyatt and Hay be deputed to the Nabob with full instructions, agreeable to the resolutions of Council; and that they do carry along with them a perfon who shall afterwards be resident at the durbar, to transact such business as must necessarily occur.

No. 8.

Fort William, Secunderabah, 30th April 1764.

Received a letter from Cosimbuzar, dated the 16th instant, including a copy of one which they have received from Mr. Jekyll at Rungpoor, complaining of an insult offered him by Mr. George_Ivey, an European agent residing there, in a letter which he wrote him, and of the ill usage which the vaequeed of the Shawpoor zamindar had received from a gomibah of Mr. Pottocks (another agent) set forth in a petition to Mr. Jekyll; of these two papers they also incluse copies, and request we will give such orders as may prevent the like behaviour in future; as it will be impossible for Mr. Jekyll, if he is to be insulted in the discharge of his duty, to put a stop to the numberless apprehensions the government's people daily labour under, from the unlawful proceedings of many of the private Europeans agents and their gomibahs, settled in the Rungpoor and Dinapoor countries, and of which repeated complaints have been made to the chief, by the Nabat Moohredabah.

Read Mr. Jekyll's letter, and the other papers referred to in the Cosimbuzar letter.

Read a letter from Mr. Jekyll to the President.

Read a letter from the juildar of Dinapoor to Mr. Jekyll.

Ordered. All thes papers be entered after the Cosimbuzar letter.

Mr. Middleton delivers in a letter, acquainting us, that Mr. Iveys is his agent; and accompanyng the copy of a paragraph of a letter which he has received from him; in which Mr. Ivey represents the matter of Mr. Jekyll's complaint against him in a very different light to what he has done.

Ordered, It be entered, with the paper accompanying, after this consultation.

The foregoing papers call to our mind the many disputes and complaints which have already come before us, between the European agents and the country government, and proving the necessity of providing as soon as possible some effectual remedy.—And

The matter having undergone some debate at the present meeting;

Agreed, We come to a resolution on the subject next Thursday; and that these papers do lay for consideration till that time.
APPENDIX, No. 9.

No. 9.

Fort William Select Consultation, 3 May 1764.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable Henry Vanfittart, Esquire, President,
Warren Haftings, Esquire,
Randolph Marriott, Esquire,
Samuel Middleton, Esquire,
Ralph Leycester, Esquire,
John Burdett, Esquire.

The book of standing orders on the table.

The Consultation of the 30 ultimo, being wrote fair, was now read, and approved.

Having now reserved the consideration of the subject debated on at last council, and discussed fully on every point that occurred to the different members,

The Board drew up the following general opinion:

Every method has been tried for carrying on the inland trade upon such a footing as to prevent disputes between our agents and the country government, or between one agent and another, and for deciding in a just and reasonable manner such as unavoidably might happen; having experienced the obstructions to which that trade would be liable, if the officers of the country government were admitted to any authority over the English agents; it was resolved in consultation, 5th March 1763, That the chief of the nearest English factory should finally determine all such disputes; and as the Rungepore, and Dinagepore, and adjacent districts, where a very considerable part of this inland trade centers, appeared to be too far removed from any of our factories to admit of such enquiry being made in a satisfactory and accurate manner; for this reason principally it was agreed, that a senior servant should be appointed to reside at Rungepore, who should have power to hear and determine all disputes.

No sooner is this resolution carried into practice, than some of the English agents complain as loudly of injuries suffered from the authority of the English resident, as they did before of the Nabob's government.

Shall there then be no government, no restraint upon those exceses, which either ignorance or passion, or self interest, may lead an English agent to commit in the country? This is really the case at present; and although it is very certain, that some of the gentlemen employed are of unexceptionable character, and whose good behaviour might be depended on, yet many there are of a contrary disposition; but there need not many arguments to prove, that both the good and the bad should be under some law; yet if we examine the case of the English agents up the country, we shall find they are under none; our character does not authorize our courts to take cognizance of any crimes they might commit in those parts; and it has been laid down as a fundamental principle, that the country government shall have no power of them.

We need not look further for the root of that licentiousness which has produced such innumerable complaints from the country government, and the inhabitants in those parts where European agents have been sent; it now no longer can be doubted, that many of those complaints have been well grounded, particularly in the article of selling goods by force, for more than the current market price; a practice called in this country Burja, or Guchaut.

All the power we can give the Chiefs of our factories over these agents will be very insufficient to remedy this disorder; since in reality none ourselves, and therefore disagreeable as it is to deprive so many of our nation of the benefits they now receive, by being employed as agents in the country, yet it seems an unavoidable necessity; and for the sake of the public tranquility and welfare must be adopted, and the trade carried on for the future by the black gomafthas, who may be tried and punished by our court of jemimanda, if they commit any excesses or acts of injustice, and that power delegated, as far as shall appear necessary, to the chiefs of the subordinate factories.

It will be objected, by the concerned in the inland trade, that gomafthas will be liable to be oppressed by the country government, who have taken, and will take, every opportunity of restraining us from that trade, which they regard as an innovation; this objection we believe is very just, and we shall expect that many difficulties will be found in the beginning in carrying on this trade by gomafthas; but these we think may be surmounted by proper applications to the Nabob and his officers; and upon the whole are of opinion, that all private inconveniences must be submitted to, even the risk of being entirely deprived of the trade, rather than suffer the inhabitants of the country to be oppressed by an abuse of the English name.

It is therefore the opinion of the Board, and resolved, That all the Europeans, Portuguese, natives, and Armenian agents, and which are now up the country, shall have notice given them to settle their concerns so as to return to Calcutta by the 30th of November next; and that after that time no European shall be permitted to go up the country on any pretence whatsoever, or any other agents be employed in our trade but Bengal natives.

With respect to the practice of carrying on the inland trade by force (called Burja, or Guchaut) it is a practice which we entirely disapprove; and in order to put a stop to it as soon as possible, it is agreed to send directions to Dacca, Rungepore, Mandua, to forbid it in the districts under their factories; but to do it with such care and discretion as not to affect the Company's investment, as we don't mean to invalidate the right derived to the Company from their phrumsand, always held over their own weaver.

As these resolutions will affect the particular interest of all the gentlemen in the service, by altering
altering the manner of carrying on the trade, it was wished, that every possible expedient should be proposed for rendering more effectual the intention of the Board, with as little inconvenience as possible to particulars; and every objection heard that the cafe will admit, before these resolutions shall take place.

Agreed therefore, That a copy of the proceedings of last Monday, and of this day, be forwarded to Messieurs Bathon, Billers, Vereiff, Carrier, Johnstone, Watts, and Senior, and their opinions desired, which we mean shall be esteemed as voices to the question.

Messieurs Middleton and Burdett differing in opinion from the rest of the members, with respect to the first resolution, deliver in their sentiments in the following minute:

By recalling of English agents from the different aurungs, and placing black gomaffahs in their stead, we think we shall be subject to the same inconvenience, with respect to disputes with the country government as at present; for the latter are naturally of a tyrannical and arbitrary disposition, and where they have any authority, they will exert it to the utmost of their power, at least as far as they find it necessary for their own interest; we judge that they will have an equal authority to an English agent, as they must be supported by the same instrument, a dut-tick and English colours, else they cannot carry on their business; and we therefore think, it would be best to give the preference to gentlemen of our own country, in whom we can certainly place more dependance than on a black gomaffah; but that such gentlemen as are sent should be only men of known probity and good character, and that have the permission of the whole, or at least the majority of the Board; we would recommend severe penalties being annexed to any breach of such orders as the Board may please to give them, relative to their interfering in the affairs of the country government; and that these penalties may, without favour, be put in execution, whenever there is an infinace of an offence of this kind: this, we conceive, will keep trade in general more on a balance; for if the English agents are withdrawn, the gentlemen residing at subordinates will have such influence through all the adjacent aurungs, to their respective factories, that they may, when they please, monopolize the whole trade to themselves.

With respect to the second and third resolutions, we agree entirely with the opinion of the Board.

Ordered, in consequence of the third resolution, That the papers be prepared, and forwarded as soon as possible to the different gentlemen, with a letter from the secretary.

HENRY VAN SITTART,
SAMUEL MIDDLETON,
RALPH LEYCESTER,
JOHN BURDETT.

No. 10.

Fort William Select Consultation, the 21st July 1764.

The secretary reporting, that he has received the opinions from the several gentlemen at the subordinates, concerning the European agents, the Board now proceed to determine finally on that subject.

Read again the Consultations of the 30th April and 3d May.

Read the opinions received by the Secretary, in the following order:

Mr. Batfon is of opinion, that the permitting of free merchants, or any others, not in the Company's service, to settle at the aurungs, or other places up the country, is quite contrary to the intentions of the Company, no such thing having been allowed for 10 or 12 years after he came to Bengal, and that a stop ought to be put to it, since he is persuaded it would prove highly detrimental to the Company's trade and interests in these provinces.

Patna, May the 18th, 1764.

Having perused the Consultations of the 30th of April and 3d of May, I now give it as my opinion, that all Europeans, &c. agents, should be called down from the different aurungs; for I don't conceive it possible to lay them under such restrictions, so as to prevent their meddling with the country government, by setting up for shoddars wherever they go, which has been too much the case of late; for this reason, as well as that by the continuance of them at different aurungs they might in time be a great detriment to the Company's interest, by providing of goods for foreigners; I think it highly necessary to withdraw them, as soon as they can settle their present concerns; however, I can't help observing, that the orders of the Board are somewhat hard, in not permitting an European to go up the country on any pretence whatsoever, as there are some particulars to be excepted to; namely, that of conducting of boats, which cannot be so well performed as by the management of an European.

Wm. Billers.

Mr. Vereiff, after having carefully perused the Consultations of the 30th of April, and 3d instant, with the papers therein referred to, transmitted to him by the Secretary, by order of the Board, begs leave to remark as follows:

From the general opinion the Board have formed in their latter consultation, it appears to him, that the debates have taken their rise from Mr. Jekyll's complaints against Mr. lvy, an European agent, for having wrote an insulting letter to him, and from the ill usage that the seiminar of Shapore had received from a gomaffah of Mr. Pollocks, another agent; but as the Boats seem not to have come to a determination, how far either the one or the other of these gentlemen has been culpable, and as the resolution of the Board to call down all European agents has been formed from an opinion of the ill behaviour of those that have been employed, and as Mr. Vereiff is unacquainted with the different complaints made, he would have been glad to have
have heard the debates on Meffrs. Jekyll and Joly's letters, as their representations are strongly contradictory to each other, to have enabled him to have given his opinion more fully thereon; therefore, should he be deficient in what he may propose, he hopes the Board will consider how difficult it is to recommend a remedy, where the disease is not thoroughly known.

First, He is of opinion, that European agents, in any part of the country, acting with the approbation of the President and Council of Bengal, are as much under the law, as any person acting at any factory, established before or since the grant of his Majesty's charter; for his Majesty's intentions, as expressed in the beginning of the charter, seem to be for the benefit of all such of his subjects as carry on their trade in any part within the limits prescribed; which are set forth to be, from the Cape of Good Hope to the Straights of Mal- gellan: that no factory in the kingdoms is out of the limits of our own courts, every member of the Board must be well satisfied, since a warrant from the Mayor's court was not long since sent up, and executed on a gentleman in this place. The same public power that authorizes an agent to trade in these countries, confirms to him by that act a protection for his life and property against every invader, through those parts where the influence of each power extends; and the agent becomes reciprocally answerable for his own conduct.—It is not doubted, he prefixes, but that the Board have a privilege of settling a factory, for the greater conveniences of trade, in any part of those provinces that they may approve; and that on settling such factory the members are still under the law; if, therefore, in a collective sense, any number of gentlemen are thus qualified, and naturally continue subordinate to the laws of their country, be their residence in those parts where it will, he hopes it will not be disputed, but that the same subordination extends to any single member, or to an agent publicly and fully authorized to trade in the same parts (that is to say, by the suffrage of the Board) as it does to this community; for equity must invariably be the same in a single as in a collective sense; and his Majesty's motive seems to have been, that his grant should not be confined to any particular place or degree. Mr. Verelst therefore thinks it would be an insufficient to suppose, that his Majesty could intend, that one part of his charter, which constitutes the Mayor's court of Calcutta, should have a power of trying all lofes of meum and tuum, where the property of any of his subjects was concerned, be he debt contracted (and the persons present) in any place within the limits of trade; and that the other constituting contrary to the redress of greater grievances, where his subjects one with another were also concerned, should in any case be so confined, as to leave their persons and properties without redress. Indeed, he considers the charter a more extensive good, designed for the happy government and protection of every individual of the English nation residing in any of these parts.

Secondly, He is of opinion, that the employing English agents is much more eligible than black gomatahs; for having experienced both, he can aver, that he has never had a complaint against any of his European agents, though he cannot say so much of the black gomatahs, whose tyrannical and arbitrary dispositions, when in authority, do incline them to a harsher after their own interest, and a disregard to every means they may think most convenient to promote it; nor can the slightest eye over them, and even the infliction of punishment, root the evil out; whereas he believes that few Europeans are without some principles of honour and justice, but should there be a character of the Board prevent their being employed: for he thinks it both right and necessary, that every European agent going up the country should have the approbation and permission of the Board; and if any person be proposed to them, whose character and disposition they are any ways dubious of, and who cannot give an ample and sufficient security for his good behaviour, he thinks it highly necessary such person ought to be objected to; the security might be responsible for his not interfering with the Nabob's officers, revenues, government, or any concerns belonging to the natives; but should the agents be ill used by them, his application for redresses may be made to the Chief of the nearest subordinate, or in case of his not being in the neighbourhood of a subordinate, to the President of Calcutta; and should an European agent, after this, be guilty of any act of a criminal nature, he thinks the Board have a right immediately to recall him, when he may be prosecuted for his offence; but should Mr. Verelst be erroneous in his opinion, in regard to the execution of our laws in such cases, not having a perfect copy of the charter to refer to, and that such offences cannot be tried by our own laws, we have still a sufficient authority left of administering justice by the laws of this country; for if an agent, when up the country, is supposed to be under his own native laws, he must unavoidably be under the laws of the country he is in, for it is impossible that a subject of any country can be responsible to all law; this method he thinks the Nabob can have no objection to, though the offence may be committed within part of his government, where he shall be convinced how far it is only intended to give redresses to his subjects by the most impartial justice; nor does he apprehend the injured native can disapprove this method of redress, which he may without expense; when in the same circumstance, by application to his court, he must pay so heavily for it, and to prevent any objection being made to the discharge that such complainants must come for redress, a reasonable allowance for their loss of time and expense (which will also have an additional check on the country, acting to their advantage, as would be more to the point of his duty by his securities. A few examples like these he doubts would not in a short time remove most of all complaints against European agents, but he knows no method that can be proposed to prevent the licentious behaviour of black gomatahs.

Having thus far considered the propriety of employing European agents or black gomatahs, Mr. Verelst begs leave to add, that it is his opinion a greater dependance may be made on gentlemen of our own country, and a much greater advantage reaped by the trader from their services;
APPENDIX, No. 10.

Mr. Viceroy therefore begs leave summarily to observe, that he is of opinion European agents should be employed in preference to black gamutahs; and that such agents who have the approbation and permission of the Board may be prosecuted for any crimes or licentiousness they may commit.

Mr. Cartier's Opinion.—Having perused with much attention, and deliberately reflected on the purport of the consultation held in Fort William the 3d of May, I agree in opinion with the majority of members at the Board, as to the necessity of recalling all European agents, Portuguese, and Armenians, residing in the inland parts of the country, and employed by gentlemen in the Company's service; but that a limited time be allowed the gentlemen, as may be thought sufficient to conclude their affairs now in the hands of their several agents. The frequent complaints which have been made by the officers of the government, of the great power and independency these agents assume in conducting their business, the abuses the natives are subject to from their caprice and uncontrollable authority, are the chief reasons of my agreeing to the above opinion: if we expect the Nabob will act about redressing the errors in his government, he has a right to expect we should remove such in ours as may be particularly oppressive on his subjects: when private interests interfere with public tranquillity, it ought to give place; and all methods that may tend to remove jealousies ought to be pursued with vigour: the time of European agents being allowed to go up the country is of a very late date, and has not been very general till within these two years; how agreeable this practice would prove to our honourable majesty, it is most probable we shall have their sentiments on the subject by the next thins.

John Cartier.

Mr. Johnston's Opinion.

It is observed in the general opinion, that every method has been tried for carrying on the inland trade upon such a footing as to prevent disputes between our agents and the country government, or between one agent and another; yet I can recollect no method that has ever been tried, but that which was claimed and approved in the general council; viz. the appointing a residuary for the district of Rungpor, and referring disputes in other places to the nearest English factory; if the want of proper and explicit powers invested in the residuary there to take cognizance and determine in these matters, or his abuse of them, has given cause for complaints against him by European agents and gamutahs, or of appeals to the Honourable Board for further instructions for his future guidance, it is most to be wondered at, but may be expected in all new regulations, which cannot be perfect at once, but by experience and frequent amendments; which surely ought first to be endeavoured at, and I am far from imagining now more than before to be impracticable.

Instead therefore of readily seizing and making an handle of the first squabbles, abuses, or unjustifiable proceedings of the English agents and gamutahs, on their contriving the power of the residuary, or of the residuary and his gamutahs proceedings in their competition of interest at Rungpor, to entirely abolish the regulation made for conducting the private trade in general through the country, before we have had time to try the good effects it is capable of producing, when carried into execution, it should much more reasonably occasion an enquiry to be had into the proceedings of the parties complained against, and that proper security and redress should be shown towards those who may be found to have transgressed. Scarcely any laws have been made without being liable to some inconveniences and defects; surely when such a regulation was made, it was not supposed that causes of complaint would immediately cease, and never more exist: but that this established method for examining into and speedily redressing them bid fair for correcting and respecting them in future: let government and proper restrictions take place by all means; but as all men are fallible, it is the more necessary that the powers of those who govern, as well as the liberties of those who are governed, should be clearly and fully explained and prescribed.

I ever disapproved of those regulations by which our inland trade and privileges in the country were so easily and precipitately given up to the lawless will of the Nabob Coomly Ali; and though white men are men, there ever will be abuses; yet I am far from thinking it right, those in general that have been complained of, but that have never yet, that I know of, been properly examined into and proved, should be urged as established facts, or be the grounds of resolutions so likely to be productive of the same bad effects on our inland trade. It was resolved at that time, when so many complaints were collected and produced before the Board, that they should be properly enquired into, without being taken for granted, by the chief of the factories the most contiguous to those places, and by the residuary at Rungpor, whose appointment was principally on this account, in order no doubt that satisfaction might be given to the sufferers, and example made of the offenders; which no one then thought either impracticable or beyond the power of the Governor and Council; nor can I conceive how it is become so now, or that no obligations that can be entered into between them and the Fu-
rpeans can be binding, or penalties recovered of them, which seems to be urged as the greatest difficulty and objection; but though the whole resentmment now meditated is likely to fall on the Europeans alone, yet by that very collection, and since, I believe it will be found that there are many more complaints against the Bengal native gomtahs for the abuse of their power, than against the European agents under whom they are employed; yet if it is intended we should support the right to, and enjoyment of long standing to the European agents, the inland trade in future, the native gomtahs, to be employed in managing so considerable a concern, must have powers invested in them like to those that are given to English gentlemen, by none of which do I imagine they are ever authorized to act with violence, injustice, or oppression to any one. From their ideas of government, the constitution of their country, and the daily examples of their own people before their eyes, as well as from my own experience of their behaviour, I esteem them equally liable and more prone to make a bad use of their stations and powers in their transactions in the country, than our countrymen, and I wish I had no reason to complain of their honesty; however, it is plain that they may be restrained and furnished by these very same rules and laws now, when they act subordinate to an European agent stationed up the country, as they can be when invested with their powers immediately from the Company's servants, wherever they may chance to be; nor do the refrains that we have upon them, with all the powers of a Zamindary or Cutcherry Court, appear to me to be half so great as those we have it in our power to impose on Europeans. A black fellow, if found clever and diligent in business, we see never at a loss for getting employment, though he may have imposed upon many matters; besides, being in his own country, he can never be without resources; but I think it very different with an English agent, whose very bread and fortune must depend upon the protection, assistance, and employment, of the Company, or of their servants; and who, by depriving them of this, have it always in their power to punish those that behaved unworthily:—if unassuming an obstacle and so many difficulties present themselves, merely for want of power in prosecuting and punishing any capital offences in Europeans, because the rights of our charter extend only within the bounds of our own factories—judging as Englishmen, is the difficulty less, when we come to examine by what legal authority we can proceed to try, and put the same punishments in force against, the natives that happen at this time to be under the Company's power, who act in affairs of commerce within the Nabob's dominions?—Perhaps the truest answer can be given is, that it is a necessary exertion of power that we assume, to prevent greater inconveniences, and the bad effects of suffering crimes to go unpunished, which our power, now so greatly extended, won't longer admit of being submitted to another tribunal.

The arguing that our English agents are not liable to be tried by our laws for any crimes they commit in those parts, and that this is the source of those evils, makes equally strong against the Company's employing their servants without the limits of their charter; but they have never yet declared on this account that they debar their servants from employing any agents they please, and thereby sharing on the advantages of trade they themselves enjoy in this country, merely from the possibility of their committing capital crimes. If I believe there are few, if any, of our nation, blame accused of any other principles; and other checks have in this respect assisted all the purposes of a penal law. What security do the Company yet require for the good behaviour of their servants, in their dealings with the natives, that the free merchants have not given, or that the Board are not at liberty to require, or greater, if they think proper, on the part of those Europeans sent up the country? Extortion, violence, and punishments inflicted of their own authority, and such like abuses, if not prosecutable in the Mayor's court or Cutcherry, yet the agents and their constituents may be bound down by such penalties, in case of bad behaviour, as to render this a greater check and restraint than the common prosecutions at law, besides their being recalled and never again permitted to get their bread in that employ, or, if the Board think proper, sent home. While Melfs., Van Sittart and Hatlings carried on their trade, none in the settlement had so many European agents in their service up the country as they, and some of those, if we credit the representations lodged against them, particularly Mutlapa and Mr. Moore at Rungpoor, carried it with as high a hand as any others that have been charged with an abuse of the power and name of the English: while those gentlemen were carrying on their trade in its greatest extent, and had not declared their intentions of going home, I do not recollect that their zeal for the English name, which in their former political transactions and treaties has been so little considered, gave occasion to any proposals for recalling all English agents:—that they promote it when their affairs are collecting in, and themselves not likely much longer to be interested in the consequence, is not strange; while it will be urged to our honourable masters, as a proof how much before they were in the right, in their famous paper of new regulations, in sacrificing to the public tranquillity, as they may say, our privileges of a free inland trade, &c. &c. and all the rest that then disapproved it, and planned this regulation, were in the wrong: yet what are the unassuming obstacles that have arisen for one at a loss to conceive: if to extirpate a private trade was conducted well and prudently by Mr. Van Sittart's agents, there is still as much reason to expect it may be yet conducted disagreeably for others, by men whose characters are to be approved of by the Board, and when those regulations and obligations are put in force. I am well convinced with what jealous eyes the government's people and country merchants look on us since we became sharers in the inland trade, which formerly they carried on alone, and how ready the officers and collectors
APPENDIX, No. 10.

collectors are to complain, exaggerate, and misrepresent the most trifling circumstances against any of our people, that can serve for an excuse for their not paying up for their collections; yet the longer we defer examining and confronting them, the more will these excuses be pleaded and believed, as true. Let it therefore be firmly resolved, that they in future be fairly tried, and satisfaction, such as the Board in such cases shall think meet, be daily given on the offenders. The number of complaints and cauyes would soon, I believe, much diminish, when it is one made publicly known to the Government's officers, and to the country people every where, that it is our resolution to protect them, and redress their grievances in their transactions with our agents, &c. and a method pointed out to them how they may have justice. Daily experience persuades me these people will not be backward in their application to our courts; or that an agent can long continue to exercise oppression or rapine without being found out and convicted, at the hazard of his bread. This I think sufficient to obviate any objections drawn from the difficulties the Board must always be under, as to the distinguishing who are proper people to be permitted to go up, from ignorance of characters, and from the valuanbleness of the same men, who in such situation and very differently from what they have done in other stations, because their actions, it is evident, can neither be long disguised or concealed. But can it be wondered at, should many of the irregularities, abuses, and oppressions, complained of, have actually been committed, while we have neither taken cognizance, punished, or inquired into, ourselves, any who could have been convicted; nor would permit the government's people to use the same methods as before the revolution 1757, for doing themselves justice, or obtaining satisfaction, by a reference to any of their own magistrates? As for my own part, I neither desire to screen nor to support Mr. Pollock, nor any that I have had dealings with, for misdemeanors that can be made appear, either past nor to come; his being particularized in the complaints that has given rise to the present proceeding, will, I hope, excuse me to the board for producing other instances in this case, and pointing out in return, that Mr. Moore was then supported by 25 Seapoyse besides his peons, &c.; and by Mr. Jeckill's own representations on that very letter, had, with the assistance of Captain Daw, settled and recovered all his demands for lollies, and who, it would appear, overawed the Rungpoor Phoudar, so as not to dare to complain or acknowledge anything about it.

As I have declared my disapprobation already of every abuse the English agents, as well as those gentlemen that are employed under them, have made or may make of their power, I am the reader to agree to the tiring them down by every refraction that reason and prudence can dictate, as most likely to correct the like in future; by bounded their powers in regard to the force they should keep, boggles, Chudder sticks, &c. and never to allow them to punish or redress themselves by their own hands, but oblige them to submit their complaints everywhere to the chiefs and resident; when they should be publicly tried, entered, and registered in books for that purpose; and liberty, in sums to a certain amount, for appealing to the governor and council. I would recall all those who are known to have behaved badly heretofore, and without satisfactory proofs of their innocence, could not permit them to return again; allow none but men of good name to go up, either to reside in any part of the country, or to conduct fleets; and oblige them and their employers to give such security as that damages could always be recovered of them in case of bad behaviour. Should those measures prove ineffectual, we may then think of adopting others; but for vague and general complaints and alibis, for the offences of a few, without an effort made to examine and rectify them, to take a resolution to injurious to the rights and trade of every Company's servant, and to the British subjects under the Company's protection, appear to me highly improper:—The support of these and our other privileges, in their full extent, against the strivings of the late Nabob, engaged us in this unhappy war, and after so valuable lives lost in the defence of them, I shall ever be against parting with them, or hazarding the loss of them, without greater and better cause than has yet appeared; and till after we have found by experience that all other remedies are in vain.

It must be well known, to all who have had their concerns managed at the discretion of Bengal gentlemen at a distance, what embassments and deceit they are guilty of; and that temptation to make away with their employers money is stronger than any fear of corporal punishment or imprisonment; which they submit to for years sooner than refund; as yet neither death nor loss of cash has been annexed to their breach of trust;—Is it to be expected their fidelity and moderation in the exercise of their trusts will be increased, by knowing that we are without other recourses obliged to employ them alone? To oblige us therefore to trust our fortunes solely to the fidelity of black servants, over whom we have so little rank, rather than the conduct and discretion of men that we ourselves, it is presumed, ought to know; who are to be judged of and approved by the Board, who have their honour, character, and their future success, at stake, in my humble opinion, is neither right nor salutary.

I subscribe to the dietent of Meffis Middleton and Burdett to the first resolution of the majority, which I think they have supported with very good and true reason:—In the second, I think the orders regarding the stopping the oppressions by Baya and Cajaat are very proper: but if any such methods are used over the weavers employed in furnishing the Company's investment, I imagine
imagine it must be equally their interest, and for the honour of their name, that such methods should in future be prohibited finally; such resolutions seem more especially premature at present, after the great losses that the servants, whose fortunes were circulated in the inland trade, have and do sustain by the troubles, and by the uncertain and uncertain prospect they have of restitution, and the narrow bounds preferred to their claims; and above all, considering that this affair has been already so lately heard and determined in a General Council, and the Company's final regulations, to whose determination it has been referred, may be so soon expected.

Burdwan, the 4th July, 1764

Mr. Watts's Opinion.

Mr. Watts agrees with the general opinion in the constitution of the 3d of May, for recalling the English, Portuguese, and Armenian agents; but as by this step the gentlemen stationed at the subordinate and residencies, will have it in their power to monopolize the trade to themselves, he thinks it ought to be guarded against; and therefore proposes that we have permission to send European agents to reside at the subordinate factories and residencies; and the better to prevent their interfering with the country government, they should not be allowed to go to adjacent markets, villages, or cities without the leave of the chief, neither should they be suffered to seize any pykars or others, but to apply to the chief for the redress of any grievances.

Calcutta, the 25th June 1764.

Mr. Senior's Opinion.

The ordering down of Europeans has been a matter of long debate, and which I was ever of opinion would be the only means for establishing of peace and tranquility in the country. My former situation at Dacca gave me a much greater opportunity than most of the gentlemen in the service to see the necessity of such a step, as appears by my frequent remonstrances to the board on the subject; and since I have been at Collinouzar, complaints of the like kind have been more frequent, particularly from Rungpoor, Danagepoor, and the districts of the Ratlou Rajas, lift whereof I now enclose for the honourable Board's inspection. I will allow that many of them may appear both frivolous and unjust; as it is not to be doubted but the country people will take every opportunity to deprive us of a trade they regard as usurped; yet I am well convinced that some of them are not without foundation, as I made it my business to send Harcaris to several of the places mentioned, to make the inquiry, before I would give my judgment on so interesting an occasion. I should be very sorry to be the means of depriving too many of our nation of the benefits they now receive, by being employed as agents up the country, as I have a great regard for many of them, and believe of unexceptionable characters; but as I do not find that any method can be fixed on to curb the licentiousness of others, or to keep such as are worthy only in our employ, I am therefore of opinion that a general removal should take place, agreeable to the resolution of the board of the 3d of May last.

A. Wm. Senior.

Read the Company's orders on this subject, contained in the 20th, 21st, 22d, 23d, 24th, and 25th paragraphs of their letter of the 8th of January 1764.

In consequence of these opinions and orders, it is Resolved, that all European agents be recalled; and that they do leave the respective places of their residence in the country, in such time as to arrive in Calcutta, by the 31st of December.

Ordered, that notice be accordingly published here, and at all the subordinate factories, requiring the constituents of all such agents to pay due obedience thereto, and transmit to them in time the proper information and orders. And

Agreed, that a scheme be prepared for restraining and carrying on the inland trade, agreeably to the spirit of the Company's orders.

No. 11.

Company's Letter to Bengal 8th February 1764.

8. In the course of our enquiry into these transactions, we observe, one Cole, said to be a writer, is complained of; for that at Munaur Gunge Haat, which produces annually 12,000 rupees, he had turned out all the inhabitants, in order to build an house, as set forth in a letter entered after constitution of the 18th of October 1762; who this Cole is we are not informed, but let him be whom he may, you are to make a strict enquiry into the said outrage; and if you find him guilty of it, you are, in the first place, to oblige him to make a full and ample satisfaction to the injured parties, and then immediately fend him away to Europe.

9. We further find, that several persons residing under the presidency of Bengal, as well free merchants as others, have conducted themselves very unwarrantably, carrying on their trade in several parts of the country, in the most uncontroulable manner, and thereby expiring the Company's valuable privileges to the greatest detriment and hazard; some of whose names, who appear the most remarkable, are Messieurs Chevalier Teyxera, Iyy, Motte, Robinfan, and the before mentioned Cole; with respect to free merchants, they certainly by such behaviour forfeit their covenants, and as to others, they have no right to the Company's protection, especially if they are guilty of the irregularities laid to their charge; we shall therefore leave it to you to make a general enquiry into the behaviour of such persons who reside any where under your
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your presidency; and if you find their behaviour has been, or shall be, such as may be really detrimental to the Company, you are to withdraw our protection from them, and send them away from Bengal as soon as you shall think fit, giving us from time to time an account of your proceedings with respect to every such person.

23. No agents or gomtahs are to refuse, on account of private trade, at any of the inland parts of the country, all business on account of licensed private trade is to be carried on by and through the means of the Company's covenant servants, resident at the several subordinate factories as has been usual.

No. 12.

Fort William, the 20th May 1765.

General Confutation.

AGREEED and ordered, in consequence of the proceedings of the Committee laid before the board last council day, that public advertisement be made, enforcing our orders already given for the return of the English, Portuguese, and Armenian agents, employed in the different parts of the country, to the Presidency; and requiring all whoever, most strictly, to arrive by the first of Aligaut; and their constituents to give them due notice accordingly.

No. 15.

To Mr. Maltby.

S I R,

I am directed by the Select Committee to acquaint you, That, in consequence of the bad state of your health, which you represent, four months, from the 21st instants, will be allowed you for collecting in your affairs; at the expiration of which, you are required to repair without further notice to Calcutta.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

(Signed) A. CAMPBELL, S. S. C.

Fort William, the 27th June 1765.

No. 14.

To the Right honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c. Council at Fort William.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

HAVING, in obedience to the directions of the Secret Committee, transmitted us under date the 15th ultio. for the recall of all English agents, sent orders to all such as we know of, residing in parts contiguous to Dacca, and to those who are employed by us at Gualparraw, for their return to Calcutta in the space of one month; we must now, my Lord and Gentlemen, from a full conviction of the real and great inconveniences and losses that will attend us, as well as some of those agents by us employed, on so sudden and immediate a recall, interest that a longer space of time may be allowed the following gentlemen, for the settling of their business, or putting it on such a footing as we their employers may be as little sufferers as possible; and we are more particularly urgent in behalf of those gentlemen residing at Gualparraw, from the impossibility of having that branch of business transacted by the natives, without suffering very considerable losses on account of the great distance, and their being free from all check and control of their employers; and we do willingly consent and agree, on such indulgence being shown us, to be responsible for the prudent conduct of our respective agents.

We are now to request, my lord and gentlemen, that the additional space of time you may be pleased to allow the following agents may be lengthened to the undermentioned term, from the date of granting the same,

To Mr. John Corlar at Gualparraw, four months.

Mr. Robert Crawford, ditto ditto.

Mr. James Galloway at Corrigong, two months.

We are with due respect, my Lord and Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servants,

Dacca,

the 8th June 1765.

John Cartier,

Fras. Charlton,

Thos. French,

Wllm. Sheven.

No. 15.

To John Cartier, Esquire, Chief, &c. Council at Dacca.

Gentlemen,

We have received your letter of the 8th instant, to the President and Council, which ought to have been addressed to the Select Committee.

To enquire how ready we are to grant every reasonable indulgence to those free merchants, especially who are employed as agents for the Company's servants, we do consent to extend the time for their return to the presidency to four months, as you request.

At
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At the same time we must acquaint you, that we are determined to put in execution the Company's orders, though with all possible regard for the interest of individuals; and we desire you will inform the gentlemen of this our resolution.

Fort William,
14th June 1765.

We are with great regard, Gentlemen,
your most humble Servants.

No. 16.

To the Right honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee at Fort William.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Mr. James Hargrave, who has resided some time at Runagpur, in order to finish some concerns there belonging to Mr. Henry Vauntart, acquaints us, that there are bill outstanding several sums of money due from the people of that place for goods sold to them, and which he apprehends will be recovered with great difficulty, or probably lost, if he is obliged to quit the place directly.

We therefore take the liberty to request, you will grant him permission to reside there three or four months longer, which he informs us will be time sufficient for the purpose.

Fort William,
the 18th June 1765.

We are with great respect, my Lord and Gentlemen,
your most humble Servants,
GEO. VAN SITTART,
HENRY FLOWMAN.

No. 17.

To the Right honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Immediately upon your order, regarding Europeans coming down from the country, I wrote to those who were employed by me, either on my own account, or on account of the estate of the deceased Mr. Robert Brown, to whom I am executor, that they should make all dispatch in finishing their business, so as to be here by the first of August, if it was in their power, without suffering any very great loss; but notwithstanding of this, there is one George Berner at Camp, collecting in money belonging to Mr. Brown's estate, being from thence to come to Calcutta upon the same account, where it will be necessary for him to remain a few months perhaps, if I can for obtain your indulgence for him. There is also one Peter Petropoly, who went up with a fleet of sail, belonging to Mr. Billers and me, who has very lately stopped with the returning boats at Nabobunge, where it will be absolutely necessary to repair them before they can be brought any further; a like indulgence for him therefore I shall esteem as a particular favour.

My Lord and Gentlemen, I further most humbly beg the favour and protection for two persons of this country, called Urban Saffer and Johannes Boedel; they entered into contract with me, on the 2d day of April last, under a very considerable penalty too, to transport a large quantity of sail to Patna, for which at a great charge they have now got the boats ready, and are loading. They will be obliged to make two or three trips, and of course take several months before they will be able to finish their contract; but as their business is not to trade, but only to attend and take care of their boats, and the sail in them, they will want only your permission to purchase provisions, and to be allowed every necessary assistance that they may need, as they go along, on their faithfully and honestly paying for the same.

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

Calcutta,
the 18th July 1765.

My Lord and Gentlemen,
your most obedient humble Servant,
ARCHD KEIR.

No. 18.

To Mr. Archibald Keir.

Sir,

I am directed by the members of the Select Committee to acquaint you, that the several agents you employ in collecting your own affairs, and those of the estate of the late Mr. Brown, will be allowed to reside three months after the 1st instant for that purpose; that the time necessary for repairing your boats at Nabobunge will be granted to Peter Petropoly; and that the persons with whom you have contracted to convey your sail to Patna will be suffered to fulfil their contracts, and to go up and down the river unmolested, provided they confine themselves strictly to that object.

Fort William,
the 11th July 1765.

I am, Sirs,
your most obedient Servant,
(Signed) A. CAMPBELL, S. S. C.

No. 19.
APPENDIX, No. 19, 20, 21.

No. 19.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c, Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

HAVING been jointly concerned with the late Mr. Billers in fait made in the collaries of the Honourable Company, which was all intended for the market of Pusna, and being now the only surviving partner, I most humbly beg your permission for leave to go and refuse at that place till the joint stock shall be all sold, and that I shall have collected the produce of the fales. Your favour in this will very greatly oblige me; who have the honour to be, with the utmost respect,

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble servant,

Calcutta, the 7th August, 1765.

ARCHIBALD KEIR.

No. 20.

To Mr. Archibald Keir.

Sir,

I laid your letter this morning before the Gentlemen of the Select Committee now in Calcutta, and have their directions to acquaint you, that they do not think themselves impowered, in the absence of a majority of the members, to grant you an indulgence, expressly contrary to the late positive resolution of the whole Committee, and the peremptory orders of the Court of Directors.

However, that in consideration of the peculiar circumstances you set forth, they will immediately forward your letter to Lord Clive and the other members, and request their opinion on the subject of your application.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Fort William, 10th August, 1765.

(Signed) A. CAMPBELL, S. S. C.

No. 21.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, Baron of Plassey, &c. &c, President and Governor, &c. Select Committee.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

NOT having had no further notice taken of the letter which I had the honour to write you in August last, I had flattered myself with the hopes that my cafe, which you were pleased to fav should be considered of, would have been found such by you, as to have exempted me out of your last general order, touching free merchants refusing here. But as I find, by what was notified to me to-day, that my former representation has not had the effect which I expected from it, I must again beg your indulgence in rating my cafe to you in a more full and particular manner than what I have yet done, which I hope you will have the patience and goodness to hear.

My situation and circumstances are very widely different from that of any other private trader in Bengal, I believe; for I may juftly and truly be considered as a company’s merchant, who has bought a very large parade of goods for a certain market, under direction of a chief and council, where I only want liberty to sell them: for I hired the Kellarus of the Honourable Company at a very advanced price, more than what any merchant who had before had them would venture to give them, in the year 1762, again in the year 1763, in conjunction with the deceased William Billers, Esquire, I hired them a second time, at a still higher rate; and the falt of these two year’s remains now on my hands, to the quantity of three lacs. But at the time when those Kellarus were taken, there was not the smallest information of people’s being hindered going up the country to dispose of goods; of course there could be no occasion for any fluctuations on indulgence; which would certainly have never been denied me, as it is well known that every encouragement that can be given was always granted to those who bought goods of the Honourable Company. For this reason, I have always had duties with my Jait; and this was the reason, I believe, which is readily engaged your Lordship, &c. to grant my request in June last, when I applied to you on account of those who had contracted with me for liberty to carry up my cafe. What favours or indulgences you may be pleased to flow to others, do not at all concern me; yet I cannot help observing, that if any private partners are to be indulged in this respect, whether as servants to the servants of the Honourable Company, or even on account of the Society of Trade, or otherwise, a Company’s merchant will not be thought unworthy of the favour of being allowed to sell his goods (which he bought of the Company) in the best manner he can; more especially if it be considered, that for that purpose he requests only leave to reside at a chetship; and that he is ready to enter into any bond, under any penalty, that he shall neither directly or indirectly, meddle with the country government at all, as I am ready to do whenever you think proper to require it: nay, I will even oblige myself to be
be in every respect under the orders of the Chief and Council here, provided only I have but free liberty to say and dispose of my fault, with the protection of the Honourable Company.—That I did not apply to you for this indulgence at the time when I wrote to you for those who were to bring up my fault, was, because I did not then know that I should have had any occasion at all to have asked such a favour; for about that time I made proposals to the executors of the deceased Mr. Billers, either to dispose of the joint flock themselves at Patna, or to sell it to me; which last, being thought by them most beneficial for the estate, was accepted of, on my giving bond and security for the payment of the money; you will thus plainly perceive, therefore, that the necessity of my staying at Patna is not entirely of my own seeking; nor would I have given you so much trouble, in thus earnestly requesting such a favour, if my own fortune, as well as that of others, to a very considerable amount, did not so greatly depend upon it.

My Lord and Gentlemen, You will perhaps allege, that I may confign my fault to any gentleman of the factory here, and that it will be as well taken care of as it could were I present: but first, as to the care, I should beg leave to differ from you; for though I have the highest opinion of the worth and integrity of most of the gentlemen here, yet I can never imagine that any, who have so much business of their own and the Company, would ever be able, were they ever so willing, to pay that care and attention to my concerns as I should do myself; as to telling, indeed, it is easily done, and requires little more than integrity; but for receiving and delivering such a quantity of fault, there is industry and trouble to undergo, more than what I shall ever trust to any other person in so large a concern, unless I am absolutely obliged to it; there is in this, however, another matter which you may perhaps less attend to than me, and that is commission, which I am to be under a necessity of paying, if I am not permitted to remain; for commission, where it will amount to several thousand pounds sterling, as it would on the fault I have to dispose of, is an object too considerable for one of my fortune to give up, if I can any ways possibly avoid it.

My Lord and Gentlemen, I am extremely sensible of the justice of your orders in general, of the service it will be to the Honourable Company, and of the necessity there is for headmen in all the orders you give, without the appearance or even shadow of partiality to any one: I am sensible also of the difficulty you labour under, should you be disposed to favour me, though merely in consideration of the equity and justness of my case; for the malicious and half-informed, who are much the greater part of mankind, are ever ready to impute to wrong causes, and complain of their superiors, wherever they see favours granted to others, in which they are not themselves sharers; yet, if you are as much convinced of the equity and reasonableness of my request, as I would fain hope you and every impartial person will be who hear and attend to my circumstances, you will find but little trouble, I imagine, to obviate every difficulty of that kind: will it not be reckoned presumption, or may I venture to give a hint of what occurs to me on that head? You have appointed private people agents in the country for the affairs of the Society of Trade; and though the agency of this place, which will be very considerable, will most probably be intrusted with the gentlemen of the factory there, yet, if you thought proper, you might either name me as one of them, or if it were but clerk to the others I should be entirely satisfied, and esteem it a favour, or if that could not be done, I should be contented to be again appointed surgeon in the service, with liberty to remain here till a vacancy should happen, which I believe will be very soon, Mr. Fullerton having informed me, that his intention is not long to continue here; and this is a favour which I flatter myself will not be refused me, both in consideration of what I have already alluded, and in consideration of my having so long served the Honourable Company in that station, and of my having remained twice in India when I was going home, once at the request of this Presidency, and once at that of Fort St. George.

I shall be willing, in short, to submit to any thing by which I may be able to prove to you the very great respect with which I have the honour to be,

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Patna,

27th Oct. 1765.

Archibald Keir.

No. 22.

To Mr. Archibald Keir.

Sir,

In answer to your address to the Select Committee, the 17th Instant, I am directed to acquaint you, that, in testimony of the regard they pay to your particular circumstances, the right honourable the President and members content to your remaining at Patna till the first day of January next, at which time they will order a Company's servant to take charge, and dispose of your fault to the best advantage.

This is an indulgence that has been extended to you alone; and a farther allowance of time they cannot grant, without deviating from, and frustrating the effects of, such an order, which admits of no exceptions.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) A. Campbell, S. S. C.

No. 23.
APPENDIX, No. 23, 24.

No. 25.

To Alexander Campbell, Esquire, Secretary to the Select Committee.

Sir,

I HAVE this day received the letter you favoured me with the first instant, by order of the Committee; be pleased to return my most humble acknowledgments to the right honourable the President and members for the indulgence they have granted me; acquaint them at the same time, that as this, they say, has proceeded from a testimony of their regard to my particular circumstances, I still flatter myself that the same regard to justice and equity will further engage them to think of some more effectual method to assist and relieve me; for I am still under the greatest anxiety with the thoughts of being obliged to leave this by the 1st January next, which it will be impossible for me to do without a very great loss and hurt to my fortune.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

ARCHIBALD KEIR.

No. 24.

To the honourable Lord Clive, President, &c. Members of the Select Committee.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

I WAS honoured with your answer to my letters the 17th October, by that from your Secretary of the 16th November last; you having therein granted me a small indulgence in testimony of your regard to the peculiarity of my circumstances, and mentioned that you would order a Company's servant to take charge of my affairs: I in return made you my most humble acknowledgments, and wrote to Mr. Campbell, that, the same circumstances still subsisting, I still also flattered myself with your further consideration and indulgence, but the month of January being now well advanced, without any reply, or my hearing of any order being fulfilled with regard to me, I must once more take the liberty to trouble you, that I may know your final and peremptory resolution, which, when I receive, I am resolved to obey and conform to with the utmost expedition possible.

My Lord and gentlemen, when before I had the honour to address you, I endeavoured to state my case to you in the best and most distinct manner I was capable of, which I am afraid was but badly enough, seeing that it seems to have had no very little effect; it is true, my intention then was rather to create your favour and indulgence, than with clear and full arguments to afford to you the justice of my cause: I did imagine, indeed, that it being of itself clear and evident, and sufficiently understood by your Lordship, &c. I should thus more have recommended myself to your favour and protection, than if I had expressed myself otherwise, in claiming a right, which I have the most just and undoubted title to; but as it has happened contrary to my expectations, and that I hope it is not yet too late, I shall beg leave to repute in the most respectful manner, that having made a fair and open bargain with the Honourable Company for a large quantity of goods, with condition and permission at the time of purchase to sell and dispose of the same under their protection, and at any of their factories; I look upon, and believe all the world besides would look upon it, as a most manifest violation both of justice and equity, should I be deprived of this my just right, under any pretence whatever. The sale was made in the most public manner; &c. Rupees, 10 per hundred mounds, and 20 and 10 for each karryal, besides the price to the Molungus and all other charges: I purchased and paid for this sale with design and intention to sell the same at Patna, or any other factory of the Company, or where the Company's protection could be of use to me, a truth which can never be denied; but to impose a new condition on a bargain to the prejudice of the purchaser of it, were only not expressly mentioned in the original agreement, or contrary to the most manifest principles either of law or equity. Had the Honourable President and agents for the Company, who fold me the sale, declared to me soon after my making of the bargain, that I could not be permitted to sell any at Calcutta, the Company having changed their presidency, which they have it always in their power to do, to Futro or any where else, would it not have been an act of the greatest injustice? and, as his Majesty's judges, my lord and gentleman, I beg to know your opinion, whether, in such a case, I might not have had remedy against them at law? but I took the Callarvas, and purchased my sale of the honourable Company with intention and design of disposing of it at this Factory; fo that to hinder me to reside here on so just an account, when the greatest part of it is already brought here, and the rest upon the way by your own permission, to me appears pretty much the same, as if I had been prevented by those other gentlemen from residing at Calcutta, had I found it most my interest to dispose of my goods there.

Your alleging, it is the honourable Company's order, to which I ought to submit, is in argument, which, with all due submission to your ordiship, &c. I apprehend can have but small weight for, as the honourable Company, I am well persuaded, never meant but the strictest justice to every one that they ever dealt with; so if, on the contrary, I or any one else is likely to be hurt by implication, or accidentally being comprehended in a general order, it is in your power, I imagine, to modify and explain them, that no reflection of that kind may either be cast on yourselves, or upon the honourable the Court of Directors. But that the honourable
APPENDIX, No. 25, 26, 26.

Company's orders are not absolutely so very strict as not to admit of certain latitudes, appears the more evident, from the permissions you have already granted, and which, as I am informed, you still intend to grant, to many who have no such plea as I have, I believe, for such an indulgence.

In short, my Lord and gentlemen, I must beg leave to declare to you, though with the most profound respect, that if you still continue in the resolution of bringing me down, and of tearing me from my property, and my right, you will do an act, which in the eyes of the world, I am afraid, will have more the appearance of a piece of personal pique and dislike to me, than of any more honourable motive to myself: It can never be so, for as, to my knowledge, I have never given any personal offence to any of you; so, on the contrary, I have ever met with the greatest civility and indulgence from all, and even many particular marks of friendship from almost every one of you, which I shall always greatly acknowledge; and I must declare, this is what has brought me to the resolution of strictly complying with your orders, whatever they may happen to be, or however contrary in my own judgment they may be, to what I have the juicest reason to look for and expect.

I have the honour to be, with the most perfect respect,

my Lord and gentlemen,
your most obedient humble servant,

Archb. Keir.

No. 25.


Gentlemen,

When we reflect upon the very particular indulgence shown by this Committee to Mr. Keir, in permitting him to remain at Patna, so long after the period fixed for the return of all the free merchants to the presidency, we cannot help expressing some astonishment that he should claim as a right, what we must consider as a favour, granted out of mere regard to his particular circumstances; such indulgences cannot however be extended to individuals, to the injury of the Company, and the prejudice of the public, without our betraying the trust reposed in us by the Court of Directors: We therefore not only approve of Mr. Middleton's refusing to grant him a dukkack for his fault, to which he certainly has no better claim than all other free merchants, but we expressly direct, that he shall quit Patna by the last day of May next, and that you, or such other of the Company's servants, refusing on the spot, as he shall appoint, do take charge of the fault, and dispose of it upon his account, to the best advantage you can, consistently with the interests of the country, and of the Society of Trade.

Fort William, the 13th March, 1766,

We are, gentlemen,
your most obedient servants.

No. 26.

To the Right Honourable Robert Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c. and Members of the Select Committee.

My Lord and gentlemen,

No. 38. Mr. Archibald Keir being on the point of his departure to Calcutta, has applied to us to take charge of his fault concerns here, which, in purview of your orders, we shall do; but must beg leave to observe to your Lordship, &c. that he expects we will dispose of this fault free of commission. We must here remark, that Mr. Keir having now the privilege of a dukkack, has an equal advantage with a Company's servant residing in Calcutta, and from whom commission is always received; we therefore hope you will think with us, that we have a just right to demand the fame from Mr. Keir; but this we submit to your Lordship's, &c. and shall freely follow any directions you think proper to give on the occasion; being, with much respect,

Patna, the 26th July 1766,

My Lord and gentlemen,
your most obedient humble servants,

Sam. Middleton

P. M. Dacres

No. 27.

Extract of Letter from the Directors to the Select Committee, dated the 21st November 1766.

14. We are well pleased to remark your attention to our orders, in calling down the free merchants; their proper employment is in the tea service, as captains and supercargo in the country trade, or settled as merchants in Calcutta; and if hereafter we find any infringement of our orders in this respect, we shall severely punish them for home, and testify our displeasure at those who have reported them, or permitted them to go up the country; we are determined to have as few Europeans as possible dispersed about the country; you
you are to keep to the spirit of this our resolution as much as possible, for we have the strong-15
est sense of the injuries the natives have suffered from having Englishmen exercising an au-
thority over them.

No. 28.

Extract of Company's Letter to Bengal, 16th February 1762.

43. B Y the Directions we gave in our letter of the 11th of April 1762, we meant that the Na-
ob should not be defrauded of his duties by an abuse of dufticks, nor private traders op-
prefied; but as it appears by your advices of the 16th January 1764, that the farming the du-
ties of the Nabob, or the other methods we had joined out, are not practicable, we must
therefore acquiesce in their not being carried into execution; at the same time we repeat and
enforce what we mentioned in our said letter, that in all events the dufticks are to be upon such a
just footing as to secure the government their duties, and to enable the merchant to pay
our customs.

44. It has been intimated, that some of our late servants had engrossed the sale of beetle and
falt to their own great emolument, but highly prejudicial to the interest of the Nabob: As such
measures tend greatly to the embroiling our affairs, as well as being injurious to the community,
we enjoyn you to take the utmost care that neither our servants, or any person residing under our
protection, have any concern in such farms for the future.

No. 29.

Extract of Company's Letter to Bengal, 8th February 1764.

20. O NE general source of the disputes, misunderflandings, and difficulties which have oc-
curred with the country government, appears evidently to have taken its rise from
the unwarrantable and licentious manner of carrying on the private trade, by the Company's
servants, their gomaffahs, agents, and others; to the prejudice of the Subah, both with re-
spect to his authority, and the revenues justly due to him; the diverting and taking from his
natural subjects the trade in the inland parts of the country, to which neither we, or any persons
whatsoever dependant upon us, or under our protection, have any manner of right, and confe-
cefully endangering the Company's very valuable privileges; In order therefore to remedy all
these disorders, we do hereby positively order and direct,
21. That from the receipt of this letter, a final and effectual end be forthwith put to the inland
trade in falt, beetie-nut, tobacco, and in all other articles whatsoever, produced and consumed in
the country; and that all European and other agents or gomaffahs, who have been concerned
in such trade, be immediately ordered down to Calcutta, and not suffered to return or be re-
placed as such by any other persons.
22. That as our phirmaund privileges of being duty free are certainly confined to the Com-
pany's export and import trade only, you are to have recourse to and keep within the liberty
therein stipulated and given, as nearly as can possibly be done; but as by the connivance of the
Bengal Government, and constant usage, the Company's covenant servants have had the fame
benefit as the Company with respect to their export and import trade, we are willing they should
enjoy the fame, and that dufticks be granted accordingly; but herein the moft effectual care is to
be taken that no excises or abufe are suffered, upon any account whatsoever, nor dufticks
granted to any others than our covenant servants as aforesaid; however, notwithstanding any
of our former orders, no writer is to have the benefit of a duftick until he has served out his full
time of five years in that station: Free merchants, and others, are not intitled to, or to have
the benefit of, the Company's dufticks, but are to pay the usual duties.
24. We are under the necessity of giving the foregoing orders, in order to preserve the tran-
quility of the country, and harmony with the nabob; they are rather outlines than complete
directions, which you are to add to and improve upon, agreeable to the spirit of and our mean-
ing in them, as may be necessary to answer the desired purposes; and if any person or persons
are guilty of a contravention of them, be they whomsoever they may, if our own servants,
they are to be dismissed the service; if others, the company's protection is to be withdrawn,
and you have the liberty of sending them forthwith to England, if you judge the nature of the
offence requires it.
25. We cannot avoid in this place taking notice of the endeavours of President Van Sittart,
to form a plan of regulations, which, though it appeared so advantageous to individuals, was
strongly enforced by the majority of the council, as not giving them, according to their way of
judging, a sufficient scope for their unwarrantable trade; however, we are satisfied of the prefi-
dent's good intentions; but at the same time we say, it was not calculated so as to prevent future
misunderstandings with the Subah, and his government, because thereby an inland trade was to
be admitted of, which, as has been observed, would certainly be attended with constant
embroils and difficulties.
APPE X, No. 30, 31, 32.

No. 30.

Extract of Company's Letter to Bengal 1st June 1764.

For the reasons given in our letter of the 8th of February last, we were then induced to send positive orders to put a final and effectual stop to the inland trade in falt, beetle nut, tobacco, and in all other articles whatsoever, produced and consumed in the country; to the remarks we made in that letter, we must add one observation; which is, it appears very extraordinary, that, in a trade so extremely lucrative to individuals, the interest of the company should not have been at all attended or considered.

55. These orders were sent, it is true, before we received the new Treaty you entered into with Jaffier Aly Cawn, upon his re-establishment in the Subahship; in which it is agreed, that the English shall carry on their trade by means of their own district, free from all duties, taxes, and impositions, in all parts of the country, excepting the article of salt, on which a duty of 2½ per cent. is to be levied on the Rowanna, or Houghly, market-price, wherein it is further agreed, that the late perquisites illude by Coffin Ali Cawn, granting to all merchants the exemption of all duties for the space of two years, shall be reversed and called in, and the duties collected as before.

56. These are terms which appear to be so very injurious to the Nabob, and to the natives, that they cannot in the very nature of them tend to any thing but the producing general heart-burnings and dissatisfaction; and consequently, there can be little reason to expect the tranquillity of the country can be permanent: The orders therefore, in our said letter of the 8th of February, are to remain in force until a more equitable and satisfactory plan can be formed and adopted; which, as it is impossible for us to frame here, deliriate as we are of the Informations and lights necessary to guide us in settling such an important affair.

57. You are therefore hereby ordered and directed, as soon after the receipt of this as may be convenient, to consult the Nabob as to the manner of carrying on the inland trade in salt, beetle nut, tobacco, and the other articles produced and consumed in the country, which may be most to his satisfaction and advantage, the interest of the company, and like-wise of the company's servants.

58. You are thereupon to form a proper and equitable plan for carrying on that inland trade; and transmit the same to us, accompanied by such explanations, observations, and remarks, as may enable us to give our sentiments and directions thereupon in a full and explicit manner.

59. In doing this, as before observed, you are to have a particular regard to the interest and entire satisfaction of the Nabob, both with respect to his revenues, and the proper support of his government: In short, this plan must be settled with his free will and consent, and in such a manner as not to afford any just Grounds for complaint.

60. In the next place, the utmost care and attention must be bestowed, in forming the said plan, that in some proper mode or shape a just and equitable consideration be secured for the company.

61. If any inconveniences shall be apprehended to arise to the company's Investments, upon carrying on such an inland trade, you are to give us your full thoughts thereupon, and in what manner they may be obviated.

62. You are to give us your impartial and unbiased thoughts also, whether the carrying on this inland trade may affect the just rights and privileges of the French, Dutch, or any Europeans, and tend thereby to draw on any national alterations and embroils; which are by all means to be avoided in forming the said plan: Therefore you are to be particularly careful to prevent these, or any evils of the like kind.

Port William General Consuliation, the 25 January 1765.

We observe the sentiments and orders of the court on the subject of the inland trade, contained in the 54 and subsequent paragraphs to the 63: but as Lord Clive, and the other Gentlemen, may be now so soon expected to arrive, it is agreed to defer, for the present at least, any further proceedings thereon.

No. 32

Fort William Select Consultation, 17th October 1764.

The English Gomautahs in the Districts of Dacca, Rungamatty Chilmarty, and Habergunga, &c, force tobacco and other goods upon the Talookdars, and Ryotts, whereby the country is defolated, and a very heavy loss falls upon the Sirca'; it is proper that a stop should be every where put to this oppression, that the country may flourish, and the inhabitants may pay their rents in security, and my revenues may not suffer.

The poor of this country, who used always to deal in salt, beetle nut, and Tobacco, &c. are now deprived of their daily bread by the trade of the Europeans; whereby no kind of advantage accrues to the Company, and the government's revenues are greatly injured.
APPENDIX, No. 32.

IN consequence of these representations from the Nabob, and the Company's orders in their letter of the 8th of February 1764.

It is resolved, that the inland trade; that is, the articles produced in one part of the country, to be carried for sale and consumption to another, shall in general be prohibited, with such exceptions as shall appear to the board may be admitted, without the danger of creating disputes with the government, or depriving the Nabob of his just rights.

After mature consideration of the subject, and recollection of all the disputes that have happened, and the complaints which have been made by the government since this inland trade has been taken up; we think that one, and one only exception can be made, consistently with the spirit of the Company's orders; and that is, that it may be permitted to the company's servants to send salt and beetroot meal for sale to the factories of Patna, Cossimbazar, and Dacca, or the capital cities of Patna, Moorshedabad, and Dacca, therein adjoining, paying to the country government, on the article of salt, the duties agreed on with the Nabob in the late treaty, and on the article of beetroot meal, a like duty of 25 per cent, on the price of the Chaundpore Market, and a Company's dutchick shall be given them along with the Company's Rawnana.

Our reasons for thinking this exception may be admitted, are,

First, with respect to the objection of disputes: among the many instances we have had we do not find any touching the sales of salt or beetroot meal, at any of these places.

Secondly, with respect to the objection of the Nabob's revenues: since we relinquish every advantage that he ceded by his treaty of last year, with regard to his trade, we may, without imputation of injustice, refer so much as is here meant, unless any inconvenience, which pretend we do not foresee, should be found to arise from it.

But it shall be expressly forbidden to all the Company's servants, and others residing under the Company's protection, to raise salt works (as Collaries or Toffals) or make salt upon the grounds, in any part except the territories appertaining to the Company. All claims to any such grounds shall be immediately relinquished; and application will be made to the Nabob, on behalf of the claimants, to order the Zemindars to discharge in money such balances of former years, and advances of this season, as may appear to be justly due, upon examination of the accounts with the Molungees.

As from a delay in executing this resolution, the Zemindars may pretend and complain of the loss of the season for carrying on their business, and raise difficulties in adjusting the accounts;

Agreed, that the resolution be received, in letters to be immediately wrote to Dacca, Chittagong, Mldnapore, and Burdwan, with directions to carry the same into execution, so far as regards their respective factories; and

Ordered, that the drafts of these orders be entered after consultation.

The Company's servants, who shall trade in salt to the places herein before expressed, shall take the greatest care that their Gomaffahs do deliver up the dutchick to the Company's Chief, and the rawnana to the Nabob of the government, on the salt's being landed at the factory or city to which it is consigned; our intentions herein being to enforce our resolutions, that the salt shall be actually and bona fide sold at one of the foresaid factories or cities, and not circulated through the country, under the influence of the English name, or Dutchick.

To the end that these regulations, when published, may take effect within a reasonable time, so that on the one hand the merchants may not suffer from their present engagements in the articles of this trade; and on the other, that an opening may not be left for the continuance of this trade longer than may be necessary for the finishing those engagements;

It is agreed and ordered, that the secretay do give public notice of them, both here and at the subordinate factories; forbidding from this day, all Company's servants, free merchants, and others, residing under the Company's protection, to make any new puchases, or enter into any new contracts which may involve them further in the prohibited trade; and directing them to deliver in, within the space of seven days, an account of the goods of this trade that they may have remaining at every place, with the intended place of their destination for sale; upon an examination of which, a reasonable time will be allowed for concluding such sales.

Although we imagine the restrantion we have now laid upon the inland trade will put an end, for the most part, to that unjust manner of dealing called Burja, or Guchowty; yet, lest it should be ever attempted in the sale of any articles of licentiate trade, it is hereby

Ordered, in the strictest manner, that no person trading under the Company's protection shall, on any pretence, force the merchants or people of the country to buy goods which them do not want, or to give a price above the market; and whoever shall be found to be guilty of infringing this order, shall be punished with the utmost rigour.

Agreed therefore, that the foreman do also make this resolution public; and that the Nabob be desired to make it known to his officers, desiring them to complain to the nearest English factory, if any such attempts should be made by English Gomaffahs within their Jurisdiction.

Upon the whole, it is agreed to represent to the Nabob, that all our attempts to reform the grievances he complains of will be ineffectual, unless his officers at the several chokies and customs houses will be attentive to let no boats pass with merchandise, without first seeing the Company's
Company's duflick, as directed in the resolution on article second: and further, as we are informed that he has indulged some English gentlemen, free merchants, with general duflicks, which will give them a privilege of trade far more extensive than we shall now permit, even to Company's servants, it will be absolutely necessary that he do withdraw all such indulgences, and refrain from granting any in future; otherwise these regulations can be of no effect.

No. 33.

Fort William, the 10th August 1765.

At a Select Committee; P R E S E N T,

W. B. Sumner, Esquire, President,

Harry Vereil, Esquire.

In conformity to the honourable Company's orders, contained in their letter of the 1st of June 1764, the Committee now proceed to take under their consideration the subject of the inland trade, in the articles of salt, beetle nut, and tobacco, the same having been frequently discussed at former meetings, and Mr. Sumner having lately collected the opinions of the absent members at large on every circumstance; it is now agreed and resolved, that the following plan for conducting this trade shall be carried into execution, the Committee esteeming the same the most correspondent to the Company's orders, and conducive to the ends which they have in view, when they require that the trade shall be put upon such a footing as may appear most equitable for the benefit of their servants, least liable to produce disputes with the country government, and wherein their own interest, and that of the Nabob, shall at the same time be properly attended to and considered.

Firstly, that the whole trade shall be carried on by an exclusive Company formed for that purpose, and consisting of all those who may be deemed justly entitled to share; that a proper fund shall be raised, by a loan at interest, for the supply and support of the same, and that it shall commence in the month of September ensuing, or as soon after as may be found most convenient.

Secondly, that the salt, beetle nut, and tobacco, produced in, or imported into, Bengal, shall be purchased by this established Company; and public advertisement shall be issued, strictly prohibiting all other persons whatever, who are dependant on our government, to deal in those articles.

Thirdly, that application shall be made to the Nabob, to issue the like prohibition to all his officers and subjects of the districts, where any quantity of either of those articles is manufactured or produced.

Fourthly, that the salt shall be purchased by contract, on the most reasonable terms, giving the preference to the factories of Dacca, Chittagong, Burdwan, and Midnapore, for the produce of their respective districts; to the Shoulder of Houghley, and the other Zemindars, for the produce of Jumelée, Tumilook, Myfiddle, &c. and to such persons as may offer the most reasonable proposals, for the quantity produced in the Calcutta lands.

Fifthly, that the beetle nut and tobacco shall, in like manner, be purchased by contract, under such terms and conditions as, upon proper enquiry, shall appear to the managers to be most conformable to the interest of the concerned.

Sixthly, that the contractors for the salt shall agree to deliver it at certain fixed places, at a specified rate per 5 maunds, comprehending such an advance upon their contracts with the Zemindars and Molungees, as may be deemed an equivalent to their risk, trouble, and bad debts.

Seventhly, that as the advances will be made by the contractors to the Zemindars, &c. at certain periods of the season, in the usual manner, so shall the advance from the public Company to the contractors be made in proportion thereto.

Eighthly, That the salt, beetle nut, and tobacco, thus purchased by the public Company, shall be transported to a certain number of places for sale, to be there, and there only, disposed of by their agents; and that the country merchants may then become the purchasers, and again transport the articles whether they think they have the greatest profit.

That by this means, not only the frequent opprobrious the inhabitants of the country have suffered, by Europeans having permission to traverse to every place for the sale of those commodities, will be put an end to, but by thus referring to the natives and merchants a competent share of the profits, both in the purchase and sale, we may hope for the good effect of removing the general odium that has prevailed, from our seeking to deprive them of every part of that trade.

Ninthly, That as it is apprehended some difficulty will arise in securing the produce of the Dacca and Chittagong duflicks, by reason of the property of the lands being scattered in a number of hands, all dependant on the Government; it is agreed, that application shall be made to the Nabob for Perwannas on the several Zemindars of those districts, as well as those of Houghley, &c. strictly ordering and requiring them to contract for all the salt that can be made on their lands with the English alone, and forbidding the sale to any other person or persons whatsoever.

Tenthly,
Tenthly, That the Honourable Company shall either share in this trade as Proprietors, or receive an annual duty upon it, as may appear to be most for their interest, when considered with their other engagements and demands at this Presidency.

Eleventhly, That the Nabob shall in like manner be considered, as may be judged most proper, either as a Proprietor, or by an annual Nuzzecara, to be computed upon inspecting a statement of his duties on salt in former years.

Twelfthly, That the manner in which the Honourable Company and the Nabob shall be considered being once determined, the remainder of this trade shall be divided amongst the Company's servants, arranged under certain classes, and each class to share a certain proportion of the capital stock.

Thirteenthly, That a Committee of trade shall be appointed to receive the management of this plan, and prosecute the same in all its branches; and that they shall be immediately authorized to take measures for raising the fund at interest, and to receive proposals and settle the contracts; and further, that for their assistance in this work, a person shall be appointed in the quality of their secretary and accountant: the foregoing regulations, the select Committee judge, will be found a sufficient ground work for commencing this trade, to be improved hereafter as circumstances may occur and direct; and it is therefore "Agreed" that they be delivered over to the Committee of Trade, as soon as they are appointed, with instructions to proceed in raising the money and making the contracts.

The points contained in the 12th, 11th, and 12th regulations, as their not being adjusted need no impediment to the prosecution of the business, to the Committee esteem them of so much importance, that the settlement of them should be delayed until the absent members return to Calcutta, and they can be deliberated on at a full Committee:—Agreed therefore, that the Committee of Trade be also advised of this resolution; and that they shall be hereafter informed of the distribution which may be settled, with any other regulations which may occur relative thereto, for their government.

Mr. Sumner acquaints the Committee, that, being apprised of the intention contained in the third and ninth regulations, he desired Mr. Sykes, when he lately went up to Muzaedback, to apply to the Nabob for the necessary Perwannahs for authorizing and facilitating this trade, and that he has accordingly received from that gentleman, Perwannahs to this purpose, being 106 in number; the same he now presents to the Committee, together with several papers of information which he has collected, regarding the produce of the different districts, and the conditions that fail can be contracted for.

Ordered, that they be delivered over to the Committee of Trade for their guidance.

Taking now into consideration the appointment of this Committee of Trade, the select Committee are of opinion, that it should be composed of two members of their body, and two gentlemen of the Council.

Agreed therefore, that we recommend to the Council to appoint two of their members to be joined with two of the Committee, to constitute this Board, and receive charge of the plan; and at the same time to appoint a proper person to the office of secretary and accountant.

No. 54.

Fort William, General Council, the 12th August, 1765.

The President lays before the Board an extract of the proceedings of a Select Committee, held the 10th instant, himself and Mr. W禮ilfill present; containing considerations on the Company's orders respecting the inland trade, and some regulations determined on in consequence, as the ground work of a plan for carrying it on in future.

And the same have been perused.

Neffis. Laycefter and Gray enter thereupon the following differents:

Diffent to the powers assumed by the gentlemen of the Committee, of fixing any regulations for the carrying on of the inland trade, independent of, and without consulting the gentlemen of the Council, as it is a power by no means delegated to them by the court of Directors; who point out in very express terms, that the only object of those powers lodged with the Select Committee is the restoring of peace and tranquillity to the provinces, then supputed in a very distracted state. It is needless for me, at present, to give my sentiments of the regulations themselves, as the Committee have already determined on the plan.—And as it is on all occasions expedient for the members of the Board to unite in carrying on the public business, so I declare myself ready, notwithstanding this diffent, to shew any trouble that this syslem may occasion to the other gentlemen of the Council, and to co-operate with my best endeavours, that the intended scheme may be carried into execution with all the benefits that can possibly result from it.

Mr. Gray differents from the proceedings of the Committee, this day laid before the Board: as the orders for the regulation of the trade of salt, beetle nut, and tobacco, are immediately directed to the whole Board, he thinks no part of it are sufficiently authorized, without the concurrence of the whole, to carry them into execution:—he means, notwithstanding this his diffent, cheerfully to obey the orders of the board in his appointment of a member of the Committee of Trade.
These different having been entered:
Messrs. Sumner and Verelst offer their services, as members of the Committee, for carrying on this trade, upon the plan laid down.
And as Mr. Playdell is appointed chief of the factory of Chittagong, and Mr. Burdett has intimated his intention of resigning the service this season.
Mr. Leycestcr and Gray are therefore appointed members from the Board.
Agreed, That we address those gentlemen, constituting them the Committee accordingly, for the management of this trade, and transmitting them the regulations of the Select Committee, with the several papers accompanying for their Government therein; authorizing them, at the same time, to correspond with the subordinate factories, and to pursue all such measures as may, conformably to the plan, appear to them eligible and proper: And
That we give the necessary advice and directions, in consequence, to the different factories.

No. 35.


Gentlemen,

We are to inform you, that we have now established certain regulations for conducting the inland trade in the articles of salt, betel nut, and tobacco, agreeably to orders received from the Court of Directors, and that the same are to be immediately carried into execution, by a Committee of Trade, consisting of Messrs. Sumner, Verelst, Leycestcr, and Gray, who are for that purpose authorized to correspond with the several subordinate factories, and to take all such measures as may appear to them proper: and we therefore direct, that you do pay a due regard to whatever instructions you may from time to time receive from them, in matters relative to this trade, and address them accordingly in return.

Fort William,
the 12th of August, 1765.

We are, &c.

No. 36.

Fort William Select Committee Proceedings, 18 September, 1765.

Resuming the consideration of the plan for carrying on the inland trade, in order to determine with respect to the Company, and the classes of Proprietors, the Committee are unanimously of opinion, that whatever surplus monies the Company may find themselves possessed of, after discharging their several demands at this Prefidency, the fame will be employed more to their benefit and advantage in supplying largely that valuable branch of their commerce, the China trade, and in affording the wants of their other settlements; and that it will be more for their interest to be considered as superiors of this trade, and receive a handsome duty upon it, than to be engaged as Proprietors in the stock; bestowing therefore all due attention to the circumstances of the Company's being at the same time the head and masters of our service, and now come into the place of the country government, by his Majesty's royal grant of the Dewanee. It is agreed, that the inland trade in the above articles shall be subject to a duty to the Company, after the following rates, which are calculated according to the best judgment we can form of the value of the trade in general, and the advantage which may be expected to accrue from it to the Proprietors:

On salt, 25 per cent. valuing the 100 maunds at the rate of 90 A. Rs. and in consideration hereof the present common duty to be abolished.
On beetle-nut 10 per cent. on the prime cost.
On tobacco 25 per cent. on ditto.

By this calculation, we hope may be produced a clear revenue to the Company, of at least 100,000. sterling per annum; and should it appear, upon further experience of the trade, that the profits will admit of an encrease in these rates of duties, we hereby resolve, that a fair and impartial representation of the same shall be made to our honourable masters, in order to receive their directions, as it is our fixed determination to render them all possible satisfaction on this point.

With respect to the Proprietors, it is agreed and resolved, That they shall be arranged into three classes; that each class shall be entitled to so many shares in the stock, and that a certain capital stock shall be agreed upon, in order to ascertain the value of each share.

According to this scheme, it is agreed, That each class shall consist of the governor, five shares;—the second, three shares;—the general, three shares;—ten gentlemen of council, each two shares; twenty shares:—two colonels, each two shares; four shares:—in all, thirty-five shares for the first class.

The second class shall consist of one chaplain, fourteen junior merchants, and three lieutenant-colonels; in all eighteen persons: who shall each be entitled to one third of a councillor's proportion, or two thirds of one share, and which makes in all twelve shares for the second class.

We mean always to include in this number such junior merchants as the Company have thought proper to fix in the service; who, as well as the factors in the next class, that may be restrained from rising as covenant servants, shall, however, be entitled to their full share of the advantages of this trade.
APPENDIX, No. 37, 38.

The class third shall consist of thirteen factors, four majors, four first surgeons at the Presidency, two first surgeons at the army, one secretary to the Council, one sub-accountant, one Persian translator, and one sub-expect warehousekeeper; in all twenty-seven persons: who shall each be entitled to one sixth of a councilor's proportion, or one third of one share; and which makes in all eight shares for the third class.

It is necessary, however, to be observed, That by this arrangement it is intended, and it is accordingly hereby ordered, that twelve shares in this trade shall be allotted to eighteen persons, composed of the first senior and junior merchants, lieutenant colonels, and chaplain or chaplains; all exceeding that number of those ranks, must stand excluded until they can be included in it; and chaplains, be they more or less, to be reckoned only as one senior or junior merchant.

That eight shares in this trade shall in like manner always be allotted to twenty-four persons, composed of the senior factors, majors, surgeons, and the three officers above specified; all exceeding that number of those ranks are not to share till they can be included in it.

The Committee have thus settled the arrangement of the classes, and the shares in the flock; but they leave to the Committee of Trade to ascertain the amount of the capital, as they must be the most competent judges of what fund will be required.

That the trade may meet with no interruption, and for the better regulating the same, the Committee of Trade may, from time to time, form bye-laws, which having been communicated, approved, and signed by to the body of Proprietors, they (the Committee) shall be empowered to enforce and carry into execution.

That the books of the Society shall be opened the first of every September, and closed the 31st of the following August; that for the present year, all persons, who shall from this time be deemed Proprietors, and whose names shall be enrolled by the Committee of Trade, agreeable to this scheme of distribution, shall be intitled to their proportion of profits arising on the trade, during the course of the year, whether absence or death should ensue; and so in all future years, after the names of the persons, who may compose the classes, shall have been regularly enrolled.

Resolved, That no person shall share in a double capacity, and receive a benefit at the same time from his rank in the service, and from such employment as he may happen to enjoy.

Ordered, That a copy of these proceedings be prepared, and laid before the Council, that they may transmit the same, with their directions, to the Committee of Trade.

CLIVE,
W. B. SUMNER,
JOHN CARNS,
H. VERELST.
FRAS. SYKES.

No. 37.

Fort William General Consultation, the 25th September, 1765.

The President lays before the Board a copy of the proceedings of the Select Committee, containing their conclusion of the plan for the inland trade, with respect to the Company, and the different classes of the Proprietors—And the same having been perused,

Agreed, It be transmitted to the Committee of Trade, with instructions to proceed agreeably thereto.

No. 38.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c. Council at Fort William.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

We have had the honour to receive your letter of the 25th ult. with the conclusion of the Select Committee's plan for carrying on the inland trade. We shall pay due attention thereto; and we have in consequence enrolled the Proprietors of the flock for the present year.

The office of our Secretary and accountant being vacated by Mr. Graham's appointment to Midnapore, we request your lordship, &c. will grant us permission to appoint Mr. Lawrell in his room.

We must also take this opportunity to request your permission to nominate agents for transacting the business of the society in the different parts of the country. We shall be very careful to make choice of the most unexceptionable persons for this purpose; and we shall cause them to enter into such engagements you shall think proper to prescribe for regulating their conduct, and to prevent their interfering with the busines of the country government.

We have the honour to be,

Your most obedient humble servants,

WM. B. SUMNER,
H. VERELST.
R. LEYCESTER,
GEORGE GRAY.

Fort William, 21st October, 1765,

No. 39.
APPENDIX, No. 39, 40, 41, 42.

No. 39.

Fort William, Select Committee, 29th October 1765.

HAVING perused a letter from the Committee of Trade, defining leave to appoint a secretary in the room of Mr. Graham, and agents, to conduct the business of the society in the different parts of the country; agreed, we write them, that we entirely approve of their choice of Mr. Lawrell for secretary and accountant.—Also, that as they seem to think the business of the Society will require European agents, we consent to their nominating persons of approved character, who shall enter into such engagements and restrictions as we may judge necessary for regulating their conduct, and securing the country from disturbance, and the natives from injury or molestation.

We also consent that they appoint four European agents to build boats for the society at Nabob Gunge, and Baker Gunge, who shall enter into similar engagements.

No. 40.

To Wm. Brightwell Sumner, Esq; and the gentlemen of the Committee of Trade.

Gentlemen,

YOUR letter of the 21st instant to the president and council, having been referred to the Select Committee, we highly approve your intention to appoint Mr. Lawrell to succeed Mr. Graham in the office of your secretary and accountant.

We likewise consent that you nominate agents for transacting the business of the society in the different parts of the country, since you consider this measure as necessary to due execution of your plan; but we must request that all these gentlemen must be persons of unblemished character, that they be approved by the Select Committee, and bound down by such engagements and restrictions as we may judge necessary to secure the country against disturbances, the natives from injury and molestation, and the government from future causes of complaint.

We are with great esteem,

Gentlemen,

Fort William, the 1st Nov. 1765.

Your most obedient humble servants.

No. 41.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, President, &c. Members Select Committee.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

We have had the honour to receive your favour of this date. In consequence of the permission therein contained, we have appointed the following gentlemen to reside as agents for transacting the business of the Society of Trade, at the undermentioned places, viz.

Mr. Hugh Baillie, to reside at Gualparah.
Charles Blicmer, — Dinagapore.
Pitt Lithieullier, — Durbangas.
Tom Lewis, — Runpore.
Jno. Corsar, — Surbit.
Wm. Bensley, — Carragah.
Jno. Robinson, — Nabob Gunge.
Hargrave, — Chillmarie.
Wm. Haltey, —
Harry Grant,

The places of residence of the two last-named gentlemen will be determined hereafter, as well as what other places it may be thought necessary to send agents to.

We hope that this arrangement will meet with your lordship’s, &c. approbation; and we request you will as soon as possible transmit us the regulations you would propose for the conduct of those, and such other agents as we may have occasion to appoint.

We have the Honour to be,

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble servants

Fort William, 1st Nov. 1765.

W. B. SUMNER.
H. VERELST.
GEORGE GREY.

No. 42.

Letter to William Brightwell Sumner, Esqur, and the Members of the Committee of Trade, dated Fort William the 5th November 1765.

Gentlemen,

YOU have represented to us, that the Society for conducting the inland trade will derive very particular advantages from entrusting the management of their concerns to European agents; and we have for this reason consented, under certain limitations, to a measure which
we could never otherwise approve—giving permission to Europeans, not in the Company’s covenanted service, to reside in different and remote parts of the country, opens so large a field for abuse and oppression, and is in itself so opposite to the express injunctions of the Court of Directors, to contrary to the orders we have so lately issued, and so alarming to the natives in general, that such indulgence can only be justified by necessity.

To obviate therefore, in the best manner possible, the inconveniences to be apprehended, we think it is our indispensable duty, to lay such restraints on the conduct of the gentlemen, who shall be employed in this service, as appears to us best calculated to prevent future case of complaint, and secure the peace and repose of the country.

To this end, we require that all European agents, on whatever service employed by the society, do subscribe to the following restrictions before they leave the presidency, and bind themselves in a penal Bond of 70,000 rupees, to a strict observance of the same, which penalty shall be levied on conviction of their breach of agreement, and applied at the discretion of the board, or of this Committee.

The restrictions we would enjoin, are the following, which, we think, ought to be specified in the Penal Bonds, or drawn out into formal instruments, to be signed and sealed before witnesses, by the several agents.

1st. That they carry on no trade or commerce, either as agents or principals, except for the benefit of the whole Society of inland trade.
2d. That they lend no money to the zemindars, the public officers, or other persons any way connected with the government.
3d. That they assume to themselves no judicial power or authority whatever; but in all cases of difference or dispute between them and the natives, apply for redress to the country government, and in case of delay or refusal, to the Select Committee.
4th. That they neither interfere, directly nor indirectly, with any business relative to government, or by any means whatever give interruption to the collections, or just cause of complaint to the administration; but confine themselves scrupulously and strictly to the sale of the salt, tobacco, and betels, not committed to their charge, making such returns of the produce as the society may require, and expecting no other reward of their services than the stated allowance by commission on the above articles.

These, gentlemen, are the principal restrictions which we think necessary, to avoid contradiction in our own resolutions, and to secure the Company from injury, the ministers from occasion of complaint, and the natives from insult and oppression.

We are with great regard,

Gentlemen,
your most obedient servants.

No. 43.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, President, &c. Members of the Select Committee.

My Lord, and Gentlemen,

THE following persons,

Messrs. Hugh Baillie,
Charles Blomer,
Pitt Letheillier,
Tom Lewis,
John Coxfar,
William Bentley,
John Robinson,
James Hargrave,

Agents for transacting the Society of Trade’s Business, being about to proceed to their different stations, have applied for leave to dispose of the salt now on hand, belonging to private traders.

We think it will be for the advantage of the society, that such salt as is now on hand, should be sold by your agents, on account of the persons to whom it belongs, before the salt of the society gets up; but as there is an article in the restrictions transmitted to us by your Lordship, &c. which forbids their receiving any private Commissions, we request you will grant us permission to infer a clause, allowing them to dispose of the salt, to prevent their forfeit of the penalty they would otherwise be subject to.

We are,

my Lord, and gentlemen,
your most obedient servants,

Wm. B. Sumner,
H. Watts,
W. Senior.

Fort William, 8th January 1766.

APPENDIX, No. 43.
APPENDIX, No. 44, 45, 46.

No. 44.
Fort William Select Consultation, the 9th January 1766:

RECEIVED a letter from the Committee of Trade, requesting leave for their agents to dispose of the balances of salt belonging to private merchants, now on hand, which they imagine will conduce to the interest of the Society.

Agreed. We acquaint the Committee of Trade, that we grant their request, in consideration they think it will be a public benefit.

No. 45.
To William Brightwell Sumner, Esquire, &c. Members of the Committee of Trade.

Gentlemen,

No. 1. We content that the balance of salt belonging to private merchants, which are now on hand, shall be disposed of by your agents, at the several stations to which they are appointed, since you are of opinion this Measure will conduce to the benefit of the society; but we must desire they will not think of extending this privilege beyond the particular article here specified.

We remain, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servants.

Fort William, January 9th 1766.

No. 46.
To the honourable the Court of Directors for affairs of the Honourable United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honourable Sirs,

1. We have now the honour to transmit the sequel of those proceedings of the Select Committee which were dispatched the 30th September by the Admiral Stevens, and also a duplicate of our letter of that date.

2. The conjectures we then formed, with respect to the system which the Committee found it necessary to adopt, have in the event corresponded to our warmest expectations; and it is with extreme satisfaction we can assure you, that a happy prospect is daily opening to our view of security and opulence to the Company; money flowing into your Treasury; contentment expressed by the country government; and peace diffusing the blessings throughout every district of the Nabob's Dominions, are to us the most pleasing testimonies of the residue of the measures we purposed when the late grants were obtained: The more we reflect on the situation of your affairs, the stronger appear the reasons for accepting the dawanny of these provinces, by which alone we could establish a power sufficient to perpetuate the possessions, we hold, and the influence we enjoy; while the Nabob acted in quality of collector for the Mogul, the means of supporting our military establishment depended upon his pleasure; in the most critical situation, while we stood balancing on the extreme border of destruction, his stipulated payments were flow and deficient, his revenues were often withheld by disaffected Rajahs and turbulent Zeminders, who defiled the weaknesses of his government, or they were squandered in profusion and dissipated in corruption, the never failing symptoms of a declining constitution and a feeble administration; whence we were frequently disappointed of those supplies, upon the punctual receipt of which depended the very existence of the Company in Bengal.

We cannot indeed look back without horror upon that desperate crisis to which your affairs were reduced, when a mutinous spirit prevailed among your troops; when diffentions distracted your consultations; and a powerful enemy was invading the provinces, to seize and defolate your possessions, and probably extirpate your servants, to us it evidently appears there remained but the alternative to advance, as we have done, and grasp at the whole power, or to shrink back into our primitive condition of simple merchants, to abandon our possessions, disband our forces, and reft our future hopes on the clemency of princes, who will not easily forget or forgive the superiority we have so long maintained. In a word, this last measure was in itself impracticable; for we must observe, although with much regret, that the misconduct of individuals hath rendered the English name so odious, that we are no longer secure than while our hands are armed for the Defence of our lives and property.

3. The several statements, that go numbers in our packet, shew clearly the amount of revenue to be collected this year into the treasury, exclusive of those issuing from the provinces of Bardin, Midnapoor, and Chittagong: the Calcutta lands, and all your former possessions, at present they stand encumbered with a variety of superfluous charges, which we hope to reduce, when we come to adjust the collections of the ensuing year; but we thought it advisable to avoid introducing innovations, which might create disgust and dissatisfaction, at so early a period of our government. The nett balance, amounting to 212 lacks of fissa rupees, or 2,662,000
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2,862,000 pounds sterling, will be more readily paid, that the ministers and officers of the government can have nothing to plead in excuse for deficiencies; and we have reason to believe it will not fall short of the stated amount. This balance is abundantly sufficient to supply your China trade, provide for our own investment, and defray all the expenses of our civil and military establishment. Whatever surplus may remain in the treasury, after the stipends to the King and Nabob are discharged, and all other more immediate demands are answered, this, together with the revenues of Burdwan, &c. shall then be applied to relieve the wants of the other provinces, to pay off your bonds, and to such other purposes as may appear to us most conduci-

4. Mr. Sykes, who was some time since appointed resident at the Durbar, and supervisor of the collections, hath now taken charge of the factory at Coibimbazar, upon Mr. Senior's application for leave to return to Europe; the great diligence he has exerted in settling the revenues, and forming the statements, as well as attention shown to the other several offices of administration, afford us the utmost reason to be highly satisfied with his conduct. He is daily making remittances, the first fruits of the collections, to the treasury; whereby we are already enabled to set apart a supply of 24 lacs for your China investment; 12 of which are now under dispatch for Canton, the remainder will be sent in the month of February to Madras, to be forwarded from thence to China by the earliest conveyance: when the collections of the year are closed, we have directed Mr. Sykes to enquire strictly into the balances to the Government, and to use every possible endeavour to recover them, as we entertain the most flattering hope, that from these arrears will arise a fund sufficient to discharge all the publick demands on the late Nabob, for which your honour may stand any way engaged.

5. Notwithstanding all these immense revenues, of which the company is actually possessed, we must earnestly request your serious attention to the consequences of our impoverishing the country by such considerable annual exports of treasure to China. We must also recommend that you devise some method of enabling your Servants, and the inhabitants of the settlement, to remit their own fortunes, and the effects of deceased persons in their hands, by some other channel than that of bill on France and Holland; you are now in a situation which will never require your receiving private effects into the treasury, to be able to complete your own investment: your collections are adequate to every purpose and demand which we can foresee; the governor and council could not therefore, with any propriety, subject you to the inconvenience of anwering bills, to the amount of forty or fifty lacs, merely for the benefit of your servants, and suffer your own money to lie dead and unappropriated in the treasury; indeed we were particularly cautious of drawing largely for this year, in order that you might be able to discharge your more immediate and pressing engagements at home; yet should the necessity continue of remitting private property by foreign funds, the French and Dutch will not only be enabled thereby to provide early and valuable investments, but the provinces will also be deprived of a very considerable addition to the current species, which those nations will otherwise be obliged to import every year in ready money. To obviate as far as possible any immediate bad effects to the public from the above causes, the President has now under consideration, a proposal to prevent the exportation of treasure; from occasioning a scarcity of money for some years at least; yet as this proposal rather tends to palliate, than effectually remedy the evil, it is from your instructions only that we are to expect a radical cure.

6. The opportunity which the restoration of peace affords for carrying into execution your orders, relative to the batta allowed to military officers, will greatly contribute to the increase of your surplus fund; these orders, although reasonable and necessary, could not however be conveniently enforced in public tranquillity, and military discipline, and information, were firmly established. It was also requisite, before we entered upon a reduction of pay, to devise the means of their living cheaper, and of supplying them with liquors, and other stores, at a more moderate price than these articles had ufually been furnished. We must likewise observe, that regimenting the troops, hath not only conduci'd to the reformation we proposed, but also facilitated the reduction of expense you enjoin. A soldier who knows and performs his duty, will neither expect nor require the superfluities and luxuries of life.

Accordingly we have ordained, that on the first day of the present month the batta should be struck off from the troops in general, excepting the brigade stationed in Shujah Dowla's dominions; who, on account of the high price of provisions, and the difficulty of procuring stores, will be allowed double batta in the field, and half double batta in cantonments and in garrison, until they are recalled to the provinces: for the same reason; half batta is continued to the troops quartered at Patna and Mungheer; but the rest of the army, we mean the detachments at Subordinates and other places, that are not engaged in actual service, are reduced precisely on a footing with the company's forces upon the coast; even those stationed at Mongheer and Patna receive the same exact batta as your troops at Trichinopoly. From such regulations, and also from the check given to many shameful abuses committed in musters, returns, hospital bills, boats, and other articles, we may affirm with confidence, that the charges of your whole establishment, civil and military, including your fortifications, will fall short of the amount expended during the course of the late war on your army alone; and yet it is proposed, if you supply us duly with recruits, to maintain the complete establishment projected by Lord Clive, and the most formidable army that ever took the field in Bengal. From what causes your
your military expenses swelled to such immeasurable bounds requires no explanation; certain it is they far exceeded the supplies so liberally voted by the British Parliament for an army of auxiliaries employed to oppose the combined forces of the most powerful Princes in Christendom.

7. To these schemes of *Economy* permit us to add the late resolution of this Committee regarding the new works erected for the security of your servants and property: these works have for several years past been a perpetual drain for treasuries, which might have been more usefully applied; yet should we ever meet with the misfortune of being driven off the field, and cooped up within the walls of this fort, your affairs may then be considered as desperate and irrecoverable; it is therefore the unanimous opinion of this committee, confirmed by the sentiments of the chief engineer, that we ought to regard the new works as a temporary security only; for which purpose the ditch, ramparts, bastions and ravelin, already finished, are sufficient to withstand the greatest force which the powers of this country are ever likely to assemble. Captain Martin further delivers it as his opinion, that enlarging the fortifications, conformably to the plan of the intended outworks, would add nothing to the strength of the place; unless we could at the same time maintain a garrison proportioned to their extent. We resolved therefore not to proceed on the plan, beyond what is now completed; but to use all possible means to check the incroachments of the river, which hath advanced within a very few yards of the covered way, and threatens to sweep away one entire side of the fort. We will also make all the dispatch we are able in completing the barracks, some of which we have converted into very commodious apartments for the writers lately arrived; and are convinced it would be much for the benefit of the service if all the younger servants, and the public officers, were collected within to narrow a compass as might subject them to closer inspection than is possible in their present situation.

8. M. Mahomed Reza Cawn, and the ministers associated with him, to conduct the business of the country government, proceed with alacrity and unanimity, under the direction of Mr. Sykes, the Resident; they, as well as the people in general, express great satisfaction at the orders now lately issued and enforced, by recalling to the presidency all free merchants and other Europeans, who are not in your covenanted service; many of whom had, by interfering with public affairs, by acts of oppression and violence, and by assuming and exerting a judicial authority, totally perverted the ordinary course of justice, and given great interruption to the business of the administration: yet we must lament that the just and necessary punishment inflicted upon those who had committed abuses should unavoidably extend to others, who always acted with integrity and honour.

9. The more effectually to remove every cause of complaint, and render the ministers responsible for the collection of the slated revenue, we have directed that none besides those who are employed in certain public stations, shall in future correspond with the officers of the government, hold lands, lend money to the Zemindars, or take any other means of improving their fortune, or acquiring influence in the country, that may tend to disturb, disquiet, or defraud, either the administration or the people; and this prohibition we have extended to all our servants, civil and military, and their dependants. It was the earnest request of the ministers that we should impose such restrictions; and we thought compliance but reasonable, as we were well assured that the revenue had suffered from the excess to which these practices were carried.

10. In one instance, however, we have taken the liberty of deviating from your orders for recalling the free merchants, &c. the plan for conducting the joint inland trade in the articles of salt, beetle nuts, and tobacco, is in itself so extensive, the capital required to be very considerable, and the difficulty of procuring money at a moderate interest so great, that it becomes indispensably necessary the accounts of the society should be closed, and their books balanced with more dispatch than can be expected, should black gamblers and agents be employed; for this reason, and because we are willing to promote, to the utmost of our power, a scheme that appears well calculated from your interest and the public benefit, we have permitted the Committee of Trade to appoint European agents for disposing of the society's concerns at certain established marts in different parts of the country: and for this purpose, Company's servants could not be spared from the presidency and subordinates; these agents are therefore chosen from the list of free merchants, with the utmost attention to their character and former behaviour, and besides which, we have strictly confined them to the business of the society, by such severe penalties and restrictions as we think must effectually prevent their giving offence or molestation; should we find these limitations insufficient to secure the peace of the country, and remove all cause of complaint, we are then determined to recall them, and commit the business to black agents.

11. Further to all this valuable branch of commerce, and promote the credit of the infant society, the governor and council have, at the request of the committee, signed and executed a deed, for the better securing the society the free and exclusive purchase and sale of the articles of salt, &c. from the first of September 1765 to the 30th of August 1766, allowing a sufficient time to dispose of such stock as may be provided for the season, in order to prevent the great loss that must arise to the proprietors, should any alteration take place by your order, after the concerns for the year are begun, and before the same are concluded. We therefore flatter ourselves with your entire approbation of this measure, so essential to the
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due execution of the plan formed by your permission, and with all possible regard to your interest.

12. Our proceedings point out clearly the increase of your rents subsisting from the Calcutta lands; and the several minutes entered upon that subject explain our sentiments on the prospect we have of rating the Purgannahs still higher, without exactation or oppression. It evidently appears to us, that considerable frauds were formerly committed in these collections; with a view of correcting which, we have determined that the leases granted to the present former should expire on the 1st day of September next; by that time we hope to find leisure to ascertain their value more exactly, at least we shall then silence the clamour of the misbehaved against what they deem a monopoly, by universally diffusing and extending the benefit arising from the possession of lands, among the most substantial and respectable banyans and black merchants living under your protection.

13. Malt heartily do we wish that such shameful embezzlement of the public money were confined to those lands, situated more immediately under the eyes of the governor and council, nothing but the greatest inattention and misconduct could then prevent the detection of abuses; but should a general depravity of manners prevail, and your servants acting in the highest stations be restrained neither by motives of conscience nor by principles of honour, the discovery of frauds at places remote from the presidency will then become more difficult, and merely accidental: this evidently appears from the state of the Midnapoor revenues, which for three years past have yielded 1,2,5,2,000 rupees more than ever were placed, as they ought, to the Company's credit. Our recalling the factory, and appointing Mr. Vereeff supervisor, and Mr. Graham resident at Midnapoor, under his direction, brought this unwarrantable transaction to light, which might otherwise have lain in profound obscurity, until chance had produced a resident, whose sense of honour and feelings of conscience were stronger than the impulses of private interest. For your further information, we beg leave to refer you to Mr. Vereeff's letter, and the statement of those revenues inserted in the accompanying list of packet. Yet, fortunate to the Company as this discovery will certainly be considered, we must confess it occasions great embarrassment to our proceedings, unless we would deviate, on the one hand or the other, from that duty which we owe to our constituents. It was firmly our intention to avoid further retrodiction of the conduct of an administration so notoriously corrupt and meanly venal throughout every department, in hopes the examples already made would sufficiently deter others, and work a reformation: It was the correction of abuses, and not the punishment of misconduct, that we proposed; although we endeavoured to avoid exposing ourselves either to the cenure of partiality, or the heavier charge of unfaithfulness to our employers. In this, as in many other instances, we consider that a scrutiny into the particulars of the embezzlement would be unprofitable to you, when it would at the same time occasion great obstruction to our consultations, and might end in the necessity of diminishing the number of your council, already much reduced by the death of one, the suspension of another, and the resignation of four members of the board. Must farther beg leave to observe, that we cannot help regarding the late resident, as far less culpable than any of his immediate predecessors, who may be said to have chafed out the path, and guided his steps by the false light that misled him. Certain it is, that should you disapprove our lenity, the same decree in law or equity, which will oblige Mr. Watts to refund, will also oblige his predecessors to make restitution. From these considerations therefore, we resolve to leave it in the option of your Honourable board, to prosecute or remit your claim to such balances as ought to have been applied to your credit; consenting ourselves with giving you the necessary information of facts, and taking the most effectual means to prevent such practices in future.

14. For reasons of a similar nature, we decline refusing any further consideration of the conduct of the board and depredation during the late negotiations at Moorshedabad. Already our consultations have been too much interrupted with cavilling debate and faction: we are heartily sick of the fruitless labour of raking in the jades of corruption, and should we enter upon such inquiries, we must again wholly suspend the course of current business. You have before you sufficient proofs whether the gentlemen distinguished most zeal for your service, or attachment to their own interest; and should you be disposed, for the sake of example, to attempt the recovering of such sums, obtained so unwarrantably from the Nabob and his ministers, we apprehend the evidences transmitted are from; and explicit enough to ground an action upon in any court of judicature.

Pa. 15.—It remains with us to offer a few remarks upon that letter, which Mr. Johnstone sent into the board, just as the Admiral Stevens was under sail; as he apprehended, lest some bold assertions he advanced, might be rebuted before he was out of reach of the blame consequent on detection; many of their assertions are to mean, to contrary to truth, and to Mr. Johnstone's own knowledge, that we read them with equal surprise and contempt; forbid that he must be hard pressed indeed, to support a linking reputation, who has recourse to falsehood to justify misconduct.

16. This gentleman thinks it necessary, after three months preparation to apologize for a lame and unconvincing defence, by avowing, that he was deceived in the objects to the papers, relative to himself, until a few days before his departure. Mr. Johnstone forgets that he acknowledges the receipt of those very papers in a note he wrote to our secretary, in the month of June, before
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before he came to any determination; which note is now in the secretary's possession; he also forgot, that the letters of Mr. Senior and Middleton, inserted in our proceedings of the 21st of June, prove, that all the evidences and proceedings upon that occasion were regularly transmitted to those gentlemen who were not present at the Board—He ought therefore, to avow himself of the first plea, and refuse rather to acknowledge the authority of the Committee, than thus to flink behind a pitiful untruth.

From the deep fund of critical learning which Mr. Johnstone displays in the country language, we might reasonably expect a more perfect knowledge of the power and infamy of his mother tongue; for after torturing the phrase "Cooch Booligan," to make our proceedings appear unfair and partial, he is at length forced to confine it into a lignification, that implies a stronger menace than can possibly be conveyed in the words of our translation; the leaf acquaintance with the English language will enable any man to determine, whether, in the circumstances there represented, Mr. Johnstone's expression, "I will be silent," doth not imply a more emphatic menace, than the words which we ascribe to him; "Your business will meet with no countenance," Insomuch as the one declares all that is meant; whereas the other intimates a harsher meaning than he would chuse to express.

Mr. Johnstone intimates, by way of reflection on the management of the Committee, That we were under the necessity of applying to the Sects for the loan of a lack and a half of rupess. The fact is true, but it rests with Mr. Johnstone, and his associates at the Board, to explain how the Company's Treasury came to be at low, an ebb as to want so poor a supply?—It also rests with them to explain, how the Nabob (for our first application was to the Nabob) came to be so impoverished by presents made to the deputation, that he could not furnish even this small relief to the necessities of the Company? And it rests particularly with Mr. Johnstone to assign the reason, why a balance of 6 lacs was due from Burdwan to your exhausted Treasury, while he was filling his own pockets at the Durbar, which balance was afterwards collected by Mr. Verell.

What he remarks on our opinion of Mr. Leycester, delivered in our proceedings of the 21st of June, is also very true. That gentleman hat, jointly with Mr. Johnstone, received bills from M. R. Cawn; but as he declared upon oath, That he had no intention of benefiting by them, it was purely incumbent on the Committee to acquit him in a public opinion. —We should have acquitted Mr. Johnstone likewise, if he had made the same solemn declaration; but our private sentiments of that oath we should have reserved, as in Mr. Leycester's case, to our letter to the Court of Directors; for an oath may silence an accusation of crimes, but it does not necessarily produce conviction of innocence.

Mr. Johnstone has tackled to this extraordinary defence, certain letters, written to him by Mahomed Reza Cawn, and his own agent Meotearan, as vouchers for his good behaviour, during the negotiation. With respect to these letters, we must observe, That they were obtained at a period when it may reasonably be supposed, that such testimonies durst not be refused, on account of the extraordinary authority which Mr. Johnstone had just before assumed at the Durbar.

It may also be observed from M. R. Cawn's letter, That great apprehensions were conceived, lest the nabob should come to Calcutta, to lay his complaints before the Committee; and Mr. Johnstone knows that interest was made with the then resident, to prevail on him to exert his utmost influence in preventing a visit, which it was thought would not bring much honour to the deputation. We leave it therefore to your Honourable Board to determine, Whether, at the beltb those testimonies will justify Mr. Johnstone from the charge of extortion, and weigh down against the most positive evidence that can be given upon any matter of fact. —Be this as it will, we think it necessary to correct Mr. Johnstone's mistake, when he affirms, that M. R. Cawn's first deposition takes no notice of any demand made in the name of the deputation—A reference to that deposition will satisfy you, that Mr. Johnstone either reads without attention, or that he quotes without candour. It would be endless to pursue Mr. Johnstone through the tedious maze of error and misrepresentation, to evident in every page of his letter. Permit us therefore, to refer you, for a more particular reply, to the proceedings themselves, and to Lord Clive's minute, and to those of the members of the Select Committee, entered in the appendix already transmitted by the Admiral Stevens. As to Mr. Johnstone's management in the Burdwan Province, we could wish he had suffered us to cover with the veil of silence, transmissions that will not bear examination. He hath now, by his ill-judged strictures on Mr. Verell's memorial, obliged that gentleman to disdor, what, out of tenderness to Mr. Johnstone, he was unwilling to reveal.

17. You will observe from the consultations, That Mr. Leycester stands dissatisfied, and that Mr. Gray resigned the service while his conduct during his residence at Maula was under consideration of the Board; you will also perceive the obstruction given to all public business, by cavilling, debate, and unreasoning minutes, while these two gentlemen remained at the Board. Those minutes are of themselves sufficient testimony of the spirit which actuated the extraordinary behaviour; they are indecent, violent, and factious, beyond any thing ever before tolerated in this government, in the most licentious times. Mr. Leycester and Gray no sooner perceived the blast of correction removed, than they, unmindful of the lenity of the Committee,
Committee, when we might with propriety, and indeed ought to have suspended them the service, set up a determined opposition, and dared to ridicule and insult the government upon all occasions; yet we bore this usage with patience, out of regard to your situation, and replied to their threats with temper, until Mr. Leycester proceeded to such lengths of licentiousness, as tended to involve the settlement in anarchy and civil dissensions. He published an expression, hastily dropped by General Carnac at the Board, with such additional and aggravating circumstances, as were best calculated to raise a tempest in the minds of the people, and excite the misfortunes to open faction. The alarm that we were about to introduce a military government became general, we thought it incumbent on us, to trace the author of such dangerous calamity,—and upon conviction, that Mr. Leycester had forged and published it, with a deluge of weakening the hands of Administration, we judged it necessary to suspend him, as unworthy his situation in your service.

18. We need not take up your time, in justifying a measure that became indispensably necessary, unless we meant to relinquish all attempts to effect that general reformation, essential to the tranquility and permanency of your possessions. Mr. Leycester had shamefully opposed every measure which tended to the correction of abuses; and even while he was acting in the capacity of a magistrate and judge, most shamefully endeavoured to suppress, prevent and little violations, relative to Mr. Gray's conduct. His own minute upon the occasion, that produced his suspension, so strongly points out the violent deligns he entertained, that we would not hang at the same Board, with any regard to our own characters, or prospects of advantage to your service. From the loud cry raised by Mr. Gray and him against military force and arbitrary power, one would naturally conceive the president had deprived half the British subjects in the settlement of their birthright. The fact, however, was nothing more, than that Lord Clive had ordered a guard of sepoys out of quarreling, a man of infamous character, failed to be employed by Mr. Gray in the most inopportune acts of extortion, and a native of Maulda, who himself refused to claim the protection of our laws, because he should thereby become subject to the punishment to which those laws condemn his offences; whereas numbers of instances occur, in former governments in Bengal, of natives, inhabitants of Calcutta, being confined by military guards, upon accusations of infinitely less consequence to the public weal. In short, these two gentlemen were so disinterested and indolent, in propagating the seeds of their ruin, that we are fairly convinced the suspension of the one was necessary, and the resignation of the other is conducive to the benefit of your service; yet these are the gentlemen who, we are told, flatter themselves with the hopes of justifying their conduct to your satisfaction, and of returning again to the management of your concerns in Bengal; should this event ever happen, we have only to wish, and we fervently do wish, although contrary to all human probability, that your affairs may prosper.

19. The Board being now reduced for beneath the establishment we proposed, and to a number insufficient to conduct the necessary business of the Government, filling the vacant seats became an object of immediate consideration. By the Admiral Stevens we freely delivered our sentiments of the unfitness for that station of some of those gentlemen who hand next in succession. We also recommended with the greatest earnestness, that in compiling your Council, you would admit of no claim but that of merit and approved services. We must now again beg leave to repeat, that from a list of fourteen junior merchants, we are not able to select a number sufficient to make up the deficiency of members at the Board, unless we abandon all hopes of curbing licentiousness, reforming abuses, and subduing that universal passion that prevailed among our servants of accumulating riches in a manner inconsistent with the good of the country and with your interest, the factious spirit which lately blazed out so violently in Council hath reached the lower classes, so that we can entertain no reasonable hope from their cordial services, until they have felt the weight of correction, and experienced the influence of example. Still, however, we should be sorry to deprive them of all prospect of rising, by promoting their juniors on this establishment; since time, and the certain assurance that merit, not flattery, will entitle them to your favour, may produce the desired effect upon their conduct.

20. For these reasons we applied to the Presidency at Fort Saint George, requesting that M. duc de Ruffiell, Oldhef, Olf, and Floyer, might be permitted to sit in the present exigency, until your plainers should be known; being fully persuaded, that this preference of the servants of another Presidency will operate more effectually, than if we had recourse to the more irksome and mortifying indignity of superintending them from this establishment. We are sorry to find that our endeavours to serve the Company in a manner the least injurious to your servants here should be misconstrued. As long as this measure became known, by reports from Madras, and previous to our laying any proceedings before the Board, the young gentlemen of the settlement had let themselves up for judges of the propriety of our conduct, and the degree of their own merit; each would seem to think himself qualified to tranquilize your mighty affairs in council, at an age when the laws of his country adjudge him unfit to manage his own concerns to the extent of forty foldings. They have not only let their hands to the memorial of complaint, but entered into associations unbecoming at their years, and destructive of that subordination without which no government can stand; all visits to the president are suspended; all invitations from him and the members of the Committee are to be rejected; the gentlemen called down by our authority from Madras, are to be treated with neglect and contempt;
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every man who deviates from this confederacy is to be stigmatized and avoided: in a word, the members are totally to separate themselves from the head; decorum and union are to be lost at defiance; and it becomes a fair struggle whether we or the young gentlemen shall in future guide the helm of Government. Look at their names, examine their standing, enquire into their views, and reflect upon the age of four fifths of the subscribers to this bill of grievances, who now support the allocation, and you will be equally surprised with us at the precipituous intemperance of youth, and convinced that a flép of three or four years in the course of promotion is indifferently necessary, if you would have your Council composed of men of experience and discretion.

21. From this sketch of the behaviour of your junior servants, you will perceive the dangerous pitch to which the independant and licentious spirit of this settlement hath risen; you will then determine on the necessity and propriety of the step we have taken. In the mean time we are resolved to support it, or we must submit to the anarchy and confusion consequent on the rejection of the decree of your Select Committee to the revell and repeal of young gentlemen just broke loose from the hands of their Schoolmasters; carnegily do we wish that every member of this board had cordially joined in the same sentiments, force doubts serve only to break the force of resolutions, to weaken authority, and give vigour and courage to faction and disobedience: As to the point of indignity of which your Petitioners complain, nothing can be more evident, than that the Committee regarded the pretend supersession as less injurious than a selection would be from this establishment, since we even declined promoting upon this occasion the very persons whom we particularly recommended to the most distinguishing marks of your favour; in this light it is considered in every other service, and we doubt not but it would have been so considered in this service, had such promotion been the choice of the Committee.

22. Our proceedings explain the motives of our conduct, and also the measures we enforced to reduce the settlement to order and obedience. Mr. Majendie, the secretary to the council, is dismissed from his office, and furnished the service for having eminently distinguished himself in forming a combination to unjustly and unreservedly his acquaintance, to dangerous in the present conjuncture, and to peculiarly unbecoming to his age, to his situation, and his employment; should this example suffice, we shall avoid proceeding to the extremity of punishing with the loss of bread, young men who have been artfully spirited up to faction, to gratify the resentment and promote the selfish views of men in whom you have reposed unmerited, and much abused confidence.

You will be instructed to observe at the head of this list, two members of your council who subscribe their names in testimony of their fealty of the injustice done to the younger servants; possibly this testimony might have weight with your honourable board, had those gentlemen first cleared up their conduct from certain imputations, which intimate how little their interest disposes them to co-operate in a reformation for the public benefit; at all events, whether the proceeding of the Committee be in itself right or wrong, it is most certainly their duty to repress every factious combination, to temper the heart and veneration of youth, to maintain the authority of the board, and to avoid giving countenance to a fatitious and rebellious humour, that might have produced the subversion of government, and the most fatal consequences to the Company's affairs, before your decision could arrive.

23. This incident occurring four days only before the dispatch of the bill, you will not expect that our letter from the public department should enter so minutely into the transactions of the board, as we proposed; the business is now suddenly taken up by Mr. Campbell our secretary, who, we are assured, will exert his utmost ability: but he requests, you will please to make an allowance for the shortness of time, and his total unacquaintance with all that has been transacted in that department.

24. We have the satisfaction to acquaint you, that Sujah Dowlah appears well disposed to cultivate our friendship and adhere strictly to the conditions of the late treaty; Colonel Smith's Brigade is now stationed at Allahabad and Benaras, to secure the King and Vizier against the invasions of the Morattios, until they have fully re-established themselves, and payment of the stipulated indemnification to the Company is completed: His Majesty's visionary projects of eating himself with our affiance on the throne of his ancestors, and proceeding to Delhi, his capital, seem to have vanished before the Committee's remonstrances; we hope he is at length convinced, that without us the scheme is impracticable, and we are certain it never can be our interest to extend the influence of your arms to so great a distance from your present possessions, and the seat of your government.

25. Opening a communication between the Northern Circar and Bengal, must prove mutually advantageous to your presidency at Fort Saint George, and to us; we have therefore determined to embrace the favourable opportunity which the present favourable condition of the Morattios affords, to carry this measure into execution, and have for that purpose set on foot a negotiation with their chief, whereby we propose to them cede to us the Northern parts of Orissa now in their possession, upon our engaging to pay a certain stipulated annual revenue; whatever his determination may be, it is our resolution not to attempt gaining this advantage by violence or force of arms: Peace is at length happily restored to their provinces, and it will be the study
APPENDIX, No. 47, 48.

of this Committee to preserve and prolong thes advantages which you already begin to experience.

We remain with the warmest zeal for your service, and the greatest respect,

Fort William.

Honourable Sirs,

Your most faithful humble servants,

Clive,

W. B. Sumner.

John Carnac,

H. Vereker,

Fra. Skel.

No. 47.

Extract of Company's Letter to Bengal, 15th February 1765.

I

In our letters of the 8th February and 8th June last, we gave you our sentiments and directions very fully in respect to the inland trade of Bengal; we now enforce the same in the strongest manner, and positively insist that you take no steps whatever towards renewing this trade without our express leave; for which purpose you must not fail to give us the fullest information upon the subject, agreeable to our above mentioned directions.

The enforcing our said orders is the more indispensably necessary from our observing the complaints of the present Nabob, taken notice of and referred to in your separate letter of the 20th February 1764, relating to the many Difficulties, Hardships, and Oppressions he meets with resulting from the before mentioned unwarrantable and licentious trade—We have such an entire confidence in Lord Clive's great abilities and good intentions, that we make no doubt these great abuses will be the particular objects of his care and attention, and that he will be able to carry these our orders effectually into execution.

No. 48.

Company's Letter to Bengal, 26th April 1765.

We are extremely anxious for the arrival of Lord Clive, and the gentlemen who accompanied him; as they have been so lately in England, they are the best judges of the opinion the Company and the nation entertain of the conduct of the English in Bengal, for these last four years, which, we are sorry to say, in general, that they have been guilty of violating treaties, of oppression, and a combination to enrich themselves.

We do not here mean to enter into a discussion respecting the political conduct of our late governor and council, but must say, that an unbounded thirst after riches seems to have poisoned the whole body of our servants, to that degree, that they have lost all light of justice to the country government, and of their duty to the Company.

In reading the opinions of the several members of the late Council, respecting this illegal trade, by which we mean the articles of salt, beetle-nut and tobacco, we are astonished to find those among them, who pretended to found their right on the Phirmaunds.

23. Treaties of commerce are understood to be for the mutual benefit of the contracting parties: is it then possible to suppose, that the court of Delhi, by confining the privilege of trading free of customs, could mean an inland trade in the commodities of their own country, at that period unpractised and unthought of by the English, to the detriment of their revenues, and the ruin of their own merchants? we do not find that such a construction was ever heard of until our own servants first invented it, and afterwards supported it by violence;—neither could it be claimed by the subsequent treaties with Meer Jaffier or Collin Ally, which were never understood to give one additional privilege of trade beyond what the Phirmaunds expressed; in short, the specious arguments used by those who pretended to set up a right to it, convince us they did not want judgment, but virtue, to withstand the temptation of suddenly amassing a great fortune, although acquired by means incompatible with the peace of the country and their duty to the Company.

24. Equally blameable were they, who acknowledging they had no right to it, and sensible of the ill consequences resulting from affirming it, have nevertheless carried on this trade, and used the authority of the Company to obtain by a treaty exacted by violence, a sanction for a trade to enrich themselves without the least regard or advantage to the Company, whose forces they employed to protect them in it.

25. Had this short question been put, which their duty ought first to have suggested, Is it for the interest of our employers? they would not have hesitated one moment about it, but this criterion seems never once to have occurred.

26. All barriers being thus broken down between the English and the country Government; and every thing out of its proper channel, we are at a loss how to prescribe means to restore order from this confusion, and being deprived of that confidence which we hoped we might have placed in those servants, who appear to have been the actors in their strange scenes, we can only say, that we rely on the abilities and talents of Lord Clive and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee, to remedy these evils: we hope they will restore our reputation among the country powers, and convince them of our abhorrence of oppression and rapacity.

f

No. 49.
APPENDIX, No. 49, 56.

No. 49.

Company's Letter to Lord Clive.

My Lord,

We have with the greatest pleasure received the news of your Lordship's arrival in good health at the Cape of Good Hope; and although your passage to that place was not so expeditious as we could have wished, we hope the winds proved more favourable in the latter part of your voyage, and that this letter will find your Lordship in health and safety at Fort William.

Our advices from Bengal in a separate letter of the 27th September last, make us anxious for the issue of the war against Shujah Dawlah and Colliam Ally Cawn; we hope the expectation of your Lordship's arrival will have had a happy influence on our affairs, by hastening the conclusion of that expensive war, and leaving you at full leisure to attend to the establishment of a firm and lasting peace, to the regulation of the trade in salt, beetle nut, tobacco, and other articles, that it may be adjusted on such a plan, to the satisfaction and with concurrence of the Nabob, as may redound to the honour of the Company, and effectually prevent the confusion and oppression that have sprung from the abuses practised in it of late years, to the reduction of our enormous military expenses, to the establishment of good order among our civil servants, discipline in our army, and harmony in the settlements: the, my Lord, are our fanguine expectations, founded on the experience of your great abilities, and zeal for the Company's service, in which we have the fullest confidence, and we must beg leave to add our opinion, that success in those great points will redound as much to your Lordship's reputation, as any of the great actions by which you have already been distinguished.

Your Lordship may be assured of our firmest support in every thing that can be suggested or proposed for the prosperity of the Company, and your own honour.

We are, my Lord,

Your Lordship's loving Friends,

Henry Crabb Boulton.
George Dudley.
Jofias du Pr.
John Stephenfon.
Thomas Saunders.
Edward Wheeler.
George Cuming.
Henry Hadley.
John Roberts.
Charles Chambers.
J. Pardoe.

J. Crefwicke.
John Harrison.
Charles Cutts.
Robert Jones.
J. Purling.
Frederick Pigot.
Henry Savage.
E. H. Crutenden.
Thomas Rous.
F. W. Barrington.

London, 26th April, 1765.

No. 50.

Extract of a Letter from the Court of Directors to the President and Council at Fort Williams dated 24th December, 1765.

10. Yours deliberations on the inland trade have laid open to us a scene of most cruel oppression, which is indeed exhibited at one view of the 13th article of the Nabob's complaints, mentioned thus, — in your consultation of the 17th October, 1764, "The poor of this country who used always to deal in salt, beetle nut, and tobacco, are now deprived of their daily bread, by the trade of the Europeans, whereby no kind of advantage accrues to the Company, and the Government's revenues are greatly injured." We shall for the present observe to you, that every one of our servants, concerned in this trade, has been guilty of a breach of his covenants and disobedience to our orders. In your consultations of the 3d of May, we find among the various extortionate practices, the most extraordinary one of Burjaut, or forcing the natives to buy goods beyond the market price, which you there acknowledge to have been frequently practised.

11. In your resolution to prevent this practice, you determine to forbid it, " but with such care and discretion as not to affect the Company's investment, as you do not mean to invalidate the right derived to the Company from their Phirmaund, which they have always held over their weavers," as the Company are known to purchase their investment by ready money only, we require a full explanation how this can affect them, or how it ever could have been practised in the purchase of their investment, which the latter part of Mr. Johnstone's minute entered on consultation the 21st July, 1764, infinuates, for it would almost justify a suspicion that the goods of our servants have been put off to the weavers, in part payment of the Company's investment; therefore we direct you to make a rigid scrutiny into this affair, that we may know if any of our servants, or those employed under them, have been guilty of such a breach of trust, that their names and all the circumstances may be known to us.

12. We
APPENDIX, No. 51.

12. We also order you to give us the particular instances which have confirmed you in your opinion that the Burjaut has been practised, that we may know whose agents they were, and whether the agents who practised it, were countenanced and protected in it by their masters.

13. Mr. Johnstone's minute on consultation, the 21st July, 1764, cannot escape our notice, wherein he says, "the support of these, and our other privileges, in their full extent against the usurpations of the late Nabob, engaged us in this unhappy war, and after so many valuable lives lost in the defence of them, I shall ever be against parting with them, or hazarding the loss of them, without greater and better causes than has yet appeared, and till after we have found by experience, that all other remedies are in vain."

14. As the privileges here meant principally relate to the unwarranted inland trade, in which our own servants have been so generally concerned, greatly to the prejudice of the Company, by involving their affairs in difficulties and difficulties, and manifestly injurious to the country government, of which every one of you cannot but be fully sensible, we say we cannot avoid taking notice of the said practice, as by it Mr. Johnstone seems to prefer in all events to prefer the public interest of individuals to the general good, so far as respects the said inland trade.—If Mr. Johnstone continues in these sentiments, as from the general tenor of his conduct we have too much reason to apprehend, he cannot but be looked upon as a dangerous servant; therefore if he, or any other persons, shall persist in carrying on a trade, which, as before observed, has been attended with so many bad consequences, we would have him or them dismissed the Company's service.

15. We shall say nothing further at present on the inland trade, till that important subject shall have been taken up by Lord Clive, and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee, only to observe that the regulation proposed in consultation, 15th October, 1764, of confining the trade of our servants in the article of salt, to the capital cities of Patna, Dacca, and Moorhedabad, on paying the Nabob 2½ per cent., is a manifest disobedience of our orders of the 8th February, then under your deliberation, which positively forbid all trade in salt, beetel nut, and tobacco, nor does it by any means obviate the objections arising from the defects of the poor, and the injury to his revenues, for if you pay only 2½ per cent. and the country people 20, or perhaps 40 per cent., it is as much a monopoly as ever.

16. For other licensed trade we think it necessary to establish, that all trade to be carried on within the provinces where factories are established, shall be carried on by our agents at such factories, and their agents only who shall transact the business of our other servants on receiving the established commission; and on any refusal to accept such commission, or any tendency to monopolize, the servants of Calcutta, or other parts, are at liberty to fend their own black goomukhs, who are nevertheless to be accountable for their conduct to the Company's servants within whose jurisdiction they reside.—All districts not comprehended within the jurisdiction of each subordinate shall be considered as within the jurisdiction of the board of Calcutta.——That no duties shall be given but for articles of import and export, as was formerly practiced; and you are to send us a list of whatever falls under this denomination.

No. 51.

At a Select Consultation, the 15th August 1766;

PRESENT,
The Right Honourable Lord Clive, President,
William B. Summer Esq.
B. G. Carnac,
Harry Vereeff Esq.

THE President acquaints the Committee, that he has certain intelligence of the exorbitant prices at which the merchants who had purchased from the Society were now selling salt in the Bazar, contrary to the terms of their contract, and regardless of the following regulations established by the Committee of Trade,

Committee, June the 12th 1766.

That, in order to prevent the purchasers, by having engrossed the whole salt to be disposed of in different districts, raising the price in the Bazars so high as to be an oppression to the inhabitants, we resolve to ourselves to regulate, in case of complaint, the price salt shall be sold at in the Bazars by retail, which shall be settled in such a manner that the purchasers of the Committee may be enabled to make 13 per cent, if sold on the spot, and 17½ per cent, if transported from the place they purchase it at, allowing for risk and charger.

Agreed the purchasers be called before us to assign reasons for their deviating from the express terms of their agreement, and from the positive orders of the Committee of Trade.

Coffin being called in, and interrogated, acknowledges that he is appointed an agent by his partners, for disposing of the salt purchased by him and divers others, black merchants from the Society; and that he had disposed of the same at Calbaria and Calcutta, in the manner specified in the following statements.

Coolbaria.
APPENDIX, No. 52.

Coolburia.

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Calcutta,

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<td>261,510</td>
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<td>41,535</td>
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113,700 Maunds, a 230 Rs. per Maund, is 41,535

It now appearing to the Committee, from the confession of Coiffaint and the particulars of the above Statements, that the merchants who had contracted with the Society have sold to the amount of 113,700 Maunds of salt, for the sum of 303,650 Rupees, whereas their agreement stipulates they should fall for 261,510 Rupees, whence arises a surplus profit to the merchants of 41,535 Rupees, levied upon the necessities of the poor indigent.

Agreed, That to prevent in future all such oppressive and iniquitous practices, as may reflect discredit upon this government, we require of the above merchants to refund the surplus profit of 41,535 Rupees, the same to be appropriated to such good and charitable purposes as the governor and council shall direct; or in case of refusal, withdraw from them the Company's protection: And that Coiffaint and his partners be called upon to pay into the Treasury their several shares of surplus profit by the first day of September next.

Ordered, that the Secretary shall give public notice of this our resolution. And Alfo, that the remainder now on hand will be sold at the rate stipulated with the Committee of Trade, otherwise the merchants shall forfeit the Company's protection.

Clive,  
John Carnac,  
H. Verelst.

No. 52.

At a Select Consultation, 3d September 1765;

PRESENT,  
The right Honourable Lord Clive, President,  
Brigadier General Carnac,  
Harry Verelst, Esq.

The Right Honourable the President lays before the Committee, the following Minute.

Gentlemen,

Some time before my departure from England, the Court of Directors debated upon the propriety of suffering their ferrants in Bengal to trade in the articles of salt, beetle and tobacco; and it could not be expected, they would continue to them the enjoyment of those profitable branches, unless means were devised, by which the natives would no longer be oppred, and by which the nabob and the Company would largely partake of the advantages. Upon a firm
perfusion, that such means would be devised, they were pleased to defer their final determination of this matter, till the sentiments of the Select Committee should be transmitted to them. By all their letters of the last year, and by several of this, they still seem inclined to wait for our representation; but by their letter of the 19th February last, per Lord Camden, they positively forbid their servants to have any concern whatever in this trade. At that time, indeed, they could not have had a better idea of the favourable change in the affairs of these provinces, whereby the interest of the Nabob, with regard to bills, is no longer immediately concerned.

When we first took this important matter into consideration, I joined in opinion with the rest of the Committee, that if the trade could be put upon such a footing, that the Nabob should receive more than had been received by any of his predecessors, the Company be amply considered, and the natives become purchasers upon terms full as reasonable as in former times, the servants might be indulged in the privilege under such certain rules and restrictions as would make the trade carry with it, as little as possible, the odious form of a monopoly. These points having been settled, I confented to the plan laid down last year. My absence from the presidency, the multiplicity of affairs then in agitation, wherein the peace and tranquillity of the provinces, the interest of the Company, and the honour of the nation were more immediately concerned, prevented my paying that attention I could have wished to that important object. Although by the acquisition of the Dewanees, the whole of the duties belong to the Company, and by the diligence and zeal of the members of the Committee of trade, many useful reformations have taken place, yet, from my observation when I was left up the country, and from the heavy complaints against Europeans of the monopoly of trade in general, I find that the industrious native is still deprived of that share to which he has an undoubted and a more natural right; nor is it yet upon that equitable footing which justice and humanity would, I am sure, incline this Committee to establish.

A few weeks more must bring us the final resolution of the Court of Directors, in answer to our dispatches by the Admiral Stevens; and if, notwithstanding the present situation of their affairs, they should think proper to repeat their orders per Lord Camden, it will be our duty to obey them, and am persuaded they will be obeyed by this committee. But if, on the contrary, upon receipt of our representations, they should change their sentiments, and approve of the regulations we have already made, no time should be lost on our part in establishing the mode for carrying on the trade in future. The confidence which the Court of Directors have been pleased particularly to express in my endeavours to settle upon an equitable plan that trade which has been the source of so many evils, cannot but promote my zeal for the cause, and make me anxious with to see every regulation that you may join with me in thinking necessary to take place.

The Company's duties, I beg leave to propose, shall be increased; the servants shall receive a reasonable share of emolument; and the terms, upon which the natives are finally to be concerned, advantageously fixed.

I propose,
1st, That all falt provided by the society of trade shall be sold at Calcutta, and at other places where it is made, and no where else.
2d. That the price of falt shall not exceed two rupees per mounud, or 200 rupees per 100 mounds.
3dly, That the falt shall be sold to the natives only, who are to transport it to every part of Bengal, Bahar, and Oornia, and to have the whole profits arising from the sale thereof; and that no Company's servant, free merchant, or European, shall be concerned in that article, directly or indirectly, after the sale of it, at the above places.
4thly, That the Calcutta black merchants shall be limited to a certain proportion of purchase; but that no Banya or servant whatever, belonging to any European, shall be included, or have any concern therein.
5thly, That every endeavour be made use of to encourage the substantial merchants of the country either to come down in person to the place where the falt is provided, or to send their agents, in order to purchase and transport the falt to the different parts of sale.
6thly, That a certain price be fixed for the sale of every mounud of falt, at every town, market, or village, where it is sold, according to the distance and former custom.
7thly, That if falt be sold at any of the bazars, or markets, for one coury above the stipulated price, the vendor shall not only forfeit all the falt there found in his possession, but be liable to a forfeit of 100 rupees for every hundred mounds of falt sold; and the falt and money so forfeited shall go one half to the informer, and one half to the government.
8thly, That the ministers at Mughalsbad and Patna have copies sent them of these new regulations; and that they be defied to apply to the Nabob to make the same known throughout the three provinces; and that every Phouladar, &c. see they be put in execution, upon pain of being dismissed from his employment.
9thly, This business being entirely commercial, I propose, that in the instrument of agreement for the next year, it shall be provided, that the Society of Trade be allowed to the Board for their conduct; that the board may either make new regulations, or amend those made by the Society of Trade, as they see fit; and that, in case of necessity, the Select Committee shall have power to control the conduct of the whole.
A P P E N D I X, No. 52.

Wholly, That a duty of 50 per cent be paid to the company upon all the salt provided in their own lands; and 50 per cent. to the government upon all the salt provided upon the lands of the Government; and 15 per cent. upon heath; which duties will, in fact, be brought to the company's credit; which, according to the present state of the salt trade, will produce the company from 12 to 13 lacs of rupees per annum.

The prohibition of a free inland trade, however disagreeable to individuals, must now take place, and be confined to imports and exports, and to their immediate returns, which returns shall be made only to the presidency, or to one or other of the established factories. The Company are Sovereigns in India; and they have declared that the trade carried on for these four years past is an usurpation, not only of their prerogative, but of the privileges of the natives, and repugnant to the express and repeated orders of the Court of Directors. The indulgence, however, in the trade of salt, upon the footing I hope it will now be established, should, in my opinion, obviate all complaints, since it seems to be the most equitable mode between the company and their servants, and, at the same Time, a distribution of natural right to the people of the country. Considering that the late great advantages of unlimited trade are cut off, I cannot imagine that the Court of Directors will deny their servants this share of benefit as a recompence for their attention and assistance in the management of the important concerns of these provinces. On the other hand, I would have the servants look upon these emoluments as a gift from the hands of their employers, offered to them annually in reward of their fidelity, and which will certainly be withheld from them, if ever their authority should be refilled, and discontent and incapacity take place of gratitude and moderation.

Clive.

His Lordship's minute having been read and maturely considered, the regulations therein specified are unanimously approved.

Agreed therefore, that the president's regulations for the inland trade he laid before the council with all convenient speed, for their approbation, in order that the necessary instructions for prosecuting the joint concern, for the ensuing season, may be immediately alluded to the committee of trade.

Resolved, that the above concern shall consist of 60 Shares; and that the proprietors shall stand enrolled, with the several proportions affixed to their names, in the manner aforesaid in the following statement.

STATEMENT of the JOINT SALT CONCERN,
For the Year 1766.

W. B. Sumner — — 3
John Carnac — — 3
Charles Stafford Playdell — — 2
Harry Verelift — — 2
John Cartier — — 2
Francis Sykes — — 2
Randolph Marriott — — 2
Hugh Watts — — 2
Samuel Middleton — — 2
Claud Ruffell — — 2
William Alderley — — 2
Thomas Kelfall — — 2
Charles Floyer — — 2
Colonel Richard Smith — — 2
Sir Robert Barker — — 2

SECOND CLASS.
Reverend W. Parry and Bloner, jointly

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Skinner
**APPENDIX, No. 53.**

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Shares unappropriated —— —— —— —— 4 1/2
Total 60 Shares.

It appearing from the above division of capital stock, that four shares and 1/2 remain unappropriated;
Agreed the same be accounted for at a proper time.

**No. 55.**

Fort William General Consultation, the 8th September 1766.

The proceedings of the Select Committee, from the 13th August to the 22d of September, are laid before the board; and the regulations for the same concern therein proposed being approved;

Ordered, They be entered after this consultation, and the same be communicated to the following gentlemen, who are now appointed to constitute the Committee of Trade, with directions for carrying the plan into execution as soon as possible.

William Brightwell Sumner,
Harry Verelst,
Randolph Marriott,
Hugh Watts,
Claud Russell, and
Charles Floyer, Esquires.
APPENDIX, No. 54, 55, 56.

No. 54.

Extract of Lord Clive's Letter to the honourable the Court of Directors, &c.

Gentlemen,

Calcutta, 6th September 1766.

In May last I had the honour to receive your letter of the 26th April 1765, per Harcourt; and it gives me particular satisfaction to remark, That I have not only fulfilled, but in great measure anticipated, your expectations in the several important points therein recommended to my attention: a peace firm and lasting is established; the trade in salt and beetle nut is now regulated, upon a plan which will still perhaps admit of improvements for the advantage of the company; your military expenses, though increased by means of the additional number of battalions of sepoys, are much less in proportion than heretofore; the double battalion is struck off; discipline is restored to your army; and subordination, good order, and harmony, have once more taken place among the civil servants at this settlement.

As the new covenants, and a strict obedience to your orders, more particularly in confining the trade of individuals to imports and exports only, have abridged the servants of many of their accustomed emoluments; and as the company are in fact the sole proprietors of the immense revenues of the three provinces, not to mention the 12 or 13 lack of rupees per annum, now arising from the duty upon salt and beetle nut; permit me to wish that the gentlemen in your service, as an encouragement to industry and good behaviour, may be suffered to enjoy the moderate proportion which is now settled, of those great advantages that have accrued to their employers; besides these, I have other reasons, of great importance to the service, to wish this indulgence may be continued: I therefore flatter myself, that the present distribution will receive your approbation.

In your answer to our dispatches, per Admiral Stevens, my minute in committee, dated the 2d March instant, to which I beg leave to refer, will fully convey to you my ideas upon the subject, as also the several alterations that I propose shall take place for the improvement of the present plan; but if, after being made acquainted with the flourishing state of your affairs in Bengal, you should persevere in those orders you sent per Camden, be assured they will most punctually be complied with.

No. 55.

Extract of a Letter from Lord Clive, and others, to the Court of Directors, dated Fort William, 8th September 1766.

25. Before this time, probably, you have determined the fate of the inland trade in salt, beetles and tobacco, whether it may be continued, under the regulations we have established, or is totally to be relinquished by your servants. — We shall therefore only observe on this occasion, that certain amendments are now proposed by the president, and adopted by the Select Committee, which we think will remove every inconvenience observed in the present establishment of that trade, and secure to the company the power of rewarding or punishing their servants, according to the degree of their merit or misconduct.

No. 56.

Extract of a Letter from Lord Clive, and others, to the Court of Directors, dated 5th December 1766.

4. As soon as we had closed the inquiry into restitution and donations, the Committee took into consideration the several other orders issued by your Honourable Board, during the course of the last session: your remarks on the inland trade were so peculiarly striking, and so perfectly agreeable to our own sentiments, respecting that perpetual source of oppression and complaint, that we determined immediately to apply the most effectual remedies to a dilapidation which must in time have subverted the constitution, and endangered the being of the East India Company. By the Admiral Stevens you were informed of the plan we had concerted for carrying on the trade in salt, tobacco, and beetle nut, for the benefit of the Company and their servants, without injury to the Nabob, and without molestation or opprobrium of the natives; it was the best and most equitable system we could then devise; yet experience hath shown the necessity of laying the trade under farther restrictions, the reasons for which, together with the particular mode of conducting this valuable branch of commerce in future, are fully explained in Lord Clive's minute, entered on our proceedings, in those emendations of the plan in which the Society of Trade was founded, all due regard has been paid to the sovereign prerogative of the Company, acting as collectors for the King, and more especially to the incalculable distribution of natural right to the native inhabitants; whereas we flatter ourselves, that the inland trade will henceforward prove to you a commodious fund for rewarding the different degrees of merit amongst your servants, and a fruitful source for encouragement to the industry of the country people, who are now, without distinction, admitted to a participation of its benefit, upon the most reasonable and moderate terms.

5. To the regulations formed for conducting the business of the Society of Trade, we have added a total prohibition of another species of inland traffic, in a variety of articles usually transported from one district to the interior country to another, whereby an extensive field was open for the abuse of power and the most notorious acts of fraud and injustice; all Europeans in
in your service, or under your protection, are now indiscriminately confined to trade in certain flated articles of import and export; the returns are to be made from the places where the goods were sold directly to the Preidency, or to the subordinate factory from whence they were dispatched; and no regular traffic, by way of barter or otherwise, is in future to be allowed from one to another, on pain of confiscation of the goods, and loss of your service and protection.

No. 57.

Extrait of a Letter from Lord Clive to the Select Committee, 16th January, 1767.

We have received orders from the Court of Directors to abolish the salt trade; these orders must be punctually obeyed; but as I am of opinion that the trade, upon its present footing, is rather beneficial than injurious to the inhabitants of the country, and that a continuation of this indulgence, or some other equivalent, is become absolutely necessary, and would be an honourable incitement to diligence and zeal in the Company's service, I flatter myself the Court of Directors may be induced to settle some plan that will prove agreeable to your wishes.

No. 58.

Extrait of a Letter from Lord Clive, and others, to the Court of Directors; dated Fort William, 16th January, 1767.

We come now to speak of your instructions relative to the inland trade, which you very justly consider as the foundation of all the bloodshed, massacres, and confusion, which have happened of late years in Bengal; your orders are positive, and therefore our obedience shall be implicit: accordingly you will observe in our proceedings, that the Society for conducting this branch of traffic has absolutely abolished on the first day of September next; the contracts for the present year being formed, and large advances made, it was impossible, without ruin to individuals and confusion to the Public, to fix an earlier date for the execution of your orders.

21. But although our duty obliges us to pay the strictest obedience to your peremptory orders for abolishing a trade to which you express so strong an aversion, the same duty requires we should freely offer our sentiments upon a subject in which we think your immediate interest, the good of the service, and the public welfare, are deeply concerned. The Honourable Court of Directors, and indeed the whole body of Proprietors, found it necessary to restrain by covenants their civil and military servants from receiving those advantages, to which they had for many years been accustomed; it is likewise proposed, in order you may enjoy the real fruits of your late acquisitions, to make such an increase of investment, particularly in silk, as will effectually deprive your servants of the usual benefits arising from private trade; farther, that the revenues may not be injured in any degree, they are prohibited from lending money at a higher rate of interest than 12 per cent. per annum; and a trade by sea, in the manufactures of the country, being the only remaining channel for the exertion of industry, that likewise is checked up by those fines of free merchants annually imported; who being incumbered with no public business, nor confined to refidence in Bengal, can carry on a free trade with every port in India to much greater advantage than your servants.

22. Taking all these circumstances into consideration, reflecting also upon the great increase of luxury of late years, in consequence of the sudden influx of wealth, and that it will not be practicable, for a time, to reduce the charges of living to the present means of supporting those charges, we adopted, in consequence of your permission, the plan of a regulated and restricted inland trade, as the best method of rewarding faithful services, and the fairest means to excite zeal, and the fairest mode of carrying on a beneficial trade, without relinquishing all the advantages we have hitherto received, or subjecting the natives to those encroachments on their natural rights, of which they have with too much reason complained.

23. Our letter by the Camden, and proceedings by the Guvettenden, will explain to you the regulations in the original plan of the Society, which took place in the month of September last.

Under these regulations the trade can scarce be considered in the odious light of a monopoly, since we are rather the agents for manufacturing the salt, than the Proprietors of the trade; it is sold in Calcutta to the natives only, and to the utter exclusion of all Europeans, at an easier rate than it could ever be procured when under management of the Government; before we were admitted to any participation in the trade, and the native transport it to all the different parts of the country, under such limitations, that it must reach the hands of the consumer at a fixed and moderate price; whereby the people sensibly feel the justice and lenity of our government; and your servants, who have attained the highest stations, after a course of many years spent in this unfavourable climate, reap the reward of their services, and enjoy the means of securing that independence to which they have so much reason complained.

24. We are now directed totally to renounce all share in and benefit arising from this trade; it must be made over to the natives; the Government must of course come into possession; nor can it be carried on otherwise than upon the ancient footing of farming it out to ministers, officers, favourites, and dependants on the Government; who will reap immense fortunes upon the opportunity.
APPENDIX, No. 59.

prevention and ruin of the Public, in defiance of our utmost influence and endeavours. These are
not present our suspicions: time alone can verify our conjectures: you no doubt will maturely
consider, how far it is probable men will continue honest against all the seductions of interest,
and whether it may not be necessary to strengthen the ties of that duty expected from your
vants, by the tighter bonds of gratitude, for the assistance which they enjoy during the time of
their servitude, and the independency they ought to secure before the close of their labours.

No. 59.

Letter from Lord Clive to the Honourable Committee of Treasury and Correspondence, Esq. &c. &c. Dated 28th August, 1757.

16. The necessity of rewarding the superior servants, both civil and military, is obvious;
since the large investment required by the Company makes it impossible for individuals, who
perform their duty, to acquire any thing considerable by private trade. The means of
regulating this reward has frequently engaged my attention; and after the most mature delibera-
tion, I have found none so convenient, proper, or equitable, as the trade in salt. If you
grant a commission upon the revenues, the sum will not only be large, but known to the world;
the allowance being publicly ascertained, every man's proportion will at times be the occasion
of much difcour, envy, and jealousy; the great will interfere in your appointments, and
noblemen will perpetually solicit you to provide for the younger branches of their families; a
commission upon your investments, whether upon the provision in Bengal, or upon the sales in
Europe, is liable to the same objections; but if you allow your servants the liberty of benefi-
ciating themselves by the trade in salt, the following conveniences will result:

17. 1st. An advance of four or five hundred thousand pounds is required for the carrying
on this trade: if it be carried on by your servants, the advance and the risk will be theirs; if
it be carried on by you, the money must be advanced out of the treasu at your risk, and you
will consequently have the less specie to fund home.

18. 2d. It is very easy to proportion it in such a manner as that your servants shall not gain
to a larger amount than they are in justice or equity entitled to.

19. 3d. By the bringing it to Calcutta and Dacca, by the loss of boats, by the failure of
contractors, and by many other accidents, the profits must always be precarious and uncertain,
and consequently unknown, except to the few who may take the trouble to investigate the
matter.

20. 4th. It will be looked upon as a profit arising from trade, and not from the pockets of
the Company; which might be urged, if rewards were given out of the revenues; but here
you can assert, that this indulgence, the only equitable one you have to grant, is in considera-
tion of the large investments ordered, which, if complied with, must swallow up the trade of
individuals; and indeed, if this indulgence be properly proportioned, all those servants, who
by their age and standing are entitled to emoluments, would have no reason to complain, even
were they altogether excluded from every article of trade which can interfere with the Com-
pany's investment.

21. 5th. Should the salt trade be carried on by the Company, the great unavoidable advance
trade for that purpose out of their treasury in Bengal, would lower the interest of money to
considerably, as to be of infinite prejudice to those individuals, who, having no trade to depend
upon, are chiefly upon the interest of their capitals there; and it is to be observed, that the
high interest has kept a great quantity of private trade in India, which would otherwise have
been lent home in bulk long ago.

22. It is an erroneous opinion, that salt was formerly an open trade. It ever was and ever
must be a monopoly: some great favourite or favourites always had the whole in their own
hands; for which they not only paid an annual peiceh, or acknowledgment in money, to the
Subsh, but likewise gave considerable presents, both in money and in curiosities, to him, and
to his minimister: but the natives can have no just cause of complaint, provided they be furni-
ced, with this article, upon more reasonable terms than formerly, which will certainly be the
case, if the plan be proceeded with the Cuturenden be adopted, with a few amendments.

23. The salt trade should, in my opinion, be confined to the Select Committee, the Coun-
Cil, the field officers, and the senior and junior merchants; the writers should be confi-
dered merely as apprentices for five years, and not allowed any mercantile indulgence whatso-
ever, neither by dufuck nor by any other means, directly or indirectly; but then their pay,
or allowances from the Company, should be so far increased as to admit of a comfortable subsis-
tence; when they become factors they should be permitted the liberty to trade, and dufucks
should be granted to them, as an indulgence; when they arrive at the rank of junior merchants,
they will then be entitled to shares in the salt trade.

24. Tobacco, which was usually included in the idea of the salt and the beetle nut trade, was
given up to the Committee, and left as an article in common: the beetle nut, in my opinion,
should likewise be given up; and though, by these means, the advantages of those, who are
allowed the exclusive trade in salt, will be much lessened, yet there will remain a sufficiency.
It is however to be remembered, that both these articles ought to pay considerable duties to the
Government, more especially the beetle nut, as has always been customary.

25. It
APPENDIX, No. 60.

25. If the last plan be adopted, I think the Governor's commission should continue upon its present footing.

26. The supervisor of the revenues should attend to that business only, and therefore should be entirely excluded from trade, in like manner with the Governor; but, as a compensation, he ought to be allowed a proportion, equal to the second, in this.

27. The second should be allowed three shares; the supervisor of the revenues three shares; the commanding officer, and the other members of the Select Committee, two shares; the council, and each of the colonels, one share and an half; the senior merchants, and the lieutenant colonels, two thirds of a share; the junior merchants and majors, one third of a share.

28. As you will find it absolutely necessary to send out able and experienced men to superintend several of the departments in Bengal, the best of every profession, engineers, a surgeon general and surgeon, secretaries and sub-secretaries, accountants and sub-accountants, chaplains, &c. will rejoice to go abroad, upon being admitted to share in the salt trade: many conveniences will hereby arise to the Company, and this one in particular, that you can engage men of real merit to accept of your service, without appearing to reward them immediately with the Company's money.

29. Your servants in general, will, I hope, entertain a just sense of your indulgence on this head; and I would have it ever considered as an indulgence due only to merit in flation: when the conduct of those entitled to share, by their rank or standing, shall happen to fall under your censure, an abridgment of, or suspension from, these emoluments, will be the ready means of indemnifying punishment; and a temporary exercise will at the same time be a no less obvious method of regulating rewards, to those who shall deserve well upon any particular occasion, or approve themselves to be of distinguished merit in the service.

30. I doubt much whether Sjah Dowla's country can furnish any thing of consequence for your investments; Bettera and Napaul produce gold, c. a. and elephant's teeth; but I believe not in great quantity. The increase of your investments in Bengal must be the effect of the enquiry and diligent search of able disinterested servants; inspired with a true sense of honour and zeal for your service, they may effect great things; and I think that the indulgence of the salt trade will probably answer those desirable purposes.

No. 60.

Bath, 14th November 1767.

Gentlemen,

THE duty which I owe to the Company will not suffer me to be silent, on a subject wherein their interest seems so deeply concerned.

I learn, and with surprise, that you intend to lay open the salt trade, receiving only a duty of ten rupees upon every hundred maund at the Colleries or places where the salt is made.

Permit me to repeat to you, that the trade in salt was always a monopoly; Coja Waheed, and other merchants long before him, giving to the nabob and his ministers, near (£ 200,000) two hundred thousand pounds, per annum, in money and presents, for the exclusive privilege. The natives never had the advantages you now propose to give them, and will be greatly Abilities, at so unexpected and extraordinary an indulgence.

Honourable the Committee of Correspondence, &c.

Although you may think proper to deprive your servants of those advantages, which I so strongly recommended in my minute in Committee, upon the subject of new modelling the salt trade, yet I cannot help taking the liberty to request you will most maturely deliberate upon your present plan, before you give an order which will deprive the Company of three hundred thousand pounds (£ 320,000) per annum, a sum which, I am of opinion, they are justly intitled to, if they receive the benefits lately received by their servants, and the duties which the Select Committee had allotted to them upon this trade; whereas the Company, by your laying the trade open, and taking only ten rupees per hundred maund, will receive only (£ 31,500) thirty one thousand five hundred pounds.

I must farther presume to observe to you, that even upon the plan you now propose, the trade will, as it ever must, continue in some degree a monopoly; and that the servants, from the power and influence they have throughout the country, may be concerned in it to what extent they will, under their Banyans, and the black merchants.

It was only by accident that I became acquainted with your intentions. I am entirely a stranger to the contents of the letters, which are now upon the point of being dispatched, by the admiral Warton, to the governor and council, and to the Select Committee, of Bengal; but I hope this representation will reach you in good time, that you may reconsider an object so very important to the Company's interest. I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient and most humble Servant,

Clive,

No. 61.
APPENDIX, No. 61.

No. 61.

Extract of a Letter from the Directors to the President and Council at Fort William, Bengal; dated 20th November 1767.

88. W E have taken your plan for conducting the salt trade, as contained in your proceedings of the 8th September 1766, into our most serious consideration; and having revised all that we and you have wrote, on the subject of the inland trade in general, and of salt in particular, we are the more convinced of the absolute necessity of excluding all persons whatsoever, excepting the natives only, from being concerned therein; and we accordingly hereby ratify and confirm the orders we gave in our letters, of the 19th February, and 17th May 1766, that no Company's servant, free merchant, or any European, shall, in any instance or shape whatsoever, either by themselves or agents, directly or indirectly, trade in or be concerned in carrying on an inland trade, in salt, betelnut, tobacco, or in any other articles produced and consumed in the country; and such trade is hereby absolutely abolished, and put a final end to, agreeable to our before mentioned orders; and further, if any of the before described persons shall, directly or indirectly, carry on or be concerned in such inland trade, or in farming the Callaries, or making salt; if a Company's servant, he is to be immediately dismissed the Company's Service; and from all others the Company's protection is to be forthwith withdrawn.

89. Having thus prohibited our servants from being concerned in the inland trade, the allowance of 4½ per cent. commission on the dewanny revenues, settled by you on the governor, for relinquishing all share in the salt trade, is absolutely to determine and cease upon the first day of September 1767.

90. Faint experience has so impressed us with the idea of the necessity of confining our servants, and Europeans residing under our protection, within the ancient limits of our export and import trade, that we have been the first to look for every innovation in the inland trade as an intrusion on the natural right of the natives of the country, who now more particularly claim our protection; and we effect it as much our duty to maintain this barrier between the two commercial rights, as to defend the provinces from foreign invasions.

91. Our principal object being the safe and convenience of the natives, we have considered in what manner the important trade in salt can be carried on, so as to supply the whole country with this material necessary of life on the safest terms, and the least liable to oppression.

92. For this purpose we direct, that the salt trade be laid open to the natives in general, under the following regulations; viz. That all the Callaries or salt pans, within the Company's jurisdiction, in the Calcutta purgannahs and Company's lands, and the provinces of Burdwan, Midnapore, and Chittagong, be put to public sale at their respective capitals, and sold to the best bidder; live Callaries in each Lot; and that no one person be allowed to take more than 30 Lots, which we judge will enable him to make about 45 or 50 thousand Buzar Mounds of salt in the year; and that two months notice be given all over the country before the sale begins; and all Europeans are hereby expressly prohibited from being bidders at such sales, or holding any of the salt works in their hands, either directly or indirectly.

93. If there are any Callaries under the jurisdiction of the nabob's government, the same method is to be recommended to the administration at Moorshedabad.

94. It is represented to us, that the salt made in every part of the country, except what is necessary for the consumption of the districts where it is produced, should be carried to and landed at Rajah Bares, and a creek or small river opposite to Barranagore; and the people of the country to make their purchases there, and pay a duty on all salt carried from thence, at such rate as well, upon the nearest estimation you can possibly make, produce to the revenue £ 103,000 at least, and not exceeding £ 120,000 per annum; the amount being in this manner ascertained, it will be easy to settle how many Sisca rupees per one hundred Buzar Mounds it will amount to, and the duty is to be rated accordingly. Could we from any of your registers have learned what quantity of salt is made and consumed in the country, we might then have had sufficient grounds to have proceeded on to settle, in this letter, with precision, the duty; but not having such informations we must leave it to you to cause it to be adjusted in the before mentioned manner.

95. If, besides the above, there are any other places by which salt may pass up the country, in any of the provinces, you are to conform to the intention of this order, with respect to such places.

96. That on payment of the above duty to the country collectors, the purchaser is to receive a challan, to carry his salt to any part of the country he chooses, free from all other duties.—The like duty is to be levied on all salt carried by land through the packet palls, from the countries of Burdwan, Midnapore and other places.

97. The collecting the said duty, we conceive, will fall under the orders of the government of Moorshedabad, and will be accounted for in the revenues of the dewanny.

98. That all makers of salt be obliged to deliver in every year an account of the quantity of salt they have made, and at what places the same has been landed, which must appear upon the face of your proceedings.

99. If any boats are found smuggling of salt, the same to be confiscated to the government, boat and salt; which will prevent the owners of the boats from receiving any salt that has not paid
A P P E N D I X, No. 61.

paid the duty; and that notice of the same be published all over the country.

100. That all foreign salt landed in Bengal pay the before-mentioned duty, or more, if it shall be found necessary, for the encouragement of the manufactures of salt in Bengal.

101. To prevent all abuse of the English influence, we think proper to enjoin, and the fame is accordingly to be made known in the most public manner; that any boat having salt on board, hoisting English colours, or pretending to an English duffuck, shall be liable to confiscation, together with the cargo; and the nabob's ministers will seize the same, as forfeited to the government.

102. Having established these regulations for the salt trade, we now confirm our orders for the prohibition of our servants engaging in all other inland trade, in articles produced and consumed in the country, save only such articles as are for exportation, by shipping to a foreign market; which will be intitled to an English duffuck, as part of the export trade, within the intention of the phirmaund; and here we remark with some surprise, in the Committee's proceedings of the 22d October, that beetle nut and tobacco are among those articles, which is contrary to the spirit of the Phirmaund and the tenor of our orders.

103. The duties be collected on the other inland trade will fall under the direction of the administration at Moorshedabad, in which you will recommend the same attention to the good of the Natives, as we have in these regulations for the salt trade.

104. We hope this freedom of trade will be the means of keeping salt at a low price; but it ever it should be sold, at the places we have limited; at or above one hundred and forty Sicca Rupees, or the equivalent in Buzar Mounds, inclining the duty, we shall esteem it too high a price for the natives to pay; and we do expect that, under your influence, and that of the Moorshedabad administration, the price never exceeds the said 140 Sicca Rupees, unless in the case of some general calamity, for we had rather the duty should be diminished than salt should exceed that price.

105. As the trade of our servants is to be confined to the articles of import and export only, in which they will be considerably affected by the great demands for extending the Company's investments; and considering the great increase of business, in which our principal servants are necessarily engaged, and which demand their utmost care and attention; we are come to a resolution to give them a reasonable encouragement to exert themselves with zeal and alacrity in their several departments, but which they are to look upon as a free gift from the hand of their employers, offered to them annually, so long as the present revenues shall remain with the Company, and their behaviour shall continue to merit such a reward: We therefore hereby order and direct,

106. That you draw out an annual account of the sums received from the Dewanny, deducing therefrom the stipulated payments to the King and the Nabob, and the allowance to the Nabob's ministers—also of the revenues of the Provinces of Burdwan, Midnapore, Chittagong, and the Calcutta Purgunnah; from which are to be deducted Lord Clive's Jaghire, and the ordinary charges of collection.

107. Upon the amount of the said net revenues your are hereby indulged to draw a commission of two and a half per cent.

108. The sum which shall be the produce of the said 2½ per cent. is to be divided into 100 parts or shares, which parts or shares are to be appropriated in the following manner, viz.: The Governor is to have 31 shares.

The second in council — — — — — — — — — 24 shares.

The rest of the Select Committee, not having a Chieflship, each — 3½ ditto.

The rest of the Council, not having a Chieftship each — 4½ ditto.

109. For it is our meaning and directions, that the Chiefs of Cossimbazar, Patna, Dacca, and Chittagong, are not to have any proportion of the said shares.

110. Being convinced that the employ of resident at the Durbar and Chief Cossimbazar, cannot, from the importance and extent of the business of each department, be properly executed by one person, we therefore direct that they be from this time forward separated, and that some other member of the council be appointed to the said Chiefship; we do not make this regulation from any failure of attention on the part of Mr. Sykes, with whom conduct we are perfectly satisfied.

111. And in consideration of the extraordinary trouble and attention, which the resident at the Durbar must necessarily have in the due execution of that important post, we direct that he be allowed four shares and an half, but this is to be understood to be in full, and instead of such shares as are assigned, as above mentioned, to his rank in council, or as a member of the Select Committee.

112. The large proportion allotted to the governor in the before mentioned commission of 2½ per cent. is in consideration of his relinquishing, and not being concerned in, any trade whatever, even in articles of import and export, and all presents or other gratifications, as expressed in the deed of renunciation in your proceedings of the 22d September 1766, which we approve and confirm; and direct that all governors do execute the like instrument on their entering into their office: Our inducement for annexing to great an appointment to the station of president and governor, is in full expectation of his giving up his whole time and attention.
APPENDIX, No. 62.

to the faithful discharge of his duty; and that, being excluded from all trade himself, he may, and we accordingly depend that he be, vigilant in watching and detecting all abuses committed by others.

115. You are to observe that the shares of the commission here specified for the governor is additional to his present salary of three thousand pounds per annum, and his Mint Duty and Conflagage, and the shares to other servants are to be in addition to their present appointments of salary, diet money, and the polls they may respectively hold, excepting the Chieftship, as before excepted.

116. Being satisfied how much our trade and possessions may be affected by the good services to the Company's Military Officers; therefore, the better to encourage them to exert themselves in the preservation of those great objects, we have thought proper to allow them also to share in the following manner; viz.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The commander in chief (as such only) he not being to share as a member of the select Committee or Council</th>
<th>have</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colonels, each</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieutenant Colonels, each</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Majors, each</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

117. The simple provision here assigned to the commander in chief assures him of an honourable competency; and we expect Colonel Smith, and his successors in the command, shall continue to shew an unremittent attention to their duty, and the preventing all frauds and abuses in the expences of the army.

118. The allowance made to the rest of the field officers are such as put our service on a more advantageous footing than any other military service in the world, and gives them the prospect of improving their fortunes by a gradual progression.

119. After all the allowances are made to the Company's principal civil and military servants, as before directed, a considerable proportion of the 2½ per cent. commission will remain unappropriated; in order therefore to encourage the rest of the Company's military officers, and to remove every complaint of reduction of double batta, we have thought proper to make them, over and above their present established pay, the following allowances, by way of donation or gratuity only; and which are to be paid them accordingly; viz.

To a Captain—three Shillings a day;
To a Lieutenant—two Shillings a day;
To an Ensign—one Shilling a day.

But we must here observe to you, and accordingly direct that neither a colonel, lieutenant colonel, or major, is to be allowed the three shillings a day as captain of a company; the shares we have allotted them in the produce of the 2½ per cent. upon the revenues being in full of our donation or gratuity, as well for their being captains as field officers; and here it is proper to inform you, that it is our positive order and direction, that the double batta be never restored to any of our officers whatsoever.

120. We have now to add, and we accordingly direct, that the beforementioned commissions of 2½ per cent, do commence from the 1st day of September 1767; but as we have before ordered that the allowance made to the governor of 1½ part per cent. on the dewanny revenues is absolutely to determine and cease on that day; we further direct, that, from the said 1st day of September last, to the time of the arrival of these advices, an allowance of 1½ per cent. on the Company's nett territorial revenues be made to the governor, and that then the sum arising from the remaining 1½ per cent. which completes the 2½ per cent. commission, be proportioned among our principal servants, civil and military, pro rata, according to the respective shares allotted them by our present appointment; and you are to take notice that from and after your receiving these dispatches, the amount of the 2½ per cent. commission is to be appropriated in the manner before directed.

No. 62.

15th September 1769.

Extrait from Instructions to Commissioners.

27. We enjoin you to enquire into such abuses as have been committed or practised in carrying on and continuing an exclusive trade in the articles of salt, beetle nut, and tobacco, contrary to the express directions and orders transmitted by the Court of Directors. We direct you to enquire into the reasons why such orders have been disobeyed or neglected; and it is our intention, that those trades be laid open to all persons, as well natives as Europeans; and that English subjects be permitted to trade therein only upon the same footing, and under the same duties and restrictions, as natives or other subjects do. You will take particular care that these duties or regulations be not evaded, under pretence of any respect due unto, or the influence of the English Flag.

No. 63.
This indenture, made the eleventh day of September, in the fifth year of the reign of, &c., and in the year of our Lord 1765, between the Right Honourable Robert Lord Clive, baron of Plaice, in the Kingdom of Ireland, knight companion of the most noble order of the Bath, and president and governor of Fort William, at Bengal, in the East Indies; Wm. B. Sumner, brigadier general John Carnac, Charles Stafford Playdell, Harry Verelst, Francis Sykes, John Carter, Randolph Marriott, Hugh Watts, Aeneas Wm. Senior, R. Leycester, and George Gray, being the Council of Fort William aforesaid, Esquires, for and on behalf of the Court of Directors of the Honourable the United East India Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies, on the one part, and the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelst, Ralph Leycester, and George Gray, being a committee, nominated, constituted, and appointed, by the proprietors, entitled to the exclusive joint trade of salt, beetle nut, and tobacco, produced, and to be produced, in the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orika, for the better conducting, managing, and carrying on the said trade, on the other part; whereas in and by a certain deed, or instrument in writing, bearing date the 18th day of September, 1765, and made, or mentioned to be made, between the said proprietors to the said joint trade, on the one part, and the above named William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelst, Ralph Leycester, and George Gray, on the other part; it is witnessed, amongst other things, that, in order for the better carrying on and managing the said joint trade in a beneficial manner, and for the benefit and advantage of the said proprietors, it was and is agreed by and between the parties in the said deed mentioned, that the said exclusive joint trade and merchandize should, from and after the 18th day of September, 1765, be conducted, managed, transacted, and carried on, by them the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelst, Ralph Leycester, and George Gray, constituting a committee for the management thereof, but with the proper monies, and at the joint risk and hazard, and for the joint account, use, and benefit of all the said proprietors, their several and respective executors and administrators, in the several proportions therein set forth. And it was and is also further agreed, by and between the said parties, that the form and signature under which the said exclusive joint trade and merchandize should be conducted and carried on, should be the sign manual of them the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelst, Ralph Leycester, and George Gray, and their successors for the time being, constituting a committee as aforesaid, together with the seal of the Company, or the Company, with full power and authority to the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelst, Ralph Leycester, and George Gray, and their successors, to use the same, from the said 8th day of September, 1765, until the said exclusive joint trade and merchandize should cease, and be no longer carried on for the use of the said proprietors, as in and by the said deed, reference being thereunto had, will more fully and at large appear. Now this indenture witnesses, that, in consideration of the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelst, Ralph Leycester, and George Gray's taking upon themselves the sole management and conducton of the said joint trade, on behalf of the said proprietors, and having laid out and expended large sums of money to carry on the same, and in order to enforce the execution of all and every the covenants, clauers, grants, articles, and agreements, in the before recited deed mentioned and contained, as the same are therein respectively expressed; and also in consideration of the duties and customs that shall or may arise, or accrue, by reason of the carrying on the said exclusive joint trade of salt, beetle nut, and tobacco, according to the true intent and meaning of the said herein before recited deed, to be paid to them the said Robert Lord Clive, W. B. Sumner, J. C. C. S. P. H. V. J. S. J. C. R. M. H. W. A. W. S. S. M. R. L. and G. G. as president and council of Fort William aforesaid, for and on account of the said proprietors, the United East India Company, by them the said W. B. S. H. V. R. L. and G. G. and their successors, constituting a Committee as aforesaid, for and on account of the proprietors, entitled to the said exclusive joint trade and merchandize, in the proportions herein after mentioned; that is to say, 35 per cent. on salt, each 100 maunds to be valued and reckoned at £9 9s. the sum of 10 per cent. on beetle nut, to be valued and reckoned at the prime cost, and the sum of 25 per cent. on tobacco, to be valued and reckoned at the prime cost, and also, that the said joint trade and merchandize may not cease or be dissolved before the expiration of the term in the said recited deed mentioned, or any hindrance or stoppage be put to the same, the said Robert Lord Clive as President, and the said W. B. S. John Carnac, Charles Stafford Playdell, H. Verelst, Francis Sykes, John Carter, Randolph Marriott, Hugh Watts, Aeneas William Senior, Samuel Middleton, R. L. and G. G. as council of Fort William aforesaid, for and on behalf of the said court of Directors of the Honourable the United East India Company aforesaid, do hereby, for themselves and their successors, their executors and administrators, covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelst, Ralph Leycester, and George Gray, and their successors, their heirs, executors, and administrators, that, provided any order or direction shall issue, or be made, by the said Court of Directors in England, thereby ordering and directing the said exclusive joint trade and merchandize to be dissolved, or put to an end, or that any hinderer and stoppage may happen, or be put to the carrying on the same, or any part thereof, or contain any thing contrary to the covenants, clauers, grants, articles, or agreements, in the said before recited deed mentioned and contained, or any
APPENDIX, No. 64.

any of them, so that the same may thereby become void and of no effect, and in that case, they the said Robert Lord Clive as president, W. B. S. John Carnac, Charles Stafford Playdell, Harry Verelit, Francis Sykes, John Carter, Randolph Marriott, Hugh Watts, Acanus William Senior, Samuel Middleton, R. L. and G. G. as council of Fort William aforesaid, shall and will well and truly save harmless and keep indemnified, them the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelit, Ralph Leycefter, and George Gray, and all the proprietors entitled, or to be entitled, to the said joint trade, and their successors, their executors and administrators, and also shall and will, notwithstanding any order or direction to be issued to the contrary as aforesaid, keep up, continue, and enforce, or cause to be kept up, continued, and enforced, the said exclusive joint trade and merchandize, for the term of one year, to commence from the 18th day of September, 1765, and expire on the 18th day of September, 1766, according to the true intent and meaning of the said before recited deed, and of all the parties thereto, as if the said order and direction had never been made or issued; and further, that the said Robert Lord Clive, W. B. S. John Carnac, Charles Stafford Playdell, H. V. Francis Sykes, John Carter, Randolph Marriott, Hugh Watts, Acanus William Senior, Samuel Middleton, R. L. and G. G. and their successors, as President and Council aforesaid, shall and will allow unto them, the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelit, Ralph Leycefter, and George Gray, and their successors, constituting a committee as aforesaid, full and sufficient time, after the expiration of the said term of one year as aforesaid, to sell, vend, and dispose of all such goods and merchandize, belonging to the said joint trade and concern, as shall at that time remain in their hands unfold, and not disposed of, and also to collect and gather in all such sums and sums of money as shall be any ways due or owing unto them the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelit, Ralph Leycefter, and George Gray, or their successors, on account of the said proprietors and joint trade aforesaid, and to settle and adjust all books and accounts belonging to and concerning the same; and the said W. B. S. H. V. R. L. and Geo. Gray, do hereby for themselves and the rest of the proprietors entitled to the said exclusive joint trade and merchandize of falt, beetec nut, and tobacco, as aforesaid, and their successors, covenant, promise, and agree to and with the R. Ld. Clive, W. B. S. J. C. C. S. P. H. V. L. S. J. C. R. M. H. W. A. W. S. J. M. R. L. and G. G. as president and council of Fort William aforesaid, and their successors, for the time being, that they the said W. B. S. H. V. R. L. and G. G. constituting a Committee as aforesaid, and their successors, from time to time, shall and will well and truly pay and discharge the duties and customs of the said articles of falt, beetec nut, and tobacco, at and after the rates herein before mentioned and expressed, of and concerning the same, to the right honourable the president and council of Fort William aforesaid, and their successors, or to whom they shall from time to time direct and appoint to receive the same; and the said Robert Lord Clive, John Carnac, Charles Stafford Playdell, Francis Sykes, Randolph Marriott, Hugh Watts, Acanus William Senior, and Samuel Middleton, do hereby bind and oblige themselves and their successors, their executors and administrators, jointly unto them the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelit, Ralph Leycefter, and George Gray, on behalf of themselves and the said proprietors, in the penal sum of

for the true and faithful observing, performing, fulfilling, and keeping, all and every the covenants herein contained, and which, on their parts and behalf, are or ought to be performed, observed, fulfilled, and kept as aforesaid. In witnesses, &c.

R. WHITTALL.
Oct. 1765.

No. 64.

THIS indenture, made the eighteenth day of September, in fifth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, and in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and sixty-five; between the Right Honourable Robert Lord Clive, Baron of Plassey, in the kingdom of Ireland, Knight Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, and President and Governor of Fort William at Bengal, in the East Indies; William Brightwell Sumner, Brigadier General John Carnac, Charles Stafford Playdell, Harry Verelit, Francis Sykes, John Carter, Randolph Marriott, Hugh Watts, Acanus William Senior, Samuel Middleton, Ralph Leycefter, and George Gray, being the Council of Fort William aforesaid, Equities, for, and on behalf of the Court of Directors of the Honourable the United East India Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies, on the one part, and the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelit, Ralph Leycefter, and George Gray, being a Committee nominated, constituted and appointed by the Proprietors, intituled to the exclusive joint trade of falt, beetec nut, and tobacco, produced, and to be produced, in the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Oryza, for the better conducting, managing, and carrying on the said trade, on the other part. Whereas, in and by a certain deed or instrument in writing, bearing date the eighteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and sixty-five, and made, or mentioned to be made, between the said Proprietors of the said
APPENDIX, No. 64.

fied joint trade, on the one part, and the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Vereilt, Ralph Lyeceffer, and George Gray, on the other part: it is witnessed amongst other things, That in order for the better attaining and managing the said joint trade in a beneficial manner, and mort for the benefit and advantage of the said Proprietors, it was and is agreed, by and between the parties in the said deed mentioned, that the said exclusive joint trade and merchandize thould, from and after the said eighteen day of September, be conducted, managed, transacted, and carried on by them, the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Vereilt, Ralph Lyeceffer, and George Gray, constituting a Committee for the management thereof, but with the proper munies, and at the joint risk and hazard, and on the joint account, use and benefit, of all of the said Proprietors, their several and respective executors and administrators, in the several proportions therein set forth; and it was and is also further agreed, by and between the said parties, That the form and signature underneath the said exclusive joint trade and merchandize should be conducted and carried on, should be the sign manual of them, the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Vereilt, Ralph Lyeceffer, and George Gray, and their successors, for the time being, constituting a Committee, as aforesaid, together with the seal of the Society of Trade, with full power and authority to the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Vereilt, Ralph Lyeceffer, and George Gray, and their successors, to use the same, from the said eighteenth day of September, one thousand seven hundred and fifty-five, until the said exclusive joint trade: and merchandize should cease and no longer carried on for the use of the said Proprietors, as in and by the said deed, reference being thereunto had, will more fully and at large appear: now this indenture witnesseth. That in consideration of the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Vereilt, Ralph Lyeceffer, and George Gray, taking upon themselves the sole management and conduct of the said joint trade, for and on behalf of the said Proprietors, and having laid out and expended large sums of money to carry on the same, and in order to enforce the execution of all and every the covenants, clauses, articles, and agreements in the said before recited deed mentioned and contained, as the same are therein respectively expressed, and also in consideration of the duties and customs that shall or may arise or accrue by reason of the carrying on the said exclusive joint trade of felt, beetel nut, and tobacco, according to the true intent and meaning of the said herein before recited deed, to be paid to them the said Robert Lord Clive, William Brightwell Sumner, John Carnac, Charles Stafford Playdell, Harry Vereilt, Francis Sykes, John Cartier, Randolph Marriot, Hugh Watts, &c. as president and council of Fort William aforesaid, for and on account of the said Honourable the United East India Company, by them the said William Brightwell Sumner, &c. and their successors, constituting a Committee as aforesaid, for and on account of the Proprietors aforesaid, to the said exclusive joint trade and merchandize, in the proportion herein after mentioned; that is to say, the sum of thirty-five per cent. on felt, each one hundred maunds to be valued and reckoned at ninety Arcot rupees; the sum of ten per cent. on beetel nut, and twenty-five per cent. on tobacco, both to be valued and reckoned at the prime colt; and likewise, that the said joint trade and merchandize may not cease or be dissolved before the expiration of the term in the said herein before recited deed mentioned, or any hindrance or stoppage be put to the same, the said Right Honourable Lord Clive as president, and the said William Brightwell Sumner, &c. as council of Fort William aforesaid, for and on behalf of the said Court of Directors of the Honourable the United East India Company aforesaid, do hereby, for themselves and their successors, their executors and administrators, covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said William Brightwell Sumner, &c. and their successors, their heirs, executors and administrators, that provided any order should issue or be made by the said Court of Directors in England, thereby ordering and directing the said exclusive joint trade and merchandize to be dissolved, or put to an end, or that may hinder or stop the carrying on of the same or any part thereof, or contain any thing contrary to the covenants, clauses, grants, articles, or agreements in the said herein before recited deed mentioned and contained, or any of them, so that the same may thereby become void and of no effect; then, and in that case, they the said Robert Lord Clive, as president, W. H. Sumner, &c. as council of Fort William aforesaid, shall and will well and truly give harmless and keep indemnified them, the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Vereilt, Ralph Lyeceffer, and George Gray, and all the Proprietors aforesaid, or to be entitled to the said exclusive joint trade, and their successors, their executors and administrators, and also shall and will, notwithstanding any order or direction to be issued to the contrary as aforesaid, keep up, continue and enforce, or cause to be kept up, continued and enforced, the said exclusive joint trade, for the term of one year, to commence from the said eighteenth day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty-five, and expire on the eighteenth day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty-five, according to the true intent and meaning of the said before recited deed and of all the parties thereto, as if the said order had never been made or issued: And the said Robert Lord Clive, William Brightwell Sumner, &c. and their successors, as president and council aforesaid, shall and will allow unto them, the said W. H. Sumner, &c. constituting a Committee as aforesaid, full and sufficient time, after the expiration of the said term of one year aforesaid, to sell, vend, and dispose of all such goods and merchandize, belonging to the said joint trade and concern, as shall at that time remain in their hands unfold and not dispofed of; and also to collect or gather in all such sums or sums of money as shall be any ways due or owing unto them the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Vereilt, k

Ralph
APPENDIX, No. 64.

Ralph Leycester, and George Gray, or their successors, on account of the said Proprietors and joint trade aforesaid, and to settle and adjust all books and accounts belonging to and concerning the same; and the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verell, Ralph Leycester, and George Gray, do hereby, for themselves and the rest of the Proprietors intitled to the said exclusive joint trade and merchandise of salt, beetle nut, and tobacco, as aforesaid, and their successors, covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said Robert Lord Clive, William Brightwell Sumner, John Carnac, &c. as president and council of Fort William aforesaid, and their successors, for the time being, That they the said William Brightwell Sumner, &c. constituting a Committee as aforesaid, and their successors, from time to time, shall and will well and truly pay and discharge the duties and customs of the said articles of salt, beetle nut, and tobacco, at and after the rates herein before mentioned and expressed of and concerning the same, to the Right Honourable the President and Council of Fort William aforesaid, or their successors, or to whom they shall from time to time appoint to receive the same: And lastly, the said parties to these presents, and every of them, do hereby bind and oblige themselves and their successors, their heirs, executors, and administrators, the one to the other of them, in the penal sum of eight lacs of current rupees, for the true and faithful performance of all and every the covenants herein contained, and which, on their parts and behalfs, are or ought to be performed, fulfilled, and kept as aforesaid. In witness whereof all the parties to these presents have hereunto set their hands and seals, the day and year first above written.

(Signed) Ralph Leycester (L. S.)
  John Carnac (L. S.)
  Sam. Middleton (L. S.)
  H. Verelst (L. S.)

(Signed) A. W. Senior (L. S.)
  Clive (L. S.)
  Hugh Watts (L. S.)
  W. B. Sumner (L. S.)

(Fla. Sykes (L. S.)
  George Gray (L. S.)
  Randw Marriott (L. S.)

(Copy.)

The Right Honourable Robert Lord Clive, President, and the Council of Fort William

To William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verell, Ralph Leycester, and George Gray, constituting a Committee for managing the exclusive joint trade of salt, &c.

Deed of Indemnity, and to protect the said Trade.
No. 65.

STATE of the DUANNEE REVENUES of the East India Company's Territorial Acquisitions, from May 1765 to the last Advices, with the Amount of Charges, Collecting, &c. and Civil and Military Charges, with the Nett Annual Balance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May. April. 1765-1766</td>
<td>2,258,127</td>
<td>1,744,442</td>
<td>20,897</td>
<td>330,125</td>
<td>4,930</td>
<td>40,406</td>
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<td>1,681,427</td>
<td>214,357</td>
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<td>1766-1767</td>
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<td>23,393</td>
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<td>991,660</td>
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<td>335,666</td>
<td>356,610</td>
<td>413,330</td>
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<td>101,020</td>
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<td>35,100</td>
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<td>1,084,327</td>
<td>1,557,781</td>
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<td>691,359</td>
<td>186,722</td>
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<td>13,066,761</td>
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<td>1,669,395</td>
<td>5,996,421</td>
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East India House, 26th February, 1773.
Errors excepted, JOHN HOOLE, Auditor of Indian Accounts.
APPENDIX, No. 66, 67.

No. 66.

STATE of the RECEIPTS of the NORTHERN CIRCARS, from the Time of the Grant of them to the last Advices.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 1766 to April 1767</td>
<td>Received of fundy Zemindars and Renters, &amp;c.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 1767 to April 1768</td>
<td>Received as above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 1768 to April 1769</td>
<td>Received as above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 1769 to April 1770</td>
<td>Received as above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 1770 to April 1771</td>
<td>Received as above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 1771 to December 1771</td>
<td>Received as above</td>
</tr>
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Lst. 1,235,455

East India House,
26 February, 1773.

Errors excepted.

JOHN HOOLE, Auditor of Indian Accounts.

No. 67.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c. Council of Fort William.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

The address herewith sent to the Right Honourable President and Council, from the gentlemen of the time since I have had the opportunity of seeing the papers of the Select Committee, and from the hurry of my departure, I have not been able to finish till this moment; it rests with your Lordship and Council to permit it to go home by this ship, that my reply may appear with my satisfaction, which I submit to your justice.

And am, with respect,

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Your most obedient servant,

JOHN JOHNSTONE.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c. Council of Fort William.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

I received the minutes of the Right Honourable the President, and the other three members of the committee, forwarded to me from the secretary, under date the 24th June.

The reasons why I declined entering on any defence before the committee, as my judges, I have already, in part, mentioned in my minute: I could not, in justice to myself, submit to be tried and judged by the committee, who acted so much as parties and proctors. The methods used by them to get evidence against me, appeared to great a violation of that liberty and freedom, that as a Briton I had a right to. That I could hope for no impartial justice from those who set out in a manner so totally subversive of the laws and liberty of the subject. Could I hope, that these gentlemen, who would confine, under martial guards, in the most rigorous and terrifying manner, the men they thought intrusted with my secrets; and that under these undue influences would oblige them to violate their trust, faith, and gratitude, and to give answers to enframe themselves, or injure their benefactors, would not esteem such evidence, even so obtained, sufficient handle to pursue their designs against me, and to adjudge me culpable:

When I saw Mahomed Reza Cawn and Juglet Sect, men who had a few days before acknowledged the highest obligations to me, and dependence on my friendship to save their honour and posts, and curry favour, led to relate and swear, without being confronted, or even examined in our hearing, to matters known to be false to the rest of the gentlemen as well as to me, I objected, and still object, and deny any evidence so procured: neither could I consider narratives extorted by hope of favour, or fear of disgrace, as complaints lodged against me by the men themselves; for Juglet Sect most avowedly declares, at the conclusion of this narrative that enquiring being made of him by these gentlemen (Undil Edhiwalli Sahib) he has wrote the above, in which there is not a word of untruth. How well this declaration agrees with the professions of satisfaction, and offers of services, the Seers had of their own accord made in their letter to me after my return here, and when the expected committee were arrived, I beg the unbiased to judge from perusing their letter, of which a copy is herewith sent, and whether if Juglet Sect had not been made to perceive how agreeable such a charge would be to the gentlemen of the committee he would of himself made any, or thought he had any good cause to complain of the behaviour of the deputation to him at the city. The terror and apprehension Mahomed Reza-Cawn was in, from the advantage he supposed would be taken by his enemies to ruin him, when he was not permitted to come down with the Nabob, was known to every body. The anxiety of his mind was still further increased, when ordered down by a letter from Lord Clive, under his great seal; this, and what he had been made to understand, that all the business of moment was taken from out of the hands of the council, made him decline either...
to receive or pay visits to those gentlemen, who but a few days before he had avowed his greatest friends. When views of interest and time-serving can make men so forgetful of all gratitude and honour, what credit can, or ought to be paid to what they say! Mahomed Reza Cawn found himself obnoxious to the nabob, and accused by him to the Committee; that the first of his faction, were no longer in his favor; that Duan, whom he considered as his mortal enemy, was released, untried, and admitted to the highest confidence and tenor with the nabob; nay, as he sent me word, that he had ventured even to sign again as Duan to the nabob; that the Committee set themselves up as the judge of the council, in such situation, where he had every thing to fear from their disapprobation, every thing to expect from their favour. What man would admit himself to be judged by narratives obtained under such circumstances, as by lawful evidence upon oath, where the witness swears, He is neither actuated by hope or fear? As proofs of his terrible apprehensions from the schemes of his enemies, and his dependance on my influence, and the sentiment he entertained of my former obligations, and of the little faith ought to be given to representations obtained of the same man, who can in so short a space accommodate to the times, I beg leave to refer to three letters he wrote me after my arrival in Calcutta, and to one from Mootyram, to which he refers his referring back to presents he had made months before this of himself to Mr. Spencer, and inferring the name of Mr. Cartier to what that gentleman was ignorant of, and in which, whatever had been done was done by himself after I came away, shews how much he studiously to gain an interest with the committee by relating those particulars, though so strong marks of his servility and black ingratitude, when such increase of honour and power was heaped, without any additional merit in the man but what his narratives could claim, and the whole torrent of persecution was let loose against the receivers of the Nabob’s presents, instead of giving him any redress against Mahomed Reza Cawn, the man he complained against, as the giver away of his money, without his knowledge or consent. Whether these proceedings have been carried on to the length they are for other motives, or from the desire of rendering satisfaction to the Nabob, whose inclinations or interest appear to be so little attended to in the frequent regulations and transitions of the committee, the world, on a knowledge of facts, will judge; in my minute I mentioned in my objecting to the evidence of Mootyram, when the president had desired he might be brought before the board, and questioned to the truth of what had been wrote down as his answer on oath, for the same reasons as before mentioned, that while under the pains and terrors of an unjust confinement by an unlawful power exerted towards him, no such evidence can be effectually free and voluntary; and because he must have that apprehension of still harder punishment, should he deviate any thing from what had been put down as his evidence in the confusion he represents himself to have been in when first carried prisoner and examined before them the 8th; nevertheless this examination, the most unprecedented perhaps has been heard of in any English colony, enjoying his majesty’s most gracious charter of liberties, was gone through before an assembly of his majesty’s justices of peace, that had been wrote down as the questions and answers of his examination of the 8th, was read to the prisoner, and he again sworn to make true answer, though this was plainly putting the answer into the evidence’s mouth that he should give: and though his deviating in this respect in any court, entirely invalidates his former evidence, and made him liable to perjury; yet even under this dilemma did Mootyram, as I understand, differ in his evidence, in what had been laid the greatest stress on: First, he is made to deny the first question he had sworn point blank before that he went to Juggut Sett to demand money: by this he contradicts himself in his first evidence, and contradicts Juggut Sett’s narrative, which he is made to acknowledge, as being every word true: afterwards in the examination, he says, he spoke nothing, but that Ismael Aly Khan spoke and demanded three lacks of rupees. Juggut Sett in his narrative makes Mootyram come and demand five lacks, but takes no notice of Ismael Aly Khan; and Mootyram in his evidence is made to answer, that he demanded this money of the Setts, and that he demanded it on account of the gentleman, and threat that sent him. It is plain, this relation of the same conversation no ways agrees: let it be here remarked, that Mootyram never has ventured to affect, he was sent by me, or any of the gentleman, to ask money of the Setts; yet he is made to reply, that he demanded the money (viz. the sum mentioned in Juggut Set’s narrative, five lacks) on account of the gentleman, and threat that sent him: Ismael Aly Khan, by Mootyram’s answer in the examination of the 8th, is made to demand three lacks; the first visit in Mootyram’s presence and Mootyram in Juggut Set’s narrative, is made to hint a present in general, but nothing in particular the first visit, yet under a threat of displeasure, and of no affordance to his business if he did not comply: Mootyram nevertheless denies, that he said a word, or carried any message to Juggut Set the first visit. Mootyram here contradicts the narrative of the Sett, which he is made in another place to acknowledge as every word true: and in the next visit, instead of three lacks that was paid to demand, and to ask for his lacks. How confident or probable this story is, I leave it to every man to judge. The second question propounded to Mootyram is in these words in the examination the 8th, What did you say to Mahomed Reza Cawn about stopping the business of the Setts, unless they complied with the demand? In what words this was put, and how far such a question to a prisoner answering on his own defence, or to fix his answer as evidence against his absent benefactor,
benefactor, I appeal to the whole world. But what must every man feel within himself when he compares the answer set down in these proceedings in these words, "I did tell him (Mahomed " Reza Cawn) that the gentlemen would protect their business if they would make a present; 

"if not, the business of the Seets should meet with no protection or countenance," as being my orders; when he understands that terms of expression made use of by Mootyram, as conveying the threat, were merely Cooch-booligani: the plain translation of which is, he will say nothing, or he will retf silent, or say not a word; which is wretched to express a meaning so entirely contrary to it, viz. that the Seets business shall meet with no countenance or protection.—It is hard to imagine, that any body who has been for years in this country could be so much unac-
quainted with the languages as not to know this common expression; how it has been tortured to make me appear guilty of raising threats to extort money from the Seets must evidently convince every enquirer with what little credit I have been able to get from these examinations. Here the Committee themselves render testimony of Mootyram’s falsifying in this part of his evi-
dence: but allowing that he had really used Cooch Sei Kartegani and Cooch-booligani, the Ex-
pressions will never come up to the senfe given in, That the business of the Seets shall meet with no countenance or Protection: Cooch Sei harrageni joined with Couch-booligani, signifies he will not exert any endeavours, and will say nothing; also it may be understood he will not stir in their affairs, or say any thing: it is impossible for me to say from my own knowledge, as not being present, what other errors, omission, questions not understood by the prisoner, or answers mistaken in the translation, have been made; but I have good grounds to believe that had the answers and ques-
tions been put down on paper in the language Mootyram understood, the examination would have contained meanings and sentences very different from what now appear put down in English; as in his evidence on the third question, giving account of what passed between the Seets and Ismael Aly Kawn, Mootyram contradicts what he had before said: it must be allowed, that either what he said was not perfectly understood or misconstrued, or that Mootyram’s evidence on oath was falsified the second time, by his evidence on oath: after these contradictions in Mootyram’s evidence, which I have pointed out in so many glaring instances, that any degree of credit should be given to the rest will scarce, I presume, be urged before judges unbiased and impartial. The proceedings of the committee wherein I was any way mentioned, after my refuing the service, were never communicated to me; the oath binding all those in the Select Committee Office to the strictest secrecy, put it out of my power to learn what had been transacted there against me, and none of the proceedings or papers of the Committee were allowed to be perused by the members of the council, and only particular parts read over to them, and the papers again pocketed, and carried away. I have never been able to learn any thing certain as to the proceedings and papers that so deeply concerned me to have been acquainted with, and which in common regard to justice, one would think I was intitled to expect should have been communicated to me. It was not however till the 25th instant, and thro’ the means of General Carnac, that I had the leaft knowledge or access to the papers of the Committee that concerned me so particularly, just at the eve of my departure, and in the hurry of settling my concerns, on quitting the country in fo short a space; the disadvantage I am subjected to in replying to and refuting the many things falsely laid to my charge, and the unjust conclusions thence drawn to my prejudice, in the acts of the Committee, must be evident to every one.

I have given reasons for not allowing the truth of any Mahomed Reza Cawn that has advanced. It must appear evident, that the same methods to which he owed his confirmation and safety before, by sacrificing his honour and gratitude to save himself from the resentment of the Committee, still operating, in dictating the reply to Lord Clive’s letter, in his first narrative, he says, Not that any sum whatever was demanded either from the Nabob or himself by Mooty-
ram, nor by the Gentlemen of the Deputation. In this last representation he thinks it may be more satisfactory to aver this falsehood, That Mr. Johnstone had at first demanded a very large sum by Mootyram, and that his representations to the Nabob were in consequence of my desire; though before represented that the message he carried was from the Deputation, and for no particular sum; and that the first application he made was in consequence of what had passed between him and all the gentlemen together, which consisted only in their desiring him to in-
itiate their hope to the Nabob, without profiting any sum; and which for fear of displeasing them he conncnted to do. He then says forth, That the Nabob desired him to make out a life, and that he referred it entirely to the Nabob’s own pleasure to determine it; according to which, it was made out before his face; however, now he thinks it will serve his purpose better to al-
lege, that the sum and the distribution was settled by the Nabob, not by his own pleasure, but according to my dictation. The Nabob then must have done it, either of his own plea-
sure, or out of awe or fear of me; and if the latter, it is most evident he could not have de-
ferred a better opportunity of gratifying his resentment, than by complaining of me to the other gentlemen, if what he had entered for them had been by me perverted to my private use. Now it is very true that the Nabob did, through Mahomed Reza Cawn, make an offer of a loan to me, besides what I received in common with the rest; and it is most certain that I declined accepting this separate teep, and never did receive it from Mahomed Reza Cawn, but on the contrary, ordered it to be returned to the Nabob, with my thanks for his distinguishing offer; and I call upon Mr. Sir. Senior and Middleton to declare, whether, in consequence of my hav-
ing refused the accepting of this teep, they were not instinutes to the Nabob’s introducing the subj ect
subject himself in the Durbar, and pressing me in the most urgent manner to receive it as a mark of his favour, and whether it was not with their knowledge and approbation, that after repeated influences from the Nabob himself, made before them and several others then in the Durbar, I conferred to take it. Whether the money had been then paid, or whether this sum was not paid to me at the same time with that paid to the rent a long while afterwards; and with their knowledge; and whether the Did Nabob, Mahomed Reza Cawn, at that time ever gave any reason to think this was contrived by me, or not proceeding merely from the Nabob's own determination. The present the Nabob made to my brother, he himself in his own Durbar bestowed upon him, the day he went to take his leave to join the army, and referred him to Mahomed Reza Cawn for payment of it; and for the payment of which the Nabob gave the repeated function of his will and authority, in signing the fund fuel many days after, when presented to him by Mahomed Reza Cawn, who took these precautions before he would give any money. I never mentioned to the Nabob one single word, regarding a present for my brother. If I had, or that this was disagreeable to him, it lay in his own will whether to have given it, and in his power to have withheld the payment of the rent afterwards, and to have taken notice of it to the rest of the gentlemen, had any undue influence, or contrary to his own inclination at that time, had not he a fair opportunity of representing this to the other gentlemen with whom I was joined in commission, and with whose knowledge and consent he saw that all affairs were conducted? He had complained but a few days before against me in particular to the governor, in regard to the examination the Cutchery papers, though the deputies had first obtained his consent and order for the book-keepers to attend with the books, in order to regulate the partition of the charge of the collections agreeable to the treaty: the Nabob, indeed, in a few afterwards convinced that he had been imposed upon by people who had their own views to serve in the complaint, publicly apologized for it, and signified his being perfectly satisfied on this point, in a letter he wrote to the governor, both which appear in the book of country correspondence; as the explaining the orders of the board, and the sentiments of the deputation fell upon me, being more verified in the country language than the other gentlemen, this exposed me more than any of the rent to the Nabob's displeasure; and though throughout the whole of the negotiations there was no difference in our opinions, yet the whole remonstrance of whatever was said or done not agreeable to the Nabob, has been directed against me in particular. This it is necessary to observe, in order to shew that had his highest had such cause of complaint against me, as is now endeavoured to be made believed, he wanted not instigators enough about him to have taken the occasion of laying such a charge against me, either to the gentlemen of the Deputation, or to the Board below. As to Mahomed Reza Cawn's own presents, which he would now pretend were solicited from him, I flatly deny; and after, intimation was first given to us by Mootyram of his being desirous of making us a present; and that such were his intentions is known to others; that himself verbally mentioned the sums for each; and that no note was, to my knowledge, ever offered by him rupees 4,75,000. That I appropriated a rupee, of what Mahomed Reza Cawn designed, or intended, or proposed to me, or with my knowledge, for the other gentlemen, as the Committee have alleged, I declare is false: I never had a note from him in my possession, nor remember ever to have been one in his hands, or in those of Mootyram; and that the agreeing to accept at the last of his present, long before tendered, of a larger draft, was with the joint concurrence of Meffieurs Middleton and Senior, Mahomed Reza Cawn being then present; and in consequence of which, the bills were forwarded from Muxadabad, and the payments in ready money promised at the city for Meffieurs Middleton and Senior, tho' Mr. Middleton, Mr. Leycester, and myself, did afterwards, for the reasons we have here before assigned, decline accepting of this when we had it in our power, that we might be under no restraint from such consideration in supporting our opinions; that Jugutt Seet wanted to make his present to me alone, both Meffieurs Senior and Middleton, to whom the circumstances was then mentioned, may remember, and that I refused accepting any but in common and equal with the other gentlemen; that so great endeavours have been used, by imprisoning, threatening, over-awing, and terrifying others, and by hopes and rewards bestowed upon others in order to search out and collect whatever concerned me, while no notice or scrutiny that appears has been made into the presents received by many others lately and heretofore, the not least talked of, none is considerable; whether it proceeds from thine motives of honour and firm attachment to the interest of their employers, or to gratify particular ends and remembrances, we leave to the impartial to judge.

How ready the black fellows are to curry favour, by joining in what they suppose must be agreeable to the will of the Committee; the stopping my joint trade for weeks in Bardwan, and in Suja Moeta, where our property has been twice arrested, and is still unredeemed, to our great loss, and their refusal to pay me my just debts in other places, since my resigning the service, must excite; the merchants, even at Calcutta, after having bargained for goods at the market price, when they have learnt they were mine, have flown off their agreement. I shall now make some remarks on the proceedings of the Committee of the 21st, with the other papers of the 26th instant.

It is very true, I have, and ever shall refuse to reply to the Committee as my judges, as I esteem the power they have taken to themselves as usurped and unlawful, and contrary to the sense of their appointment; to themselves I object, as having acted as parties, and trampeled on every
every liberty and right, that as a Briton I had a right to expect in my trial; yet, though I reject replying at their tribunal, whole laws and bounds seem only what their will and caprice dictate, I do not decline to justify my character, where I can expect a fair and impartial hearing. In order to shew how candid are the opinions of those who would be my judges; let it be remarked that I have actually received the several sums in money and bills, specified in the general accounts of Mahomed Reza Cawn and Juggut Seet; and immediately after that, Mr. Lyceeter neither did nor intended to receive the bills lodged with Montyram; now they must have known that the bills never were in my hands, or received by me more than by Mr. Lyceeter, and the resolution of never receiving their amount and the orders for giving them back, were taken by me jointly with that gentleman; for which I appeal to his honour, and that it was no more known to me than to him, that they had not been delivered back as Mou-tyram had repeatedly assured me they were; but no question that could serve to clear me in this or any other point was ever put to the prisoner or others. As to the menaces that the Committee would endeavour to make such a handle of, I do again deny ever all such, and my having authorized any such messages by Montyram, to Mahomed Reza Cawn or Juggut Seet; yet this menace when fairly rendered in English amounts at the utmost to, I will lay nothing (Cooch Booliganje). In order to lay greater load on me by a comparison with others, the Committee gave it as their opinion, that Mr. Middleton always intended to refuse the present intended him by Mahomed Reza Cawn; this Mr. Lyceeter is a man of too much regard to truth to pretend to, and only says, That he avoided receiving any part of this, and afterwards determined refusing it, and which was much about the time Mr. Lyceeter and I took the same resolution; as to the reflection of our being guilty of disobedience to the Company's positive orders relative to the covenants, both in delaying the execution of them, and in receiving presents, I reply, that I was called down to council in February, without knowing it, for sixty without delivering it, an occasional member; that it afterwards depended on the determination of others, whether I should be of the deputation or not; and that the covenants were never tendered to me; that Meffieurs Sumner and Sykes have not scrupled to declare publicly, that they would not have come out, had they previously known these covenants to have been executed, which if they chose to make use of as an argument would acquit us at least from the cenfure they vouchsafe now to pass upon us; covenants are free for men to bind themselves by or not, and till the party concerned agrees to enter into them of choice, are no more obligatory on him from their arrival in Bengal, than from the day they were drawn up in England, and can retrospect to the one period as little as to the other; I never refused to execute them nor opposed it being proposed in council when he proposed the question, Whether the receiving of presents were improper? Mr. Sykes by his answer condemns, as well us, the noble lord, and all those benefited then and since by them; the minutes of the other members of the Committee, are not direct answers to this plain general question, Whether the acceptance of all presents be improper? a question that those who had ever benefited in that way chose rather to leave unanswered; however, we differ here in opinion from the Committee, of having thereby done any thing to the injury of our employers or covenanted for any services dishonourable to ourselves, or hurtful to their affairs. We must submit to the common sense of mankind our proceedings in this, and the Decency, Candour, Meditation, &c. in this and other points transmitted by them since they undertook their restoring of peace, order, and tranquillity; the presents received from the Nabol we still consider as received with as great propriety as any others received since the cession was introduced and settled up Meer Jaffier, and we imagine there will few be brought to believe, that the large sums received at that time by the commander in chief and his friends, while the public engagements were left undischarged, were received in that spirit of disinterestedness and concern against the sudden growth of wealth that is now pressed up; the merit in receiving solely from the Nabob Jaffier Al. Khan, the easy fortune then acquired, after the representations made at that very time of the state of the treasury, I shall not endeavour to detraill from, but it will be something difficult to make people believe, that the funds given by this Nabob to the gentlemen in the month of April, with 26 lacks fail to be lying in his house at Calcutta, besides the daily receipts after the Pania, to impoverished his treasury, and hurt the collections, that such great balances are accumulated since that time, of the money due for the army retribution and donation; and that to supply the cash under these difficulties, the honourable board should be obliged to recur to the assistance of the feats for a Loan of Rs. 150,000 at interest in the month of August; whether the government is better administered on the new system than before, facts must vouch. It no doubt rests with Lord Clive to explain his sentiments regarding the cultivation of the Committee so soon after its being abolished at home, more particularly as his sentiments, were thought to coincide in the salutaries of that resolution, and have been commented on, in the remonstrance preferred to the Court of Directors by certain proprietors. How conformable to the intent of those powers has been the exertion and continuance of them, we shall leave every man to judge, without acknowledging that the fate or safety of Bengal, in the least depended thereon. That Lord Clive leconded the motion when it was last made, for my reinstatement, I will readily allow, if his lordship thinks, that by this concurrence, he conferred an obligation, to which in honour and gratitude he was not bound to my friends, the more my acknowledgments are due. However, I have some reason to believe this might have been brought
brought about, though Lord Clive had never moved in the matter; and that it depended solely on his Lordship's endeavours, it would never have been effected. In reply to his Lordship's last paragraph in his minutes, I do maintain, that I continued in the office of Petician translator, and was employed in writing and translating the public letters, to the day the expedition embarked against the nabob; that from the time Mr. Scrafiton commenced the correspondence in cypher, and wrote to Mr. Wallis, that he might have again the post I held, that politics and power were his game, I never was entrusted in any of the secret negotiations then carrying on; that during that period, and long before the strick, when I was ordered to return and do my duty in the artillery, Mr. Lubington, my amillants, was sworn in, as he told me, and was employed in the affairs then transacting: whether Mr. Scrafiton faced the affairs of the money or Mr. Watts with Meef Jaffier Aly Cawn, is what I shall not argue about. That he was acquainted with all these negotiations and articles, is what I suppose will not be denied by any who reads his letter, dated 31st May, and that from Mr. Watts; whether the presents for the Committee was settled at that time, and before the army marched, I appealed in my former minute to the gentlemen of the Committee themselves to declare; such was the common opinion then prevalent; and as the truth will be best known to those who were concerned and bound to secrecy, to them I appealed. I believe, however, it will appear, from the communications of the Select Committee, that the 30 lacs, stipulated for Omichund, was agreed to be left out in that treaty, by which Jaffier Aly Cawn was to be told it was intended we should abide.—How this sum was afterwards received from the Nabob, whether by virtue of his first stipulation in behalf of Omichund, or of a subsequent agreement, I shall leave it to those better acquainted to set forth; the Committee having taken no notice of it, that I can discover in the proceedings: and though they gave repeated cautions against making any new demands on the Nabob, besides those agreed to by his treaty; that this sum was received, and 23 lacs divided among the Committee and others, is what I have heard; how this was divided, and whether any more was received or divided, it relts with those concerned to say.

His Lordship is pleased to aver, that the occasion of his ordering me to return to my station in the artillery, was a letter he received from Governor Drake, informing he had seen a letter from me to Mrs. Warwick, disclaiming to her many of the transactions of my office, at a very critical juncture. Now I do aver, that I had been excluded from any share in the negotiations, wherein secrecy was required, long before I was ordered to my station in the artillery, and I should be extremely glad, that Governor Drake's letter was produced, that it might appear where I had divulged any secrets entrusted to me in my office: in regard to this letter of Governor Drake's, I think it was shown to me by Colonel Clive, in the garden house of Mylapoor; when I no longer belonged to the office, I wrote such an answer, as to unjust an accusation of Governor Drake's merit, which he may, if he wishes, produce; the transaction I had disallowed, was, to the best of my recollection, no other than the public news in the Camp, while the army lay in sup decency, and mediated staying the rains at Outawa, and for which it behoved me to make provision, as not having been informed by Colonel Clive that I was to attend the artillery, till the very morning I embarked; I took the field entirely unprovided of every thing necessary in such situation: if I appeared to little worthy of confidence on this account, it will follow, that I should be requited through Major Kingtich, to go up with the detachment sent in pursuit of Mr. Law, in the same character which I declined, and was ordered up in my proper station as the artillery officer; still more so that it should be recommended by the Board for his lordship to treat with me a few months after to go as resident to Cutch, for secret negotiations; and further that the same indifferent person should be approved by his lordship to be dispatched, intrenched with the conducting the negotiations in the Duan, till the army should arrive, the success of which might be of so great consequence to the expedition. The shortness of my time here allows me not an opportunity of replying at large to the representations Mr. Verelst has made in his memorial; as many injurious, unjust, and unjust reflections are there dispersed, I shall remark upon a few of them; reserving myself to reply more at large hereafter. The method Mr. Verelst has taken to diminish the balance due from the Rajah, if there be any merits to the former body of mine; or if it be drawn out of the path for Coolbundy, he transfers to the Company's credit, as a remittance, and whether, whether it be a loan from the Company, or a balance due to them, is much the same, favoring that the Company, instead of the Rajah, will receive the interest on the jud唯美 as in 1763, this method to increase the remittances in appearance, we did not take the advantage of in my time; the sum, 162,25 rupees, paid in from the 30th June to the 6th July, has, I believe, been most part burrowed by the Rajah at interest; and very little of it arises from the collection of the province. If the Rajah meant to reflect on my management as the cause of the losses and deficiencies, I shall produce a thousand testimonies of his own, as well as the repeated approbation of the Board, to refute this information; and appeal to the collections and remittances during my time to shew how far it falls upon me. The balance of 165,434, for 1769 and 1770, will be found to be a mistaken, and not a just remittance; it is not unaccompanied upon me to enter into debate with Mr. Verelst, as to the wisdom of the Board who adopted the method of putting the lands up to outcry before my time, and continued it since. As to the people who were admitted to purchase in 1769, none that were excepted to by the Rajah's officers, who were supposed to know them, were admitted, and as the same mentioned the charge of taking security from them,
APPENDIX, No. 67.

it must rest with them, not me, to vouch for their characters and their circumstances. As to the settling the lands last year, as it was done after I was dismissed the service, it rests not with me to answer for it; if better could have been done, I presume it would not have been omitted. It is a pleasure to me to observe, that the farm of Johnston, Hay, and Bolts, has had a great advance bid on it, at this outcry. It is a proof the Riots there have been protected and not vexed; indeed several Bigars have been improved by new Riots that have settled there. Those who have taken these farms, if allowed for only half the los's by overflowsings this season, as we have been this last, will no doubt not be undeceived as to their expectations; we are ready to satisfy any gentleman with a fight of our accounts, and leave them to declare, whether we have gained. The representations made regarding the Bazee Zemun, seems dictated by the same spirit of finding fault, and to raise an opinion of Mr. Verelst's own superior discernment and ability, jufty or unjustly, that seems out of the question. The levying nine annas is charged on Mr. Johnston, though the sentiment of the council at Burdwan, and the order of the board at Calcutta, to whom it was referred, the confultation of the 4th of February, and the orders repeatedly illused, touching the Bazzee Zemun, and statements from time to time to the board, and the public registers kept for all the furnudes, brought in, &c. and those confirmed, will evince how fair a representation has been here given in regard to this article. It is further alleged, that it was agreed to receive two lacks los's than the Rajah had before settled, for the board have agreed reasons for agreeing to accept only 32 lacks in conflultation 11th Feb., but I should be glad to know when, and with whom, such enormous of 32 lacks was made for being unexaudt and with any, but that for the year 1160, which was agreed to, and for 32 lacks at that time. In regard to what is said about the Muttaluddies, and their keeping us in ignorance, I think I can know the source from whence Mr. Verelst has imbibed his ideas in this, as well as in many other matters, on which he was determined so positively on the inight of a little more than a month's refidence. If the Muttaluddies be so little to be depended on, one would think the leaving every thing at their discretion, as must now be the case, by the recalling the factory, both in refpect to the collections and administration of justice, must be from his having found men of a better cast than has yet appeared in these districts; who are meant by the Muttaluddies, I wish to fee pointed out, for in my years it is a cant word without any idea. I will venture to pay, I never followed their advice but so far as it appeared on the whole the bill, nor would acknowledge their superiority so much, as to offer as an excuse for any faulty regulations not taking place, that they opposed it. The Karkoon, Gooul Mozimdar, and Ramkave Nague, did use all their endeavours when I went first up, against making any outcry, and delivered in statements of the revenues of the province, by which they computed there would be a lack deficient of the revenues collected the year before by Mr. Graham. In regard to the remarks Mr. Verelst has made, touching the Rajah's not being acquainted with the transactions and affairs of his country, and without the refpect due to his office, I cannot help admiring at it. The refpect due to Rajah, among his own people, I aver has been ever properly kept up, and to his satisfaction, as I can testify by numberles letters from him, and by facts indiustible; he was consulted in every point of consequence conformable to the first instructions and subsequent orders I received from the board. The alterations that took place on the appointment of a chief and council, were planned and preferred by the same authority, and which we did not think it our right and business to disagree against; however, I will venture to contradict Mr. Verelst, and to affirm, that he has exercised the refpect due to the Rajah, there is no fact in the Rajah's fames of any of his affairs; for the public books, and officers of his cuchuries have ever been at his call to examine at will, and the monthly cash accounts free to his inspection; the state of the treasury and collections being laid before him on the signing of every invoice; what influence Mr. Verelst means, other than that of a chief, I really am at a loss to conceive, unless he means the Rajah should be only under the influence of a writer or factor, and a member of the committee residing in Calcutta. As Mr. Verelst has not scrupled here to misrepresent things, the truth of which is known to many members then of the board, still in the service, who were at the time present in Calcutta, and particularly General Carnac, who was at that time here, and acquainted with every circumstance that passed, I appeal to him, Mr. Cartier, Mr. Watts, Mr. Marriott, and Mr. Graham, then secretary to the board, how conformable to truth is the information of that gentleman; and to Mr. Vanfittart, then president; and to Mr. Barton, who at that time compos'd the board; as Mr. Graham, in particular, was then deputed from the board with a message to the Rajah, to inform him, that if he had any grievances to represent, that he should lay them before the board through the channel of the chief; I beg that gentleman, and General Carnac, may be defined to declare what they know of this matter; and I appeal to Mr. Vanfittart, to whom the Rajah adderessed himself, whether before I returned, I did not wait upon him at the gardens, and require of him to demand of the Rajah, then present, to let forth, face to face, any caufe or complaint he then had against me. The President replied, that had he had any, he would, without doubt, have committed it to paper, and laid it before the board. That the Rajah's servants were seized coming into Calcutta, is more than ever I heard; and if it were true, as I am persuaded it is not, the greater opening did it afford the Rajah to have set forth his complaints when encouraged thereto by the message from the board; the Rajah wanted not opportunity when my influence was at end by my dis-
mission last year, had he cause but to be satisfied with my behaviour to him in every respect; but of his thankfulness and dependance on me, as his benefactor, I have so many proofs to shew, that I am persuaded nothing of this kind ever fairly could proceed from himself. The merit of the Rajah's ready compliance to whatever Mr. Verefft asks of him, is, no doubt, very great. Has he, or any black man in the country, now either resolution or power left to dispute any thing said or done under such authority? For to whom can he appeal after the repeated examples given them? What have they now to expect but guards and imprisonment to work them to compliance to every thing desired by the Committee. The lateness of my receiving the papers has prevented me from laying this representation before the board; I hope it will nevertheless be thought but just it should be allowed to go home by this packet, that my reply, so far as yet prepared, may be heard by the Honourable Court, at the same time they read the proceedings sent home against me.

I am, with respect,  
My Lord and Gentlemen,  
Your most obedient servant,  
JOHN JOHNSTONE.

Fort William, the 7th October 1765.

Translation of a Copy of a Letter from the Seats to Mr. Johnstone, after his Return to Calcutta, May 1765.

At this happy time, the welcome news of your safe arrival in Calcutta, which I was impatiently expecting, gave me the greatest joy, and all manner of comfort. May the Almighty prosper to all your well-wishers the joy of your arrival; and may he always keep you under his shadow, and preserve you, the Accomplisher of the wishes of your dependants. I regard you as my true benefactor and matter, and always hope for prosperity through your favour. I request that you will look upon me as one united to the Company, and ever regard me with an eye of friendship till I have the happiness to see you; which, if God willing, I shall speedily obtain. Conffantly remember me with your friendly letters and commands.

A true translation.  
GEORGE VAN SITTART.  
Perfian Translator.

Translation of a Letter from Mahomed Reza Cawn, to Mr. Johnstone, in Calcutta, May 1765.

Mizra Mahomed Cauzim, who is a man of understanding, and a relation, and a faithful friend of mine, I have sent along with his excellency; he will have the happiness of waiting on you. I hope from your friendship, that whatsoever he represents to you concerning my affairs, you will consider, and heartily favour me in,

A true translation.  
GEORGE VAN SITTART.  
Perfian translator.

Translation of a Copy of a Letter from Mahomed Reza Cawn, to Mr. Johnstone, after his Arrival in Calcutta, May 1765.

I have already had the honour of writing to you; you must have received my letter. On the 17th of Zacada, his excellency set out for Calcutta. The state of affairs here I have before written you. I hope from your friendship that you will interest yourself in my behalf. I have been raised by you and the gentlemen of council, and have no other protector.

A true translation.  
GEORGE VAN SITTART.  
Perfian Translator.

Translation of a Copy of a Letter from Rajah Mootyram, accompanying that from Mahomed Reza Cawn.

From the time of my taking my leave of you, upon your departure for Calcutta, I have attended the Nabob Maen ul Dowlah Behadre, agreeably to your commands; accordingly I have
have been favoured with a Surnail for Hoogly, and orders have been issued, for the confirmation of the title of Rajah, which was bestowed upon me by Afsuf Jau Nizam ul Dowla Behadre, and a new feast has been granted to me; my Nayb is arrived at Hoogly, and is put in possession of the business; but I have not yet received a Kellaat, and taken my leave. The Nabob told me, I will get his excellency to honour you with a Kellaat, and give you your dismission to-day, or tomorrow; in the interim, we received news of the arrival of the Nabob Sabut Jung Bahadre, in Calcutta; his excellency immediately determined to go to Calcutta. Mr. Middleton advised him against it, in the strongest manner, and told him it was not proper he should go without the gentlemen of council's pleasure; but he would not listen to him, he has fixed his departure on Tuesday. — The Nabob Maund ul Dowla wanted to accompany his excellency, but his excellency has declined taking him, under pretence that if he were to go, the business of the Nizamul would be interrupted; I also, as I have not yet received my Kellaat, nor taken my leave, attend upon the Nabob, who called me to him, said to me, "I am writing to Ifaarar ul Dowla, do you also send an Arzec to him, and represent to them, that without any defining, the gentlemen favoured me and honoured me, with the pit of Nab." Now I remain here, and his excellency is going to Calcutta, and all my enemies are with him. I have no protector but Afficar ul Dowla, my honour depends upon him as he is in Calcutta; it is a matter of indifference, whether I go or not; let him shew me such favour that my enemies may not find occasion against me; it is he that has honoured me with the appointment to this office, let him be kind enough to support me in it; if I should be now disgraced, I will put an end to my life; if permission is granted me, I will come for a couple of days to Calcutta, and be introduced by the gentlemen to Sabut Jung Bahadre, and then return with all speed to Moorshedabad, and employ myself with diligence in carrying on the business to which the gentlemen of council have been kind enough to appoint me. The Nabob has written you a letter and wait your answer—whatever you may be pleased to order, he will act accordingly. — He wants to send me to you, be pleased to acquaint me with your pleasure on this subject—Mr. Middleton also will set out from hence on Wednesday, and so will Mr. Senior in two or three days; the friends of Nundcomar rejoice at Sabut Jung's arrival, and say, that the Mahrara will obtain a Kellaat, and return to Moorshedabad in four or five days; his excellency's inclination also is not unknown to you. I am at your command, and will act agreeably to whatsoever you may be pleased to order.

A true Translation.

GEORGE VAN SITTART,
Persian Translator.

Translation of a Copy of a Letter from Mahomed Reza Cawn to Mr. Johnstone in Calcutta, received May 1765.

His excellency, upon hearing of the arrival of the Nabob Sabut Jung Bahadre, has determined to go to Calcutta. The 15th of Zecada, at night, Mr. Middleton came to the Kellaat, and represented to his excellency in the strongest terms, that he should not go to Calcutta without the approbation of the gentlemen of council; but it was all to no purpose; his excellency himself goes there, and I remain here; all the world knows that the gentlemen of council appointed me to this business entirely of their own favour, without my deserving. — The Preservation of my honour depends upon the gentlemen; on this subject I have written a Letter to Mr. Spencer. I hope, that from your matchless friendship, that you will shew me your favour in whatsoever may be advisable.

P. S. Whereas his excellency is going to Calcutta; all my enemies are with him, and they will, doubtless, not be dilatory in doing me all the prejudice they can: I have no protector but you. Although when absent you shew me your favour, yet, as I am impatient to see you, and it is very necessary I should wait upon the Nabob, Sabut Jung Behadre, it is my desire to leave a trust worthy man, who is acquainted with business, to carry on the affairs here, and repair myself immediately to Calcutta, to have the happiness of waiting on the Nabob, Sabut Jung Behadre, and then I will return hither; I expect your orders on this subject, and wait your answer with impatience.

P. S. Other matters you will be informed of by the Letter of Rajah Mooyram.

A true Translation.

GEORGE VAN SITTART,
Persian Translator.
THIRD REPORT
FROM THE
SELECT COMMITTEE
APPOINTED BY THE
HOUSE OF COMMONS,
ASSEMBLED AT WESTMINSTER IN THE SIXTH SESSION OF THE THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF GREAT BRITAIN,
'TO ENQUIRE INTO THE
NATURE, STATE AND CONDITION,
OF THE
EAST-INDIA COMPANY,
AND OF THE
BRITISH AFFAIRS IN THE EAST-INDIES.

LONDON:
Sold by T. Evans, at No. 54, Paternoster-Row; and W. Davis, the Corner of Sackville-Street, Piccadilly.
THIRD
REPORT
FROM THE
SELECT COMMITTEE, &c.

The Committee appointed to enquire into the Nature, State, and Condition of the East-India Company, and of the British Affairs in the East-Indies,

HAVING stated, in a schedule in a former Report, a sum of five lacks of rupees received by Lord Clive, from the Begum or mother of Nudijum ul Dowlah, in the year 1766, and having engaged, in the same Report, to complete and lay before the House their enquiries concerning that transaction; they proceeded accordingly; and, considering the nature of the subject, they think the best means to enable the House to judge accurately thereupon, will be to lay before them the whole of the evidence, as it stands upon their proceedings.

The first evidence your Committee have to lay before the House, on this head, is that of Francis Sykes, Esquire, and General Carnac, whose examinations were taken on a former occasion; and are as follow;

Francis Sykes, Esquire,

Was you present with Lord Clive and General Carnac, the 8th of April 1766, at any visit paid to the mother of Nudjum ul Dowlah?

I was there upon a visit with Lord Clive: cannot recollect whether General Carnac was there or not—there was a third person.

What passed there?

After the usual compliments, the mother presented to his Lordship a teep, for the sum of five lacks of rupees, declaring at the same time, that she had referred it for his Lordship's own use, by the particular request of Mr. Jaffier before his decease, and that the Nabob had intended to have presented it himself, in case he had survived till his Lordship's arrival.

Did you speak the language sufficient to understand all that was said?

I did, and was the person myself that interpreted; there was another person present who understood English as well as Persia, his name was Nabekiffin.

Are you perfect in the language of the country?

I do not understand the language of the country perfectly.

When you transacted businesfs of your own, did you generally use an interpreter, or did you interpret for yourself?

In all transactions with the Nabob and the government's officers, either with respect to the Company or myself, I never made use of any interpreter.

When was the first information you had of the legacy?

I heard it mentioned, but by whom I cannot tell, upon our arrival in the river; it was merely rumour.

Do you recollect any person who told you so?

I do not.

When was the first time you ever heard of the legacy from a man of credit?

I do not recollect to have had any conversation with any person about it.

Did you understand, before you had waited on the mother, that you was to receive this money?

I did not know the nature of the business on which we waited upon the mother, but waited on her as a mere matter of compliment.

B
Did Lord Clive refuse it at first, when the mother offered it?
He did not.—At the visit to the Begum, where I mentioned Lord Clive's accepting the seat from her, or his Lordship's receiving it, he mentioned to me, or soon afterwards, his intention to appropriate it to the institution of a military fund for relief of disinterested officers and soldiers in the East-India Company's service, which he afterwards fulfilled.

Your Committee then called General Carnac, whose examination was as follows:
Was you present at the visit with Lord Clive and Mr. Sykes, to the Begum, in April 1766?
I am pretty certain I was not; I do not recollect that I was ever with her.
Was you with Lord Clive, at the city, at that time?
I went up with him.
When did you first hear of the legacy which was left to Lord Clive by Myr Jaffier?
I was a great way up the country, and it was probably a considerable time after.
Do you remember any man of credit in the country, who ever mentioned this legacy to you?
I do not particularly remember any persons, but imagine many must have mentioned it to me.
Your Committee then read the following papers, copies of which are hereunto annexed,
No. 1, 2, 3; 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11.
A Letter from Lord Clive to Mr. Sumner and council, 8th April 1766.
Minute on consultations, 14 April, 1766, with the opinion of the board, and letter in answer to Lord Clive.
Paragraph 108 and 109 of letter from the president and council of Fort William, 28th November 1766.
General consultations, 11 December 1766.
Do —-- 28 January 1767.
Letter from Nudjum ul Dowlah to Lord Clive, received 9 June 1765.
Then Governor Johnstone produced to your Committee, a letter, stated to be an original letter from the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowlah to Nundcomar:—two translations of which are hereunto annexed, the one liberal, No. 12, the other literal, No. 13.
Then your Committee examined Goreshandass, who was formerly moonshie, or Persian translator to Colonel Graham, and his examination was as follows:
Have you ever seen the seal of the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowlah?
I can't say.
Do you know the hand-writing of Nundcomar?
I think I do, and that the letter is endorsed by Nundcomar in the Persian language, importing "The answer is written."
There are also certain Persian words, importing, "Received the 3d of the Month of the Zuver, in the 7th year," which I suppose to have been written by the Moonshie of Nundcomar.—There was 6 or 7 days between the date of the letter and the receipt.—My reason for saying 6 or 7 is, because there is a difference in the number of days in months, according to their computation.—The letter is marked with a seal, containing the name of Nudjum ul Dowlah.
What is the signature or mark at the bottom of the letter?
There is a mark signifying, "Stop here," which is the usual way of finishing a letter among the great people of that country;—that word is not written in the hand, kind as the letter.—The words, "Stop here," are always written by the principal;—the body of the letter by his Moonshie.
Have you any reason to believe that that mark was written by the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowlah?
Only this: the usual custom of the country is, that when the letter is written by the Secretary, the principal person puts this mark; and if this letter is from Nudjum ul Dowlah I suppose that mark might be written by him.
Your Committee then called Captain Swinton, whose examination was as follows:
Are you acquainted with the hand-writing of Nundcomar?
I have often seen the hand-writing of Nundcomar, and cannot from memory take upon me to say what is and what is not his hand-writing.—On comparing his writing with any other I believe I could form a judgment.
When you were secretary to General Carnac, had you any correspondence with Nudjum ul Dowlah?
I have.—I have received letters from him.
Is the seal upon the cover now presented to you similar to those seals from the Nabob which you received in the course of that correspondence?
Nudjum ul Dowlah's name is upon this seal.—I cannot positively say, without having another to compare, whether it is exactly similar.
Do you believe it to be the seal of Nudjum ul Dowlah?
I cannot decide upon that.—I cannot form an opinion without comparing it with others of his seals, of which I have several.—At the same time I must of course, that there is nothing more easy than to counterfeit those seals and that it is frequently practised in that country to put false letters, under the covers of other people.
Are
Are you acquainted with the hand-writing of Nudjam's Moonshy?

I am not.

Had the letters you received from Nudjam ul Dowlah a mark at the conclusion, similar to that upon the letter now presented to you?

I rather think not.—I have sometimes received letters from great persons with a signature at the bottom, but many more without any, as it is not an usual thing but upon particular occasions.

As you said you received letters from the Nabob Nudjam ul Dowlah, did you ever receive one with a mark?

I have already said that I rather think not.

If a person was to write a letter and put the mark before explained, would it be considered as a forgery?

If he copied the Nabob's own mark it would certainly be a forgery.

Is forgery a capital crime in India?

I don't know the law on that subject, but I never knew any one capitally punished for it.

Do you believe this letter, upon viewing it with all its circumstances, to be a genuine letter from the Nabob Nudjam ul Dowlah to Nundcomar?

I have some doubts about it, but with to consider it more at leisure before I give an opinion.—I think it unlikely that the Nabob should write to Nundcomar in the style he does concerning Nobekiflen, as giving him information, which I should suppose he was well acquainted with before, Nobekiflen having been long in Nundcomar's service.

Was Nobekiflen made a Rajah?

I have heard so, and believe he was.

Mr. Gorehamdafs was again called, and asked,

What is the punishment for forgery in India?

The right hand to be cut off.

Do you know of any instance of a hand being cut off for that offence?

No.—I have heard of such punishment being inflicted for that crime.

Your Committee then read the following papers, copies of which are hereunto annexed,

No. 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20.

The deed between Lord Clive and the Company, with the regulations.

Muxadabad consultations, 17th December 1770: the Begam's letter of complaint against Mahomed Reza Cawn.

Ditto 31 January 1771: answer to ditto.

Par. 33. of Lord Clive's letter to the Committee of correspondence, 28th August 1767.

Letter from ditto to the Court of Directors, 16th January 1768.

The opinion of Sir Fletcher Norton, relating to the legacy from the Begam.

Par. 156 and 157 of letter from the Court of Directors to Bengal, dated 16th March 1768.

State of military fund.

Captain Swinton having had the letter produced by Governor Johnstone, four days in his possession, in order to compare it with others in the possession of Lord Clive and General Carnac, and being again examined with regard to the said letter from the Nabob Nudjam ul Dowlah to Nundcomar, was asked,

Have you examined the letter in Persia delivered to you, with other Persian letters from Nudjam ul Dowlah, said to have been in your possession?

I compared it with four letters from Nudjam ul Dowlah—Two of which I find are sealed with his father's title of Suja al Moolek, which was conferred upon him by the King, after his father's death—the other two with seals exactly similar to that delivered to me by the Committee: All the letters are to General Carnac—I have not been able to find any to myself from Nudjam ul Dowlah—I have examined 50 letters received by Lord Clive in the course of a month from the King, Suja Dowla, Mynyr o Dowla, Syifa Dowla, Mahomed Reza Cawn, and others.—I found only three of these that had any signature to them, viz. one from Sir Clive with a mark called Byze—One from Syifa Dowla, marked Velfalam, which means "Farewell"—according to Meminiki, it also means ne plus ultra—and one from Suja al Dowla, with the mark of El Hawk, which means Stop.

After having had time to examine the letter delivered to you, and comparing it with others, do you believe it to be an original letter from Nudjam ul Dowlah to Nundcomar?

I believe the cover to be sealed with one of Nudjam ul Dowlah's seals—the writing of the body of the letter is very similar to some of those others now produced from him, as is likewise the mark at the end.—Of the 50 letters which I examined, 6 of them were dated on the outside of the letter; the date of the receipt was written in English on all of them, and in Persian on 21 of them; none of them were dated in the letter itself; 6 of them were not addressed, perhaps owing to their having been sent in bags, and 4 of them had no cover.—All these from Nudjam ul Dowlah (that I have found) to General Carnac, are dated and signed with the above-mentioned mark of El Hawk—there were none from him in the 50.—In another bundle I found letters from Syifa Dowla to Lord Clive, all or most of which were marked with the word Velfalam, and dated—in the same bundle there was one from Syifa al Dowlah to General Carnac, signed with the same mark as Nudjam ul Dowlah's letter.
With respect to the two translations, the reading of the Persian is a matter of difficulty with me; I therefore only attended to the particular paragraph, which, on the Moonthee's reading the letter, struck me at the last meeting to be somewhat different from his translation, and my opinion was confirmed by the translation afterwards produced. — I have now examined that paragraph more particularly, and given what I think a literal translation of it; as to the rest of the letter, I don't find any material difference between the original and the translation: the paragraph referred to is literally, in my opinion, as followeth: "At last, according to dispositions or arrangements a note of five lac's of rupees, under the seal of the Begum, was given, which, with the utmost difficulty and pains they took." In the translation by Gorchhandjee, the same paragraph is translated as followeth: "At last they took a note of 5 lack of rupees in jewels, gold mohurs, and rupees, under the seal of the said Begum, which, after many protests, was given to them, and they received it after many excuses."

Is the mark at the end of the letter, produced by Governor Johnstone, peculiar to the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowlah, or is it used by other people?

I thought it was peculiar to him till I examined some letters, from whence I found, that it was used by others, as above-mentioned.

Three papers dated to be the original certificates, of which copies were read before, were produced by Mr. Strachey; and likewise attested translations of the same.

Your Committee then examined Henry Strachey, Esquire, as follows:

Was it usual for Lord Clive to deliver original certificates to you, of which the translations were left in the office?

Lord Clive's monthly letters were frequently delivered to my care, Persian letters, after the translations had been entered on the public books.

Were those letters respecting the business of the Company?

I could not read the Persian language, nor to my memory did I ever read a translation of any of them.

What knowledge have you of the translations being entered on the Company's books?

No other than that it was customary, and that it is the office of the Persian translator to do.

Do you believe that the letters in general were delivered to you?

I believe they might have been, but I cannot answer for the accuracy of business in a Persian translator.

Do you think that, except from the inaccuracy of the Persian translator, they were all delivered to you?

Perhaps they were.

Memorandum. [Mr. Strachey, added the following, about an hour after his evidence was given, but before the Committee adjourned.]

But I recollect that many of the letters of the country correspondence were stolen at Chuprah.

Memorandum. On book of country correspondence 1766, read as follows, viz. The above 38 letters are all the country correspondence which ever came to my hands, besides those beginning May 5th. A. No. 1. and proceeding regularly till December 1766.—The remaining Letters and answers to them were, to the best of my knowledge, lost at Chuprah, by a robbery, there committed upon the munifices, in whose custody they then were. December 16, 1766.

R. MADDISON, Persian Translator.

Where was Lord Clive when the Nabob, the Begum, and Nundoomar gave him these certificates?

I can't tell. — I suppose at Muxadabad. — I don't recollect when or where they were delivered to me, but they were all delivered at the same time.

Were they delivered to be kept as evidence of Lord Clive's title to the 5 lac's?

They were delivered to me to take care of, — I do not recollect that any particular purpose was mentioned. — I knew at the time that they were certificates relative to the five lac's.

Who informed you so?

I don't recollect whether I was informed so by Lord Clive, or the Persian translator.

Gorchhandjee being again examined, was asked the following questions:

Was the mother of Nudjum ul Dowlah ever married to Myr Jaffier?

I believe not.

Was it so understood in general?

Yes.

If a man is married in that country, and leaves a wife and children, to whom does his property go at his death?

To his lawful wife; and after her death to the children; the sons taking certain proportions, and the daughters inferior ones; but sons and daughters equally an ongulf themselves. When they have neither wife, nor children, they may give their property by will; in the contrary case they cannot.

Do you mean Gentoos or Mahometans?

In the case of Mahometans, the above rule prevails — in the case of Gentoos, it goes only to the sons: neither can a man leave his effects from a brother, or sister, or other lawful heir.
Does this rule hold good with the Nabobs?
I believe it does, but it depends on their power.
Henry Strachey, Esquire, was then asked,
Were these transcriptions the first that were made?
I believe not.
Your Committee then again called Captain Swinton, who was asked the following questions.
On comparing the mark of the certificate from the Nabob with the mark to the letter produced by Governor Johnstone, do you think that both marks are written by the same hand?
I do not think they were, neither do I think it like the marks to the letters.
As the marks are not made by the same person, do you think either of them were made by the Nabob?
As I never saw the Nabob write, I cannot say whether either of these or any of the others were actually his own hand writing.
What is the scroll at the top of the Nabob's certificate?
It seems to be Munzur, but it is very ill wrote:—It signifies in English, "it is acknowledged or agreed to."
Do you suppose that was written by a Moonshy, or by the Nabob?
It does not seem to have been written by a Moonshy, whose profession is writing, because it is so very ill wrote.
Does the certificate appear to you as authentically the Nabob's as any other letter you have ever seen of his?
It is sealed with one of the seals used by the Nabob, with the title of Sujah ul Mooolk; but it is impossible for me to declare any of those Persian papers to be actually the deed of the Nabob.
Do you think that the writing of any of the letters now compared is similar to the writing of the certificate?
I cannot decide positively, I rather think them to be different.
How many Moonshys had the Nabob?
Several.
Gorehmadan's being again examined, was asked the following questions,
Is the mark at the bottom of the letter, produced by Mr. Johnstone, like the mark at the bottom of the Nabob's certificate?
No,—they are very different, and so is the writing from all the letters I have seen here.
What is the scroll at the side of the Nabob's certificate?
It is Munzuras, and means "it is granted," but it is written I believe just as a person writes at the time of his death, and is not able to write properly; or a person trembling and going into fits, and cannot hold the pen properly; or like a boy of 4 or 5 years of age, who does not know how to write;—it is written with a broken pen, that was meanded for every stroke.
Do you think it is the hand-writing of the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowla?
By those marks I have seen on Mr. Swinton's letters, and the letter produced by Governor Johnstone, it appears quite different;—there is no similitude at all.
Is it not possible that the mark to the certificate may be the Nabob's own writing, and the marks to the letters put by the Moonshies?
It is not usual for the Moonshy to write both the letter and the mark, that being always put by the principal person.
Are the scroll at the side, and the mark at the end, written by the same hand?
I suppose he must have made another pen, if they were written by the same person.
Are the certificates of Meny Begum and the Nabob wrote by the same person?
I believe they are.
Captain Swinton being asked the same question, said,
I think them extremely different.
Your Committee then examined the Right honourable Lord Clive, who delivered a paper in the following words, and also the deposition of Mr. Simon Droz, copy of which is hereunto annexed, No. 21.
A few days after my arrival at Calcutta, in May 1765, the Nabob Nudjum u Dowla came down from Muxdadabad to visit me: that day every, or the day after, we rode out together in an open chaise; and Nobekissen, who spoke English, and was the interpreter, rode behind.—The Nabob took that opportunity to inform me that his father had left me 5 lack of rupees, which he laid were in Jewels, Gold, Mohurs, and Silver, and that the whole was in the hands of his mother the Begum, who would pay it whenever I pleased.
I mentioned this circumstance to several gentlemen very soon after, particularly to Mr. Strachey and Mr. Vereeff. At that time I resolved in my own mind not to accept the legacy; but afterwards, when, in obedience to the company's commands, we had ordered the double batta of the army to be struck off, it occurred to me, that that legacy might be converted into a military fund for the benefit of invalid officers and soldiers, and widows:—upon that principal I demanded payment of the legacy in April 1766. At first
"I thought of confining this fund to the benefit of the army in Bengal only, but willing
"to have it extended to all the Company's other Settlements, and thinking the 5 lack insufficient, I applied to the Nabob Sysf ul Dowlah to add 3 lacks more, to which he readily acceded, upon my explaining to him the purpose to which the money was to be applied."

At what time did your Lordship receive the Persian certificates produced by Mr. Strachey?

I cannot be certain, but I think in the Month of April 1766.

Did you receive them all at the same time?

I imagine so, but don't know: I imagine it must have been at Muxadabad that I received them.

Were the certificates taken by your direction?

As I learnt by word of mouth from the Nabob Nudjam ul Dowlah, that such a legacy had been left me by his father, I desired a particular account of the manner in which that legacy was left me might be given in writing by those persons who were present upon the occasion: I cannot recollect who I employed on this occasion, but in all probability it was Nobekiflen.

Who wrote the English words on the certificates?

I don't know.

Henry Strachey, Esq; being asked the same question, said, I believe them to be in Mr. Maddison's hand-writing.

Lord Clive being again examined, was asked,

Did your Lordship any translation made at the time?

I can't recollect.

Why did not you lay the translations before the board till January 1767?

Because I did not think it necessary, until I had formed a plan for the disposition of the money in a military fund.

Is it customary in India to grant certificates, without dates of the time of their being granted?

I believe it is very customary to write letters, and of course certificates, without dates.

In letters is not the date generally marked on the outside of the cover?

I am not acquainted with the Pefric language, and do not know whether they are or not.

When the Nabob acquainted you of the legacy which his father had left you in 1765, when in the chair as above stated, did you tell him that you was resolved not to accept it?

I did not give him any positive answer; but imagine that I rather seemed to decline it.

Was the affidavit of Mr. Droz taken at your desire?

Yes.

What were the foundations of your scruples against receiving the legacy in the first instance?

Because I had promised to the Court of Directors and Proprietors, that I would not benefit myself, directly or indirectly, in the value of one shilling by my government in India.

Did you ever hear of a person making a will in that country?

I have heard from other English gentlemen, that they do make wills in that country.

Did you ever see a certificate in India without a date?

I do not recollect ever to have seen any others than these.

Mr. Gorehamda's being again examined, was asked,

Do you know what is meant by a will?

Yes—I mean a disposition of things according to a person's own choice, to take place after the death of the person making that disposition.

Do you know any instance of a will so made?

Yes—my uncle on my mother's side, before the time of his death, but when he was in his right senses, made a will to dispose of every thing to my mother after the time of his death.

Then Lord Clive was asked the following question:

Was the covenant, making the legacy of five lacks of rupees, a collateral security for the payment of your Jaghri, in case you should be evicted of that Jaghri of no value?

It will be time enough to answer that question when the money is received, and disposed of by me.

Your Committee then examined William Bolts, Esq; who was asked the following question:

What is the letter in your hand?

It is a letter which I received from Nudjam ul Dowlah, in February 1765. I waited on the Nabob with the letter, and he avowed it to be his.

Mr. Gorehamda's being fheved the letter produced by Mr. Johnstone, and that produced by Mr. Bolts, was asked,

Are the marks at the bottom of them the same?

Yes.

Did you ever know any certificate without a date?

I never saw any one certificate without a date, but the three produced by Mr. Strachey;
nor without the seal of the Cazee, and the attestation of two witnesses. In places where there is no Cazee, there is an assemblay of people, and they testify.

Did you ever see any other certificates?

Yes.

What sort of papers are those attested with the Cazee's seal, and two witnesses? Certificates, wills and bonds, and grants, and of the sort of certificates now produced.

Did you ever see any certificate of that sort?

I have seen certificates of that nature, but not without signatures of witnesses, seals, and dates.

Did you ever see any certificates from Nabobs?

No.

Did you ever hear of Mahometans making wills?

Yes.

Did you ever know of a verbal will, with regard to money, being made, and carried into execution?

I never heard of one being made.

Twenty certificates under the Cazee's seal, of the prices of goods at different places, were produced and proved by Mr. Swinton, Goreghanidas, and Mr. Bolts, to be dated and witnessed.

Then William Bolts, Esquire, was again examined.

Did you ever know a certificate in Bengal, that was not dated?

I never did, and according to the customs of Indostan should have deemed such a declaration invalid.

Have you any certificates under the hand of the Nabob?

Yes—I have persuannahs under the hand of the Nabob, Sujah ul Dowlah, which are signed, sealed, and dated—a receipt from the King, which is dated and sealed—a bond from Sujah Dowlah, which is dated and sealed—persuannahs under the hands of Mr. Vereeff and Mr. Cartier, which are dated, signed, and sealed, and various duftucks and paifles, which are all signed, sealed, and dated; which I now produce.

The papers being produced, the seals and dates were confirmed by Mr. Swinton and Goreghanidas.

And Mr. Bolts being further examined, was asked,

What is the purport of these persuannahs from Sujah Dowlah, now produced? They relate to the trade in full petre.—The bond from Sujah Dowlah is for money and goods, which I furnished him in his distress—the receipt from the King is from him to Mr. Rafael, for duties paid at Ilhabad.

Then Goreghanidas was asked,

Do you think Nundcomar would come to England?

Without force he can't come, because it is contrary to the laws of his religion, he being a Bramin—it is contrary to the religion of the Hindoos to come to England—the consequence would be losing their cast; but by paying money and doing penance at their return, they would regain it.—I am a Hindoo.

Is a Hindoo deemed infamous by quitting his country?

It is contrary to the law, but he recovers himself by penalty and penance.

Did you ever know any instance of Hindoos, who left their cast by going upon the sea, who afterwards regained it?

I never heard of a Hindoo going upon the sea out of my country, but from the coast of Malabar they go very frequently, and are not affected by it.

Do they go long voyages?

I don't know, but they go upon the sea.

Does any but the tailor cast go?

Yes—some others—I don't know what, for I never was in that country.

Then Henry Strachey, Esquire produced to your Committee an original certificate or declaration sealed by Sujah Dowlah, in the same manner as the certificates relating to the Nabob's legacy to Lord Clive, and the seal proved by General Carnac.

It having been observed, that Mr. Droz's certificate is not signed by him, Mr. Strachey produced the original letter from Mr. Droz to Lord Clive, in which the said certificate came included to Lord Clive, a copy of which is hereunto annexed, No. 22.

And Governor Johnson being examined, was asked the following question,

How came you by the letter from Nundum ul Dowlah to Nundcomar, produced by you?

The letter was delivered to me by a gentleman who was in Bengal at the time those transactions happened, and he told me he received it from Nundicomar himself, soon after it was wrote, and he shewed it, at the same time, a translation of the letter by Mr. George Vankstour, whose hand-writing I know, and permitted me to take a copy of that translation, which is the liberal translation I produced to the Committee; but the gentleman, unwilling to involve himself in any disputes, took my promise that his name should not be mentioned to the Committee, which I before related on producing the letter.—The reason why he would not give me the original translation was, because it was endorsed by some persons, whose hand-writing might be known.—The letter must stand upon the evidence that
APPENDIX, No. 1, 2.

that is produced to authenticate it as an original.—I readily delivered it, in the presence of the Committee, to Mr. Swinton, General Carnac's Persian translator, to compare it with all the correspondence of Nadjum ul Dowlah with Lord Clive, General Carnac, and himself; and also to compare the indorsement, by Nundomar, with his correspondence.—The evidence of Mr. Swinton, after having had it two days in his possession and compared it, will shew what reliance may be had on it as an original.

APPENDIX.

No. 1.

Fort William General Consultations, 14th April, 1766.

LETTER from the Right Honorable Lord Clive, dated the 8th instant, at Mootejil, read, signifying to us his intention of appropriating a legacy of five lacs of rupees, bequeathed to him by the late Nabob Meer Jaffier, as a fund for the relief of the officers and private men who have become invalids in the honourable Company's service, and the widows of such as may have lost their lives in it, unless the Company should think proper to claim, and be able to prove, a right to the same under the new covenants; and that he intends the governor and council of Fort William to be perpetual trustees for the appropriation of this fund in India, and the Court of Directors in England.

The board are unanimously of opinion, That the receipt of the legacy bequeathed by Meer Jaffier to Lord Clive, is no ways prohibited by the new covenants; and cannot here help expressing the lively sense we have of this generous and well placed donation to succour distress, which has so long called for relief. Agreed to return an answer to his Lordship accordingly, and at the same time to acquaint him, that we shall cheerfully accept the honour he intends us, in appointing us trustees for the appropriation of this fund in India.

Ordered, That Lord Clive's letters on this occasion, with the answer be entered after these minutes.

No. 2.

Fort William General Consultations, 14th April, 1766.

To William Brightwell Sumner, Esquire, &c. Gentlemen of Council at Fort William.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to inform you, that upon a supposition, that the receipt of a legacy was not intended to be prohibited by the new covenants, I have received from the Begum, wife of the late Nabob, Meer Jaffier, an obligation for the sum of five lacs of rupees, which was bequeathed to me by his Excellency a few hours before his death, in the presence of many witnesses, whose attestation shall, as soon as possible, be laid before the board. When this obligation is discharged, I shall immediately pay the amount into the Company's Treasury at Calcutta. The interest arising therefrom I propose shall be annually distributed in such Proportions as I establish, among a certain number of officers, non-commission officers, and private men, who are disqualified from further service, by wounds, length of service, or disabilities contracted in the service of the Company, and whose fortunes may be too scanty to afford the former a gentleman, the latter a comfortable subsistence in their native country. I intend further, that the widows of all such officers and soldiers as shall have been entitled to this bounty, or whose husbands shall have lost their lives in the service, shall receive a certain proportion of the same during their widowhoods. The governor and council of Fort William will be perpetual trustees for the appropriation of this fund in India, and the court of directors in England. On my return to the presidency, or sooner, if business will permit, I shall have the honour to lay before you such regulations as I may think
think best adapted to the fulfilling my purposes above-mentioned; and on my arrival in England the same shall be confirmed, with a proper instrument or deed of gift of the principal and interest of the said five lacks of rupees for ever, agreeable to the due forms of law, unless the Company should think proper to claim, and be able to prove, a right to the same under the new covenants.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, Gentlemen,
Mootejyl, Your most obedient and most humble servant,
8th April, 1766.

CLIVE.

To the Right Honourable Robert Lord Clive, &c.

My Lord,

We have received your favour of the 8th instant, expressing your intention of appropriating the legacy of five lacks of rupees, bequeathed to your Lordship by the late Nabob, Meer Jaffier, as a fund for the relief of the officers and private men, who are become invalids in the honourable Company’s service, and the widows of such as may have lost their lives in it. We are unanimously of opinion, that the receipt of this legacy is no way prohibited by the new covenants, and cannot help expressing the lively sense we have of this generous and well-placed donation to mitigate distress, which has so long looked for relief.—So noble an example of beneficence cannot fail to infuse the amicable and approbation of every one; and we shall cheerfully accept the honour intimated us by your Lordship, in appointing us trustees for the approbation of this fund in India.

We have the honour to be, my Lord,
Your Lordship’s most obedient humble servants.

No. 3.

Extract of the General Letter from Bengal, dated the 28th November, 1766.

168.ORD Clive, in a letter to the board from Moostaghel, dated the 8th April last, informed us of his intention to appropriate a legacy of five lacks of rupees, bequeathed to him by the Nabob, Meer Jaffier, as a fund for the relief of the officers and private men who have, or may, become invalids in the Company’s service, and the widows of such as may lose their lives in it, unless the Company should think proper to claim, and prove a right to the same, by the new covenants. His Lordship also proposed, That the president and council of Fort William should be perpetual trustees for the approbation of this fund in India, and the court of directors in England.

169. As we do not conceive such a legacy to be prohibited by the covenants, we acquitted his Lordship, in answer, That we should cheerfully accept the honour he intended us, in acting as trustees on this occasion; and as the regulations finally establishing this noble institution must rest entirely with his Lordship, we have nothing further to observe, than that Lord Clive, by so generous an instance of his disinterestedness, and zealous attachment to the honour and welfare of the Company, has ensured to your forces the only advantage wherein they have hitherto been inferior to any in the known world, and thereby ensured to you a succession of the bravest and most honourable of men and officers.

No. 4.

Fort William General Cofultation, 11th December, 1766.

THE president lays before the board, as entered hereafter, a letter from the Nabob Syf-a-Dowlah to Lord Clive, purporting, That last year his late brother paid the sum of six lacks of rupees into the Company’s chest, upon bond; that three lacks have since been paid to him at Moorshedabad, and the balance of three lacks, which remain, he desires may be added to the fund, established by Lord Clive, for the maintenance and support of the invalid military in the Company’s service, and the families of such as may lose their lives in it.

Ordered, That an interest note be granted for the said money, in the name of Lord Clive, in order that his Lordship may appropriate the same to the purpose desired; and the president is requested to return our thanks to the Nabob, for so handsomely contributing to this charitable institution.
APPENDIX, No. 5, 6, 7.

No. 5.

Fort William General Consultation, 11th December 1766.

From the Nabob, Syfe ul Dowlah, to the Right Honourable Lord Clive.—Received 21st October, 1766.

Some time ago my deceased brother, the Nabob Najim ul Dowlah, paid to your Excellency the sum of five lacks of rupees, agreeable to the commands of our late father, Meer Mahomed Jaffier Cawm; and we hear you have settled that sum for the soldiers, &c.—Last year my late brother paid in six lacks of rupees into the Company's cash, upon bond; of this money three lacks have been paid to me at Moorshedabad, and the balance of three lacks, which remains, I give as a fund to be disposed of in the same manner as the former five lacks, and request your Excellency to settle it after the same manner.

A true Translation.

Robert Maddison—Persian Translator.

No. 6.

Fort William General Consultation, 28th January, 1767.

In my letter of the 18th of April last, I informed you of a legacy of five lacks of rupees left to me by the Nabob, Meer Jaffier, and of the purpose to which I determined it should be applied; I now beg leave to lay before you the several papers which prove incontrovertibly my title to this legacy; viz. attested copies and translations of Nizama Dowlah's, the Lady Bejum's, and Nundecmar's acknowledgments.

The present Nabob being made acquainted with the fund I had established, and the great encouragement it would be to the officers and soldiers to fight in his, as well as the Company's cause, generously added a present of three lacks of rupees, as will appear by his letter upon that subject, which has already been laid before you. All the bonds are drawn out in my name, but I acknowledge that they are not my property. I make no doubt but the Company will approve of the donation, and that upon my arrival in England, the Court of Directors will accept of my appointing them trustees for the fund. Inclosed is a sketch of the plan I propose for the distribution of the money; which being now a very large sum, should, I think, extend the bounty to all the Company's settlements in general.

No. 7.

A Certificate of a Legacy left by the late Nabob, Meer Mahomed Jaffier Cawm, to the Right Honourable Lord Clive, amounting to Five Lacks of Rupees, in Money and Effects. Given under the Hand and Seal of the Nabob, Najim ul Dowlah.

My late most honoured father, venerable as Mecca (whose offences are wiped away) when he was alive, of sound mind, and in the full enjoyment of all his mortal faculties, after having appointed me his heir, gave me repeated orders to the following purport: "Out of the whole money and effects which I have in my possession, I have bequeathed the sum of three lacks, fifty thousand rupees in money—fifty thousand rupees in jewels, and one lack in gold mohurs; in all, five lacks of rupees, in money and effects, to the light of my eyes, the Nabob firm in war, Lord Clive, the hero—accordingly I have deposited the aforesaid amount with my Lady Begum, and you will distribute what remains, after the settlement on your mother, the Lady Begum is paid, agreeable to the several proportions which I have allotted." In witness, therefore, to the truth of this promise of the late Nabob, I have given these few lines as a certificate that it may be fulfilled.

The above is a faithful translation from the Persian original, under the hand and seal of the Nabob, Najim ul Dowlah.—Witness my hand this 16th day of January, 1767,

R. Maddison—Persian Translator.
APPENDIX, No. 8, 9, 10.

No. 8.

A Certificate from the Lady Meny Bigum, Wife to Meer Mahomed Jaffier Cawn, and Mother to Najim ul Dowlah.

His Excellency the deceased Nabob, when he was alive, of sound mind, and in the full enjoyment of all his mortal faculties, gave me repeated orders to the following purport: "Out of the whole money and effects which I have in my possession, I have bequeathed the sum of three lacks, fifty thousand rupees in money, fifty thousand rupees in jewels, and one lack in gold mohurs; in all, five lacks of rupees in money and effects; to the light of my eyes, the Nabob firm in war, Lord Clive, the hero. —The remainder, after your marriage settlement is paid, you will distribute agreeable to the several proportions I have allotted." —In witness therefore to the truth of this promise of the late Nabob, I have given these few lines as a certificate.

The above is a faithful and literal translation from the Persian original, under the seal of Meny Bigum, wife to Meer Mahomed Jaffier Cawn, &c. Witness my hand this 16th of January, 1767.

R. Maddison—Persian Translator.

No. 9.

The Nabob, the hero of the empire, Meer Mahomed Jaffier Cawn, deceased (whose offences are wiped away) fell sick a few days after his return from Calcutta to Moorshedabad, and his illness daily increased upon him. When the Nabob (whose offences are done away) found that he must take his departure from this mortal world, he at that time gave orders to the Nabob, Najim ul Dowlah, That out of his whole ready money he should pay to the Nabob, Lord Clive, firm in war, the hero, the sum of five lacks of rupees.

The above is a faithful and literal translation from the Persian original, under the seal of Meha-Rajah-Nund-Komar: Witness my hand, this 16th day of January, 1767.

R. Maddison,
Persian Translator.

No. 10.

A Sketch of the Plan proposed by Lord Clive, for the Distribution of the Legacy left to his Lordship by the Nabob, Meer Jaffier, and of the Present from the Nabob, Syf-a-Dowlah, in Aid of his Lordship's intended Fund.

The whole sum, amounting to eight lacks of fivee rupees, to remain in the Company's treasury at Fort William, bearing the usual interest of 8 per cent. per Annum. The annual amount of interest to be distributed in the manner undermentioned, to such a number of officers, soldiers and widows, as the money will admit of, the propriety of whose claims is to be settled agreeably to the dates of their certificates. No officer or soldier is to be entitled to the bounty unless he be disabled by wounds, or other accidents, or rendered incapable by age or length of services. No officer or soldier is to be entitled to this bounty, who does not produce a certificate from his commanding officer, of his being an invalid, and rendered incapable of further service in India, together with an approbation of that certificate by the governor and council. This bounty is only to extend to such officers as are obliged, through any of the misfortunes above-mentioned, to return to England in indigent circumstances; every officer, therefore, applying for the bounty, must make oath, in the most solemn manner, before the governor and council, to the following purport, viz.

A Colonel, That he is not, in real and personal estate, possessor of
A Lieutenant Colonel
A Major
A Captain
A Lieutenant
An Ensign

\[ \begin{array}{c}
\text{£} \\
4,000 \\
3,000 \\
2,500 \\
2,000 \\
1,000 \\
750 \\
\end{array} \]

DIS-
APPENDIX, No. 11, 12.

DISTRIBUTION.

| To a Colonel |  |  |  |  |  | £ 300 |
| To a Lieutenant Colonel |  |  |  |  |  | 250 |
| To a Major |  |  |  |  |  | 200 |
| To a Captain |  |  |  |  |  | 150 |
| To a Lieutenant |  |  |  |  |  | 100 |
| To an Ensign |  |  |  |  |  | 70 |
| To a Serjeant |  |  |  |  |  | 20 |
| To a Corporal |  |  |  |  |  | 15 |
| To a private Man |  |  |  |  |  | 10 |

The widows of all these officers and soldiers, who had pensions, are to enjoy one half of the same, so long as they remain unmarried.

No. 11.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive.

From the Nabob No. 109. Received the 9th of June, 1765.

I have been favoured with your letter, wherein you write that "there is a very large sum due to the merchants on account of the restitution: that the monthly payments to the Company are some lacks of rupees behind hand; that the Company are distressed in their expenses; that the merchants suffer great inconveniences from being kept out of their money; that you understand I have a very large sum ready in my treasury; and that you therefore desire I will speedily pay the lack of rupees."

It is not unknown to you how little I am, at this time, acquainted with the collections of the country. Be there a small or large sum ready in the public treasury, I know nothing about it: With regard to the money which is in my house in Calcutta, and which you have heard of, the late Nabob, at his departure out of this life, gave five lacks to me, and the rest to the Begum. By the blessing of God, you are a man of justice, and my elder brother; do whatsoever may be your pleasure.

No. 12.

Translation of a Letter from the Nabob, Nudhum ul Daulah, to Maharajah Nundeswar, dated the 27th of Shouval, of the 7th year (the 8th of April, 1760.)

I had the pleasure to receive your letter and rejoice to hear of your welfare—Thank God, I am also well.—I met Lord Clive (the Nabob Ameer al Momanik Sabut Jung Bahadur) and General Carnac (Munfoor ul Muluk General Bahadur) at Plassey, and they received me very kindly. On the 24th inst (the 5th of April) his Lordship, the General, and Mr. Sykes, arrived at the Kella: the Begum, my mother, sent Hajee Saadut to call those gentlemen to her; and after much solicitation, prevailed on them to accept from her a paper under her seal, for five lacks of rupees in jewels, rupees, and gold mohurs; this I have written for your information. With regard to what you write me, that I should make known my requests to his Lordship, through the General, I will follow your advice—but Nolaskifan Noonhy, having waited on me about business, made many professions of fidelity and attachment to me, and then came, in a round-about manner to the point, and spoke much of the great confidence reposed in him by his Lordship.—In short, from the tenor of his conversation it appears, that there is no one in greater credit with his Lordship than he is: Accordingly he said to me, "Such of the English councillors and gentlemen of rank as were my friends, I have caused to be raised to dignity and reputation by his Lordship, and Mr. George Gray, and others, who through their pride and self-sufficiency, did not consider me, but bore me enmity towards me, them I have caused to be in such a manner discredited and debased, that they have been turned out of their employments, and are gone to Europe.—In like manner, Mr. Sumner, who was my enemy, I have caused to be totally disregarded and neglected. As his late Excellency looked upon me as a faithful dependant of his own, and shewed me much favour, to do you also regard me as one of your servants and well-willers, and freely acquaint me with all your wants; and by the blessing of God, I will accomplish them. I am your well-wisher, and I will do for you what is not in the power of any one else."

As you, my friend, are much better acquainted, than I am, with the situation of circumstances of persons in Calcutta, I beg you will speedily inform me, whether what Nolaskifan has been telling me of his own consequence, and relative to Mr. Sumner and Mr. Gray, &c,

&c. is really true or not, and speedily give me your advice in what manner I should behave to him, and what present I should make him—Although he professes attachment for me, and desires me to employ him in the management of my concerns; yet as I am creditedly informed that he is closely connected with the Naib (Mohamed Reza Cawn) that the Naib has paid him very handsomely, and is often sending him various kinds of goods; and he is in consequence sincerely attached to him, and is frequently engaged night and day in consultation with him; I therefore do not give any credit to the professions he makes me, nor will I knowingly suffer myself to be imposed upon.—Consider this matter maturely, and write me your advice concerning it, and I will act accordingly.

No. 13.

Kind Sir and Brother,

I received your pleasing letter, and am acquainted with the purport of it. Thanks be to God, I am very well, and very glad to hear you are the same.—I had been as far as Plaffey, in order to meet the Nabob Ameer al Monalik Sabut Jung Bahader, and Munfoor al Muluk General Bahader, whom God preserve; and at last I had the meetings with great pleasure. On the 20th of this present month, Nabob Ameer al Monalik, the General, and Mr. Sykes, came into the castle, and the Begun sent for them by Hagee Sadut. At last they took a note of five lacks of rupees, in jewels, gold moburs, and rupees, under the seal of the said Begum; which, after many pretences was given to them, and they received it after many excites. I have written this to you in order to make you acquainted with it.

Kind Sir, as you wrote me to acquaint Nabob Lud Sahib of my circumstances, by means of the Nabob General Bahader, I shall act in every thing agreeable to the advice of you, my brother: but at this time Neokifin Munthly has been with me upon business. After setting forth his good wishes and gratitude, he by the way introduced the subject of his influence and favour with the Nabob, Lud Sahib, and expatiated much upon it.—By the purport of his conversation, I understand that there is no person who has more power and credit with the said Nabob, than the said Munthly; for, said he, “I have given honour and exaltation before the said Nabob, to all the counsellors and great English gentlemen, who bear a friendship for me; and Mr. George Gray, and the rest, who with pride and influence made no account of me, but bore me malice and hatred—I have got them to degraded and dishonoured, that after being turned out of their seats, they are gone to Europe—in the same manner Mr. Sumner, who was an enemy of mine, I caused him to be so disliked and distrusted, that he became acquainted with the end of his power. Since (Jemah Ally) the late Nabob, looked upon me as a well-wisher, and one of his own servants, and did me much favour and kindness. You also, Sir, as the late Nabob did, will please to regard me as one among the number of your servants and well-willers, and order me, without hesitation, any affairs or business you may wish for, and, with the blessing of God, it shall be done agreeably to your wishes; and those services to your government, which will be done by me, it will not be possible for the power of any other.”

Seeing that you, my friend, are better acquainted with the men and situation of that place than I am, therefore I write you that whatever the said Munthly has said of his own credit and power, his degrading and turning out Mr. George Gray, &c. and rendering Mr. Sumner despicable, if this is really so, you will let me know soon, and whatever you judge proper and fit to be done for the regard and favour of the said Munthly, write it to me.

Kind Sir, although the said Munthly pretends to be my well-wisher, and wants to manage my business himself; nevertheless, as it appears certain to me, from trustworthy people, that the said Munthly has a great regard and friendship for the Naib (meaning Mohamed Reza Cawn) and the Naib has given him something very handsome, and is frequently sending goods and things to him, and likewise as the said (Munthly) with heart and soul attends to the good of the said Naib, and in this place is sitting with him often whole days and nights, privately consulting together; on this account I cannot put confidence or trust in his words, and cannot be deceived with eyes open; and therefore, favourable Sir, having well weighed and considered this matter, whatever is proper advice, write me that I may act accordingly.—More: May the times be agreeable to you.
APPENDIX, No. 14.

No. 14.


Preamble.

THIS indenture, made the sixth day of April, in the tenth year of the reign of our sovereign Lord George the third, by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King, defender of the faith; and in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy; between the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East-Indies, of the one part, and the Right Honourable Robert Lord Clive, baron of Plaiſley, in the kingdom of Ireland, and knight of the most honourable order of the Bath, of the other part: Whereas Meer Mahomed Jaffier Cawn, deceased, late Nabob of the kingdom or province of Bengal, did before his death, in the presence of three witneſſes (to wit) Najim al Dowla, his fon, Lady Begam, his wife, and Mehal Rajah Nundoomar, according to the form and manner of testamentary acts used in that country, bequeath unto the said Robert Lord Clive, out of the monies and effects which the said Nabob had in his poſſeſſion, the sum of three lacks of rupees, 50,000 rupees in money, 50,000 rupees in jewels, and one lack in gold mohurs, in all five lacks of rupees, as by the contents of the said bequeath contained in three cer‐
tificates, made by the aforefaid witneſſes, in the Peto language, and the translations thereof into the English language, now in the custody of the said Company, may more fully appear: And whereas at the time of the said Meer Jaffier's death, the said Robert Lord Clive was at sea, on his voyage from England to India, and after his arrival in the province of Bengal, Najim al Dowla, elder fon of the said Meer Jaffier, did, agreeably to the commands of his said father, pay to the said Robert Lord Clive the said five lacks of ficca rupees, of the value of £62,823 6s. 8d. Sterling, which the said Robert Lord Clive paid into the said East-India Company's treasury at Calcutta, at different times, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and sixty-six, and thereupon notes were signed to his Lordship for the same five lacks of ficca rupees, carrying interest after the rate of 8% per cent per annum Sterling, until paid. And whereas the said Robert Lord Clive, being zealous for the prosperity of the said Company, the security of their territories, and territorial revenues in India, belonging to them, and their trade and commerce, which greatly depend on the bravery and conduct of the said Company's troops, and considering that the establish‐ment of a provision for such of the officers and private men em‐ployed in the Company's service, as should be disabled by age, war, or disease contrasted during their service, would tend to induce fit persons to enter into the said service, and encourage the bravery of the follow‐ing employed therein, hath proposed to the Court of Directors of the said United Company to appropriate the interest of the said five lacks of ru‐pees, for the support of a certain number of officers, non-commission officers, and private men, in the service of the said Company, who from wounds, length of service, or diseases contrasted during their ser‐vice, were unable or unfit to serve any longer, and whose fortunes might be too scanty to afford the officers a decent, and the private men a comfortable, subsistence, in their native country; and also to make some provision for the widows of such officers and private men as should have been intituled to the said bounty, or whose husbands should have lost their lives in the said United Company's service: And where‐as Syful Dowlah, the present Nabob of Bengal aforesaid, hath given to the said United Company the sum of three lacks of rupees, as an additional to the above-mentioned fund: And whereas the said three lacks of rupees were carried to account in the said United Company's Treasu‐ry in the month of April one thousand seven hundred and fifty-seven, and the said Company's note for the said three lacks of ficca rupees, amounting to the sum of £37,700 Sterling, carrying interest after the rate of 8%, by the hundred, by the year, was issued from the said Company's treasury at Calcutta, payable to the said Robert Lord Clive: And whereas the said Robert Lord Clive hath also proposed that the said Court of Directors, and their Successors, shall be perpetual trustees of the said fund of five lacks of rupees, as well, as of the said three lacks of rupees, for the due application and appropriation of the interest and produce thereof;
The eight lacks to bear 8 per cent. interest.

Interest to be paid in London.

Court of Directors and their succeeds to the perpetual trustees.

The trust to commence from the 29th of September 1749.

To be for relief and maintenance of European officers and soldiers, invalids or supernumerous, their widows, or widows of officers and soldiers dying in the service.

Commissioned, staff, or warrant officers, to have half the ordinary flated pay they were entitled to whilst in service.

Surgeons, corporals, and private men, the like pay as the Chelsea pensioners of the same degree.

Widows of officers and soldiers one fourth of the ordinary flated pay their husbands enjoyed whilst in service; and to be paid quarterly and every year during their natural lives.

Widows admitted on such testimonials as the court of directors shall approve.

To continue during widowhood, and no longer.

No officer or soldier to be admitted, unless disabled by wounds, or rendered incapable by age or other accidents, and unless he shall produce a certificate from and under the hand of his commanding officer, and of his being an invalid, and rendered incapable of further service in India, together with an approbation of such certificate, by the governor and council of the presidency where such officer shall have served; but nevertheless, if any officer or soldier in the said Company's service, residing in England, shall apply to the said Court of Directors to be admitted to the said bounty or provision, the said Court of Directors shall admit such officer or soldier thereunto, if they shall adjudge him to be a proper object of such bounty.

Provide also, and it is hereby further concluded and agreed upon, That the bounty or provision hereby intended for and in favour of the said officers, is only to extend to such of them as shall be obliged, through any of the misfortunes above-mentioned, to return to England in indigent circumstances; and that all and every such officers applying for the said bounty, shall, previous to their becoming intitled thereto, according to their several ranks or commissions, make oath in the most solemn manner, before the governor and council, to the parson and effect thereof; which said trust the said Court of Directors have consented and agreed to accept of: And whereas it has been agreed by and between the said Robert Lord Clive, and the said Court of Directors, that the said eight lacks of rupees shall, from the twenty-ninth day of September, which was in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and fifty-six, carry interest at and after the said rate of 8 per cent. by the hundred, by the year, upon and subject to the several trusts, conditions, agreements, and provisos hereinafter mentioned: And whereas the said Robert Lord Clive, in pursuance of the said agreement, hath delivered up the said cash notes for five lacks, and three lacks of rupees, to the said Court of Directors, to be cancelled: Now this indenture witnesseth, that for the better and more effectually carrying the aforefaid agreement into execution, it is hereby mutually covenanted, concluded, declared, and agreed, by and between the said Robert Lord Clive, and the said United Company, that the said eight lacks of rupees shall remain in the hands or treasury of the said United Company, who shall yearly and every year, at their house or office in Leadenhall Street, London, or in any other house or place where the business of the said Company shall be transacted and carried on, pay and allow the sum of £8,542, 13s. 4d. of lawful money of Great Britain, for and in lieu of interest of the said eight lacks of rupees, being after the rate of 8 per cent. by the hundred, by the year, to such persons, in such proportions, and for such purposes as are hereinafter mentioned, of and concerning the same. And it is further covenanted, concluded, and agreed upon, between the said parties, that the Court of Directors of the said United Company, and their successors, shall be perpetual trustees, subject to the agreements and provisos hereinafter contained, of the said fund of eight lacks of rupees, for the due application and appropriation of the interest and produce thereof, from the twenty-ninth day of September last past, to and amongst, and for the relief and maintenance of European officers and soldiers, who shall become invalids or supernumerous in the said United Company's service, and of their widows, and also the widows of such officers and soldiers, who shall die in the said United Company's service, in the shares, dividends and proportions following (that is to say) To all commissioned and staff or warrant officers, one moiety or half part of the ordinary flated pay they were respectively intituled to whilst in commission or service; to all lieutenants, corporals, and private men, the like pay is allowed and payable to the out pensioners of the same ranks or degrees belonging to Chelsea Hospital, and to the several widows of all such officers and soldiers, one quarter or fourth part of the ordinary flated pay their respective husbands were intituled to when in the said United Company's service, yearly and every year, during their several and respective natural lives: but it is declared, that the provisions hereby intended for such widows, shall be paid upon such certificates and testimonials only as the Court of Directors for that time being shall think reasonable or necessary to require, and shall be payable during their widowhoods, but no longer; and in case of their intermarriages, then such provision shall from thenceforth cease. Provided always, and it is hereby further concluded and agreed upon, by and between the said parties, That no officer or soldier is to be or shall be entitled to any bounty or provision, under or by virtue of these presents, unless he shall, in the judgment of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the time being, be found disabled by wounds, or rendered incapable by age or other accidents, and unless he shall produce a certificate from and under the hand of his commanding officer, and of his being an invalid, and rendered incapable of further service in India, together with an approbation of such certificate, by the governor and council of the presidency where such officer shall have served; but nevertheless, if any officer or soldier in the said Company's service, residing in England, shall apply to the said Court of Directors to be admitted to the said bounty or provision, the said Court of Directors shall admit such officer or soldier thereunto, if they shall adjudge him to be a proper object of such bounty.

Provide also, and it is hereby further concluded and agreed upon, That the bounty or provision hereby intended for and in favour of the said officers, is only to extend to such of them as shall be obliged, through any of the misfortunes above-mentioned, to return to England in indigent circumstances; and that all and every such officers applying for the said bounty, shall, previous to their becoming intitled thereto, according to their several ranks or commissions, make oath in the most solemn manner, before the governor and council, to the parson and
A Colonel must swear he is not polluted of, or inti-
ted to real and personal ef-
tate to the value of £4,000.
A Lieutenant Colonel, of
£3,000. A Major of £2,000.
A Captain of £1,000. A Lieu-
tenant of £1,000. and an
Ensign of £500.

Widows must lay before the
court satisfactory evi-
dence, that their respective
husbands did not the worth
the sums above specified.

To be intituled from the
times of their arrival in
England.

All disputes or doubts
concerning qualifications of
petitions, distribution, or
times of payment, to be de-
bated by the court of direc-
tors only.

Interest on the eight lasts
due 29th September, 1769,
value 24,128L, to be credited
into a capital, and to carry
8L per cent. interest from
that time.

The contingent fund is to
be appropriated for all inci-
dent expenses of carrying
the fund into execution,
and for such objects of cha-
arity, belonging to the mi-
itary, their widows or fa-
milies, as the court shall
think fit.

If the Company should
lose, or part with their ter-
ritorial possessions in Ben-
gal, so that Lord Clive's
jurisdiction should cease before
the term agreed upon, or if the
Company should cease to
maintain a military force
in India before 1753, in ei-
ther case the five lasts to be
referred to Lord Clive,
or his executors, but to be
chargeable with the pro-
portion of all the pensions
alligned on the eight lasts
generally.

If the Company employ
no military force in India,
after 1753, the interest of

A colonel shall swear that he or any per-
son or persons in trust for him, is or are not failed or possesseid of, or inti-
ted unto any real and personal estate to the amount in value together
of £4,000.—A lieutenant colonel to the amount in value of £3,000.
—A major to the amount in value of £2,000.—A captain to the amount
in value of £1,000.—A lieutenant to the amount in value of £1,000.
—and an ensign or cornet to the amount in value of £.700.
And in case of the death of any officer of the ranks above-mentioned, in the said
United Company's service, the widow of every such officer, before the
shall be admitted to partake of the said bounty or pension, shall produce
and lay before the Court of Directors of the said United Company, such
evidence as to them shall seem reasonable, that her husband, under
whom she derives such claim, did not the said or possessed of real and
personal estate to the amount herein before specified, according to his
respective rank in the said United Company's service. Provided nevertheless, and it is fur-
ther concluded and agreed upon, that the several persons applying for
the benefit of the said fund or bounty shall be admitted and become inti-
tiled thereto, according to the times of their respective arrivals in Eng-
land; and in case any disputes or differences shall happen or arise, touch-
ing or concerning the qualifications of persons claiming right to pensions
under their presents, or the distribution thereof, or the times of their
being respectively intitled thereto, such differences or disputes shall,
from time to time, be decided and adjusted by the Court of Directors
of the said United Company, and not otherwise. And whereas the inte-
rest due from the said United Company, upon the said cash notes herein-
before mentioned, amounted on the twenty-ninth day of September last,
to the sum of £24,128: Now it is hereby further concluded and agreed
by and between the said parties to these presents, That the said sum of
£24,128 shall remain in the hands of the said United Company in India,
and shall be deemed and considered as capital, and shall carry interest
from the said twenty-ninth day of September last, and at and after the rate
of 8L by the hundred, by the year, which interest or yearly produce thereof shall be from time to time paid, disposed of, and distributed, by the
Court of Directors of the said United Company, for the time being,
in the first place for the discharging all incident charges and expenses at-
tending carrying into execution the fund hereby established, and subject thereto, unto and amongst such objects of charity, belonging to the said
United Company's Military service, or the widows or families of such
objects as the said Court of Directors shall in their discretion think fit.
Provided also, and the said United Company do hereby covenant, pro-
mise, and agree to and with the said Robert Lord Clive, his executors,
administrators, and assigns, That in case the said United Company shall
at any time hereafter, by any means whatsoever, otherwise than by the
fate of war, be dispossessed, or deprived of, or part with their territorial
possessions in Bengal, and the revenues therefrom; and in case the said
hiring granted unto, and now enjoyed by, the said Robert Lord Clive,
shall, during the term agreed upon between the said United Company
and the said Robert Lord Clive, for the continuation thereof, cease to
be paid unto his said Lordship, or his assigns, or in case the said United
Company shall at any time before the year of our Lord one thousand seven
hundred and eighty-four, cease to employ and maintain in their imme-
Diate pay and service, a military force in the East Indies, then and in
either of the said cases, the said United Company shall and will forthwith
pay unto the said Robert Lord Clive, his executors, administrators, or
assigns, at their treasury in Calcutta aforesaid, the full sum of five lacks of
rupees, to and for his and their own proper use and benefit, but subject nevertheless with the interest of the aforesaid three lacks of rupees
in the proportion the said respective sums bear to each other, to the pay-
ment of all such pensions and annuities as shall at the time either of the
aforeaid contingencies shall happen, be payable out of or chargeable up-
on the said trust fund; which said pensions and annuities it is hereby
fully understood and agreed, shall continue to be paid and payable out of the
interest of the said eight lacks of rupees, or such part thereof as shall be
wanted and necessary, during the lives of the several persons then inti-
tiled thereto. And it is hereby further concluded and agreed upon be-
 tween the said parties to these presents, that in case, at any time after
the commencement of the said year of our Lord one thousand seven
hundred and eighty-four, it shall so happen, that the said United Company shall
have no military force in their actual pay and service in the East Indies;
that then and in such case the interest and produce of the said trust fund
Appendix, No. 14.

of eight lacks of rupees, shall from thenceforth from time to time be applied, paid, and distributed, towards the support, relief, and provision, of Marine officers and seamen, who shall become invalids or superannuated in the said United Company's service, and the widows of such of them as shall die in the said service, during their respective widowhoods only, in such shares and proportions, in manner or form, as, in case such event shall happen, shall be concluded and agreed upon between the said United Company and the said Robert Lord Clive, or his legal representatives or representatives. And lastly, it is hereby expressly stipulated and agreed, and the said United Company do hereby covenant with the said Robert Lord Clive, his executors, administrators, and assigns, that in case it shall happen that the said United Company, after the commencement of the said year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four, shall scale to employ a military force in their actual pay and service in the East-Indies, and also Ships for carrying on their trade and commerce, then, and in such case, as soon as the said event shall happen, the said United Company shall and will pay unto the said Robert Lord Clive, his executors, administrators, or assigns, for his and their own use, at their treasury in Calcutta aforesaid, the full sum of five lacks of sicea rupees, but subject nevertheless to the interest of the said three lacks of rupees, in the proportion the said sums bear to each other, to the payment of all such pensions and annuities, for the lives of the persons then intitled thereto only, as shall at the time such event shall happen be payable out of, or chargeable upon the said trust fund, according to the true intent and meaning of these presents. In witnesses whereof the said United Company have hereunto affixed their common seal, and the said Robert Lord Clive hath set his hand and seal, the day and year first above written.

(Company's Seal.)

(L. S.) Clive.

Scaled and delivered, being first duly stamped, by the within named Robert Lord Clive, in the presence of

Richard Holt,
Thomas Morton.

General Regulations for transacting the Business of the Military Fund.

At a Court of Directors of the East-India Company, October 3, 1770.

The Court, having taken into consideration the covenant between the East-India Company and the Right Honourable Lord Clive, for establishing a fund for the relief of European officers and soldiers, invalids or superannuated, their widows and the widows of officers and soldiers dying in the service, resolved, That the following rules and regulations, founded on the said deed, and as nearly conformable as the nature of it will admit, to the regulations for paying the Chelsea pensioners, are proper to be observed in transacting the business of this fund; and that the paymaster thereof do govern himself thereby, in paying such pensions as shall be assigned upon the same.

I.

That every petitioning officer and soldier shall produce a certificate from his commanding officer, of his being an invalid, and rendered incapable of further service in India, together with an approbation of such certificate, by the governor and council of the presidency where such officer or soldier shall have served.

II.

That every commissioned officer shall previously make oath before the governor and council, viz. a colonel, that he or any person in trust for him is not poiffessed of, or intitled to, real and personal estate to the value of £4,000 — A lieutenant colonel of £3,500 — A major of £2,500 — A captain of £2,000 — A lieutenant of £1,500 — and an ensign of £1,500.

III.

Taken from the Deed.

Taken from the Deed.
That all commissioned, staff or warrant officers shall have half the ordinary stated pay they enjoyed whilst in service.

The King's artillery are paid in this manner.

That serjeants belonging to the Artillery shall receive nine-pence per day, and such as have lost a limb one shilling per day: private men of the Artillery six-pence per day, and such as lose a limb nine-pence per day.

The same pay as the Chelsea pensioners receive.

That all other non-commissioned officers and private men shall have four-pence three-farthings per day.

Taken from the Deed.

That all officers and private men shall be intitled from the times of their respective debarkations in England.

The King's officers are paid in a similar manner.

That commissioned officers shall only be paid as their pensions become due, and shall receive at the Company's office in London only, either in person, or by power of Attorney, half-yearly at Midsummer and at Christmas.

The Chelsea pensioners are paid in this manner.

That non-commissioned officers and private men shall, immediately upon admission, be paid in advance for the remaining number of days of the current half year, and at the expiration thereof every succeeding half year in advance.

The same regulations as is observed at Chelsea.

That non-commissioned officers and private men, residing within twenty-five miles of London, shall be paid at the Company's office in London, and not otherwise.

Founded upon the Chelsea regulations.

That such non-commissioned officers and private men as reside at a greater distance from London, or in Scotland or Ireland, be paid at such times, by such persons, and in such manner, as the Court of Directors shall, from time to time, find convenient, in person and not otherwise.

This answers to the certified copy of their discharge given to the Chelsea pensioners on admission.

That non-commissioned officers and private men shall receive on admission a certificate thereof, signed by the paymaster of this fund, containing a description of such pensioner, his age, and other particulars; which certificate the pensioners shall exhibit to the persons directed to pay them, each time of payment, and no pension shall be paid, unless this certificate is produced by the pensioner.

The same rule is observed with the Chelsea pensioners.

That country pensioners shall receive in advance for the first half year, from Midsummer or Christmas next ensuing the date of their admission, on producing the above certificate only to the persons appointed to pay them; but immediately after receiving such first half-yearly payment, every pensioner shall make two affidavits of the same tenor and date, before a Magistrate, conformably to the printed instructions he shall receive from the paymaster of this fund; one of which affidavits must be transmitted to the paid paymaster in London, in such manner as the Court of Directors shall from time to time direct; the other must be exhibited to the person that shall be empowered to pay him, together with the pensioner's certificate of admission, which vouchers will intitle such pensioner to receive again in advance, at the expiration of the half year. These affidavits must be repeated, and sent to London twice a year, immediately after Midsummer and Christmas.

XIII.

The rule at Chelsea.

That no pensioner shall be paid in the Country, unless the above-mentioned affidavit has been timely received by the paymaster of this fund in London.

XIV.

Taken from the Deed.

That if a pensioner does not appear to claim his pension for three half years, he shall be considered as 'dead', and his name be omitted in the half-
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half-yearly warrant; but if such pensioner shall afterwards appear personally at the Company's office in London, or furnish satisfactory proof otherwise to the Court of Directors of his being alive, he shall again be put on the list, and receive all arrears.

XV.

That widows of commissioned officers must lay before the court such evidence as to them shall seem reasonable, that their husbands, under whom they derive their claim, did not die possessed of real and personal estate to the amount specified in regulation the second, according to their respective ranks in the service.

XVI.

That widows of commissioned officers be paid in person, or by power of Attorney, at the Company's office in London only.

XVII.

That widows of non-commissioned officers and private men shall prove their marriage to the satisfaction of the Court of Directors.

XVIII.

That widows of non-commissioned officers and private men, residing within twenty-five miles of London, shall be paid at the Company's office in London only; and those who live at a greater distance shall be paid in the same manner, and upon the same half-yearly affidavits, as the men; and in either case they shall receive in person, and not otherwise, as in Articles XI. and XII.

XIX.

That the pensions granted to widows shall continue during their widowhood, and no longer.

XX.

That the pensions of commissioned officers and their widows shall be paid neat, without any fee or deduction whatever.

XXI.

That the pensions of such non-commissioned officers, and their widows as receive in person, in London, shall be paid neat, without any fee or deduction whatever.

XXII.

That such of the non-commissioned officers and private men, and such of their widows, as are paid in the country, shall each time allow one shilling to the person that pays them, for his trouble.

XXIII.

That in cases of infirmity, satisfactory proof be made thereof to the Court of Directors, and the pension paid to a churchwarden, in behalf of the parish, towards the pensioner's subsistence.

Instructions for the Pensioners on the Fund established for Relief of the Honourable East-India Company's Military, 

All non commision officers and private soldiers admitted pensioners on the above fund, residing within twenty-five miles of London, must receive in person at the Company's office there; and such as live at a greater distance from London than twenty-five miles, as well as those in Scotland and Ireland, are hereby required and directed, that early in the months of April and October, every year, they do apply themselves to one of his Majesty's justices of the peace, in the neighbourhood where they reside, and make two affidavits of the following tenor, and of one date, which affidavits the Court of Directors of the East-India Company request the said magistrates to sign and date, viz,

one of his Majesty's justices of the peace for the county of

and made oath that he was admitted a pensioner on the military fund of the honourable East-India Company, the day of 17 was then aged about years, and was discharged for reason lives in the parish of

Sworn before me, this day of 17

One
APPENDIX, No. 15.

One of the two affidavits drawn according to the above form sworn before, dated and attested by a magistrate, is to be sent by the General post, directed (till further orders) to the paymaster of the honourable East-India Company's military fund, at the East-India House, London; the other affidavit, of the same tenor and date, the pensioner must keep to them, together with his certificate of admission, signed by the paymaster, to the person who shall be empowered to pay him in the country.

The above-mentioned affidavits must be made and transmitted to London in April and in October, so as to be received by the Company's paymaster full two months before the 25th of June and the 25th of December respectively. They must be drawn on one piece of paper, big enough to fold up in the form of a letter, and the above direction wrote on the back thereof, to avoid unnecessary expense of postage.

No pensioner will be paid unless the above-mentioned affidavit has been timely received, twice a year, by the paymaster of this fund in London; nor unless the other affidavit of the same date as well as the certificate of admission, are produced by the pensioner every time of payment.

All pensioners are to take particular notice, that neither the whole, nor any part of their pension money will be paid at any time, nor under any pretence whatever, to any other person or persons than themselves only; consequently they cannot commission or empower any one to receive for them; and no receipts, acknowledgements, or assignments for money, any pensioner may borrow on his pension, will be discharged, or paid any regard to, by the paymaster of this fund. But proper care will be taken that the pensioners themselves shall be regularly paid twice a year, in whatever part of England, Scotland, or Ireland, they may reside, provided they duly observe the orders and directions contained in these instructions.

Every pensioner who receives in the country, is to allow one shilling each time of payment, to the person he is paid by.

No. 15.

Moorshedabad, 17th December, 1770.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

Richard Becher, Esquire, President,
James Lawrell, and
John Graham Esquires.

From the Begum,

The reason of the Nabob Muzzer Jung's enmity and resentment is this; when Lord Clive came up the country he borrowed the sum of six lacks of rupees for which he gave a Tuncawm Muzaffer Jung, three lacks of which having discharged to me, I paid it to Syf ul Dowlah, which has excited his displeasure; and the remaining three lacks due on that account, as well as two lacks of the present arrears, he procrastinates payment of; and in order to sink this money for his own benefit, has bound his loins with enmity, to the utter ruin of my affairs, and to involve me in disgrace and contempt: you will please to consider, gentlemen, what the Nabob, Sabut Jung (Lord Clive) assigned for the support of my honour and credit; who is he that opposes and counteracts his decrees? As I am acquainted with the affairs of the household, fearful of discovery, he has placed me in obscurity, and appointed ignorant people to authority, who have lengthened the hand of usurpation upon the treasure and jewels. The reason I have not before represented my situation is, the Nabob Muzaffer Jung's accompanying Mr. Becher, when he came to visit me, by which means I was deprived of an opportunity of speaking with him; but since, to my good fortune, Mr. Reed, Mr. Lawrell, and Mr. Graham are now arrived, and in their visit administered me comfort: I esteemed it the luckiest of moments; and, after having sent away Mobarek ul Dowlah, who at other times never came near me, and only accompanied the gentlemen at the incitement of my enemies, I revealed to them particularly the uneasiness of my heart. For your information I have likewise now wrote you the particulars of my case, in hopes that you will yield me redress, otherwise I swear by God and Jesus Christ, that I will leave Moorshedabad to go to the committee, because living in this disgrace is worse than death.

At a Consultation at Moorshedabad the 31st of January, 1771; PRESENT,

Messieurs { James Lawrell, President.
{ John Graham.

The Naib Sabah delivers in the following answer to the representation of Mhunny Begum:

The affair of the six lacks of rupees is this: In the time of Nadium ul Dowlah, Lord Clive, through my means, borrowed of him six lacks of rupees in Calcutta, and directed me
APPENDIX, No. 16, 17, 18.

me to repay it from the Khalifah. After Nudjum ul Dowlah's death, before my departure to Azimabad, I accordingly granted a Tuncaw for this sum, three lacks of which were paid and lodged in the Mahalleri of Munny Begum; but on meeting Lord Clive at Mongheer, on my way down from the presence, he informed me of his having paid three lacks as Pilfeath, on procuring Sunnuds for the appointment of Syf ul Dowlah to the Muftud, and directed me to write an order not to discharge the balance of the Tuncaw, which has been inferred in the King's accounts with Syf ul Dowlah.

No. 16.

Extract of a Letter from the Right Honourable Lord Clive to the Committees of Treasury and Correspondence, dated 23th August 1767.

Par. 33: BEFORE I conclude, you will permit me to suggest to you the expediency of settling, as soon as possible, the legacy of five lacks of rupees left to me by the Nabob Jaffier Ally Cawn, in the manner I proposed in my letters to the Council at Fort William, dated 5th April 1766, and 19th January 1767, viz. as a fund for the maintenance of officers and soldiers disabled or superannuated in the Company's service, and likewise for their widows. The donation of three lacks from the present Nabob in aid of that fund will allow the bounty to be extended to all your settlements in general, and I think that its being finally regulated and publicly known, will greatly tend to the speedy supply, as well as encouragement of the officers and men now wanting to complete your Military establishment, on any day you may be pleased to appoint. I will send my lawyers to confer with yours upon the subject, and adjust every necessary regulation for the proposed pensions without delay.

No. 17.

Berkley Square, 16th January 1768.

Gentlemen,

YOU are not acquainted with the fund which I propose to establish for the maintenance of superannuated and invalided officers and soldiers, and their widows. In my letter to the Committees of correspondence and treasury of the 28th of August last (an extract of which I enclose) I expressed my desire that the regulations might be speedily settled; but having not received any answer from them, I now think proper to address you upon this subject. My idea, you will observe, was, that the Court of Directors should be trustees for the fund. What I have at present to request, is, that you would be pleased to signify to me your resolution to undertake, or to decline this trust; more especially as I am under an immediate necessity of going abroad for my health, and several proper objects have petitioned me for the pension. The advantages to the Company's service, as well as the happiness of individuals, are so intimately connected with the execution of this plan, that I cannot but be impatient to see it completed.

To the honourable the Court of Directors for affairs of the honourable United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East-Indies.

I have the honour to be, with great respect,
Gentlemen,
Your most obedient humble servant,

CLIVE.

No. 18.

CASE.

AT the unanimous request of a General Court of Proprietors of East-India Stock, Lord Clive accepted the government of Bengal in May 1764; and in conformity to a new regulation in that Month proposed and established, executed covenants with the East-India Company before he left England: The form of which is hereunto annexed, No. 1, and 2.

Lord Clive sailed from England the 4th of June 1764, and arrived in Bengal the 3d of May 1765.

The Nabob of Bengal, Meer Mahomed Jaffier Cawn, by a verbal will (copies of the attestations whereof are hereunto annexed, No. 3, 4, and 5.) left to Lord Clive a legacy of five lacks of rupees, in testimony of the great regard and friendship he had for Lord Clive, and in gratitude for the many important services formerly rendered the Nabob by his Lordship.

The
The Nabob died the 5th of February 1765; Lord Clive being then on his Voyage could have no knowledge of the Nabob's intention, nor can any suspicion arise by his Lordship having influenced the Nabob in his favour.

Although Lord Clive might have declined accepting the donation until he had been out of the service, when the covenant could not bind him, yet he immediately accepted it with a declared purpose to establish the same as a fund for the support of invalid officers and soldiers in the Company's service, and their widows, and offered to confirm the fund by a proper instrument or deed of gift for ever, agreeable to the due forms of law, unless the Company should claim and be able to prove a right to the legacy under the above-mentioned covenants, or otherwise. Copies and extracts of letters, and other papers relating to this matter, are also herewith left for your consideration, No. 6.

If Lord Clive had not accepted the government of Bengal, the East-India Company could not have had any pretence to claim this legacy. And though Lord Clive was actually governor and president at the time he accepted it, yet neither his offices, nor the pay or emoluments belonging to them, commenced till his arrival in Bengal, although the Company paid the expenses of his passage thither; and as the bounty intended by the Nabob to Lord Clive was a testamentary act out of personal regard for him, and for services rendered the Nabob several years before the covenant subsisted, and as his Lordship was not, at the time it was given, in the actual exercise of either of the offices to which he was appointed, your opinion is desired.

Whether Lord Clive, under the circumstances of this case, is entitled to the above-mentioned legacy without the consent of the Court of Directors of the East-India Company,

I am of opinion that Lord Clive, under the circumstances of this case, is entitled to the above-mentioned legacy, without the consent of the Court of Directors of the East-India Company; and that the covenants could never be intended to restrain those who executed them from receiving a legacy left (as in the present instance) as an honourable mark of gratitude, friendship, and esteem.  

Lincoln's Inn, 6th May, 1769.

FLETCHER NORTON.

No. 19.

Extrait of the Company's General Letter to Bengal, dated the 16th of March 1768.

ALTHOUGH we are of opinion that by the spirit of the covenants entered into by Lord Clive, he could not accept of the legacy bequeathed him by the Nabob Meer Jaffier, without our consent; yet considering the benevolent purposes to which his Lordship intends it to be applied, we do permit him to accept the same for the uses proposed: And we shall upon his Lordship's return from abroad, consider of such further measures as may be proper for carrying the same into execution; which will be communicated to you in our next advices.

137. It is with great pleasure we observe the Nabob has given the sum of three lacks towards the extension of this beneficent design; and he is to be acquainted, it gives us the strongest impressions of his generosity.
APPENDIX

No. 20.

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Standing Charges on the Contrairement, 9th, 11th, 13th, 15th, 17th, 19th, and 21st. 9d. 10c.

By Balance, 9d. 10c.

To 19th, 11th, 13th, 15th, 17th, 19th, and 21st. 9d. 10c.

Balance, 9d. 10c.

To 19th, 11th, 13th, 15th, 17th, 19th, and 21st. 9d. 10c.

Balance, 9d. 10c.

To 19th, 11th, 13th, 15th, 17th, 19th, and 21st. 9d. 10c.

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To 19th, 11th, 13th, 15th, 17th, 19th, and 21st. 9d. 10c.

Balance, 9d. 10c.

To 19th, 11th, 13th, 15th, 17th, 19th, and 21st. 9d. 10c.

Balance, 9d. 10c.
APPENDIX, No. 21.

No. 21.

THIS is to certify, That on the twelfth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and sixty-six, Mr. Simeon Droz did appear before me Samuel Middleton, one of his Majesty's Justices of the peace for the Town of Calcutta, and districts thereof, at the English Factory House in Patna, and make oath to the following effect:

"That immediately after the demise of the Nabob Jaffier Aly Khan, late Suba of the kingdom of Bengal and provinces of Bahar and Oria, he, to the best of his recollection (and knowledge at that time in the Hindoostan language) did hear Maharage Nundcomar, then Duan of the provinces, declare to Captain John Stables, and some other gentlemen, in Moradbaug gardens, that the Nabob, a few moments before his death, earnestly and repeatedly urged Nabob Nezam ul Dowlah his son, and the said Duan, to present to the Right honourable Lord Clive, on his arrival in Bengal, the sum of five lack of rupees, as a testimonial of his regard for him; he (the said Jaffier Aly Khan) adding that had he lived till his Lordship's arrival, 'twas his intention to offer the above-mentioned sum of five lacks of rupees to him."

"SAMUEL MIDDLETON."

No. 22.

My Lord,

I WAS this day honoured with your letter of the 4th instant.

Your Lordship was misinformed with regard to my being present when Mr. Jaffier directed the sum of five lacks of rupees to be paid to you by way of legacy.—I only happened to be present when Nundcomar mentioned the circumstance to Captain Stables, and some other gentlemen, at Moradbaug.

I herewith enclose to your Lordship my deposition upon oath, made before Mr. Middleton wherein I have fully declared all that came to my knowledge relative to this matter.

I am, with great respect,

My Lord,

Patna.

October 12th 1766.

Most humble servant,

SIMEON DROZ.

The Right honourable Lord Clive.

* * * COMPLETE SETS of the Reports of the Select and Secret Committees, may now be had, uniformly Printed in the same Size, of T. Evans, No. 54, Paternoster-Row, and W. Davis, the Corner of Sackville-Street, Piccadilly.