

## THE MADRAS DESPATCHES, 1763-1764.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY.

FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 3, 1763. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol. 24, pp. 48—53 (copy, 5½ pp.).*]

The snow *Lapwing* arrived August 19, and is now returning. Cite despatch of May 31. Arrival and departure of shipping. On July 4, the *Neptune* left for Sulu with Alexander Dalrymple. The *Hawke* and *Falmouth* sailed for Manilla and China. Have received by the Coast and Bay ships despatches, dated November 30, December 9, 17, 22 and 29, 1762, March 9 and 31, 1763, with letter from Secretary James, dated December 23, 1762. The *Royal George* was too much injured in going down the Hugli to proceed with cargo to England. The *Winchelsea* which remained at Fort William for 20 months from April 1 arrived here July 22 and sailed for Bombay August 13. The Bombay Council, not having been able to lade the *Admiral Pocock* home, sent her round with a cargo of cotton to Bengal. But as that article was not in demand there, it has been sent to Canton on the *Falmouth*. Herbert reports from Batavia that permission to repair the *Earl Temple* has been refused and that she will therefore be sent to Manilla for repairs. This season 16 lakhs of rupees have been sent to China of which 5 lakhs were received from Bengal. It is expected that troubles may interfere with the collection of Bengal revenues and straiten them for cash, so that no assistance can be expected thence for the China trade next season. Even should the receipts from the Nawab be large enough to provide for the Madras expenditure, the assistance of Bengal, and a balance for China, which is very doubtful, it would be impossible to find sufficient goods or silver for the China investment. The Council's sentiments reported by the *Clinton* are every day more and more clearly confirmed. The necessity of sending silver from Europe for the China investment is therefore urged in the strongest manner. For a century past, India has received constant supply of silver from Europe, Persia, and Manilla. For some years it has been deprived of all these resources, and cannot therefore supply silver for a foreign market. It is hoped that this report will be received in time for the

Company to make provision for the China trade next year. Otherwise it is morally certain that it will be disappointed in the China investment. The prize agents of the Spanish galleon captured by the Squadron have desired the Council's opinion as to whether they may dispose of her cargo in Brazil or at Lisbon, without injuring the Company. The Council declined to give an opinion, but make this report to the Company so that proper measures may be taken.

Appended are: (1) Lists of the packet (p. 54); (2) register of diamonds, etc., amounting to 8,909 pagodas; (p. 55); (3) sailing orders of Captain John Griffin of the *Lapwing* snow (pp 56-57); and (4) manifests of presents (p. 57).

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC, TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 3, 1763. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol. 3, pp. 91-98 (copy, 8 pp.).*]

Acknowledge the receipt of the several despatches by ships which arrived here between June 17 and August 28, 1763. Propose to despatch the *Plassey* in October fully laded, when we will reply in detail to the Company's letters. Are now despatching the *Lapwing*, to report the outbreak of war between the Presidency of Fort William and Qasim Ali Khan. Have received only general advices of which copies have been enclosed. Believe that the real state of the case is impartially set forth in a letter to Pigot from Bengal, dated February, extracted below:—

“Between the Nawab's own jealousy and foolish apprehensions of the power of those he thinks not his well-wishers, the insolence of some of his officers and the unlimited authority exerted or pretended to, by the meanest servant of the meanest Englishman in all parts of this country, it is a difficult matter to prevent squabbles between our people and the Government. One scale or other is always too heavy and whichever side has the turn in his favour is sure to commit horrid abuses.”

News of the massacre of the Patna garrison. Most of our troops being engaged against Yusuf Khan, it was impossible to send material assistance to Bengal, but Cornish attended Consultation and very readily offered to send 2 of His Majesty's ships and 2 frigates to Bengal with marines to be landed. At that time, the effective strength of the garrison at Madras was only 368 men of whom 200 of the Company's troops have been sent to Bengal.

In order to facilitate the collection of the Nawab's revenues, and consequently also the payment of his debt, it would have been desirable in any case to assist him in recovering the Madura and Tinnevely countries; but besides this, whereas the Company's system was formerly wholly commercial, it is now partly commercial and partly military, the reputation of the Company's armies must be maintained; and if Yusuf Khan's defection be disregarded, the Company's powers to subdue him may be doubted and others may likewise attempt to secure independence; but most of all, is Yusuf Khan's declaring himself an ally of the French, his hoisting their colours and receiving a body of Frenchmen (consisting of prisoners on parole). These were sent to his assistance by Maudave, who arrived last year on the Coast, having or pretending to have powers to take charge of their affairs and residing sometimes at Negapatam and sometimes at Tranquebar. These reasons render an expedition against Yusuf Khan indispensable, although the disbursements, which will be carried to the Nawab's accounts, will render the immediate reduction of his debt less than had been hoped. This expedition has hitherto progressed successfully. In the course of this month, it is hoped to occupy the principal places of strength so that a great part of the troops may be withdrawn, on which as great a reinforcement as possible shall be sent up to Bengal. Urge the Company to send out by the shipping which arrives in 1764 as many recruits as it possibly can. Are now negotiating with the Nawab concerning the grant of the country mentioned in Pigot's letter to the Secret Committee. Expect by the next despatch to report that he has ceded country lying round Madras to a considerable value. Are anxious to withdraw the Manilla garrison, etc., as soon as possible. A plan has been made to get them back by next January. If it fails, they cannot return before January or February 1765. Cornish has been persuaded to send the *Panther* thither, and the Company's ships *Revenge* and *Admiral Pocock* will accompany her. The Canton supracargoes have been asked to order all their early ships to call at Manilla to carry the Europeans there to Madras, which will hardly delay these ships beyond 6 weeks. News has been sent to Manilla by the *Revenge* which will proceed with the Council's despatches (to China) and anchor at Macao to save the cost of demurrage at Canton. Fear that in consequence of death or desertions, only half the troops sent to Manilla will return. This should be remembered in determining the number of recruits to be sent

out Although the Company intends to have a body of 2,000, the Council observe that 3,000 are really necessary, for it seldom happens that two-thirds of our troops are fit for service at one time, and to replace losses by death, sickness and other accidents, recruits are needed in the proportion of 1 to 5 annually. Since the publication of the peace, have received a letter from M. de Maudave, the pretended French Chief, stating that he has arrived with full powers to continue the war, and despatched a body of French troops duly commissioned to the assistance of Yusuf Khan, who has made a full cession of the Madura and Tinnevely countries to the French. He therefore desired us to withdraw our forces. But when some time after his arrival, he assumed the character of a Chief, we applied to him for the cost of subsisting the French prisoners. He replied he was not empowered to do so. Have yet received no communication from the French regarding the peace.

Appended are lists of the packets (pp. 99-100).

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY.

FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMBER 7, 1763. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol. 24, pp. 58-83 (copy, 26 pp.).*]

Cite despatches of May 31 and September 3, 1763. Are now despatching the *Plassey*. Two ships intended for this side of India, the *British King* and *Pitt*, have not yet arrived. The *Lord Clive* was prevented by winds and currents from making Masulipatam on her way to Bengal in September, and therefore landed the Masulipatam stores at Vizagapatam. It is reported from Bombay that, as the price of cotton is so low in Bengal, attempts were made to let the *Lord Mansfield* and the *Bute* to freight from Bombay to Bengal; but as no offers were received, cargoes of cotton for them are to be purchased on the Company's account. Nine Company's ships remain to be laded from this side of India. The Bengal Council expects to have cargoes for 5; one has already been despatched from Madras, and it is hoped to be able to lade another in February. It cannot yet be decided how the remaining two may best be sent home. While the *Winchelsea* was lying here, Mr. Parslaw, second officer, was permitted to receive his discharge owing to ill-health.

Refer to what was formerly written, October 2, 1761 (regarding the sale of woollen goods) reporting that the principal dealers had offered to take 600 bales at 20 *per cent.* on the invoice. On receipt of the consignments of this year the merchants were at first

willing to repeat their offer of 1761; but on finding that the goods were invoiced at much higher prices, they declined receiving them at 20 *per cent.* advance. On this Council advertised for sealed proposals for the purchase of the whole. As none were received, the goods were put up to public sale [October 6] when 527 bales were sold at an average profit (the pagoda being reckoned at 8 s.) of about 23 $\frac{3}{4}$  *per cent.* on the invoice. However 9 *per cent.* is to be allowed on goods cleared within 6 months and 3 *per cent.* on goods cleared between 6 and 12 months. This year about the usual quantities are indented for which is the utmost that can be vended here. The 6 pieces of long ells specially glazed (mentioned in despatch of December 17, 1762) have been shown to the principal dealers who are willing to pay the extra cost as that is small for a few bales by way of variety.

The copper that was sold at 90 pagodas a candy referred to in the Company's despatch of March 9, 1763, fetched an exceedingly high price. What was sold in December did not fetch 75 $\frac{1}{2}$  pagodas. In July 400 candies, half fine and half coarse, sold, the fine at about 78 $\frac{1}{2}$  pagodas and the coarse 79 $\frac{1}{4}$ , yielding a profit of about 18 $\frac{1}{2}$  *per cent.* on the invoice, from which however the usual discount for speedy clearance was allowed. Six hundred and fifty candies remain and will be put up next month.

Five hundred bales consigned to Bombay *via* Madras were laded on the *Winchelsea* which touched here on her way to Bombay on a freighted voyage. Five hundred more bales were also put on to her from the *Deptford*, it being thought that they also were intended for Bombay. It now appears that they were really designed for Bengal. This mistake is much regretted. Nine hundred and fifty-five bales remain to be sent to Bombay, which will be done in January or February.

Repeat previous assurances that it is impossible to provide the silver needed for the China trade at Madras. The sums sent this year to China and the expenses of the Madura campaign have forced Council to borrow at interest a sum of 84,000 pagodas, and it is feared that for some months we shall be very bare of cash.

Not only Madras but also the Army and Navy have been greatly distressed for want of Madeira wine this season.

In the past it has been difficult to recover balances due from merchants who contracted to supply redwood, as the cutters were said to be always greatly in arrears. An attempt was therefore made to provide redwood without advances. The best offer that

was received was  $3\frac{3}{4}$  pagodas for the China sort; and  $2\frac{3}{4}$  for the Europe sort. This contract was thought advantageous, the contractors having more than once declared that they were making nothing by it and that they wished to relinquish it. What was received of Chepperumal Chetti in 1761 at  $2\frac{1}{2}$  pagodas a candy was the Europe sort which is much inferior to the China sort. This latter consists of long, straight, large sticks; few merchants can provide it at anything like  $3\frac{3}{4}$  pagodas a candy. Captain Jackson had actually bought and shipped a quantity at  $5\frac{3}{4}$  pagodas *per* candy. As it has been previously resolved that none should be sent to China on private account, he was required to deliver it to the Company's supracargoes but allowed the price he had given for it.

When customs-duty was demanded on goods said to be Manilla prize goods landed from His Majesty's ships, payment was refused and the Admiral desired that the Company should prefer its claim in England. The amount due was 763 pagodas.

As regards the investment, our efforts have not been so successful as could be wished, in spite of the tranquillity now subsisting on the Coast. The long troubles have driven many weavers into other occupations, and it will be a considerable time before the manufacture can be properly re-established. The Madras merchants have been punctual in bringing in their cloth, but those at Cuddalore have fallen very short both in quantity and quality, alleging the great dearness and scarcity of cotton. On being threatened with severe notice of their misconduct, they promised to make amends by future care and assiduity. The bales from Bandarmalanka and Vizagapatani have not yet arrived. They will be very short in quantity. The Cuddalore merchants are unwilling to contract to supply any quantity of salampores fine and middling, which the Chief and Council of Cuddalore thought might be added to the goods provided for the Company. The Company's servants have not been concerned either directly or indirectly in the investment since the Company's orders on the subject were received.

The Viceroy at Goa has promised to recommend the authorities at Macao to show to British subjects the same good treatment as formerly. The Peace with France and Spain has been proclaimed.

The Karikal farm has been re-let for one year to Tirumal Rao for 20,000 pagodas. The Town Brokerage farm has been re-let until July 31, 1766, at 1,020 pagodas a year. At the last sale it

fetched 845 pagodas. Nayinar, the betel and tobacco renter, claims to have lost 8,970 pagodas during the Nawab's stay here owing to his maintenance of a bazaar.<sup>1</sup> The sum has been deducted from the rent and charged to the Nawab's account.

Dupré has been permitted to take his passage for England on the *Plussey*. Fairfield succeeds him as Import Warehousekeeper and Claud Russell as Assaymaster; Ardley having delivered over to Carter, etc., the management of the Sumatra factories, returned here recently. Turner has been allowed to quit Cuddalore on account of his health, leaving the factory in charge of Calland. Dalrymple has been allowed to return to England on account of his private affairs. Brown, a factor in the Company's service, broke his leg by falling from his horse, and died August 11. Edward Middleton, writer, has been allowed to resign and proceed to Bengal to assist his brother, one of the Company's servants, in the management of his concerns. The Reverend Mr. Merrifield is returning to Europe with Admiral Cornish in consequence of ill-health. Regret the omission to require covenanted servants to execute new covenants on their coming to age. This has now been done at Madras and orders have been sent to the same purpose to the subordinate factories. The covenants of Hollond and Barlow shall be properly executed on their return from China and Manilla, respectively. Unfortunately Henry Crawford had already proceeded to Europe to solicit appointment in the Company's service, before the orders for his appointment had arrived. Croke, who came out with his family this season with permission to reside in Bengal, being in the decline of life, and finding Madras more agreeable, has been permitted to remain and draw his allowance here subject to the Company's approval. Military promotions are recorded in (Public) Consultations June 14, August 9, 29 and October 31, 1763. The clothing allowed the French prisoners was made at the special recommendation of De Leyrit who promised that the amount should be repaid. The victualling of the French prisoners at four fanams a day was the rate always allowed the Company's Steward for victualling recruits for the first few days after their arrival. Proposals for victualling prisoners were afterwards invited with a statement of the kind and quantity of food to be supplied. The lowest offer was  $3\frac{1}{4}$  fanams and a contract was given at that rate. The Company's troops can feed themselves cheaper because they eat

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<sup>1</sup> Goods which paid no duty.

fish whenever it is plentiful and cheap, and also Indian food which is still cheaper, for they cannot always afford meat. If any one has been employed on wages to victual the prisoners like this, such attention would not have been paid to the provisions as men pressed by necessity give to their own concerns. In making the contract, it was necessary to specify the diet in order to avoid endless complaints. The contractor makes a profit, but no one would make any offer unless he expected a profit. The allowances to the French officers and civil servants are conformable to a list agreed to and signed by De Leyrit which was considered a sufficient voucher. A complete statement of the expenditure on the French prisoners is being prepared. They are now reduced to about 200, mostly invalids.

The Company by its despatch of March 13, 1761, permitted the allowance to Chiefs of subordinate factories to be increased if 50 pagodas a month would not support them in a plain frugal manner; 100 pagodas a month is now allowed to the Chiefs of Vizagapatam, Masulipatam and Cuddalore; this is not really more than sufficient for that purpose as there are unavoidable expenses connected with their positions. But it is hoped that this sum with industry in trade affords a reasonable encouragement.

The printing press will be discontinued when copies have been taken of such forms as may be of use in the different offices.

His Majesty's ships now here, are the *Norfolk*, *America* and *Weymouth*. The last, having been despatched from Manilla to Bombay, arrived here September 28. His Majesty's ships *Panther* sailed for Manilla August 23; the *Argo* sailed with reinforcements for Bengal August 24; the *York* and *Liverpool*, August 30; and the *Medway*, September 9. The *Grafton*, *Lenox* and *Trinidad*, prize, sailed for England, September 25. The *Baleine* has sailed to the southward with stores for the Madura siege. The Agents of the army have produced the original accounts of the sales of the principal goods taken at Pondichery. It is hoped that a complete statement will be forwarded in the packets, including military stores taken at Pondichery and Karikal. The Karikal prize agent is dead, but it is believed that the prize effects sold there produced a very trifling sum.

Supplement: Re-establishment of the Sumatra settlements. Father Severini died in September last. The Reverend Father Stanton who is esteemed a quiet and well disposed man has been appointed his successor. The *Plassey* was despatched September 29 to bring up bales from Cuddalore, but though she sailed thence



October 15, she did not arrive till November 1. This was lucky, for on October 21, there was so violent a gale that all the vessels in the road were wrecked including the *Union* on which 212 bales of the Vizagapatam investment had been laded (only a few ruined pieces have been recovered). His Majesty's ships *Norfolk*, *Weymouth* and *America* on the first appearance of bad weather put to sea on October 20, and returned dismasted, having run down as far as Cuddalore where the chief violence of the storm fell. The *Plassey* met the gale 50 leagues east of Pondichery but sustained no damage. The *Success* snow has brought some bales of the Masulipatam investment which seemed equal to muster; but the moorees and cloth for lampasses from Bandarmalanka prove too thick and coarse for painting. Now send various patterns for chintz in order that the Company may signify those which it prefers. Regarding the Cuddalore investment, the manufacture is much improved (except that of the Udaiyarpalayam cloth and Shiyali No. 1), and some of it is superior to muster. The blue cloth is of a good fabric for painting and very well dyed. Send a complete account of the sales of prize goods taken at Pondichery with lists of civil and military stores taken there, at Karikal and Alambarai, with a valuation of such as are in good condition at the rates at which similar goods are invoiced by the Company. No value has been assigned to partly damaged and quite unserviceable goods. An account of the freight and other charges incurred in transporting the stores to Madras is also enclosed; as also account sales of civil stores taken before the reduction of Pondichery; and a statement of the expenditure on the French prisoners, together with an estimate of the monthly charges of the prisoners still remaining. The accounts of the subsistence of prisoners from April 1760 to January 1761, never having been properly authenticated, Messrs. De La Roque and Isaac were appointed by De Leyrit to inspect and authenticate them. They would only certify the earlier accounts on a supposition of their being just, having made a comparison between those accounts and the running ones. Till the French prisoners were subsisted by contract, the only vouchers for the expenditure on them consisted of the monthly accounts put in by the servants appointed to that duty, no Commissaries having been appointed by the French to inspect them. Alexander has been permitted to resign and sails on the *Plassey*. Newton returns to England on His Majesty's ship *Weymouth* as also Captain Tod. It is recommended that this officer should be reinstated in his rank if his health permits his

returning to India. The Company's ship, *British King*, arrived October 31. Cornish intends sailing to-morrow to Trincomalee with His Majesty's ships *Norfolk*, *Weymouth*, and *America*, to repair damages and then proceed to England.

Postscript: Bills have been drawn on the Company at 90 days' sight for £19,693; and at 12 months' sight bearing interest at 4 per cent. after the 1st 90 days for £12,702 both at 8 s. a pagoda.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY.

FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMBER 7, 1763. [*Military Despatches to England*, Vol. 3, pp. 101—106 (copy, 6 pp.).]

Cite despatch of September 3. [This goes by the *Plassey*.] The utmost efforts have been made to get rid of the French prisoners before Commissaries could arrive from France to demand them, and only a few are left fit to serve. But for the expedition to Madura, the Nawab's debt would have been reduced to an inconsiderable sum. It is now reckoned at about 35 lakhs of rupees. The Nawab has promised to discharge this by the end of October next, paying 2 lakhs a month in January, February and March, 5 lakhs a month from April to July and 3 lakhs from August to October. The grant of countries mentioned in the last despatch has been completed. The countries extend to the Marakanam river near Alambarai on the south, to 'Churacot', a little to the north of Pulicat on the north, and to the 2 Conjeeverams on the west. These are expected to produce at least 2½ lakhs of pagodas a year. When Call returns from Madura, he will be directed to survey that country. The French will perhaps, on re-establishing themselves in India, attempt to form connections with the country powers in order to secure grants to enable them to maintain a military force, as the Treaty of Peace does not seem to restrict them from seeking new grants. Salabat Jang continues a prisoner with Nizam Ali who entirely manages the affairs of the Deccan. Could a force have been sent to Masulipatam, grants of Mustaphanagar, Ellore, Murtazanagar, Rajahmundry and Chicacole could easily have been obtained; but were refused by Nizam Ali on any other terms. If the French should endeavour to form an alliance with him, they would have no great difficulty in securing grants in return for military assistance.

Batta has been reduced as low as possible, but can never be entirely abandoned, as officers and men cannot live in the field on their pay alone.

Will pay particular attention to orders, in Company's letters of March 9 and 31. No more factories shall be ceded to the French

than those included by the Treaty. All their fortresses and buildings were destroyed long before the Treaty was signed. News from Bengal of success over Qasim Ali Khan. In regard to the expedition against Yusuf Khan, the difficulties of forming magazines of provisions and stores have rendered the event of the siege of Madura very doubtful. Monson has opened batteries for some time, but the weather may oblige him to raise the siege. In that case our troops will be cantoned in the 2 forts taken near Madura, and the siege will be renewed when the weather permits, by which time troops may be expected from Manilla, as well as the recruits by the *Pitt*. The men of His Majesty's regiments not inclined to enlist in the Company's service have been ordered by Lawrence to remain in cantonments to be ready to assist, so as not to render the army incapable of action by their recall. Enclose copy of a complimentary letter written by the Nawab to His Majesty, to be sent by Admiral Cornish, returning thanks for the squadron and troops sent to his help. The despatch of April 27, was received October 30 by the *British King*.

Regarding extracts from the letters of Sir Joseph Yorke, the Governor and Council of Colombo long ago protested against our embassy to the King of Kandy, of which a full report has already been given. It is gratifying to learn that the English conduct is justifiable. War between the Dutch and Kandy began long before that, and numerous messages were received from the King before one was sent to him; and further negotiations with the King were immediately stopped when it was perceived that the only terms he would offer were on condition of our assistance against the Dutch.

There was a violent storm on October 21 and 22. His Majesty's ships *Norfolk*, *Weymouth* and *America* put out to sea and returned the 24th, entirely dismasted and much damaged. Cornish proposes to sail with them to Trincomalee and thence to Europe.

Appended are lists of the packets (pp. 107—109).

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY.  
FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMBER 12, 1763. [*Public Despatches to England*, Vol. 24, pp. 84-85 (copy, 2 pp.).]

Cite despatch of November 7 sent by His Majesty's ship *Norfolk*. The amount of the [*Plassey's*] invoice is 1,41,301 pagodas and the diamonds registered 68,254 pagodas. The balance in the Treasury is 8,426 Arcot rupees, 99,367 current pagodas, 2,908

Madras pagodas and 420 pagodas' worth of gold and silver, together with 20,000 pagodas in the cash chest. 'The war being concluded, a great part of the Nawab's debt discharged, the rest in a fair way of being so, a large addition made to your possessions on the Coast, and these brought to a state of as much security, as the precarious nature of Indian tenures can admit, Mr. Pigot purposes to return to England on the ship *Plassey*.' He returns his thanks for the honours and attention shown him by the Company.

Appended are: (1) letter to St. Helena dated November 12, 1763 (p. 86); (2) lists of the packets by the *Plassey* (pp. 87-94); (3) list of passengers, including George Pigot, Josias Dupré, James Alexander, James Wilson, Mrs. Amelia Vansittart, Miss Amelia Vansittart, and 6 servants (p. 95); (4) manifests of private trade amounting to 3,600 Arcot rupees, and 193 pagodas (p. 95); (5) register of diamonds (pp. 96-99); and (6) sailing orders dated November 14, to Captain James Ward of the *Plassey* (pp. 100-101).

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 26, 764. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol. 24, pp. 102-III (copy, 10 pp.).*]

This goes by His Majesty's ship *Liverpool* which has called here on her way home from Bengal. The *Plassey* sailed November 14 with Pigot on board, and Palk has taken over the management of the Company's affairs. The *Depford* is daily expected. The *Pitt*, having stayed some months at Brazil, did not arrive till January 6, with the Company's despatch of May 13. It was then too late for her to prosecute her voyage; and, having sprung her main-mast, it was necessary to send her to the Southward for repairs. She carried a detachment of military and a quantity of stores which were landed at Tondi about 50 miles from Madura. The mast having been repaired at Negapatam, she returned here on March 18 with bales from Cuddalore. Other shipping news. Since the last despatch it appears that only 3 cargoes can be provided in Bengal, so that 5 vessels remain to be provided for. The measures to be taken for their employment cannot yet be decided. On November 8, 10 vessels were lying at Canton almost provided with full cargoes by the supplies consigned last season from Madras and Bengal. But these supplies cannot be continued. They have 'drained our settlements' so that the exchange of rupees at Madras is now nominally 312 *per* 100 pagodas with scarcely a rupee to be had. All that can be sent this year is a

small number of rupees in the treasury, pepper brought from Sumatra, and some tin, cotton and redwood. In spite of the joint endeavours of all the settlements, many of the present year's ships must lie on hand, unless the Canton supracargoes are provided with supplies of treasure from Europe. They moreover expected to have to borrow about 60,000 taels, as the Manilla Council had detained 44 chests of treasure consigned to China. Every effort shall be made to promote this material branch of trade, 'but it is evident that the support of it must principally depend on supplies from Europe, for India is already drained of silver and does not afford commodities for a large investment to China.' It has already been reported that Dalrymple sailed by the *Neptune* July 4, in order to collect the goods contracted for at Sulu in 1762. The latest news from Canton is that he quitted the *Neptune* at Manilla to return to Sulu to collect the Company's debts amounting to 70,000 dollars, desiring a ship to be sent thither from Canton to receive the goods. The supracargoes however cannot spare a ship, and nothing can be determined until advices are received from Bengal and Manilla. There seem to be no prospects of carrying on this trade with advantage. Other shipping news. A full cargo of bales is in readiness for the *Deptford*. The merchants here have contracted for the present year's investment on the same terms as last year's.

It has already been reported from the Military department that a great number of villages were either excepted or omitted from the sanads for the countries granted by the Nawab. As it was found that several of them had been previously comprehended in the farms of those countries and no immediate explanation was possible, it was decided to let the countries for the remainder of the present year including all villages whether omitted or excepted as jaghir. They were accordingly let from October 16, 1763 to July 31, 1764, for 2,88,820 pagodas, including the amount of Pulicat customs 1,500 pagodas, and the village of Nemmali worth 600 pagodas, which has been given back to the Nawab at his earnest request, so that the net revenues will be 2,86,720 pagodas. The rents are payable in 7 instalments and each renter has been required to deposit 1/7th as an advance, so that on any renter making default of a payment, the farms can be at once re-let. It is considered that the rents are favourable, but considering the goodness of the harvest, no doubt is entertained of their collection.

The day after the *Plassey* sailed, Fairfield, the Import Warehousekeeper, reported that considerable frauds had been committed by the conicopies employed under Dupré. A Committee was appointed which found that from the remains taken between November 15 and December 14, there was a deficiency of copper to the amount of 39,911 pagodas brought about by Subbarayan and Muttukumarappa having omitted to enter 570 candies which the purchasers had taken out, converting the money to their own use. Fairfield represented that although he was appointed to take charge on September 27, Dupré continued in the management until November 11 when the account remains was signed by Fairfield in reliance on Dupré's usual punctuality and his assurance that he had taken particular care. Fairfield, being in strictness personally answerable, has been required to give his obligation for the deficiency. He hopes that in the circumstances the Company may have some consideration for him, and he has been allowed to sign a bond recognising his responsibility for the deficiency of such part as remains unpaid when the Company's orders are received. On January 26, repayments by the conicopies reduced the deficiencies to 19,121 pagodas and further sums have since been received from Muttukumarappa. The Committee of Enquiry consisted of Russel, Aldersey and Kelsal. Copies of the Consultations, etc., relating to this are sent in the packet. The Regulations now being made in the different employs will prevent such impositions in future.

On the departure of Pigot, Dupré and Alexander to England, John Smith, John Lewin Smith and John Call, were promoted to the Council. On the death of Heath January 18, George Stratton was called down from Vizagapatam to take his seat.

Enclose a copy of the letter from the Nawab proposing to clothe his sepoys in woollens. Musters of broadcloth and perpetuanoes were sent to him, and he desires the latter as being cheaper and lighter; the clothing is to be faced and turned up with broadcloth. As no perpetuanoes are in store, he must be supplied with cloth for the present. Each piece of perpetuanoes will make about 10 coats, so that he will require about 1,000 pieces a year. The colour should be chiefly blue, scarlet fine, and green, but some bales should be sent of all the other colours in order to distinguish the different battalions. The quantity may be increased as it will be recommended to him to clothe his lascars also in the same manner.

Bills are now drawn at 90 days' sight at 8 s. a pagoda, including £300 on account of a subscription raised for the Marine Society, amounting in all to £10,541 or 26,353 pagodas.

Appended is a list of the packet (p. 112).

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE 'COMPANY.  
FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 26<sup>th</sup> 28, 1764. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol. 3, pp. 109—125 (copy, 16½ pp.).*]

As reported in despatch of November 7, it was found necessary to raise the siege of Madura, as the badness of the weather and the difficulty of passing the ditch exposed our small forces to the danger of losing all their stores. Monson has left Major Preston in command and returned to Madras on account of ill-health. The Councils of Bengal and Bombay have been requested to furnish all the assistance they can, and the utmost efforts have been used to collect stores for the renewal of the siege. The Bengal Council have replied that they cannot possibly spare any of the men sent from Madras whom they have incorporated with their own troops, but promised to send a detachment of 300 Europeans expected from Bombay. Eighty artillery and 30 infantry have already arrived on His Majesty's ships *York* and *Liverpool*, and the rest are expected by his Majesty's ships *Medway* and *Deptford*. The *Pitt* arrived January 7, and landed 250 military. Their treatment on board was satisfactory. Commissions have been given to Captain Fitzgerald and other officers as ordered. The *Pitt* has been employed along with other vessels and boats in carrying troops, artillery, stores, etc., for the siege from Madras to Tondi's seaport about 50 miles from Madura. It is hoped that a sufficient quantity of artillery and stores have now been collected. The troops received by the *Pitt* and such drafts as could be taken from Madras and the out-garrisons, have enabled the army to cut off the rebel's communication with the country. During the last siege, the army had been unable to intercept the supplies constantly passing into Madura. Now, we have been able to take possession of the country just when the corn was fit to be cut, so that no grain can be carried into Madura. When it was found that the siege had to be recommenced, Yusuf Khan sent his Vakil to Madras with a letter, offering to return to our allegiance, provided he was continued in the rentership of the countries. It was not clear whether this was inspired by fear or by the hope of delaying operations. The Vakil was immediately returned with a letter stating that nothing short of immediate surrender will entitle

Yusuf Khan to any favour. The engagement by Yusuf Khan of a number of straggling Frenchmen of whom there are not less than 1,500 in different parts of India. When our army returned again before Madura, Preston received an unsigned letter supposed to come from the Captain of Hussars at that place, offering to bring off his troops. In consequence of the steps taken by Preston, Captain Riquet with 2 other officers and 41 privates deserted Yusuf Khan under promise of receiving 8,000 pagodas to maintain his men till the arrival of the Commissaries. This is regarded as a fortunate circumstance. It will make Yusuf Khan distrust his other Europeans, and will perhaps prevent desertions from us. Major Campbell, at his own request, has taken the command which could not be refused as he is senior to Preston, although Preston's conduct has been entirely satisfactory. To prevent supplies from going into Madura, posts have been established round the town. The Poligars have come over to the Nawab's side, and the siege will be begun as soon as stores come in from Tondi. Should the Bombay detachment arrive in time, it will be sent down at once. A party ordered by the Bombay Council from Anjengo is expected to join in time. These forces should be sufficient to effect the speedy reduction of Madura. The present army consists of about 1,784 including Europeans and Coffrees, but of these about 200 will generally be in hospital. There only remain in the different garrisons invalids, pensioners, and men unfit for duty. Five thousand and five hundred sepoys are also employed on the expedition. Captain Tinker who commands His Majesty's ships in India, has offered to land the marines for any service required of them, but the Council are unwilling to send them into the field in consequence of the inconveniences arising when King's and Company's troops are employed together. However, Captain Clarke of the *Liverpool* has been requested to transfer his detachment to the *York* so that their assistance may be available if wanted, and the *Liverpool* will thus be able to take more of Monson's regiment who are to proceed home by her. When orders arrived for sending home King's regiments, there were so few Company's troops on the Coast that it was impossible immediately to put them in execution, for it would have been impossible to continue the siege or prevent Yusuf Khan from acquiring new territories. Lawrence therefore at the Council's request agreed to detain His Majesty's troops in India until the situation of affairs would allow of their departure. It is hoped



that this measure may be so represented to His Majesty that no blame may fall upon Lawrence. Every expedient has been used to engage men to take the Company's service. At first only 10 pagodas were offered for enlistment ; but as it was known that £10 had been offered at Bombay, the same had to be offered here ; but even then few would enlist. Many officers were willing to come into the service, but a difficulty arose by reason of His Majesty's commands to the contrary. However it was thought necessary to offer Captain's commissions to all lieutenants who could raise 50 men, the officers being promised a recommendation to His Majesty so that they may retain the benefit of their rank and their half-pay when they return home. This has succeeded up to expectation. Sixty-two non-commissioned officers and men from the artillery, 96 from the 79th regiment, 7 from the 84th, 69 from the 89th, and 412 from the 96th, or 646 in all (included in the 1,784 military at Madura as before mentioned). Nothing but the great need of Europeans could have induced the Council to adopt this measure. As there are now scarcely 50 men fit for duty at Madras who have not enlisted, it was thought advisable to discontinue the offer lest the officers from Manilla should expect the same terms, which would bring too many Captains into the service. Lieutenants Hooker and Madge of the 96th Regiment have received Captain's commissions for enlisting 50 men each. Lieutenant Kinlock who began to enlist before the orders were discontinued, is trying to complete his number. Lieutenant Bailey of the 89th enlisted 17 men. He with Lieutenants Mantland and Calvert of the 89th and Ensigns Painter and Gee of the 96th have come into Company's service with their rank in His Majesty's. Colley Lucas sent out as Surgeon for His Majesty's hospital has been admitted surgeon here and is now in the field. He desires that the Company may be requested to procure from His Majesty the benefit of his half-pay when he returns home.

The *Speedwell* arrived here from Manilla on March 22. On January 30 she had been despatched to 'Cappoloen' in the province of 'Tayabas,' with Goodlad, in the hope of persuading the Moors to assist our people at Manilla who were in a manner shut up by a considerable force under Don Anda. On February 6, she was driven off the Coast and was obliged to bear away for Malacca for want of provisions. Goodlad reports that on the arrival of the *Admiral Pocock* at Manilla with the Preliminary articles of Peace, every attempt was made to persuade the malcontents to cease

hostilities. The Definitive Treaty had not arrived at the time of her departure, so that our people did not think they could safely abandon the place without positive orders. It is still hoped that they will receive these orders in time to come away before the next season. They were in such lack of provisions as to be obliged to prepare to take the field to disperse Don Anda's party, consisting of 100 of our deserters, 100 Spaniards, 700 or 800 Mexican troops, and 2,000 to 3,000 Malays. The Manilla garrison did not exceed 400 Europeans and as many sepoys. The *Havannah*, *Cruttenden* and *Falmouth* had arrived there from China; and *Hawke* was expected. Two hundred Chinese have embarked on the first two for Sumatra, and Drake, etc., were endeavouring to persuade others to do the same.

On January 31, a French frigate, *l'Expedition* (Le Bruin, commander) arrived at Tranquebar from the Islands, despatched from Bourbon November 30 to De Petitval. No letters arrived by her, concerning the retrocession of the French factories. She apparently came to procure copies of papers saved when Pondichery was taken; and she returned, as soon as they were furnished, carrying Maudave and others recalled to France to assist in the enquiry into Lally's conduct. They expect to meet at Mauritius M. 'Laws,' the new Governor, and Father Larain, Extraordinary Councillor, coming with 10 or 12 ships to take possession of places on the Coast in June. A protest had already been delivered to Marchand, commander of the French troops in Madura, for their violation of the peace. De Petitval was furnished with a copy and desired, if he had sufficient power, to recall the French troops and in any case to endeavour to persuade them to conform to the Treaty. He replied that his only orders were to procure copies of papers, but that he would forward our protest to the Government of the Islands and to France. Marchand who commands the French in Madura and who admits having hoisted French colours January 1763, is the person taken prisoner by Captain Richard Smith near Devikottai in 1760 and permitted on account of his health to proceed to Negapatam on parole. He has never been exchanged. In consequence of this violation of his parole Major Campbell has been ordered to seize and send him hither, in case he should come out again with a flag of truce or otherwise fall into our power.

The delay in learning His Majesty's pleasure regarding the division of the prize effects of Pondichery, has occasioned great discontent among the troops, especially as the Squadron has already

divided what was in their Agent's hands. To stop their complaints and encourage them to act with spirit, the Agents of the army have been recommended to divide one half of the amount of prize effects in their hands.

On examining the sanads given for the Company's jaghir, it was found that many villages and places had been omitted or excluded, amounting in value to 40,000 pagodas a year. The Nawab was therefore informed that it had always been understood that the countries he should grant would be entire and unencumbered, and that the Council intended to offer them to rent without subjecting them to any reduction. He was therefore desired to make out new sanads for the countries including all places situated in them. No satisfactory answer has yet been received ; but many petitions have come in requesting that the petitioners should be put in possession of their jaghirs ; the only exceptions which have been made are the Pulicat customs amounting to 1,500 pagodas a year, and a village of 500 or 600 pagodas a year belonging to the Nawab's lady ; for the rest, the Nawab has been requested to provide for them in some other way. When the Nawab comes to Madras after the expedition to Madura is over, it is hoped that this affair will be settled. The countries have been put up and let at rents which exceeded our expectations and perhaps their real value. As renters are looked upon as persons of consequence, men are often tempted to become farmers even at a disadvantage.

The old King of Tanjore died last December, not without suspicion of having been cut off by his son and his General Manoji. The Nawab was however advised to conceal his suspicions and to write to the new King pressing him to maintain his friendship with the Nawab and the Company, and to pay the 5 lakhs of rupees due last November. The Council also wrote to the same effect, but an answer was received describing the reduced state in which his father left his treasury. It is not expected that he will fulfil his father's obligations until Madura has been taken ; but then the Council are convinced that he will rather keep his father's treaty than run any risk of the Nawab's and Company's hostility.

The Council are still very anxious to obtain from Nizam Ali the countries already offered them. Therefore the correspondence has been renewed ; and Nizam Ali now states that he is very ready to make them ours on having a body of troops under a good officer to continue with him in the same manner as Bussy did.

As soon as the Madura expedition is finished, the possibility of doing so will be taken into most serious consideration. Not only would this greatly increase the Company's revenues but also prevent the French from obtaining these territories.

Letters from Negapatam report that the Dutch are collecting 5,000 Europeans to attack the King of Kandy, from whom an application for help has been received.

Desire that indent for small arms may be fully complied with, together with 5,000 additional stand of arms on the Nawab's account; few now remain in store owing to the quantities sent to him, Bengal and Manilla, as well as a large number expended here. Entrenching tools are also needed.

Cornish left for Trincomalee, November 9, with the *Norfolk*, *Weymouth*, and *America*. But the *Weymouth* having been much damaged in a gale, she and the *America* reached Anjengo, December 13 and 16, and proceeded at once to join Cornish who put into Cochin. He sailed for England with the *Norfolk*, *America* and *Chatham*, December 29. The *Weymouth* has proceeded to Bombay to refit, and the *Baleine* sailed for Europe.

Little has been done on the fortifications as the Engineer has been otherwise engaged at Madura. The master-bricklayer is carrying on the new works to the south, having just begun the foundation of the south-west wing of the south tenaillon, the south-east wing being almost finished. The services of 2 or 3 bricklayers, strong, healthy and tractable, would save ten times their expense as the Engineer cannot be constantly over the bricklayers and coolies who go on slowly when there are no overseers.

Postscript dated March 28: It is feared that neither the *Panther* nor the *Revenge* has been able to make the passage to China; and in case no vessels have been appointed at Canton to bring the troops away,<sup>1</sup> and His Majesty's ship *Falmouth* proves too bad to be repaired, it has been resolved to send the *Pitt* to Manilla whence she can either proceed to China or return here with troops.

Appended is a list of the packet (p. 125).

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FOR ST. GEORGE, MAY 4, 1764. [*Public Despatches to England*, Vol. 24, pp. 113-141 (copy, 29 pp.).]

Cite despatches of November 7 and 12, 1763 and March 26, 1764. This goes by the *Deptford* which arrived from Bengal laden for

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<sup>1</sup> From Manilla.

Europe. The Fort William Council reports that they can lade only 3 ships to Europe this season, and proposes to employ the rest as follows—I to Bombay with 200 tons of saltpetre; I to Madras with the remainder of the Bombay detachment and a supply of rice, and thence to Batavia to procure arrack, timber, etc., for the Company's use in Bengal; the third to China with cotton, lead and 2 lakhs of rupees, and the fourth to Mauritius to bring back to Fort Marlborough the Chinese families carried away thence. Instead of sending the *Pitt* to Canton with merchandise for that market, she has been sent to Manilla as she may be needed in withdrawing the troops. She carries tin for China to the value of 18,171 pagodas which will be forwarded by another vessel, should she be required as a transport. His Majesty's ship *Panther* arrived here from Batavia, April 5. Other shipping news. Loss of the *Winchelsea*, March 20, on the Long Sand off the mouth of the Ganges, by an unaccountable mistake of the pilot. The crew were with difficulty saved.

In January, 300 candies of fine and 330 of coarse copper sold at 83¾ and 84¼ pagodas *per* candy, respectively. This yields a profit on the invoice of about 27 *per cent.*, i.e., about 10 *per cent.* more than the 400 candies sold in July last. Damaged cloth and remnants have been sold at outcry. 136 bales of woollens remaining will be nearly used up before the arrival of this year's consignments for clothing the military and sepoys. Every means will be taken to promote the sales of woollens. The Nawab's intention of clothing his sepoys in them should favour their vend. It appearing that the 500 bales of cloth sent to Bombay had really been intended for Bengal, 475 bales consigned to Bombay and 30 ordinary red consigned to Madras have been sent to Bengal instead. Nine hundred bales of cloth for Bombay still await shipment.

Endeavours are being made to procure merchandise suitable for China. A small quantity of silver imported from Pegu has been bought for that purpose. It is expected that the consignment to China from Madras may amount to £50,000, but it is doubted if this method of sending consignments to China can be continued without inducing private merchants, particularly the Armenians, to resort to other ports where they can trade with less interruption.<sup>1</sup> It had been hoped that the *Lord Clive* could have been despatched from Fort Marlborough to China with a suitable stock,

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<sup>1</sup> The need of furnishing goods for the Canton market had necessitated an embargo on private exports, such as redwood.

but it now appears that they had not sufficient money for their own pepper investment.

In December, proposals were invited for the supply of current year's investment. Three proposals were received from new merchants for longcloth fine, ginghams, moorees, etc. Some of them were rather less than were paid last year. However, the offers were only for such articles as yield most profits and included neither longcloth, ordinary and middling, nor fine beteellas on which there is small profit. For these and other reasons it was considered that the new proposals offered no advantage and were more likely to debase the fabric than otherwise. The old merchants were then called in who declared that they had still considerable balances in the hands of the weavers and that these would be irrecoverable should they not continue to provide the Company's cloth. They promised their utmost endeavours to provide the investment satisfactorily on the same terms as last year. It is confidently believed that the goods cannot be provided at lower rates without injuring the quality. As it was also thought that a change of hands would affect the investment, the old merchants' offer was accepted. (Public Consultation, January 6.) The Cuddalore merchants were summoned to Madras to explain their failure to perform their contract. Calland has frequently represented that they consider themselves severely treated in regard to turned-out cloth. On examination, this appeared to be partly true. Calland has been ordered to take only 5 *per cent.* instead of 10 [as customs] on cloth that cannot be accepted at an abatement. The utmost endeavours shall be made to restore the southern investment to its condition before the troubles. The difficulties in the investment of Vizagapatam cannot so easily be explained. There have been but few disturbances of late, but although prices are higher than formerly, the cloths are remarkably inferior. The merchants represent that it is due to the full width now required. This is not thought an adequate excuse. There must be some other cause which the gentlemen there have been required to ascertain. The plain and flowered beteellas sent in 1756 were provided by the Chief of Ingeram and made at Uppada. The Chief and Council of Vizagapatam have been ordered to provide the quantity desired by the Company, if they can be procured at the same price as in 1756. The Bandarmalanka investment has turned out well, but the merchants complain that they lost considerably by last year's contract, and a letter from

Pybus suggests that they will not engage again on the same terms. The cloth of the Masulipatam chay goods has been good but the dye not bright enough.

As Engineer Call is still with the army before Madura, all that can be said of the fortifications is that they are being continued as described in his last advices. As the Washing-place at Chintadripet has become more convenient by an alteration in the course of the river, orders have been given to build a choultry there to lodge the Company's cloth. A new choultry will be built within the Bound-hedge to the north; and two old choultries rebuilt outside the Bound-hedge, to lodge cloth for the washers there, where most of the Company's cloths are bleached. Permission has been given to spend up to 500 pagodas in the repairs of the godowns, etc., at Vizagapatam.

The arrack and toddy farm at Madras has been sold for 10,900 pagodas a year to Muttukrishna for  $2\frac{1}{4}$  years ending July 31, 1766, which is 5,200 pagodas a year more than last time. This man was concerned in the last farm under the name of Periya Tambi, and therefore must be acquainted with its value. As the rent is paid monthly, it can be taken out of his hands without much loss should he fail in his payments. The farm will be under the same restrictions as last time in order to prevent as much as possible the drunkenness among the military. The scarcity of grain in the beginning of 1763 continued to increase until the favourable harvest of this year and the large supplies of grain lately imported from the Northward. The duties on grain are now being collected as usual. Nalla Chetti, the farmer of the measuring duty has been allowed a sum of about 35 pagodas for his losses in consequence of the suspension of these duties. Muttukumarappa, renter of the Banksal farms, has been allowed 336 pagodas for the same reason, but still owes 145 pagodas on this head. This is the man concerned in the Import Warehouse fraud. In 1761, the farm was sold for 1,600 pagodas a year; but when it was again put up in April, no one would offer more than 500. It is now being managed on the Company's account until the reason for this extraordinary reduction has been ascertained. The Masulipatam farms have been re-let for one year at the same rate as last year, except the salt pans which were let before for 80,000 rupees, but for which no more than 70,000 rupees was offered, on account of the large quantities of salt unsold and the small demand from the inland countries. It being

thought that the farms would be improved by extending the terms from 1 year to 3 or 5 years, as thereby the renters would be able to make improvements in their cultivation, and a longer period would be afforded in which to settle with the inhabitants; it has been decided to re-let some of the Northern farms for five years and proposals have been invited. It is feared that the depredations of Sitaram Razu near Masulipatam may prejudice their sale. The salt and arrack farms at Vizagapatam have been re-let for two years at an increased rent. Translation of the Nawab's sanads and a particular account of the grants are entered in Consultation of December 1. Enquiries are being made into the titles of those who claimed jaghirs, and an attempt will be made to induce the Nawab to provide for the claimants in his own territories. Three of the jaghir renters have failed to pay their rents for February and March, which confirms the suspicion that they were raised beyond their true value by Venkatachalam, the Nawab's Brahminy, running them up in order to enhance the apparent value of the territories, and the eagerness of the renters who previously held them to continue in management in order to recover the balances of the last year. The balances outstanding are from Pushpanatha Nayanar for February and March kists for Uttramallur, Salavakkam and Kavantandalam, 19,927 pagodas; from Muhammad Azim for the same period for Karunguli, 18,371 pagodas; and from Ayya Pillai for the same period for Covelong, 3,535 pagodas. Pushpanatha Nayanar has been detained for some time at Arcot by 'Mcer Saut,' the Diwan, on account of demands for the countries which he held of the Nawab. He alleges this as a reason for his failure and is coming to Madras where he promises to do his best to pay the Company's arrears. Muhammad Azim says that he found difficulty in making collections from the inhabitants. As this is thought an evasion, a Tahsildar has been sent to assist in collecting the rents. Ayya Pillai makes the same excuse, but promises to pay in a few days. Some of the other March rents are still unpaid, but it is believed that the renters can clear them in a little time which is reasonable, as the farms were let higher than usual and the payments have been quicker and larger than usual in the first half of the term.

Regarding vacancies in Council, John Call and George Stratton have taken their seats. John Smith remains Chief of Vizagapatam. It has been decided to defer the appointment of a new Chief at Cuddalore until there are enough members at the Presidency to



attend properly to all the different employs. The defalcations in the Import Warehouse have now been reduced to 16,989 pagodas for which Fairfield's bond has been taken. William Barker, who succeeded Alexander as Sub-Accountant, representing that ~~his~~ health was injured by his close application to business for over eight years, has been permitted to succeed to Stratton's vacancy at Vizagapatam. Alexander Davidson has been appointed Sub-Accountant James Taylor, factor, died at Chingleput, February 11; and Simon, writer, died of a sudden illness, April 27. Stracey who by much application has become proficient in Persian and is employed in translating the country correspondence, has been granted an allowance of 10 pagodas a month, as some reward for his assiduity and as an encouragement to others. The allowance is not considered adequate to the trouble, but no more is given for fear of incurring the Company's displeasure. Joseph Macdonald who was appointed a factor in Sumatra, died some months ago in Bengal. Barnard, a very promising youth, employed under the Engineer was killed at the siege of Madura. Desvoeux has been appointed an assistant James Hamilton, writer, having also shown a capacity and disposition to act in the same branch, has also been appointed an assistant to Call. William Steevens arrived by the *Pitt*, and is stationed under the Engineer. He is reported to be a young man of a very promising genius.

When Colonel Monson announced his intention of returning home from Madras, with the other King's field officers, Lawrence represented the need of another field officer for the Company's troops, so a Major's commission was granted to Captain Donald Campbell, eldest captain on this establishment and esteemed an exceedingly good officer. Ensign Rogers of Captain Fitzgerald's company, on his representation that both Stopford and Willson who had been appointed Lieutenants in that company had remained in England, has been appointed to that lieutenancy on Lawrence's recommendation, on condition that should Willson hereafter come out, Rogers should return to his original rank of ensign. Other promotions will be found in Consultations of November 15, January 3 and 9, February 28, March 5 and April 9 and 17. Stephen Briggs has been appointed Surgeon in the room of James Wilson who went home on the *Plassey*.

In consequence of frequent robberies in the Black Town and at the Washing-places, the office of Poligar, which had been vacant since Pedda Nayakkan's death during the siege of Madras,

has been re-established; and his son Kunogree Angarappa Nayakkan has been appointed.

Chepperumal Chetti's contract to supply fanams at  $41\frac{1}{4}$  *per* pagoda, which expired December 31, could not be renewed at a better rate than  $40\frac{1}{4}$ . This was thought too large a difference and Palk discussed the matter with Chepperumal Chetti and other shroffs; they declared that fanams were being melted down for re-coinage into rupees and Chepperumal Chetti offered to supply fanams at  $41\frac{1}{2}$  *per* pagoda if he were allowed to add 9 dwts. of alloy so as to make them 14 dwts. worse than English standard. The Council was unwilling to debase the coin, but the uncommon scarcity of silver rendered some step necessary to support the currency of the settlement. It was therefore decided not to lower the fineness, but to reduce the weight so as to make them turn out 42 fanams to a pagoda reckoning rupees at 320 *per* 100 pagodas or rather more than the current rate of exchange. It was found that the weight should be reduced from 16 grains to  $14\frac{1}{8}$ . Chepperumal Chetti is supplying fanams on these terms. The Assaymaster Russell is particularly careful that the contract is being duly executed.

Forward duplicate of the account of the expenses on the French prisoners, brought down to February 29, and a calculate of the monthly charge of the prisoners now remaining; also a complete account of the subsistence allowed to the Spanish prisoners brought hither from Manilla in May 1763; and the hospital expenses of His Majesty's regiments and charges on account of the Squadron.

After some correspondence, the Mayor's Court has offered to pass a formal deed granting the Court-house to the Company; but regarding Jennings' legacy which they consider their undoubted property, they desire it should be left to the decision of 2 or more eminent counsel in England. Meanwhile they agree that the legacy should be deposited in the Company's cash. In consequence of the death of Abraham Brown, and the absence of Thomas Savage, Alexander Davidson and George Baker have been appointed Aldermen. Thomas Powney was chosen Mayor for the ensuing year; and Richard Brickenden Sheriff.

It was reported in the despatch of April 17, 1762 that Major Scott had repaid the advances made him on account of His Majesty's 89th Regiment, the question of interest thereon being referred to England for settlement. Since then further sums have

been advanced, and 9,000 pagodas remain due. When this was demanded of Major Munro at Bombay, he declined payment. The account current with vouchers is now forwarded, so that the Company may recover the amount in England. Colonel Monson has discharged the advances made on account of the 96th Regiment amounting to 11,503 pagodas. In consequence of the King's orders, Colonel Monson goes home on this ship with 9 officers and 30 men. Captain Tryon reports that in Europe the Company supplies each person sent out with a hammock and a quantity of liquor, and that according to charterparty passage money is to be paid at the time when each passenger is ordered on board. He was informed that passage money to His Majesty's troops was to be paid in England and desired to provide hammocks and liquors in the same manner as for his ship's company, the charge of which would be settled at home. Lieutenant Crabb of the 84th Regiment with some others proceeds on the *Deptford*.

Supplement: On opening the box of Divinity books sent out last year by the *Lord Clive*, they were found to be destroyed by vermin. It is desired that they may be replaced by those specified in the indent now sent. Shipping news The Canton supracargoes have drawn upon Madras for about 10,000 pagodas. It is wished that they could have drawn for larger sums as cash cannot be sent. The purchase of rupees would at present involve loss. They are 310 rupees for 100 pagodas and 310 rupees will not sell in China for more than 100 taels.

A letter has been received from Dalrymple at Manilla, October 10, reporting that when he found that the Dutch were endeavouring to ally themselves with the people of Sulu, he thought it necessary to obtain a grant of the southern part of Palawan and the northern part of Borneo, with all intermediate islands, as commanding the navigation of those seas. He intended to return to Sulu to await the arrival of a ship from the Coast. One of the China ships will be ordered there this season. In spite of all Dalrymple's endeavours, the Sulu trade is too trifling and liable to too many accidents to be continued. A great part of the Sulu goods sold in China at less than prime cost. Lewin Smith and Henry Brooke have returned from Manilla by way of Canton. Smith is still too unwell to take his seat in Council. Hollond has also returned to Madras from China.

Although the number of small arms indented for may appear large, it is not larger than necessary, especially as the Bengal

Council have lately written for 2,000 stands. The *Deptford* carries home a small quantity of saltpetre and redwood as surplus tonnage at half freight. A bill for £25-17-6 being the extraordinary charges on account of the military brought out from England on the *Pitt*, is returned home for settlement. The attorney of Captain Morrison, Paymaster of the 89th Regiment, has declined to pay the balance of 9,000 pagodas as he has neither funds nor orders for that purpose. The invoice by the *Deptford* amounts to 1,97,293 pagodas, and the diamonds, etc, registered 1,28,493 pagodas. The balance in the Treasury is 9,364 Arcot rupees, 61,335 current pagodas, 3,567 Madras pagodas, 550 pagodas' worth of gold and silver, 10,000 Bombay rupees, and 2,066 Spanish dollars; and in the cash chest 31,194 pagodas

Postscript: Bills are drawn at 8 s *per* pagoda at 90 days' sight for 12,755 pagodas or £5,102

Appended are: (1) lists of the packet (pp 143-151); (2) list of passengers including the names of Colonel George Monson, Captains Albert Jones and Christopher Nesham, Lieutenants Archibald Leighton, Prendergrast, Phillips and Turner, Ensigns Sharp and Thomas and Surgeon Drew, all of the 96th Regiment; Lieutenant Crabb of the 84th Regiment, Richard Powney, Rebecca Franco, Esther Franco, John Dennison, William Herbert, Alexander Anderson, William Lamphire and William Brown (pp. 151-152); (3) manifest of presents and private trade (pp. 152-153); (4) register of diamonds, etc (pp. 154-161); and (5) sailing orders to Captain William Tryon (pp 161-163)

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 4, 1764 [*Military Despatches to England*, Vol. 3, pp 126-133 (copy, 8 pp.)]

While the army lay before Madura waiting for reinforcements from Bengal and Bombay, Preston was detached with a considerable force into the Tinnevely country great part of which he has reduced. Most of the poligars of that and the Madura countries have come over to the Nawab's interest. Palamcottah remains in the rebel's possession as an attempt to reduce it might delay the siege of Madura. Leaving a body of troops for the protection of those parts, Preston returned with the rest to Madura. Owing to a general meeting of troops in Bengal, the detachment coming to Madras had to be disembarked, and no assistance could be expected thence, but 200 men are expected by a country ship from Bombay, to be landed at Karikal. When they arrive, Major

Campbell shall have as many men as can possibly be collected, and it is hoped that he will then be able to bring this tedious and expensive expedition to an end. In consequence of the failure of assistance from Bengal, and the departure for England of part of Monson's regiment doing duty here, it has been found necessary to land the marines, especially as Captain Cowel was proceeding immediately to Trincomalee with the *York* and *Panther*, to return in 2 months' time. As all our troops are employed on the expedition, the cost of bringing the marines on shore and of the lascars sent aboard His Majesty's shipping, is being charged to the Nawab's account. By the *Panther*, we learn that the *Revenge* having lost her passage, put into Batavia whence she sailed to Manilla December 13; and the *Glatton* and *Pocock* arrived there February 1. The promotion of three lieutenants of Monson's regiment as captains for recruiting services, gave great disgust to several lieutenants—John Bridger, George Buck, Arnold Hunterman, Francis Swain Ward, and Robert Phillips, who resigned their commissions. Even if their complaints had been just, it would have been unpardonable on their part to quit the army in the face of the enemy. Lieutenants Bridger, Hunterman, Ward and Phillips, were among the officers at Trichinopoly who in 1763 demanded half batta or immediate relief, when Captain Richard Black was dismissed as the oldest officer who signed the protest. Buck was one of the ensigns who in July 1760 refused to do duty with Lieutenant Roberts sent from Bombay, and was then dismissed. Such repeated misbehaviour merits the severest treatment. These officers cannot be sent by the *Deptford* as she is too full. Trust that the Company will carefully prevent their return to India. Several of the privates of His Majesty's regiment are willing to enlist for service in Bengal or Bombay. Most of those who entered with Captain Kinlock desired leave to proceed to Bengal which they will do by the first opportunity. Large supplies of men are needed. The whole of the Company's troops are before Madura, and their numbers will be much lessened before the place is reduced. The French are expected in June or July, probably with a considerable number of men, besides those already in India. Nothing but a superiority on our side will prevent them from giving the English all the disturbance they can. The Bengal Council desired that their recruits should be sent on without delay. This shall certainly be done if their situation still demands and ours permits it. Have just received a letter from the Nawab enclosing

one addressed to His Majesty which he desires may be delivered by Colonel Monson. It arrived too late for the impropriety of delivering it by a private hand to be represented to him, but this shall be prevented in future. Copy of the letter is enclosed. Are returning five invalids who arrived only last year. It is desirable to send such people home, as, when capable of no other service, they generally employ themselves in selling strong liquors or otherwise debauching the garrison, besides being a continual expense. Many such men are here for whom passages will be provided as soon as possible, although they are almost so helpless that they may starve in England unless means are provided for their maintenance. News of the prospective attack on Bengal by the Nawab Wazir. Have immediately embarked for Bengal part of the men recruited.

Postscript: Enclose a letter from Drake at Manilla.

Appended are lists of the packets, etc. (pp. 133 134).

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 14, 1764. [*Public Despatches to England*. Vol. 24, pp. 163—170 (copy, 8 pp.).]

The *Deptford* sailed May 6. His Majesty's ships *Weymouth*, *Panther* and *Szaford* are now returning to England. Acknowledge the receipt of despatches from the Company of February 9, received by the *Northumberland* on July 2. But the despatch of December 30 by the *Worcester*, *Caernarvon*, and *Devonshire*, has not yet arrived. Other shipping news. The *Plassey*, a country ship in the Company's service, is to be sold in Bengal as she is an expensive vessel in bad condition. The *Speedwell* snow was sold by public auction for 2,020 pagodas, which is considered her full value. The failure to send out treasure to China this season is much regretted, as it is feared that the supplies from India will fall short of the requirements of the China trade; goods provided are expected to amount to about 1,32,000 pagodas and treasure to upwards of two lakhs of rupees. It is intended to purchase for the China consignment a considerable quantity of private silver expected from Europe. Both Fort Marlborough and Manilla have drawn largely on Madras but both expect to be able to make some remittances to China. Since the last despatch, Pybus has with great difficulties induced the Bandarmalanka merchants to contract for the investment on the terms of last year. John Lewin Smith has been appointed Chief of Cuddalore; James Hamilton, writer, was lately killed at the siege of Madura. The offers received

for the Masulipatam farms for a term of five years were in general no higher than the rents obtained last year, the bidders being discouraged by Sitaram Razu's disturbances. The farms were let for one year at slightly more than last year, but it is hoped that at the next sale, the country will be quiet enough to permit the term being prolonged. Since the last despatch, it has been necessary to appoint Tahsildars in the countries of Utramallur, Salavakkam and Kavantandalam rented by Pushpanatha Nayanar; in the two Conjeeverams, Chingleput and the Seven Maganams rented by Vrushabhanatha Nayanar; and in Covelong rented by Ayya Pillai. When Pushpanatha Nayanar arrived from Arcot he represented that Mir Asad, after extorting more than was justly due under pretence of continuing him in the management, suddenly took the farms out of his hands, seized his effects and imprisoned him and his whole family, which rendered the payment of his arrears to the Company impossible. No answer has been received to the letters written to the Nawab on this subject, but it is thought that Pushpanatha Nayanar was too much in debt to have maintained his credit much longer in any case. Vrushabhanatha Nayanar has paid in most of his rents, but as he began to fail latterly, Tahsildars have been appointed for his farms also. The deficits of the rents cannot be estimated until the Tahsildars have finished examining the accounts and collected the sums due from the inhabitants. The deficit on Vrushabhanatha Nayanar's farms is not expected to be considerable and none is likely on the Covelong farms. There may be a considerable loss owing to several of the farms having been let too high; but the Council thinks that their full value will be secured. The renter of Tirupasur has lost upwards of 10,000 pagodas; the renter of Karunguli much more; and most of the others have been losers. A Tahsildar has been appointed to assist in collecting the Poonamallee rent which was also in the hands of Pushpanatha Nayanar. The country is in a good state and is expected to answer the arrears. The betel and tobacco farm which was also in Pushpanatha Nayanar's hands has been much reduced in value by the damage done to the betel and tobacco plantations by the storm of last October. A manager has been appointed until it can be rented out again. As letting out countries at public outcry induces ambitious people to over-estimate their value to the injury of themselves and the Company, it is intended in future to advertise for sealed proposals and grant the farms to

the most substantial men. Meanwhile efforts will be made to obtain a just account of their value as a basis of the rent which may be taken with safety. The tanks' in every farm having been neglected for many years, a survey has been taken of the repairs and expense necessary with a view to putting them in good order, which will soon add to the value of the farms.

Postscript: Certificates and bills of exchange have been granted at 8 s. a pagoda at 90 days' sight for £3,886 or 9,717 pagodas including £98 on account of the estate of John Simon, late writer.

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY.  
FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 14, 1764. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol. 24, p. 170 (copy ½ p.).*]

Report arrival of the *Worcester* with the Company's despatch of December 30, 1763.

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY.  
FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 14, 1764. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol. 3, pp. 135—143 (copy, 9 pp.).*]

This goes by the *Weymouth*. Before the end of May, most of the redoubts and out-works in Madura were either taken or abandoned. The approaches are being vigorously pushed on, so that a speedy reduction of the place is hoped for. Batteries were opened June 11; advanced to the crest of the glacis 20th and made several good breaches. The place was to have been assaulted on the 23rd morning, but owing to heavy rains it was deferred. It was then decided to make a lodgment in the angle of the bastion, so that the assault might be less dangerous and costly, but heavy losses prevented the attempt succeeding, and a general assault was made June 26. Although several breaches were practicable and 500 yards of *fausse bray* entirely demolished, yet the rains had rendered the ditch so full of water as to be difficult to cross, and arms and ammunition got wet. The enemy had time to prepare for an assault, and after an hour's fight, our force had to retire with a loss of about 120 Europeans killed and wounded, besides many slightly hurt; 3 officers killed and 8 wounded; among the latter was Captain Preston but not dangerously. The fall of Madura by the end of June was so confidently anticipated that Captain Collins of His Majesty's ship *Weymouth* was requested to defer sailing for a few days to bring the news. No measure has been or shall be omitted which can bring about success.



Madras and all the out-garrisons have been so entirely drained of men and stores that although the Commandant at Madura still considers that he has men enough to make another attempt, yet it is thought inadvisable to risk another repulse. It has therefore been decided to reduce the place by a close blockade, although the quantity of provisions in Madura fort is not definitely known. Attack of Oudh on Bengal. The men of the 79th regiment, waiting for a passage to Europe, have been sent up to Bengal to give the Government there an opportunity of enlisting men from among them. By the *Northumberland* which arrived July 2. despatch of February 9, was received. Of 101 recruits embarked on her, 3 were discharged in the river; 11 died in the passage; the remainder were landed here. Twenty of these and 17 recruits from the Royal Artillery and the 79th regiment for Bengal, have been sent thither. Are much concerned that the measures taken for withdrawing troops from Manilla have been unsuccessful. The *Revenge* did not reach Manilla till March 8, so that the arrival at Canton of ships sent *via* Manilla is very doubtful. The *Seaford* arrived from Manilla June 24, with 55 of the King's and Company's troops; about 1,400 men including sepoys are still to be brought away. All the Company's troops are to embark on the *Admiral Pocock*, *Revenge* and *London*; but Captain Backhouse refusing to divide the King's regiment, the whole have had to await an opportunity of proceeding together. Captain Brereton determined to proceed to Canton with his own ship and the *Siam* to refit, returning in the fair season to call for His Majesty's regiment. Scarcely know when the Manilla garrison may be expected. The *Northumberland* will be despatched with Spanish prisoners on board, to call at Manilla on her way to Canton, and take on board any troops still remaining. From Canton, they can be sent either to England or back to India as may be necessary. Other provisional arrangements. Have already sent copy of a letter from Drake regarding the conduct of Major Fell. Now send extract of a letter from Drake, etc., and copies of depositions transmitted to Lawrence by Drake and of those taken here. The Council were anxious for an enquiry to be held here. But Lawrence considered it too difficult as Major Fell's witnesses were not on the spot and some had gone to England. Lawrence has therefore sent him home, and is transmitting copies of depositions to the Secretary at War. The Major has applied for an allowance from the time he left Manilla, but his services have not been commendable enough to merit reward. Another field

officer being absolutely necessary in camp, Captain Wood has, on Lawrence's recommendation, received a Major's Brevet. It is fortunate that this promotion is agreeable to the Company's sentiment of Wood's merit. Captain de Beck was by seniority next in rank for promotion and has always behaved to our satisfaction; but he was passed over, as being a foreigner under whom it is well-known that Englishmen will not serve with full alacrity and spirit. May 31, a French country ship from the Islands arrived at Negapatam with news that 4 ships were lading with merchandise and timber for the Coast, but could not sail until the arrival of some of their Europe ships. Tiernay and Hunter, carried prisoners from the West Coast to the Islands, have delivered in a letter regarding their treatment. Although the French are not likely to appear on the Coast this season, steps are being taken to ascertain the exact limits of their factories prior to their cession. Since writing the foregoing, have received the despatch by the *Worcester* which arrived this morning. As His Majesty's ships are sailing immediately, no other reply can now be made than that the Company's commands shall be punctually obeyed.

Appended are lists of the packets (pp. 144—146).

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 16, 1764. [*Public Despatches to England*, Vol. 24, p. 171 (copy, 1 p.).]

His Majesty's ships *Panther* and *Seaford* sailed for England yesterday. Report the arrival of the *Lord Hollond*, *Middlesex* and *Pigot*. These English vessels on putting into Mauritius on their way out were refused refreshments on the ground that the Island had been entirely exhausted by the late war and that a large squadron was daily expected. The French seemed very jealous and permitted none but commanders to go ashore and even they had to return at night.

Appended are lists of packets (pp. 172—174).

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO ROBERT PALK, ETC. LONDON, DECEMBER 30, 1763. [*Public Despatches from England*, Vol. 67, pp. 25—78 (original, 54 pp.); a duplicate copy in *Military Despatches from England*, Vol. 3, pp. 1—48.]

Cite despatches of April 27 and May 13; and also Secretary's letter, dated May 16, enclosing Halifax's letter of May 13, regarding the Dutch armament, said to be preparing for the East Indies. Acknowledge the receipt by His Majesty's ship, the *Sea Horse*, of

separate despatch, dated August 2, 1762, Lawrence's letter, dated July 31, and the Manilla Council's despatch, dated November 10; by the *Fox*, general and separate despatches of November 9, Pigot's letter of the 8th and Lawrence's letter of October 31; by the *Essex* and *Albion*, the Manilla Council's despatches of December 25, 1762 and March 1 and 2, 1763; and by the *Clinton*, Madras despatches of May 30 and 31, 1763.

Arrival of shipping. Report the capture of the *Walpole*, outward bound, off Ceylon in September 1762, and the loss of the *Elizabeth* by fire in the mouth of the Canton river in January last. The Telli-cherry Council sent off one Taylor with a letter for Captain Tinker of His Majesty's ship the *Medway*; but Taylor got aboard the *Expedition* a French frigate instead, by which means M. Palliere having learnt the news that Cornish's fleet had sailed for Manilla, was able with 3 French men-of-war, to cruize a month off Balasore, thus endangering the Bengal shipping. Every caution should be taken to prevent letters of consequence from falling into improper hands. Have taken up for this season 19 vessels, of which 4 (the *Caernarvon*, *Devonshire*, *Vansittart* and *Duke of Albany*) are for Madeira, the Coast and Bay, and 5 (the *Duke of Gloucester*, *Worcester*, *Lord Hollond*, *Earl of Lincoln*, and *Northumberland*) are for the Coast and China. Directions regarding the disposal of the China shipping. As the four Coast and Bay ships will not be sufficient to bring home the Coast and Bay investments, two or three of the Bombay ships will proceed round to be laded home from Calcutta or Madras. Now that peace is made, freight and demurrage have been reduced as will be seen from the charterparty [missing]. Supracargoes for China. The Coast and Bay ships carry only half iron kintlage. A sufficient quantity of saltpetre must therefore be laded on each ship. The usual instructions regarding the prompt despatch of China ships. No ship of this season is permitted to call at Batavia on the way to China. Repeat former orders to arrange with the other presidencies for providing cargoes for the returning shipping. Ships for the West Coast and the employment of the *Admiral Watson*. Officers and crew have received two months' pay by way of impress, and their attorney in England will have one month's wages in every six until their return, these being the customary terms. No advances are to be made on account of wages, unless she remains in India two seasons extraordinary. It is to be observed as a standing rule that all vacancies in the command of

the Company's own ships are only to be filled up provisionally, and an impartial account of the person appointed is to be sent home, so that the Company may confirm or replace him in the command. Captain Reynolds who resigned the command of the *Prince Henry* at Fort Marlborough is to return to England. Martin Biggleston, third mate of the *Earl Temple*, who deserted at Madras, is also to be sent home; as also John Smith, late chief mate of that ship, who escaped from his confinement at Fort Marlborough, 'as a man of his infamous character ought by no means to have the benefit of the Company's protection.' Complain of the omission to send registers of the private trade on Europe ships. In future, Europe ships will no longer be furnished with commissions authorizing them to seize and send to England persons living in the East Indies contrary to the several Acts of Parliament, as the only effect of such commissions has been that commanders have taken advantage of them to seize men aboard country traders under the pretence of completing their ships' complements. Governors and Councils already have sufficient authority to send home unlicensed persons whose conduct is prejudicial to the Company. Complain of the neglect to send proper accounts of the transactions with the Company's freighted ships. As the *Fox* was too late to proceed to China, and as there was no other to send home with the Madras bales and despatches, her employment for that purpose is approved; but the destination of ships should never be altered without good reason. Desire to know why the *Earl Temple* was unable to proceed from Malacca to China as ordered by the Madras Council. Approve of the appointment of George Baker, late Commander of the *London* packet, as Master Attendant on a salary of £100 a year with allowances for diet at 8 pagodas and house-rent at 10 pagodas a month. A report is to be made of the advantages derived from the new appointment. Captain Baker's proposals for the management of masula boats, etc. (Consultation, October 5, 1762), give a favourable idea of his ability. As the *Osterley* had lost her passage to China, her employment on a voyage to Bengal until she could be despatched to China, was correct. It was unwise to send so large a vessel as the *Royal Captain* to call at Sulu on her way to China, as she was in danger of being lost in these insufficiently known passages. Only small ships should be sent thither till the tract is better known. Although Dalrymple's voyage to Sulu was upset by the *Royal Captain's* failure to meet him there, the result of his next voyage should discover the real consequence of

that trade. The Council is to procure information about the treaty made by the Deputy Governor, etc., at Manilla with two persons—one styling himself King of Sulu who had been a prisoner many years in Manilla, and the other his son. It is observed that the cargo received from Sulu and sent on to China sold at 30 *per cent.* loss on the invoice price.

The exports to India are as follows:—981 bales of cloth, 150 of long ells, 4 of sundry piece-goods, 100 tons of lead, 70 of copper, 100 of iron, 5 of steel, 200 whole and 400 half-barrels of gunpowder, 10 tons of grain tin in caps and 125 pipes of Madeira wine for Madras; 1,120 bales of cloth, 50 of long ells, 3 of sundry piece-goods, 100 tons of lead, 130 of copper, 100 of iron, 20 of tin, 106 of cordage, 500 barrels of gunpowder and 125 pipes of wine for Bengal; 1,766 bales of cloth, 420 of long ells, 8 of sundry piece-goods, 100 tons of lead, 250 of copper, 100 of iron, 10 of steel, 65 of tin, 200 barrels of gunpowder and 50 pipes of wine, for Bombay; 660 bales of cloth and 300 of long ells for Persia; 40 bales of cloth and 70 of long ells for Sindh; 50 tons of tin, 5 of steel, 10 of tin, 100 casks of flour, 100 half-hogsheads, beef and pork, 100 barrels of gunpowder, 70 tons of cordage, 37 tons of anchors, grapnels, shot, and iron-mongers' wares and 15 caldron coals, for Sumatra; and 596 bales of cloth, 9 small bales of superfine cloth for the Emperor, 600 bales of long ells, 20 of camblets, 1,100 tons of lead, and 5 of grain tin in caps for China. The indent for stores necessary will be complied with as far as tonnage, etc., permit. The Madeira sent up this year was provided and has been in warehouse ever since 1762. It should therefore prove of better quality. Approve the issue of 62 pipes for the Manilla expedition and Fort Marlborough in equal shares from the Coast and Bay consignments. The Government stores consist of about 128 tons of beef and pork, half on the Coast and China ships and half on the Bombay ships. This year are sending only 40 chests of treasure and that only to Fort Marlborough, on the presumption that Madras and Bengal will be able to provide not only for their own expenditure, and for their investments, but also supplies for the China trade, Bombay and Fort Marlborough. The whole China investment is reckoned at £3,30,000 at least for 11 ships, *i.e.*, £30,000 per ship; and the supracargoes should have at least £1,00,000 in hand to make purchases for the following season. The exports sent to China this season amount to £82,700, of which £64,000 is in woollen goods which may not be sold in time to provide

for any part of this season's investment. The presidency of Fort Marlborough will need continual assistance and is to be supplied with all that is required. 'Out of the 40 chests sent thither, 10 are designed 'to form a bank to assist our servants there in their present low circumstances to trade with by way of loan on a reasonable consideration.' Approve of the stock provided for the ships of China in 1762 amounting to 17 lakhs of rupees, and rely on the continuance of these efforts. It was a great disappointment to find that the Deputy Governor and Council of Manilla were obliged to make use of a lakh of rupees intended for China, and to provide consignments only to the amount of 54,000 dollars, and that in plate. In spite of the difficulty of providing silver for China, rely upon the Council's efforts, which should be more successful as the Peace will reopen the Manilla trade. Observe that the woollen goods sold by outcry in December at a better price than usual as the quantity was small, the consignment by the *Walpole* not having arrived. Public, free and open sale seems to be most eligible method. Entirely approve Council's consulting the Bengal presidency as to whether the surplus stock of copper could be disposed of there. This season only 70 tons are sent; but the sales of this article should, if possible, be extended; the Company desires only a reasonable profit. Although large quantities of copper remained on hand, yet the last indent was the same as the previous ones, as if the preparation of indents were a matter of form without consideration. The account remains must be more detailed. A particular account should be furnished of the sale of the 10 tons of the tin now sent. Are also sending 5 tons to China as perhaps the Chinese preference for Malacca tin is only a matter of custom. This season 400 half-barrels and 200 whole barrels of gunpowder are sent, of which 100 barrels are intended for Bengal. Twenty light iron twelve-pounders will be sent this season. The founder has been ordered to make the trunnions 5 inches in diameter. Four brass twelve-pounders, 6 six-pounders, 2 brass ten-inch mortars and 3 eight-inch will also be sent, if ready, this season. Light iron or brass 24-pounders have never been used in His Majesty's service, nor can such large field-pieces be of much use in India. According to the Select Committee's request, the brass guns and mortars are not being made by Bowen. The furniture for the garden-house will not be provided till next year, when a more exact description of the sizes of the looking-glasses, etc., may be furnished.

Enclose the list of the investment. Usual directions regarding saltpetre. The Bengal invoice of goods laden on the *Warren* was not sent, but only an abstract of the particulars. The failure of the attempt to provide the investment without advances must be accepted especially as the cloth provided will be better; and precautions have been taken against the merchants' insolvency, so that the Company will be little liable to loss. The cargo of the *Fox*, both from Madras and Cuddalore, is better than the Coast goods received of late years. There will be need for great care regarding advances, not only at Madras, but also at the other settlements. It is observed that the Madras Council considered that Heath had not taken sufficient pains over the Vizagapatam investment, while he laid the blame on the obstinacy of the merchants. Measures should be taken to prevent the like in the future. Any good conduct on the part of the Company's servants should be pointed out as well as the bad. The Company approves the Council's reference to Turner's good management at Cuddalore. The 152 bales of private merchants' and turned-out cloths received at not less than the Company's usual rates, sold almost as well as the other goods. An explanation is desired as to why this cloth should have been turned out at all. Any cloth of full measurement may be taken at a suitable abatement for defects in quality, especially when goods are needed to fill up the shipping. The *Clinton* is too recently arrived for any opinion to be formed of her cargo. As the chay goods provided at Masulipatam were better and cheaper than of late years, the provision of a greater quantity of them than ordered in the list of investment, as well as of 800 pieces of allejars, is approved. The increase of 1 pagoda a corge on longcloth ordinary is approved, if the fabric is to be bettered thereby. The agreement with the Cuddalore merchants to bring in their cloth part by August 31 and the remainder by January 31, will facilitate the despatch of shipping. Patterns of chintz shall be sent annually with a view to improve that article. The attempt to establish a proper fabric of moorees and longcloth fine at Bandarmalanka is approved, as well as the directions to each subordination to provide a small quantity of any goods thought fit for the Europe market. No opinion has been formed of the flowered Vizagapatam beteellas. Regarding the 33 bales of chintz and lampasses provided by private persons for the Manilla market at the time of the expedition, but which could not be sold there or elsewhere, the Company will take them as they have been sent; but

the Council must remember that no merchandise be allowed to be brought from India to England, save on the Company's account, except what the ship's officers are allowed to bring. The rate at which these goods will be paid for cannot yet be determined. Consider in general that the quantity of goods sent home by the *Fox* and *Clinton* is as large as could be expected, and that care has been shown with respect to their provision.

Public and private intelligence indicates that the French East India Company is unable to carry on its trade and likely to be dissolved. In that case, it is expected that individuals will be allowed to trade to Bourbon, Mauritius and China, and perhaps a few ships from France may sail to the other parts of India on condition of paying an 'Indulto' to the King, their other settlements and trade to Asia being entirely renounced. Few ships are expected to sail from France to India this season; and it will probably be long before their trade and power again become important in India. Proceedings in the Dutch negotiations. The Dutch ambassador declares that no more men will be sent to the Dutch East Indies this year than are necessary to complete their corps in India. The Madras Council should make application to the Viceroy at Goa in order to secure good usage for English supracargoes at Macao.

Are much surprised to learn that it will take 50,000 pagodas a year for eight years to complete the design of fortifying Fort St. George. If the time and expense can be lessened by reducing the present plan consistently with keeping Madras in a respectable condition, it will be well, as mercantile concerns have long languished for want of funds. Call will doubtless be ready to concur in any measures which he regards as feasible and safe. His opinion that fortifications need not be erected elsewhere on the Coast is gratifying to the Company. The Council are to consider whether it is really necessary to rebuild the old bastions round Cuddalore in order to make it defensible against the Marathas or other country troops. Call says that this can be done cheaply, as bricks can be had on the spot or obtained from the ruins at Fort St. David. For the present, nothing more need be done at Masulipatam than what is necessary for a mercantile residence; and commercial buildings may be erected at Bandarmalanka. Paul Benfield has been appointed civil architect and assistant engineer at Madras. He has been regularly bred an architect, surveyor and draughtsman, and is said to have good knowledge



of fortifications and mathematics. He will receive pay as assistant engineer with rank as Lieutenant, with permission to undertake private business as a civil architect, not inconsistent with his duty to the Company. Call should be consulted as to whether Benfield may be of more use at Madras or at Calcutta. Samuel Roberts has been appointed practitioner engineer at Madras. Assistance is to be afforded to Fort Marlborough by a supply of workmen, as those sent from Bengal proved useless.

As the bidders for the Masulipatam revenue farms were not responsible persons, the re-appointment of the late renters is approved. The account given of Basavappa Chetti shows the importance of knowing the characters of persons offering to rent farms. The revenues, including those of Masulipatam, amount to £1,30,700, but the heavy expenses at Madras render it necessary to put the revenues upon the best footing, and to reduce expenditure wherever possible. The suspension of grain duties during scarcity is approved.

Have appointed writers James Taylor, James Hodges, Henry Eden, George Westcott, Hector Mackay, and Edward Froud. Mackay is already a free merchant at Fort St. George. Thomas Davis and George Mainwaring Kinderdine are permitted to proceed to any settlement in India, and may be employed as surgeons on any vacancy. Both are well recommended. It is presumed that Pigot is now on his way to England, 'where we hope soon to have the pleasure of acknowledging his distinguished services.' Pybus is a very able servant, but he should not have held at once five different posts, viz., Storekeeper, Military Storekeeper, Land Customer, Rental-General and Assaymaster. It is well that this has been ended by his appointment as Chief of Masulipatam.

One thousand and two hundred recruits were sent out last season of whom nearly 400 were for Madras and Bengal. This season as many will be sent as the shipping can take in, *i.e.*, about 880 on the Coast and Bay and Coast and China ships and 600 on the Bombay ships. 230 will be sent to Fort Marlborough. Next season, a similar number will be sent out, as too great confidence cannot be placed on any large recruitment from the King's regiments. It is not intended that the 1,400 men sent to Bombay last season and this are to remain there. As many as possible should be sent round to Madras. Lists of the cadets of this season are sent separately. The military establishment at Madras has been fixed

so as to maintain a respectable force without extravagant expense. It is to consist of 2,600 Europeans and 4,000 sepoy including officers. The Europeans will be formed into corps of infantry, cavalry and artillery. The European infantry will consist of 3 battalions—7 companies of 100 to a battalion. The first company commanded by a major, a captain-lieutenant and an ensign; and the other companies by a captain, a lieutenant and an ensign, with as many subalterns [*i.e.*, non-commissioned officers] as are necessary for each company. The European cavalry will consist of 2 companies of 100 each under the command of a captain, 2 lieutenants and 2 cornets. The artillery will consist of 3 companies under the command of a captain, 2 lieutenants and 2 lieutenant fire-workers each. The sepoy will be formed into 4 battalions of 1,000 each, commanded by 1 captain, 1 lieutenant and 1 ensign, who are to be Europeans, and as many Indian officers as are necessary. This establishment is to be followed as closely as possible. Very full explanations must be given of any deviations. The pay is to be continued as at present. The majors will receive 15 s. a day, which includes their pay as major and captain. The recruits now sent and those to be received from Bombay are to be divided equally between Madras and Bengal.

Mitchelburne Knox, Thomas Fletcher and Eccles Nixon have been appointed captains and will proceed this season. They are to receive a company in the aforesaid battalion and to preserve their rank in the order in which they are named from the day of their arrival on the Coast. They will draw their pay from the date of their individual arrival at Madras. If more captains are necessary, Lawrence's opinion should be taken for the promotion of suitable officers; but if there should be more captains than laid down by the new regulations, the companies are to be reduced on the death or resignation of the supernumeraries. Major Charles Campbell is to command the 1st European Battalion, and Achilles Preston the 2nd.

It is understood that the four senior officers, viz., Francis de Varelles, Edmund Pascall, John Percival and Richard Black are invalids. If not, one of them may be promoted major of the 3rd battalion, but otherwise Captain Donald Campbell may be promoted. Promotions should be made with the advice of Lawrence. As the invalids mentioned above are all brave and deserving men, they should be employed on garrison or other duty, and receive

their present pay, etc., so long as they continue in service. Captain Francis de Beck is suggested as Commandant of the cavalry, as he was originally a horse officer. In future officers are not to be promoted from one branch into another, except however when the captain of any corps is by his rank to succeed to a majority. Major Robert Barker, Commandant of the first company of artillery, who returned to Europe on family business, after the capture of Manilla has been permitted to remain in England, in consideration of his good service, till the next season. During his absence his company will be commanded by a captain-lieutenant; and the Council and Lawrence may allow the emoluments of the company to whoever acts in that capacity. Captain Fitzgerald's conduct, particularly in contracting debts on recruiting service, has been very displeasing. The bills of the two watermen in his employ amounting to nearly £40 have been paid by the Company; and Fitzgerald's note was taken for the repayment of any sums that might be advanced on his account. The amount of the bills is to be recovered, and a constant eye kept over Fitzgerald's behaviour.

It is hoped that Peace with France will not only curtail expenses but also permit the revision and correction of all accounts. The Regulations made with that object are much approved.

#### Sumatra affairs.

There is no objection to permitting Chepperumal Chetti, administrator of the estate of Edward Edwards, to withdraw his suit against Dupré. No proceedings had been taken in England. No duplicates of the Mayor's Court records for 1758 and 1759 have yet been received. The Court should be required to furnish them at once.

Supplement: General Caillaud has been appointed to command the Company's forces in Bengal with succession to Lawrence in case of the latter's decease or departure. Caillaud's abilities, good conduct and faithful service are well-known. He has received from His Majesty a commission as Brigadier-General in the East Indies. He is to rank next below Major-General Lawrence and is to be employed wherever his services are necessary. On his succeeding to Lawrence's command, he will enjoy the same power and authority as Lawrence now enjoys, subject to the orders of the Governor and Council of the presidency where he shall happen to be. He will have a constant seat and vote at the Council and all

Committees, and rank below Governor, except when Lawrence is present, but he cannot succeed to the post of Governor which will, according to the Company's custom, descend to the civil servant next in standing. Caillaud's salary is £500 a year from his arrival in Bengal, besides a special gratuity of £500 a year in consideration of his services and rank. On succeeding to Lawrence's command he will enjoy Lawrence's pay, *i.e.*, £1,500 a year. But no Commanders-in-chief appointed hereafter shall receive more than £750 a year, and the Second in command only £500. Caillaud's travelling expenses and expenses in the field will be borne by the Company subject to a due consideration for frugality. He will be provided with quarters in Bengal if he was provided with any before, and at Madras will be put on the same footing as Lawrence. His allowances are in full for all his services both civil and military.

In future all metals are to be received from the Commanders of shipping according to the Europe manner of weighing, *viz.*, copper at 5 cwts. at a draught, allowing 1 lb. for every 5 cwts; iron at 5 cwts. at a draught allowing 2 lbs. on every 5 cwts.; lead at 10 pigs at a draught using no weights less than 4 lbs.; steel using no weight under 1 lb.; tin at 5 cwts. at a draught using no weights under 1 lb. 8 sets of iron avoirdupois weights and 2 scale beams able to weigh about 15 cwts. to a ton at once, together with a set of brass standard weights and scales are being sent out. Two ships are sent to Madagascar to supply Sumatra with slaves. Isaac Tullie, appointed last season to Bengal, is now permitted, if he wishes, to succeed to the first vacant lieutenancy at Madras. Samuel Barnes, some time a lieutenant in His Majesty's service, proceeds to Madras with succession to first lieutenancy with the pay of that rank. As the military recruits will form the best part of a battalion, three captains—Mitchelburne Knox, Thomas Fletcher and Eccles Nixon are now sent out. Captain Robert Fletcher has been appointed major in Bengal in consideration of his good conduct at both Madras and Manilla.

*In spite of numberless demands, no attested muster rolls have been furnished since 1758. They are to be furnished at stated yearly periods in duplicate. The friends of the soldiers frequently desire information about them; and in cases of inheritance, the interested parties have to be informed of the existence or otherwise of particular persons. The Master Attendant is to furnish through*

Council complete lists of Europeans employed in the Company's vessels, and lists, as complete as possible, of persons employed in the country shipping belonging to Madras. The Company has been much gratified to hear of the gallant resistance of Captain Thomas Howe of the *Winchelsea*, against two French men-of-war off the Hugli last January. The Company's thanks have been given to him. The *Worcester's* packet for Bengal is to be forwarded thither as soon as possible.

SEPARATE DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO ROBERT PALK, ETC. LONDON, DECEMBER 30, 1763. [*Military Despatches from England*, Vol. 3, pp. 49—60 (original, 12 pp.). Duplicate in *Public Despatches from England*, Vol. 67, pp. 95—105 (11 pp.).]

Reply is now given to the despatches from the Select Committee, dated November 9, 1762 and May 30, 1763. The Company is much pleased with the peace made between the Nawab and the King of Tanjore. Had war broken out between them, there is no knowing how far the flame might have spread, when our military force was insufficient to undertake a new war. Dupré has behaved in this matter in a very able and satisfactory manner. The 26 lakhs of rupees secured by this treaty from the King of Tanjore is a happy acquisition as it is to be applied to the payment of the Nawab's debts. The refusal to transfer this sum from the Nawab's account to that of the King of Tanjore was right, for the possession of the Nawab's forts is a security for what he owes. The Company does not understand why, if the settlement of the tribute was for 22 lakhs, and if Dupré succeeded in securing a present of 5 lakhs in addition for the Company's intervention, the latter sum should be credited to the Nawab at all.

The conduct of the negotiation with the King of Kandy is entirely approved. The jealousy of the Dutch is natural, but the Madras Council's conduct has been so prudent as to have no just foundation for complaint. The Dutch Company has represented this as an infringement of the Treaties between the two Nations but the Company has been furnished with sufficient materials from Madras to prove the injustice of the accusation. With regard to the complaint from Colombo against Cornish for having seized a French prize at Trincomalee, the communication of it to Cornish was the only proper step to take.

It is probably well that the negotiations with Nizam Ali Khan for the Circars of Kondavir (Murtazanagar), Ellore, Mustaphanagar, Rajahmundry and Chicacole, are at an end. Had they continued,

they would perhaps have involved the presidency in difficulties beyond its strength without procuring any considerable advantages. The steps taken were so cautious as to permit receding without loss or dishonour. It is supposed that the bills received to cover the expenses of the sepoys have been duly paid.

Regarding the Manilla expedition, the Company has since April 27 last, received the Madras despatches of August 2, 1762 and May 30, 1763, together with those from Manilla of December 25, 1762 and March 1, 1763. As that city will already have been restored, further remarks are unnecessary. The Company has not yet learnt whether the negotiations with the inhabitants of the principal parts of the island went far enough to secure a quiet possession of Manilla and Cavita. It is unfortunate that the Acapulco ship, the *Phillippino*, did not fall into the hands of the English Squadron sent to seize her, for her capture would have in a great measure made good the 4 million dollars ransom money, whereas only 5,16,260 dollars have been paid, and bills given for the rest. A bill for 2 million dollars is under negotiation, but the success of such applications is always uncertain. Cornish sent this bill to the Bank of England without giving any information to the Company. It appears that when realized, only one-third is to be paid to the Company, but steps will be taken to recover half, according to the original plan in which both Cornish and Draper at first concurred. The Admiral's conduct also was unkind, not to say unjust, in excluding, after Draper's departure the Company's troops from sharing with His Majesty's, on the pretence that it should be made good to them out of the Company's one-third share. These with some other irregular transactions of the Admiral will be laid before the Ministry. Draper's sudden departure from Manilla before other objects such as the attack of Mindanão, had been undertaken, was certainly irregular and probably gave room for the Admiral's conduct. Dawsonne Drake, etc., have forwarded 2 bills of exchange, drawn by the Archbishop (who is also Governor of the Philippine Islands) on Madrid for the subsistence of Spanish officers at Manilla for a total amount of 24,044 dollars. It was very disappointing that only 54,000 dollars' worth of plate should have been sent to China instead of the considerable remittances which were expected; that 1 lakh of rupees intended for China was detained, and that the Manilla Council drew bills on the Company for £6,660. The expenses of the expedition will prove immense. A particular

account of the transactions, charges and expenses, all regularly authenticated, should be sent, for the Company must seek reimbursement from the Government. It appears that Drake, etc., have conducted affairs with prudence and humanity. Report should be made as to whether any further steps have been taken in the proposal made by the ambassador of the King of Mindanão, for cultivating a friendship with the English and for allowing them a settlement on the island. Although the Company first approved the steps taken at the outset of the expedition, yet the various dangers involved by reducing the military forces and withdrawing the Squadron, in fact rendered the expedition highly imprudent and inconsistent with His Majesty's intention, which was that the Company's settlements and trade in India should not be endangered. Lawrence, Palk and Bouchier gave most solid reasons for totally rejecting it, while Call only acquiesced in the belief that half the troops and the Squadron would return in the following January. The majority based their action on the same belief, but it was placing too much reliance on luck. In fact, the Squadron did not return, and French vessels put the whole of the Madras and Bengal trade in the most imminent danger. The *Walpole* was taken; and more troops needed at Manilla instead of any being returned. The comparison of the risks and expense with the prospects of advantage shows that it ought never to have been undertaken.

The Company hopes that the killedar of Satghar is satisfied with the jaghir granted him by the Nawab under the Company's protection. The rebellion of Yusuf Khan reported in the despatch of May 30 is most regrettable. It is hoped that the measures taken will be so prudently framed as to secure their object. A man of such known genius, ambition and abilities should not have been so far indulged or so little watched.

The refusal to make good Captain Wingfield the loss he sustained by the capture of the *Walpole* is approved. The Company cannot be liable for individual losses in addition to their own. The reduction of the Nawab's debt is much approved; but it is considered that the expense of the troop of horse on the Madras establishment might very justly be charged to the Nawab's account. The Poonamallee, St. Thomé and Tiruvendipuram countries were granted for the maintenance of a body of troops, but he should have been charged the difference between the cost of maintaining horse and foot. However as he admitted every other

article and voluntarily offered to undertake all the charges of the defence of Madras in the late siege, the Company without hesitation acquiesces in the settlement already made.

LETTER FROM SECRETARY ROBERT JAMES TO THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS. LONDON, JANUARY 21, 1764. [*Public Despatches from England*, Vol. 68, pp. 85-86 (original, 1¼ pp.).]

The Secret Committee having been informed that 100 boxes of tin, a great number of boxes containing hats, scarlet cloth, coral, etc., have been clandestinely laded on the *Caernarvon*, she is to be searched immediately on arrival, and her cargo not covered by the manifest should be confiscated and sold on the Company's account.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO ROBERT PALK, ETC. LONDON, FEBRUARY 9, 1764. [*Public Despatches from England*, Vol. 67, pp. 79-89 (original, 11 pp.). Duplicate in *Military Despatches from England*, Vol. 3, pp. 61-71.]

Cite despatches of December 30, 1763, and the Secretary's separate letter to the Governor of January 21, 1764, the contents of which are to be communicated to Council as soon as the Governor shall consider proper. Shipping news. Loss of the *Earl of Holderness* near Deal. Now despatch the *Duke of Gloucester*, *Northumberland* and *Lord Hollond*. In case the ships sent to Madagascar should put into Madras, the Council is informed that the ships are reckoned at 350 tons each, carrying 26 guns and manned by 70 Europeans. They are to proceed to Madagascar where the owners are to purchase slaves for delivery at Fort Marlborough, for which they shall receive £15 a head, two-thirds being males between 15 and 40 and one-third females between 15 and 25, boys and girls between 10 and 15 being reckoned at 2 for 1. Head money at 20s. a head will be divided between the Captain and the Chief mate of each ship; and a further sum of 20s. a head for each slave landed at Fort Marlborough, to be divided between the Commander, the Chief mate and the Surgeon. Demurrage will be reckoned at £8-15-0 a day to continue until their sailing for Fort Marlborough on or before November 30. The owners are allowed 4d. a day for diet of each soldier or passenger during the ship's detention at Madagascar. They are to be allowed £17 *per* ton for the cost, freight, etc., of all sorts of salt provisions delivered at Fort Marlborough, and £10 *per* ton for rice delivered fit for use. If the ships are detained beyond 20 days at Fort Marlborough,



demurrage will run at the rate of £11-13-4 a day. In case the ships are continued in the Company's service beyond 20 days, each ship will be paid for at the rate of £15 a day. The owners have received an advance of £2,500. The accounts are to be finally settled at Fort Marlborough, dollars being reckoned at 5s. each. The vessels are not to be returned to Europe, or sold to any European nation except the English, or sold to any country power without the permission of the Governor and Council, Chiefs, Agents or Residents. In case the President and Council of Fort Marlborough are unable to pay the balance due to the owners' agents, they will give bills on the other presidencies or upon the Company, the latter payable at 90 days' sight. The officers and the ships' crews may continue in the East Indies, provided it be not prejudicial to the Company's interest.

Henry Crawford, appointed writer at Madras last season, having left for Europe before the arrival of news of his appointment, now returns to his station, as fixed in the Company's letter of December 17, 1762.

News of the troubles in Bengal with Qasim Ali Khan. Although the military forces have been so reduced by the Manilla expedition, the expedition against Yusuf Khan and the natural loss by death or disease, the Company observes with great satisfaction the Council's readiness to send as large a reinforcement to Bengal as possible. The Company is fully sensible of the need of large recruits both in Madras and in Bengal. The two slave ships therefore instead of going direct to Madagascar, will be sent to the Coast and Bay with about 500 recruits.

It is hoped that the Madras Council will be able to make good the failure of Bengal to supply funds for the China investment. The measures taken for securing grants of countries contiguous to Madras, for the transport of troops from Manilla, and for the expedition against Yusuf Khan, are approved. The Treaty of Peace and the instructions sent therewith will provide guidance for the Council's conduct towards de Maudave, the pretended French Chief, who has assisted Yusuf Khan.

Since our despatch of December 30, it has been decided that Caillaud shall sit in Council as Third instead of Second. In the absence of the President and Second, the member next below Caillaud shall preside. Caillaud is to have a constant seat in Council as a personal compliment to his merit; but his successors will have a seat only when military affairs are under deliberations.

Majors or other military officers will have no seat or vote at Council, but shall be consulted as occasion requires. The behaviour of the officers at Trichinopoly and particularly of Captain Richard Black in demanding half batta, is very surprising. Due regard shall be paid to the services of officers and their demands, but they cannot be allowed to interfere in matters beyond their province. Black's dismissal is approved. He is to be sent home by the first vessel. Colonel Coote having represented that Captain John Wood has behaved in a very distinguished manner, the latter is to receive all proper encouragement. Should Vansittart have quitted his station and be at Madras on the arrival of this despatch, he should be informed that the Company wishes him to return to Bengal. In any case the Bengal packet is to be forwarded immediately. If Vansittart is at Madras, he should open and peruse the Bengal packet.

Appended are: (1) copy of letter to the Bengal Council, dated February 9, 1764 (p. 127); and (2) list of persons constituting the Bengal Council and Committee (p. 129).

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO ROBERT PALK, ETC.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 22, 1764. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 67, pp 91-94 (original, 4 pp.)*]

Cite despatch of February 9. Delay of vessels by bad weather. This goes by the *Duke of Albany*, *Vansittart* and *Earl of Lincoln*. The two ships diverted from Madagascar to Fort William will be replaced by others on similar terms. Have also taken up the *Lord Anson* and *Prince of Wales*, on the same terms as the *Norfolk* and *Chesfield* in 1761, to transport 600 recruits to Madras and Bengal. The Company has received memorial from Mrs. Martha Sophia Newton, stating that she is the wife of Andrew Newton, a covenanted servant of Madras, who has been so backward in making her remittances that she lacks the necessaries of life. If the facts are so, he must be required to support his wife suitably to his station. Robert Nicholson has been permitted to proceed to the East Indies for employment as Surgeon. James Leighton, having been extremely well recommended, has been appointed Lieutenant at Madras in the first vacancy after his arrival and after Samuel Barnes has been provided for. He will meanwhile draw Lieutenant's pay from the day of his landing. As a number of good officers will be required for the large supplies of men now sent out, more cadets than usual have been entertained. Send a list [*wanting*] showing their rank and destination.

Appended is the memorial of Mrs. Martha Sophia Newton to the Company (pp. 235—237).

CIRCULAR DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THE COUNCILS AT MADRAS, BENGAL AND BOMBAY. LONDON, MARCH 23, 1764. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 67, pp. 123—125 (original, 3 pp.). Duplicate in Military Despatches from England, Vol. 3, pp. 92—94.*]

Copies of the Treaty of Peace have already been furnished. As the French considered that His Majesty's orders to the Commanders of his fleet and army in India were too general, and desired that more particular instructions should be given to the Governors of Madras, Bengal and Bombay, His Majesty has signified his pleasure that further orders shall be sent by the Company, duplicates of which shall be furnished to the French Commissary now setting out for India. The Company therefore orders the rendition to the French under article 11, of the factories they possessed in Bengal at the beginning of 1749 in the condition they were in at the time the Treaty was signed; also under article 22, all papers, letters, documents, etc., found in any of the factories are to be restored; and also the French farmans said to have been seized by the English at Murshidabad in the house of a Portuguese where Law is said to have deposited them. The Nawab of Bengal and all princes who engaged with us not to admit the French into their countries, are to be informed that those engagements are cancelled. The Councils in India are recommended to live in harmony with the French as well as other nations in alliance with Great Britain.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO ROBERT PALK, ETC. LONDON, JUNE 1, 1764. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 67, pp. 107—121 (original, 15 pp.)*]

Cite despatches of December 30, 1763, February 9 and 22, and circular despatch of March 28 [?] regarding the Treaty of Peace. The new Secret Committee is composed of Thomas Rous, Henry Crabb Boulton, John Boyd, Charles Cutts, Henry Savage and Laurence Sullivan, with power to take the necessary precautions for the safety of outward and homeward bound shipping.

It has been decided to abolish the Select Committees at the several presidencies.

Four vessels, the *Fort William*, *Success*, *Lord Anson*, and *Prince of Wales*, are being sent to Calcutta with 1,200 additional recruits.

These with the 2 Madagascar ships are not to be returned to England, but employed or disposed of in the East Indies. The *Lapwing* fitted out as an advice vessel only may be returned to England if necessary. She carries no goods but 500 oz. of silver for her expenses.

It has now been decided that Caillaud shall command the forces on the Coast instead of in Bengal. He will proceed next season. The Madras military establishment as constituted by the despatch of December 30, shall consist of 3 battalions of 700 men each, 3 companies of artillery of 100 each, 2 troops of horse of 100 each and 4 battalions of sepoy of 1,000 each, if so many are really necessary, but it should be reduced whenever compatible with safety. The battalions, instead of being commanded by majors, shall have a colonel, lieutenant-colonel and major each. John Caillaud is to be the Colonel of the First Battalion; Charles Campbell of the Second; and Achilles Preston of the Third. The lieutenant-colonels and majors are to be appointed from among the most deserving of our officers according to their rank. Each field officer will have a Company with 10 s. a day pay plus a field allowance of 15 s. a day if he is a colonel, 10 s. a day if he is a lieutenant-colonel, and 5 s. a day if he is a major. But allowances already made to Caillaud include the pay laid down above for a colonel. Colonel's commissions will be given under the Company's seal; lieutenant-colonels and majors will receive commissions from the Governor. His Majesty has granted brevets to John Caillaud as Brigadier-General and to Charles Campbell and Achilles Preston as Colonels. Similar appointments in Bengal. As Major Sir Robert Barker, now Colonel, will not return to Madras, where he had been made Commandant of the Artillery, the command of his Company here should be filled up by a good officer from that establishment.

The appointment of Lord Clive as Governor of Fort William with other arrangements for that Government.

The produce of the *Mignonne* prize, taken by Robert Fletcher, amounting to 2,900 pagodas is to be disbursed  $\frac{5}{8}$ ths to Captain Robert Fletcher,  $\frac{2}{8}$ ths to the sailors and  $\frac{1}{8}$ th to the military. Fletcher has received £725 in full payment of his share. The remainder is to be paid out in the most proper and equitable manner. In the present case, the Company considered itself authorized to order the distribution without condemning the vessel in the Court of Admiralty. But the Council is never to take upon

itself the condemnation of prizes. All such captures must be circumstantially reported.

The bills on Madrid in connection with the capture of Manilla have not been accepted, and, in spite of the representations of the English ambassador, the money is not likely to be recovered. Application should be made to Manilla for all moneys lent or expended by the English on behalf of the Government there.

On the departure of Cornish, surplus naval stores will be tendered to the presidencies where they may be lodged at the prices at which such stores commonly sell. The Council may take such part of the stores as shall be most for the interest of the Company or otherwise dispose of them sending regular accounts to the Company and to the Navy Board.

Several persons have been permitted to proceed for service as surgeons in the event of vacancies. Lists will be sent by the Secretary. Send covenants to be executed by the Council, all other civil servants and all military officers. According to the resolution of a General Court, May 2, subsequently confirmed by ballot, they are to be executed in duplicate of which one shall be sent home.

The Company, being anxious to promote the woollen manufacture, is much concerned at the low price the 525 bales sold according to the despatch of November 7 last; but the quantity sold was gratifying, as the offer to sell by contract at 20 *per cent.* advance and that to receive sealed proposals for the purchase of the whole quantity, proved vain. Every possible means to promote the Company's business in every branch of Government is earnestly recommended. Attention will be paid to the remarks about putting a gloss upon some of the long ells and perpetuanoes. It is feared that the despatch of 500 bales of woollens to Bombay may prove disadvantageous, as they were specially intended for Bengal. In future when information regarding the consignment of goods is required, the Bengal packet may be opened. It is hoped that the severe notice taken of the merchants of Cuddalore regarding quantity and quality of their cloth, will increase the quantity as it has improved the quality. Merchants should be obliged to fulfil their contracts both at the presidency and elsewhere. The cargo by the *Plassey* is the largest received at one time and is very acceptable.

The Company is much gratified, to learn by the despatch of November 7, that the Nawab has promised to discharge his debt

of 35 lakhs of pagodas in monthly payments by the end of the following October. This will enable the Council not only to make a large investment but also to provide for the China trade. The Jaghir granted by the Nawab, and estimated to produce  $2\frac{1}{2}$  lakhs of pagodas a year, appears very advantageous, and shows the Nawab's good intentions and gratitude. The Company's thanks are conveyed to him by a letter now sent which is to be delivered to him in such an honourable manner as shall evince our sincere and warm friendship. A suitable present shall be sent by an early Company's ship.

The French Company is in such a state that territorial acquisitions can hardly be secured or maintained by them. It is not likely that they will now seek to obtain grants of the Northern Circars as the Council feared.

It is not doubted that vigorous measures have been taken to reduce Yusuf Khan. Although the Council report that batta has been reduced as low as possible, it is still too heavy to be borne and must be still further reduced as opportunities offer. Similar orders have been sent to Bengal. The Fort Marlborough Council complain of a failure to supply them with treasure, opium and cloth.

Appended are : (1) copy of the Court's minutes, dated February 22, 1764, regarding the *Mignonne* prize (pp. 233-234) ; and (2) list of persons appointed surgeons in India which includes the name of George Mainwaring Kinderdine (p. 238).

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO MUHAMMAD ALI KHAN, NAWAB OF ARCOT. LONDON, JUNE 1, 1764. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol. 3, pp. 72-73 (copy, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  pp.).*]

The Company is rejoiced to learn that the friendship between itself and His Excellency is daily increasing, unlike the unfortunate course of affairs in Bengal. Returns thanks for the strong proofs of the Nawab's good will in undertaking the whole charges of the sieges of Madras and Pondichery, and the grants of lands lately made. The Company has a firm intention to prove the sincerity of its friendship by supporting the Nawab in the most effectual manner in his government and endeavouring 'to perpetuate the succession thereof in the direct line of your family.' Pigot's conduct in maintaining such good relations with the Nawab is much approved.

## THE MADRAS DESPATCHES, 1764-1765.

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER <sup>20</sup>/<sub>24</sub>, 1764. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol. 3, pp. 147-163 (copy, 17 pp.).*]

Cite despatch of July 14. Reply to the despatch by the *Northumberland*. The brass or iron light 24-pounders, applied for in November 1762, were represented by Call as being serviceable in field operations; and the Council entirely agree with Call that as the draught bullocks are generally weak, the lighter the guns the more easily they will be transported. Request that they be supplied. Watchful eye shall be kept of all motions of the Dutch, but at present there is no reason to apprehend violence. Their troubles in Ceylon continue. They have lately solicited Heigel to join them with his party at Tranquebar, but he has hitherto declined. On Call's return from Madura the Council will take into consideration the possibility of reducing the extent and expense of the Madras fortifications and the expediency of repairing the bastions round Cuddalore. Benfield and Roberts have arrived and received appointments according to the Company's orders. The first is a very promising young man. The second is reported to have little genius. Situation both here and in Bengal renders considerable supplies of men being sent out whenever necessary. Bombay have been asked for assistance and they have shown their readiness by sending supplies hither and to Bengal. The cadets of this season are promising young men, except Joseph Smith and William Collins who were dismissed for misconduct. As soon as the expedition against Yusuf Khan is over, Lawrence shall be consulted about executing the Company's plans for the establishment of the troops. Lawrence considers that each battalion shall have at least 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, and an ensign, especially as it is often necessary to detach officers with very small parties of men, and also we have generally many invalids, sick and wounded. Military expenses have been reduced as low as possible. Captains Mitchelburne Knox, Thomas Fletcher, and Eccles Nixon and Lieutenant Samuel Barnes arrived and received their commissions in accordance with the Company's orders. Captain Villiers Fitzgerald's letter was sent to camp with orders to the Paymaster to recover the amount not yet discharged. 'We

wish we could give your honours any reasons for altering your opinion of this gentleman; we shall however have a particular eye on his conduct.' Muster rolls of the troops shall be submitted annually with all casualties remarked. They will distinguish men fit for field as well as garrison duty, invalids, and those fit for no duty. Lawrence has got the rolls properly made out. The present of 4 lakhs of Rs. to the Nawab by the King of Tanjore when the treaty was settled, was agreeable to the form in which both seemed desirous to have the matter transacted. The uncertainty of the return of troops from Manilla caused the *Northumberland* to be despatched thither to carry to China any one who might still remain there. The *Revenge* arrived here September 20, having left Manilla April 16 with the *Falmouth*, *Siam*, *Admiral Pocock*, *London* and *Illocos*. The last vessel was taken up at Manilla to assist in deporting the troops all of which were embarked on the above mentioned ships, except about 100 sick who were left in care of Crawford, a covenanted servant and an officer. They reached Sulu May 19 where they left Dalrymple with the *London*. Dalrymple has 2 galleys, 9 or 10 sampans, containing 1,200 Chinese, an officer, 39 Coffrees, 81 sepoy, and 4 artillerymen, and military stores. June 22, they parted with the *Admiral Pocock*. The *Revenge* and *Illocos* reached Batavia July 12; and *Falmouth* and *Siam* 8 days after. Though the *Revenge* was 20 days at Batavia, they had no intelligence of the *Pocock* which carried 300 lascars and a few military, Drake and other Company's stores, and 1,29,288 Rs. It is imagined she might have gone away to China. The *Falmouth* had to be repaired at Batavia and ought not to be expected to be completed until January, when Brereton proposed to proceed to Europe; and the *Siam* had to be run ashore. The *Revenge* was then ordered to Bencoolen to request the Governor and Council to send ships to assist in transporting troops from Batavia. The *Princess Augusta*, *Admiral Watson*, a ship from Bombay, together with the *Neptune*, are expected here in December. Many disagreeable disputes arose at Manilla between His Majesty's officers and the Company's servants. No opinion can be given until Drake and others have arrived. It was surprising to learn that Dalrymple detained so considerable a force with him. Private letters assert that he contemplates a settlement on the island of Balambangan, north of Borneo; but it is scarcely believed that he would do without previously acquainting the Madras Council. The Spanish Governor of Manilla has protested against our settling at Sulu. No decision has been taken



until some account was received from Dalrymple. Forward an explanation of the treaty made with the King of Sulu by Dalrymple furnished by Smith of the Manilla Council. Drake, etc., have been requested to send an account of Orandain's complaint against Drake regarding the Archbishop's furniture seems to have been cleared up by Cornet Mackay. Brereton having accused Captain Watson of the *Revenge* of staying longer at Malacca, on his way to Manilla, than was necessary, Watson has written a letter of explanation accusing Brereton of resenting Watson's obedience to the orders of his superiors instead of those of Brereton. Enclose cash accounts received from Manilla. The blockade of Madura has been continued. The garrison is reported to be much distressed. Expected that Yusuf Khan would attempt to escape. Once before he sent proposals to deliver up both Madura and Palamcottah on being allowed to go off to Dindigul with 1,000 sepoys, 300 horse, 2 field-pieces, and 2 covered waggons promising to give neither us nor the Nawab any molestation. As we are too well acquainted with his enterprising genius, Campbell was ordered to reply that no terms except surrender will be accepted. The death of Major Preston, when it was hoped he was out of danger, is a great loss. That alone would make the capture of Madura a dear bargain. The present King of Tanjore having frequently applied for the surrender of the Karikal districts, an agreement was made with him by which he is to grant the Company the whole of the revenues from the districts usurped by the French since 1749, on conditions of the districts being restored to him, on being repaid the 50,000 Rs. advanced by his father, and on his father's bond for one lakh being delivered up. By this, the Company gains 12,000 pagodas, besides the 6,000 pagodas owed by Tirumal Rao Krishnaji which it is hoped will be recoverable, and Basava Chetti's debt which is desperate. The King of Tanjore has paid all his kists due under the treaty with the Nawab, except the last 4 lakhs of rupees due in August, which we expect to receive shortly. He has also promised by his wakil to relinquish the annual tribute of 1,100 pagodas for Devikottai. There has been some difficulty in preventing quarrels between the Nawab and the Raja on a subject not foreseen when the treaty was made. The cultivation of the Tanjore country depends upon the water flowing into the Cauveri. For many years, the banks have been maintained by the Raja but, lately the Nawab has not permitted this so that the water flows across the island of Srirangam instead of

flowing down to the bed of the Cauveri into the Tanjore country. On complaints being made by the Raja, James Bourchier was sent to Trichinopoly to report. It appears reasonable that the banks should be kept up in repairs, and the Nawab agreed to keep up temporary repairs at his expense. At a proper time, the Council will represent to him that this Raja should be allowed to take this trouble off his hands. The Nawab owes on account of this year's kists about 9 lakhs of rupees besides about 5 lakhs due on account of expenditure at Madura. Therefore deducting 4 lakhs of rupees, he owes at this time about 12 lakhs of pagodas. It is hoped that the fall of Madura will enable him to pay this off in the course of fasli 1174 or 1765 A.D. Negotiations regarding the Northern Circars were long hindered by the Manilla and Madura expeditions. On receiving advice of the considerable reinforcements to be sent out this season, the time is judged suitable for attempting to secure them (the Circars) especially as their unsettled condition seems to favour the attempt. The safest course would be to send Nizam Ali troops enough to establish the peace of the Deccan. This would require perhaps 700 Europeans, 3,000 sepoys, a train of artillery, and a large stock of stores besides the necessity of maintaining considerable forces in the Circars. Moreover the troops sent might be employed against the Marathas and prejudice your affairs on the other Coast. As the principal object is to procure a net revenue for the Company and prevent the French from getting the Circars, the possible method seemed to be to rent them for a certain number of years, on condition of paying a stipulated sum annually to the Nizam's treasury. He has therefore been offered 5 lakhs of rupees for the 1st year, 10 for the 2nd and 15 for every year afterwards. Await his answer. It is said that Husain Ali who formerly rented all the Circars except Chicacole and Murtazanagar, is endeavouring to get them again. Many of the recruits sent by the *Duke of Gloucester* died in the passage and several landed here so sick with scurvy that they may never be fit for service. This was due to their not being put at any place for refreshment. It is suggested that orders on this point should be given to all vessels bringing up recruits. Heigel who was with a party of French troops in Haidar Nayak's service, retired to Goa whence he arrived at Tranquebar, August 10, in a Portuguese frigate with a party of 280 men. He applied to us for a loan of 15,000 pagodas for their subsistence or, for the surrender of Karikal and its dependencies for their support, alleging as a

reason that he has declined joining our enemies as he considered that it would be contrary to the Treaty of Peace. Both proposals were declined. It has been usual to issue stores to the Nawab and receive them back, damaged or not, at the prime rate. This caused considerable loss. It has therefore been decided to charge 30 *per cent.* on all stores delivered and to give credit for their real value when returned. August 23, a French brigantine arrived at Tranquebar with several French officers, having left Mauritius July 2 and Bourbon July 15. No French ships arrived from Europe. The French prisoners are still being advanced to the extent of 2,000 pagodas a month. As no orders have been received from the Company, and in consideration of the long period since peace was made and the neglect of the French Company to send subsistence, an attempt is being made to strike it off. But the prisoners have no means of support, so that they must either be sent to the French Islands or the payment continued. They number about 500. The French Commissaries however are now being obliged to give bills on their Government for all advances. Captain David Blake has resigned his commission, having family affairs to settle in Europe. He has been an indefatigable officer. He desires to return to his rank on finishing his affairs. Have been obliged to dismiss Ensign Drought, being of a troublesome and ungovernable disposition. The 18 and 24-pounders, small arms and flints indented for are absolutely necessary. Not less than 20,000 small arms are in use in the Company's and Nawab's service.

Supplement, dated October 24: Yusuf Khan has at last been reduced. Marchand who commanded at Madura made him a prisoner October 13. Desired Campbell to send in two Commissaries and have a body of troops ready to march into the fort. He sent in an officer who returned the next morning with proposals from Marchand to deliver up the rebel and the fort on condition that the life of the garrison should be saved, which were in part agreed to. Campbell took possession of the fort on October 14. The next evening, 'an example was made of the rebel.' Palamcottah is expected to fall soon. Bombay detachment will be sent thither so that they might be returned as soon as opportunity offered. The *Illocos* arrived at 'Wottarra' near Vizagapatam in a distressed condition. Her troops and stores were landed at Vizagapatam and the vessel discharged. As the Nawab expects a compliment from the Company in acknowledgment of the jaghir, recommend that a present of a couple of rich gold brocade, some carpets and

orrery, a pair of globes, spying glasses and any curiosities, with a handsome light roomy landau with eight harness for six horses, will be very acceptable.

Appended are lists of the packets (pp. 163--165).

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY.

FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 24, 1764. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol. 24, pp. 175—210 (copy, 36 pp.).*]

Cite despatches of May 4, July 14 and 16. Now despatch the *Duke of Albany* with a full lading; and reply to despatches, dated December 30, 1763 and February 9 and 22, 1764.

Shipping news. The *Duke of Gloucester* and the *Earl of Lincoln* arriving on August 3 and 7, could not be despatched to China till September 2. The *Duke of Albany*, arrived August 23, was detained in order to be now sent home. Four ships of last year still remain in India which with 4 Coast and Bay ships and 6 Bombay ships of this season make 14 ships to be provided for. Correspondence with Bengal and Bombay lead to the conclusion that they may be employed as follows:—5 may be returned to Europe with cargoes of Bombay goods and saltpetre; 2 may be laded in Bombay for China with the help of bills drawn on Madras or Bengal; 2 may be returned from Madras in October and February; and 3 from Bengal while the latter presidency hopes to despatch 1 or 2 to China with treasure to the amount of 10 lakhs of rupees. As no answer has yet been received from Bombay, the number of ships that can be returned thence is uncertain. The *Boscawen* has sprung a leak and was obliged to put into Mauritius. The *Revenge* arrived from Manilla, September 21, with His Majesty's ships, the *Falmouth* and 5 other vessels, including 2 country ships taken up for the Company's service. They called at Sulu where they left the *London* with Dalrymple. The *Falmouth* and another vessel had to be left at Batavia for repairs. Three vessels were to be despatched from Fort Marlborough to bring the troops thus delayed, who are expected about the end of December. The *Princess Augusta* on her arrival will be despatched to Canton with treasure, etc. The *Admiral Watson* will carry the Madras, and if possible Bengal, consignments to Fort Marlborough. As the Company objects to large vessels being employed on so unknown a track as that to Sulu, Dalrymple has been recommended to take what measures he can to recover the outstanding balances at Sulu. It is said that he has many of the Chinese from Manilla at Sulu with him, and is provided with a

force consisting of some artillery, a party of sepoys, 3 galleys and several sampans. It is supposed that he is taking measure<sup>s</sup> to make an establishment in these parts in consequence of the grant of the south part of Palawan and the north part of Borneo.

On receipt of the Secretary's orders regarding the unlicensed goods on the *Caernarvon*, Palk ordered the Upper Searcher and the Master Attendant to examine her; but as all her cargo was consigned to Bengal, it was thought proper not to unlade her here but to forward the Company's orders to Bengal. Other shipping news. Neither Captain Reynolds nor Mr. Biggleston is at Madras. John Smith, late Chief Mate of the *Earl Temple*, who escaped from Fort Marlborough, is said to have died soon after at Batavia. The only part of the *Onslow's* Bengal cargo landed here in 1760 was some military stores for which credit is given to Bengal. Under the Company's former orders of December 19, 1755, accounts were started showing goods damaged and short delivered to be paid for in India under the charterparty; but since the despatch of November 23, 1759, stating that dues under these headings should be paid for in England, adjusted and signed accounts have been regularly delivered to the captain and proper officer on behalf of the Company, a triplicate being kept here.

Regarding Baker's post of Master Attendant, such an office has long been needed to manage the boats which lade and unlade the Company's ships, to examine the indent for provisions and stores for the Company's country shipping, to survey Company's vessels, to supply water, to arrange for embarking and disembarking military and naval stores, to assign boats to several vessels, to secure adequate number of boats and boatmen, to keep the roads clear of anchors, to assign stations to the several vessels, to prevent transshipment of goods without permission, and to report all goods so laded and unladed. No more diligent and abler person could have been found than Captain Baker. The complaints have ceased of delays in the port, the pilfering has since reduced, and the customs are thought to have much increased. The advantages of the post are not equivalent to the gains which might be made at sea by a man of his experience and industry. List of sea-faring Europeans shall be transmitted annually.

The 900 bales of broadcloth for Bombay were despatched in August by the *Admiral Stevens*. The clothing of the Nawab's troops has required 109 bales. The quantity is more likely to increase than decrease. As this emptied the warehouse, it was

thought that the usual quantity of 600 bales could be sold at outcry. But the dealers declared that they still had large quantities of last year's goods in hand, particularly ordinary red and popinjay. Sales were advertised for October 6; but no one bid near the prime cost for anything but the aurora. It was therefore determined to defer the sale till January, as the disposal of the aurora alone might hinder the sale of ordinary red and popinjay. This failure is much regretted. The troubles of Sitaram Razu to the northwards and the war between the Marathas and Haidar Nayak are thought to have prevented the sales. Peter Perring, covenanted servant, has been allowed to take 10,000 pagodas' worth of the several sorts at 16 *per cent.* on the invoice price. This is equivalent to 25 *per cent.* at outcry as the merchants receive a discount of 9 *per cent.* if they take up goods within 6 months. The merchants complain that broadcloth is shorter than formerly. This year's aurora only averages 22 yards a piece instead of 24 or 25. This naturally affects the sale as the price has so considerably increased these last 10 years.

Copper received this year amounting only to 300 candies, and none remaining in stock, 120 candies consigned to Bengal have been landed here and put up at outcry October 6, but only fetched  $31\frac{1}{4}$  *per cent.* upon the invoice, average price being about  $85\frac{5}{8}$  pagodas *per candy* fine and 85 *per candy* coarse. None remains on hand.

Two hundred candies of lead have been sold at about 19  $\frac{1}{16}$  pagodas a candy or about 93 *per cent.* on the invoice price. In spite of this, the indent has not been increased for fear that, if a large quantity be sold, it might be converted into shot by the poligars and other country powers. All the iron and steel that can be spared were put up for sale October 2. Four hundred candies of iron sold at  $104\frac{3}{4}$  *per cent.* on the invoice and 30 candies of steel at  $36\frac{1}{4}$  *per cent.* The indent has therefore been increased by 100 tons of small flat bar iron. Almost any quantity of this will sell at a good profit. The 5 tons of grain tin sent out this season have been forwarded to China as no one would bid half the invoice price at outcry. The merchants complained that it was soft. There is seldom any difference in the price fetched by coarse and fine copper. Sometimes the former sells even better than the latter, but the merchants regard them both equally. No difference is made between these assortments in the present indent.

One hundred and twenty-five pipes of Madeira wine received this year turned out on the whole to be very good, but several casks were worm-eaten, so that there was more leakage than usual. It has been delivered out at 100 pagodas a pipe as last year, which is more than 40 per cent. advance. The method of sending the gauge of every pipe is good and should be continued. It is desired that the Company should increase the quantity owing to the great number of civil and military servants who cannot afford to buy what is brought out for private sale. It is regretted that so large a quantity of provisions has been sent out this year, as there is already more in India than can be expended in many years. Ten pipes of Madeira wine were sent in September to Fort Marlborough.

The consignments to China this year amounts to 332,648 pagodas, of which 175,687 is in treasure. This is larger than was thought possible last March. Silver could only be produced at very dear rates. A small part was therefore sent in gold in the hope that it would answer better than silver, and because so many ships have to be provided for. The loss of the *Winchelsea* assisted to increase the Madras consignment, as that made available the cargo privately freighted for that ship. All efforts will be made to support the trade, but 'the resources of India will be found every year more and more insufficient for its support.' Every effort will be made to revive the Manilla trade. The President has written to the Governor of Manilla with that object. The treasure intended for Canton by the Manilla Council has been brought here but will be forwarded thither by the first consignment.

The supply of the China investment, the expenses of the army in the field and the bills drawn on us from Manilla, Sumatra, and Bombay, have necessitated borrowing more money for interest. The debts amount to 2 lakhs of pagodas, the interest of which is charged to the Nawab. Payments due from him and the King of Tanjore will, it is hoped, soon permit the repayment of the bonds. The dispute between the Fort Marlborough Council and Dobinson, Supracargo of the *Luconia* over the freight of the 46 Chinese transported from Manilla to Fort Marlborough, being referred to Madras, has been settled at 800 pagodas, as accidental expenses were involved by the passage being made at an unfavourable season. Attention shall be paid for the assistance of the Fort Marlborough presidency.

The gunpowder received this season is found too weak and mixed with much dust. It is at present packed in 50 pounds barrels. It would be a saving to pack it in 60 pounds barrels, two of which will make an ordinary bullock load. The Assay-master's indent not having been complied with for some time, he is in great distress for almost every article, especially an assay-balance and parting glasses, and the work must have come to a standstill had not Bengal supplied a few of the latter.

The pains taken about the investment has secured some improvement in the manufacture and no outstanding debts have been incurred under the present system of advances. The Cuddalore investment has been deficient in quantity and quality. Great difficulty has been found in obliging their merchants to perform their contracts, but it is hoped that this will be overcome. One hundred and fifty-two bales have been received from Vizagapatam and they have as much more still unwashed owing to the constant rains. The manufacture there has improved. Chay goods from Masulipatam arrived so late (as Pybus was disappointed of the ship by which they were to have been sent), that they had to be put on board the *Albany* without examination. The 152 bales sent by the *For* which sold nearly as well as the other goods, were purchased of private merchants, and being of inferior quality, came under the description of turned-out cloth. Much caution has always been used in accepting goods from our own merchants much inferior to the muster, lest it should lead to the debasing of the manufacture. Due attention shall be paid to the Company's orders to receive turned-out cloth at a proportionate abatement both at Madras and at the subordinacies. As it is found that turned-out cloth was sometimes sold at a profit to the retailers here, the provision of cloth of the Company's assortment by private merchants has been again forbidden. The rule that part of the Company's goods shall be delivered by August 31 and the remainder by January 31, has been adopted at the subordinacies as well as here, though not at present with equal success. The merchants at Cuddalore have been permitted to provide a quantity of cloth of tolerable quality though not of equal substance with Salem cloth at the price allowed. The chintz now sent seems to be better executed than usual. Regret that the Company disapproves the (permission to) sending chintz provided for Manilla to Europe.



Fortifications are being carried on here as rapidly as possible. The inside of the North-West rampart has been faced. The Mint bastion has been completed. South-West caserns are nearly finished. South-West wing of the South tenailon is raised almost to the cordon and the parapets of South-East wing are finished. Much has been done for works round the Black Town. When Call returned from Madura, a detailed report of progress will be made.

The only rents hitherto paid in full are those of Tirupasur paid by Venkatachalam (59,000 pagodas), Manimangalam paid by Mir Adil (14,700 pagodas) and 2 villages to the southward by Nalla Chetti and Ramalinga (1,270 pagodas). The first two are said to have lost considerably. The reports from the Tahsildars state that the revenue still to be collected at the time they are appointed would not suffice to clear the rents in any one farm. According to the statement entered in Public Consultation of August 21, the countries were let from October 16, 1763 to July 31, 1764 for 288,820 pagodas. Of this there remains due about 61,000 rupees. Part of this has since been received, but in any case, there will be a big deficit from Pushpanatha Nayanar, for Utramallur, Salavakkam and Kavantandalam, and from Muhammad Azim for Karunguli. But renters are in desperate circumstances. The arrears due for the 2 Conjeeverams, Chingleput and the Seven Maganams will mostly be recovered, but no exact estimate can be framed until the grain and other [produce] under the charge of the Tahsildars are sold out. On enquiry it appears that one great cause has been a fall in the price of grain from 100 to little more than 60 pagodas a garse, apart from their having been taken at too high a rent. In answer to the advertisement for sealed proposals, many were sent in, the highest being from [Venkatachalam] to rent the whole with the exception of the villages Chennamanayakanpalaiyam and Nayudupet, for 324,000 pagodas on the Nawab's security, exceeding the other bidders by over 67,000 pagodas.—Public Consultations, August 21. From the accounts of the Tahsildars and the best information otherwise obtainable, it is believed that the countries are not worth as much as Venkatachalam offered by at least 50,000 pagodas, and unless it is to be paid out of the Nawab's treasury, it is not apparent why Venkatachalam should offer so much. This is probably due to the Nawab's jealousy of the persons that might be employed by the Council. The principal evil, as a consequence of accepting Venkatachalam's proposal was that the countries might

be distressed by unreasonable exactions. Against this, the other bidders were not made of such substance and character as could be depended on. Venkatachalam's offer was therefore accepted under condition that the countries are to be immediately taken from him unless he allows the inhabitants their just dues. He also promises to repair the tanks. He is at present with the Nawab but has been informed of the acceptance of his proposals and required to furnish the security. Meanwhile the country has been delivered to his managers. He proposes to defray the rents in three instalments a year. The villages of Chennamanayakanpalaiyam and Nayudupet to the southward inhabited chiefly by the longcloth weavers, are to be put under an amaldar, as their continuance under any of the Company's merchants who were the only other bidders might prejudice the investments. It is now found that the Poonamallee revenue though put under a Tahsildar will fall short of the due account by 13,000 pagodas. This has been brought about by Pushpanatha Nayanar's employing part of the revenues to pay his more pressing creditors. He was very anxious to have the management continued to him for the remaining 2 years of his cowl, but it was thought that it was inconsistent with the Company's interest. The farm was therefore let for 3 years from July 31 to Mooperaul Krishnayya, Venkatachalam's manager, and a man of reputed substance and condition for 44,350 pagodas a year, for which he is to give security. The same person has been given the betel and tobacco farm for 3 years at 22,000 pagodas *per annum*, about its full value. Nayanar still owes 7,687 pagodas on account of this, but Vaidyanathan who was appointed to manage it, reports that the former rent of 29,000 pagodas a year exceeded its real value. The Banksall farm is said to have fallen so much in value because of the small quantity of grain recently imported into the country, that it has now been let to Nalla Chetti for 400 pagodas a year for 3 years, the former rent of 1,600 pagodas having exceeded its value even in the most favourable times.

The Karikal country which was to have been delivered to the King of Tanjore for a lakh and a half of rupees of which half a lakh was paid, has now been delivered to him on condition of the Company's retaining all the rents received since its capture. The Company by this gains about 12,000 pagodas independent of the balance due from Tirumal Rao Krishnaji amounting to 6,000 pagodas. But Basava Chetti's debt on this farm is regarded as

desperate. The 16 villages adjoining Karikal and belonging to the French which are to be delivered over to them under the Definitive Treaty, have been let to Muttukrishna, a merchant concerned in the southern investment, for 4,500 pagodas *per annum*, so long as they remained in our hands. Srinivasa Chari, the renter of the arrack farm at Cuddalore, representing that its value has much decreased since the military were withdrawn from thence, has been allowed to pay monthly whatever the farms might produce until the circumstances have altered.

Although several renters of the assigned countries have fallen short in their payments, yet, considering that they were in general over-rated, it is believed that very nearly the full value of the farms has been received.

Pybus was appointed to so many employs together in 1762 owing to the absence of many members of the Board. Some of them were only temporary. In future the employments shall be distributed as equally as possible. Manilla has been restored to Spaniards, and the Council there are returning by the *Admiral Pocock*. Parsons, a factor, and a young man of great merit, has been assassinated in his tent at Sulu. The cause and the murderers are unknown, although a reward was offered for their discovery. Hector Mackay, nominated writer, has been returned from Manilla where he was employed in the military. He desires to continue in the latter, and as he held a commission as cornet, he has been appointed to a cornetcy. Richard Brickenden, senior merchant, having long suffered from ill-health, has been permitted to make a voyage to China with leave to proceed to Europe if necessary. He is recommended to the Company's favour in case his health is sufficiently re-established to allow him to return. Military promotions are reported in the Military Department. Edward Cotsford, Engineer, returns by this ship owing to ill-health. His distinguished merit deserves permission to return if his health permits, as he will do credit in any station, civil or military. Captain David Blake, having resigned, returns on this ship.

Regulations for accounts are being collected so as to frame a new set of Regulations for the field and garrison which it is hoped will prevent all confusion in future.

The Company's remarks regarding Mayor's Court in despatch of December 31, have been communicated to the Court. Duplicates of their records for 1759 are now forwarded and those for 1753 will follow by the next ship.

His Majesty's ship *York* returned here from Trincomalee in July and sailed for Bengal October 3, to join Commodore Tinker, who is still there with the *Medway* and *Argo* frigate.

Captain Conner of the 96th., Lieutenant Capper of the Royal Artillery, and Abraham Brown, Surgeon of the 79th, took their passage to England by way of China on the *Northumberland* and several others proceed by the *Albany*.

Supplement : Shipping news. The Agent for military clothing reports with the approval of Lawrence that the cloth sent out is much inferior to that of His Majesty's troops, and also the difficulties which the Captains find in procuring hats. It is desired that a sufficient quantity of superior cloth may be sent out annually and that the indent for hats may be complied with, on which the Captains are willing to pay a reasonable advance. A packet from Bengal is now forwarded. The amount of this ship's invoice amounts to 1,85,790 pagodas, and diamonds, etc., registered, to 78,962 pagodas. The balance in the cash chest is 52,609 pagodas and in the Treasury 1,526 lbs. 10 oz. 3 dwts. of silver, 43,992 Arcot rupees and 10,675 current pagodas.

Postscript: Bills drawn at 8 s. a pagoda, at 90 days' sight amounted to £ 20,393 or 50,984 pagodas.

[List of passengers is wanting.]

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 16, 1765. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol. 4, pp. 5—11 (copy 6½ pp.).*]

This goes by His Majesty's ship *York*.

On the fall of Madura, a large force was sent against Palamcottah which surrendered at discretion. The possession of these 2 places by the Nawab will effectually secure peace in those parts.

A dispute arose between the Nawab and the King of Travancore regarding the Calacad district on the Travancore frontier. During Yusuf Khan's campaign against the Pulitever Poligar in 1759, that district was given up by the Company to the King of Travancore on condition of his helping them whenever required. But during the siege of Madura, the King did not give any help in spite of repeated requests; on the other hand he was very helpful to the rebel. Yet the Council would not quarrel with him lest it should prejudice the Company's trade at Anjengo. The Council there even requested the Madras Council to induce the Nawab to give up his claims to Calacad. But the King, evidently by the Nawab's threats, voluntarily evacuated it in favour of the Nawab. It was entirely due to

our interference that the Nawab did not invade Travancore immediately on the fall of Yusuf Khan ; and for this service, expect some trade concessions from Travancore. It is necessary to have a large standing army in the south, and Cuddalore has been fixed upon as a proper centre. Will consult Call as to the provision of suitable barracks there for their accommodation. The poligars of Ariyalur and Udayarpalaiyam were long in arrears to the Nawab. Major Campbell on his way back from Madura marched against the former and easily captured it. He is now investing the latter place. As there were other offers for renting the Northern Circars from Nizam Ali, have resolved to offer up to 5 lakhs of Rs. on the delivery of the sanads, 10 lakhs more in the first year, and 15 lakhs for each subsequent year. A wakil was sent to Nizam Ali's Court with instructions to offer a lakh of Rs. to the Diwan there to secure the grants on more moderate terms. But the subah would not let them for less than 20 lakhs. As this was rather high, the wakil had to return.

The King of Tanjore waived his claim to the annual tribute of 1,100 Pags. on account of Devikottai.

*Admiral Watson* arrived here with part of His Majesty's 79th Regiment from Batavia. Report the defeat of Shuja Daula and the Emperor near Buxar, the coming over of the latter to the English side, and the prosecution of the war against Shuja Daula. Bengal applied for help. But the long siege of Madura and the small number of troops returned from Manilla, left barely enough for the requirements of the Coast. Besides, in case Nizam Ali accept our offers to rent the Circars, a force will be necessary to be sent thither. Were therefore able to spare but 200 men including the detachment of Bombay artillery left at Palamcottah. Hope that Bombay will be able to send a considerable number on the arrival there of the 79th Regiment from Manilla. Send by this ship 20 privates and a number of Frenchmen.

Appended is a list of the packet.

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST GEORGE, JANUARY 30, 1765. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol. 4, pp. 12—15 (copy 3½ pp.).*]

Cite despatch of January 16. On the approach of the English army, the Poligar of Udayarpalaiyam abandoned the country and the Nawab took possession of it. Proper provision will be made for the other poligars on their submission. Had a personal interview with the Nawab during his stay here, regarding the

disputes between him and the King of Tanjore and the Jaghir villages to be excluded from the Nawab's grants. After much hesitation, the Nawab permitted repairs to the breaches of the Cauveri and anicut.

As to the jaghirs he promised to send a complete list. As to his debts, he says he cannot pay more than 25 lakhs of Rs. this year. M. Law sent to take full possession of the French territories to be restored, arrived at Pulicat on the 26th and anchored in this road on the 29th with the *Duc de Praslin*, *Le Chameau*, and *Le Bertin*. There will be no difficulty in restoring the French possessions as they stood in 1749. Will embark on the French ships the Frenchmen here. To-morrow Law will go to Tranquebar to receive back Karikal and then to Pondichery, Masulipatam, Bengal, etc. Law will send from Karikal 2 of his Council to the Nawab. But unless he promises to remain quiet, neither the Nawab nor the King of Tanjore will have anything to do with him.

Appended are lists of the packets (pp. 15—17).

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY.

FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 31, 1765. [*Military Despatches to England*, Vol. 4, pp. 17-18 (copy 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  pp.).]

Cite despatch of January 30. Hear that about 400 to 600 men come on the French ships with Law. These with Heigel's party and many stragglers who resort to them will swell their force to a 1,000 strong. So it is not advisable to send any large number to Bengal. In his letter to the King of Tanjore, Law writes as if he expects all the former grants round Karikal, but he really means only the ancient bounds. Send Nawab's letter to the Company. Captain Tinker is a willing and useful officer.

Appended is a list of the packet.

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT

ST. GEORGE, MARCH 27, 1765. [*Military Despatches to England*, Vol. 4, pp. 19—29 (copy, 11 pp.).]

The reduction of the Ariyalur and Udaiyarpalaiyam poligars swells the Nawab's revenues. It secures an open communication with Trichinopoly and thereby keeps intact his northern and southern possessions. The army on reducing Palaiyamkottai near Chidambaram, cantoned on February 19 at Bandipalaiyam near Cuddalore, and military expenses are being curtailed. But a small field train is still kept on as draught bullocks are not easily

procurable in case of emergency. Have begun to reorganize the troops according to the instructions in despatch of December 30, 1763.

General Lawrence thinks that the number of artillery officers is insufficient. In His Majesty's army, each company has 7 officers, though the occasions for making small detachments with an officer are less frequent there. Have therefore retained one captain—lieutenant extra, in the whole corps.

An additional 6 captains and 12 subalterns are required for the sepoy, and the Nawab is very particular that no reduction is made in their strength.

The pay of the lieutenant-fireworkers being insufficient, has been increased to that of ensigns, especially as their work is much more onerous. Having already granted sanads to Husain Ali, Nizam Ali declined to accept the Company's proposal to rent the Circars. Probably he apprehended that we would not easily restore them after we had once been in possession. Nizam Ali was nevertheless anxious that the English should help Husain Ali Khan in reducing the Circars to obedience. He then applied for 2 companies of infantry, 1,000 sepoy, a small train of artillery, lascars and stores, promising to defray the expenses thereof, as well as those of the garrisons at Masulipatam and Vizagapatam estimated at 2 lakhs of rupees yearly. He offered Rajahmundry, etc., as a security. The offer was too tempting to be rejected.

The French are returning to Yanam and may try their very best to get back their lost prestige. Already they give out that the Duke of Bedford's declaration is not binding on them. It is therefore the Company's interest to prevent them or any other European power from interfering with the Circars, and in this matter the Company's credit in the Deccan will be more effectual than any force we could send thither.

The only person likely to give trouble is Sitaram Razu, poligar of Chicacole. But he too would submit to reasonable terms, on seeing that Nizam Ali's deputy has the English support. The peace of the Carnatic is not likely to be disturbed unless the Marathas, Nizam Ali and Haidar Ali join together and make demands on the Nawab. But this will not happen so long as he has the English support, unless some other European power joins them. The troops in the Tinnevely country will be withdrawn on accommodating matters with the King of Travancore. Have therefore decided to send 100 Europeans, a company of Coffrees, a battalion

of sepoy, a small train of artillery to Husain Ali on the terms mentioned above. Meanwhile news was received that Nizam Ali is marching this way to make demands on the Nawab. Will send some troops to oppose him in case he comes this side of Cuddapah. Are not afraid of him and the Marathas as the utmost they can do is to plunder parts not covered by the English troops. Karikal has been delivered over to Law; and Russell managed the affair satisfactorily. Law at first demurred to pay any tribute to the Raja of Tanjore, though his grants and Dupleix' memoirs distinctly mention it. But finding us determined to support the Raja's claim, he yielded. The French have still with them the Raja's bond for 70 lakhs of rupees extorted from him in 1750 by Erad Mohidin Khan, and they may at any time produce it and break with him. Law is now at Sadras. He has reorganized the military and civil establishment. He intends keeping up only 7 companies of infantry, and sending the rest to the Islands. It is necessary to maintain a respectable force ready to oppose any attempts of theirs from the Islands. Bengal is not likely to return any of our troops.

The Manilla books being very confused, a committee has been appointed to examine them, and their report is in Consultation of March 12. The French prisoners sent on the *Admiral Pocock* were landed on her way to China on an island adjoining Sulu to avoid suspicion. Steps will be taken to re-embark them. The military fit for duty now consists of 247 in the artillery, 159 in the cavalry, and 125, in the infantry, a force much too small to protect the chain of forts from Vizagapatam to Travancore. If the Company demurs maintaining such a force, the Nawab would be too willing to bear part of its expenses which he can well afford after the siege of Madura. With a view to find out an easy sea communication with Tinnevely and Malabar Coast, have appointed Sub-Engineer Stevens to explore the passage between the mainland and Ramesvaram, on which stands a famous pagoda.

The Dutch at Colombo enquired whether the King of Kandy applied to the Madras Council or to the Nawab, for help against them. Have replied them in the negative and assured them that no engagements would be made that would infringe the friendship between the two Companies.

Captain Robert Villiers Fitzgerald has discharged his bond. Hear from Tellicherry that the English fleet from Bombay has taken the Malavars' forts on January 28, and seized their fleet.



It is not likely that Bombay will send any of their recruits to this Coast.

Hear that Jafar Ali Khan died and that his son was proclaimed his successor.

The correspondence between Maudave and Yusuf Khan, since found in Madura, would reveal the former's machinations.

Supplement : Hear that Sir Robert Fletcher, who succeeded to the command of the army after Major Munro, seized the forts of Changar, Iliabad (Allababad?), etc., and is pursuing Shuja Daula to his capital Lucknow.

Appended are lists of the packet (pp. 31—33).

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 8, 1765. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol. 4, pp. 34—37 (copy, 4 pp.).*]

This goes overland. As Nizam Ali marched with an army of 40,000 horse and 10,000 sepoys on the Carnatic to make demands on the Nawab, have withheld the rest of the detachment intended for the Circars. He came by slow marches towards Tirupati, which afforded us time to collect a body of troops which though unable to prevent his entering the province, made him retire by the west road of Nellore by rapid marches. He recrossed the Kistna near the Bezoara pass and wrote a friendly letter to the President sending him a present of an elephant, dress, etc. Thereupon the remainder of the force intended for Husain Ali was sent to Masulipatam. Meanwhile Sitaram Razu delivered up the Rajamundry fort to the English. Are supporting him in his attempt to retain the Chicacole Circar at a moderate rent. Our chief object in sending the army to the north was to restore peace in the Circars and to prevent the investment from falling into bad hands.

The King of Travancore, finding the several forts of the Calacad districts, weakly garrisoned, seized them one after another, but on the approach of Colonel Donald Campbell, abandoned them all. He will soon be obliged to come to terms. In June, Colonel Charles Campbell marched against the troublesome poligars north of Nellore, and forced them all to submit to the Nawab. Thus throughout the Nawab's jurisdiction which extends from the Kistna to Cape Comorin, peace has been secured. The Company's villages in the Nizampatam districts, which were seized by the Ongole Raja, have been ordered by the Nawab to be

restored to that renter. Have completely delivered the French possessions. They are now rebuilding their houses at Pondichery. Law is now at Chandernagore. Shuja Daula surrendered himself to the English army at Allahabad. Lord Clive leaves Calcutta to dictate peace terms.—There are still 300 Englishmen left at Sulu and a hired ship is sent thither to bring them.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO ROBERT PALK, ETC.

LONDON, NOVEMBER 21, 1764. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 68, pp. 25—46 (original, 22 pp.).*]

Cite despatches of June 1, 1764. Acknowledge the receipt of despatch by the *Liverpool*, man-of-war, on October 4; also despatches from Manilla with separate letters from Drake of September 21 and 23, 1763 and February 1, 2 and 9, 1764. Now despatch the Coast and China ship, the *Tilbury*. Arrival of shipping. Have taken up this season 20 ships of which 3 are for Coast and China, 1 for Madeira, Coast and China, 3 for the Coast and Bay and 1 for Madeira, Coast and Bay. Coast and China ships and Coast and Madeira ships will be despatched by the end of December, Coast and Bay ships by the end of January.

The Company's ship, the *Royal George*, Captain Nicholas Skottowe, Commander, 400 tons, will be despatched to the Guinea Coast to procure slaves for the Sumatra settlement. Shipping directions. As last season, the ships directed to the Coast and Bay were too few to bring home the investments, one or two will be sent from Bombay. The appointment of the Company's Council at Canton. China shipping. Casual ships despatched to China should carry cargo to the value of at least £ 20,000 each, but the more the better. The exports to the East Indies this season are:—

Eight hundred and eighteen bales of cloth, 79 of long ells, 4 of sundry goods, 100 tons of lead, 150 of copper, 50 of iron, 5 of steel, 21 of cordage, 200 whole and 400 half-barrels of gunpowder and 125 pipes of Madeira for Madras; 816 bales of cloth, 7 of piece-goods, 100 tons of lead, 130 of copper, 50 of iron, 10 of steel, [ ? ] of tin, 97 of cordage, 400 barrels of gunpowder and 125 pipes of Madeira for Bengal; 1,330 bales of cloth, 210 of long ells, 56 of broad long ells, 16 of sundry goods, 100 tons of lead, 282 of copper, 200 of iron, 30 of steel, 240 barrels of gunpowder and 50 pipes of Madeira for Bombay; 1,479 bales of cloth, 100 of long ells, 20 of shalloons, 10 cases of satins, for Persia; 82 bales of cloth, and 20 of long ells for Sindh; 50 tons of iron, 5 of steel

[ ? ] of tin, 10 tons of flour, 83 hogsheads of beef and pork, 60 barrels of gunpowder, 18 of cordage, 20 tons of ironmongers' ware and 26 of shot and shells for Sumatra; and 418 bales of cloth, 443 of long ells, 26 of camblets, 10 of hairbines and 1,340 of lead to Canton. The Company is much pleased with the Nawab's proposals to clothe his troops with perpetuanoes, as this will increase the export of woollens. Shall therefore send 79 bales of that cloth including the 1,000 pieces estimated as the annual consumption for that purpose. The Nawab has also intimated that he will think of some scheme of selling the other cloth, presumably the broadcloth. His Excellency should be encouraged in this scheme. In consequence of the Council's pressing remarks, indents for military stores and small arms including 5,000 for the Nawab's service will be complied with. The 125 pipes of Madeira to be sent to Madras which has lain for almost a year, and been declared to be of good quality, will be sent. A report is required of its quality and condition of its casks. Owners are to be made responsible for deficiencies on account of bad stowage or pilfering on board. Five pipes are to be sent to Sumatra from Madras and the same quantity from Bengal. Two additional pipes are consigned to Canton. The Sumatra settlements are to be supplied with such goods etc., as they need. No naval or victualling stores will be sent this season on Government account, and nothing has yet been heard of the clothing of any of His Majesty's troops. In consequence of the difficulties of supplying a sufficient quantity of silver for the China investments, the Company is sending thither £2,50,000 worth of treasure, but the Council is still to make as large a provision of treasure and goods for the China investment. The amount needed for that cannot be estimated; but each ship's invoice from Canton should amount to £30,000. The consignments from London to Canton amount to £ 3,17,250 whence the Councils in India should be able to calculate the sum needed by the Council at Canton. The China Council is permitted to take up such sums as they need by bills on the Indian presidencies. The Council is to keep the supply of the China trade constantly in mind. No casual ship may be sent thither without consignments of at least £20,000; and besides these such consignments must be made as will provide, together with the consignments from London, £30,000 for each homeward ship. This is to be observed as a standing order.

Enclose a list of the investments. Early steps should be taken to secure necessary supply of saltpetre from Bengal. Coast and

Bay ships must be returned with half their kintlage in saltpetre. Returning ships are to be laded as equally as possible and have as large a proportion of bale goods as can be supplied. The 33 bales of chintz and lampasses originally designed for Manilla but sent to England (Despatch of May, 31, 1763) have been paid for and the account settled with the owner's attorney. Nothing of this sort is to be done again.

Have appointed as writers—John Sullivan, John Peter Boileau, William Bourchier, George Savage, George Scott, Charles Mordaunt, John Ross, Thomas Barnard, William Petrie, Robert Duncan [Munro], William Light, Patrick Wauchope, William Chambers and Anthony Brown. Boileau is in Bengal and Savage has been employed in the Secretary's office at Madras. Both are to execute the covenants now sent. Thomas Barnard is said to be qualified in those branches of education needed by an engineer and may be employed therein. The writers sent last year and this should permit Council to do without 'monthly writers or black people.' The frauds of conicopies amounting to 39,911 pagodas show the necessity of having covenanted servants in all places of trust. Any covenanted servant on the Sumatra establishment who is at Madras is to proceed thither at once. List of persons permitted to reside in India will be sent as usual. Instead of the former directions regarding Caillaud, it is now ordered that he shall be Second in command of the Company's troops on the Coast to succeed as Commander-in-chief of those forces, only on the death or departure of Lawrence. Whether as Chief or Second in command, he is to be subject to the orders of the Governor and Council. When Second in command, he will sit as Fourth in Council; and when Commander-in-chief as the Third, but is never to rise higher in Council. His salary is as directed in despatch of December 30, without any additions as colonel of a battalion or captain of a company. No other military officers are to have a seat in Council, but consulted as occasion requires. It has been decided to send out this season 1,800 recruits—100 by this ship, 360 on three other Coast and China ships, 480 on the four Coast and Bay ships and 300 by the *Hector* taken up for the outward voyage only, and 560 by conveyances not yet determined. More than half will probably be required in Bengal. Send seniority lists of cadets appointed. Although the Company is awaiting the despatch by the *Deptford*, the spirited measures taken to renew the siege of Madura are much approved. If successful, they will

make the Council extend the Madras investment and enable them to assist Bengal. Send copy of the French King's Edict<sup>1</sup> concerning the East India Company, dated August, 1764. The French King takes over the administration of the French Isles, but their Company will have a monopoly of trade, etc. No information of their Company's intentions has yet been obtained. Now send a present for the Nawab consisting of a temple of exquisite workmanship, enriched with diamonds worth £3,000; also send a letter for him in a rich brocaded bag to be delivered with proper ceremonies; also send a description of the said temple and the manner of using the several parts which can further be explained by General Caillaud and Captain Mainwaring, Commander of the *Tilbury* in whose charge they come. It is high time that the allowances of the Commander-in-chief in field should be fixed within reasonable bounds. Orders on this point will be sent by the next shipping. Meanwhile no commanding officer in the field shall receive greater allowance than what he can show to have been necessarily and really incurred. Captain Christopher Theophilus Chaigneau and Lieutenant Thomas Smith have been appointed to take charge of the recruits on their way out. They are to succeed to the first vacancies that occur after their arrival, and get pay from date of arrival. A list is to be furnished of all persons, either civil or military, who went to Manilla, showing those who have returned, died, deserted, etc., in order to satisfy the importunate enquiries of their friends. The last season's ships are reported to have taken in at Madeira and Canaries, iron guns, copper and other contraband. Every possible method is to be taken to discover unlicensed goods and their owners. The accounts of goods landed from or found in each ship are to be compared with the manifests and anything not found in the manifests are to be seized and sold to the Company's account. A full report is to be sent of all such goods so that the Company may be satisfied that the Council has done its duty.

Appended are:—(1) the Secretary's list of Surgeons, dated February 18, 1765, including the names of Thomas Carnegie, Archibald Gairdner, Thomas Orton, Robert Arnott and Thomas Mansel. (p. 153); and (2) directions for using the Chinese temple. The temple is fixed on a board covered with green velvet and turns on a pivot. It represents a Chinese temple, set with diamonds, rubies, emeralds, sapphires, etc., with four fronts divided into three storeys

<sup>1</sup> Printed copy in *Public Despatches from England*, vol. 68, pp. 141—146.

15 inches high. The three steps in front contain a drawer in which there is a double looking-glass. The two upper storeys slide to one side and contain drawers. The 4 pavilions at the angles of the lower storey conceal small chests to contain patches or wafers, etc. On the top of the pavilion is a square tower to contain ink and sand. The dome on the top of the third storey contains a double diamond and ruby sun which is run by a clock work. It must be cleaned only with a small pair of bellows and a soft brush (pp. 81—83 of *Military Despatches from England*, Vol. 3).

LETTER FROM THE COMPANY TO MUHAMMAD ALI KHAN, NAWAB OF ARCOT. LONDON, NOVEMBER 21, 1764. [*Military Despatches from England*, Vol. 3, pp. 74-75 (copy, 1½ pp.).]

Cite letter of June [1]. Wish the Nawab a continuance of prosperity. Such body of troops will be sent out this year as will be sufficient to establish tranquillity everywhere. The Nawab's proposal to clothe his troops in woollen is most acceptable. The Governor and Council have been directed to present to His Excellency a curious temple set with precious stones.

LETTER FROM SECRETARY ROBERT JAMES TO ROBERT PALK, ETC. LONDON, DECEMBER 8, 1764. [*Military Despatches from England*, Vol. 3, pp. 95-96 (copy, 1½ pp.).]

Acknowledge the receipt of the packets by the *Deptford*. The Directors observe with concern the resignation of Lieutenants John Bridger, George Buck, Arnold Hunterman, Francis Swain Ward, and Robert Phillips in a most unsoldierlike and mutinous manner. It is presumed that they will be sent home by the first conveyance. Any others imitating them are to be immediately discharged and sent home.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO ROBERT PALK, ETC. LONDON, JANUARY 4, 1765. [*Public Despatches from England*, Vol. 68, pp. 47-74 (original, 28 pp). Duplicate in *Military Despatches from England*, Vol. 3, pp. 97-126.]

Cite despatch of November 21, 1764 and Secretary's letter of December 8, 1764, the latter containing orders for the immediate despatch to England of specified officers who had resigned the service in an unsoldierlike manner. Acknowledge the receipt on December 7 of the *Deptford's* packet containing despatch, dated May 4, a letter from Palk, dated May 5, and one from Lawrence of May 1.

Despatch of shipping. Now despatch the Coast and China ships. The *Royal George* will take 250 slaves, 100 to St. Helena and 150 for Fort Marlborough. The vessel is not to be returned to England or sold to any European but the English. Three hundred recruits will be sent by the *Hector*, and the same number to Bengal by the *Falmouth*, both taken up for the outward voyage only, and must be disposed of in India under the usual conditions. One-third of their freight is to be paid in India. In case it is necessary to land the recruits by the *Falmouth* at Fort St. George, her packet is to be opened and her accounts settled there. Additional recruits shall be sent by two Bombay ships with orders to call first at Fort St. George. No information is available as to why the *Earl Temple* was not allowed to repair at Batavia, especially as the English vessels have since met with friendly usage there. Was it due to the imprudent behaviour of her commander, Captain Macleshin? The Company recognizes the difficulty of providing cargoes for so many ships sent out lately. But the *Lord Clive* should not have been sent to Canton by way of Fort Marlborough, especially as it was morally certain that the Fort Marlborough presidency could provide her with no additional treasure. Even with the help of drafts from Madras, it would have been better as proposed to employ her to Batavia.

The gunpowder now sent has been provided by merchants who have not previously supplied any. Special report on it is desired. A number of blocks are sent as indented; but as no sizes were specified, it is uncertain whether they will prove suitable. In future indents which do not give exact specifications will not be complied with. The furniture for the Garden House will not be sent as it cannot be of real utility to the Company. The sale of the 660 candies of copper at 15 *per cent.* more profit than the 400 candies sold the previous July, is gratifying; but why should the coarse sell about 1 *per cent.* better than the fine should be explained. It is also gratifying that the surplus stock of woollen goods has been sold. The Council should promote the Nawab's intention to clothe his sepoys in woollens, by every means in its power. If any part of the 900 bales of woollen goods consigned to Bombay by way of Madras could have been sold at Madras, it would have been proper to do so. The computation in the despatch of May 4 that the supplies of merchandise to China will amount to only £50,000 is very disappointing. It is hoped that a more effectual assistance will be given. As to the Council's fears that the consignments to

China would prejudice the private trade at Madras and induce the Armenian merchants and others to go elsewhere, the Company's real interest is the first consideration and that consists in large remittances to China. However it is left to the Council to settle this in such a way as shall be conducive to the general interest of the Company and satisfactory to the private trader. As the box of Divinity books was destroyed by vermin, another box is now sent. Report should have been made as to the cause of this accident. Send also a collection of treaties and negotiations in 19 folio volumes to be carefully preserved among the records. Regarding the difficulty of maintaining a sufficient supply of fanams on account of the scarcity of silver, the contract with Chepperumal Chetti to provide fanams at the rate of  $41\frac{1}{2}$  per pagoda, fanams weighing  $14\frac{1}{8}$  grains instead of 16 is approved. The Company approves the Council's not having reduced the fineness of the coin, but wished some measures could have been found to avoid the reduction of its weight even though attended with some loss, as it must operate to the discredit of our mint.

The Company's orders to distribute the investment without partiality or bias have been so frequently repeated that it might be supposed that the giving of the investment to the old merchants on the same terms as the previous year was justified. Calland's conduct in managing the Cuddalore investment is approved, and though the merchants may have been hardly treated with regard to the turned-out cloth, and further affected by the scarcity of cotton and the absence of the old weavers, yet a strict and equitable treatment offers the best method of securing the performance of contracts. As the same set of merchants, with the addition of Muttukrishna, have engaged again, it is hoped that they will be so punctual as to give no further cause of complaint. It is hoped that the return of peace will lead to the return of weavers and the revival of the industry. The orders for a strict enquiry into the causes of the decline in the Vizagapatam investment and the quality of goods and the rise in price are much approved. Regarding the Bandarmalanka investment of which the merchants complain that they had lost much, such complaints are too frequently mere artifices. The large cargo sent by the *Deptford* is very welcome.

Since the despatch of June 1, 1764, two other drafts have come to hand upon the Spanish treasury for 21,450 and 17,030 dollars advanced for the subsistence of Spanish officers at Manilla. These also have been refused payment and it is feared that the



English Company's claims will be evaded at least for the present. If the Manilla government can be persuaded to pay at least part of the advance to them, it will be an acceptable service. It is hoped that the next despatch will report the return of all the troops from Manilla. Full enquiries are to be made into the cause of the disputes with His Majesty's forces, all expenditure incurred and whatever else is needed to give the Company full information on the Manilla expedition. In case the report of the Committee appointed May 19, 1763, should be deficient in any particular, they are to be made good. Send copy of letter<sup>1</sup> from Alexander Dalrymple, dated February 7, 1764, accusing Drake of oppressing the Chinese inhabitants with the result that few can be persuaded to emigrate to Fort Marlborough. It is now clear that the trade to Sulu in spite of Dalrymple's efforts is too trifling and irregular to be continued. The project should be laid aside. Nor do Dalrymple's other schemes of settlements on the south of Palawan and north of Borneo seem practicable at present, especially as they would require considerable force. However all treaties, etc., made by Dalrymple should be preserved and duplicates sent to England. Statements are to be forwarded of expenses and losses incurred by Dalrymple's expedition.

Until Call returns from Madura to superintend the works of Fort St. George, they should be carried on in the most careful manner according to his directions. Buildings needed for the investment such as choultries for keeping cloth washed at Chintadripet and receiving bleached cloth about the Bound-hedge to the north, costing only 730 pagodas must always be allowed. Similarly permission is given to expend 500 pagodas for repairing godowns, etc., at Vizagapatam. Company depends upon the Council's discretion in maintaining buildings with the necessary repairs and additions. Regarding the sale of the arrack and toddy farm for two years and three months to Muttukrishna for 10,900 pagodas a year, exceeding the former rent by 5,200 pagodas a year, it is observed that, if the traffic be not properly regulated, it may be of great detriment to the health of the military and poor classes. The

<sup>1</sup> Extract in *Military Despatches from England*, Vol. 3, pp. 77-80. Accuses Drake of imposing taxes on the Chinese at Manilla of farming out taxes of various persons in consideration of presents and of imposing unreasonably heavy fines on the Chinese alleged to have purchased stolen pepper belonging to Drake. Drake accuses Dalrymple of having made much money at Su'u. In fact the expedition would have been ruined but for Pigot's beneficence. The pearls he received as presents are valued at 1,500 dollars.

renter should be kept under all possible restrictions in order to prevent the bad effects of drunkenness, and at the same time should be kept up to his monthly payments. The remission of 370 pagodas for the farmer of the measuring duty and the renter of the Banksal farms for the losses sustained, by the suspension of duties during the late scarcity of grain, must be cheerfully submitted to. Sale of the Masulipatam farms for the same rate as the previous year, except the salt farm which fetched 70,000 rupees instead of 80,000. The Company depends upon its revenues to answer military and all other extraordinary expenditure. All measures must be used to make the revenues as large and stable as possible. If letting the farms for three or five years will be attended with advantage, it may be done, but renters must never be suffered to fall into arrears. The increase in the produce of the Vizagapatam farms is very gratifying. As it was understood that the Company should have the sole benefit of the revenues from the lands granted to the Company, it is hoped that the titles of those who obtained jaghirs therein have been verified and the Nawab persuaded to procure for them elsewhere. Regarding failure of three of the renters in the Company's jaghir, owing, it is said, to the farms having been run up by Venkatachalam, the Nawab's Brahminy, with a view to increasing the apparent value of the grants, the Company will be content, if the reason assigned proves true, with an equitable adjustment of the renter's account. With regard to other rents in arrears, which the Council reports can be recovered in time, the Company takes it for granted that its true interest is kept in view.

It was right not to keep Edward Middleton in the covenanted service contrary to his wishes, for little can be expected from one of his turn of mind; but he should not have been allowed to proceed to Bengal in the hope of acquiring wealth, especially as he is under no covenant, and the President and Council of Fort William have been ordered to send him home. As Croke prefers to live in Madras rather than in Bengal, he may draw his annuity of £200 at the former station. The Company considers that the allowances made to the Chiefs of Vizagapatam, Masulipatam and Cuddalore of 100 pagodas a month each, to be very handsome, fully sufficient to demand the utmost endeavours of the Chiefs. They are not on any pretence to exceed the allowance made. Confirm the appointment of the Reverend Father Stanton to succeed Father Severini, deceased, as Superior of the Romish

Church at Madras, so long as he continues a quiet and well-disposed man. Approve the promotion of William Barker to the Council at Vizagapatam as a reward for his merit; also the grant of an allowance of 10 pagodas a month to Edward Stracey in reward for his great proficiency in Persian language and his assisting in translating Country correspondence. It is hoped that others may thereby be encouraged to imitate him. Regarding the covenants not to receive any gifts, grants or rewards, etc., from Country powers, except within specified limitations, it is expected that they have been executed. Every new officer, civil or military, is to be required to execute the covenant. If William Altham, a free merchant appointed factor in Sumatra, is anywhere in the presidency, he should be required to proceed to his station. As Lieutenant Andrew Willson has been appointed Lieutenant on the Sumatra establishment, the promotion of Ensign Rogers as Lieutenant in his place is approved. Samuel Curtis, who went out 1757 as a recruit at Sumatra, is now on the military in Madras. He is to be discharged and permitted to take passage home as an estate has fallen to him. In consideration of the urgent need of recruits at Madras, it has been decided that out of the 1,800 recruits sent this season, 1,020 be assigned to Madras. The Madras recruits are proceeding by the 4 Coast and China ships already despatched, the *Hector* and two Bombay ships which will call first at Madras. Officers have been appointed to each ship to look after them. The names of officers intended for Madras are:—Captains Christopher Theophilus Chaigneau, George Brownè, Daniel Daniel, Henry Marcell, and Samuel Seares; Lieutenants Thomas Smith, Joseph Jacques, William Sockett, John Prise Gwinnett, Robert Godfrey, William Collins, Philip Bandinel, Joseph Carpenter, Thomas Spratt and Donald Durcanson; and ensigns Jonathan Clarke, John Stubbs, James Winter, James Galbraith, and John Wright. The recruits now sent are not to form new Companies but to be incorporated in the corps on the establishment. The officers are to succeed to vacancies in the order of their mention and to receive pay of their rank from the date of their arrival. If Bengal require fuller assistance, as many men as possible should be spared, but they are to be considered as detachments from Madras, and fixed on that establishment. If it is necessary to detain men for Bengal, they are similarly to be treated as a Bengal detachment. In general the affairs of the

several presidencies must be looked upon as a common concern as indeed they really are.

Sumatra affairs.

There has not yet been time duly to consider the dispute with the Mayor's Court as mentioned in the despatch by the *Deptford*, but directions will be sent by the next conveyance.

Supplement: It has been decided that two more Bombay ships should carry to Madras additional recruits beyond the 1,800 already mentioned. This will involve lading on other vessels 750 bales of cloth for Bombay which are to be transhipped on to Bombay ships when the recruits have been landed. In case woollen goods intended for Bombay or Bengal should be detained for sale at Madras, great care must be taken to detain a suitable proportion of each colour. Furnishing the Country powers with arms is a matter demanding more attention, as the continued military operations on the Coast have diffused European discipline there. The 5,000 arms for the Nawab are only sent in consideration of friendship between His Excellency and the Company. Every prudential step should be taken to prevent these arms from falling into improper hands. No Country powers should in future be supplied with arms or military stores without the most absolute necessity. One reason which has much increased the military expenditure in Madras has been the employment of more officers than the establishment required. The number of officers is to be reduced by not filling up vacancies until the proper establishment has been reached. Commissions<sup>1</sup> are now sent under the Company's seal, confirming and defining the powers of the Governor and Council consisting of Robert Palk (Governor), Major-General Stringer Lawrence (Second), Charles Bouchier (Third), Brigadier-General John Caillaud (Fourth) to rise to the Third in case of Lawrence's death or absence, Dawsonne Drake, John Pybus, Richard Fairfield, Samuel Ardley, Charles Turner, John Smith, John Lewin Smith, John Call and George Stratton. The post of Governor is always to be filled by one of our civil servants. Repeat the orders that in case of death or departure of Lawrence or Caillaud, no military officer is to have a constant seat at the Council. The Company's utmost endeavour has increased the treasure sent to China from 250 to 331 chests, but is still inadequate. None should be detained, but on the contrary as large money and goods sent to Canton as can be collected.

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<sup>1</sup> *Public Despatches from England*, vol. 68, pp. 105-108.

SEPARATE DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO ROBERT PALK, ETC. LONDON, JANUARY 4, 1765. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol. 3. pp. 127—134 (original, 8 pp.)*]

Replies are given to separate despatches of March 26 and 28, and May 4, 1764. The reduction of Yusuf Khan is an object of great consequence as it secured the tranquillity of the Coast. It is now hoped that Madura will soon be reduced on which the reduction of military charges must be at once set about. Palk's letter of May 5 shows it to be absolutely necessary. Since the army took the field in May 1763, the remittances to Trichinopoly amounted to 7,18,000 pagodas, besides stores. Even if this be charged to the Nawab's account, it will delay the repayment of the Nawab's debt which in the preceding year was only reduced by 1,00,000 pagodas. As soon as Yusuf Khan is reduced, all necessary assistance must be furnished to Bengal. Large number of recruits will be sent out. The request to Lawrence to defer the departure of the King's troops was very proper and the Ministry will doubtless regard that matter in the same light as the Company. It is regrettable that the need to secure as many recruits from His Majesty's forces as possible, involved the giving of so many Captain's commissions. Council's and Lawrence's representations in favour of King's officers who joined the Company's service have been laid before the Ministry. Confirm the letter from the Secretary regarding the officers who resigned. It is observed that the produce of civil stores and other articles sold on account of the captors, and the military stores remaining in the Company's possession amounted to approximately equal sums. Cornish and Coote have made frequent applications for the Company's decision regarding prize money, claiming that the captors were entitled to the whole. On the Council's advice answer was made that, under the Articles of War in pursuance of the East India Mutiny Act, the Company is entitled to all public stores whatever taken from the enemy, that all other booty was to be disposed of according to His Majesty's pleasure, and that although in previous joint expeditions the Company has reserved one-half share of the latter, yet in the present case, from a sense of the danger and eminent advantages secured by the Company, it has decided to make no application for any share thereof. Payment may be made accordingly from the money lodged in the Company's cash. Military stores sent out in 1761 without invoice were furnished by the Board of Ordnance which has as yet furnished no account of

them. Regarding the troubles with the young King of Tanjore, the Company hopes that such prudent measures have been taken as will convince him of the advisability of keeping on to his terms with the Company and the Nawab. The negotiations with Nizam Ali are of greater importance. The acquisition of Northern Circars would be welcome if it is not so full of hazard. We should avoid endangering what we have by grasping at too much. The security of the Company's present possessions must first be looked to and, if and when that has been done, sufficient force can be spared to Nizam Ali to procure a grant of Circars. But in that case, care must be taken that sufficient funds are provided to cover all charges so that the Company may not be losers, 'as we have reason to believe was the case of the French Company, altho it be true that Monr. du Bussy and others acquired to themselves immense wealth.' The despatch of letters privately from the Nawab to the King is making cyphers of the Company and the Madras Council. The efforts of the Council must be used to prevent the recurrence of such correspondence as the letter sent by Colonel Monson to the King.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO ROBERT PALK, ETC. LONDON, FEBRUARY 15, 1765. [*Public Despatches from England*, Vol. 68, pp. 75—82 (original, 8 pp.); duplicate in *Military Despatches from England*, Vol. 3, pp. 135—142 (8 pp.)]

Cite despatch of January 4. Despatch of shipping. Loss of the *Albion* on her way to the Downs. Now despatch the four Coast and Bay ships laded for the Bay, but calling at Madras to permit the landing of recruits if they are really necessary. The four Bombay ships with recruits for Madras will soon be despatched. If there is at Madras sufficient cargo to lade one of them directly for England, this may be done. The remainder of the recruits will soon follow. Send Governor and Council's commission<sup>1</sup> under the Company's seal. John Thomas has been appointed to the chaplaincy vacated by the departure of Samuel Merefild. An advance has been made to him of £100. Application has been made to the Agent here of the 89th Regiment for 9,000 pagodas advanced for the subsistence of Colonel Morris' regiment. It would have been more regular to procure a bill of exchange from the Paymaster's attorney on the regimental Agent. Captain Daniel Daniel has

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<sup>1</sup> Copy in *Public Despatches from England*, vol. 68, pp. 105—108.

declined the commission offered to him. By the loss of the *Albion*, the number of recruits intended for Madras will be reduced by 120 men. Ensign John Stubbs has been transferred to Bombay establishment to rank as Lieutenant. Regarding the deed of conveyance of the Mayor's Court, the Company had directed that a declaration "that the town house is our property" not a conveyance, should be obtained. But in point of law, neither the Mayor's Court nor any other corporation can under the Mortmain Act<sup>1</sup> acquire real property under a will, unless there is a special clause in the Charter. The conveyance therefore is unnecessary. In its judicial capacity, the Court is wholly free and independent, but the Company will never acquiesce in their seeking independence in their political capacity. If in future they arrogate to themselves unwarrantable authority, proper regulations shall be introduced either by an Act of Parliament or by a new Charter. Regarding Jennings' legacy, no difficulty can arise. The Company permits its being employed in the repairs of the Court-house, or something useful for the Court, but the Council must be consulted about it. The Mayor's Court is mistaken in saying that this legacy is given for the present Court, for Jennings' will was proved in London, December 1762, before the Court came into existence. The Court cannot have paid proper attention to the passage of the Company's letter regarding Grierson's will which was attested only by one witness. The answer says that the Mayor's Court is always ready to grant probate or deliver up the will to the executor, so that the Company's orders to the Register were unnecessary, irregular and could not be attended to. 'This impertinent as well as absurd conclusion shows to what lengths that Court think themselves at liberty to go and in a case too, where the orders given did not at all relate to their judicial capacity, for the will was not intended to be proved in India and was deposited with them only for safe custody.' As regards the Court's statement 'they will not be biassed from doing what appears to them just and equitable,' deserves no other reply than that we shall rejoice to see them do what is just and equitable.

Gunpowder will be sent out in copper-hooped barrels; and the hoops are to be sold as merchandise. James Stringer has been engaged as a bricklayer on the usual pay of £90 *per annum* in full of wages, diet, etc., with permission to take his son with him. Since the Peace, the African slave trade having much increased,

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<sup>1</sup> Copies at pp. 155—172 of *Public Despatches from England*, vol. 68.

the demand of goods for that market has also increased. In order therefore to encourage that trade, on which the British West Indies depend, additions and alterations have been made to the list of goods to be provided. The articles required for the African trade are particularly to be attended to. The full quantities of longcloth, and salampores blue must be sent at all events. Besides the Council's remarks on deficiencies in the investment, annual statements are required, as previously ordered, showing the quantities of each article in the list of the investment, the quantity supplied and the reasons for any deficiency.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO ROBERT PALK, ETC.  
LONDON, FEBRUARY 27, 1765. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 68, pp. 83 84 (original, 2 pp.)*]

Cite despatches of January 4 and February 15. Despatch of shipping. Now send the *Hector* intended to carry the 300 recruits. She carries a few goods on the Company's account. They are 100 tons of lead and 7 cases of stationery.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO ROBERT PALK, ETC.  
LONDON, MARCH 22, 1765. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol. 3, pp. 143 -153 (original, 11 pp.); copy in Public Despatches from England, Vol. 68, pp. 87 97 (11 pp.)*]

Are now despatching the *Clive*, one of the Bombay ships with recruits for Madras. Twenty-four barrels of gunpowder are also sent to make up what was sent short of 100 barrels *per* ship by the China ships, in consequence of a sufficient quantity not having passed the King's proof. It is believed that large quantities of illicit goods have been laded on the shipping of this season. A vessel laded and cleared out of the Custom-house and proceeding no further than Isle of Wight is believed to have transhipped her cargo on to an Indiaman. Previous orders under this head are repeated. The statement that no muster rolls have been sent since 1758, proves to be a mistake for a book of them has been found at the beginning of 1762 which had been put aside 'in our Repository of Indian books.' The French Company is said to have fitted out of Port L'Orient 7 ships to the East Indies and China. Previous orders are so full that no further directions are necessary. An exact account is to be sent of the French ships received and despatched. The records maintain frequent references to regulations established in times



of scarcity of grain and some general rules to prevent monopolies, but that action has not been taken 'in that uniform and methodical manner which the nature of the case seems to require.' It is presumed that the Council has a means of ascertaining a quantity of grain imported and consumed; but it will be more satisfactory if these proceedings were regularly entered at certain intervals. The Council is, therefore, to record at least every month an account of the quantity of grain, imported, consumed and remaining. Though this cannot be absolutely exact, it may be exact enough to guide the Council and the Company. Regarding the embezzlement by Subbarayan and Muttukumarappa in the warehouse, especially 39,911 pagodas of copper sold, it has been reduced by recoveries to 16,989 pagodas. There is no doubt that the Import Warehousekeeper is accountable for all deficiencies in stores. The utmost indulgence which can be granted is that the repayments of this sum may be deferred for 2 years from the date of receipt of this despatch, after which Fairfield must make good any deficiency still remaining. But all assistance is to be afforded him towards recovering the amount from the fraudulent conicopies. Subbarayan and Muttukumarappa are to be held jointly and separately responsible. It is hoped that the new regulations will effectually stop such frauds. The remains of all warehouses and store-houses are to be examined annually and reported to the Council. The earliest opportunities must always be taken of furnishing the Company with the books of the presidency, as much inconvenience results from delay. More care must be taken to secure the early despatch of books from the subordinates. *None has been received from Masulipatam since the capture of the place.* Accounts have been received of the expenses incurred in the Company's hospitals in the presidency for the 79th Regiment from January 1760 to March 1764; 84th Regiment from January 1760 to June 1762; 89th Regiment from September 1760 to February 1764; 96th Regiment from July 1761 to March 1764 and 103rd Regiment from January 1763 to April 1763; and Royal Artillery from January 1764 to March 1764. If any accounts have been omitted, the omission must at once be made good. Some have *not been certified by any officer and earlier ones have not been sent.* It is now ordered after the maturest consideration that whenever General Lawrence takes the field, he shall be allowed 10 pagodas a day and be supplied with 25 or 30 coolies to carry his baggage every marching day. Similar concessions should be shown

when Caillaud takes the field, instead of Lawrence. He shall draw the same in addition to his appointment of £1,000 a year. These allowances are to be in full consideration for table and all other expenses and the Company would be very much gratified if this field allowance can be further reduced. It is to be received by one Commander-in-chief only. Lawrence and Caillaud are not to draw them at the same time, nor are they to be allowed to any officer who shall command in the field so long as Lawrence or Caillaud is on the Coast or at any future time; but a moderate allowance is to be made at the Council's discretion. The accounts yet received to the end of April 1763 only, show a small part of the expenses incurred in the Manilla expedition. Separate and full accounts are required. In order to afford Palk the same encouragement to exert his utmost abilities as were allowed to Sir George Pigot, it has been decided to give him a commission of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  *per cent.* upon the net revenues of all districts and farms on which commission was paid to Pigot. This, together with his salary of £3,000 a year, allowance on coinage and consulage on coral, is to be in full consideration of all his services and expenses. No commission is to be drawn for the revenues from the new grant or from any other grants that shall be made to the Company. If Palk has already drawn commission on the new grants, he is to refund the same. This  $2\frac{1}{2}$  *per cent.* commission is allowed to Palk only and is to be enjoyed by no future Governor without the Company's express permission. No definite information is available as to whether the President's commission has been drawn upon the whole or upon only a part of the farmed revenues. Each farm upon which commission is drawn is to be specified. Additional officers will be appointed. Meanwhile Lieutenants Richard Nelson and Alexander Fraser and Ensign William Tatham proceed by this ship. They will receive pay from the date of their arrival and take rank as shall hereafter be directed.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO ROBERT PALK, ETC.

LONDON, MARCH 27, 1765. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol. 3, pp. 154—156 (original, 3 pp.); duplicate in Public Despatches from England, Vol. 68, pp. 99—101 (3 pp.)*]

Cite despatch of March 22. Now despatch three more Bombay ships to Madras together with brass ordnance, small arms, etc. In case these vessels should be too late to reach the Coast, they will proceed to Bombay whence the recruits will be forwarded by other conveyances. In case the supracargoes proceedings to purchase

coffee at Mocha should be obliged to pay for it by bills on Madras, such bills are to be duly honoured. On the 23rd arrived the *Duke of Albany* with valuable cargo and the welcome news of the fall of Madura and the death of Yusuf Khan. The care and attention paid to the China investment by the considerable remittances made to Canton, are highly approved. The newly appointed officers are to rank as follows:—Lieutenants Richard Nelson, Alexander Fraser, Charles Drummond, and Ensigns James Craig, George Smith, William Tatham, and William Hayward.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO ROBERT PALK, ETC.  
LONDON, APRIL 26, 1765. [*Military Despatches from England*, Vol. 3, pp. 158—166 (original, 9 pp.)]

Acknowledge the receipt of despatches of July 14, October 20/24, 1764. It is hoped that the surrender of Madura and Yusuf Khan's death will permit the reduction of expenditure and undivided attention to the Company's mercantile concerns. The Company much regrets the loss of so many officers and men in the Madura campaign, especially the death of so good and gallant an officer as Major Preston who had always displayed zeal and attachment to the Company. Complain of the omission from the indents of the great guns demanded in the despatch of November 9, 1762, which is a striking instance of the little attention paid on those occasions. An experienced Artillery officer of the King's service reports that no light 24-pounders have been used in the field by His Majesty's troops in the late war. They can only be used for firing tin case shot that can quicker be served by 6 or 12-pounders. Moreover being only 5½ feet long they could by no means answer the purpose of battering, for they will destroy their own works. It is also believed that medium brass 18-pounders will answer for a battering gun against any Indian fort, it having been found that the great rapidity of fire from an 18-pounder rather more than compensates the light weight of the common ball. Iron guns if used on field service would be very dangerous to men. It has been determined to order medium gun 18-pounders but not 24-pounders. Military indents have been complied with as far as possible and as many small arms are sent as could be made in time. Regarding the military establishment appointed at Fort St. George, the Directors do not see the least necessity of having two lieutenants for a company, in spite of their esteem for Lawrence's opinion. It is sincerely hoped that the fall of Madura will enable the Nawab to discharge his debt of nearly

12 lakhs of pagodas in the course of 1765. As the Company may be called upon for explanations regarding the disputes at Manilla between His Majesty's officers and the Company's servants, all material information should be sent together with the Council's report and opinion. Copies of papers regarding the dispute between Captain Brereton of the *Falmouth* and Captain Watson of the *Revenge* will be very useful in case the former makes a complaint. The settlement with Tanjore about Karikal is approved, provided the districts restored to the Raja were acquired by the French after 1749. His making good his payments to the Nawab all but 4 lakhs of rupees expected to be shortly received, is very satisfactory; and it is hoped that he has been brought to relinquish the Devikottai tribute of 1,100 pagodas. The Nawab is unreasonable to oppose the Tanjore repairs of the banks of the Cauveri. The Nawab should be desirous of maintaining friendship with Tanjore and content himself with establishing order in his own government. He must perceive that his existence depends upon the Company's strength and it is hoped that he will not bring on new troubles against Council's advice. Negotiations with him should show a respectful decency, but in this case, the Council should also display 'a firmness becoming the power they represent.' The Council has a right to intervene as having guaranteed the Treaty of 1762. The Company considers that the King of Tanjore should have at least the same liberty of repairing the Cauveri banks as he enjoyed formerly. Regarding negotiations with Nizam Ali Khan, no determinate principles can be laid down. The Company would be pleased to have the 5 Northern Circars not only on account of their revenues, but also because it would permit an increase of the investment and obstruct any French settlements thereabouts. But of the means for attaining this end, the supply to Nizam Ali of a body of troops seems to be the least eligible, only warrantable on solid and sure grants. The Council should above all attend to the safety and prosperity of what is now held and be extremely cautious of engaging in new scenes of war. Nizam Ali desires our troops to assist him against the Marathas, but any success we may gain on this side of Madras, may draw down the Maratha resentment on Bombay. The refusal to make Heigel a loan of 15,000 pagodas or to deliver to him Karikal, is approved. The movements of such adventurers must be closely watched, especially as he commands so many as 280 men. The Directors regret that so

many as 500 French prisoners still remain at Madras receiving subsistence to the amount of about 2,000 pagodas a month. They should be immediately despatched to the French Islands. The Council was right to secure bills on the French Government for its recent advances. The Company is surprised to find that Dalrymple should have detained so many men at Sulu, but cannot suppose that he will attempt a settlement on the north of Borneo without seeking the Council's approval. However, if he should have established himself on a tranquil footing on that Island and Council considers that it will be productive of suitable advantages, a trial may be made. Dalrymple seems to have assumed a most improper independence, and in future no projects or new settlements may be entertained until the Company's leave has been received.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO MADRAS, LONDON, APRIL 26, 1765. [*Public Despatches from England. Vol. 69, pp. 29—44 (original, 16 pp.)*]

Cite last despatch of March 29, 1765. Now reply to the despatches received by the *Duke of Albany*, which arrived in the Downs, March 23.

The Secret Committee consists of Henry Crabb Boulton and five others. The outward shipping has been delayed by contrary winds.

The Council's intention to have despatched the *Admiral Pocock* home in October, had she arrived in time from Manilla, was very proper, as the ships that have been longest in India should always be sent home first, to avoid the case of the *Boscawen* which was laded home from Bengal in a condition unfit for the voyage, and had to put into the Mauritius.

Lading home the Company's ships in India is a very essential matter and the Company is gratified at the endeavours to concert with the Council at Bengal measures to provide for all the 14 ships in India at that time; but it may be doubted whether Bombay will be able to find cargoes for so many as 5 ships, even with large supplies of saltpetre from Bengal.

The Company is much concerned to learn of the difficulties and accidents which have prevented all the vessels employed to bring troops from Manilla, except the *Revenge* and the *Illocos*, from as yet reaching Madras. The designs of Dalrymple at Sulu will be dealt with in the Company's separate letter by this despatch.

The proposed new regulations for the port of Madras under Captain Baker, Master-Attendant, are not entirely satisfactory. Baker made two proposals, one, to fix the boat-hire at nine fanams *per* trip; the other, to establish a new method of watering vessels in the roads out of which some additional profit would accrue to him in consideration of new works which he was to make. The Committee which considered these proposals did not distinguish these two plans, but blended them together, reporting that the usual 2 fanams for each water-boat and 1 fanam on every trip made by the ordinary boats would suffice to pay all the establishment required, including the Master-Attendant himself. Moreover it proposed a reduction and difference in the division of the hire of the boats.—

	Capt. Baker's Plan.	The Committee's Plan.
Boat-owners	... 3 fanams.	3 fanams.
Boatmen	... 4½ „	4 „
Establishment	.. 1 „	1 „
Fund for disabled boatmen.	½ „	... „
	<hr/> 9 „ <hr/>	<hr/> 8 „ <hr/>

As 1 fanam *per* trip is estimated to produce about 650 pagodas *per annum*, it will not more than cover the wages of a Deputy and other servants employed; so that if all the profits of the watering are to go to Baker, nothing will be left to meet Baker's salary, diet, etc., and these will have to be borne by the Company. While fully accepting the Council's recommendations of Captain Baker, the Company suggests that the price *per* trip may be fixed at 9 fanams as Baker proposed, and 2 fanams assigned for the establishment, by which an annual fund of 1,300 pagodas will be raised. This will in fact more than cover the charge, and the balance may be used for the support of old and disabled boatmen. It is not believed that 1 fanam extra on the boat-hire will be any burden on the trade.

It appears that Bassapa Chetti contracted for the use of 20 of the Company's masula-boats, for which he was to pay 400 pagodas a year; an explanation of this is desired, as no further mention has been made of the matter and no sum brought to account for it.

The Company, being anxious to increase the sale of woollens, is much concerned at the failure of the sale of October 6, when nothing but the *Aurora* was bid up to invoice-price. The sale of 10,000 pagodas' worth to Peter Perring, at 16 *per cent.* advance on the invoice-price, is disapproved, because it merely deferred the time when the market would be bare and the merchants ready to buy. When the next purchases of broad-cloth are made, attention shall be paid to their being of the proper length. The exact amount of each colour of the long ells to be used in clothing the Nawab's soldiers must be reported by the first conveyance.

As coarse copper sells as well as, and sometimes better than the fine, the exports will be regulated accordingly in future. As lead sold at so encouraging a price as 93 *per cent.* advance on the invoice, a much larger quantity may be sent out, although the Council has not increased its indent for that article, fearing that it might be sold to the Country powers to be made into shot; if we do not export more, probably other European nations will; but the Council's remarks shall be well weighed before any decision is taken.

Due enquiry shall be made into the gunpowder sent out which proved weak and dusty; and if possible, it shall be sent packed in 60 lb. barrels. Future complaints about gunpowder should specify the marks of the barrels. This rule should be observed with all faulty articles.

By the *Fox* was sent out a brass field-piece three-pounder, on a new-invented carriage. The Council is to report whether it is of more use than those already employed and whether the latter can be mounted on the new carriages. This new three-pounder is lighter than usual and its service-charge is only 12 oz. of powder. Will the new carriage serve for six and twelve-pounder field-pieces?

The Company is particularly gratified at the remittances made to China, amounting to 3,32,648 pagodas in money and goods; this with the intended remittance of 10 lakhs from Bengal should enable the Canton supercargoes to lade home all their ships. It is hoped that the renewal of the Manilla trade will facilitate the supply of silver and its export to China. The Company depends upon the continuance of the Council's attention to this matter.

It also hopes that the Nawab has raised no difficulty about being charged with the interest on the 2 lakhs of pagodas that

the Council have been forced to borrow for the China trade, and to meet the heavy military disbursements; as peace now reigns in the Carnatic, the Nawab and the Raja of Tanjore should have been able completely to discharge their obligations.

The improvement of the investment is a matter of such moment that the Company hopes that the efforts of the Chief, etc., at Cuddalore have succeeded in compelling the merchants there to complete their engagements. The improvement of the Vizagapatam investment, reported after an examination by the Madras Council, is very gratifying. Such examinations are extremely useful. 'And here we must approve of your renewing a prohibition formerly made against the provision of cloths of the sortments required for the Investment, or any dealings therein, by private merchants, as a means to prevent the debasement of the manufacture.'

The proposal to ascertain the value of the several 'Farms' is much approved. The sooner it is done the better. 'We wish to have it as accurate as possible by valuing the mean produce of the several villages or sub-divisions of each country or district, at the same time it will be very proper to ascertain once for all by a full enquiry the particular rights and privileges of each district, and the dues and proportion of the produce to which the Circar is intitled, by which means you may be the better able to do justice both to the renters and inhabitants, by enforcing the rights of the first, and protecting the latter against oppression, such a system well attended to could not, we think, fail of rendering the Company's lands populous and of raising them by the most natural and eligible means to their full value, it is true that such encouragement within the Company's bounds might in it's consequences be prejudicial to the Nabob's interest by drawing from the circumjacent countries many of the inhabitants and rendering even those who remained less satisfied with their condition . . . This it is as we conceive (added to the desire of spreading his influence as wide as possible) which has principally induced the Nabob (for we consider Vencatachilam only as a name) to farm of the Company the late acquired Countries at a rent so far exceeding what you know to be their worth, if this be so, then the Nabob's purpose cannot be any way so effectually accomplished as by using the same oppressive measures which are so generally countenanced under the Country Governments'. As interference to protect the inhabitants will involve disputes



with the Nawab, the Company would have preferred the countries being put under any other good renter. More than the countries can fairly pay should not be sought, for that will only lead to the Company's loss in the long run. However Venkatachalam's lease for three years must be allowed to stand, for fear of giving a disgust to the Nawab; but the utmost care must be exerted to prevent oppression. For the reasons already mentioned, the Company is also displeased that on Nayanar's failure, the Poonamallee country was given to Mooperaul Krishnayya, who is Venkatachalam's agent, so that that farm (as well as the betel and tobacco farm) has also been given into the Nawab's hands.

In regard to the losses incurred by the failure of the renters, the Company confiding in the Council's faithful administration supposes that all proper measures have been taken.

The proposal to repair the tanks in the Company's territories is much approved; but proper surveys should first be made to avoid improper expenditure. It would have been wise to survey the tanks in the country rented to Venkatachalam and which he has agreed to put into repair; as matters stand, no serious repairs can be expected there.

The method of selling the farms at outcry has sometimes placed them in the hands of desperate persons who did not hesitate to outbid men of character; the permission already given to sell by receiving sealed tenders is repeated and confirmed; but a fixed rule must be made to give timely notice of what is being done, so that all may have an opportunity of making tenders.

The allowance made to the farmer of arrack at Fort St. George is approved in the circumstances; but as farmers do usually reap all the benefits of a favourable change, so they ought in general to bear the burden of an unfavourable one. In particular cases however 'we shall never be backward in shewing them all reasonable indulgence', on condition that severe examples are made of persons who attempt to secure favours by improper means.

At the instance of Paul Benfield's friends, and their favourable representations of his abilities, the Company has added his name to the list of writers appointed this season.