of Justice at Calcutta and did accordingly prefer his complaint to the Grand Jury, when by an extraordinary interposition of the said Governor & Council then sitting as Judges the different Evidences in the cause were, on the most frivolous & unheard of Pretexts, refused by the Court to be sworn or admitted to appear before the Grand Jury; though such Evidences were present in Court and demanded both by the Jury & the Prosecutor.

That in consequence thereof the Grand Jury of the Country did deliver into Court the following Protest which was the occasion of breaking up of the Court and thereby obstructing the whole course of Publick Justice in the Settlement, Vizt.—

"The Grand Jury impanelled & sworn at a Quarter Sessions held this 27th day of May 1768 in the Town of Calcutta take this method to acquaint The Honorable Justices of the Peace now sitting that an information has been laid before them on oath by William Bolts Inhabitant of Calcutta, whereupon the Grand Jury summoned two witnesses named in the Information in order to their being examined, one of whom being the Sheriff and the other the Clerk of the Peace, the Bench of Justices thought proper to refuse their attendance on the Grand Jury, Whereupon other Witnesses were summoned by an Officer of the Court, as the Grand Jury conceive in the usual manner, which the Bench of Justices were pleased to disapprove of, as the Grand Jury understood by a message from the Bench delivered to them by Mr. George Lear one of their Body, who also delivered further that the Bench were of opinion that the Grand Jury seemed to aim at assuming a power Superior to the Government. The Grand Jury are deeply concerned to find that their endeavours to acquit themselves of their duty as bound by their Oaths should have brought upon them so severe a reflection from the Bench which they are not conscious of having deserved and they will venture to say that no Grand Jury was ever better disposed to the Government than the Present.

In case the Bench do persevere in their resolution of not permitting the Grand Jury to examine Witnesses upon Oath touching the said Information and refuse to swear in such Witnesses the Grand Jury have no other method of proceeding left (as without the examination of Witnesses they cannot collect the opinions of the Jurors) but to deliver in the said Information to the Bench of Justices, with this Address, who will then be answerable for all consequences.

(Signed) Cornelius Goodwin
Foreman"
That soon after this your Petitioner's house was surrounded and himself seized by a Military force, and being allowed only about two hours to pack up his Cloaths, was dragged from his Family on board a Schooner under close confinement, where he was kept Six days and nights under the guard of the said Soldiers with drawn Bayonets & from thence conveyed on board the Valentine bound for England, then under Sail in order to be brought a Prisoner to England.

That by such cruel & illegal Proceedings the principal part of your Petitioner's fortune the Fruits of the Toil of many years as well as the Fortunes of many Persons for whom he was Attorney to the Amount altogether of upwards of One hundred and Ten thousand pounds Sterling are left at the mercy of the Natives in different Parts of the Country the greatest part of which sum he reasonably presumes under the oppressions he has suffered, will never be recovered without the immediate interposition of this Court of Directors.—

That your Petitioner on board the said Ship Valentine arrived at Plymouth on the 30th April pass'd & now appears before the present Court of Directors claiming such relief as they may think his case requires, being desirous & willing to answer to any part of his Conduct which may appear to require Justification and in particular humbly requesting to be informed, whether the proceedings of the said Honorable Company's Governor & Council in Bengal towards your Petitioner are vindicated or condemned by this Honorable Court.

And your Petitioner as in duty bound Shall ever pray the 19th May 1769.

(Signed) William Bolts.

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

Gentlemen.

By Appointment of the Honourable Court having on the 24th Instant attended the Committees of Correspondence & Lawsuits, upon my Petition of the 19th Instant, sundry Paragraphs of the general Letters which have been lately written to Bengal respecting me, were there read, & upon my requesting to be furnished with Copies thereof I was inform'd by the said Committees, that they cou'd not be authoris'd to grant Copies of any public Letters to any Persons whatsoever except by Order of the General Court.

I therefore request the Court will be pleas'd to order me the said Copies together with Copies of all such Paragraphs from the Governor & Council or Select Committee as contain any Charge against me.
The said Committees were also pleas'd to express a readiness to
send out such Orders the Governor & Council at Bengal as might
be most effectual for the Recovery of my outstanding mercantile
Concerns & those of Persons for whom I acted as Attorney: of which
I was desired to give a Note.

On this Subject & in Order to save as much as possible of the
Wreck of my Fortune and those of my Constituents I cou'd wish
that General Orders may be given to the said Governor & Council
to assist my Attornies Messrs. Kier, Reed, Cator and Gibson in all
such Applications as they may find necessary to make, upon my
outstanding Concerns.

Particularly That they will issue Orders to the different
Zemindars & Fouzdars of Denagepore, Purnea, Jessor, Roymungul,
Culnea, Ingellee, and Houghly, & to the Fouzdar of Silhet to enforce
the Collection of my outstanding Debts due from them or from the
Inhabitants of their respective Districts.

That the Chief & Council at Dacca be ordered to assist in like
Manner in the Recovery of Contracts due from the Dulols, Pycars
& other Assamies of those Districts: the same to those of Patna &
to the Residents at Burdwan & Midnapore.

Also to the Rajah Bulwantsing & the Nabob Sujah al Dowlah
for the Recovery of Debts & for the Receipt of Twenty seven
Thousand Rupees worth of Salt Petre, upon my Attorney's paying
the Amount due agreeable to the Terms of nine Perwanahs granted
me by his Excellency the said Nabob Sujah al Dowlah.

And as in many Places where Money cannot be had from the
bad Effects of the Debas[ement] of the Coinage the Debtors may be
desirous of giving Goods I am to request that the Governor &
Council may be order'd to furnish my Attornies with Dustucks to
bring the Goods down to Calcutta This only for such a limited
Time as to this Court may appear reasonable & under the customary
Restrants that no Applications shall be made but for my out-
standing Concerns only.

I must here observe that as many of my said Concerns interfere
with the private Interests of those who are to give the Orders, who
have heretofore rack'd their Invention for Method to oppress me,
every Evasion of the Express Orders of this Hon'ble Court may be
reasonably expected: therefore I trust their Commands will be so
express that no subterfuge can take place.

I am with the greatest Respect
Gentlemen

London
the 26th May 1769.

Your most obedient Servant,
William Bolts.
LETTER DATED 15 SEPTEMBER 1769

Position and functions of the Commissioners—Sir John Lindsay to settle matters in the Persian Gulf—Instructions concerning relations with country powers—attitude to be adopted towards French private traders—servants of the Company to be encouraged to learn Sanskrit and Persian—composition of the Secret Committee of the Directors.

OUR President and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. Our last Letter to you went under date of the 30th June last by the Lapwing Snow which sailed from Falmouth the 5th July, Duplicate thereof accompanies this, with Triplicate of our Letter of the 11th May last sent by the Ship Fox by way of Bombay.

2. Since our last Dispatch was sent to the Lapwing at Falmouth your General and Select Committees Letters of the 3d and 6th January have been received by the Ship Queen, and your General and Select Committees Letters of the 2d and 3d with one from Governor Verelst of the 17th February last by the Ship Salisbury.

3. You will receive this Letter by His Majesty's Frigate Aurora of 32 Guns Commanded by Captain Thomas Lee whereon Henry Vansittart, Luke Scrafton, and Francis Forde Esquires will proceed in Consequence of His Majesty’s Permission for their embarking thereon.—Our last Letter advised you that these Gentlemen were appointed Commissioners to superintend and Regulate the Affairs of our several Presidencies, and this appointment has since met with the Concurrence of the General Court of Proprietors, The Commission and Instructions which we have judged it expedient to give those Gentlemen you will be properly informed of from them, and due Obedience to the authority delegated by the said Commission is hereby strictly [required] from all whom it may concern, And it is our Express Order and Direction that you our Governor and Council as well as our Servants in general do afford every assistance the Commissioners may require that the great Business of their Commission may be facilitated in the best manner possible, & thereby brought to a speedy Conclusion.

4. In consideration of the Rank that Henry Vansittart Esqr. has held in our Service at Bengal, we direct that all Military honor
be paid him as first Commissioner during his stay at your Presidency in the same manner as is done to the Governor, whose Honours We do not mean should be suspended in any degree during the time the Commissioners remain at your Presidency.

5. The Commissioners are instructed to Summon by their Secretary under direction of the first Commissioner, the Governor or Second or any others of the Company's Servants who they may think necessary, in order to take their advice & assistance upon any point of the Company's affairs that may require it, & such persons are hereby directed to give the best informations and assistance in their powers on those subjects.

6. In making Peace or War or matters which shall be adjudged of the utmost importance to the Company's Interest, we have directed that whatever Resolution shall be taken thereon by the Commissioners the same is to be laid before our Select Committee at the Presidency where they may happen to be, who are to be at liberty to represent and deliver to them their Sentiments thereupon which the Commissioners are to consider maturely before they finally determine upon such Resolution.

7. As it may happen that the Gentlemen acting under our present Commission may fall in with some of Our Shipping either in their voyages to Europe or from Port to Port in India whose Dispatches it may be material they should be acquainted with, We have given them an order to the Commanders for producing their Packets, which the Commissioners are to open for obtaining such information as they may contain.

8. Being fully sensible of the great advantages which will accrue to the Company from the Execution of the Commission by Gentlemen of their abilities and Reputation, We have agreed to pay every reasonable Expence which the Commissioners may be at in the Prosecution of the objects thereof, in which we mean to include the Charges of their Table and Voyage to and from India and from one part of India to another, and We direct that you advance those Gentlemen such sums as they may apply to you for, in Order to defray their own Expences or those of their attendants hereafter mentioned.

9. We have not appointed any Person to proceed from hence in the station of Secretary to the Commissioners but have left it to those Gentlemen to select such unexceptionable Person to be appointed to that post as they may think proper from the Civil List of either of the Presidencies at which They may be resident, who is to act during their Continuance at such Presidency or for the
whole Term that the Commission shall operate at the others,—And we have left it to the option of those gentlemen to bring such Persons or others whom they shall take to their assistance from any of their Presidencies with them from India, or not, as they shall think proper.

10. Mr Robert Day having for several years behaved in a Satisfactory manner in our Secretarys and accountants offices here We have appointed him Clerk to the Commissioners to assist in their business, he is to proceed with them from one Presidency to another till the Commission is closed and thereupon to return with them to England.

11. The Reverend Mr William Hirst is appointed to proceed with the Commissioners as their Chaplain, and during his Continuance as such he is to receive the same Salary and Allowances as the Chaplains upon your Establishment to commence from the time of his proceeding from hence.

12. We have likewise agreed that Mr John Drew shall attend the Commissioners as their Surgeon on the same footing as to allowances as the Surgeons under your Establishment to commence from the time of his embarking from hence, and he is to return hither on the Expiration of the Commission.

13. We have permitted Henry Vansittart Esquire to take with him his son Arthur, a Youth of 13 years of age to instruct him in the Persian Tongue and accompany him to the several Presidencies for gaining a knowledge of the Company's affairs, and at the close of the Business of the Commission he is to be received into the Company's service as a writer upon your establishment.

14. Mr Joseph Watkins has also our License to proceed to Bengal to be employed in Mr Vansittart's private Business and upon his return to England, Mr Watkins is to remain in India as a Free Merchant.

15. It having been proposed on the part of the Crown to send a naval officer of Experience to the East Indies with full powers from the King and also from the Company, to command their marine Force in India and to Treat and settle matters in the Persian Gulph.

16. We have agreed that such an officer on his arrival at Bombay shall take the Command of all our ships, Frigates and armed vessels which are or shall be employed in and throughout the Gulph of Persia for the purpose of Treating and settling matters in the said Gulph, but that previous to his going on the Expedition he is to take the advice of our Governor and Council of Bombay, and when
that object is finished with regard to any other operations of His Majesty's ships or our Marine, where the Station of the Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships shall render it practicable, We direct that in the absence of the aforesaid Commissioners the Select Committee or you do obtain his advice and assistance and Concert with him all such Measures as shall be necessary for carrying any Maritime Plan or Purpose into execution and he is to be instructed accordingly.

17. His Majesty having been pleased to appoint Sir John Lindsay to proceed on this Service, We have granted him, or the Commander in Chief of His Majesty's ships in the East Indies for the time being a Commission and full power accordingly, to the inclosed Copy whereof and of our Instructions to him, you are referred for fuller information of the authorities with which he is invested and we have directed our Governor and Council of Bombay and do also hereby direct you to give him the utmost assistance to enable him to carry the purposes of that Commission into effectual Execution in such manner as shall appear most Conducive to the Honour of the Nation and the Advantage of the Company most strenuously recommending it to you in all your proceedings on the Important object to Cultivate and promote that Harmony with His Majesty's officers which is so absolutely necessary for the good of the Common Cause.

18. The General Court have recommended it to us to apply for a further Naval assistance from the Crown consisting of ships [...] the Line for the Protection and Security of our Possessions in the East Indies and that matter is at present under consideration [...] we hope will be granted, a future opportunity must serve to give a more particular account of the measures that shall be taken thereon.

19. Should any of His Majesty's Ships which shall proceed to the East Indies this Season be in want of Stores, Provisions and Necessaries whilst in India, we hereby direct that you furnish the Captains with such sums of Money as they shall apply to you for on that account taking Bills of Exchange upon the proper [office...] here drawn for the sums so advanced at the Current Exchange allowed the Company's Covenant Servants payable to the Court of Directors in Money at Thirty one days sight, taking four Bills of the same Tenor and transmitting three of them to us by different Conveyances.

20. And you are also directed to adjust all accounts relative to His Majesty's Ships with the proper Officers and procure Bills as before directed for the Ballances which shall be due or that the accounts be so authentically certified by the Commander in Chief
and other proper officers that we may not be put to the trouble of Soliciting the payment of them here as has been formerly the Case to our very great Inconvenience and Loss.

21. You are to pay the Honours due to His Majesty's Flag on the proper and usual return being made in respect to Salutes.

22. You are to treat the officers of the King's ships in a genteel and Friendly manner taking care to promote and Cultivate a good understanding and Harmony with them for the benefit of the service in general, And in respect to House rent or other appointments the Rules that were observed during the last War towards His Majesty's Naval officers of the different Ranks must be your guide.

23. You are hereby directed to allow to Sir John Lindsay or the Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships in the East Indies for the time being after the rate of Forty Shillings a day which we desire his acceptance of to defray the Expence of House Rent, and for keeping a Table for himself and such Commanders and officers as he shall think proper, which Allowance is to commence on his Arrival at any of our Presidencies in India and to continue during the time of his being Commander in Chief of His Majestys Ships in India and is to be in full consideration of all allowances whatsoever.

24. After Sir John Lindsay's return from the Gulph if our Presidency of Bombay should undertake any other Marine Expe[dition] they are to put under his Command such of the Company's Marine Force as shall be thought necessary for such Expedition, and it is our meaning that he is not to interfere with any other of the Company's Marine Force but such as shall be so put under his Command by Our said Governor and Council of Bombay.

25. Altho' Sir John Lindsay is appointed Commander in Chief of the Company's Marine as beforementioned, We do not mean that such authority is to be considered to extend over the Company's European Freight ed ships which are by no means to be diverted from their respective Voyages to Military operations without the special Consent of the Commissioners or in their absence of the Company's Governors and Councils for that purpose, nor is it our Intention that the said Commission should extend to Sir John Lindsay's interfering in the nomination or appointment of any officers in the ships and vessels which our Marine force is [Comp...]

26. In the foregoing 21st Para you are directed to pay the Honors due to the King's flag, and having been since informed that
Sir John Lindsay ranks as Rear Admiral, you are therefore for that Rank to salute him with 15 Guns, and with two more Guns as Commander in Chief, And you are to pay him all other Honours [due] to those Ranks.

27. From the late advices from Bombay We are very Unhappy in being confirmed in the Opinion then given on the distracted state of our affairs in the Gulph of Persia, and the ineffectual and improper means used for re-establishing them and restoring our Credit there, this is now become a national object not only in its nature highly interesting to the Company’s and the private Trade in India but in a more particular manner affecting the Consumption of the Manufactures of this Country, it is for the Remedy of these Evils that His Majesty has been most graciously pleased to afford us his Royal Countenance and support by a Marine Force now proceeding to India under Sir John Lindsay’s Command, Our Governor and Council of Bombay are therefore according to our before-mentioned directions to give every aid and assistance that can be spared in Order to restore Our affairs and fix them on a solid and lasting Foundation of Tranquility there, for preventing a Diminution in the Sale of the British Manufactures from the continuation of the Troubles in those parts and the other Inconveniencies and Losses that may be thereby sustained.

28. In our Letter by the Lapwing Packet, We gave you our general opinion upon the subject of alliances with the Country Powers, the amount of which to sum it up in few words, was this, that we regarded with a Jealous eye the increasing power of the Morattas and that it would be bad Policy in us to take part in any operations which might tend to weaken the few remaining Chiefs of India that are in Condition to oppose their encroachments.

29. Your intended Treaty with Janogee contains some articles that are very different from this plan of Politicks particularly the 2d: which stipulates that the English Forces shall Join him, whenever required, to assist him offensively and defensively so that we might be called upon to make Conquests for the Morattas upon the Nabob of the Decan or any other Chiefs of India, even our best allies are not expected, if Janogee should think fit to set up a Claim upon them. The very large sum of Money agreed to be paid to Janogee for arrears of the Bengal Chout is another strong objection for you will find that the more Concessions you make to that people and the more strength you put into their hands, the more troublesome they will be and their Demands will increase with their power.
30. Upon the whole we hope that Treaty has not taken place and here we shall for the present close the Subject leaving the further consideration of these affairs to the Commissioners who are to have the sole direction of the negotiations and Correspondence with the Country powers while they remain at your Presidency.

31. His most Christian Majesty by a Decree of the 13th of last Month of which you have a Copy inclosed having suspended the Trade of the French Company to the East Indies until he shall otherwise Order and open the same freely to all his subjects under the Conditions required by that Decree We give you this early Notice of that interesting event that you may persue every Prudent means which it may afford of increasing your Investments and purchasing the Articles thereof, particularly piece Goods and Raw Silk at more reasonable rates. It will further be an essential part of your Duty to take the most effectual measures that a sacred observance of the Law of Nations shall Justify, to prevent and remove any prejudices and Inconveniences that may result to our Interest and Commerce within the Limits of your Presidency from any Irregularities and excess of the French private Traders and that all our Covenant servants and others trading under our protection subject to your Jurisdiction be publickly and possitively under the severest Penalties you have power to inflict required on no account to hold any Commercial Intercourse whatsoever with them.

32. Mr Wood having in his Letter of the 2d Instant, extract of which is inclosed, acquainted us that His Majesty has been graciously pleased to recommend it to Sir John Lindsay to assist our Views for affecting a Settlement at Ballambangan, we therefore direct that you acquaint that Gentleman with all the steps you have taken as well as furnish him with every light you are possessed of and Co-operate with him in the most effectual manner to obtain the benefits proposed from that undertaking.

33. The Coral merchants have presented a Memorial to us desiring we would facilitate the means of having their Remittances made to them in return for their Coral. We cannot make a particular exception in their favour from Our general Orders respecting Remittances but recommend it to you to consider them as Intituled to every Indulgence in this respect. And if you can open any new Channel for furnishing them with Diamonds or can contribute to the safety of their Transportation to Our Settlements you will render a very essential Service to this Country, which is much benefitted by their Commerce.

34. We wait your further report upon the Conduct of Mr Williamson in respect to the Overcharges in the prices of
Materials supplied for the new Barricks (sic) at Cossimbuzar, at present we shall only take notice of what relates to the two assistants Mr Palk and Mr Van Rixtell whom you have continued in our Service in consideration of their having laid before you a fair account of the whole transaction, and judging that their fault proceeded more from bad Example than from dishonest principles,—Having given a favourable attention to these reasons, and considered their youth and inexperience, we approve of the Grounds of your Lenity, towards them, and direct that you call them before you and after having reprimanded them in severe Terms to acquaint them that we expect the utmost diligence and fidelity in return for this Indulgence, after which you may employ them wherever they may be found useful.

35. The Reverend Mr Parry being represented by you to be frequently unable to perform the Duties of the Church, We direct that he be dismissed our Service and proceed to Europe by the first opportunity (sic).

36. We find that you were induced by the inability of the Reverend Mr Parry to apply to Sir Charles Hudson¹ to permit the Reverend Mr Yates whom he brought out in his ship as a Tutor to his Son to enter into Our service as one of the Chaplains at your Presidency but as that Gentleman was carried to India without our Privity or Consent, and consequently you had no authority from us to entertain him, we likewise direct that Mr Yates be discharged from the Chaplainship of your Presidency and sent to Europe by the first Ship.

37. Sensible of the Justice of your Observations on the frequent Removals in the Post of Secretary of the Presidency and desirous of removing the inconveniences arising therefrom, we direct that Mr Richard Browne who is a Free Merchant at your Presidency be appointed to the office of Sub Secretary on receipt hereof with a view to qualify himself to be standing Secretary, he is not to be stationed on the Line of Our Covenant Servants and you are to assign him an annual allowance equal to the Emoluments which former Sub Secretary’s have enjoyed.

38. Captain David Cuming having been recommended to Us for his good behaviour in the Wars in Bengal, wherein he was severely wounded, we direct that he do succeed to the Post of Deputy Master Attendant under your Presidency after the persons we have already nominated to succeed to that Station.

39. It gives us great pleasure to observe the attention paid to our recommendations for learning the Persian Language by several
of our Covenant Servants and we very much approve the Encouragement you have given them for so doing—As it would likewise be very beneficial to the Service to have our Servants acquire a knowledge of the Moorish and Gentoo Languages, we direct that you give them all proper Encouragement for so doing, and acquaint us with the names of such who distinguish themselves herein.

40. The Box which contained your General Letter and Packets by the Salisbury was not received from that ship till some days after the box with the Select Committee’s Packet which was occasioned by your omitting to acquaint the Captain which of your Packets he was to send up first, You must in future give the Commanders proper Instructions on this head, and be careful to put your General and Select Committees Letters and Packets and the private Letters in a box by themselves and distinguish it on the outside from those which contain Books, which Box the Commander is to be directed to send up to the India House from the first port of his arrival.

41. We have taken up Thirty Ships for the purposes of carrying on the Company’s Trade to all parts of the East Indies and China the ensuing Season upon the same Terms as those of last year, except that agreeably to a stipulation in Charterparty no ships are to be dispatched home from Bengal before the first of November (instead of the Twenty first as formerly) nor after the Eleventh day of March in every year the ships names Commanders and Consignments are as follows Vizt.

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<th>Ships Names</th>
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<td>Houghton</td>
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<td>Early Coast &amp; Bay</td>
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<td>Henry Hinde Pelly</td>
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<td>New Ship</td>
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<td>Madeira &amp; Coast &amp; Bay</td>
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<td>Thomas Cooke</td>
<td>Madeira &amp; Coast &amp; China</td>
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42. We have appointed the following Gentlemen to be the Secret Committee for the ensuing Season. Vizt. Sir George Colebrooke Bart Chairman, Peregrine Cust Esqr. Deputy, Henry Crabb Boulton, John Harrison, John Manship, Frederick Pigou, John Purling and Lawrence Sulivan Esquires, who are empowered to take such Precautions as they shall Judge necessary for the safety of Our Outward and Homeward bound Ships whose Orders or those of any three of them are to be Obeyed by all to whom they are directed.

43. Notwithstanding the directions in the 23d Paragraph of this Letter, as it has since appeared that the Commanding officer of His Majesty's Naval Forces in the East Indies has been provided with a House, you are therefore to accommodate Sir John Lindsay or
the Commander in Chief of His Majesty’s Ships for the time being whilst he shall reside at your Presidency with an handsome and convenient one at our Expence as has been usual.

We are

Your Loving Friends


London 15th September 1769.

Enclosure 1

EXTRACTS OF INSTRUCTIONS TO THE COMMISSIONERS DATED 15 SEPTEMBER 1769 RELATING TO THE PRESIDENCY AT FORT WILLIAM IN BENGAL

2. In order to facilitate and effectuate the great purpose of Peace and Tranquility, we are of opinion, it may be prudent to make known to the Powers of India, that it is by no means the Intention of the Company, to encroach upon their Neighbours, or to acquire an extension of Dominion by conquest; and that it is their determined Resolution, always to adhere to, and keep inviolable the Faith of Treaties; and to confine their views to the Revenues of Bengal, and their present Possessions. We cannot better express our Sentiments respecting these great Objects, than by referring you to our General Letter to Fort St George of the 13th May 1768, which runs in these words: “The Dewanee of Bengal, Bahar and Orixa, with the Possessions we hold in those Provinces, are the utmost Limits of our Views on that side of India; On the Coast, the Protection of the Carnatic, and the possessions of the Circars, free from all Engagements to support the Subah of the Decan, or even without the Circars, preserving only Interest enough over any Country Power, who may hold them, to keep the French from settling in them. And on the Bombay side, the Dependencies thereof, the Possession of Salset, Bassein, and the Castle of Surat. The Protection of these, are easily within the reach of our power and may mutually support each other, without any Country Alliance whatever. If we pass these bounds, we shall be led on from
one acquisition to another, till we shall find no security but in the subjection of the whole, which by dividing your Force, might lose us the whole; and end in our extirpation from Hindostan."

3. In entering into any Treaties with Country Powers, We desire your particular care and attention that they be so framed, as neither immediately nor eventually if possible, to engage the Company in any disputes between those Powers.

4. If the obstacles to a solid & honourable Peace, should be found insurmountable, we recommend to you, in the prosecution of the War, the settling and directing the operations of the three Presidencies, upon one uniform plan of Action; always bearing in mind, the preservation and security of Bengal, is, of all others the most important object and Consideration to the Company.

6. The two Provinces, of Allahabad and Corah, must be preserved to the King, as they are guaranteed by the Company; unless an equivalent can be obtained in lieu thereof, by way of Revenue, or otherwise, to the King’s Satisfaction.

7. When Peace is restored, we think no greater Military Force should be kept at Allahabad, [that] shall be thought necessary to protect the King’s Person, but We do not mean to embark in any Expedition on his account at the Hazard of our Troops, and possibly of our most valuable Possessions.

8. In the Negotiations of Peace with the Moratta Powers, we direct you to be particularly attentive to the obtaining if it be practicable, the Islands of Salset and Bassein under a solid Right and Title.

9. We desire you will, without delay, return to the King the blank Phirmaund of the Decan, as being a Grant improperly obtained, by Influence over the King; and which must give a general Alarm to the Indian Powers.

10. We authorize you to disavow, on the part of the Company, any Application made to the King for a Grant of the Hindooout Rajah’s Dominions, under pretence of Indemnification for the Expences of our Troops kept at Allahabad, or for any other Consideration.

13. We desire and enjoin you, to make strict and speedy enquiry into the Proceedings of the Courts of Justice throughout our Settlements; and if any extraordinary Powers have interfered, to interrupt the course and Administration of Justice, it will be your duty to correct without delay, all such Abuses; that every Question of Property may be fairly and honestly decided, according to the Rules of Law and Justice.
14. In particular we direct, that the practice of with-holding, or taking Five p Cent upon the recovery of Debts in any Court of Justice whatsoever, for the use of the Company, or on any other pretence, be totally abolished.

15. We much wish to obtain Security for the Properties and Persons of the Natives; and to that end we desire you will make full enquiry into the Nature and Constitution of the Courts of Zemindary and Cutchary, or other Courts, where ever our Possessions or Revenues extend; and that you will endeavour to reform all such abuses as shall have found their way into them, to the Oppression of the Natives; and we desire you will use the most effectual means for rendering their Properties less precarious, and their Possessions more permanent.

16. In case the Constitutions of the above-mentioned Courts shall be found defective, we desire you will use your best endeavours to obtain all proper and necessary Reformations and Alterations therein, or if you shall judge it expedient, you are to procure Phirmaunds from the King, or the Country Powers, for Erecting and Establishing new Courts of Judicature, respecting both Civil and Criminal Jurisdiction.

17. You will see by the Treaty with the Nabob that a very large sum is to be paid, in Consideration of many Articles of Expence therein enumerated, in Case the same should thereafter be thought necessary for the support of the Nabob's Dignity. This affords an opening to you, to enquire into, and we desire you will retrench such Articles of Expence, as shall appear to you to be grossly (sic) unnecessary and not tending to the use, Dignity, or Honor of the Nabob. And we direct, that you will also enquire, whether the Sums already issued, in Consequence of this part of the Treaty, have been fairly and duly applied; and if any gross Misapplication shall be found to have been made, that you will endeavour to obtain Restitution and satisfaction from the Persons concerned therein; and further we direct that you will take effectual care for the future, that the sums to be paid for the above purposes, be subject to no deductions or Allowances, but such as shall appear absolutely necessary.

18. The immense Salaries and Allowances represented to us to be paid to Mahomed Reza Cawn, must be another Subject of your Consideration and Regulation; and we hope you will be able to reduce them into moderate Bounds.

20. We also most heartily wish to see the Practice and Usage totally discontinued, which prevailed under the Moorish Government, of Confiscating the Estates and Properties of deceased Persons, who had at any Time been employed in the Collection of the Public
Revenues, or the Service of the Government, under the pretence of Frauds and Abuses committed by them in the Execution of their Offices. These Acts of Oppression have taught the Natives to hoard and secrete their Money and Effects to the great detriment and injury of the public. As no Man's Property ought to be invaded, infringed, or affected, but by due Course of Law, we hope you will be able to procure relief against these Acts of Violence and Injustice.

21. Not only the Courts of Justice ought to be open to Persons of all Ranks and Degrees, but the Channels of Trade should be in every respect free, and unrestrained; no undue Influence or exertion of power should be used over the Manufacturers, for by fair means only, we wish to have the preference of the Markets obtained from them.

22. Every degree of Restraint is contrary to the fundamental principles of Trade and Commerce, which therefore are found to thrive the most among free People; for the Number of Manufacturers will always increase in proportion to the Encouragement and protection they meet with.

23. As the Company's Revenues can be remitted to Europe, but through the Channel of Trade and as the procuring of Raw Silk for the Manufacture of Great Britain, is now become a great National Object; your best attention is required to that Article of Investment, not only for the procuring the greatest quantity of the Material that can be obtained, but by giving Encouragement to the Manufacturers, to send it to Europe duly and properly prepared for the British Markets that we may be able not only to vie with, but to obtain a preference of the Foreign Imported Silk.

24. In the Articles of Ophium and Raw Silk, we not only desire your attention to the Improvement and increase of them, but that you will give all suitable Encouragements to those concerned in their growth and production; not by an increase of Wages, if that can possibly be avoided, but by moderate Bounties, which seem to us the much more eligible method. In Considering this point, you will direct your Enquiries, whether the District of Rungpoor, which is a Place of Security, and Tranquility, may not be very successfully appropriated to the growth of the Mulbery Tree. And as we are making a settlement at Balambangan, where great Quantities of Ophium will be vended, we desire, that after allowing a reasonable Share of this Article to the Dutch, you will secure for the use of the Company as much as they will want.

25. The Scarcity of Silver being represented to us in the strongest Terms by our Servants abroad; it will be necessary for you to investigate this important subject as closely as possible; first
ascertaining whether the Fact be generally true over the Provinces, or confined to Calcutta only; and whether it be owing to the Quantity exported, or resulting from the fatal Consequences of the Gold Coinage; and having found the true cause of this Grievance, you must use your Endeavours to apply the proper Remedies The principal one, We apprehend, will be, the abolishing the annual Diminution of the Value of the rupees, which We have so often recommended, but without Effect, to our servants.

26. We desire you will pay a strict regard and attention to prevent Monopolies of any kind being carried on under the Influence or authority of the English Name; more particularly in the necessaries of Life, and in the Article of Cotton, and other raw materials of Manufacture. We mention Cotton in particular, because we are informed, there has been a Monopoly of that Article, in which the Influence and authority of Mahomed Reza Cawn has been improperly exerted over the Zemindars, to oblige them to buy it; If you find such Oppressions have been exercised, We direct that upon due Proof, before you, all Persons concerned therein, in our Employ, must be dismissed.

27. We enjoin you to enquire into such Abuses as have been committed or Practised, in carrying (sic) on and continuing an exclusive Trade, in the Articles of Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, contrary to the express Directions and Orders transmitted by the Court of Directors. We direct you to enquire into the reasons why such Orders have been disobeyed or neglected; and it is our intention, that those Trades be laid open to all Persons, as well Natives as Europeans, and that English Subjects be permitted to Trade therein, only upon the same footing, and under the same Duties & Restrictions as Natives, or other Subjects do; you will take particular care, that these Duties or Regulations be not evaded, under pretence of any Respect due unto or the Influence of the English Flag. It excites our utmost Indignation to find, that great Fortunes have been acquired by Persons in our Service, in Trades carried on in direct opposition to our express Injunctions and Commands; and as we cannot too severely punish such contumacious Practices, we desire you will endeavour to discover the principal Actors and Abettors in these acts of disobedience; and upon due proof that you will not only dismiss them from our service, but that you will take all legal Measures to obtain satisfaction to the Company in the Courts of Justice in India; and in Cases where the Evidence may not be found sufficient, or effectual, to procure Redress and Satisfaction, by the strict Rules of Law there, that you will transmit to us the fullest, and most explicit proofs of the Facts, which you are capable of Obtaining.
28. We direct and enjoin your strict enquiry into the Enormous increase of the Expences of the Company's Military Establishments; more particularly into the Contract for supplying the Army, and those for Buildings, or repairing Fortifications; It would be a great Irregularity and deserving of the severest Censure, if it should be found that any of the Company's Servants have availed themselves of the Stations they hold, to procure these Contracts for themselves or for their own benefit directly or indirectly; or that it should be the province of any person concerned in these Contracts, to audit the Accounts relative thereto; we expect your particular attention in Order to procure full and effectual reformation in these particulars.

29. You are fully empowered by the Company's Commission, to superintend and regulate the Collection of their Revenues; to put them on a just and honourable footing deserves your peculiar Care & attention; whatever abuses, Extortions, and Oppressions the Inhabitants and Tenants have been exposed to, from the exaction of extraordinary Contributions, which always tend to impoverish the Country, or from any other specious Causes or pretences, we strictly enjoin you to reform, and for the future effectually to prevent; to this end, it seems to us a prudent and desirable measure, that instead of the residence of only one Person at the Durbar, to superintend the Important Business of managing and adjusting the Revenues, there should be a Resident, with a Council or proper Assistants at the Chief Places of Collection, who should have power to conduct and regulate the mode and Charges of Collection, and reform all Abuses therein, and to whom the Complaints of the Inhabitants may at all times find free access.

30. For effectuating the above purposes you will take proper measures for regulating and restraining, and if found necessary to prohibit the trading by any Servant employed in the Collection of the Revenues, within the province where he shall be stationed, and that no Person so employed in any Character or Station whatsoever, be permitted to receive any Presents or Gratuity, under any Colour or Pretence, or derive any Advantage directly or indirectly from the Collection of Revenues; but they must depend solely on appointment you think fit to make for them, which will be suitable to their Rank in the Service.

31. We are sorry to take notice, that precise and regular intelligence hath never been communicated from time to time of the French Force in the East Indies; such intelligence should be transmitted home by every ship, and no cost should be spared, in all parts, in order to obtain the most perfect intelligence of the proceedings of Foreign Companies, not grounded on surmises, but
on information of Matters of Facts; you must not fail to mention the arrival of every French and Foreign Ship coming to any Port of the East Indies; particularly if they are ships of Force, and in doing this, you must not omit to send us as far as you are able, the Number of Men and Guns, the Burden, the [Names] of the ships, and the Commanders; the Uniform of the Troops, the Names of the Officers of such Troops, and what number of Officers and Men are at the several Foreign Settlements in India, together with the State of their Fortifications.

33. Upon the return of the Army from the Mysore Country into the Carnatic, we find that the Field Deputies are come back to the Presidency at Madras We cannot but disapprove of their Original appointment, which could have no other Tendency, but to impede the operations of the Campaign & give rise to very mischievous disputes betwixt the Commander in Chief and the Deputy by which we fear the Public Service has suffered essentially. We hope our Troops will not on any Pretence be carried so far from our settlements again, by which the Extraordinary Expences of our Army is swelled to an enormous height; but our Opinion is, that when the Company has made choice of a proper Person to be a Commander in Chief, all trust and confidence should be reposed in him, to direct the Plans and operations of the Campaign, and we desire with a View to Economy, in the disbursements of army Expences, the supplies of the Army, or in settling the Contribution to arise out of the Enemy's Country, that reference should be had to the Orders given by the Court of Directors under date of the 31st of March 1761 Para 165.

35. The Negligence in keeping the Company's Books in the Subordinate Settlements at Bengal in a regular manner, and in not punctually transmitting Copies of them to the Court of Directors; has been long matter of Complaint against our Servants, We desire you will procure all necessary regulations in this respect, and that you will discharge from our Service all Persons, who shall be found culpable of Notorious Negligence and disobedience of our Orders concerning this matter.

36. A perfect Survey of the Company's Lands we think would be of great Utility, and we hope you will be able to procure the most accurate plans & Surveys, as well of the Duannee Lands, as of the Company's other Possessions, that can possibly be had.

45. At all times when you deliberate and Consult upon the Subject of Marine operations and Expeditions, where the Station and Situation of the Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Ships shall render it practicable we desire and direct, that you will obtain his
Advice and assistance; and that you will concert with him all such Measures as shall be necessary for carrying any Maritime Plan or Purpose into Execution. Also In the Execution of any Plan of Negotiation, or any other important Object, where the assistance of the Commander of his Majesty's Ships shall appear the most probable means of accelerating, or bringing the same to Perfection. We doubt not but you will think it necessary, and we particularly desire and direct, that you will give him the fullest and most ample Powers for that purpose.

Enclosure 2

DEGREE OF THE KING'S COUNCIL OF STATE CONCERNING THE INDIA TRADE, OF THE 13TH AUGUST 1769

Extracted from the Registers of the Council of State.

The Consultations of the General Assemblies of the Proprietors of the India Company of the 14th & 29th March the 3d April and 8th of this Month, together with the Memorials and accounts of the Situation of the said Company drawn up by the Deputies chosen by the said Proprietors in their Assembly of the 14th March, in conjunction with the Syndicks and Directors, having been represented to the King and Council; His Majesty has observed that the Company has not yet made any dispositions to enable them to provide for the Isles of France and Bourbon, and to fulfill the obligation they are under for the not laying open their Trade to India. That this default does not proceed from any negligence of the Syndicks and Directors, who have not sufficient Funds to carry on the Trade; but that from the first Assembly of the 14th March, the Proprietors, charged with the state of their affairs, did not present any Methods admissible for the procuring themselves the necessary Funds to answer the Expences of fitting out the Ships for this Year, till the day of the last Assembly, wherein a Memorial containing the different Plans for borrowing Money was read, for the Examination whereof Deputies were appointed; Upon the said Memorial's being presented to the King, and being examined by His Council, He has judged that, of the Three Plans for the borrowing Money, the Two first cannot be admitted, and that the Examination which the third might deserve together with the Oppositions it might meet with from the Proprietors, the discussions it might occasion, and lastly it's Execution in case it should be judged admissible, would draw on such delay and take up the time necessary for the Dispatches to
India, in so much that the Colonies of the Isles of France and Bourbon and His Majesty's Subjects dispersed in the several Factories in India might run the risk of wanting Subsistence, and the most necessary Articles of Consumption, and that a total Interruption of Trade to the French Nation in India might result therefrom:—For which it being necessary to provide; Hear the Report of the Sieur Maynon d' Invau Counsellor in Ordinary, and King's Council, Comptroller General of the Finances; The King, being in Council, has Ordered and Orders as follows.

Article 1st

The Exercise of the Exclusive Privilege of the India Company to the Isles of France and Bourbon, to India, China and in the Seas beyond the Cape of Good Hope shall be and continue Suspended, until it shall be ordered otherwise by His Majesty.

Article 2d

All the places and Factories in India shall continue to be governed as heretofore by the Councils, Junr Merchants and Servants of the Company as his Majesty has confirmed, so far as may be necessary, in all their Functions, with the same Rights, Privileges and authority as they have enjoyed till now.

Article 3d

All his Majesty's Subjects may freely Trade to the several parts of India, China and in the Seas beyond the Cape of Good Hope; may Trade thither on their own Ships in all goods, Silver and Merchandizes & return their Ships to France loaden with the Goods and Merchandizes of India, China, and of all the Countries beyond the Cape of Good Hope, provided they take out Passports, which shall be delivered to them Gratis and without Charge, which shall contain the Names of those who fit the Ships out, the Captains and Ships, the Burthen, and the Places they shall be dispatched from. The Captains of the said Ships shall be obliged to shew the said Passports to the Commanding Officers at the Isles of France and Bourbon and to the Councils and Companies Servants in the several Factories where they shall stop to refresh. Moreover the said Persons who fit the Ships out and the Captains shall be obliged to conform to the particular Regulations which His Majesty shall judge proper for the use of this Trade.

Article 4th

The Adventurers who shall be desirous of obtaining the said
Passports, shall, for this purpose address their Memorials, signed by themselves, to the Secretary of State for the Marine Department, or to the Syndicks and Directors of the India Company, the said Memorials shall be immediately communicated to the Deputies of the Trading Cities at Paris, in order, by the said Deputies to receive, in the Ports, such orders and instructions as they shall judge necessary, and afterwards to give their Advice upon the said Memorials, which Advice shall be annexed to the Original of the said Passports.

Article 5th

The Adventurers in the Trade to India shall not make the Return of the Ships and Merchandizes proceedings from the said Trade, to any Port but L' Orient; In case they shall, by Accident, be obliged to put into any other Port of the Kingdom, they shall not unload their Goods there, but they shall be obliged to come to the said Port of L'Orient and if the Ship is not in a condition to go to Sea, the Goods shall be deposited in a Warehouse, under the care of the Officers of the Revenues or Farms, from whence they shall be Transported to L' Orient under Security, or with a Cocket.

Article 6th

All the Merchandizes proceeding from the Trade of India shall be Subject, on Entrance into the Kingdom to the Duties which His Majesty in Council shall impose, which Duties shall be paid independent of those heretofore established.

Article 7th

The Ships, Provisions, and Merchandizes that shall be destined for the India Trade shall have all the advantages Exemptions and Immunities granted for the Trade of the Colonies in America, by fulfilling the Formalities prescribed by the Regulations, and particularly by the Letters Patent of the Month of April 1717;—And the Armaments shall not be made but in the Port of L'Orient and in those permitted for the Trade of the said Colonies.

Article 8th

The present Syndicks and Directors shall continue to Transact, as heretofore, all the affairs of the India Company His Majesty reserving to himself Power to make such Decrees as shall be for the Interest of the Proprietors, after the Deputies (who by their Resolution of the 8th Inst have charged themselves with that Business) shall have made a Report of their Observations. Done in
the Council of State of the King, his Majesty being present, held at Compeigne the 13th August 1769.

(Signed) Phelypeaux

Enclosure 3

DECREES OF THE KING'S COUNCIL OF STATE
CONTAINING RULES FOR THE INDIA TRADE
OF THE 6TH SEPTEMBER 1769

Extracted from the Registers of the Council of State

The King in Council having ordered Publication to be made of his Decree of the 13th August last, whereby his Majesty suspended the Exercise of the Exclusive Privilege of the India Company, permitted all his Subjects to trade freely to the different parts of India, China and in the Seas beyond the Cape of Good Hope and reserved to himself the power of making such Rules as should be thought proper for the management of this Trade, and to settle the Duties that the said merchandizes from the Isles of France and Bourbon should be subject to on entrance into the Kingdom, His Majesty having also ordered information to be given of the Representations that have been made to him concerning the Restrictions which the dispositions in the 4th Article of the said Decree of the 13th of August last might occasion to the Freedom of this Trade and this being willing (in order that all his Subjects might partake thereof) to dispense with the Forms laid down in the said article insomuch that the necessary Passports for the Security of the Navigators to India may be granted Gratis and without delay to all those who shall request them, His Majesty being willing at the same time to give the City of L'Orient marks of his protection and facilitate the Armaments for India thereby granting to those who shall fit out Ships at that place the enjoyment of the privileges and exemptions of the duties which have been formerly granted to the India Company on the Merchandizes and Effects belonging to the Armaments. Being willing to provide for these matters.—Hear the Report of the Sieur Mayon d' Invau Council in Ordinary and King's Council, Comptroller General of the Finances.—The King being in his Council has ordered and orders as follows.

Article 1st

The Managers of the India Company shall deliver Gratis to those who shall fit out ships for India and for the Seas beyond the
Cape of Good Hope, Passports, which shall contain the names of the Owners the Captains & Ships, the Tonnage and Places from whence they shall be dispatched and those of their first destination which Passports shall be speedily expedited at the Request of the Merchants or Persons who fit the ship out, without Refusal under any pretence and without being Subject to any Formality: his Majesty derogating in this respect to the dispositions of the 4th Article of the said Decree of Council of the 13th of August last.

Article 2d

The Captains of the said Ships shall be obliged to shew the said Passports to the Commanding Officer of the Isles of France & Bourbon & to the Councils and Servants of the different Factories where they shall put in for refreshment, who shall be obliged to lend them all assistance and protection; By virtue of the said Passports they shall have power to Sail in all the Seas and Trade on all the Coasts and in all the Countries beyond the Cape of Good Hope with the same Rights and Privileges as the Company's Ships have enjoyed without molestation or restraint in their Navigations under any pretence whatever.

Article 3d

Twenty four hours after the arrival in France an exact declaration shall be made, conformable to the Rules and Ordinances, to the Officers for the Farms of all the Goods they shall bring from India & China to L'Orient by the Ships, and for private account the said Goods shall be examined and Certified and shall be deposited in the Magazines of the said Port of L'Orient.

Article 4th

Those Goods whose Consumption in the Kingdom is prohibited shall be deposited, as formerly in a particular Warehouse, under two different Keys, one of which shall remain in the hands of the proper Officer of the Farms, and the other in those of the Commissioners or Overseers for the Persons who fit the Ships out.

Article 5th

All the Goods produced from the Trade to India shall have the benefit of lying Six Months in Warehouse in the Port of L'Orient, those for home Consumption shall pay the Duties formerly due according to the Rules, those for Exportation shall be exempt from the said duties, and shall pay only those of Indult setforth in the 9th article of this Decree, the licensed Goods may be transported
by land as heretofore, the Prohibited Goods, as well as the painted
and printed Cloths, White Cotton Cloths, Muslins, Handkerchiefs
and Dimities may only be exported.

Article 6th

White Cotton Cloths, Muslins, Handkerchiefs and Dimities shall
continue to be marked and stamped with the Tickets and Leads of
the Company.

Article 7th

The Goods produced from the said Trade may be sent from
L'Orient to Nantz and shall have the same advantage of being six
Months in Warehouse to be reckoned from the day they shall have
been transported from L'Orient, Prohibited Goods and Painted
Cloths Cotton, Muslins, Handkerchiefs and Dimities may be sent
only by Sea to Nantz and Exported from thence, with regard to other
kind of Goods they may be sent from L'Orient to Nantz and trans-
ported thence as well by Sea as Land, if the prescribed Forms and
Rules in such cases be observed.

Article 8th

The Goods shall not be taken out of the said Warehouses without
previous notice, the proper Officer of the Farms shall have liberty
to view the Goods during the 6 Months they are in Warehouse as
often as he shall think fit; Those that shall have been secreted shall
be seized, or the value of them and notice given of their Forfeiture
with the Penalties incurred by the Rules.

Article 9th

All the Goods produced by the Trade to India and China shall
be subject on entrance into the Kingdom to a duty of Indult of
5 p Cent upon their value in France, and those of the growth of the
Isles of France and Bourbon to 3 p Cent likewise on their value
in France—The said duties shall be paid before the said Goods
shall be delivered out of the Warehouses where they shall have
been deposited whether they shall be for exportation or home
Consumption.

Article 10th

The Owners of the said Goods may sell or dispose of them how
and when they think proper, either, by Private or Public Sale, of
which they may give notice in the Form and on the Conditions
that shall be agreeable to them.
Article 11th

All the Goods, Merchandizes and Effects destined for Port L'Orient shall continue to enjoy the Exemptions mentioned in the 43rd Article of the Edict of August 1764 and by the 16th, 17th and 18th Articles of the Letters Patent of the Month of March 1696 in the same manner as the India Company have enjoyed them. The Decree of Council of the 13th of August last shall be executed in all it's Forms where it is not derogatory to the present Decree. Done in the King's Council of State, His Majesty being present held at Versailles the 6th of September 1769.

(Signed) Phelypeaux

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LETTER DATED 10 NOVEMBER 1769

New writers and Cadets for Bengal—Eyre Coote appointed Commander-in-Chief—instructions concerning trade of the French in Bengal.

OUR President and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. His Majesty's Frigate Aurora carried our last General Letter of the 15th of September, Duplicate whereof accompanies this and also the Triplicate of our Letter of 30th June the Aurora sailed on her Voyage from Spithead 30th Septr.

2. The Stag Frigate and Hawke Sloop under the Command of Sir John Lindsay, whom we before advised were sent principally with a view of restoring our affairs in the Gulph of Persia, also sailed from Spithead the 29th September.

3. The Ship True Briton mentioned in our last Letter to have been taken up for a voyage to the East Indies, we have Consigned to Bombay.

4. The Houghton as before advised is Consign'd to the Coast and Bay, such parts of her Cargo as are designed for your Presidency, will appear by the enclosed Invoice and Bill of Lading, to which you are referred and on her Arrival in Bengal it is our direction, that you lose no time in unloading her Cargo and giving her an early dispatch for Europe.

5. In our Letter of the 15th September we informed you the
Northumberland was Consigned to Bombay and China, and in order that she may carry a valuable Cargo thither we direct that you assist our Presidency of Bombay as effectually as possible for that purpose.

6. We shall order our Presidency of Bombay to send the Worcester to Bengal as soon as she is unladen and received on board a suitable Cargo of Cotton and other Goods proper for your Market, and we further direct that unless you should require an additional Ship to bring your Investment to Europe, you dispatch her back to Bombay with Salt Petre in order to assist the Tonnage that may be wanted to compleat the Ladings of the Ships bound to that Presidency.

7. Should either the Northumberland or Worcester be disabled from proceeding the Voyages assigned them, after their arrival at Bombay, we have directed that the Admiral Pocock is to have the preference of being employed in the room of such disabled Ship.

8. As to Surplus Tonnage that may be laden, you must have regard to the number of Ships you may have to dispatch and make as equal a distribution thereof as possible.

9. The Council of Supra Cargoes appointed to conduct our affairs in China for the Ships proceeding thither this Season are Messrs Alexander Hume, Stephen De Visme, Francis Wood, Benjamin Torin, Edward Phipps, Thomas Bevan, William Harrison, Matthew Raper, John Bradby Blake and James Bradshaw and Messrs Hume, Phipps Wood, Bevan, Harrison, Raper, Blake and Bradshaw are to be our Residents in China in 1771, and we have also directed that Mr Phipp's rank in the Council shall after the departure from China of Messrs De Visme and Torin be next to Mr Hume.

10. As we judge it proper you should be informed of the Supplies we intend for the China Trade from the different resources in England and India, you are hereby advised that the Fifteen Ships consigned thither from hence this Season as likewise the Lord Camden expected at Canton from Bombay in 1770 are to be furnished with their Cargos home, from a Stock amounting to about £600,000 which will consist of about £225,000 in Silver, the Cargos to be sent from hence and such as on the lowest Estimate may be expected to be Consigned thither from our several Presidencies (sic).

11. The occasion of our sending so large a supply of Treasure from hence for the China Market as £225,000 arises from the little expectation we have according to the Advices received this year from the Coast and Bay of the ability of the three Presidencies sending
Treasure the Season of 1770 or of the little probability of any Surplus Stock remaining in China after the Ships of 1769 were provided for.

12. Upon the principle of the foregoing Estimate we have directed our Supra Cargos that the amount of each of the said Sixteen Ships Cargos should not exceed the value of £30,000 in Tea, China Ware and Nankeen Cloth, by which restriction a Balance of £115,400 will be left for next Season's Stock.

13. Nevertheless we are strongly induced to expect that our Supra Cargos will have a larger Stock on hand according to the Directions given to the three Presidencies by the Lapwing in June last for the unlimited receipt into their respective Treasuries of Cash for Bills to be drawn upon us, the value whereof we positively ordered should be assigned to supply our Supra Cargos with Specie for the extension of the China Investment if they shall in consequence be furnished with the amount of £160,000 from India or can draw on us for that Sum they are then to invest the additional Sum of £10,000 for each Ship in Raw Silk and in proportion for a lesser Sum so that a Surplus Stock shall always remain of £90,000 to £100,000 for the next year, but as we deem that too small a Sum, it is our further Order that if our China Council shall from the Indian Remittances or by their own Draughts be possessed of more than £160,000 we would have the Surplus Stock increased to £200,000 and if it shall exceed that Sum they may encrease their Investment of China Raw Silk so far as that the Cargo of each Ship shall not exceed the value of £50,000 observing they are not to send Wrought Silks on any account.

14. For the increase of the China Stock if the assistance from Bengal and Fort St George should not answer our Expectations we have empowered the China Council for the year 1770 to receive into our Cash upon the Terms and Conditions mentioned in our General Letter of the 11th November 1768, such a sum for Bills of Exchange to be drawn upon us at the rate of 5s/3d the Weighty Dollar, as shall with the other Resources they may have on hand enable them to load all the Ships and leave an ample Ballance for the Service of the year 1771 on the footing and according to the Directions given in the foregoing Paragraph.

15. We expect you pay the most strict attention to our standing Order in our beforementioned Letter of the 11th November 1768 concerning the Provision of as large a quantity of Merchandize as you can possibly procure proper for the Canton Market.

16. As to the Sums that we have permitted the Commanders
of our Freighted Ships to pay into your Cash for Certificates, as also those we shall receive into our Treasury here for Bills on you, or the Sums the Owners of our Freighted Ships are permitted to pay in here or receive in India for the use of the Ships, you are hereby informed, they are at the same Rates and on the terms and conditions mentioned in our General Letter of the 11th November 1768 Paras 114 & 117 and those directions are to continue in force till our further Orders.

17. Having thought proper that the Medicines and Drugs exported this Season shall be provided by the Apothecaries Company, Mr Samuel Hannay and Mr James Bogle French, you must in the remarks you make on those Articles, be so particular, as that we may know whom to blame in case of failure in Quantity or Quality.

18. We cannot at present give you the account of our intended Export to the several parts of India and China this Season, but we intend to comply with your Indents in so full a manner as the Tonnage for your side of India will admit.

19. In order to carry into execution the alterations we have directed to be made in the mode of Collecting the Revenues at your Presidency so as to answer our Expectations as well as those of the Public, we have appointed Fortyfive Writers for your Presidency who will proceed on the Ships of this Season, their names and Rank you will be acquainted with by a future opportunity.

20. The Persons who will be licensed by us to proceed to or remain in the East Indies this Season as Free Merchants, Surgeons or Mariners will be noticed by Lists in the Ships Packets.

21. By this and the other Ships of the Season we shall send ninetyfive Cadets for your Military whose names and Rank will appear by Lists in the Packets.

22. Mr John Clements appointed a Cadet for your Presidency in the Season of 1767 and was prevented from going then by an ill state of Health having requested permission to proceed in that Station we have accordingly given him leave, but to rank next below John Meredith the youngest Cadet of last Season.

23. We are to inform you that the General Court by Ballot on the 16th of August last came to a Resolution "That the Ballance unpaid to the Claimants of the Restitution Fund, be paid in Bengal as soon as the State of the Company's Treasury will admit."

24. When we consider that by this Resolution a discretionary Power is vested in us to pay this Money when the state of the
Company's Treasury will admit, we don't think ourselves warranted in the present State of the Company's affairs in India to give orders for the payment of so large a sum this Season, and therefore we positively direct that no Money be paid on this Account, 'till our further Orders.

25. We have taken into consideration the Conduct of Mr George Bright, and approve the Censure you passed upon it as such improper Marriages ought always to be discouraged; but as his Youth pleads strongly in his behalf, we are willing to pass over this Error and that his Suspension be taken off, and we direct that you call him before you, give him a very severe Reprimand and acquaint him that we expect he will be very circumspect in his future conduct, constantly paying a strict Obedience to the Orders of his Superiors.

26. From the repeated experience the Company have had of the abilities of Colonel Eyre Coote and the present critical Situation of their affairs on the Coast of Choromandel, we have been induced Unanimously to appoint that Gentleman Commander in Chief of our Forces and have given him a Commission similar to that of General Lawrence, the same having been communicated to the King, His Majesty has been graciously pleased at our Request to give him a Brevet with the rank of Major General in the East Indies.

27. In our Letter of the 15th of September last we laid down the Conduct to be observed on the suspension of the French Company's Commerce, you now receive Copy of the Decree of the 6th of that Month, for the regulation of the open Trade from France to the East Indies, we are since informed that though every means has been used to prevail on Individuals to equip some Vessels, only four small ones, the largest of which is not of 250 Tons are now fitting out for the Islands, and that it is not probable any Vessel will go from France to any part of the Peninsula of India; one of the Company's Ships fitted at the Government's Expence is freighted on Private account for Canton, and a Treaty is in agitation for another on much the same terms.

28. It appears that these Traders and particularly the concerned in the abovementioned Vessels destined for the Islands, if they shall not be able to procure Cargoes from the Establishments of their own Nation in India, expect to be supplied from other Quarters; you are therefore earnestly exhorted and required, to exert your utmost vigilance and every legal authority you are invested with, to disappoint their Expectations, by taking every prudent and vigorous measure for preventing all Persons under your jurisdiction from giving assistance to these Private Traders, by providing them, or
furnishing them with, Money or any kind of Goods whatever for their European Commerce to the Prejudice of our Investments. It is not our intention to interfere in any shape with regard to their Trade from Port to Port in India, and for the more effectually answering the ends of such Prohibition, we specially recommend it to you to keep the most watchful eye on all Exports from the Presidency, and every Settlement Subordinates to you, and to transmit an account of the returned Cargoes of such Ships and by whom they are provided, and any of our Servants who shall be found directly or indirectly aiding or assisting contrary to the abovementioned Orders are absolutely to be dismissed and sent to England by the first Conveyance, in case of the like disobedience by Free Merchants or any others under our protection, send them home in the same manner; and with respect to the Natives you are to do every thing you can consistently with the Treaties subsisting between the two Nations to prevent their transgressing in this instance; We are peremptory in these Orders, inasmuch as every indulgence has been given to our Servants and others, in remitting their Money home at an advantageous Exchange.

We are
Your Loving Friends

London
the 10th Novr 1769.

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LETTER DATED 7 DECEMBER 1769

Distribution of Madeira Wine—intended exports.

OUR President and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. By the Houghton which Sailed from Spithead the 14th November, We wrote a short Letter, under date of 10th of that Month, Duplicate of which. and Triplicate of our Letter of the 15th of September are enclosed.
2. This Letter is forwarded by the Europa consigned first to Madeira to receive on board Thirtyeight Pipes of Wine from Messrs Chambers, Hiccox and Denyer and Thirty Seven from Messrs Scott & Co the Invoices of which and the other necessary Papers relating thereto, as also of a like quantity which is to be forwarded on the Morse, will be sent you by our Correspondents; in like manner those at Theneriffe will send the Vouchers for One hundred Pipes which are to be Consigned to you in equal proportions on the Lord Mansfield and Egmont.

3. In regard to the distribution of the Wines you are to follow our former Orders, as also in advising us of their quality and leakage.

4. We would have you send Five Pipes of each of the said Wines to Fort Marlbro by the first good Conveyance, and you are also to send annually three Pipes of Madeira Wine to St Helena to be Invoiced agreeable to the directions given last Year.

5. From the General dislike that seems to prevail at all our Settlements to the Vidonia Wine & from the loss that is likely to arise from the Sale of it we do not intend to send any more than what was ordered last year for the Ships of this Season, unless you should alter your opinion in this respect.

6. The following is a general view of our intended Exports to the several parts of India and China in the course of the present Season vizt

For Bengal

Cloth 1378 Bales, Long Ells 135 Bales of Twenty pieces each Broad Long Ells 165 Bales of ten Pieces each and Four Bales of Sundries; Lead 330 Tons, Copper 350 Tons, Iron 200 Tons, Gunpowder 770 Barrels, Small Arms 132 Chests; Madeira Wine 150 Pipes and Vidonia Wine 100 Pipes.

Fort St. George

Cloth 279 Bales, Long Ells 90 Bales of Twenty Pieces each and 6 Bales of Sundries, Lead 120 Tons, Copper 200 Tons, Iron 200 Tons, Steel 5 Tons, Small Arms 940 Chests, Gunpowder 1,200 Barrels of 60 lb. each, Madeira and Vidonia Wine 100 Pipes of each.

The Bales will go on the Princess Royal & Prime.

Bombay

For the Bombay Market, Cloth 1359 Bales Long Ells, 197 Bales of Twenty Pieces each and 24 Bales of Sundries, Lead 250 Tons,
Copper 150 Tons, Iron 150 Tons, Steel 50 Tons, Tin 10 Tons, Small Arms 19 Chests, Madeira Wine 50 Pipes & Vidonia Wine [......] Pipes.

For the Bussorah Market, 26 Bales of Cloth, and
For Scindy         ...         ...   9 Bales of Cloth

The Bales will be sent in equal proportions on the Bombay Ships.

Fort Marlborough

Fine Iron 100 Tons, Lead 20 Tons, Gunpowder 50 Barrels; Flour 30 Tons, Beef and Pork 40 half Hogsheads of each Cordage 66 Tons, Treasure 20 Chests.

The Iron and Lead will be sent p Harcourt, and the other Articles equally on the Royal Captain and New Ship Captain Moffatt.

China

Cloth 1359 Bales, Long Ells 1000 Bales of Twenty pieces each, Camblets 100 Bales of Twenty Pieces each, Lead 2300 Tons and Treasure 225 Chests.

7. The entire Cargo of the Europa being Consigned to your Presidency she is appointed to call at Fort St George, only to land her Packets and Passengers, which is to be done with all Expedition & then the ship is immediately to be dispatched to you.

8. And as we design by the Ships of this Season to send Two thousand Military Recruits for the Service of our three Presidencies ninetynine whereof go on the Europa for Bengal, we have ordered that none of the Recruits intended for your Service shall be landed at Fort St George unless the Circumstances of their affairs shall absolutely require it, & in such case, when the necessity for their Service shall be at an end, they are to forward them to you, or supply you with an equal number in lieu of them; on the contrary, if the Situation of your Affairs shall require assistance, we have directed Our Governor and Council at Fort St George, not only on the Europa, but by such future Conveyances as may offer, to embark such an additional number of Men for Bengal as the exigency of the case may require.

9. In our Letter by the Houghton we acquainted you we had appointed Forty Five Writers for your Presidency You are therefore hereby informed that their Names are as follow and that they are to rank in the undermentioned order vizt
Thomas Hitt Pettit/Alexander Logie/James Peter Auriol/
George Cuming/John Carmichael/William Bruere/John Fydell/
John Yeo (dead)/John Haldane/Francis Fowke/Henry Lodge/
George Richard Foley/John Hannay/Charles Dempster (dead)/
Robert Craufurd/William Taylor/Nathaniel Middleton/Isaac
Baugh/Richard Johnson/John Evelyn/John Kneller/Edward
Burges/Patrick Kinnaird (dead)/James Olive (dead)/John
Dyneley/Charles Wagstaffe/John Fitzgerald (dead)/Thomas
Potenger/Day Hort McDoual/Michael Orr (dead)/Joseph
Barnard Smith/James Lally/Robert Burgh/Lewis Pictet/Charles
Wilkins/Archibald Montgomery/Samuel Touchet Junr/Charles
Williams.

10. The Covenants of Messrs Robert Craufurd, Nathaniel
Middleton and John Dyneley who are already in India, will be sent
you which are to be executed and returned to us when compleated.

11. We have at the Recommendation of the high Authority
here, appointed Mr Charles Fleetwood to be a Factor upon your
Establishment to rank next below Mr Samuel Lewis.

12. We have also appointed Mr Charles Croftes (who was to
have gone out last Year as a Writer, but his own Affairs obliged
him to stay in England) to take rank as last of the Writers of last
year and being well versed in Business and particularly skilled in
accounts; that his knowledge may be of use to the Company we
direct that you employ him as one of the Assistants at the Board
for the Collection of the Revenues at Muxadavad.

13. The Ship Shrewsbury having arrived the 5th Instant at
St Hellens, we have received your several Letters and particulars
enclosed in that Ships Packet and in reply thereto you will receive
our Sentiments by a future opportunity.

We are
Your Loving Friends
G. Colebrooke/P. Cust/John Harrison/J. Purling/Fredk
Pigou/Hy Crabb Boulton/J. Roberts/George Cuming/Wm.
James/Chas. Boddam/John Motteux/William Snell/W. G.
Freeman/L. Sullivan/W. Fletcher/Ben Booth.

London 7th December 1769.