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From Tuesday January 6, to Saturday January 10, 1784.

AT the Court at *St. James's*, the 7th of *January*, 1784,

P R E S E N T,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

THIS Day the Right Honourable Philip Earl of Chesterfield, was, by His Majesty's Command, sworn of His Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, and took his Place at the Board accordingly.

St. James's, January 9.

The King was this Day pleased to confer the Honour of Knighthood on Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Augustus Montagu Cosby.

Whitehall, January 10.

EXTRACT of a Dispatch to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, from his Excellency Major-General James Stuart, Commander in Chief of His Majesty's and the East India Company's Forces on the Coast of Coromandel, dated Camp, One Mile South of Cuddalore, June 27, 1783, received Yesterday by Captain Thomas of the 23d Light Dragoons, who arrived in His Majesty's Ship *Medea*.

I DO myself the Honor of acquainting you, by this separate Letter, of the very signal Victory obtained over the French and Tippoo Sahib's Auxiliaries, by the Troops of His Majesty, and of the Honourable East-India Company, under my Command, on June 13th, being the 4th Day after our Operations began South of Cuddalore. The Particulars will be found in the Form of a Letter, inclosed to your Lordship, nearly the same as I had the Honor to address to His Government.

Every Account which I have received induces me to believe, that the Enemy, in killed and wounded upon this Occasion, suffered in Europeans to the Extent of 42 Officers, and 600 Men.

I do myself the Honor to transmit to your Lordship the General Orders to the Army, and the separate Instructions to the Officers commanding the Four Divisions of the Army in the Action of that Day.

There is also another Letter inclosed, containing the Particulars of the total Repulse of the Enemy in their Attack upon our Parallel, the Morning of the 25th of June; an Action which gives additional Lustre to the Steadiness and Bravery of this Army. The Particulars are also nearly the same with what was my Duty to acquaint His Government of. The Name of the Officer who commanded the *Sortée*, and now our Prisoner, is *Monf. Des Damas, Chevalier de Malte*, Colonel of the Regiment of *Aquitaine*. There are, besides, Two Captains and One or Two Subaltern Officers, Prisoners. The total Europeans of the Enemy, killed, wounded or Prisoners, are reported to exceed 400.

I enclose to your Lordship a Return of the Killed and Wounded on our Part, which, I am happy to find on this Occasion, are in no great Number. In this *Sortée* of the Enemy, it happened that a small Party in the Dark got over one particular Place of the Trenches, where Two chance Shots killed one *Jemidar*, and badly wounded another, both of whom carried the Colours of the 24th Bengal Regiment, which fell from their Hands, and in the Scramble, some French Soldiers stole off unper-

ceived with the Two Stand of Colours. But your Lordship will see, both from the Return of our inconsiderable Loss, and from the Narrative annexed, that the Honor of the Regiment was in no Shape affected by this little dark Exploit, which, as I am informed, the Enemy make such a Parade of.

Your Lordship will know, from the separate Dispatches, that the Army under my Command were in the Impossibility of proceeding towards Cuddalore with Effect, until May the 28th, when the Rice and other necessary Articles were landed, and received from the Ship at *Conjemeer*; and that on our coming to the high Ground, near *Pondicherry*, we received certain Information that *Monf. Suffrein* had found the Means to send Supplies of Stores and Provisions under an Escort superior in Force, as I believe, to the Escort with our main Convoy expected from *Madras*, and upon which every Thing turned. Some of the French Ships were indeed (from our Camps) seen at Anchor. I nevertheless continued the March, in the Way I fixed in my own Mind for Months before, and getting round that Side of Cuddalore where the Enemy expected us, I fixed this as our ultimate Encampment in the Afternoon of the 7th of June.

To speak of the Enemy's Strength in Europeans only, the French, my Lord, at little more than a Musquet Shot from us now in Cuddalore, are upwards of 2,500 * Regulars of the Old Establishment, besides what *M. Suffrein*, who is now here with 19 Sail at Anchor, has in his Power to land at an Hour's Notice; and, previous to the late Sally, he had landed upwards of 1500 Land Troops or Marines.

I take the Liberty, my Lord, to transmit to your Lordship what I judged as a Mark of private Gratitude, as well as public Duty, to give out in general Orders to this brave Army, in full Confidence that your Lordship will do them the Honor to communicate to His Majesty whatever you think proper, and particularly what regards the Detachment of His Majesty's 15th and 16th Regiments of His Electoral Subjects, and to Colonel *Wangenheim* who commanded them.

Upon the Whole, I request your Lordship to lay before His Majesty my most humble Recommendation of this brave Army to His Majesty's most gracious Favor, as highly deserving of it. And as a Mark of that Favor, that His Majesty will be graciously pleased to approve of the Promotions which, as commanding His Majesty's Troops, I have taken the Liberty to make, in regular Succession by Seniority, to Vacancies during the present very severe Service, for such it has been in every Sense of the Word.

The Hon. Lieutenant-Colonel *Cathcart*, as your Lordship will perceive, has had very great Merit at the Head of the Corps of Grenadiers both on the 13th and 25th. He will have the Honor to deliver this Letter; and there is none more capable to supply any Information, which in the Hurry I may have omitted. I beg Leave to recommend him to His Majesty as an Officer attached to his Profession, and of very good Abilities.

[N. B. The original Dispatch, of which the above is a Duplicate brought by the *Medea*, was entrusted to Lieutenant-Colonel *Cathcart*, who is now on his Passage from India in the *Pondicherry*.]

* July, 1783. It has been since found from the Returns, that the French Regulars and Dutch Europeans, exclusive of the Marines, exceeded 4000.