



The London Gazette

EXTRAORDINARY.

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Whitehall, December 1.

THE Letters from the East Indies, of which the following are Extracts and Copies, were Yesterday received by the Leopard, one of His Majesty's Ships:

Extract of a Letter from the President and Council at Fort St. George, in their Political Department, to the Court of Directors, dated June 21, 1791.

WE avail ourselves of an Opportunity that presents itself, via Bombay, of writing to your Honourable Court on the Subject of the Military Operations on this Coast, since the Date of our last Advices by the Warren Hastings.

Lord Cornwallis, having drawn Supplies from the Magazine on the Western Frontier, marched (as we had the Honour to inform you in our last) from the Head of the Vencatagherry Pass on the 22d of April, and reached Bangalore on the 29th of that Month; from whence his Lordship wrote to us, that as his Cattle had suffered very considerably during the March, by the heavy Rains which had fallen, it was necessary for us to provide, with all possible Expedition, a further Supply of Draft and Carriage Bullocks. Orders were in consequence immediately given for this Purpose.

The Army remained in the Neighbourhood of Bangalore Five Days, to recruit their Provisions, and prepare Materials for the Siege of Seringapatam. Colonel Duff was relieved from the Command of the Fort by Lieutenant-Colonel Oldham; and on the 3d of May Lord Cornwallis marched towards the Capital of Mysore.

We did not hear again from his Lordship until the 31st of May, when he informed us (in a Letter dated the 9th) that he found the Country more rugged and barren than he expected, and that his Cattle had suffered very much by the March: That the Zeal of the Troops alone had enabled him to go on, the greatest Part of the Carriages, loaded with the Stores of the Magazine, and a large Proportion of the entrenching Tools, having been drawn and carried almost all the Way by the Soldiers.

A few Days after, we had the Satisfaction to learn, by private Accounts from the Army on which we could depend, that Lord Cornwallis had, on the 15th of May, attacked and defeated Tippoo's whole Force, taken Four of his Guns; and driven him,

with all his Troops, under the Walls of Seringapatam. This signal Victory was the more honorable to the British Arms, as the Enemy had been forced from Heights, where he was strongly posted. Lord Cornwallis's Account of the Action has not yet reached us.

Our next Advice was by an Express from Lieutenant-Colonel Oldham, in which he stated, that he had received a Letter from Lord Cornwallis, dated the 22d of May, advising, that "the Want of Forage, Provisions, and the reduced State of the Cattle, had rendered it necessary for the Army to return immediately to Bangalore." Lieutenant-Colonel Oldham added, from other Intelligence, that "his Lordship, for Want of Bullocks, had been under the Necessity of destroying the Battering Train."

We were much concerned to observe, that the Wants of the Army had at length forced his Lordship to relinquish, in the Midst of Victory, the Object of his Enterprize; but, foreseeing that much might depend on immediate Exertion, we lost not a Moment in issuing our Orders for collecting all the Bullocks that could be procured in the Country under our Management, and for transporting to Amboor, for the Use of the Army, ample Supplies of Grain and every other Provision.

We advised Lord Cornwallis of the Steps we had taken for the Relief of the Army, and expressed our Hope that, by the Exertions we were making, added to those of Captain Alexander Read, whom we had before sent with a Detachment into the Mysore Country to procure Supplies, his Lordship would find his Distresses considerably relieved on his Arrival at Bangalore.

On the 7th Instant we were informed, by private Advices from Camp of the 26th of May, that the Maratta Army had joined Lord Cornwallis that Evening, and that great Hopes were entertained of Relief by this Means in the Article of Provision.

On the 10th Instant we received a Letter from his Lordship, dated the 24th Ultimo, stating that the rapid Destruction which the late heavy Rains and the Want of Forage had occasioned among his Cattle, in Addition to the very unexpected Obstructions to a Junction with General Abercromby, owing to the Badness and almost Impracticability of the Fords of the Cavery, had obliged him, not only to give up

