



# The London Gazette

## EXTRAORDINARY.

Published by Authority.

SUNDAY, MAY 20, 1792.

*Whitehall, May 20.*

**T**HE Letters from the East Indies, of which the following are Copies and Extracts, were received Yesterday by the Deptford, one of the Company's Ships.

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

HONORABLE SIRS,

I Received Accounts a few Days after I wrote my last Letter, dated the 24th of October, that the North-East Monsoon had broke, and the Rains, which were heavier and of longer Duration this Season in the Carnatic than for many Years past, having fallen about the same Time, with little less Violence, above the Ghauts, the Transport of the various Stores, which were necessary for the Operations of the ensuing Campaign, has been attended with great Delay and many extraordinary Difficulties.

I have, however, the Satisfaction to inform you, that all those Obstacles were overcome by the Zeal and Exertion of the Officers who were employed with the different Convoys, and our Preparations are so far completed, that I have already been able to commence with Success upon the Execution of the general Plan which I had proposed for the Campaign.

[ Price Eight-pence. ]

I had the Honor to communicate to you in my last Letter my Intentions respecting the Fortrefs of Sevendroog; and having, upon a Consideration of it's numerous Garrison, and the Shelter which Bodies of Horse could receive, under it's Protection, in the rugged and woody Tract of Country with which it is encircled for several Miles, become daily more convinced that all the Means which it was in my Power to adopt, would be ineffectual to secure Supplies from the Northward to the Armies that are destined to invest the Enemy's Capital, unless that Fort could be reduced, I finally resolved some Time ago to make the Attempt.

It being necessary, in order to enable me to make my previous Arrangements, to ascertain what Part of the extensive Rock it would be most adviseable to attack, I took a Position with the Army about half Way between Bangalore and Sevendroog, and sent the Chief Engineer and other skilful Officers, under the Escort of a few Battalions, to reconnoitre the Place in the most minute and deliberate Manner.

After I had received their Report, I detached Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart, on the 11th Instant, with His Majesty's 52d and 72d Regiments and Four Native Battalions, Eight Eighteen-Pounders, Four Twelve-Pounders, and Two small Mortars, with Directions to attack the Place on the North-East Side, the Appearance of which, from the Plans and Sketches that had been laid before me, seemed to me to be the least discouraging; and I subsequently added the Flank Companies



Companies of the 71st and 76th Regiments to Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart's Corps.

I then established Posts, composed of Detachments of our own Infantry and the Horse of our Allies, at a considerable Distance on our Right and Left, for the Purpose of preventing the Enemy's Parties from going round to disturb the Communications behind us during the Siege; and I afterwards moved on, with the main Body of the Army, to the nearest Ground to the Northward of the Fort on which it was possible to encamp, and which was not less than Eight Miles distant from it, in order to be ready to act according to Circumstances, either in Support of the attacking Corps, or of any of the other Detachments, in case the Enemy should venture to form a Design against them.

I shall neither trouble you with a Description of this formidable Fortress, the lower Wall of which embraces, at a considerable Height on the Ascent, an immense Mountain, or rather Rock, but which actually consists of Two distant Forts, separated from each other by a deep Chasm across the Top of the Mountain, and to the Western Fort there is no Access, except by one narrow Path, that leads to it from the Northern Side; nor shall I enter into a Detail of the Particulars of the Siege, which, though attended with almost incredible Labour, in cutting Roads and Communications, and in dragging the Guns up the Precipices, on which it was necessary to construct the Batteries, was pushed on with the utmost Vigour and Expedition; but shall content myself with mentioning, that having had Reason, on the 20th Instant, to expect, from the shattered Appearance of the Two Walls of the Eastern Fort, that the Breaches in them would soon be practicable, and it being utterly impossible that Troops could find their Way amongst the Rocks and Precipices to ascend the Face of the Hill in the Night, I directed that all the Batteries should continue to fire incessantly during the Remainder of that Day, and from Day-break the following Morning, and that Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart should immediately make a Disposition for assaulting the Place in the Forenoon.

The Fire of the Artillery had every Effect that I could have wished; and Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart having made a most judicious Disposition for the Assault, the Troops mounted the Breach of the lower Wall, from Lodgements that had been made near to it, upon a Signal which was given, at Ten o'Clock; and the good Order and determined Countenance of the European Grenadiers and Light Infantry, who led the Assault, struck the Enemy with such Astonishment, and so thoroughly stupified them with Terror, that although they were posted in great Numbers in Situations, from which they might have done much Execution before they could have been dislodged, it soon appeared that they were totally incapable of making the least Resistance, and by that Means the Troops, without encountering any other Difficulty but that of the Ruggedness of the Paths and the excessive Steepness of the Ascent, not only gained the Summit of the Eastern Hill, but those of the Right Division also pursued the Fugitives to the Gates of the Western Hill, to which the Fire of our Artillery had not been directed, and there mixed and entered

with them. The Pettah, and a Chain of small detached Forts, at a short Distance from the Southern Side of the Hill, being commanded by the upper Works, were immediately abandoned upon the Appearance of our Troops on the Summit of the Mountain.

The Garrison, at the Beginning of the Siege, consisted of about 2,000 Men, from which there had been considerable Desertions before the Day of the Assault.

On that Occasion, although I had sent Two Battalions early in the Morning from the Camp of the main Army to endeavour to intercept the Runaways on the opposite Side of the Mountain, by far the greatest Number escaped over different Parts of the extensive Circuit of the Walls, leaving only between Two and Three Hundred killed and wounded, amongst the former of which was the Second Killedar, and the First Killedar and a few of the principal Officers Prisoners.

On our Side we were fortunate to a Degree, which, perhaps, can hardly be paralleled in History; only Seventeen Men, Officers included, were killed or wounded in carrying on the Approaches and in the Construction of our Batteries, one of which was within 250 Yards of the Wall; and I had the singular Gratification to acquire a Fortress of inestimable Value to the Public Interests, and which has hitherto been considered over all India as impregnable, without having to regret the Loss of a single Soldier in the Assault.

Being persuaded that the Garrisons of the neighbouring Forts would be impressed with great Terror by the Fall of Sevendroog, I lost no Time to avail myself of their Consternation. Captain Welsh, of the Bengal Infantry, who was posted with Three Native Battalions and a large Body of the Nizam's Horse, at a considerable Distance on the Left of the Position of the Army, was accordingly ordered to march with Two Battalions, before Day-light, on the Morning of the 22d, to the Fort of Ramghire, situated about Thirty Miles from Bangalore, on the great Road leading from that Place, by Anapatam, to Seringapatam; and Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart was directed, after leaving One Native Battalion in Sevendroog, to march, with the Remainder of the Corps under his Command, on the Morning of the 23d, to invest the strong Hill Fort of Outradroog, which lays about Twelve Miles to the North-West of Sevendroog.

Although Captain Welsh was furnished with no Means whatever to reduce the Fort of Ramghire by Force, he, by his Address and judicious Management, not only succeeded in alarming the Killedar of that Place and his Garrison, and inducing them to capitulate on the Forenoon of the 23d, but also obtained, in like Manner, Possession of the adjoining Fort of Sevenghire, on the Morning of the 24th.

At Outradroog we were equally successful, and with Circumstances much more brilliant.

The Afternoon of the 23d was employed by Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart, and by the Engineers who had accompanied his Detachment, in reconnoitring the Place; and he resolved to attack the Pettah on the following Morning.

A Detachment

A Detachment was accordingly formed for that Purpose, under the Command of Captain Scott, of the Bengal Infantry, and, on its March towards the Fort, about Nine o'Clock in the Forenoon, it was met by a Bramin, who, said that he came out, with Assurances from the Garrison, that, notwithstanding the Resolution of the Killedar to the contrary, they were determined to surrender.

The great Strength of the Place rendered the Overture highly acceptable; and Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart immediately sent back the Bramin with Offers of advantageous Terms, both to the Garrison and the Inhabitants, provided they would admit the Troops without Resistance, and he gave them Two Hours, from Ten o'Clock, to consider and to come to their final Decision.

The Guns of the Fort having, however, continued to fire frequently during that Interval, and Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart having likewise seen other Reasons to induce him to believe that the Offer of Surrender had been only a Feint, in order to gain Time on the Part of the Garrison, the assaulting Party was held in Readiness; and no Person having come out of the Fort at the Expiration of the Two Hours, Captain Scott was ordered to advance, under Cover of the Fire of some Six-Pounders, to escalade the Pettah, with an additional Instruction to make an Attempt upon the Fort, in case evident Marks of Confusion or Irresolution should appear amongst the Enemy.

The Troops, upon ascending the Ladders, found that the Pettah had been abandoned; but, having discovered clear Signs of Consternation amongst the Enemy upon the Walls of the Fort, they proceeded with their Ladders to assault them with an Ardour and Confidence that the recent Success at Sevendroog could alone have inspired, and met with a Feebleness of Resistance which could only be accounted for by the strong Impression of Terror which the Fall of that Place had made upon the Minds of their Adversaries. Six different high Walls of Masonry, upon the Ascent of an Hill of an uncommon Steepness, were successively and rapidly carried; and nothing could have more strongly marked the Panic of the Enemy and our astonishing good Fortune, than that, although their Fire during the Assault was considerable, Two Soldiers only belonging to the 72d Regiment were slightly wounded by it. The Garrison consisted of about Six Hundred Men, near an Hundred of whom were killed or wounded in the Heat of the Assault; a Number of the Remainder perished in attempting to escape over the Precipices on the opposite Side of the Fort, and the 1st and 2d Killedars, with a few of the other principal Men, fell into our Hands unhurt.

At the Time that I came to the Resolution to attack Sevendroog and the other Forts on the Roads to Seringapatam, I communicated my Intention to the Nizam's Son and Minister, and to Purferam Bhow, recommending to the former to advance but slowly with his Highness's Troops under their Command, both for the Convenience of Subsistence, and on Account of the Impossibility of their approaching near to this Army in the woody Country in which I was obliged to encamp; but requesting that Purferam

Bhow would lose no Time in moving to the Situation that I had formerly pointed out to him as necessary for the Purpose of co-operating usefully with us, and particularly, at that Period, for preventing the Communications on the Rear of our Right Flank from being disturbed by the Enemy's Horse.

Purferam Bhow has been lately much indisposed, which has, to our great Inconvenience, retarded the Execution of the Movement which I pressed him to make, but he is now a little recovered; and though I have not heard from him lately, I have Reason to hope that he is at present advancing to take a Position between Sera and Shevagungga, according to my Request.

General Abercromby has, in Compliance with the Instructions that I transmitted to him some Time ago, ascended the Pondicherram Ghaut with the Troops under his Command; and as I shall be able, in Two or Three Days, to send to Bangalore for the Remainder of the heavy Artillery and Stores that will be wanted for the Siege, every Thing will be prepared, as far as depends upon me, to enable the whole Confederate Force to advance towards Seringapatam early in the next Month.

My Apprehensions for the Safety of Coimbatore proved, unluckily by the Event, to have been too well founded; for Major Cuppage, having failed in an Attempt to raise the Siege, Lieutenant Chalmers was obliged to surrender the Place, by Capitulation, to Kummer ul Dien Khan, after a gallant Defence of Twenty-eight Days.

I have not yet seen a Copy of the Capitulation, which, I conclude, Lieutenant Chalmers has been prevented from sending to me; but I have understood, from a short Letter that he contrived to convey to Major Cuppage, that the Terms were, that the Garrison should retain their Baggage and private Property, and be allowed to proceed to Madras, on Condition of their engaging not to serve against Tippoo during the War.

It appears, however, that not even the present unfavourable Aspect of his Affairs is sufficient to induce Tippoo to put a Restraint upon the natural Perfidy of his Disposition; for he has violated the Capitulation, and has brought up Lieutenant Chalmers and all the Garrison to Seringapatam, where they are now in Confinement.

I have been informed that Kummer ul Dien destroyed the wretched Works of Coimbatore, and, according to my Expectations, immediately reascended the Ghauts with his whole Detachment, by which Means our Troops to the Southward will find no Difficulty in regaining Possession of that Country.

Tippoo has lately made another fruitless Attempt to open a separate Negotiation with the Nizam, but he has made no Overture, since the Date of my last Letter, to treat for a general Peace.

You will be informed, by this Opportunity, of the Distresses which the Inhabitants of the Northern Circars are likely to suffer from an uncommon Drought in that Quarter; and you will have heard, by the first Ship of the Season, of the serious Apprehensions that were for some Time entertained of a great Scarcity in Bengal.

Every

Every Exertion will be made, by the Governments of Bengal and Fort St. George, to afford Assistance to the Circars; and my Mind has been relieved from much Anxiety by my late Advices from Bengal, which say, that although the Price of Grain will be high in that Country, there is now no Danger of Loss of Inhabitants, or of considerable Failure of Revenue.

I think it proper to acquaint you, that I have granted Leave to Major-General Musgrave, upon his Solicitation, on Account of his private Affairs, to return to Europe by one of the Ships of this Season.

I have the Honor to be,  
with great Respect,

Honorable Sirs,

Your most obedient, and  
most humble Servant,

CORNWALLIS.

(Signed)

Camp near Sevendroog,  
December 26, 1791.

*Extract of a Letter from the Governor and Council at Madras, in their Political Department, to the Court of Directors, dated January 16, 1792.*

**B**Y our last Address, viâ Bengal, your Honorable Court were informed of the Capture of Nundy Durgum by the Army under Lord Cornwallis, and of the Descent of a Party of the Enemy into the Coimbatour District, under the Command of Cummer ud Dien Cawn.

The Party, consisting of Eight Rossallahs and Seven Hundred Horse, with Eight Guns and Two Mortars, encamped before Coimbatour the 6th of October. In the Garrison were the 2d Travancore Battalion, the Topas Corps, and a Company of the 16th Battalion under Lieutenant Nash, and the Whole commanded by Lieutenant Chalmers. On the 13th the Enemy opened from a Battery of Two Guns on the Bank of a Tank, to the Southward of the Fort; but for several Days after scarce made any Impression on the Works. Notwithstanding the Slowness of their Motions, it was apprehended that the Garrison, from the defenceless Situation of the Place, and the Want of Ammunition, would, without some effectual Assistance from Paligautcherry, be shortly overpowered.

Lord Cornwallis, upon receiving Information from us of the Attack of Coimbatour, wrote to Major Cuppage, the Officer commanding at Paligautcherry, recommending, that in case he (the Major) could not assemble a Force sufficient to cope with the Enemy in open Day-light, he should, by all Means, attack the Enemy's Camp at Night, with whatever Force he could collect, even if it should not much exceed Two Battalions of disciplined Troops. That if this Attempt, his Lordship said, could be executed by Surprise, the Success might be more certain and complete; but that, even if the Enemy's Commander were aware of the Intention, his Lordship had so little Opinion either of the Discipline, or Resolution of Tippoo's Troops, particularly in Night Attacks, that he could hardly doubt of Major Cuppage's being able to cause a Diversion in Favor of Coimbatour.

But before Major Cuppage could receive this

Letter he had determined to move towards the Enemy. The 12th Bombay Battalion had opportunely arrived at Paligautcherry, to escort the Carnatic Bullocks intended for General Abercrombie's Army; it's Services, in Conjunction with the 5th and 16th Coast Battalions, and Two of Travancore, with Three Brigades of Six Pounders, were employed on this Occasion; and the Major left Paligautcherry, on the 22d of October, in the Hope of raising the Siege of Coimbatour.

The Detachment reached Madagerry, a Village about Twelve Miles from Coimbatour, on the 23d, and soon after the Enemy appeared in considerable Force, and on the Left of his Encampment. Major Cuppage deeming it imprudent, under these Circumstances, to proceed, and apprehending some Attempt on the Part of the Enemy to cut off his Communication with Paligautcherry, threw the Baggage into a Choultry, and ordered the Line to retreat. After vigorous and repeated Assaults of the Enemy upon our Picket Guard and the Line, they were finally repulsed, with great Steadiness and Gallantry, by the Detachment; and Major Cuppage continued his Retreat, without further Molestation, to Paligautcherry, where he arrived on the 25th, having suffered no other Loss than Four Sepoys killed and Sixty wounded.

Lieutenant Chalmers made every Effort to save the Place; but his Ammunition being expended, and the Walls breached in several Places, and the Enemy prepared for a general Assault, he sent out a Flag of Truce, with an Offer to surrender Coimbatour upon the following Conditions: "That the Garrison be permitted to march out, with their private Property, unmolested, and escorted to Paligautcherry, from whence they were to proceed to the Coast, under an Engagement not to serve against Tippoo, or his Allies, during the present War; and that all Public Property be delivered up to the Enemy." Cummer ud Dien Cawn acquiesced at once in the Terms. The Articles were drawn out and signed by him, and he took Possession of the Fort on the 3d of November; but, instead of sending an Escort, with the Garrison to Paligautcherry, as expressly stipulated, they were conducted Prisoners to the Pettah. Lieutenant Chalmers remonstrated, but in vain.—Cummer ud Dien sent him Word, that, until he had Orders from the Sultaun, he could not release a single Man.—By recent Intelligence from that Quarter, we learn the Enemy, having destroyed Coimbatour, conducted Lieutenant Chalmers and his Party to Seringapatam, leaving a small Force in the District to collect the Revenues.

At the Recommendation of Lord Cornwallis, we have directed Major Cuppage to draw a Reinforcement from the Garrisons of Dindigul and Caroor, for the Purpose of expelling the Enemy remaining in the District, and of dislodging them from Enode, Settimungalum, and Damiacotah, without, however, fixing Posts at any of those Places until the Grand Army were further advanced towards the Enemy's Capital.

Having thus detailed to your Honourable Court the Transactions to the Southward to the latest Period, we shall proceed to relate the Operations of the Grand Army since the Capture of Nundy Durgum.

Report

Reports of a Force in the Baramhaul having reached Lord Cornwallis, during the Siege of Nundydrum, his Lordship had no sooner possessed himself of that important Fortrefs, than he moved with Celerity to the Eastward, detaching Lieutenant-Colonel Maxwell, with Three Battalions, to be joined by a Fourth at Ryocotah, into the Baramhaul, with Orders to attack any Force of the Enemy that he might find in that Quarter. The Colonel, by quick Marches, reached Darampoury, on the 29th of October, which instantly surrendered; the principal People, and most of the Garrison, fled upon the Approach of our Troops, leaving behind them great Numbers of Cattle, and joined a Body of Cavalry which had been for some Time in that Country committing Devastations. The Detachment pursued them down the Valley, and reached Penagra, a strong Fort at the Foot of the Hills, commanding the Alembaddy Pass; here, it seems, the Enemy being hard pressed, turned to the Left, and advanced to the Changama Pass, through which they entered the Carnatic, and moved towards Arnee. Part of our Cavalry, under Colonel Floyd, was then at Arcot, and the Enemy, probably on hearing this Circumstance, moved towards Tiagur, and, after remaining in that Neighbourhood for a few Days, re-entered the Barranhaul by the Pass of Attoor.

Our Flags of Truce having been fixed upon by the Garrison of Pinagra, it was determined to force the South Gate; Guns were brought up to the Edge of the Ditch, under the Fire of a covering Party, and Three Rounds were fired at the Gate, but without Effect; Ladders were therefore applied, and the First and Second Walls escaladed. Signals were then thrown out by the Garrison for Cowle, but the Moment had elapsed in which Protection could have been given. The Assailants drove the Enemy, about Three Hundred, from the Works, and before the Firing ceased, 150 of them were either killed or wounded. The Place was full of Inhabitants, and of the Families of the neighbouring Districts, some of them apparently of Rank. Such of them as held official Situations, or from former Employments were judged to be of Consequence, were detained as Prisoners. Some fell in the Assault, but all the Inhabitants were permitted to depart.

Some Grain, and a considerable Quantity of Powder, were found in the Magazines, the latter was employed in the Destruction of the Works. The Gates were burnt, and the Walls breached so as to render the Fort perfectly untenable. We have the Pleasure to add, that the Casualties of the Detachment amounted only to Three Europeans and Three Sepoys wounded, and all of those were expected to recover.

The Detachment, having nothing further in View to the Southward, moved in an opposite Direction, and on the 7th of November arrived within Four Miles of Kistnagerry. On the advanced Guard coming to the Ground, a Body of Troops, between Five and Six Hundred, with Standards, were observed, drawn up in good Order between the Fort and the Detachment, but withdrew on the Approach of our Line. This Circumstance gave Colonel Maxwell Reason to suppose that the Pettah had not been

deserted, and determined him to attack it during the Night.

The Situation having been reconnoitred in the Afternoon, and the Disposition for the Attack made, Two Parties moved, in different Directions, at Midnight. The Walls were escaladed to the Right and to the Left at the same Instant of Time; and in Fifteen Minutes the Pettah and lower Fort, which had been defended by Two Hundred Regular Troops and a large Body of Peons, were completely in our Possession.

Such of the Fugitives as escaped attempted to gain the Rock. They were closely pursued by our Troops, and for some Time there was great Reason to hope they would enter the upper Fort together; but the Difficulty and Length of the Ascent, added to the Necessity of pursuing with Regularity, prevented it. The Gate was shut just as the leading Files of the Flank Companies reached it. The Probability, however, of Success was still so great, that it was determined to apply the Scaling Ladders, which, unfortunately, during the Pursuit, had fallen much in the Rear, and before they could be brought up the Enemy had recovered from their Confusion; and hurled, without Intermision, from the Rock above, Showers of immense Stones, which nothing could resist. The Ladders and those who carried them were instantly swept away, and a Retreat became inevitable. The Troops, in descending from this perilous Situation, preserved the greatest Regularity. A Gun, which had been placed on the Road, was spiked, and the lower Fort and Pettah set on Fire before Day-light by our Troops.

The Casualties of the Detachment were unavoidably numerous; Lieutenant Forbes, of the 74th Regiment, died of his Wounds; Lieutenant Lamout, of the same Corps, in consequence of a Wound, fell over the Precipice, and was killed; and Five other Officers were wounded. Three Europeans and One Native were killed, Forty-seven Europeans and Seventeen Natives wounded, and Three Europeans were missing.

The Detachment continued for some Days longer in the Baramhaul, after which it re-ascended the Ghauts, and joined the Army on the 21st of November, having reduced several small Forts in it's Way. Lord Cornwallis, upon it's Arrival, expressed his Thanks, in General Orders, for the Services it had performed, and declared, that "He considered the spirited and judicious Attempt, which, after surprising and carrying the Pettah and lower Fort, was made upon the upper Fort of Kistnagerry, as highly honorable to all the Officers and Soldiers who were employed on that Occasion, and justly deserving his warmest Applause."

In Consequence of the Irruption of the Enemy's Horse into the Carnatic, Colonel Floyd, with the Force under his Command, was employed some Time in protecting the Convoys moving from the Presidency to the Westward; he was soon after joined by the Detachment of Royal Artillery, and proceeded to Amboor, where; having taken under his Charge a very valuable Convoy, he marched on the 22d of December towards Bangalore.

Lord

Lord Cornwallis, after detaching Lieutenant-Colonel Maxwell, as before stated, continued his March to Bangalore, which he reached on the 7th of November, and encamped in such a Position as to prevent any Parties of the Enemy from passing to the Southward of that Place, and to secure our Convoys from being disturbed in their March from Venatcherry.

About this Time we received the agreeable Intelligence, that the lower Fort of Gurrumcondah had been taken by Assault, by the Detachment of the Company's Troops under Captain Read, serving with the Nizam's Army, and that the Loss on our Part was inconsiderable. Captain Read's Account of the Capture is entered upon our Minutes of the 22d of November.

We omitted to mention, in the short Letter which we had the Honour to write to you by Mr. Crawford, on the 5th inst. that Tippoo's Son, with a Body of Horse under his Command, had, a few Days after our Detachment under Captain Andrew Read left the Place, suddenly appeared before Gurrumcondah, and made the Nizam's Troops, occupying the lower Fort, Prisoners.

Sir John Kennaway, who was proceeding, in Company with the Nizam's Army and Captain Read's Detachment, to join Lord Cornwallis, upon hearing of the Enemy's Attack on Gurrumcondah, returned to that Place, and took Possession of the lower Fort without Opposition.

P. S. Since closing this Address, our Acting President has received a Letter from Lord Cornwallis, (Extract of which we have the Honour to enclose) advising that a considerable Corps of the Enemy had been defeated by Purseram Bhow, near Sinogu, and that Eight Pieces of Cannon had been taken. This fortunate Event, his Lordship adds, may render it more practicable for the Bhow to co-operate with the Grand Army by the Route he had taken, than it would have otherwise been.

*Chs. Oakeley.  
Wm. Petrie.  
J. Hudleston.*

January 19, 1792.

*Extract of a Letter from the Governor and Council at Madras, in their Political Department, to the Court of Directors, dated January 26, 1792.*

OUR last Address was dated the 16th Instant, and transmitted by your Ship the Phoenix, which left these Roads the 19th.

On the 19th, at Night, we received an Account from Captain Flint, commanding at Tiagar, that a Party of about Four Hundred Horse had passed on the 16th, Eight Miles to the Southward of that Place, and that their Course seemed to be Eastward. About Seven o'Clock the next Morning the Alarm Guns were fired at the Mount, and Notice sent by Major Tutt, who commanded there, that some Irregular Horse were in Sight. Our Acting President immediately gave Orders that a Detachment of Two Companies of Sepoys, with Two Field Pieces, and the Cavalry of the Governor's Body Guard, con-

sisting of Twenty-five, should move out under Major Wynch for the Protection of the Environs. Having collected also about Forty Horses from the Gentlemen of the Settlement, these were mounted with Troopers, and sent out on this Occasion under Captain Keith Macalister.

Major Pater was ordered at the same Time, with Two Companies of Sepoys, to reinforce the Guard proceeding with the last Dispatch of Money to Camp, which, by the latest Account, had arrived at Streepermadore, where the Guard had taken Post. Major Pater joined it early in the Morning of the 21st, and proceeded with the Treasure to Vellore.

In the Evening of the 20th, Intelligence was received from the Officer commanding at Chingleput, dispatched at Ten o'Clock the preceding Night, advising, that a Party, supposed to be 500 Horse, crossed the Palan that Day near Seyeram Hills, and in the Direction of North-North-East. Hence it is evident, their March must have been forced, and very rapid, as they arrived at the Mount several Hours before the Receipt of the Express from Chingleput.

On the Movement of our Troops from the Fort, the Enemy retreated with great Expedition to the Southward. The Village of Sidapit, and one or more Houses in the Neighbourhood of the Mount, were plundered, and a few of the Inhabitants severely wounded. We have thought it necessary to call upon Major Tutt, on this Occasion, to explain what Steps he took, in consequence of the Alarm, to protect the Persons and Property of the Inhabitants near the Cantonment.

In order to secure the Environs from future Insult, we resolved, though our Force is very slender, to form a Detachment, consisting of the Cavalry under Major Young, the recovered Horses of the 19th Dragoons left at Pondamallee, the Governor's Body Guard, with as many Sepoys as could be spared from the Duties of the Garrison, and Two Field Pieces. We have also agreed to add Twenty-five Men to each Company of the Two Native Battalions doing Duty here, during the War; and we have taken such other Precautions as will, we trust, effectually secure us from further Molestation.

We have the Honor to transmit, as a Number in the Packet, Copy of a Letter from Lord Cornwallis, with Copies of a Letter to him from Tippoo Sultan, and of his Lordship's Reply.

We are informed, by private Advices, that Purseram Bhow has captured the Fort of Sinogu, and other Places of Strength in that Neighbourhood, which will enable him more effectually to cut off the Enemy's Communication with Bednore.

We have the Honor to be,  
with the greatest Respect,  
Honorable Sirs,  
Your faithful humble Servants,

(Signed)

*Chs. Oakeley.  
Wm. Petrie.  
J. Hudleston.*

Fort St. George,  
January 26, 1792.

Sir CHARLES OAKLEY, Bart. Esq. Esq. Esq.

S I R,

I Enclose Copies of the Letter that I received from Tippoo Sultan, and of my Answer, which latter was given in Concert with Hurry Punt and Meer Allum.

I have to request, that you will direct Copies to be transmitted to Bengal, and, by the first Opportunity, to the Court of Directors.

Sir John Kennaway informed me, in a Letter, dated the 12th Instant, that the Prince and Minister would Yesterday reach the Neighbourhood of Oacottah.

I am, with much Esteem,

S I R,

Your most obedient  
humble Servant,

CORN WALLIS.

(Signed)

Camp, near Outdradroog,  
January 16, 1792.

A true Copy.

(Signed) *George Parry,*

Act. Dep. Secretary.

FROM TIPPOO SULTAN.

Received January 13, 1792.

AT this Time, with a View to strengthen the Friendship, and remove the Disagreements, between the Ahmeedy Sirkar, the Company, his Highness the Nawaub Afoph Jah, and the Peshwa, and to cultivate the Ties of Intimacy between these Four Sirkars, a confidential and experienced Man belonging to this Sirkar will be deputed to your Lordship, in order that, by Negotiation-personally with every one, the Displeasure of the Mind may be done away, and a Reconciliation with each other (which is for the Good and Quiet of Mankind) may take Place. If this meets with your Lordship's Approbation, be pleased to notify it, that the above-mentioned Person may be sent to a Place appointed, and the ancient Friendship may be renewed.

Dated 12 Jemoadie ul Owal 1206 Heree, or 7th of January, 1792.

A true Translation, (Signed) *G. F. Cherry.*

TO TIPPOO SULTAN.

Written the 16th of January, 1792, after recapitulating the Letter received the 13th of January.

IT is well known, that, after having made every conciliatory Proposition in my Power to prevent this War, I was forced, by the Dictates of Honor and good Faith, to have Recourse to Arms, to save One of the Company's Allies from Destruction; and I have ever been desirous to make Peace as soon as proper Compensations can be received for the Injuries and Losses that have been sustained by the Company, and by those Allies with whom it is connected in the strictest Bonds of Confederacy.

But with what Confidence can a Negotiation be carried on with a Man, who not only violates Treaties of Peace, but also disregards the Faith of Capitulations during War.

The Garrison of Coimbatore ought, by the Capitulation, to have been set at Liberty, upon certain Conditions, immediately after it's Surrender; and I have a just Right to demand, that the Agreement should still be executed on the Spot where it was made; but being unwilling, at this critical Time, to occasion any Delay that can be avoided in opening a Negotiation, I shall not insist on a literal Performance of the original Stipulations, on Account of the Length of Time that the Execution would require.

Let, therefore, the Garrison of Coimbatore be sent to this Army, to be set at Liberty, according to the Conditions of the Capitulation that were settled between Lieutenant Chalmers and Cummer ud Deen Khan, and I shall then be ready, in Concert with the Allies, to fix upon a Place where Vackeels from you may conveniently meet proper Persons that will be deputed, on the Part of the Three Confederate Powers, for the Purpose of endeavouring to arrange the Terms on which a General Peace can be re-established.

A true Copy.

(Signed) *G. F. Cherry,* Persian Interpreter.

True Copies.

(Signed) *George Parry,* Act. Dep. Sec.

