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Whitehall, January 24, 1794.

THE Dispatch, of which the following is a Copy, was this Morning received by the Right Honorable Henry Dundas, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, from Sir Charles Oakeley, Bart. Governor of Madras.

Fort St. George, August 24, 1793.

S I R,

I Have the Pleasure to inform you that the Fort of Pondicherry surrendered to our Army, under the Command of Colonel Brathwaite, on the 23d Instant.

In consequence of Intelligence, received here on the 1st of June, from Mr. Baldwin, that War had been declared by France against England and Holland, we ordered the Army to assemble near Pondicherry, and having prepared and forwarded all the necessary Equipments for the Siege of that Fortress, our Operations commenced early in the present Month, and have thus happily terminated. Permit me, on this Occasion, to offer you my warmest Congratulations, and to express a well-grounded Hope, that so important a Conquest will afford complete Security to our Possessions in India. The French Settlements in Bengal and on the Malabar Coast have all likewise surrendered to the British Arms.

Our Measures, on the Receipt of Mr. Baldwin's Intelligence, were honored by the fullest Approbation of the Governor-General in Council. Marquis Cornwallis determined to take the first Opportunity of coming himself to the Coast; and, as no Frigate could be spared to convey him, he requested the Tri-ton Indian might be sent for that Purpose.

failed from Bengal on the 31st of last Month, and I expect her Return in a few Days.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

CHA. OAKELEY.

*Right Hon. Henry Dundas,
&c. &c. &c.*

Whitehall, January 24, 1794.

THE Dispatches, of which the following are Copies, were this Morning received over Land from India, by the Court of Directors for Affairs of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Copy of a Letter from the Governor and Council of Madras, to the Court of Directors, dated Fort St. George, August 24, 1793.

Honorable Sirs,

WE have great Satisfaction in reporting to your Honorable Court that Pondicherry was surrendered to the Army under Colonel Brathwaite on the Morning of the 23d Instant.

As we forward this Address via Bombay, we shall embrace another Opportunity of giving you a detailed Account of the Operations of the Army. It will be sufficient to mention here, that not a Moment was lost after our Receipt of the Intelligence of the War, (which reached us on the 1st of June, in a Letter from the British Consul at Alexandria) in making Preparations for the Siege. An enfilading Battery was opened against the Fort on the 20th Instant; and on the 22d a Battery opened on the Face to be attacked, and in a short Time completely silenced the

the Enemy's Guns. That same Evening the Governor sent out a Deputation, with Proposals to surrender; and early the next Morning our Troops took Possession of the Place.

We have the Honor to transmit a Copy of Colonel Brathwaite's last Dispatch, with Copy of the Articles of Capitulation, and to offer our warmest Congratulations to you on an Event so honorable, and important to your Interests in this Country.

All the French Settlements in Bengal, as well as those on the Two Coasts, have been surrendered to the British Arms.

We have the Honor to be, with the greatest Respect,
Honorable Sirs,

Your faithful humble Servants,
CHA. OAKELEY.
E. W. FALLOFIELD.

To the Hon. Sir Charles Oakeley, Bart. Governor in Council.

Honorable Sir,

Captain Brathwaite, my Aide de Camp, will have the Honor to deliver this to you; it incloses Copies of my Correspondence with Monsieur de Chermont, and a Copy of the Terms which Humanity alone induced me to grant to the French Garrison, who, in many Instances, behaved very ill; but it seems they were under little or no Control of their Officers, who were hourly in Apprehension for their own Lives: And this Day I was greatly alarmed by repeated Information that some of them had surrounded the Governor's House and menaced his Life, and pressing me to push forward the Troops, which was accordingly done, and I had the Pleasure to learn that though Matters had for some Time worn a disagreeable Appearance, they had never had Recourse to their Arms, or any Act of Violence; they were mostly drunk, and straggling about in various Directions, but without Arms; however they have been mostly collected, and will, before Night, be perfectly secured in the Church at Ariancopang.

I have also the Honor to inclose a Copy of the Orders I issued this Day, and to remain, with Respect,

Honorable Sir,

Your very obedient Servant,

(Signed) JOHN BRATHWAITE.

Camp on the Red Hills,

August 23, 1793.

P. S. Admiral Cornwallis did me the Honor to dine with me this Day, and I shall To-morrow send to him a Duplicate of the Capitulation for his Signature, if he pleases to sign it, and shall get One in Exchange from Monsieur Chermont also, for the Admiral.

To General Brathwaite, Commanding in Chief the English Army.

S I R,

Humanity, and the Interests of this Colony, have engaged me to propose a Capitulation: I ask, in Consequence, Four and Twenty Hours to reduce it to Form, during which Time you will establish, as well as me, a perfect Suspension of Arms, and cease to continue your Works against the Place, as I shall cease to continue mine in it's Defence.

I have the Honor to be, with the most perfect Esteem, and the highest Consideration,

S I R,

Your most humble

and most obedient Servant,

(Signed) CHERMONT.

Pondicherry, August 22, 1793.

To Mr. Chermont, Governor of Pondicherry, &c. &c.

S I R,

Humanity, and the real Interest of the City of Pondicherry, induced me to offer you the most honorable and humane Terms on my appearing before this Place, with such a Superiority of Force as entitled me to say, that Humanity alone induced me to make those Offers.

You, Sir, contrary to the Dictates of Humanity, and the real Interests of the Colony under your Command, rejected those Terms, and, without any Probability of Defence, continued to fire upon my People, to do as much Mischief as you could; and now that my Batteries are opened, you begin to think of Humanity, that is, for your own People, for you have indicated none for those under my Command; but, thank God! they are not in a Situation to require it. Matters being thus circumstanced, I will give you till To-morrow Morning, at Eight o'Clock, to surrender at Discretion, and trust to the known Humanity and Generosity of the English Nation. Till then I will cease to fire, unless fired upon, but I will not cease to work; and if a Shot is fired from you before the Surrender of the Place, all further Application will be unnecessary. If the Place is surrendered, the Whole may depend upon Security to their Lives, and that liberal Treatment which the English Nation always shews to it's Prisoners: In short, they shall be treated as Prisoners of War surrendering themselves into the Hands of a brave and honorable People. Precisely at Eight o'Clock To-morrow Morning I shall begin to fire, with no Intention of ceasing, till I am established in the full Possession of Pondicherry. You have once, Sir, refused a fair and honorable Offer; this is the second, and I believe a third is never made.

I have the Honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient and

very humble Servant,

(Signed) JOHN BRATHWAITE.

Camp before Pondicherry,

Aug. 22, 1793.

To General BRATHWAITE.

S I R,

THE cruel Situation in which myself and a Number of brave Men have found themselves, and which I believed was known to you, has forced us to the Conduct we have held. I send you an Officer of Merit, whom I beseech you to hear. I hope he will be able to obtain from you a Capitulation, and the Twenty-four Hours I have asked.

I have the Honor to be,

with the highest Consideration,

S I R,

Your very humble,

and very obedient Servant,

(Signed) CHERMONT.

Pondicherry, Aug. 22, 1793.

To Mr. Chermont, Governor of Pondicherry, &c. &c.

I Have said in my Letter to Mons. Chermont, that, in surrendering at Discretion, he might confide in the Humanity and Generosity of a brave Nation; but as he desires Assurances, to quiet the Minds of such as are alarmed at the Idea of surrendering at Discretion;

I. I promise, that if the Place, with all Public Property, Stores, Ammunition, Arms, Ordnance, Treasure and Provisions, is faithfully delivered up, all Private Property belonging to Individuals shall be

saved.

saved and inviolable : It being understood that Arms, Warlike or Naval Stores, though in the Hands of Private Merchants, must be considered as Public Property, and faithfully delivered up as such.

II. The Place must be surrendered to the Troops that I shall send to take Possession, as soon as they appear at the Madras and Vellenour Gates. The English Troops, and the Native Troops in the British Service, shall behave with good Order and Discipline : The French Troops must do the same.

III. The Garrison must lodge their Arms in the Arsenal, and march out without Arms or Colours. They will be considered as Prisoners of War, and treated humanely as such. They shall be marched to Aria Coupang, (the Native Troops excepted, who shall have Liberty to go where they please) and lodged and fed there, till Tents, &c. can be prepared to send them to Madras ; and I pledge myself they shall be sent to Europe by the first Opportunity.

IV. With Regard to the Officers, they shall wear their Swords, and be Prisoners on their Paroles of Honor, reserving their Private Properties.

V. Hostages, Two Officers of Rank, must be sent to me before Nine o'Clock To-morrow Morning, for the faithful Acquiescence to these Terms : And on the Arrival of those Hostages I will send Troops to take Possession of the Place, and to escort the French Soldiers to Aria Coupang.

VI. Rigour would justify me, under present Circumstances, in insisting upon harsher Terms ; but Humanity induces me to spare Persons and Private Property ; and the Inhabitants remaining in Pondicherry, provided they demean themselves with due Obedience to our Government and Laws, shall be treated and considered as Inhabitants under the Protection of the British Government.

VII. This is final. If not acceded to by the Arrival of the Hostages, I shall recommence Hostilities at Nine o'Clock precisely.

Given under my Hand, solely for the present, in the Absence of Admiral Cornwallis. Camp before Pondicherry, August 23, Three, A. M.

JOHN BRATHWAITE.

To General BRATHWAITE.

S I R,

I Have the Honor to send you, as prescribed, the Capitulation which you offer me, and which is accepted, as also the Lieutenant-Colonels Gautier and Joffet.

You may, at Nine o'Clock, take Possession of the Vellenour and Madras Gates. I have given Orders to the Troops to be ready at that Hour to surrender themselves at Aria Coupang.

You will find here a signed Copy of the Capitulation.

I have the Honor to be, with the most perfect Esteem, and the highest Consideration, S I R,

Your very humble, and very obedient Servant,
(Signed) CHERMONT.

Pondicherry, August 23, 1793.

Head Quarters, Camp before Pondicherry,
August 23, 1793.

GENERAL ORDERS by COLONEL BRATHWAITE. Colonel Brathwaite has the Honor and Happiness to announce to the gallant Army under his Command the News of the Surrender of Pondicherry, on Terms dictated by himself ; Terms which, he flatters himself, must ever remain as a Memorial to the French Nation, that no Superiority of Fire, no Advantage of Circumstances, no Misconduct of an Enemy, will cause a British Commander to deviate from that Humanity, which is the distinguishing Characteristic of a brave Nation.

He has spared the whole Garrison and the Properties of Individuals, which the rigid Law of Arms would have justified him in treating otherwise. He has spared an Enemy that continued to act offensively and destructively while unmolested, but who sunk under the first Impressions of his superior Force. Actuated by the same Sentiments, he has no Doubt but that the Whole of the Army under his Command will consider their infatuated and unfortunate Prisoners entitled (being now their Prisoners) to their most humane Attention.

It is not necessary for him, at this Time of Day, to give to this so eminently distinguished Army any Orders on that Head ; the Generals under whom they have served have taught them, that an Enemy conquered is an Enemy no more ; and he is convinced that the British Troops, about to garrison Pondicherry as Conquerors, or about to take Charge of French Prisoners, will convince both the Inhabitants and their Prisoners, that they can be as orderly, generous and humane, in the Discharge of these Duties, as they have been active and brave in the Duties of the Trenches.

To a cheerful, unanimous and zealous Perseverance in their several Duties, and to their established Character for Bravery, must be attributed the Success of the present Day ; and their Commander will ever remember it with Pleasure and Gratitude.

To thank Corps or Individuals in an Army, so wholly entitled to his warmest Thanks and Approbation, cannot be attempted : He thanks and approves the Whole with all his Heart, and will not fail to speak these his Sentiments of them to his Superiors.

