

C O N T E N T S.

1. Report. External Commerce, Bengal, Madras & Bombay for 1811-12. (46). 1813. pp.67.
X: 54.2.M1 A813
2. Report. Trade with the East India & China. 1813. (78). pp.23.
X: 54.30k2.M1t A813
3. Third Report - Select Committee on Means of Improving & Maintaing Foreign Trade. (East Indies & China). 1821. (746).
X: 54.30k2.M2t A821
4. Correspondence re the Cessation of the East India Company's Trade. 1833. (156). pp.60.
V2, L.L5:2.M3 A833
5. Papers re East India Company's Charter. 1833 (20). pp.64. V2, L.L5:2.M3 A833
6. Despatches from the Court of Directors to the Governor General Regarding -
V2, L.M5 A857
 - (a) Revision of the Assessment in South Arcot.
 - (b) Meriah Agency in Ganjam and Orissa.
 - (c) Abolition of the Moturpha & Veesabuddy Taxes at Madras.
 - (d) Hyderabad Assigned Districts.
 - (e) Budgets for 1855-56 & 1856-57.

EAST INDIA AFFAIRS.

14279

R E P O R T S

FROM THE

REPORTERS OF EXTERNAL COMMERCE,

Bengal, Madras, and Bombay,

(Private Trade)

FOR THE YEAR 1811-12.

*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be printed,
6 December 1813*

LIST OF PAPERS,

Presented to The Honourable House of Commons, pursuant to Order,
dated 23 November 1813

V I Z.

- No. 1.—Copy of the Report of the Reporter of External Commerce in *Bengal*;
for the Year 1811-12 - - - - - p 5 to 22
- No. 2 —Copy of the Report upon External Commerce, from *Madras*; for the
Year 1811-12 - - - - - p. 23 to 46
- No. 3 —D° - - D° - - D° - - *Bombay*, including *Surat*, for the
Year 1811-12 - - - - - p. 47 to 67

East India House,
the 6th December 1813. }

No. 1.

REPORT

On the External Commerce of Bengal,
As carried on by Individuals in the Year 1811-12, or from
the 1st of June 1811 to the 30th April 1812.

THE Reports on the External Commerce of Bengal have hitherto embraced a period of twelve months, viz from the 1st June to the 31st of May of the following year, but, in conformity with the instructions of the Honourable the Court of Directors, under date the 10th July 1811, the present Report provides only for eleven months, or from the 1st June 1811 to the 30th April 1812. The Reporter, therefore, is necessarily precluded from entering with accuracy into the usual details on the comparative amount of Exports and Imports, and generally on subjects connected therewith

The particulars of our External Commerce, in the period above-mentioned, are as follow, viz

I M P O R T S :					
Merchandise	-	-	-	1,13,38,692	£ St ^s 2,265,549
Treasure	-	-	-	67,85,698	
				1,81,24,390	

E X P O R T S					
Merchandise	-	-	-	3,40,03,009	£ St ^s 4,327,210
Treasure	-	-	-	6,14,673	
				3,46,17,682	

TOTAL - - - - - 5,27,42,072, — making
a net Deficit in the trade of the preceding year, of + - - - - S R^s 1,04,33,053

6,592,759
£ St^s 1,304,132

It is in the Imports that there is the deficiency, on the Exports there is an increase of S R^s 4,10,649. So that the actual falling-off in the Imports amounts to the very heavy sum of S R^s 1,08,43,702, or about 37 per cent on the importations of last year

£ St^s 51,331
£ S^s 1,355,463

To account for this defalcation, the rejection of one month in twelve cannot be taken into consideration, it is in the important article of Treasure, that the deficiency falls, for on Merchandise there is an actual increase, to the amount of S R^s 8,53,815

£ St^s 106,727

The following comparative STATEMENT will shew the particulars of this serious defalcation in the receipt of Treasure, in the year under report, compared with the year preceding it, viz

I M P O R T S O F T R E A S U R E															
	Total.	London	Brazil	America	Isle of France	Manilla	Arabian and Persan Gulphs	Coast of Sumatra.	Coast of Coromandel	Java	Penang and Eastward	China	New South Wales	Pegue	
1810-11 -	1,84,83,215	1,27,922	16,23,206	65,13,605	25,200	23,66,931	3,99,520	4,57,907	1,42,470	- -	19,60,753	43,24,492	41,209	-	
1811-12 -	67,85,698	3,637	13,41,093	4,59,860	- -	- -	4,63,456	2,55,985	33,000	2,22,007	11,11,300	23,77,801	- -	17,550	
Decrease -	1,20,01,010	1,24,285	2,82,111	60,53,736	25,200	23,66,931	- -	2,01,922	1,09,470	- -	8,49,453	19,46,691	41,209	-	
Increase -	3,03,493	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	63,036	- -	- -	2,22,007	- -	- -	- -	17,550	
Net Decrease	1,16,97,517	or £ St ^s 1,462,190													

LONDON.

6. OUR Imports from London, increased in

Merchandize - - - -	S R ^e 2,01,308
Decreased in Treasure - - -	1,24,285

£ St^e 9,628Net Increase - - - - 77,023

7. Our Exports from London, increased in

Merchandize - - - -	S R ^e 11,10,352
D ^e - - in Treasure - - -	3,14,673

£ St^e 178,128

Net Increase - - - - 14,25,025, - shewing

£ St^e 187,756

a net Increase of - - - S R^e 15,02,048, in our commerce with the Mother Country, compared with that of the preceding year, with the loss too of one month already noticed, and which the Reporter requests may be considered in his subsequent comparative Statements

8 As at this juncture it may be important to shew, at one view, the actual state of this branch of our trade, the following comparative detailed Statements are given in this place

EXPORTS } TO LONDON	1810-11	1811-12.	Decrease.	Increase.
Piece Goods - - - - -	4,65,681	4,29,180	36,501	—
Shawls - - - - -	42,501	31,213	11,228	—
Indigo - - - - -	51,36,300	54,26,521	- - -	2,90,221
Sugar - - - - -	91,346	10,458	80,888	—
Silk - - - - -	4,61,805	14,09,116	- - -	9,47,311
Cotton - - - - -	1,33,167	9,351	1,23,815	—
Lac Lake - - - - -	2,10,600	69,550	1,41,050	—
Sundries - - - - -	1,46,930	3,00,334	- - -	1,53,404
	66,88,330	76,85,723	3,93,543	13,97,393
Re Exports - - - - -	3,99,436	5,12,395	- - -	1,12,959
	70,87,766	81,98,118	3,93,543	15,03,805
Treasure - - - - -	- - -	3,14,673	- - -	3,14,673
	70,87,766	85,12,791	3,93,543	18,18,508
	Deduct Decrease - - - -	- - - -	- - - -	3,93,543
	Net Increase - - - -	- - - -	- - - -	14,25,025
	Merchandize - - - -	- - - -	11,10,352	
	Treasure - - - -	- - - -	3,14,673	
				14,25,025

£ St^e 178,128,
Net Increase.

IMPORTS } FROM LONDON	1810-11.	1811-12	Decrease	Increase
Broad Cloth - - - - -	1,47,882	52,733	95,149	- - -
Cutlery - - - - -	27,451	52,523	- - -	25,074
Copper and Copper Nails - -	4,38,100	38,750	3,99,350	- - -
Carriages - - - - -	78,208	46,918	31,290	- - -
Corks - - - - -	21,629	44,829	- - -	23,200
Claret - - - - -	4,65,273	6,63,162	- - -	1,97,889
Fowling Pieces and Pistols -	38,813	22,823	15,990	- - -
Flannels, Blankets and Carpets -	24,312	46,166	- - -	21,854

(continued)

IMPORTS FROM LONDON } <i>continued</i> - - -	1810-11	1811-12	Decrease	Increase
• Glass Ware - - - - -	2,22,933	3,13,756	- - -	90,823
Hosiery - - - - -	50,323	36,378	13,945	—
Haberdashery - - - - -	90,453	70,452	20,001	—
Hardware - - - - -	33,946	43,439	- - -	9,493
Hats - - - - -	78,173	1,17,806	- - -	39,643
Hoops and Rivets - - - - -	47,902	53,520	- - -	5,618
Hock - - - - -	21,818	33,360	- - -	11,542
Iron - - - - -	86,619	31,998	54,621	- - -
Ironmongery - - - - -	62,217	79,793	- - -	17,576
Instruments (Musical) - - - - -	16,852	48,814	- - -	31,962
Lead, Red and White - - - - -	42,884	26,080	16,804	—
Malt Liquors - - - - -	1,75,154	1,91,482	- - -	16,328
Madeira Wine - - - - -	2,51,526	1,83,742	67,784	—
Morocco Leather - - - - -	24,715	39,198	- - -	14,483
Oilman's Stores - - - - -	1,19,216	2,01,816	- - -	82,600
Perfumery - - - - -	39,782	44,325	- - -	4,543
Piece Goods - - - - -	73,446	88,499	- - -	15,053
Paints - - - - -	10,089	38,092	- - -	28,003
Port Wine - - - - -	94,392	1,54,187	- - -	59,795
Stationary - - - - -	1,01,791	80,006	21,785	—
Sundries - - - - -	8,53,403	10,95,961	- - -	2,42,558
	37,39,302	39,40,610	7,36,719	9,38,027
Treasure - - - - -	1,27,922	3,637	1,24,285	—
	38,67,224	39,44,247	8,61,004	9,38,027
Deduct Decrease - - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	8,61,004
Net Increase - - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	77,023
Increase Merchandize - - - - -	- - -	- - -	2,01,308	
Decrease Treasure - - - - -	- - -	- - -	1,24,285	
				77,023

9 THE Import Trade from the Brazils has decreased this year in the sum of S R^s 3,95,882; of which, S R^s 2,82,113 is in the article of treasure alone; in merchandize the deficiency fell chiefly on lead, wines, and tutenague

BRAZILS
£ St^s 49,485
35,264

10 The Export Trade increased in the sum of - - - S R^s 14,69,585, —viz.

£ St^s 183,698.

Piece Goods increased - - -	S R ^s 13,46,823
Indigo - - - - -	82,642
Sundries - - - - -	21,287
Imports re-exported - - -	18,833
	<u>S R^s 14,69,585</u>

11 WITH America our intercourse has almost entirely failed, the importation thence amounts to the trifling sum of S R^s 5,85,434, which includes S R^s 4,50,869 of specie, shewing a decrease in our Imports of last year, then on a low scale, of S R^s 61,86,460

AMERICA.
£ St^s 73,179
57,434.
773,308.

12 In our Exports also, there has been as serious a defalcation in the amount of every principal article constituting our trade with the United States, amounting on the whole to S R^s 52,40,991

655,124.

MANILLA

13. THE trade of Manilla with Bengal, was,

	IMPORTS	EXPORTS	TOTAL
In 1810-11 - - - -	29,69,942	12,70,541	42,40,483
1811-12 - - - -	3,27,450	8,73,481	12,00,931
Decrease - -	26,42,492	3,97,060	30,39,552

£ St^s 3,706
295,866

Copper was the only article of merchandize imported this year, and there was a falling off in it, of S R^s 29,650, the preceding year brought us treasure to the amount of S R^s 23,66,931, but in the year under report came no specie whatever from Manilla

£ St^s 63,100
10,820
1,267
1,381

14 In the Exports, the deficiency fell solely on Piece Goods, in the amount of S R^s 5,04,801, being nearly one half the quantity taken off the preceding year, in opium there was an increase in the sum of S R^s 86,559, in sundries S R^s 10,135, and in re-exports S R^s 11,047

15 When the Manilla market shall have recovered the glut of 1808-9, and the South American internal commotions subsided, a more valuable intercourse may be looked for between Manilla and this Presidency

ARABIAN and
PERSIAN GULPHS

£ St^s 71,495
17,042
54,453
7,992
62,445

16 OUR Imports of merchandize from the two Gulphs, have increased in some articles in the present year, S R^s 5,71,963, in others they have fallen off S R^s 1,36,338, making a net increase in merchandize imported, of S R^s 4,35,625, to this sum also must be added, an increase in the amount of treasure, being S R^s 63,936, making the total increase in the present year's importation, compared with that of the preceding year, S R^s 4,99,561.

17 The articles on which there was an increase, were copper, cowries, horses, guns, timber, and planks The decrease fell chiefly on corals, coffee, spices, and galls

£ St^s 123,546

18 The Exports to the Gulphs also shew a net increase of S R^s 9,88,371. Piece Goods, grain, and sundries, composed the increase, there was a decrease in the articles of indigo, sugar, and raw silk

PENANG, and
Eastward.

19 THE extent of our trade coming under this head, which includes, as usual, all the ports to the eastward not separately distinguished, is given in the following comparative Statement,—viz

	YEARS	IMPORTS	EXPORTS	TOTAL
		S R ^s	S R ^s	S R ^s
Imports, £ St ^s 145,882	1810-11 - - - -	32,64,297	25,34,351	57,98,648
Exports - - - 771	1811-12 - - - -	20,97,239	25,28,183	46,25,422
Total, £ St ^s 146,653	Total Decrease -	11,67,058	6,168	11,73,226

£ St^s 106,182

Treasure chiefly occasions the deficit above exhibited in the Imports, being in the heavy sum of S R^s 8,49,453, excepting in the articles of coffee and sundries, in which there was an increased importation, every other species of merchandize usually imported, fell off

20 The net decrease in the Exports to Penang and the eastward, is but trifling in the articles of piece goods, cotton, and in re-exports, there was, however, a considerable falling off, but the increased exports of grain, opium, and sundries, brought the net amount nearly to the level of last year's exportation

CHINA
£ St^s 222,805
243,336
20,485

21 OUR Imports from China, shew a continued decrease, being in the year under Report in the net sum of S R^s 17,82,807, in consequence solely of a deficiency in the amount of treasure, of upwards of one-half of the sum imported in the preceding year, viz, S R^s 19,46,691, in merchandize, there was an actual net increase to the amount of S R^s 1,63,884, in, tea, piece goods, nankeens, beads and cochineal were the principal articles decreasing, the increase was chiefly upon tutenague, camphire, allum, sugarcandy, and red and white lead.

22 OUR trade with Pegue continues, as last year, to exhibit an increase both in Imports and in Exports, the former shews a net increase of S R^s 2,34,345, and the latter S R^s 46,760, making a total increase of S R^s 2,81,105

PEGUE
 £ St^s 29,293
 5,845
 35,138

23 THERE appears an increase in the Importations from the Maldives, to the net amount of S R^s 1,62,620; cocoa nuts were imported in less quantities than in the preceding year, but spices, timber or planks, and sundries, increased

{ MALDIVE
 ISLANDS
 £ St^s 20,328

24 The net amount of our Exports to these islands, shews a decrease of S R^s 8,235 Piece Goods alone fell off, S R^s 22,858,—but sugar, grain and sundries, increased S R^s 14,623

St^s 1,029
 2,857
 3,886

25 THIS colony has imported goods to this Presidency in a very diminished amount, compared with that of the preceding year No Treasure was brought to us, and Merchandize fell off nearly one half

{ NEW SOUTH
 WALES

26 The Exports however increased in the net sum of S R^s 1,00,845, viz in piece goods, rum and sundries, grain was the only article which suffered a decrease, none having been exported

£ St^s 23,856

BRITISH ASIATIC COMMERCE

27 THIS trade embraces all the ports under the British flag, not separately distinguished, the following Abstract Statement exhibits an increase of S R^s 35,01,340, compared with the amount of the preceding year,—viz

£ St^s 437,668

	IMPORTS		EXPORTS		TOTAL S R ^s
	Merchandize	Treasure	Merchandize	Treasure	
	S R ^s	S R ^s	S R ^s	S R ^s	
Coast of Sumatra - - -	78,400	2,55,985	11,58,624	- - -	14,93,009
- - - Malabar - - -	5,72,695	- - -	21,32,370	- - -	27,05,065
- - - Coromandel - - -	9,45,191	33,000	17,16,698	- - -	26,94,889
Island of Ceylon - - -	94,913	- - -	1,54,651	- - -	2,49,564
Amboyna - - -	1,238	- - -	3,89,396	- - -	3,90,634
Isle of France - - -	3,37,715	- - -	11,51,280	3,00,000	17,88,995
Java - - -	1,23,444	2,22,007	10,73,485	- - -	14,18,936
Amount Total in 1811-12 - -	21,53,596	5,10,992	77,76,504	3,00,000	1,07,41,092
Ditto - - - 1810-11 - -	16,25,996	6,25,577	49,88,179	- - -	72,39,752
Decrease in 1810-11 - -	- - -	1,14,585	- - -	- - -	- - -
Increase in 1811-12 - -	5,27,600	- - -	27,88,325	3,00,000	35,01,340

28 Our Imports from the coast of Sumatra, amounted neither in goods nor in specie to one half of the importation of the past year, coffee and pepper were the articles on which the loss fell, indeed these are the only two articles on which returns can be made for our Exports, which surprisingly increased; viz S R^s 3,27,614, to the sum of S R^s 8,31,010

{ COAST OF
 SUMATRA
 £ St^s 40,952
 103,876

Piece Goods increased - -	S R ^s 3,99,080
Grain - - -	10,050
Opium - - -	3,39,475
Sundries - - -	36,358
Re-Exports - - -	46,047

BOMBAY, and
COAST OF
MALABAR
£ St^s 24,574
22,041

29. THE statement for the preceding year, exhibits an increase in the importation from the Coast of Malabar, to the extent of S R^s 1,06,504, there again appears a net excess on the amount of that statement, of S R^s 1,81,130, excepting in spices, red lead and white vermilion, and in horses, which fell off in amount, every other article, usually imported bore a portion of the above-mentioned increase.

£ St^s 23,291.

30 Our Exports, on the contrary, continued as in the two preceding years, to fall off in the net amount of S R^s 1,06,329, the defalcation fell on piece goods, indigo and sugar

FORT St GEORGE,
and
COAST OF
COROMANDEL

31 FROM this Presidency and Coast the importation, compared with the year preceding

in, - - - Merchandize - - - increased - - - S R^s 87,108
Treasure - - - - decreased - - - - 1,00,470

£ St^s 2,784.

Net decrease - - - S R^s 22,272

£ St^s 74,155

32 Our Exports increased nearly one-half on the total amount of the preceding year's exportation, or S R^s 5,93,242, every article usually exported having increased, excepting sugar and raw silk, which suffered a trifling diminution

CEYLON
£ St^s 4,056
2,310

33 THIS Island imported Merchandize in an increased amount of S R^s 32,200; rum and arrack fell off S R^s 18,476, chanks, pepper and sundries, formed the increase.

17,112.

34 The Exports increased in every article usually consigned to Ceylon, in the total sum of S R^s 1,36,895

AMBOYNA.
£ St^s 155

35 THE Imports from Amboyna amounted, altogether, to only S.R^s 1,238.

43,674.
44,526

36 The Exports to S R^s 3,89,396, being an increase on the consignment of the preceding year, to the extent of S R^s 1,16,205, viz

Piece Goods, increased - - - S R^s 22,558
Opium - - - - - 68,945
Sundries - - - - - 8,686
Re-Exports - - - - - 16,716

ISLES OF FRANCE.

37 OUR commercial intercourse with these Islands has extended itself very considerably since the last Report, as given in the following Abstract Statement.

	YEARS.	IMPORTS	EXPORTS.	STATEMENT
Imports, £ St ^s 25,378	1810-11 - - - -	1,34,688	5,72,807	7,07,495
Exports - - - 109,809	1811-12 - - - -	3,37,715	14,51,280	17,88,995
Total, £ St ^s 135,187	Net Increase -	2,03,027	8,78,473	10,81,500

£ St^s 3,250.

The articles spices, copper, brandy and sundries, gave the increased importation. Coffee and beetle nuts fell off, and no Treasure having been received this year, there appears a deficiency of S.R^s 25,200, compared with the importation of specie in the preceding year

£ St^s 37,500

38 Every article consigned to the Mauritius last year, increased in amount, excepting opium and sundries Specie to the amount of S R^s 3,00,000, formed an unusual article of exportation from this Presidency, a favourable remittance to England, in bills drawn by the Government of the French Islands, induced this speculation.

39 THE following is an Abstract Statement of our trade with Java, compared with the year preceding

JAVA.

YEARS.	IMPORTS	EXPORTS.	TOTAL
1810-11 - - -	19,885	4,34,656	4,54,541
1811-12 - - -	3,45,451	10,73,485	14,18,936
Net Increase -	3,25,566	6,38,829	9,64,395

Imports, £ St^s 40,696
Exports - - 79,854

Total, £ St^s 120,550

exhibiting a net increased trade, to the amount of S R^s 9,64,395, the increase in the Imports was upon the articles pepper, tin, and sundries

40 The increase in the Exports was, upon piece goods, S R^s 1,64,219, grain S R^s 52,306, Bengal rum S.R^s 22,937, opium S R^s 1,95,405, sundries S R^s 1,18,533, and Re-exports S R^s 85,429.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

41 THE following chief articles of trade increased this year, on a comparison with the amount of the same articles imported in 1810-11, viz

Amount of increased Imports in 1811-12

Claret	} Wines - - - S R ^s 2,17,202	Drugs - - - - -	18,183
Madeira		Glass Ware - - - - -	68,189
Lisbon		Hats - - - - -	37,419
Port		Ironmongery - - - - -	20,751
Cape		Instruments (Musical) - - - - -	31,962
Strong Wines, Brandy, &c.	- 24,115	Masts and Spars - - - - -	1,50,554
Allum - - - - -	62,776	Oilman's Stores - - - - -	85,635
Cutlery - - - - -	22,669	Paint - - - - -	28,046
Cabinet Ware - - - - -	86,604	Raisins - - - - -	24,000
Copper and Copper Nails - - - - -	95,095	Rattan - - - - -	20,523
Coir and Coir Cables - - - - -	63,825	Red Wood - - - - -	26,864
Camphire - - - - -	89,527	Sugarcandy - - - - -	53,466
Cowries - - - - -	29,193	Timber and Planks - - - - -	7,81,583
		Tuteñagué - - - - -	2,16,115

On the other hand, the Imports of the undermentioned Articles, decreased during the same period

Beads - - - - -	S R ^s 32,227	Horses - - - - -	30,500
Beetle Nuts - - - - -	61,995	Iron - - - - -	54,802
Broad Cloth - - - - -	89,280	Indigo - - - - -	1,11,560
Bottles (empty) - - - - -	26,666	Nankeens - - - - -	67,567
Coral - - - - -	23,846	<u>Piece Goods</u> - - - - -	95,100
Carriages - - - - -	25,534	Pepper - - - - -	2,56,235
Coffee - - - - -	78,007	Rum and Arrack - - - - -	20,909
Chunks - - - - -	1,05,093	Stationary - - - - -	22,989
Cocoa Nuts and Shells - - - - -	41,701	Spices - - - - -	1,02,425
Cochineal - - - - -	79,223	Sugar - - - - -	42,427
Galls - - - - -	23,637	Tin - - - - -	31,744
Gold and Silver Lace - - - - -	16,687	Tea - - - - -	2,04,428
Haberdashery - - - - -	20,734	Vermillion - - - - -	32,972

42. Taking

42 Taking a comparative view of the state of our Exports from hence, in this and in the last year, the subjoined Statement will exhibit the extent of the increase or decrease in each principal article of Merchandize,—viz.

	Decrease	Increase.
Piece Goods - - - - -	23,63,016	—
Shawls - - - - -	- - -	12,902
Indigo - - - - -	2,26,174	—
Sugar - - - - -	3,95,229	—
Raw Silk - - - - -	- - -	11,88,095
Grain - - - - -	- - -	8,69,246
Opium - - - - -	2,19,305	—
Cotton - - - - -	- - -	88,735
Sundries - - - - -	- - -	4,20,856
Re-Exports - - - - -	- - -	4,19,866
	32,03,724	29,99,700
Treasure - - - - -	- - -	6,14,673
	32,03,724	36,14,373
Deduct Decrease - - -	- - -	32,03,724
Net Increase - - - - -	- - -	4,10,649

£ 52,332

43. In the subjoined Abstract Statement, the Imports and Exports of the External Private Trade connected with this Presidency, are set to view, and in a separate column will be found the per-centage which each branch bore to the grand Total

	IMPORTS	Per Centage	EXPORTS.	Per Centage.
London - - - - -	39,44,247	21 $\frac{1}{2}$	85,12,791	24 $\frac{2}{8}$
Brazil - - - - -	14,98,203	8 $\frac{1}{8}$	29,31,815	8 $\frac{7}{8}$
America - - - - -	5,85,434	3 $\frac{1}{8}$	15,95,374	4 $\frac{1}{8}$
Isle of France - - - - -	3,37,715	1 $\frac{1}{8}$	14,51,280	4 $\frac{1}{8}$
Cape of Good Hope - - - - -	19,142	$\frac{1}{8}$	8,718	—
Manilla - - - - -	3,27,450	1 $\frac{1}{8}$	8,73,481	2 $\frac{1}{8}$
Arabian and Persian Gulphs - - - - -	14,39,571	7 $\frac{1}{8}$	31,78,579	9 $\frac{1}{8}$
Coast of Sumatra - - - - -	3,34,385	1 $\frac{1}{8}$	11,58,624	3 $\frac{5}{8}$
- - - Malabar - - - - -	5,72,695	3 $\frac{1}{8}$	21,32,370	6 $\frac{1}{8}$
- - - Coromandel - - - - -	9,78,191	5 $\frac{1}{8}$	17,16,698	4 $\frac{1}{8}$
Ceylon - - - - -	94,913	$\frac{1}{8}$	1,54,651	$\frac{1}{8}$
Amboyna - - - - -	1,238	- - -	3,89,396	1 $\frac{1}{8}$
Java - - - - -	3,45,451	1 $\frac{1}{8}$	14,73,485	3 $\frac{1}{8}$
Penang and Eastward - - - - -	20,97,239	11 $\frac{1}{8}$	25,28,183	7 $\frac{1}{8}$
China - - - - -	48,01,149	26 $\frac{1}{8}$	62,22,009	18
New South Wales - - - - -	26,526	$\frac{1}{8}$	4,67,134	1 $\frac{1}{8}$
Pegue - - - - -	4,18,474	2 $\frac{1}{8}$	1,36,942	$\frac{1}{8}$
Maldavie Islands - - - - -	3,02,367	1 $\frac{1}{8}$	86,152	$\frac{1}{8}$
	1,81,24,390	100	3,46,17,682	100

44 The revenue which Government received from the Imports and Exports of External Private Trade, amounted in this year, to as follows:

Government Duty on Exports	- - -	S R ^s 54,046	£ St ^s 6,7,3
- - Ditto - - on Imports	- - -	8,33,671	104,209
		S R ^s 8,87,735	110,967
Deduct Drawbacks allowed on Exportations	-	35,854	4,482
		S R ^s 8,51,881	106,485

INLAND TRADE.

45 THE Inland Trade amounted in this year to the sum of S R^s 3,25,81,344, yielding a clear Revenue of S R^s 13,851, as follows: £ St^s 4,072,668
1,731

INLAND TRADE	Value.	Town Duty	Government Duty	TOTAL.
Imports - - -	2,60,54,270	95,738	1,97,051	2,92,789
Exports - - -	65,27,074	- - -	24,191	24,191
	3,25,81,344	95,738	2,21,242	3,16,980
Deduct Drawbacks allowed the Exporters	-	-	-	3,03,12
Net Amount of Revenue on the Inland Trade	-	-	-	13,851

46 If to this sum be added the net revenue yielded by the External Commerce, stated at S R^s 8,51,881, the total revenue which Government received on the External and Internal Private Commerce of this Presidency, amounted, after deducting the amount of the several drawbacks allowed the Exporters, to the sum of S R^s 8,65,732, being S R^s 83,525, short of the revenue which the same commerce yielded in the preceding year

£ St^s 108,216
10,441

THE HONOURABLE COMPANY'S EXTERNAL COMMERCE.

47. THE extent of the Honourable Company's commerce is given, in order to exhibit, in one view, the whole of the External Commerce of Bengal, both public and private; and to shew, at the same time, the resources of the provinces subordinate to this Presidency

48 The Honourable Company's consignments of Merchandize from England to Bengal, received between the 1st June 1811 and 30th April 1812, together with the value of salt imported from the Coast, and spices from Amboyna, amounted to the considerable sum of S R^s 99,60,331, to which should be added the Imports of Private Trade during the same period, and the total amount of the Imports, public and private, received into Calcutta in the year 1811-12, gives a sum of S R^s 2,80,84,721, or £ St^s 3,510,590, or, as follows:

Honourable Company's Imports.			
From Europe - - -	{ Merchandize - - -	S R ^s	26,65,320
	{ Marine Stores - - -	- - -	87,812
		S R ^s	27,53,132
Salt - Coast of Coromandel - - -	- - -	S R ^s 7,08,072	
Rock D ^o - - - - -	- - -	13,797	
			7,21,869
Imports of Treasure from Bombay - - -	- - -	- - -	51,50,000
Spices from Amboyna, eastward - - -	- - -	- - -	13,35,330
		S R ^s	99,60,331
Add Imports of Private Trade			
Merchandize - - - - -	- - -	1,13,38,692	
Treasure - - - - -	- - -	67,85,698	
			1,81,24,390
		S R ^s	2,80,84,721

or £ St^s 3,510,590 The above Total is exclusive of Military Stores as usual, and falls short by S R^s 31,58,440, of the amount imported on the public account of Government, and private account of Individuals, in the year 1810-11.

49. Let the Honourable Company's Exports from Bengal to London, St. Helena, the Cape of Good Hope, and various Indian Ports, be added in the same manner, and the Total Value from hence in the year 1811-12, will be S R^s 4,76,95,219, or £ St^s 5,961,902, as follows.

To London - - - - S R ^s	1,09,76,583	
St. Helena - - - - -	22,356	
		1,09,98,939
Cape of Good Hope - - - -	4,26,560	
Indian Ports.		
Fort Marlborough - - - -	97,658	
Fort St George - - - -	8,337	
Bombay - - - - -	1,13,235	
Prince of Wales Island - -	4,56,182	
China - - - - -	9,21,212	
Ceylon - - - - -	3,576	
Amboyna - - - - -	51,838	
	16,52,038	
		20,78,598
	S R ^s	1,30,77,537
Add Exports of Private Trade - - - -	- - -	3,46,17,682
	S R ^s	4,76,95,219

Of the above total of Exports, S R^s 1,94,89,374, or £ St^s 2,436,172, in value of Merchandize, was consigned to England, in the following proportions

Honourable Company's Exports - - - -	S R ^s 1,09,76,583
Exports of Private Trade - - - - -	85,12,791

50. The total amount of the Imports and Exports of the External Commerce carried on between Calcutta and the ports and places with which it had intercourse, in the year 1811-12, will be found to be accurately given in the following Abstract Statement

	PRIVATE TRADE.			HONOURABLE COMPANY'S TRADE.			TOTAL.	
	Merchandize	Treasure	TOTAL.	Merchandize	Treasure	TOTAL.	S R ^s	£ St ^s
1811-12								
Imports -	1,13,38,692	67,85,698	1,81,24,390	48,10,331	51,50,000	99,60,331	2,80,84,721	3,510,590
Exports -	3,40,03,009	6,14,673	3,46,17,682	1,30,77,537	- - -	1,30,77,537	4,76,95,219	5,061,902
	4,53,41,701	74,00,371	5,27,42,072	1,78,87,868	51,50,000	2,30,37,868	7,57,79,940	9,472,492

51 If to S R^s 7,57,79,940 (the sum total of External Commerce) the value of the Inland or Internal Trade be added, the Grand Total will amount to the considerable sum of S R^s 10,83,61,284, or £ St^s 13,545,160, giving an excess of S R^s 47,99,063, or £ St. 5,99,883, beyond the capital engaged in the Internal and External Commerce of the year 1810-11

(Signed) CHAS BAYLEY,
Reporter on External and Internal Commerce.

Fort William,
Office of Reporter on External Commerce,
the 2d Nov 1812.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS,
CALCUTTA.

ABSTRACT STATEMENT of the IMPORTS into, and

IMPORTS.	SR TOTAL.	London	Brazil.	America	Isle of France	Cape of Good Hope	Manilla,	Arabian and Persian Gulf
GREAT BRITAIN - - -	35,531,53	28,38,036	34,672	3,657	82,031	1,236	3,27,450	-
LISBON - - - - -	2,03,716	1,54,187	49,241	-	288	-	-	-
AMERICA - - - - -	1,54,366	40,873	8,483	81,346	20,133	-	-	-
FRANCE - - - - -	7,45,776	6,93,623	193	4,378	42,831	-	-	-
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE - - -	18,006	-	-	100	-	17,906	-	-
MADEIRA - - - - -	3,10,361	1,83,742	50,732	34,518	361	-	-	-
MANILLA - - - - -	18,486	5,199	-	-	-	-	-	-
ARABIAN GULF - - - - -	2,30,028	-	-	-	-	-	-	97,19
PERSIAN GULF - - - - -	10,35,315	-	-	-	217	-	-	8,31,81
COAST OF SUMATRA - - -	37,497	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MALABAR - - - - -	83,352	-	-	-	15,148	-	-	-
COROMANDEL - - - - -	3,46,926	-	4,121	-	632	-	-	163
MYSORE - - - - -	37,774	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
CEYLON - - - - -	79,384	-	-	244	5,068	-	-	4,14
AMBOYNA - - - - -	1,238	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
JAVA AND BATAVIA - - -	4,554	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PEWANG AND EASTWARD - -	14,23,151	1,402	-	-	1,70,561	-	-	10,50
CHINA - - - - -	17,83,273	-	15,468	-	200	-	-	-
NEW SOUTH WALES - - -	3,859	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PELUE - - - - -	11,60,180	-	-	1,322	-	-	-	31,60
MALDIVE ISLANDS - - -	1,64,260	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WEST INDIES - - - - -	4,037	3,548	-	-	245	-	-	-
TOTAL of MERCHANDISE - -	1,13,38,692	39,40,610	1,57,110	1,25,565	3,37,715	19,142	3,27,450	9,76,11
TREASURE - - - - -	67,85,698	3,637	13,41,093	4,59,869	-	-	-	4,63,45
GRAND TOTAL - S R ¹	1,81,24,390	39,44,247	14,98,203	5,85,434	3,37,715	19,142	3,27,450	14,39,57
EXPORTS								
PIEC GOODS - - - - -	1,07,56,519	4,29,180	27,85,579	14,34,081	6,35,287	4,794	6,43,756	23,12,14
SHAWLS - - - - -	1,17,893	31,213	2,300	-	47,462	1,848	-	5,86
INDIGO - - - - -	60,42,203	54,26,521	82,642	31,469	-	-	-	4,57,65
SUGAR - - - - -	5,17,389	10,458	-	30,065	8,159	-	-	1,03,48
SILK - - - - -	27,34,800	14,09,116	6,605	-	33,810	-	-	6,13
GRAIN - - - - -	14,16,276	35,870	7,980	-	70,134	-	-	2,02,82
BENGAL RUM - - - - -	1,38,137	-	156	-	17,914	-	410	-
OPIUM - - - - -	77,19,798	-	-	-	-	-	1,10,415	-
COTTON - - - - -	15,91,681	9,351	-	-	37,702	-	-	-
CANVAS - - - - -	1,48,269	-	-	4,304	27,483	-	3,727	1,07
SUNDRIES - - - - -	11,50,554	3,34,014	9,458	31,606	1,21,739	1,600	8,697	14,621
TOTAL of MERCHANDISE - -	3,23,33,519	76,85,723	28,94,720	15,31,525	9,99,690	8,242	7,67,005	31,03,796
IMPORTS RE EXPORTED - -	16,69,490	5,12,395	37,095	63,849	1,51,590	476	1,06,476	74,783
TREASURE - - - - -	3,40,03,009	81,98,118	29,31,815	15,95,374	11,51,280	8,718	8,73,481	31,78,579
GRAND TOTAL - S R ¹	3,46,17,682	85,12,791	29,31,815	15,95,374	14,51,280	8,718	8,73,481	31,78,579

Fort William,
Office of Reporter on External Commerce,
the 2d November 1812

EXPORTS from, CALCUTTA, by Sea,—from the 1st June 1811 to the 30th April 1812

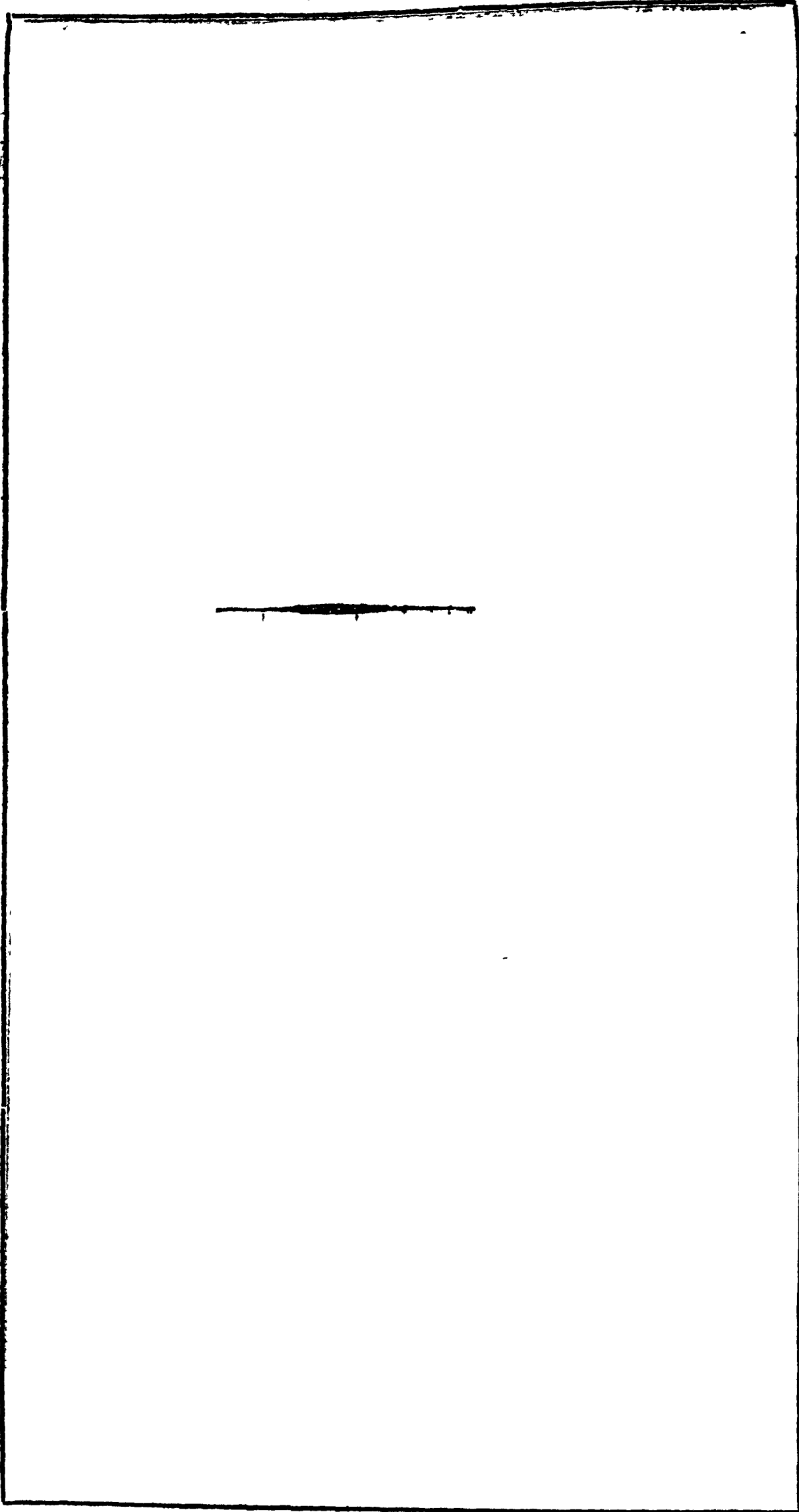
Coast of Sumatra	Coast of Malabar	Coast of Coromandel	Ceylon	Amboyna	Java	Penang and Eastward	China	New South Waies	Pegue	Maldiva Islands
-	48,017	1,23,770	1,013	-	4,479	46,574	1,101	14,184	6,933	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	1,292	-	8,239	-	-
-	1,400	1,631	-	-	480	1,240	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	8,332	31,550	-	-	-	-	1,086	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	3,685	9,602	-	-	-
31,663	47,497	3,568	416	-	4,454	24,684	10,306	-	10,248	-
-	1,69,466	22,509	-	-	-	10,000	1,305	-	-	-
35,392	-	-	-	-	-	1,473	632	-	-	-
-	8,204	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1,500	10,350	2,92,279	36,480	-	-	712	-	-	-	-
-	6,622	21,209	3,066	-	-	1,168	-	-	-	5,517
-	16,452	-	40,631	-	-	4,701	8,143	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	1,238	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	4,554	-	-	-	-	-
9,845	17,920	62,021	13,307	-	98,405	7,93,813	2,25,506	-	-	19,563
-	8,409	9,627	-	-	11,072	78,904	16,59,297	-	296	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,859	-	-
-	2,28,027	3,15,854	-	-	-	14,810	6,370	-	3,82,919	2,79,270
-	1,999	61,133	-	-	-	2,883	-	-	528	97,717
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	244	-	-
78,400	5,72,695	9,45,191	94,913	1,238	1,23,444	9,85,939	19,23,348	26,526	4,00,924	3,02,367
2,55,985	-	33,000	-	-	2,22,007	11,11,300	28,77,801	-	17,550	-
3,34,385	5,72,695	9,78,191	94,913	1,238	3,45,451	20,97,239	48,01,149	26,526	4,18,474	3,02,367
4,94,934	6,03,918	1,93,357	22,176	1,47,995	2,73,106	5,41,910	55,186	93,803	63,906	16,405
600	14,427	8,236	-	-	150	1,520	2,977	800	500	-
-	18,850	22,744	-	-	-	578	-	1,745	-	-
240	1,80,073	43,827	9,935	-	5,482	1,320	-	1,00,363	4,704	19,280
1,120	10,29,441	2,48,576	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10,050	1,24,612	6,98,091	83,044	3,100	53,606	45,167	25,600	4,548	5,326	46,320
-	340	20,739	1,544	1,275	22,937	16,294	-	39,976	16,552	-
5,46,875	-	60,575	1,725	1,67,720	4,59,705	17,68,780	45,42,968	59,425	-	1,510
-	-	-	-	-	-	12,239	15,32,389	-	-	-
1,100	40,059	36,775	1,374	1,500	7,490	10,893	4,485	6,107	1,900	-
39,827	80,918	1,71,062	23,831	23,470	1,12,318	8,4019	10,853	58,820	21,164	2,537
10,94,746	20,92,638	15,08,982	1,43,629	3,45,060	9,34,794	24,82,720	61,74,458	3,65,537	1,14,052	86,152
63,878	39,732	2,07,716	11,022	44,336	1,38,691	45,463	47,551	1,01,547	22,890	-
11,58,644	21,32,370	17,16,698	1,54,651	3,89,396	10,73,485	25,28,183	62,22,009	4,67,134	1,36,942	86,152
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11,58,624	21,32,370	17,16,698	1,54,651	3,89,396	10,73,485	25,28,183	62,22,009	4,67,134	1,36,942	86,152

E. E.

(Signed)

CHARLES BARTY,

Reporter on External and Internal Commerce



SHIPS AND TONNAGE,
CALCUTTA

STATEMENT of SHIPS and TONNAGE Arrived at, and Departed from

ARRIVED	Total		London		Brazil		America		Isle of France		Cape of Good Hope		Manilla		Arabian and Persian Gulfs	
	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons
Under ENGLISH Colours - - -	193	78,504	43	30,358	-	-	-	-	20	5,794	1	380	-	-	3	919
PORTUGUESE D ^o - - -	11	4,180	-	-	5	2,205	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
AMERICAN - D ^o - - -	8	2,313	-	-	1	380	3	839	2	599	-	-	-	-	-	-
INDIAN - (including Donies) -	389	66,22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	4,150
TOTAL - - -	601	151,224	43	30,358	6	2,585	3	839	22	6,393	1	380	-	-	13	5,069

DEPARTED	Total		London		Brazil		America		Isle of France		Cape of Good Hope		Manilla		Arabian and Persian Gulfs	
	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons
Under ENGLISH Colours - - -	194	77,072	45	31,788	-	-	-	-	22	4,731	3	702	-	-	5	1,414
PORTUGUESE D ^o - - -	10	4,020	-	-	6	2,905	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SPANISH - - - D ^o - - -	1	650	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	650	-	-
AMERICAN - D ^o - - -	8	2,369	-	-	-	-	8	2,369	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
INDIAN (including Donies) -	386	65,650	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	6,550
TOTAL - - -	599	149,761	45	31,700	6	2,905	8	2,369	22	4,731	3	702	1	650	19	7,974

Fort William,
Office of Reporter on External Commerce,
the 2d November 1812.

the Port of CALCUTTA, from the 1st June 1811 to the 30th April 1812

Coast of Sumatra.		Coast of Malabar		Coast of Coromandel		Ceylon		Amboyna		Java.		Penang and Eastward		China		New South Wales		Pegue		Maldivé Islands	
Ships	Ton	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons	Ship	Tons
8	1,760	14	4,482	26	7,546	2	550	1	500	19	8,078	33	9,664	9	4,337	5	1,238	7	2,488	2	410
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	500	3	1,175	-	-	1	300	-	-
-	-	-	-	1	315	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	180	-	-	-	-
-	-	5	1,870	330	49,837	7	1,050	-	-	-	-	5	1,750	2	1,600	-	-	6	2,320	24	3,600
8	1,760	19	6,352	357	57,748	9	1,600	1	500	19	8,078	40	11,914	14	7,112	6	1,418	14	5,108	26	4,010

Coast of Sumatra.		Coast of Malabar.		Coast of Coromandel		Ceylon		Amboyna		Java		Penang and Eastward		China		New South Wales		Pegue		Maldivé Islands.	
Ships	Tons.	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons.	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons
12	2,856	21	8,821	20	6,467	6	1,714	5	954	13	4,549	19	4,614	8	5,101	9	1,841	5	1,060	1	450
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1,115	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	1	600	331	50,400	7	1,050	-	-	-	-	3	1,200	2	1,250	-	-	4	1,000	24	3,600
12	2,856	22	9,421	351	56,867	13	2,764	5	954	13	4,549	22	5,814	14	7,466	9	1,841	9	2,060	25	4,050

E. L.

(Signed)

CHARLES BAYLEY,
Reporter on External and Internal Commerce.



M A D R A S

No. 2

R E P O R T

On the External Commerce of *Madras*,
As carried on by Individuals in the Year 1811-12.

THE Secretary has the honour to lay before the Board of Trade, the Accounts of the External Commerce of *The Peninsula*, for the year 1811-12, framed upon the Reports which have been furnished by the Collectors of Sea Customs. The accompanying Statement (marked A) will be found to contain a general Abstract of Imports and Exports of all descriptions at the different Ports,—The Amount Value in each district (with the per Centage thereon of Imports from beyond the territories subject to this Presidency, and of Exports to places beyond those territories) is as follows

	Total Value of Imports at the Subordinate Ports	Total Value of Imports from beyond the territories subject to Madras.	Per Centage thereof, on the Total Imports	Total Value of Exports at the Subordinate Ports	Total Value of Exports to Places beyond the Territories of Madras	Per Centage thereof, on the Total Exports.
	Arcot R ^s	A.R ^s		A R ^s	A R ^s	
Ganjam - - -	1,06,250	6,414	6	4,71,503	8,553	1 $\frac{1}{8}$
Vizagapatam - - -	53,937	52,521	99	13,48,872	75,773	5 $\frac{5}{8}$
Ingeram - - -	1,70,960	62,864	36 $\frac{1}{8}$	8,22,348	98,550	11 $\frac{1}{8}$
Maddepollam - - -	6,679	6,644	99 $\frac{7}{8}$	23,307	2,164	9 $\frac{1}{8}$
Masulpatam - - -	4,18,235	3,06,809	73 $\frac{5}{8}$	21,36,298	13,47,733	63 $\frac{1}{8}$
Nellore and Ongole - - -	4,10,954	22	-	4,13,951	62,433	15 $\frac{1}{8}$
Cuddalore - - -	4,56,879	3,89,324	85 $\frac{7}{8}$	9,74,987	5,25,418	53 $\frac{1}{8}$
Tranquebar - - -	38,316	38,297	99 $\frac{1}{8}$	84,230	52,838	62 $\frac{1}{8}$
Nagore - - -	14,79,131	12,20,533	82 $\frac{5}{8}$	14,31,849	9,33,006	65 $\frac{5}{8}$
Ramnad - - -	53,577	30,990	57 $\frac{1}{8}$	5,58,676	95,766	17 $\frac{7}{8}$
Tinnevelly - - -	3,02,959	2,92,113	96 $\frac{5}{8}$	10,58,418	1,89,152	17 $\frac{1}{8}$
Malabar - - -	7,21,040	7,21,040	-	22,36,718	22,36,718	-
Canara - - -	17,90,700	15,17,778	84 $\frac{1}{8}$	23,46,484	22,91,596	97 $\frac{1}{8}$
GRAND TOTAL -	60,07,817	46,45,349	77 $\frac{5}{8}$	1,39,07,641	79,19,700	56 $\frac{1}{8}$

For transmission to the Honourable the Court of Directors, a separate Statement with its accompaniments has been prepared, shewing the course and extent of Trade between the ports of the Peninsula and ports not subject to the Government of Fort St George. The articles entered in the Statement, under the head of Sundries, are Exports and Imports, the value of which separately does not, in the course of the year, exceed A R^s 1,000.

THE Trade of this District has been confined to three Ports, and in extent is so very limited as scarcely to deserve notice. The Imports were principally from Calcutta, and the Exports to New South Wales.

GANJAM	
A R ^s	
Exports - -	8,553
Imports - -	6,414
Balance in favour of Exports -	2,139

VIZAGAPATAM

THE principal trading Ports of this District are Vizagapatam and Bemilipatam. From Calcutta, the Imports consist of cummin seeds, long pepper, wheat, and Madeira wine, and from Ceylon and the Maldivé Islands, large supplies of cocoa nuts, coir and cowries. The articles wax, salt, and coir, compose the principal Exports to Calcutta, and rice to the Maldives, consignments of indigo have been shipped on the Indiamen for the London market. It is to be observed, that the articles brought from Calcutta and the Maldivé Islands have been exchanged for the Imports from those places respectively. The produce of the country, which forms part of the Exports, is wax, salt, and indigo.

Exports - -	A R ^s	75,773
Imports - -		52,521
Balance in favour of Exports -		23,252

The Exports amount to A R^s 75,773, and the Imports to A R^s 52,521

INGEBAM

Exports - -	A R ^s	98,550
Imports - -		62,864
Balance in favour of Exports -		35,686

VERY little Trade seems to be carried on at any of the ports of this District, excepting Coringa. The Register of the Imports at that port exhibits a trade with Calcutta and a few places to the Eastward, in rice, cummin seeds, paper and copper from the former; and small supplies of pepper and timber from the latter. The Exports from Coringa to Calcutta, and partially to Pegue, consist of piece goods of various kinds, and teakwood.

MADDEROLLAN

Imports - -	A R ^s	6,644
Exports - -		2,164
Balance in favour of Imports -		4,480

The Trade of this District, like Ganjam, is very limited.

MASULIPATAM

Exports - -	A R ^s	13,47,733
Imports - -		3,06,809
Balance in favour of Exports -		10,40,924

THE Trade of this District seems to extend very little beyond the Ports of Calcutta and Bussorah, and with those places it is principally confined to the article of piece goods, to the latter, the export of cloths is very considerable. From Calcutta have been imported rice, raw silk, rum, shawls and sugar, and between Masulipatam and the Maldivé Islands, clay goods and snuff, to a small extent, have been exchanged for cocoa nuts.

NELLORE and

ONGOLE

Exports - -	A R ^s	62,433
-------------	------------------	--------

THE Export Trade from Nellore and Ongole is confined to the article of Salt. No Imports appear in the register forwarded by the Collector.

Name of Ports	Total Value of Imports	Total Value of Exports	Total Value of Imports and Exports
MADRAS	A R ^s	A R ^s	A R ^s
America - - -	1,04,057	3,74,579	4,78,596
Batavia - - -	48,356	2,59,576	3,07,932
Calcutta - - -	50,04,180	1,30,507	31,34,687
Bombay - - -	1,62,861	30,569	1,93,430
Brazil or Rio de Janeiro	60,865	-	60,865
Bussorah - - -	33,224	-	33,224
Cape of Good Hope	287	178	465
Ceylon - - -	7,43,859	18,055	7,61,914
China - - -	13,36,948	4,40,760	17,77,708
Eastward - - -	6,50,629	7,77,626	14,28,255
Goa - - -	-	84	84
Isle of France - - -	2,02,096	11,57,646	13,59,742
London - - -	17,67,204	9,79,000	27,46,204
Madeira - - -	60,378	-	60,378
Manilla - - -	2,25,964	5,72,483	7,98,447
Pegue - - -	4,95,643	2,15,006	7,10,649
Travancore - - -	11,410	-	11,410
TOTAL - - -	89,07,921	49,56,069	1,38,63,990

For an account of the Trade at the Port of Madras, the Secretary begs leave to refer the Board to the accompanying detailed reports from the Collector of Sea Customs. Previous to the receipt of the late orders of the Honourable Court of Directors, respecting the Reports of External Commerce, the Statements of the Trade of this Port, which are very voluminous, were in an advanced state of preparation according to the old form, and to make the dates of his future Reports correspond with the time fixed for closing the general Reports, the Collector, with his accounts for the year 1811, has submitted, in a separate Statement, an account of the Trade for the first three months of the following year. Under these circumstances, it may be considered advisable not to include the Exports and Imports with those of the other Districts. An Abstract thereof is however inserted in the general Abstracts (4 & 6) for the year 1811-12.

CUDDALORE

THE principal trading Ports in this District are Pondicherry, Cuddalore, and Porto Novo. On a reference to the list of Imports at the first of these places, it will be perceived, that excepting small importations of rice and wheat from Bengal, the whole Trade, consisting of arrack, pepper and palomirahs, has been drawn from Ceylon, Travancore, and Prince of Wales Island, large supplies of piece goods have been exported to the Isle of France, and a small quantity of rum to Ceylon.

Cuddalore

Cuddalore exhibits a more extensive Import Trade from the Eastward, the Articles are, betel nuts, pepper, and elephants Its Exports, like those of Pondicherry, consist entirely of piece goods to prince of Wales Island

Poito Novo, in like manner has furnished large supplies of piece goods for the Eastern markets, and in return, has imported betel nuts, pepper, benjamin, camphire, sugar, and elephants, rice from Bengal and tobacco from Ceylon, form a limited part of this Trade.

		A R ^s
Exports-	-	5,25,418
Imports	-	2,40,791
Balance in	}	favour of
		2 84 627
Exports -		=====

THE commercial intercourse of this small Settlement appears principally to be with the Isle of France, Prince of Wales Island, Ceylon and Batavia Its Imports are small, and consist of supplies of arrack, brandy, copper and palamerahs, the Exports are piece goods.

		A R ^s
Exports -	-	52,838
Imports -	-	38,297
Balance in	}	favour of
		14,544
Exports -		=====

THE Register of the Trade of this District exhibits a very extensive Export of piece goods to the Eastward, to the Isle of France, and America The Imports from the Eastward, are pepper, betel nuts, benjamin, sugar and gallingal, from Bengal, borax, cummin seeds, ginger, long pepper, wheat and sugar, from Ceylon, large supplies of betel nuts, palmirahs, arrack, chank and coffee, from Prince of Wales Island, pepper, betel nuts, camphire, iron and sugar, from America, iron and Madeira wine The total value of the Trade is noted in the margin

		A R ^s
Exports	-	9,33,006
Imports	-	9,03,171
Balance in	}	favour of
		29 835
Exports -		=====

THE Imports of Ramnad are confined to supplies of betel nuts from Ceylon, and red silk cloths from Bengal, and to those places respectively have been exported, piece goods, cotton, and chank. The amount of the Trade is stated in the margin

		A R ^s
Exports -	-	95,766
Imports -	-	30,990
Balance in	}	favour of
		64,776
Exports -		=====

OF this District, the Import Trade is entirely confined to large consignments of betelnut from Travancore and Ceylon The Exports consist of piece goods to Bombay and Ceylon, and of chanks to Bengal.

		A R ^s
Imports	-	2,92,113
Exports	-	1,89,152
Balance in	}	favour of
		1,02,961
Imports -		=====

THE whole of the Trade of this extensive Province, both Export and Import, appears, with a few exceptions, to be confined to Bombay, the Persian Gulph, and Guzerat The Articles of Trade are enumerated in the accompanying Statements The Imports consist of allum, asafœtida, cotton, piece goods, shawls, broad cloth, nankeen, rice, sugar, from Bengal and Bombay, and coir and cocoa nuts from Travancore The Exports are more numerous and extensive, they are composed principally of coir, cocoa nuts, timber, rice, ghee, dry ginger, piece goods, cardamums, pepper, sandalwood, sapanwood, turmeric, arrow root, betel nuts, iron, &c The total value of the Trade is noted in the margin It must be observed, that the Account furnished by the Collector of Sea Customs, shews the Trade of the Province for the year 1811, and not for the official year 1811-12, like the other Statements

		A R ^s
Exports	-	22,36,718
Imports	-	7,21,040
Balance in	}	favour of
		15 15,678
Exports -		=====

THE places recorded as Trading Ports of this Province, are Mangalore, Ankala, Onore, Cundapore, Barkoor, and Bekul Mangalore is the emporium. From that place, and from the others in a small degree, are exported to Arabia, cardamums, coir, pepper, moories, poonspars, rice, and sandal oil, to Bombay, cloves, coir, mace, nutmegs, pepper, piece goods, poonspars, rice, sandalwood, oil, betel nuts, cardamums, ghee, and iron, to Goa, large supplies of rice, hoise gram, and tobacco, to the Mahratta Countries, iron, rice, betel nuts, natcheriy, &c

		A R ^s
Exports	-	22,84,876
Imports	-	4,70,082
Balance in	}	favour of
		18,14,794
Exports -		=====

From Arabia have been imported, dates, brimstone, salt fish, and horses, from Bombay, brimstone, sugar, and horses, from Mahratta, horses, shawls, blue cloths, &c.

According to the foregoing Statements, the total amount of Exports and Imports, exclusive of Treasure, will be as follows

Exports	-	-	-	-	-	A R ^s 1,28,69,049
Imports	-	-	-	-	-	1,20,39,679

In favour of the Export Trade						8,29,370

		A R ^s		
Cochineal -	-	12,454	London.	
Hemp -	-	2,272		
Piece Goods -	-	44,16,163		
Saltpetre -	-	22,545		
Sugar -	-	10,227		
		<u> </u>		44,63,661
Cholum Seeds or Jonnaloo	40		St Helena.	
Piece Goods -	-	6,752		
		<u> </u>		6,792
Ditto -	-	18,829	Isle of France,	18,829
		<u> </u>		<u> </u>
Grand Total -	*			<u>44,89,282</u>

THE Secretary subjoins an Account of the Value of the Company's Investments, exported for England, St. Helena, and Isle of France, in the course of the official year 1811-12.

	Imported		Exported	
	A R ^s		A R ^s	
At Madras -	26,62,438	-	3,11,857	
Subordinate Ports -	15,13,591	-	6,720	
	<u>41,76,029</u>	-	<u>3,18,577</u>	

With the Papers which accompany this Report, is a separate Statement of the quantity of Treasure exported and imported, from 1st January 1811 to the 30th April 1812. The amount value imported is A R^s 41,76,029, and the amount value exported is 3,18,577.

S. GWATKIN, Secy.

To the PRESIDENT and MEMBERS of the BOARD of TRADE.

Gentlemen,

ACCOMPANYING, I have the honour of forwarding the Statements of the Trade, called for by your Secretary's Letter of 23d April last.

These Statements commence from the date of those last submitted; but all these annual Accounts having heretofore been kept, from 1st January to 31st December, and the first set having been closed, agreeable to those dates, I have made up the Accounts for the four succeeding months, to the close of the official year, to enable me to make all future Statements, agreeable to those dates, in conformity with the orders received from the Honourable Court of Directors.

From the decline of Commerce in this, with other quarters of the globe, little remarkable can be expected, unless such traffic as may have arisen from the recent conquest of the African or Eastern Isles, which may be considered to deserve notice. The Trade of this Port, with Europe, China, and the Native Powers of the East, cannot, within this period, be said to have materially changed, unless to have partaken of the decline, in common with the general Commerce of this quarter of the world.

AMERICA.

THE cause of the very limited extent of the Trade, lately carried on between these Districts and the United States of America, must be too apparent to require any remark from this Office. In the Statements herewith submitted, it will be found that the total of this Trade amounted to only S R^s 96,588, of which the far greater proportion was on Export of the manufacture and produce of these Districts. In accounting for this great balance apparently in favour of this Port, it becomes necessary to observe, that the vessels of the United States have of late years rarely laden their return cargo *exclusively* on the Coast, but have generally proceeded for Calcutta, where after having completed the more valuable part of their return cargoes, they touch at this Port for such piece goods as are required for their market, and as the exchange between this and the Calcutta Presidency has particularly of late been greatly in favour of the latter, their specie has, with great advantage, been landed there to meet such bills as they might find it expedient to draw for the goods exported hence, thus exhibiting large shipments when compared with their Imports at this port.

The few Imports of merchandize at this Port, within the period for which these Statements are made out, consist principally of inferior sorts of wines, mostly in use for the supply of the Navy, some spirits, viz. gin, 7,156½ gallons, brandy, 970 gallons; and a considerable quantity of provisions of various kinds, consisting of hams, tongues, with some liquor, and other trifling articles. The whole of the vessels from that quarter during this period, were two, of which one was wrecked in the gale of 2d May 1811; and the returns for this vessel's cargo were shipped on a brig, which landed and exported most of her cargoes at the Southern ports.

BATAVIA.

THE addition of the island of Java to our possessions, has opened a much more extensive field for the Eastern trade, which has in the first instance, as appears by the accompanying Statement, been eagerly entered on by speculators. This Trade assimilating so nearly with that classed under the head, "Eastward," renders it unnecessary to separate in this Report the nature of the items composing this traffic, for notwithstanding this Island was heretofore in possession of the Enemy, a very considerable portion of the piece goods exported hence for the Eastward, by means of the prows trading to the ports of Penang, Malacca, and others on the island of Sumatra, have found their way to Java; the return for which

have

have been made in Lullion, gold, with the various mercantile produce of that quarter, consisting of tin, benjamin, sugar and sugar-candy, and not unfrequently with China produce, viz camphor, tutenigie and alum, of late from the article of pepper not having been in demand either in the Europe or American markets, but little has been imported from the Eastward, and what has appeared here, has merely been accepted in barter for Coast goods, and has not on its import obtained the price at which it stood in the Eastern market. The Trade of this Island in many respects assimilates with the general Eastern traffic, which has of late been declining from this Coast, the staple article of opium, so greatly in demand among the Malays, is rarely procurable here, and never except at a very considerable advance beyond its price in Bengal, which gives the trade from Calcutta so decided an advantage over that of this coast.

Much difficulty has arisen in obtaining returns for any goods exported to the island of Java, as no specie is allowed by that government to be exported, nor are any public bills procurable, in consequence, many individuals have been under the necessity of depositing the specie obtained in the government treasury, till some mode of remittance can be obtained. This evil has already operated much to damp the spirit of adventure to that colony, where cargoes have generally met with advantageous sales, had means of return been found.

Although the Eastern Trade appears, from the Statements, so very considerable, a large portion of the goods there exhibited were, by the mode before stated, intended for, and ultimately found their market on the Island of Java, but the exporters, frequently with a view of concealing, as far as possible, from other speculators, the destination of their goods, they have been shipped indiscriminately for the "Eastward," and the vessels have cleared for Penang, or some other port in that direction.

A Trade from some of the southern ports has been of late carried on to the Eastward, the description of coarse cloths, and especially blue cloth manufactured in that neighbourhood, are particularly in demand on the west coast of Sumatra, and as the goods are, from their vicinity to the place of manufacture, and consequent trifling charges, shipped reasonable, the trade in small vessels has been found to answer, in a trifling degree. Some of the returns thence here, consisted of gold dust, benjamin, tin, and pepper, these in general find their way from the southern ports to this Presidency on the small craft, not meeting sufficient consumption at the place of import.

The Imports from the Eastward, in the Statements here submitted, are considerable, amounting in toto S R^s 7,43,616, of which sum nearly two lacs consisted of treasure, a large quantity of prize spices from the Islands of Amboyna and Banda, formed a principal part of the residue; the total value of which was, cloves S R^s 1,07,185, mace, &c S R^s 2,50,860, the remainder was comprized of tin, beetle nuts, rattans, copper, mother of pearl shells, with some other trifling articles, as enumerated in the accompanying Statements.

In the list of Exports, goods will be seen which must have been intended for the supply of the Forces destined on this service, large quantities of wines, provisions, and Europe articles of various descriptions were sent thither, all of which must have been required by the large force employed for this conquest, and who could not have had the means of conveying supplies for more than a short period. The returns which have been made, or remain due for these large capitals, may in some degree be accounted for by the prohibition of the export of specie, but much must have been returned here, either by bills direct on this place, or Calcutta, the latter mode the far most favourable, as few articles can be exported hence to Calcutta with a chance of gain, and the bills on that Presidency are mostly saleable to advantage.

THE Articles composing this extensive Import, will be found seldom materially to alter, the great staples being different species of grain, particularly rice, which those fertile Provinces export annually to this Coast. The value of grain only amounted to S R^s 4,90,029, there is also a great demand for the article of raw silk, which is manufactured in the interior into piece goods, mostly for the use of the natives, but these manufactures have of late much improved, the value of this article for the above period amounted to S R^s 2,70,569 — Another principal article received from Bengal, is the canvas, which is there manufactured of an excellent quality, and is much used by all His Majesty's Squadron in these seas, and is, I believe, found to answer well, there is also a description of cordage manufactured in Bengal, which, though used, is not here in such high repute as the canvas. Another article which has lately been received from Bengal, is salt provisions cured for the use of His Majesty's Navy, this is, I believe, the first instance of this description of provision cured in this country, being used by the Navy. Sugar, long pepper, carriages of different descriptions, Madeira and Teneriffe wines, were imported of considerable value, as were numerous drugs, &c as particularized in the Statements.

BENGAL

Piece goods of various sorts are received from this quarter, but both muslins and shawls are mostly of a coarse description, and are found to answer better than the finer assortment, the silk piece goods are also mostly of the inferior kind's.

The principal returns made for these extensive Imports, must be in Bills, private as well as public, those granted by Government were at the exchange of 350 A'Rupces per % Pagodas³

The quantity of salt shipped on the native vessels, notwithstanding the encouragement held out, has not been so great as formerly, arising no doubt from the decline of vessels of this description, which partaking of the diminution of trade, have become, both in number and quality, much inferior to what were formerly in this trade. Exports of the manufactures of the Coast, are small piece goods to the value of S R^o 27,916, with red wood S R^o 45,163, forming more than two-thirds of the total Export. The Re-export was much more extensive, amounting to S R^o 1,97,329, a large portion of which consisted of the spices captured at the Eastern Islands, and brought to this place for adjudication, some pearls, coffee, naval stores, and Europe articles, from the residue of the Re-exports.

BOMBAY

The Imports from Bombay, are with little exception first received on their trade with the Persian or Arabian Gulphs, these consist principally of dried fruits or drugs, viz almonds, dates, raisins, kissmisses, rose water, arkarakium, &c The Imports from Bussorah were nearly of the same description, being dried fruits, hing, mandesty, brimstone, &c, there were also some horses imported thence. The other Imports from Bombay, with the exception of some cotton, consisted of goods received thence from Bengal and China, these were teas, sugar, tutenague, Madeira wine, wheat, and some Bengal piece goods comprising the only material articles, while our Exports were more insignificant, piece goods valued at 16,309 S R^o being nearly the whole amount, this assortment consists mostly of chints and coloured turbands, manufactured about Masulipatam, with a small proportion of long cloths. A little of the prize spice was likewise shipped for Bombay, but the amount was trifling

BRASIL
(Rio de Janeiro)

This Import consisted of a small quantity of Madeira wine landed here from a ship on her passage to Bengal, some piece goods were also exported, but almost too trifling to be noticed. The Treasure consisted of 300,000 S Dollars, which were purchased by Government at 209 S R^o per 2 Dollars, and bills were granted on the Supreme Government for the amount. This vessel loaded her return cargo at the port of Calcutta, where the fine silk and other piece goods calculated for their markets, are procurable at much more reasonable rates and superior qualities, to that description of goods in this quarter.

This is almost wholly an Import Trade, the large supplies of spirits (arrack) received thence for the use of the Navy and for the European troops on this Coast, forming the chief article. This island requires considerable supplies of grain, much of this is furnished from Bengal returns from Ceylon in Government bills, which though the best remittance of that kind to be obtained, are at a heavy loss. I am of opinion a great proportion of the proceeds of the spirits imported here may, through this medium, find its way to Calcutta, for the arrack, from the high price on the Island, scarcely ever realize more than its original cost, yet the remittance in general is found to answer better than the bills. The low rate at which this spirit sells, may in a great degree be attributed to the supplies both for the Navy and the Troops, being with the same contractor, consequently the importer is mostly obliged to seek his sale at the hands of the contractor, as other consumption is small.

Ceylon likewise furnishes a number of articles, which are again re-exported to China. viz bicho de mar, sharks fins, and ebony, received thence, are shipped for that quarter; there is also a large supply of chayroot, which, with palmenas and reepers form the principal articles received from that Island. The pearls which are found in those fisheries will not often appear in the Import accounts, as they are generally conveyed to the opposite shore, and are brought to this place by land, which must account for the non-entry of these valuables.

The Exports are trifling, nor were the Re-export of goods very considerable, the latter consisted, with a little exception, of wines, China and Europe articles, for the consumption of the Europeans on the island, a proportion also of the amount was comprized of iron hoops for the manufacture of the spirit casks.

CHINA.

THIS Trade bears a large proportion in both the Imports and Exports, the latter has suffered very materially in the failure of the southern cotton, which has formed a valuable article in that market, being held in higher estimation than any which is sent thither.

The total quantity of cotton exported during this period, was 13,761 cwt valued at 2,88,854 S Rupees, there was also a large portion of the produce of Ceylon exported within this period for China, consisting of sharksfins, bircho de mar, and ebony; a number of piece goods will also be found in this Export account, many of which, as noticed under the head of Lastward, were intended for the trade in the Straits of Malacca, these items (bircho de mar and ebony) amounted to S R^o 38,317, leaving the value of all other exports at the trifling sum of S R^o 82,106, on reference to the Re-exports, they will be found to amount to S R^o 3,41,432, viz pearls 2,88,376, ebony and birds nests, with a few other trifling articles.

The Returns for this Trade, are chiefly of the manufactures or produce, which numerous items will be found in the Statements herewith submitted, but a large portion of the private trade which is conveyed thither, is on respondentia, as the commanders of ships importing from Europe have rarely an opportunity of procuring goods for that market, in lieu of those brought here for sale, and find their advantage in advancing those funds on respondentia for goods laden in their vessels. This will of course limit the returns from thence. The cotton, much of which is shipped by natives, finds an advantageous market, particularly when bartered, which is a mode usually adopted by this description of traders, who again procure common articles in use among the natives here, which they again dispose

dispose of among the Bazars, and which find their way by this means to all parts of the interior

This extensive Import will be found, on comparison, somewhat less than that of the preceding year. The various articles comprising it, with a very trifling exception, consist of the supplies brought in the investments of the Captains and Officers of the Honourable Company's ships, these comprise not merely the goods of consumption found on sale in the Europe shops, but furnish the different articles in demand for the manufacturer, &c., iron, copper, tin and naval stores, comprise a considerable portion of these imports, with supplies of wines, or other necessaries imported by individuals

LONDON.

The mode of consignment of goods, which was formerly very general, has of late nearly ceased; this must be attributable to the loss which is sustained in consequence of the great difference of exchange, which was formerly so advantageous as to induce speculators to consign frequently to a considerable extent to this market, the wine traders have particularly adopted this method, but from the cause above stated, it has fallen off much of late. Coral was formerly imported in quantities much more extensive than of late years, and was generally found to obtain a moderate profit, but this article has not of late been much in demand, the total quantity which was imported during this period, was only valued S R^s 46,446, this is an article of consignment, the returns for which are made mostly in rough diamonds

The amount of Exports and Re-exports, is nearly to the same extent with the Imports, this latter being comprised of the investments of Captains of Indiamen, is mostly remitted to Calcutta, where they have a much better field for investing their returns. The shipments hence are double those of the preceding season, attributable no doubt, in a great measure, to the difficulty of obtaining remittance, except at a very heavy loss, the merchant has consequently been induced to ship such goods as were in some demand in the Europe market, as the mode of having funds, against which he might draw to so great advantage. The shipments from hence of Export and Re-export goods, amounted to S R^s 15,57,182, of the former, indigo, valued at S R^s 4,18,967, and piece goods S R^s 3,07,944, formed the chief items, there were also some rough diamonds, some cottons, and various other articles of inferior value. The Re-exports were nearly to the same value as the Exports, viz S R^s 1,59,611, of which the following formed the principal, mace, S R^s 3,28,409, cloves, S R^s 69,592, nutmegs, S R^s 12,594, forming part of the prize spices noticed in a former part of the report. Besides these, there were the following in quantity and value, making the most considerable items of this trade, namely,

Pearls	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	S R	97,384
Pepper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	51,333.

Very great progress has been made in manufacturing indigo on this Coast, the quantity which has been exported has been very considerable, and in quality it has also greatly improved, some of that manufactured at the first works to the Southward, being little inferior to the best which is made in Bengal.

THE Imports hence, since the Company have imported wine for sale, has been very trifling. The quantity which is entered in the Statement is S R^s 56,065, which was partly composed of a cargo of a small American brig, which entered as from Madeira, but was afterwards found to be from Fayal, with a very inferior description of wine called Pico wine. The value of the quantity landed from this vessel was S R^s 11,820, which, being deducted from the other import, leaves only S R^s 44,245, which was the value of wine commissioned by sundry individuals here, who annually import sufficient for their consumption

MADEIRA

From the Malabar Coast there was an Import consisting chiefly of its produce, viz pepper, timber, coir cordage, and coir, with some other trifling articles, a part of these, but of no considerable value, appear to have been received there from vessels importing from places far Northward, the ports of that coast being much visited by Arab vessels, trading from Muscat and the Gulph. The Exports and Re-exports were too small for notice, their total value not amounting to little more than S R^s 4,000

THE Total of this Trade, as shewn by the Statements, amounted, in 1811, to the sum of S R^s 97,491, of which the Exports were by far the most considerable, these consisted of various descriptions of piece goods, viz camboys, handkerchiefs, chintzes, punjum cloths, &c S R^s 4,97,211, cotton 32,643 Sicca Rupees, formed a part of our Export. This must, doubtless, have been intended ultimately for China, and forwarded for that market, and which are mostly re-shipped thence for Spanish America. This Trade, which was heretofore considered one of the most lucrative carried on from this Coast, has greatly declined of late years, since the internal warfare, in which the Mother Country has been engaged, the Import of specie has considerably decreased, and little produce is to be found as return for the goods exported to that colony. The great decline in the returns, which here appears for our Exports of the preceding season, is attributable to the difficulty of disposing of the goods, in consequence of the scarcity of specie, as most of the Exports, at the period of the vessels returning thence, remained unsold. Some produce from the island, to a small extent, finds its way to this market, of these the chief are soft sugar and indigo, this latter article is of tolerable good quality, and is usually re-exported for the Europe or American markets

MANILLA.

As

As a trade is carried on between this place and China, a part of the returns find their way there, and are thence remitted here, either in specie, goods, or bills on some one of the different Presidencies. From the difficulty of obtaining returns, I have no doubt the Exports will greatly decline. The vessels sailing for Manilla usually leave this in the month of July, and those with returns mostly arrive in the months of January or February following.

MAURITIUS,
including
BOURBON

THE acquisition of these Islands naturally induced speculators to export goods of various descriptions to this new market, as will appear from the accompanying Statement. The shipments were very large, these consisted chiefly of piece goods of a coarse description, and particularly blue cloths, which found at first an advantageous market for the clothing of the Slaves, and again for re-export to the different small African islands or ports in the Mosambique channel. The total Export amounted to S R^o 9,28,227, of which the piece goods alone were valued at S R^o 8,81,247. There was soap valued S R^o 20,315, which makes nearly the whole extent of Exports. The Re-exports were not very considerable, these consisted chiefly of supplies of wines, china articles, and an assortment of European goods for the consumption of the forces occupying these Islands.

The whole of the returns which appeared in goods for this trade, was S R^o 1,62,807, partly the produce of the Islands, viz coffee and cloves. There was a quantity of brandy, liquors, copper, iron, lead, and some other trifling articles, many of which were probably, from their description, goods which had been formerly captured by the Enemy.

PEGUE.

ALTHOUGH the Imports from this place exhibit an increase when compared with those of the preceding year, yet this trade is inconsiderable to what its extent was some years since, few vessels ever commanded by Europeans, are at present engaged in it, and those are of a very small description, most of the vessels are under native commanders, who sail them at a small expense, but being from parsimony ill formed, and frequently in a bad state, many of them are lost. The staple Import thence, of course, is timber, but this, from the troubled state of the country, has been both extravagant and difficult to obtain in large quantities. The breed of horses from this place, are in estimation here, and bore a portion of the value of their Imports, the others consisted of a coarse description of cardamums, ivory, wax, wood, oil, coir cordage, with some other trifling articles. The Exports were a total of S R^o 1,33,260, of which the piece goods are the only ones deserving notice, of the above sum, this description amounted to S R^o 1,27,045, the piece goods exported thither, are principally coarse rumalls, manufactured at Ventapollam, in the vicinity of Madras, with some of the medium sorts of Arnee muslins. There was a small re-export, chiefly of perfume, glass ware, naval stores, and some China beads.

NORTHERN
CIRCARS

THE internal trade with this place may be classed under the heads of Northern and Southern coasting trade. The Northern partaking more of the Bengal and Rangoore trade, while the Southern has a larger proportion of that of the Eastward, Ceylon, and the Malabar coast.

The traffic is mostly carried on by natives, and in the craft which they navigate; some exception must be made, however, regarding the great staple of the Circars, as the piece goods form by far the most valuable article of Imports, and are considered too valuable to confide to such craft.

	S ^o Rupees
Clouts - -	14,178
Chintzes - -	17,835
Camboys - -	17,277
Downties - -	7,292
Handkerchiefs	25,161
Moories - -	159,786
Salampores - -	10,432
Muslins - -	17,349
Turbands - -	3,035

These piece goods were punjam cloths of various descriptions, valued at S R^o 3,13,044, the importation of Piece Goods in use among the natives is very considerable, the particulars of these will be found in the margin, those piece goods from the Masulipatam district are mostly coloured goods, which are again re-exported chiefly for the Eastern market, some are sent to Bombay and some to the Persian Gulph, but most of the shipments for the latter place are made direct from Masulipatam, from whence there was formerly a considerable trade to the Persian Gulph, but this has experienced the decline in common with other trades.

The next considerable article of Traffic with the Northern ports is grain, which, in seasons of common produce, is exported annually to Madras, it consists chiefly of rice, paddy, wheat, with numerous other edible grains, used only by the natives, to these may be added horse gram, sonegaloo, with very large quantities of oil seeds. There was during this period, indigo imported thence, in value S R^o 45,329. The rum distilled in the district of Ganjam, amounted also to the sum of S R^o 87,708, this spirit is also, with the Ceylon arrack, supplied for his Majesty's Squadron in these seas. Many of the goods received from the Circars have been landed there from vessels trading from Bengal, among these the most appear the following, long pepper-root, shimbins, and sticklac. The article of turmeric is also valuable in the list of Imports, these with chillies, firewood and coriander seeds, form the most valuable items. There are trifling articles in use among the natives, both drugs, and such as are used in their ceremonies, too trifling for remark.

The Exports and Re-exports North, are not so large as might be expected, when the force and population supplied from hence is considered, there is however a great quantity sent to the interior by land carriage, particularly for Hydrabad, which receives only a part of its supplies through Masulipatam.

The Exports were very inconsiderable, consisting of some piece goods, which were most probably sent to the northward for the purpose of being printed, a practice frequently adopted, the only other article worthy of notice appears under the head of Naval Stores, consisting of coir cordage for the use of native vessels resorting annually to the port of Coringa for repairs

The Re-exports are chiefly of Europe and China goods, for the consumption of officers or others employed in this quarter. To these may be added some Europe goods, required for the purpose of manufactures, &c the most valuable of these will there be found as follows; madira, claret, port wine, ale, brandy, oilman's stores, glass ware, stationery, tea, with copper of various kinds, steel, hardware, &c, to these may be added various goods received from the Eastward, viz betelnut, to a large amount, alum, cloves, benjamin, pepper, tin, dammer and borax, a quantity of arrack was exported to the value of S R^s 63,593

THE Imports from these several Ports, is very extensive, but a revision of the items will plainly exhibit, that a large part of them were received from the Eastward, Ceylon, and the Malabar coast. SOUTHERN PORTS.

From the Southern division of the Carnatic, &c the articles of produce or manufactures, are chiefly piece goods, consisting mostly of blue cloths, salampotes, coarse chintzes, &c, the blue cloths are again re-exported, as are many of the other coloured goods for the Eastern market, to these Imports may be added, rum, indigo, grain, firewood &c, the other Imports thence, were coffee and betelnut. Within this period there were no Exports, and the total Re-exports were trifling articles, the whole of which did not exceed S R^s 15,845

The next of these Ports are in the Tanjore district, where a much larger portion of trade of the description above-mentioned, will be found. Of produce, the most material are the following, indigo, cocoa nuts, rice, grain, paddy, lamp oil, with some piece goods. The other articles re-exported thence, are of much greater value, some of which, particularly madeira and iron, were, I believe, landed from an American in that district. The remaining articles, from then description, have most probably been received from the Eastward, Ceylon, or the Malabar coast, these were betelnut, tin, pepper, tortoise shells, benjamin, arrack, Tincomalee wood and lung

The Exports were small in value, nor were the Re-exports very considerable. The chief item which there appears was arrack, value 21,044 S R^s, which are sent thither by the contractors for the purpose of being ultimately issued for the European troops, the remaining were small quantities of liquors for the Residents in that quarter, with some iron hoops, camphor, raw silk, &c

The Accounts of the port of Tranquebar from having been formerly under a Foreign power, have been separated from others to the Southward, the Trade is very trifling, and the articles composing it too similar to those in its vicinity to deserve remark

The Tinnevely and Ramnad Imports, exhibit a deficiency on comparison with the former year, this may in a great degree be attributed to the failure of the crop of cotton usually produced in these Districts, and which is sent here for shipment to China, this forms the chief Import thence. —The next in value, are the various assortment of piece goods, which are generally of a coarse description, there was a considerable quantity of jaggey, which, with some indigo, dry ginger, and cocoanuts, compute all the Imports to any value. —There was also an import of chay-root, valued S R^s 34,800, and cardamoms, S R^s 2,025, the former of which was probably received from Ceylon, and the latter from the Malabar coast

On reference, the Exports will be found very trifling, and the Re-exports, though more extensive, are chiefly the same as those forwarded to the other port stations Southward, viz liquors, with supplies of Europe goods or those from China, for consumption in those stations, besides which, there were a few drugs and other articles of small value, in use among the natives, either medicinally or for some of their ceremonies, but which are too trifling for particular mention

In conformity with the directions contained in the last paragraph of your Secretary's Letter, I beg leave to state, that the Import or Export of Treasure is inscribed in the Statements herewith submitted

Fort St George,
Sea Custom House,
15th August 1812

I have the Honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your most obedient Servant,
(Signed) W COOKE,
Collector Sea Customs

(A true Copy)
(Signed) J Gual n,
Secretary

To the PRESIDENT and Members of the BOARD of TRADE.

Gentlemen,

AS I have before stated, the latter Account herewith submitted, has been made up for the period of four months, to close with the current official year, no former Account having been made for this period, renders any comparison impracticable. I am not aware that these Statements contain matter for further notice, than that contained in my Report, they will, however, exhibit, in each quarter, the different periods at which the various Imports or Exports occur

BATAVIA

THE only Imports of consequence were of sugar, the chief of which was prize property, and sent here by the agents of the captors, as a sale could not be effected there for the whole of these goods, there was also some sugarcandy, which, with some tutenague, originally received there from China, form the chief articles of Import

In this Trade it will be seen, the Exports are composed as heretofore, of piece goods, many being of the coarse coloured sort, with salampores received from the Southern districts, some handkerchiefs of the manufacture of Madras or Ventapollam; there was also among these articles a considerable proportion of Southern blue cloths. There was a Re-export of goods to the amount of S R^o 51,555, chiefly of wines, with other Europe articles for the consumption of the Europeans in that Island; wheat was also among the items of Re-export

BENGAL.

AT the opening of the season for the return of vessels to this port, or after the North-East monsoon, the vessels, especially those commanded by natives, import largely of grain and other articles, rice having been so high here, from a partial failure of rain, as to induce Government to relinquish the duties on all grain, was a further evidence of that article being required, which generally bears a good profit if imported at a reasonable freight at this season. The native vessels from Balasore and Cuttack, which bring most of this grain, are larger, and of a superior description to other native vessels employed on this coast, they mostly return for a second cargo, which they generally land here in the latter end of April or May, after which they proceed to Coringa, a favourable port, both for repairs and obtaining cargoes of salt for Bengal. Other Imports consist of the valuable article of raw silk, which continues at a high price in this market, the value of this, with the silk piece goods, for the short space here referred to, amounted to S R^o 3,24,360. To these may be added the following, forming the most valuable, piece goods, shawls, canvas, long pepper, sngar, borax, saltpetre, some wines, and precious stones, with numerous small articles. The Exports were comparatively insignificant, the chief items being red wood, with some coloured piece goods. The Re-exports were in amount, S R^o 36,075, and consisted of horses, madeira, spices, some iron, iron-hoops, and some other Europe articles

The value of Grain
alone, within this period,
was - S R^o 8,08,584

Rice - 5,57,331
Wheat 2,01,731
Pease 21,245
Senegaloo 20,977
Dholl - 7,280.

The Export of Specie which here appears, consisted of some gold imported from the Eastward, value S R^o 32,000, the remainder was composed of dollars exported for Calcutta, on the ship Hamanshaw, for freight of goods from China on that vessel.

BOMBAY and
BUSSORAH

THE Imports hence, though trifling, will be found to consist, almost exclusively, of the same description of Goods as those of last year. These items were dates, kissmisses, heng, and horses, with some arrack, madeira, and a quantity of common teas.

CEYLON

ALTHOUGH early in the season to receive so large an Import from this place, a reference to the Statements will shew, that scarce any difference exists in the articles composing the Trade, arrack, to the value of S.R^o 1,32,690, was received within this period, whereas the total Imports were, only S R^o 1,36,986

CHINA.

THIS Import was unusually extensive, consisting of goods to the value of S R^o 6,85,399, with an addition of Treasure to the amount of 85,212. The tonnage employed for these returns, which usually arrive in the early part of the year, was greater than is generally employed, two ships having imported thence in the period for which these accounts are made out, whereas of late years, seldom more than one vessel has arrived from thence. The goods are of the usual description received thence, teas, sugar, nankeen, china-ware, with a large proportion of alum, camphor, arsenic, tutenague, china-root, galengal, piece goods, stationery, &c &c. This large Import glutted the market. As China goods are now to be purchased by wholesale at much lower rates than has been known for some time in this market, from the dates of these accounts, no Exports could be made for that quarter

EASTWARD

ARTICLES of Merchandize under this head, will be found to be small, when compared with the large entry of Treasure, a reference to the registers exhibits these sums of specie to have been almost exclusively shipped at Penang and Malacca, by the persons noticed in my former Reports, as the exporters of the piece goods on the China ships, but which I stated to be destined for these markets. Some of the Imports from the Eastward were

were likewise of China produce, shipped also at the port of Malacca, viz tutenague and camphor, with some other Eastern produce, tin, pepper, benjamin, and rattans, forming the whole of any value. All the Exports consisted of blue cloth, chintzes, handkerchiefs, moomies and salampores, and salt, with a Re-export of a small quantity of copper.

NO ships having arrived from London during the period of these accounts, the entry of an Import, though trifling, may appear strange, this originated in a small quantity of goods which were found unsaleable in Calcutta, having been brought here on the ships which were homeward bound. The Export by the fleet which sailed for London, was small, the total being only S R^s 1,11,501, of these Indigo, valued S R^s 46,660, was the principal article, if I except a diamond, which was shipped by the house of Messrs A D Fries & Co which single stone was by them valued at 16,000 Star Pagodas. It is somewhat remarkable, that the piece goods exported were so small in value, not having amounted to S R^s 4,226. The Export of Treasure which appears, was on the Honourable Company's ship Phoenix, as this was considered the most eligible mode of remittance.

LONDON

In the Re-export, the Eastern spices, of which there was such abundance in this market, bear the chief value, having amounted to S R^s 1,28,031, those, with Madeira wine, and some shawls, make up nearly the total under this head.

THE returns of goods received from these Islands, for the large shipments, must demonstrate, that the mode of remittance is necessarily in bills. The chief article received thence was cloves, with a small quantity of brandy, gin, coffee, and copper, the whole not exceeding S R^s 24,763. Whereas the Exports and Re-exports within the same time amounted to S R^s 1,71,811, of which a small shipment was of dollars, the goods exported were principally long cloths, blue cloths and handkerchiefs, muslins, ginghams, punjam cloths, salampores and shirts, with a small Re-export, composed of Europe and China goods, wines, hosiery, tea, nankeen, and some arrack, forming the principal items.

MAURITIUS and
BOURBON.

THE period being favourable for making the passage from thence, most of the goods to be received for this place during the year, are probably entered in these accounts, the import of which amounts nearly to two lacs of S Rupees, their items scarcely in any articles varying from those of last year. The most valuable on the list is timber, which still continues at a very high price in this market, horses, cardamums, ivory, wood, oil, copper, wax, &c forming the remainder. The Exports for this period were comparatively small, this may be attributed to the non-return of some of the vessels whose import cargoes here appear, as this description of vessels await the change of the Monsoon. Those Exports appearing in these Statements, were of piece goods, viz

PONDICHERY

Handkerchiefs	-	-	-	S R ^s 36,667,
Muslin	-	-	-	25,961,

forming nearly the total amount, which was only S R^s 66,388. The Re export consisted of copper, brandy, arrack, mace, cloves, iron, &c

THIS being the usual period of arrival of the returns for our Manilla Exports, this shews a very extensive Import, particularly of Treasure from thence. A part of this must have been the balance due for goods left there unsaleable, when the last returns were made, the sale of which was much protracted by the scarcity of specie, for the produce being small, little else is received from Manilla. On the Export of specie at that place, there was formerly a duty of 3 per cent which, I believe, still exists, the articles of produce received are nearly confined to indigo and sugar. The piece goods sent there are not so numerous as in former years, they rarely differ in species. The account of this Export will appear in my Statements for the quarter succeeding the present, the vessel which conveyed them, having shipped her cargo, and sailed for that port, subsequent to the date of these accounts. It may not be considered unworthy of remark, that on the adoption of the new Custom Regulations, the Spaniards, who had sent a vessel here for the purpose of carrying on this Trade, found the Duties so very heavy, that they considered it more advisable to dispose of the vessel, and ship their returns in a vessel under British colours, than to subject themselves to the payment of the Duties recently established.

MANILLA.

THIS period, naturally favourable for the import of commodities from this quarter, as appears from the Statements herewith submitted, the import within the space of four months having amounted to the sum of S R^s 10,31,690. Grain, which at the early part of the season was high, and which is always received in large quantities from the Ciscars, forming the principal, as will be shewn by the particulars of quantities of that article exhibited in the margin for the same period, piece goods were also imported to a large amount, their total value being S R^s 10,31,690. The annual import of rum, the produce of the district of Ganjam, was also within this period, the remainder of the items, which were not to such large extent, consisted of the following, indigo, cashew-nuts, oil-seeds, turmeric, and wax.

NORTHERN
CISCARS,
with Northern
Division of
CARNATIC and
JAGHIRE

	S ^s Rupees,
Condooloo	- 23,475
Gingely Oil	
Seeds	- - 4,790
Horse Gram	24,810
Jonnaloo	- 21,293
Lamp Oil Seeds	4,779
Menamoloo	- 1,400
Na cheney	- 84,269
Paddy	- 1,61,320
Passiloo	- - 4,495
Rice	- - 2,96,683
Peas	- - 2,083
Wheat	- - 5,269

The Exports were comparatively small, consisting mostly of the piece goods manufactured in or about Madras, a small quantity of opium, co. cables, and cordage, with some palmias. The Export of Treasure which here appears, was for the purchase of salt at the Northern

ports, and other commercial purposes, remittance is also made by natives to the Northward, by means of the copper coins imported by the Company from England.

The Re-export of Goods to this quarter is considerable, but these are nearly the same as reported with the Statements of the preceding year, these mostly consisted of Europe goods, the following being the principal, Madeira, beer, brandy, port wine and claret, glass ware, copper, iron, steel, anchors, stationary, which, with some from China and the Eastward, form all of any considerable value, viz tutenague, tea, betelnut, sugarcandy, cloves and camphor. This arrack was the property of the Contractors, and most probably was forwarded to Hydrabad, by way of Masulipatan, for the European troops employed there.

SOUTHERN PORTS,
Southern Division
of the CARNATIC,
with LANJORE

THE Internal Trade with these districts, is composed principally of a coarse description of piece goods, to those may be added but few articles of value, of their produce there were received thence, some rice, soap, cocoa nuts &c. But the chief articles, except the piece goods, which amounted to S R^s 1,17,390, of the total Import, consisted of Eastern or Ceylon produce, viz benjamin, pepper, tin, betelnut, with some Ceylon arrack.

The Exports and Re-exports were comparatively small. To the Southern division, the chief articles were, handkerchiefs, some grain, that necessary article having been somewhat scarce about Pondicherry at the beginning of the year; the other supplies were mostly of liquors.

To Tanjore, the chief Exports were gunnies, planks, long pepper root, with a Re-export more extensive, sugar, raw silk, silk piece goods, anchors, iron of different sorts, and some other sundries.

The further Southern ports, comprising Tranquebar, Tinnevelly, and Ramnad, did not, within this period, carry on any Trade with this place worthy of remark. There was a small Export of Treasure to Tranquebar, which was sent thence for commercial purposes.

The total amount of Specie will appear annexed to the Statements I have herewith the honour to submit.

Fort St George,
Sea Custom House,
15 August 1812

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient Servant,

(Signed) W. COOKE,
Collector Sea Customs.

(A true Copy.)

(Signed) J. Gwathin,
Secretary.

VALUE OF MERCHANDISE
IMPORTED AND EXPORTED

GENERAL ABSTRACT STATEMENT of the Value of MERCHANDIZE Imported into,
from the 1st May 1811 to 30th April 1812,

NAMES of the DISTRICTS.		PLACES under the Government of BENGAL.										
		America	Arabia	Batavia.	Balacore.	Ca cutta.	Chittagong	Choodamany	Manekaparam.	Bombay.	Brazil, or Rio de Janeiro.	
GANJAM - - - -	Imports of Merchandize -	-	-	-	-	6,414	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Exports of Merchandize -	-	-	-	-	3,157	-	-	-	-	-	-
VIZAGAPATAM - -	Imports of Merchandize -	-	-	-	-	20,862	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Exports of Merchandize -	-	-	-	-	38,584	-	-	1,235	-	-	-
INGERAM - - - -	Imports of Merchandize -	-	-	-	8,084	43,328	-	1,423	-	-	-	-
	Exports of Merchandize -	-	-	-	-	59,184	-	-	-	-	-	-
MADEPOLLAM - - -	Imports of Merchandize -	-	-	-	-	2,713	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Exports of Merchandize -	-	-	-	-	1,126	-	-	-	-	-	-
MASULIPATAM - -	Imports of Merchandize -	-	-	-	17,325	2,44,001	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Exports of Merchandize -	-	-	-	-	24,165	2,196	-	-	-	-	-
NELLORE and ONGOLE -	Imports of Merchandize -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Exports of Merchandize -	-	-	-	-	62,433	-	-	-	-	-	-
FORT ST. GEORGE from 1st January 1811 to 30th April 1812	Imports of Merchandize -	1,04,017	-	48,356	-	30,04,180	-	-	-	1,62,861	60,865	-
	Exports of Merchandize -	3,74,579	-	2,59,576	-	1,30,507	-	-	-	30,569	-	-
CUDDALORE - - - -	Imports of Merchandize -	-	-	-	-	26,374	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Exports of Merchandize -	-	-	-	-	5,848	-	-	-	-	-	-
TRANQUEBAR - - -	Imports of Merchandize -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Exports of Merchandize -	-	-	3,880	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NAGORE - - - -	Imports of Merchandize -	29,175	-	-	-	52,553	-	-	-	7,140	-	-
	Exports of Merchandize -	45,316	-	3,929	-	39,294	-	-	-	-	-	-
RAMNAD - - - -	Imports of Merchandize -	-	-	-	-	2,661	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Exports of Merchandize -	-	-	-	-	31,772	-	-	-	-	-	-
TINNEVELLY - - -	Imports of Merchandize -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Exports of Merchandize -	-	-	-	-	31,313	-	-	-	11,506	-	-
MALABAR - - - -	Imports of Merchandize -	-	-	-	-	55,844	-	-	-	4,38,935	-	-
	Exports of Merchandize -	-	-	-	-	68,367	-	-	-	15,10,713	-	-
CANARA - - - -	Imports of Merchandize -	-	57,428	-	-	22,293	-	-	-	97,472	-	-
	Exports of Merchandize -	-	3,36,943	-	-	2,867	-	-	-	2,54,956	-	-
TOTAL IMPORTS - - - -		1,33,192	57,428	48,356	25,409	34,61,223	-	1,423	-	7,06,408	60,865	-
TOTAL EXPORTS - - - -		4,19,895	3,36,943	2,67,385	-	4,98,617	2,196	-	1,235	24,07,744	-	-
GRAND TOTAL IMPORTS and EXPORTS - A.R.		5,53,087	3,94,371	3,15,741	25,409	39,59,840	2,196	1,423	1,235	31,14,152	60,865	-

and Exported from, the Territories subject to the Presidency of FORT ST GEORGE, by Sea, exclusive of the Honourable Company's Trade

(continued)

Bussorah.	Cape of Good Hope.	Ceylon	China	Eastward.	Goa	Guzerat.	Isle of France	London	Madeira	Maldiv Islands	Manilla	Maratta	Mocha	Muscat	New South Wales
															5,396
		1,104								20,177					
								26,497		7,719					
				3,115											
2,99,747										14,535					
										7,368					
														22	
33,224	287	7,43,850	13,36,948	6,50,629			2,02,096	17,67,204	60,378		2,25,964				
	187	18,055	4,40,760	7,77,626	84		11,57,646	9,79,000			5,72,483				
		32,835		1,20,580											
		6,548		2,16,093			95,664								
		10,818		1,190			17,982								
							30,529								
		2,07,871		3,29,813											
		3,36,739	1,859	96,831			4,030							5,545	
		18,334													
		63,994													
		20,614			2,202										
		1,17,709													
		8,610	5,630	20,656	2,375	44,852						37,838	1,283		
		11,823		25,792		2,06,119		1,687				39,275	1,53,576	59,800	
			3,562									2,44,853			
		16,516			8,61,069							1,52,970			
33,224	287	10,44,045	13,46,140	11,25,963	4,577	44,852	2,20,078	17,67,204	60,378	34,712	2,25,964	2,82,691	1,283	5,567	
2,99,747	187	5,71,384	4,42,619	11,16,342	8,61,153	2,06,119	12,37,869	10,07,184		15,087	5,72,483	1,92,245	1,53,576	59,800	5,396
3,32,971	465	16,15,429	17,88,750	22,42,305	8,65,730	2,50,971	15,07,947	27,74,388	60,378	49,799	7,98,447	4,74,936	1,54,859	65,367	5,396

(continued.)

General Abstract Statement of the Value of Merchandize Imported into, and Exported from, the Territories subject to the Presidency of Fort St George, by Sea, in 1811-12,—*continued.*

NAMES of the DISTRICTS, <i>repeated, from p 36.</i>		Peguc.	Prince of Wales Island.	Surat	Travancore.	Sundry Articles of small Value— America, Batavia, Bengal, Bombay, Ceylon, China, East- ward, Isle of France, Maratta, Pegu, Prince of Wales Island, and Travancore	TOTAL Value of IMPORTS of Mer- chandize	TOTAL Value of EXPORTS of Mer- chandize	TOTAL Value of IMPORTS and EXPORTS
GANJAM - - -	Imports of Merchandize -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	6,414	- -	6,414
	Exports of Merchandize -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	8,553	8,553
VIZAGAPATAM - -	Imports of Merchandize -	- -	- -	- -	- -	10,378	52,521	- -	52,521
	Exports of Merchandize -	- -	- -	- -	- -	3,728	- -	75,773	75,773
INGERAM - - -	Imports of Merchandize -	3,930	3,003	- -	- -	19,981	62,864	- -	62,864
	Exports of Merchandize -	29,013	- -	- -	- -	10,353	- -	98,550	98,550
MADEPOLLAM - -	Imports of Merchandize -	- -	- -	- -	- -	3,931	6,644	- -	6,644
	Exports of Merchandize -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1,038	- -	2,164	2,164
MASULIPATAM - -	Imports of Merchandize -	- -	- -	- -	- -	30,948	3,06,809	- -	3,06,809
	Exports of Merchandize -	- -	- -	- -	- -	14,257	- -	13,47,733	13,47,733
NELLORE and ONGOLE	Imports of Merchandize -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	22	- -	22
	Exports of Merchandize -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	62,433	62,433
FORT ST GEORGE from 1st January 1811 to 30th April 1812	Imports of Merchandize -	4,95,643	- -	- -	11,410	- -	89,07,921	- -	89,07,921
	Exports of Merchandize -	2,15,006	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	49,56,069	49,56,069
CUDDALORE - - -	Imports of Merchandize -	- -	32,213	- -	1,352	27,437	2,40,791	- -	2,40,791
	Exports of Merchandize -	- -	1,88,111	- -	- -	13,154	- -	5,25,418	5,25,418
TRANQUEBAR - -	Imports of Merchandize -	- -	- -	- -	- -	8,307	38,297	- -	38,297
	Exports of Merchandize -	- -	6,994	- -	- -	11,435	- -	52,238	52,238
NAGORE - - -	Imports of Merchandize -	3,339	1,71,471	1,036	1,589	93,639	9,03,171	- -	9,03,171
	Exports of Merchandize -	1,000	3,13,080	- -	- -	90,928	- -	9,33,006	9,33,006
RAMNAD - - -	Imports of Merchandize -	- -	- -	- -	- -	9,995	30,990	- -	30,990
	Exports of Merchandize -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	95,766	95,766
TINNEVELLY - - -	Imports of Merchandize -	- -	- -	- -	1,51,898	17,399	2,92,113	- -	2,92,113
	Exports of Merchandize -	- -	- -	- -	- -	28,624	- -	1,89,152	1,89,152
MALABAR - - -	Imports of Merchandize -	- -	- -	- -	10,248	94,789	7,21,040	- -	7,21,040
	Exports of Merchandize -	- -	- -	- -	51,532	1,08,034	- -	22,36,718	22,36,718
CANARA - - -	Imports of Merchandize -	- -	- -	- -	- -	44,474	4,70,082	- -	4,70,082
	Exports of Merchandize -	- -	- -	- -	- -	59,555	- -	22,84,276	22,84,276
TOTAL IMPORTS - - -		5,02,912	2,06,687	1,036	2,76,497	3,61,278	1,20,39,679	- -	1,20,39,679
TOTAL EXPORTS - - -		2,45,019	5,08,185	- -	51,532	3,39,116	- -	1,28,69,049	1,28,69,049
GRAND TOTAL IMPORTS and EXPORTS - A. R.		7,47,931	7,14,872	1,036	3,28,029	7,00,394	1,20,39,679	1,28,69,049	2,49,08,728

(Signed) J GWATKIN,
Secretary.

VESSELS AND TONNAGE,
FORT ST GEORGE.

STATEMENT of VESSELS and TONNAGE, Arrived at, and Departed from the Territories,

NAMES of the DISTRICTS	NAMES of the PORTS	—	TOTAL.		ARRIVALS - - - -									
					UNDER WHAT									
					American		Arab.		Asiatic		European			
Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons					
VIZAGAP ATAM	Vizagapatam	Bombay	1	240	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Calcutta	50	5,624	-	-	-	-	46	5,034	-	-	-	-
		Ceylon	1	36	-	-	-	-	1	36	-	-	-	-
		Coasting Trade	158	18,366	-	-	-	-	130	9,989	2	434	-	-
		Isle of France	1	300	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Maldiv Islands	10	644	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	644	-	-
		Manekapatam	1	8	-	-	-	-	1	8	-	-	-	-
		New South Wales	1	522	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Pegue	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	TOTAL	-	-	223	25,740	-	-	-	-	178	15,067	12	1,078	
INGERAM	Coringa	Balasore	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Bengal	113	10,217	-	-	-	-	112	10,147	-	-	-	-
		Ceylon	2	240	-	-	-	-	2	240	-	-	-	-
		Choodamony	2	200	-	-	-	-	2	200	-	-	-	-
		Eastward	2	225	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lackdive	1	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Maldiv	1	80	-	-	1	80	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Pegue	2	380	-	-	-	-	2	380	-	-	-	-
		Prince of Wales Island	3	710	-	-	-	-	2	360	-	-	-	-
			TOTAL	-	-	131	12,876	-	-	1	80	124	11,961	-
MADEPOLLAM	Narsipore	Bengal	4	505	-	-	-	-	4	505	-	-	-	
		TOTAL	-	-	4	505	-	-	-	-	4	505	-	-
MASULIPATAM	Masulipatam	Balasore	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Bengal	23	5,961	-	-	1	600	14	1,181	-	-	-	
		Bussorah	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Canara	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Ceylon	1	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Chittagong	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Coasting Trade	207	12,034	-	-	-	-	184	7,970	-	-	-	
		Damurah	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Eastward	1	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Maldiv Islands	1	160	-	-	-	-	1	160	-	-	-	
	TOTAL	-	-	755	31,277	-	-	1	600	721	22,308	-	-	
NELLORE and ONGOLE	Nellore & Ongole	Bengal	92	10,670	-	-	-	-	80	7,712	-	-	-	
		Coasting Trade	647	14,278	-	-	-	-	647	14,278	-	-	-	
		Muscat	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		TOTAL	-	-	739	24,948	-	-	-	-	727	21,990	-	-

ect to the Presidency of FORT ST GEORGE,—from the 1st May 1811 to the 31st April 1812.

ARRIVALS			DEPARTURES														GRAND TOTAL ARRIVALS		GRAND TOTAL DEPARTURES	
COLOURS		TOTAL	UNDER WHAT COLOURS																	
English.	Portuguese		American	Arab		Asiatic		Burmah		English		Portuguese								
Tons	Vessels	Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons			
240	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
590	—	73	9,872	—	—	—	—	56	6,214	3	404	14	3,254	—	—	—	—	—		
7,943	—	213	23,173	—	—	—	—	191	16,238	2	314	20	6,621	—	—	—	—	—		
300	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
—	—	8	500	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	500	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
—	—	9	156	—	—	—	—	9	156	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
522	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
—	—	1	110	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	110	—	—	—	—	—		
9,595	—	305	33,847	—	—	—	—	257	22,644	13	1,218	35	9,985	—	—	—	—	—		
—	—	2	300	—	—	1	150	1	150	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
70	—	208	22,766	—	—	—	—	202	22,146	—	—	6	620	—	—	—	—	—		
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
225	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
100	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
—	—	12	2,340	—	—	1	250	11	2,090	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
350	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	1,308	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
—	—	13	1,308	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
90	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
835	—	235	26,714	—	—	2	400	227	25,694	—	—	6	620	—	—	—	—	—		
—	—	2	119	—	—	—	—	1	37	—	—	1	82	—	—	—	—	—		
—	—	2	350	—	—	—	—	2	350	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
4,180	—	4	757	—	—	—	—	2	230	—	—	2	527	—	—	—	—	—		
—	—	1	600	—	—	1	600	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
—	—	1	80	—	—	—	—	1	80	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
25	—	1	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	25	—	—	—	—	—		
175	—	—	—	—	—	2	175	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
4,064	—	235	17,681	—	—	—	—	201	9,374	7	—	34	8,307	—	—	—	—	—		
—	—	1	150	—	—	—	—	1	150	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
100	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
—	—	1	160	—	—	—	—	1	160	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
—	—	473	10,330	—	—	—	—	473	10,330	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
—	—	6	740	—	—	—	—	6	740	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
8,369	—	727	31,048	2	175	1	600	689	21,589	—	—	37	8,859	—	—	—	—	—		
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
2,958	—	136	1,809	—	—	—	—	136	1,809	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
—	—	1	100	—	—	—	—	1	100	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
2,958	—	137	1,909	—	—	—	—	137	1,909	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
																223	25,740	305	33,847	
																131	12,876	235	26,714	
																4	505	2	119	
																755	31,277	727	31,048	
																739	24,948	137	1,909	

(continued)

The Statement of Vessels and Tonnage Arrived at, and Departed from, the Territories

NAMES of the DISTRICTS	NAMES of the PORTS	—	TOTAL		ARRIVALS									
					UNDER WHAT									
					American.		Arab.		Asiatic.		Burmah.			
Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.					
CUDDALORE	Cuddalore	Batavia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Bengal	3	224	-	-	-	-	3	224	-	-	-	-
		Bombay	2	810	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Ceylon	8	730	-	-	-	-	1	270	-	-	-	-
		Eastward	20	1,565	-	-	-	-	16	1,214	-	-	-	-
		Isle of France	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	TOTAL		33	3,329	-	-	-	-	20	1,718	-	-	-	
TRANQUEBAR	Tranquebar	Batavia	2	171	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Bengal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Ceylon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Eastward	1	65	-	-	-	-	1	65	-	-	-	
		TOTAL		3	236	-	-	-	-	1	65	-	-	-
NAGORE	Carrical and Teeramalaroy- patam	Batavia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Bengal	2	240	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Ceylon	44	1,346	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Coasting Trade	28	796	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Eastward	2	160	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Isle of France	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Nagore	Bengal	13	1,600	-	-	-	-	13	1,600	-	-	-
			Bombay	1	350	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
			Ceylon	80	2,466	-	-	-	-	50	1,450	-	-	-
			Coasting Trade	345	11,724	-	-	-	-	214	8,189	-	-	-
	Eastward		32	4,840	-	-	-	-	32	4,840	-	-	-	
	Isle of France		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Muscat		1	240	-	-	1	240	-	-	-	-	200	
	Pegue	1	800	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	Surat	1	90	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	Travancore	1	400	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	Negapatam	America	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Bengal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Bombay	1	280	-	-	-	-	1	280	-	-	-	
		Ceylon	124	3,502	-	-	-	-	7	300	-	-	-	
		China	4	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	
Coasting Trade		227	3,503	-	-	-	-	12	445	-	-	-		
Eastward		19	1,992	-	-	-	-	8	986	-	-	-		
Isle of France		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Maldiv Islands		2	124	-	-	-	-	1	24	-	-	-		
Pegue		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Mootapatta, Adrampatam, Topetory,	Bengal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	Ceylon	139	2,640	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	Coasting Trade	143	1,395	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	Eastward	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Teramabavassel	Bengal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	Ceylon	6	212	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	Coasting Trade	11	168	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	TOTAL		1,223	38,868	-	-	1	240	358	18,114	1	800		
RAMNAD	Ramnad	Bengal	3	192	-	-	-	-	3	192	-	-	-	
		Ceylon	55	802	-	-	-	-	55	802	-	-	-	
		Coasting Trade	41	500	-	-	-	-	41	500	-	-	-	
		Travancore	8	298	-	-	-	-	8	298	-	-	-	
		TOTAL		107	1,792	-	-	-	-	107	1,792	-	-	

subject to the Presidency of FORT ST GEORGE, &c —continued

ARRIVALS				DEPARTURES												GRAND TOTAL ARRIVALS		GRAND TOTAL DEPARTURES	
COLOURS				UNDER WHAT COLOURS.															
English		Portuguese		TOTAL		American.		Arab		Asiatic		Burmah.		English					
Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons
				1	450									1	450				
				2	405					1	225			1	180				
2	810																		
7	40			12	707					1	80			11	627				
4	341			24	2,144					19	1,662			5	482				
				2	360									2	360				
13	1,611			41	4,066					21	1,967			28	2,099			33	3,329
2	171			1	80									1	80				
				2	420									2	420				
				2	100									2	100				
2	171			5	600									5	600			3	236
				1	80									1	80				
2	240			2	240									2	240				
44	1,346			72	2,522									72	2,522				
23	796			62	1,462									62	1,462				
2	160			10	1,260									10	1,260				
				1	100									1	100				
				5	540					4	460			1	80				
30	1,016			45	1,400					29	806			16	594				
11	3,535			105	3,655					79	2,613			26	1,042				
				20	3,130					19	2,780			1	350				
				1	80									1	80				
				1	300					1	300								
1	90																		
1	400																		
				1	269	1	269												
				4	420					3	360			1	60				
				1	120									1	120				
7	3,202			125	4,016					6	234			119	3,782				
				1	80									1	80				
5	3,058			147	4,368					18	308			129	4,060				
1	1,006			10	2,010					7	1,380			3	630				
1	100			1	60									1	60				
				1	320					1	320								
				3	346									3	346				
9	2,640			282	6,421									282	6,421				
3	1,395			619	6,961									619	6,961				
				22	3,794									22	3,794				
				1	80									1	80				
6	212			36	1,616									36	1,616				
1	168			219	4,595									219	4,595				
13	19,714			1,798	50,245	1	269			167	9,561			1,613	40,415			1,223	38,868
				14	902					14	902								
				56	823					56	823								
				48	1,194					48	1,194								
				1	33					1	33								
				119	2,952					119	2,952							107	1,792
																		119	2,952

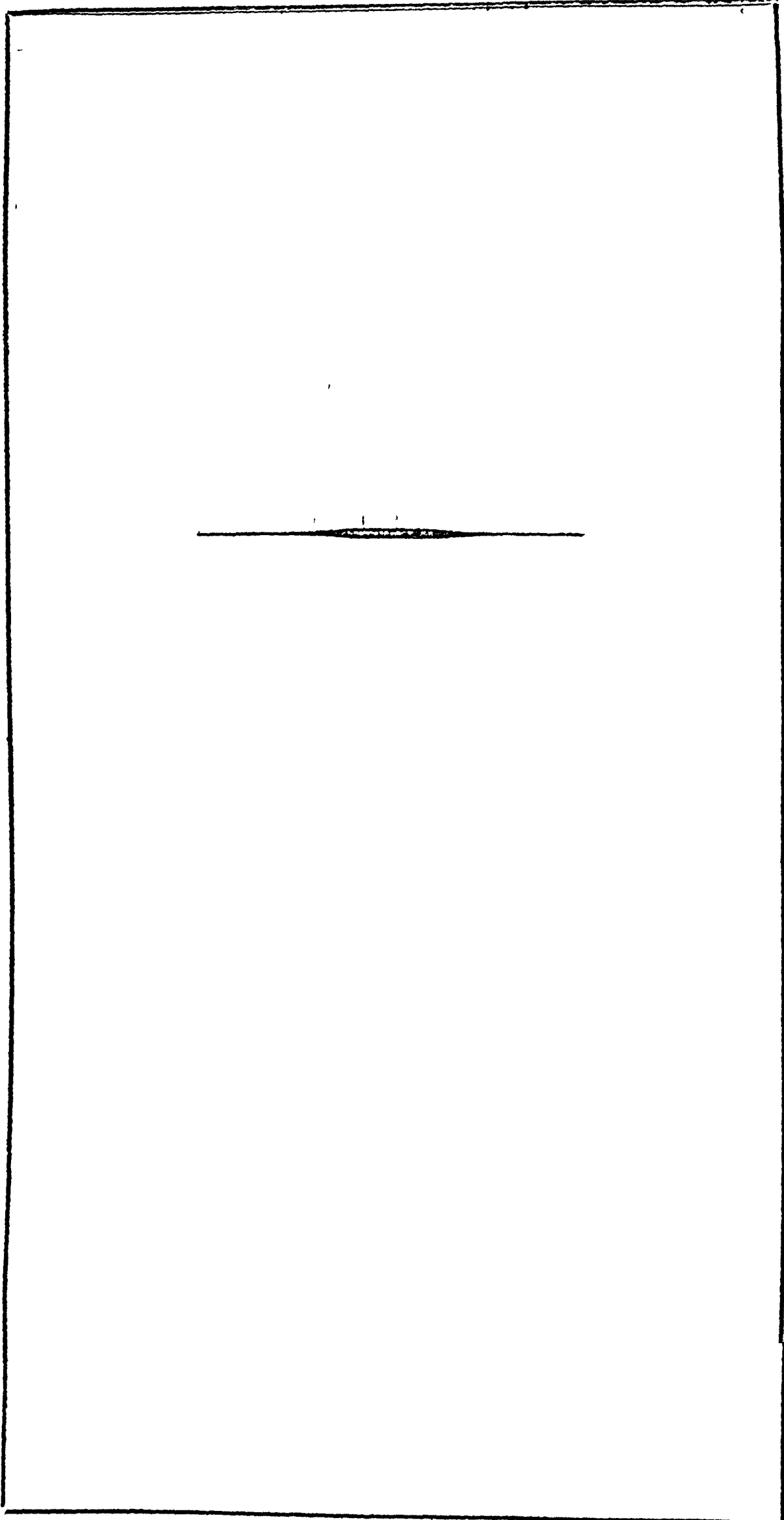
Statement of Tonnage and Vessels Arrived at, and Departed from, the Territories

NAMES of the DISTRICTS	NAMES of the PORTS	—	TOTAL		ARRIVALS - - - -							
					UNDER WHAT							
					American		Arab		Asiatic		European	
Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons			
TINNEVELLY - - -	Vypaur - - -	Ceylon - - -	1	8	-	-	-	-	1	8	-	-
		Coasting Trade - - -	50	769	-	-	-	-	50	769	-	-
	Tutacoria - - -	Bengal - - -	1	62	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Bombay - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Coilpatam - - -	Ceylon - - -	20	795	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Coasting Trade - - -	56	1,189	-	-	-	-	37	495	-	-
	Colarakarapatam	Bombay - - -	4	115	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Ceylon - - -	15	387	-	-	-	-	8	232	-	-
	Goa - - -	Coasting Trade - - -	155	2,890	-	-	-	-	148	3,657	-	-
		Ceylon - - -	8	47	-	-	-	-	8	47	-	-
TOTAL - - -	Coasting Trade - - -	126	2,841	-	-	-	-	56	708	-	-	
	Goa - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MALABAR - - -	Malabar - - -	America - - -	3	520	-	520	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Batavia - - -	11	2,794	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Bengal - - -	27	7,594	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Bombay - - -	1,077	58,115	-	-	1	2,500	-	-	-	-
		Ceylon - - -	22	2,203	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Eastward - - -	6	570	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	TOTAL - - -	1,146	71,796	3	520	1	2,500	-	-	-	-	
CANARA - - -	Canara - - -	Bengal - - -	13	5,876	-	-	13	5,875	-	-	-	-
		Bombay - - -	924	30,092	-	-	46	7,067	-	-	-	-
		Ceylon - - -	4	384	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Eastward - - -	2	600	-	-	1	350	-	-	-	-
	TOTAL - - -	943	36,951	-	-	60	13,292	-	-	-	-	
GANJAM - - -	Ganjam - - -	Coasting Trade - - -	10	487	-	-	-	-	8	428	-	-
		New South Wales - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Munsurekotah - - -	Bengal - - -	5	440	-	-	-	-	5	440	-	-
		Coasting Trade - - -	32	3,978	-	-	-	-	32	3,978	-	-
	Sornapore - - -	Bengal - - -	1	96	-	-	-	-	1	96	-	-
		Coasting Trade - - -	13	1,536	-	-	-	-	13	1,536	-	-
	Barvah - - -	Coasting Trade - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Calingapatam - - -	Bengal - - -	1	139	-	-	-	-	1	139	-	-
		Coasting Trade - - -	3	273	-	-	-	-	2	173	-	-
	Baupanabados - - -	Bengal - - -	9	1,294	-	-	-	-	9	1,294	-	-
Coasting Trade - - -		9	1,227	-	-	-	-	9	1,227	-	-	
TOTAL - - -	83	9,470	-	-	-	-	80	9,311	-	-		

Subject to the Presidency of FORT ST GEORGE, &c —(continued)

- ARRIVALS				DEPARTURES												GRAND TOTAL ARRIVALS		GRAND TOTAL DEPARTURES	
COLOURS		TOTAL		UNDER WHAT COLOURS															
English	Portuguese			American	Arab	Asiatic	Burmah	English	Portuguese										
Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons	Vessels	Tons		
-	-	-	-	1	7	-	-	-	-	1	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	55	521	-	-	-	-	53	496	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	62	-	-	3	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	3	107	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20	795	-	-	25	1,074	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19	694	-	-	27	536	-	-	-	-	12	105	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	115	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	1	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	15	-	-	17	352	-	-	-	-	4	42	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	233	-	-	130	3,193	-	-	-	-	110	2,578	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	4	30	-	-	-	-	4	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
70	2,133	-	-	99	2,067	-	-	-	-	61	898	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	1	6	-	-	-	-	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
28	4,187	-	-	366	8,103	-	-	-	-	246	4,162	-	-	-	-	-	-	436	10,100
-	-	-	-	4	770	4	770	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	2,794	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
27	7,594	-	-	16	4,567	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
076	55,615	-	-	415	7,772	-	-	1	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	414	47,472
22	2,203	-	-	28	1,809	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28	1,809
5	370	1	200	6	550	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	550
14	68,576	1	200	469	55,268	4	770	1	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	464	54,398
178	23,025	-	-	1	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	200
-	-	-	-	881	22,376	-	-	7	2,335	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	873	22,028
4	384	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	1	250	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8-	21,400	1	250	882	24,576	-	-	7	2,335	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	874	22,228
2	59	-	-	50	7,516	-	-	-	-	43	3,361	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	4,155
-	-	-	-	1	560	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	560
-	-	-	-	72	5,941	-	-	-	-	72	5,941	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	1	24	-	-	-	-	1	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	10	1,096	-	-	-	-	10	1,096	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	7	575	-	-	-	-	7	575	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	100	-	-	3	442	-	-	-	-	3	442	-	-	-	-	-	-	28	4,959
-	-	-	-	28	4,959	-	-	-	-	28	4,959	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	34	4,689	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	33	4,611	-	-	-	-	33	4,611	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	78
3	189	-	-	206	25,802	-	-	-	-	197	21,005	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	4,795
GRAND TOTAL																526	267,808	522	265,249

(Signed) J. G. W. ATKIN, Secretary



B O M B A Y

No 3.

R E P O R T

On the External Commerce of *Bombay*,
As carried on by Individuals in the Year 1811-12

IN proceeding to offer my Remarks on the various fluctuations to which the Commerce of this Presidency has been liable during the official year 1811-12, it becomes necessary to premise, that a very material reduction will be perceived, between the present total value of Imports and Exports and that of former years, as contained in the General Abstract Statement, N° 1, of these Reports, as well as in the other Accounts connected therewith, in consequence of the error pointed out in the Honourable Court's commands of the 10th July 1811, having been corrected, by which the value of the trade to and from the Subordinates, subject to the controul of the government of Bombay, has not been included in the aggregate amount of the bonâ fide External Commerce of this side of India

2 I beg leave also to state, that after the most attentive consideration of the honourable Court's orders above adverted to, the amount of the External Commerce of the Presidency has been farther reduced by the transfer, to the head of Internal Commerce, of the whole value of the commercial intercourse between Surat and the Decan, Jaipoor, Cashmire, Khandeeh, the interior of Guzerat, and sundry villages in the vicinity of Surat, as appearing clearly to comprise the Internal trade of those Countries, and to form no part of the External Commerce of this Presidency, in which light, these Imports and Exports would seem to have been viewed during the last nine years, as included in the Abstract Statement, N° 1, since the first formation of the Accounts from the Reporter General's Department

*Vide India Internal,
Abstract (B)
Import, R^s 24,00,499
Export, R^s 5,34,953.*

3 The inaccuracies adverted to, by the Honourable Court, have likewise enabled me to discover an important error in the External Statements, in regard to the Subordinate imports included in the General Abstract, N° 1, of these Accounts, which would appear to have been entirely overlooked during the last nine years, namely, by the total value of the Imports into Surat under the head of Bengal, being added to the Imports into Bombay from the same quarter, in the above Abstract, N° 1, whereas, I have now ascertained, that this amount is not a direct import from Bengal into Surat, but merely a proportion of the goods from thence landed, and the value consequently included in the first instance at Bombay under the head of Bengal, and sent thereafter under certificate to Surat. In order to correct this oversight, it becomes necessary to state, that, with the exception of Rupees 30,720 in the year 1804-5, Rupees 28,087 in 1805-6, and Rupees 14,280 in that of 1808-9, no direct Imports from Bengal have taken place at Surat since the 1st of May 1802, the whole of the Surat Imports therefore, in the Bombay Abstract Statements, N° 1, under the head of Bengal from 1802-3, inclusive, ought to be deducted, leaving the import at the Presidency only, as the correct total value of the Trade to this side of India, from the quarter here alluded to. On reference to the General Abstract, N° 1, of the present year 1811-12, it will be seen, that I have guarded against this error to the amount of Rupees 7,29,451, and upon an inspection of Statement N° 11, that it has been corrected in the subordinate External Imports, agreeably to which the particulars will be detailed in future, as imports into Surat from the Presidency

4 Within the present official year 1811-12 and up to the 30th of September last, the revenues of this Presidency have derived very considerable advantage from our recently acquired conquests of Java and the French Islands, principally from imports of sugar and spices, to the amount of upwards of eleven lacs of Rupees, on which Government duties have been collected, as will be more fully adverted to under the heads of Penang and the Eastern Islands, and the Isles of France and Bourbon. A large proportion of these Imports, however, in all probability, have been made from the accumulation of years, in consequence of our naval superiority, so that they can hardly be considered to form any criterion by which to estimate the value of the trade from the quarter here alluded to in future, or how far the article of sugar is likely to affect the hitherto extensive supply of that commodity from Bengal to this side of India

IMPORTS, General. 5 ON reference to the preceding Comparative Statement N° 5, of the value of Imports for the years 1810-11 and 1811-12, it will be observed, that there is a net ultimate increase of Rupees 17,32,549 during the latter season, in the External Commerce of individuals, from beyond the territories subject to the government of this Presidency; while, in regard to the subordinate imports, the same statement will present a decrease of Rupees 5,12,704 from Surat, and Rupees 11,50,210 from the Northern ports of Guzerat.

EXPORTS, General. 6 ON reference to the Comparative Statement N° 6, of the value of Exports for the years 1810-11 and 1811-12, a net increase of Rupees 13,97,277, will be shewn during the latter season, and in like manner, as under the head of Imports, a decrease will appear, in our subordinate Exports, of Rupees 48,133 to Surat, and Rupees 3,74,721 to the Northern ports of Guzerat.

7 The cause of the increase, both of the Imports and Exports, from and to the countries beyond the control of this Presidency, as above adverted to, may be ascribed to the re-employ, by individuals, of the greater proportion of the country ships within the last official year, in consequence of their having been discharged from the public service after the fall of Java. It will also be seen, that the Imports have been very considerably increased from the Brazils, principally by Treasure, not liable to any duty at this port, to the amount of upwards of 13,50,000 Rupees.

8 The decrease, in our subordinate Imports and Exports, may be accounted for in a great degree by the more advantageous employ of nearly the whole of the shipping of this port by Government, during the last two years, but chiefly, I imagine, from the continued commercial distresses and want of security in China, as well as from the increased unfavourable state of the markets of that country within the present season.

9 The farther probable circumstances by which the particular branches of the Commerce of this Presidency have been affected, as comprising the various items of increase or decrease, will be more clearly and satisfactorily pointed out, under the following separate heads, agreeably to the detail in the preceding Statements N° 3 and 4, of Import and Export, during the official year 1811-12.

LONDON
Imports

10 ON reference to the comparative Statement N° 5, for the years 1810-11 and 1811-12, a decrease of Rupees 3,38,357 will appear in the Imports from this quarter during the latter season, principally to be ascribed to the Commanders and Officers of the honourable Company's ships having landed at this Settlement, far less extensive and valuable investments than during the preceding official year 1810-11. The decrease here reported, will be found to have fallen chiefly on the following articles —

Cochmeal	-	-	-	-	-	4,49,175
Copper	-	-	-	-	-	76,697
Printed Cottons	-	-	-	-	-	46,055
Glassware	-	-	-	-	-	35,986
Articles for wearing Apparel	-	-	-	-	-	27,061
						<u>3,34,974.</u>

Exports
Gold - 3,21,205
Silver - 2,67,813
R° 5,89,018

11 Statement N° 6, will present an increase under this head, of Rupees 1,82,045, far more than comprised in the article of Treasure, to the amount of Rupees 5,89,018, as per margin, occasioned, no doubt, by the recent scarcity of Bullion in England, as well as from the unfavourable rate of exchange, and difficulty in procuring bills on London since the Government Loans of this Presidency have been paid off. A decrease of upwards of four lacs of Rupees, will at the same time be discovered in the amount valuation of merchandize, which may be attributed to the unfavourable state of the Europe market for the article of cotton, less exported within the present year, to the value of upwards of ten lacs of Rupees, whilst, on the other hand, the export of coffee will be found to have increased Rupees 3,69,000.

MADEIRA
Imports.

12 THE Imports from this Island will be found, on reference to Statement N° 5, to have decreased within the present official year, Rupees 7,176.

Exports. 13. NONE.

BRAZILS
Imports.
Gold - 10,06,207
Silver - 3,51,353
R° 13,57,650

14 ON reference to Statement N° 5, an increase of Rupees 14,95,275, will be seen, in the Imports from the Brazils, principally in the article of Treasure, as adverted to in the 7th paragraph, and in merchandize yielding a revenue, the sum of Rupees 1,20,402, under the head of sugar, included in Statement N° 5.

15 The comparative Statement N° 6, will show an inconsiderable export of Rupees 43,334, to the Brazils, the three Portuguese ships by which the above Imports and Exports took place, having, as usual, proceeded from hence to Demaun and Surat for their homeward cargo, and from the latter port, it will be seen by the Surat Statement N° 12, that exports of piece goods were made to the Brazils, to the amount of upwards of sixteen lacs of Rupees.

16. AN increase of Rupees 5,29,209 will be presented, on reference to Statement N° 5, in the Imports from this quarter, consisting chiefly of the following articles, the produce of these Islands, with, however, the exception of piece goods, raw silk, and iron, the two former the manufacture of Bengal, and in all probability the captured property of British merchants, re-sold after the fall of the Mauritius. In regard to the inconsiderable quantity of iron, I beg to state, that this Import took place by the Carmarthen in the month of May last, before the receipt of the Honourable Court's commands of the 14th of February 1812, on the subject of the Trade to and from the Isles of France and Bourbon

Cloves	-	-	-	-	3,78,552
Piece Goods	-	-	-	-	99,566
Coffee	-	-	-	-	19,654
Iron	-	-	-	-	6,992
Raw Silk	-	-	-	-	5,580
Cotton	-	-	-	-	5,069
Eatables	-	-	-	-	3,840
Sandalwood	-	-	-	-	2,300
Confectionary	-	-	-	-	2,255
Ebony	-	-	-	-	2,102
Old Copper	-	-	-	-	1,909
Sugar	-	-	-	-	1,118
					<hr/> 5,28,937

17 Government Duties on the Imports from the two preceding heads of Brazils and the Isles of France and Bourbon, have been collected under an advance of 15 per cent on the prime cost, at the rate of 3½ per cent Customs, and on the principal articles of cloves, sugar, piece goods and raw silk, 4 per cent Town Duty, also on a similar advance, subject to a drawback of the full amount of the latter levy, in the event of re-exportation, nearly the whole of which will ultimately become entitled to this indulgence, in consequence of the inconsiderable consumption of cloves, or piece goods of the description here alluded to, on the Island of Bombay

18 These, on reference to Statement N° 6, will be found to have increased, Rupees 1,38,089 within the present season, nearly comprised in the two following articles, in consequence of a considerable scarcity having prevailed in both, at the Islands of the Mauritius and Bourbon

Grain	-	-	-	-	74,260
Treasure	-	-	-	-	59,250
					<hr/> 1,33,510.

19 In addition to the two articles above selected, a very considerable increase will be perceived under the general head of Exports to these Islands, and in piece goods, within the present season, to the value of upwards of sixty thousand Rupees

20 ON reference to the comparative Statement N° 5, an increase of Rupees 1,87,333, will be observed in the Trade from this quarter, in regard to which, or the several items comprising the total amount of Imports, no correct comparison can be submitted, from the circumstance of the sum of Rupees 11,85,126 having been deducted from the preceding year, 1810-11, as belonging to 1809-10, in consequence of the unusual period of the arrival of country ships, alluded to in the 2d paragraph of the Report of the latter season

21. On reference to Statement N° 6, a decrease of Rupees 4,21,332 will be seen in the Exports to China, proceeding entirely, I imagine, from the unfavourable reports from that country, as adverted to in the 8th paragraph of the present Report. The defalcation, on an inspection of the detail in Statement N° 4, will be found to have fallen chiefly on the following items, forming the principal articles of Trade from hence to China

Cotton	-	-	-	-	2,92,651
Shank Pins, &c	-	-	-	-	85,550
Putchuck	-	-	-	-	81,687
					<hr/> 4,59,888.

MANILLA
Imports.

Foreign Import Duty,
per Honourable Court's
Order of the 3d August
1808

22 NO arrivals from Manilla having taken place during the preceding year 1810-11, Statements N° 3 and 5, will shew the detail and abstract of Imports within the present season, 1811-12, to the amount of Rupees 2,33,700, and in the article of sugar alone, to the value of Rupees 1,56,667. These Imports were made by two Spanish ships from Manilla, and it may here be proper to add, that Government duties were levied at the rate of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent customs, and 4 per cent town duty on the principal article of sugar, under an advance of 60 per cent on the original invoice, attested upon oath, in both instances, subject, however, to a drawback of the full amount of town duty, for such proportion as may have been paid that levy, in the event of re-exportation of the same.

Exports

23 No Exports to Manilla having taken place during the year 1810-11, the Statements, N° 4 and 6, contain the particulars and abstract of those within the present season, 1811-12, to the value of Rupees 78,837, consisting principally of iron and wine, to the amount of Rupees 77,631 on the Exports here alluded to, the foreign duty of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent was levied, agreeable to the orders of the Honourable the Court of Directors, under date the 3d of August 1808

PEGUE
Exports

24 STATEMENT, N° 6, will shew an inconsiderable Export to Pegue, to the amount of Rupees 6,458

PENANG and
Eastward Islands
Imports

25 ON reference to the comparative Statement, N° 5, the Imports from these Islands will be found to have decreased Rupees 33,872, but, from the circumstances adverted to, under the head of China, no correct comparison can be drawn between the present and preceding year, in consequence of the amount of Rupees 1,79,621, having been deducted from 1810-11, as belonging to 1809-10, it may here be important, however, to state, that, in the article sugar, during the present official year, Imports have taken place from Batavia, included under the head of Penang and the Eastward Islands, to the value of upwards of two lacks of Rupees, being part of the captured property at that Island, as more particularly remarked on in the 4th paragraph of the present Report.

26 Government Duties have been collected at the same rate, and on the same principle, on the Imports from Batavia, as on those from the Isles of France and Bourbon, with the difference only of 25 per cent advance on the invoice cost, instead of 15 from the Mauritius

Exports

27 The Exports, on reference to Statement, N° 6, will be found to have increased within the present season, Rupees 1,41,062, but, in reporting on the head of Penang and the Eastward, it will be seen from the preceding remarks, that, without the value of the Imports and Exports from and to Batavia, the decrease would have been very large from this quarter, accounted for, however, in a great measure, by the unfavourable circumstances of the China Trade, with which, the commercial intercourse of these Islands is nearly connected. With the exception of Rupees 1,17,090, (the value of cotton exported during the present season, 1811-12, to Penang, and no doubt ultimately destined for the China market) it may be here remarked, that by far the greater proportion of the amount of Rupees 7,74,560, is intended for Batavia

BENGAL
Imports.

28 ON reference to the comparative Statement, N° 5, for the years 1810-11, and 1811-12, the Imports from this quarter will be seen to have increased Rupees 2,30,452, which may be ascribed to the greater part of the Bengal shipping having been discharged from the public service after the fall of Java. The increase here alluded to, will be found more than accounted for in the article of raw silk, to the amount of Rupees 2,92,300.

29 Government duties continue to be levied on the Bengal Trade, and it may here be important to submit a comparative Statement of the principal articles of commerce from thence during the last nine years; together with the total value of the whole of the Imports from that Presidency, which, with the exception of a few trifling supplies for private individuals, passed free of duty into this Settlement until November 1810, when certificates of exemption were first discontinued from Fort William. Since the period here alluded to, Government customs and town duty have been collected on the following.

* Under an Advance
of 15 per cent on the
prime cost, attested
upon oath

Raw silk	- }	$3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. customs, and-4 per cent. town duty; subject
* Piece goods	- }	to a drawback of the full amount of the latter levy in the
Sugar	- - }	event of re-exportation.
Gunnies	- -	$3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. customs.

BENGAL IMPORTS		Raw Silk	Piece Goods	Sugar	Gunnies	Grain	Total Value of Imports
1803-4	- -	4,40,165	4,83,270	49,060	58,038	32,83,379	44,00,380
4-5	- -	7,21,908	6,84,632	4,66,788	32,002	59,06,254	82,09,806
5 6	- -	13,49,800	13,01,584	12,04,799	98,649	15,27,806	59,31,216
TOTAL	- -	25,11,873	24,69,486	17,20,647	1,88,689	1,07,17,439	1,85,41,402
Average of 3 years	- R ^s	8,37,291	8,23,162	5,73,549	62,896	35,72,479	61,80,467
1806-7	- -	19,55,407	14,16,313	18,41,124	67,296	8,10,203	65,20,018
7-8	- -	14,09,487	12,39,261	8,88,230	68,808	5,60,824	46,27,669
8-9	- -	16,11,984	17,72,537	5,97,448	81,460	5,54,693	48,49,404
TOTAL	- -	49,76,878	44,28,111	33,26,802	2,17,564	19,25,720	1,59,97,991
Average of 3 years	- R ^s	16,58,959	14,76,037	11,08,934	72,521	6,41,906	53,32,663
1809-10	- -	8,73,567	14,10,406	6,51,649	80,437	4,99,807	38,62,259
10-11	- -	11,09,282	6,28,886	4,97,197	22,152	1,07,272	25,39,599
11-12	- -	14,01,582	6,47,361	2,43,688	27,521	2,66,902	27,70,051
TOTAL	- -	33,84,431	26,86,653	13,92,535	1,30,110	8,73,981	91,71,909
Average of 3 years	- R ^s	11,28,143	8,95,551	4,64,178	43,370	2,91,327	30,57,303

30. The subject of the Bengal Trade has been under consideration by this Government, and I may here notice, that the want of sufficient local knowledge in regard to the operation of the Calcutta Custom-house regulations, will not enable me to offer farther remarks, although from the information above submitted, the supreme Government may now see it proper to determine on the expediency of duties being collected at both Presidencies, or whether it might not be more advisable, that property having once paid customs within our Territory, should pass thereafter without other levy throughout the Honourable Company's dominions

31 The Exports, on reference to Statement N° 6, it will likewise be perceived, have increased Rupee 80,012, more than comprised in the three following articles

Treasure	- - - - -	37,520
Brimstone	- - - - -	30,573
Broad Cloth	- - - - -	17,007
		85,100

Exports

32 A DECREASE of Rupees 1,84,762, will be seen, in the Imports from this quarter, on reference to Statement N° 5, falling, as will be found from the detail in Statement N° 3, on the following articles

Cloves	- - - - -	83,825
Treasure	- - - - -	64,050
Piece Goods	- - - - -	38,900
		1,86,775

COAST OF
COROMANDEL.
Imports

33 Statement N° 6 will shew an inconsiderable increase in the Exports, of Rupees 7,937

Exports

REPORT ON THE

[Private

52

CEYLON.
Imports

34 ON reference to Statement N° 5, a decrease of Rupees 56,942, will be observed in the Imports from Ceylon, more than accounted for in the article of arrack, to the amount of Rupees 63,726

Exports.

35. The Exports also present a decrease of Rupees 79,189; which will be found to have fallen chiefly on the following articles

Wine	-	-	-	-	-	15,857
Iron, Butts, &c.	-	-	-	-	-	10,410
Beer	-	-	-	-	-	6,906
Articles for wearing Apparel	-	-	-	-	+	5,188
Eatables	-	-	-	-	-	3,780
Anchors	-	-	-	-	-	4,286
Treasure	-	-	-	-	-	7,200
Copper	-	-	-	-	-	5,301
Staves	-	-	-	-	-	3,997
Sugar	-	-	-	-	-	3,510
Glassware	-	-	-	-	-	3,035
Corks	-	-	-	-	-	2,735
Kissmisses	-	-	-	-	-	2,553
Tea	-	-	-	-	-	1,664
Stationary	-	-	-	-	-	1,613
Tin Plates	-	-	-	-	-	1,154
						<u>79,189.</u>

MALABAR and
CANARA
Imports

36 AN increase of Rupees 16,617 will appear in the Imports from Malabar and Canara, on reference to Statement N° 5, but it ought at the same time to be remarked, that even this inconsiderable increase may be viewed in a great measure as proceeding from a large quantity of spices, the produce of Batavia; having been conveyed overland from Madras to Mangalore, and from thence imported here. For in regard to the general Imports from these valuable Provinces, a decrease in several of the principal articles will be seen in a comparison of Statements, N° 3 of 1810-11 and 1811-12.

Exports.

37 The Exports will be found to have increased Rupees 1,34,767, more than comprised in the two following articles

Cotton	-	-	-	-	-	86,131
Raw Silk	-	-	-	-	-	58,627
						<u>1,44,758.</u>

GOA, and the
COUCAN.
Imports.

38 STATEMENT N° 5, of the value of Imports for the year 1810-11 and 1811-12 will shew a decrease from this quarter of Rupees 3,03,512, falling chiefly on the following articles:

Treasure	-	-	-	-	-	171,721
Hemp	-	-	-	-	-	80,216
Jagree	-	-	-	-	-	67,873
						<u>3,19,810.</u>

Exports

39 Statement N° 6, will present an increase in the Exports of Rupees 2,18,419, more than accounted for during this year, in the articles of raw silk R° 2,54,542.

BASSEIN.
Imports

40. STATEMENT N° 5, will present an inconsiderable increase of R° 10,474 in these Imports, more than comprised in the articles of Jagree, to the amount of R° 16,614.

Exports

41 A trifling decrease of R° 6,826, has taken place in these during the present year, more than comprised in the article of Treasure, to the amount of R° 10,000.

CTUCH and SCIND
Imports

42 ON reference to Statement N° 5, of the value of Imports for the years 1810-11 and 1811-12, a decrease of R° 2,98,395, will be seen in the Imports from Cutch and Scind, in a great measure to be ascribed to the circumstance of an apprehended famine in the former country, which is now unhappily confirmed, and proceeding also, in all probability, in some degree from the discouraging prospects of the China trade. It will also be observed, on reference to Statement N° 3, that the decrease here reported, has fallen principally on the following articles

Cotton	-	-	-	-	-	1,08,376
Horses	-	-	-	-	-	1,06,550
Grain	-	-	-	-	-	39,391
Ghee	-	-	-	-	-	29,180
Hing	-	-	-	-	-	14,133
Elephants teeth	-	-	-	-	-	11,436
						<u>300,066.</u>

Exports.

43 Statement N° 5, will present an inconsiderable increase of R° 30,042 in the Exports, more than comprised in the article of sugar, to the value of R° 37,917.

44 STATEMENT N° 5, will shew a decrease in the Imports from this quarter, of Rupees 98,074, falling, as will be seen on reference to the same document, on the amount of treasure and horses, whilst, in regard to the head of merchandize yielding a revenue, a very considerable increase will appear in these Imports, and in particular in the important article of copper, to the value of upwards of Rupees 2,88,000

PERSIAN GULPH,
Imports.

45 Statement N° 6, will present an increase in the Exports to the amount of Rupees 9,26,252, comprised chiefly in the following articles, occasioned, in all probability, by a nearly corresponding decrease in the principal articles of Export to this quarter, during the preceding season 1810-11

Exports.

Sugar	-	-	-	2,64,341
Piece Goods	-	-	-	1,94,766
Coffee	-	-	-	1,22,702
Pepper	-	-	-	59,587
Cloves	-	-	-	55,422
Cotton	-	-	-	47,665
Cassia	-	-	-	41,526
				<hr/>
Persian Gulph Exports.				7,86,009
Camphire	-	-	-	28,830
Printed Cottons	-	-	-	19,492
Tutenague	-	-	-	16,580
Broad Cloth	-	-	-	10,404
Shawls	-	-	-	14,221
Musk	-	-	-	12,850
Cotton Yarns	-	-	-	12,260
Nutmegs	-	-	-	10,241
Wine	-	-	-	6,666
Carriages	-	-	-	2,500
				<hr/>
				9,26,053.

46 AN increase of Rupees 2,87,429 will be seen on reference to Statement N° 5, in the Imports from the Arabian Gulph during the present season, appearing to be more than accounted for, in the articles of

ARABIAN GULPH
Imports

Coffee	-	-	-	2,47,685
Treasure	-	-	-	53,313
				<hr/>
				3,00,998

47 These have decreased within the present official year Rupees 67,482, being more than comprized in the articles of piece goods, to the amount of Rupees 71,540.

Exports

48 STATEMENT N° 5, will present an increase of Rupees 1,29,733, in the value of merchandize from this quarter, arising chiefly from the following articles, as may be seen on reference to Statement N° 3

COAST OF AFRICA,
Imports.

Elephants Teeth	-	-	-	98,254
Houra Coornes	-	-	-	9,352
Chundrose Copal	-	-	-	8,344
Tortoiseshell	-	-	-	4,481
Sharkfins	-	-	-	2,728
Gynda and Umick Hair	-	-	-	1,687
Cocoa Nuts	-	-	-	1,423
Wax	-	-	-	1,305
Copper	-	-	-	497
Leather	-	-	-	383
Honey	-	-	-	341
Gram	-	-	-	334
Nuckla	-	-	-	149
				<hr/>
				1,29,275

49. STATEMENT N° 6, will shew an increase in these, to the amount of Rupees 12,766, proceeding principally from the following articles

Exports

Beads	-	-	-	5,106
Cotton	-	-	-	2,560
Pepper	-	-	-	1,064
Treasure	-	-	-	2,110
Betel Nuts	-	-	-	1,072
Sugar	-	-	-	1,882
				<hr/>
				13,794

50. A DECREASE

AMERICA.
Imports

50 A DECREASE of Rupees 66,652 will be presented under this head, on reference to Statement N° 5, in consequence of no arrivals from America during the present season; and in the Exports included in N° 6, proceeding from some cause, a like sum of Rupees 28,713, under the head of merchandize

SURAT.
Imports

51. STATEMENT N° 5, will shew a decrease of Rupees 5,12,794 in the Imports from Surat during the present season, falling, as will be perceived on reference to Statement N° 3, for the years 1810-11 and 1811-12, chiefly on the following articles:

Cotton - - - - -	4,36,598
Treasure - - - - -	48,731
Piece Goods - - - - -	28,810
	<hr/> 5,14,139

Exports.

52 Statement N° 6, will present an inconsiderable decrease of R° 48,133, under this head, although in the article of Treasure during the present season, there will be found an increase of upwards of 2,49,000 Rupees, whilst, on the other hand, the head of Merchandize appears to have decreased in a nearly corresponding degree, to the amount of Rupees 2,79,000, falling in the heaviest proportions on cochineal, piece goods, and sugar.

Northern Ports of
GUZERAT
Imports.

53 ON reference to the comparative Statement N° 5, of the value of Imports in 1810-11 and 11-12, a decrease of Rupees 11,50,210, will be seen in the Trade from the Peninsula of Guzerat, more than accounted for in the two following articles.

Cotton - - - - -	7,85,593
Grain - - - - -	4,78,406
	<hr/> 12,63,999.

Exports.

54 The Exports in like manner, on reference to Statement N° 6, will be found to have decreased Rupees 3,74,721, falling chiefly in the heaviest proportions on the following articles:

Sugar - - - - -	2,34,259
Treasure - - - - -	93,357
Iron - - - - -	48,151
	<hr/> 3,75,767.

55 The principal causes of the heavy decrease under the above subordinate heads, of Surat and the Guzerat, proceed, I imagine, from the unfavourable state, both of the China and European markets, as adverted to in the 8th and 11th paragraphs of this Report, since it will be seen that the Import of Cotton alone from the Northward, has fallen off within the present official year, upwards of 13 lacs of Rupees.

56 The same circumstances, in all probability, have effected the subordinate Exports; and, in addition, the temporary state of warfare, in which a part of the Northern side of the Peninsula was involved, may have tended also to check the ordinary course of commercial speculation in that quarter.

Bombay, Office of
Reporter General in External Commerce,
31st October 1812.

(Signed) H. SHANK,
Reporter General.

No. 2.

VALUE OF MERCHANDISE IMPORTED AND EXPORTED,

B O M B A Y,

FOR THE YEAR 1811-12.

(No 2.)—ABSTRACT STATEMENT of the Value of MERCHANDIZE &c. IMPORTED into,

IMPORTS	TOTAL.	London	Madeira.	Brazils	Isles of France, Bourbon, and Rodriguez	China	Manilla.	Pegue	Penang, and Eastern Islands	
	GRAIN and other Articles of Food	25,35,061	4,772	-	-	-	288	-	-	415
Other ARTICLES for the use of the Natives	40,32,777	75,363	-	1,20,515	3,80,362	10,82,218	1,55,661	-	3,61,993	
SUNDRIES for Europeans	20,29,782	13,13,661	70,360	5,059	11,572	2,81,514	45,144	-	8,627	
- Ditto - for Manufactures	22,64,375	3,68,293	-	2,880	3,088	4,70,322	27,535	-	21,264	
- Ditto - for Re Exportation	41,70,782	2,02,942	-	32,296	39,595	9,40,634	-	-	95,257	
PIECE GOODS	19,33,114	80,332	-	-	99,566	4,31,628	-	-	2,140	
SUNDRIES	4,735	-	-	-	-	794	-	-	733	
Value of Merchandize	1,69,70,626	20,45,363	70,360	1,60,750	5,34,183	32,07,398	2,29,350	-	4,90,529	
Value Total of No 3 Im } Treasure	37,37,084	13,579	-	13,57,650	160	8,57,256	4,410	-	5,357	
Horses	2,39,875	-	-	-	1000	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL Value of Imports	2,09,47,585	20,58,942	70,360	16,18,400	5,35,343	40,64,654	2,33,760	-	4,99,886	
EXPORTS										
The PRODUCE of	SRAT Manufactures	55,634	3,183	-	-	764	481	-	1,100	
	EUROPE	18,32,818	-	-	-	63,973	10,839	68,615	2,990	1,09,522
	MADEIRA	3,52,774	39,880	-	-	5,088	12,560	10,002	-	51,073
	AMERICA	58,570	-	-	-	-	27,872	-	-	1,500
	MOSAMBIQUE	2,26,670	15,834	-	-	-	1,39,471	-	-	428
	BENGAL	19,21,519	62,957	-	13,676	78,300	-	-	-	-
	PENANG and Eastern Islands	5,55,733	54,142	-	5,220	2,000	7,000	-	-	-
	MALABAR and CANARA	9,94,853	81,169	-	120	4,774	59,879	-	226	3,028
	PERSIAN GULPH	6,25,896	14,678	-	1,500	10,530	1,49,317	-	1,075	12,300
	ARABIAN GULPH	5,83,735	4,01,603	-	1,952	-	21,802	-	-	-
	CASHMIRE	2,54,037	12,683	-	5,925	11,250	425	-	-	1,200
	CHINA	14,45,369	95,053	-	1,750	12,252	-	220	1,200	12,614
	GUZERAT	38,27,764	49,450	-	1,300	5,560	32,22,911	-	-	1,28,480
	CONCAN	53,974	-	-	7,796	-	-	-	-	835
	CEYLON	25,678	-	-	-	-	-	-	832	-
	CUTCH	1,90,514	-	-	-	-	2,000	-	-	-
	PIECE GOODS	15,14,998	1,10,650	-	4,055	68,912	11,617	-	135	1,49,772
	SUNDRIES	30,106	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value of Merchandize	1,45,50,642	9,41,282	-	43,334	2,63,403	37,06,174	78,827	6,458	4,71,852
	Value Total of No 4 Ex } Treasure	30,27,963	5,89,018	-	-	59,250	10,048	-	-	2,76,808
Horses	2,29,493	7,500	-	-	-	1,300	-	-	5,900	
TOTAL Value of Exports	1,78,08,100	15,37,800	-	43,334	3,22,653	37,17,522	78,837	6,458	7,54,560	

Bombay,
Office of Reporter General on External Commerce,
31st October 1812.

and EXPORTED from, BOMBAY,—from the 1st of May 1811 to the 30th April 1812

Bengal	Coast of Coromandel	Ceylon,	Malabar and Canara	Goa and the Concan	Bassein and sundry Villages	Cutch and Scind	Persian Gulph	Arabian Gulph	Coast of Afica	Subordinates	
										Surat	Northern Ports of the Guze at
2,67,002	- -	163	6,58,311	11,17,812	1,08,660	94,841	2,79,429	3,034	334	1,287	14 67 825
3,30,142	19,508	294	7,50,214	2,49,014	1,55,218	23,861	2,93,015	23,162	11,231	57 045	3,76 107
73,201	23,031	1,02,251	39,305	24,789	5,271	377	22,213	3,066	341	60 048	58,991
45,206	777	2,351	6,60 381	62,476	65,859	38,651	4,66,192	26,911	2,185	28,111	27,086
14,04,075	127	8,376	6,95,422	89,277	14,111	68,753	88,356	3,68,612	1,22,949	3 31,474	27,86,564
6,47,361	37,228	89 6	1,97,148	3,88,768	4,800	41,276	1,388	483	- -	4,86,567	3,44,559
623	- -	- -	358	501	117	- -	618	640	346	2,318	880
27,67,615	80,671	1,14,331	30,01,139	19,32,637	3 54,036	2,67,759	11,51,211	4,25,908	1,37,386	9,66,850	50,62,012
2,436	- -	- -	46,916	1,07,727	9,646	3,059	8,13,704	5,11,184	- -	63,486	41,974
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	55,850	1,75,825	7,200	- -	- -	7 650
27,70,051	80,671	1,14,331	30,48,055	20,40,364	3,63,682	3,26,668	21,40,740	9 44,292	1,37 386	10 30 336	51 11 636
1,190	1,362	193	4,801	13,263	100	1,210	27,403	584	- -	601	2,852
1,13,909	19,146	18,299	2,31,743	8,25,223	52,389	81,775	1,39,360	73,483	21,556	2,52,764	10,57,609
9 390	25,616	12,674	49,338	1,21,433	1,672	- -	11,510	2,538	- -	34,736	54,266
- -	600	- -	287	23 079	- -	3,332	1,850	- -	- -	63,108	1,80,889
42,572	550	- -	2,535	10,769	731	12,542	1,040	198	- -	38,315	64,370
- -	- -	875	87,385	11,25,325	530	73,932	3,69,154	9,235	150	6,02,183	12,68,593
- -	- -	- -	28,522	1,81,461	7,453	78,236	1,78,328	10,886	2,485	27,059	1,24,061
20,806	1,650	4,072	728	3,81,192	89,866	1,28,735	1,73,333	3,633	1,642	1,09,586	6,03,377
84,587	45,653	735	32,010	2,17,614	30,975	23,932	500	350	140	13,643	1,44,268
4,804	- -	- -	3,066	6,442	865	4,529	1,38,492	180	- -	9,338	22,786
190	1,200	1 000	1,21,469	51,292	- -	144	16,046	31,213	- -	9,802	3,460
3,429	33,865	7,782	1,35,695	2,64,113	48,113	5,41,633	2,36,965	42,509	8,174	77,628	1,84,256
30,395	50,129	10,790	1,34,911	1,18,040	5,316	32,396	17,141	20,595	350	8,710	5,173
- -	- -	- -	5 744	5,273	4,688	18,703	9,183	788	964	540	9,348
451	- -	- -	4,600	17,486	1,691	618	- -	- -	- -	891	17,077
1,932	- -	- -	2,437	7 909	2,744	11,271	49,185	1,04,801	8,185	1,629	17,317
624	7,696	130	1,10 254	3 75,002	46,206	96,344	4,69,685	63,438	438	1,76,757	1,44,444
180	- -	398	2,205	21 555	2,840	1,843	530	300	255	2 064	12,911
3,14,455	1,87,467	56,948	9 57,780	37,66 471	2,96 179	11,11,227	19,39,705	3,64,731	44,339	14,29,351	39,15,057
82,760	- -	5,000	7,06,413	12,87,956	- -	- -	8,500	100	2,110	4,75,981	36,615
28,400	4,500	5,100	1 02,000	74,795	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1,700	1,900
4,25,615	1,91,967	67,048	17,66,193	51,29 222	2,96,179	11,11,227	19,48,205	3,64,831	46,449	19,07,032	39,53,572

(Signed) H. SHANK,
Reporter-General,

(No 7.)—STATEMENT of the SHIPS and TONNAGE Arrived at, and Departed from,

ARRIVALS	Total.		London.		Brazil.		Isles of France, Bourbon, and Rodriguea.		China.	
	Ships	Tons.								
Under ENGLISH Colours - - - -	62	25,601	13	11,399	-	-	5	792	7	4,626
SPANISH - - - - -	2	950	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PORTUGUESE - - - - -	3	1,950	-	-	3	1,950	-	-	-	-
ARAB - - - - -	12	3,666	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL - - - - -	79	32,161	13	11,399	3	1,950	5	792	7	4,626
DEPARTURES.										
Under ENGLISH Colours - - - -	93	38,337	4	2,326	-	-	4	520	23	17,789
SPANISH - - - - -	2	950	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PORTUGUESE - - - - -	1	750	-	-	1	750	-	-	-	-
ARAB - - - - -	14	4,551	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL - - - - -	110	44,588	4	2,326	1	750	4	520	23	17,789

SHIPS Launched in Bombay in 1811-12.

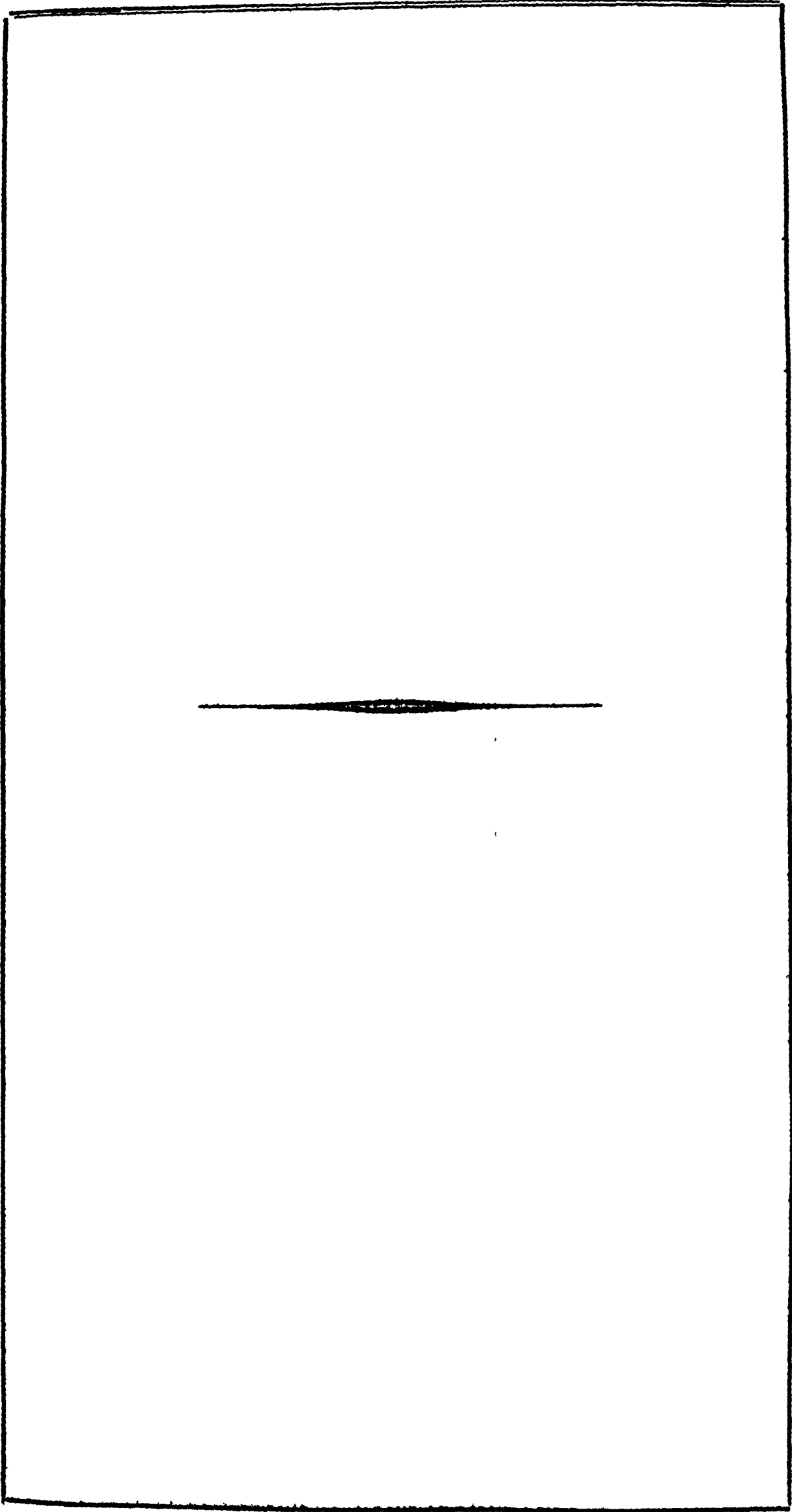
	Tons
Hannah - - - -	457 $\frac{2}{4}$
Abercromby - - -	1,283 $\frac{1}{4}$
Minerva - - - -	985 $\frac{1}{4}$

Bombay,
Office of Reporter General on External Commerce,
31st October 1812.

the Port of BOMBAY, from the 1st May 1811 to the 30th April 1812.

Manilla.		Pegue		Penang and Eastern Islands		Bengal		Coast of Coromandel.		Ceylon		Malabar and Canara.		Persian Gulph		Arabian Gulph		Subordinate Serat	
-	-	-	-	5	748	13	4,283	1	200	7	799	6	1,363	4	1,222	1	169	-	-
2	950	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	1	263	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	2,939	1	458	-	-
2	950	-	-	5	748	14	4,546	1	200	7	799	6	1,363	14	4,161	2	627	-	-
-	-	1	300	8	2,625	19	6,568	8	2,738	5	600	12	2,284	9	2,587	-	-	2	239
2	950	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1,200
-	-	-	-	1	366	6	2,419	1	246	-	-	2	429	4	1,151	-	-	1	50
2	950	1	300	9	2,931	25	8,987	9	2,984	5	600	14	2,713	13	3,738	-	-	5	1,489

(Signed) H SHANK,
Reporter General



REPORT of the EXTERNAL COMMERCE OF
SURAT, For the Year 1811-12

IN reference to the total Value of External Imports in the present year, a net increase of R^s 142,268, per comparative Statement N^o 13

IMPORTS, General

2 In reference to the total Value of External Exports, a net increase of R^s 863,519, per comparative Statement N^o 14

EXPORTS, General

THIS Decrease in the importation of soft sugar and cocoa nuts during the present year

BASSEIN, &c
Imports, R^s 19,261

This Increase is owing to the exportation of iron and penock to Bassein, having been greater this year than the preceding

Exports, R^s 4,621

THIS Increase is owing to a large amount of Treasure imported from Brazils this year

BRAZILS
Imports, R^s 1,03,506

This Excess is owing to a larger consignment of piece goods having been sent by the Portuguese this year than the last

Exports, R^s 7,56,519

THE Importation of piece goods and sappanwood, having been more this year than the preceding.

MALABAR and
CANARA
Imports, R^s 11,478

This Increase under this head is owing to the exportation of Treasure and piece goods having been more this year than the last

Exports, R^s 47,243

NONE in the present year

MADRAS.
Imports

The quantity of tin exported to this quarter during the present year, has occasioned this Increase

Exports, R^s 3,710.

A Decrease in the importation of Treasure during the present season

PERSIAN GULPH
Imports, R^s 3,11,885

This Increase is owing to the exportation of piece goods, &c having been more this year than the preceding

Exports, R^s 1,14,674.

THIS Increase is owing to a greater importation of Treasure and almonds, having been more this year than the last

ARABIAN GULPH
Imports, R^s 5,70,408

This Decrease is owing to the exportation of piece goods and coloured silk, having been less this year than the preceding

Exports, R^s 73,709

THIS Deficiency has arisen from a decrease in the import of elephants teeth, tortoise shell and Treasure

MOZAMBIQUE
Imports, R^s 2,04,639

This Decrease is owing to a less quantity of piece goods, iron and China ware, exported this year than the last

Exports, R^s 61,636

A Decrease in the importation of soft sugar and sugarcandy, having been less this year than the last.

PENANG, &c
Imports, R^s 6,160

The quantity of cotton, piece goods, &c exported to this quarter during the present year, has occasioned this increase

Exports, R^s 53,056

THIS

BENGAL THIS Increase is principally in the articles of raw silk and piece goods imported from Bengal
Imports, Rs 3,70,044

Exports, Rs 17,520 This Increase under this head is owing to the exportation of brimstone, elephants teeth, tutenague and treasure, having been more this year than the last.

CUTCH & SCIND THE Decrease is owing to a less quantity of Scindy silk having been imported this year than the preceding
Imports, Rs 1,119

Exports, Rs 3,479 This year none Export to this head has occasioned this decrease

BOMBAY. AN Increase in the importation of Treasure, soft sugar and piece goods, &c from Bombay, having been less this year than the last
Imports, Rs 1,20,288

Exports, Rs 6,64,432 This Deficiency has arisen in the articles of cotton, piece goods and Treasure, having been less exported this year than during the last

BROACH THIS Importation of piece goods having been more this year than the preceding
Imports, Rs 45,818

Exports, Rs 1,14,100 A Decrease in the export of elephants teeth, ivory, bangles and piece goods, having been less this year than the preceding

CAMBAY. THIS Decrease is to be ascribed to the import of piece goods, having been less this year than the last
Imports, Rs 20,728

Exports, Rs 4,19,972 This Decrease is caused by the exportation of Treasure, having been less this year than the preceding

JAMBOOSIER THE Import of piece goods having been greater this year than the last, is the cause of this excess
Imports, Rs 1,92,407

Exports, Rs 2,324 This Decrease is owing to the exportation of Treasure having been less this year than the last

BHOWNAGHUR THIS Decrease is owing to a less quantity of rice and oil jingly having been imported this year than the last
Imports, Rs 43,092

Exports, Rs 61,104 This Decrease is caused by a less exportation of elephants teeth, piece goods and treasure, this year than during the preceding

Surat, Custom House,
30th April 1812

(Signed)

T. C FRASER;
A. C. M.

VALUE OF EXTERNAL COMMERCE,
SURAT,
FOR THE YEAR 1811-12.

ABSTRACT STATEMENT of the Value of EXTERNAL COMMERCE

I M P O R T S		TOTAL	Bassein, &c	Brazils	Malabar and Canara
Grain and other Articles of Food - - - -		29,298	169	- - -	- - -
D ^o - through the Collector's Department - - -		24,632	9,768	- - -	14,096
Articles for the use of Native Inhabitants - -		64,818	47,722	817	7,525
D ^o - through the Collector's Department - - -		350	350	—	—
Sundries for Europeans - - - - -		806	- - -	50	- - -
Sundries for Manufacturers - - - - -		1,61,192	1,716	6,864	9,797
D ^o - through the Collector's Department - - -		26,767	26,767	- - -	- - -
Sundries for Re-exportation - - - - -		59,086	3,565	- - -	12,720
Sundry Articles - - - - -		251	- - -	- - -	50
Piece Goods - - - - -		14,335	250	- - -	14,085
Treasure - - - - -		15,14,351	- - -	7,49,374	- - -
	Rupees	18,95,916	96,307	7,57,105	58,273
E X P O R T S					
Sisal Manufactures - - - - -		10,40,002	18,287	4,12,390	17,317
Produce of {	Europe - - - - -	3,934	24	- - -	- - -
	Mozambique - - - - -	2,969	- - -	- - -	- - -
	Bengal - - - - -	2,157	2,500	- - -	- - -
	Lastern Islands - - - - -	1,105	- - -	3,217	147
	Malabar and Canara - - - - -	1,895	- - -	- - -	- - -
	Persian Gulph - - - - -	7,603	- - -	- - -	- - -
	Arabian Gulph - - - - -	6,772	998	- - -	- - -
	Cashmere - - - - -	465	90	- - -	- - -
	China - - - - -	12,135	2,076	38	- - -
	Guzerat - - - - -	15,87,437	1,104	12,00,011	295
Treasure - - - - -	44,721	- - -	- - -	33,375	
	Rupees	27,16,285	25,079	16,15,656	57,134

Bombay
Office of Reporter General on External Commerce,
31st October 1812

Imported into, and Exported, from SURAT, from the 1st May 1811 to the 30th April 1812

Madras	Persian Gulph	Arabian Gulph	Mozambique	Penang	Bengal	Cutch and Scind	PRESIDENCY and SUBORDINATES	
							Bombay	Northern Ports of Guzerat
-	17,841	10,951	- - -	- -	- -	337	5,103	1,942
-	-	-	768	- -	- -	- -	15,192	4,22,610
-	256	3,143	4,876	- -	- -	479	3,52,267	36,462
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	584	172	- -	- -	- -	1,33,926	469
-	1,127	19,696	1,14,187	3,455	- -	4,350	7,51,983	57,543
-	-	-	- - -	- -	- -	- -	800	-
-	8,558	4,061	30,182	- -	- -	- -	1,63,558	9,063
-	43	111	- - -	- -	- -	77	6,362	177
-	-	-	- - -	- -	- -	- -	2,34,540	7,51,745
-	1,33,840	6,10,650	20,478	- -	- -	- -	40,099	1,453
-	1,61,674	6,49,196	1,70,663	3,455	- -	5,243	17,04,030	12,81,464
-	2,00,452	3,87,470	61,043	21,409	1,604	- -	2,07,806	2,87,419
-	-	-	3,910	- -	- -	- -	4,205	59,343
-	103	-	- - -	- -	2,855	- -	1,01,150	1,00,163
-	-	-	657	- -	- -	- -	6,000	53,008
3,710	1,650	813	638	- -	- -	- -	3,050	7,224
-	-	100	837	698	240	- -	4,563	10,021
-	-	-	- - -	6,175	1,428	- -	2,020	17,641
-	-	-	5,060	397	317	- -	5,921	17,043
-	-	-	- - -	- -	375	- -	55,463	4,091
-	-	430	4,288	775	4,528	- -	10,105	24,740
-	72,067	2,77,211	40,951	28,602	786	- -	2,00,178	6,142
-	-	-	- - -	- -	5,316	- -	4,505	28,007
710	2,75,172	5,46,584	1,17,424	58,056	17,520	- -	6,42,716	605,022

(Signed) H. SHANK,
Reporter General

STATEMENT of the SHIPS and TONNAGE Arrived at, and Departed

ARRIVALS.	TOTAL		Banda.		Bengal.	
	Ships.	Tonnage.				
Under ENGLISH Colours - - - - -	9	1,106	-	-	-	-
- - - PORTUGUESE D° - - - - -	4	2,300	2	750	-	-
- - - ARAB - - - D° - - - - -	19	1,988	-	-	-	-
TOTAL - - - - -	32	5,394	2	750	-	-
DEPARTURES						
Under ENGLISH Colours - - - - -	9	1,030	-	-	1	133
- - - PORTUGUESE D° - - - - -	4	2,300	4	2,300	-	-
- - - ARAB - - - D° - - - - -	19	1,988	-	-	-	-
TOTAL - - - - -	32	5,318	4	2,300	1	133

(Signed) T C. FRASER,

Assistant Custom Master.

A true Copy,

(Signed)

H. Shank,

R. G.

from, SURAT, from 1st May 1811 to the 30th April 1812.

Pulo Penang, and Siam		Malay Coast.		Arabian Gulph.		Persian Gulph		Mosambique		Bombay		Cutch and Scind	
-	-	1	33	3	600	-	-	3	240	2	233	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1,550	-	-
-	-	-	-	2	200	13	1,376	-	-	3	333	1	79
-	-	1	33	5	800	13	1,376	3	240	7	2,116	1	79
1	100	1	300	1	200	-	-	5	297	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	2	499	9	875	8	614	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	100	3	799	10	1,075	8	614	5	297	-	-	-	-

N B. No Ships launched from Surat Dock in this year.

Surat Custom House, }
30th April 1812. }

Copy of a REPORT from the Committee of Correspondence to the Court of Directors of the East India Company, dated 9th February 1813:—On the subject of the TRADE with the EAST INDIES AND CHINA.

THE President of the India Board having, in his recent Letter of the 4th January, referred the Court to the petitions presented to Parliament, in the course of last session, from the Merchants and Manufacturers connected with the Outports, for fuller information than had been then imparted to the Court, concerning the representations which had induced His Majesty's ministers to be of opinion that the Import Trade from the East Indies should not be confined to the port of London, Your Committee determined on examining those petitions as they stand recorded in the votes of the House of Commons. But in going into this task, your Committee found that it involved a review of all the petitions lately preferred against a renewal of the Company's Charter, because the arguments in favour of the Outports were interspersed through them. The whole of those petitions have therefore been perused, and one remark which immediately presents itself on that perusal, a remark entitled, in the opinion of your Committee, to particular attention—is, that those arguments in behalf of the Outports are, in a very material degree, the arguments which are directly urged for the abolition of the whole of the Company's exclusive commercial privileges, and the claims of the Outports are contended for, as a part of the entire freedom in the Eastern trade, which is demanded for all the subjects of the empire. The places especially which are strictly Outports, proceed, in their petitions, upon principles which arraign every species and degree of monopoly; and it is chiefly from those principles that they deduce as a consequence the right of the Outports to a free participation in Indian imports. But as, in the deliberate and just opinion of His Majesty's ministers, those principles and arguments are not valid for the main claim of the petitioners, it is to be presumed, that neither can they in the same opinion be valid for the subordinate claim of the Outports, so far as it is rested on the same foundations; which, however, are the foundations built on by the generality of the petitions. The few remaining arguments on this question, relate principally to the facility and certainty with which the revenue may be collected at the Outports, and to the safety with which the honourable men composing the commercial class of this country, may be admitted to all the settlements and countries of the East. But these are mere assertions of opinion, to be classed with the "untried theories" of the time, and, as far as the light of experience goes, opposed by it. If they were even proved, which they are in no degree, they would not by any means satisfy all the great interests abroad and at home, which are involved in the question of the Outports, and therefore your Committee are entirely at a loss to discover how the arguments in favour of those ports, as they stand in the petitions to Parliament, resting chiefly on principles which His Majesty's Government do not admit, have so presented themselves to the ministers, as in their view "to establish a claim against an absolute restriction of the Import Trade to the port of London," or how, from the *ex parte* representations of those petitions, which proceed on the demand of an entire liberty of trade to India and China, a demand resisted by His Majesty's Government, any clear definite idea is to be obtained of that degree of "liberty of trade, which the merchants may enjoy without injury to other important national interests." And hence your Committee humbly conceive, that this problem, so important in its nature, namely, the measure of further liberty which may be safely granted, still remains to be solved, and requires deliberate and accurate investigation.

superior economy and dispatch that prevail in the Outports, are requisite to secure an equality with foreign nations. In these claims for the Outports, there is a general concurrence in the petitions from Plymouth, Glasgow, Paisley, Dundee, Arbroath, Leith, Edinburgh, Belfast, Bristol, Liverpool and Hull, of which three last-mentioned places, Bristol and Liverpool state, that they have, in contemplation of the opening of the trade to India, enlarged their docks, and Hull, that there should be no restraint as to the size of vessels to be admitted into the Indian trade

5th, That no satisfactory reason can be assigned, why the trade to China should not be opened, that the difficulty apprehended in collecting the Tea duties is ideal; that the British character forbids injurious suspicions as to inconveniences in India and China from opening the trade—that, in the avowed opinion of one set of petitioners, the merchants of this country should be allowed to trade directly from the East to the British West Indies, and another set claim, that the products of the East shall, without being first landed in this kingdom, be transported to the British West Indies, the American colonies, and all other countries south of Cape Finisterre, and within the Mediterranean

6th, That the existing monopoly has, contrary to reason and justice, led to a singular peculiarity, the concession of privileges to foreign nations in amity with His Majesty, which are rigorously denied to merchants of the British empire, or according to others, that the trade is open to *all the world* except British merchants that the American States have long enjoyed this trade at the expense of our own people, employing British capital and compelling the Company to shrink from competition, that they have engrossed a great part of this trade and also of that to China, which the Company formerly possessed, that the American merchants being unfettered, have undersold the Company in the markets of Europe, have deprived them of those markets, and also the markets of South America, the West Indies, the Mediterranean and Malta, whilst the English trade has become less extensive and profitable, that the example of the citizens of the United States, who have evinced the superiority of individual industry, when opposed to the negligence and prodigality of a joint stock Company, and the delays and abuses of their concerns, proves the competency of British individuals to carry on an extensive commerce to the East Indies, China, and other countries within the Charter of the Company that the monopoly is favourable to foreigners, injurious to British subjects, and its abolition necessary, to enable British merchants to meet neutrals and other foreigners, in fair competition, with the products of the East, in their own markets or at least, according to others, that British subjects should be put on a footing with foreigners in this trade.

7th That the distresses and privations of the manufacturing and trading classes (distresses aggravated, say some, by the monopoly of the East India Company) under the continental system of Buonaparte, the disputes with America, the exclusion from usual markets, the stagnation or decline of trade, are grievous, that the mercantile, manufacturing and shipping interests all suffer, that the country is burthened with great naval and military establishments, and that under such hardships, pressures and exclusions, every possible relief is wanted, and new sources of trade ought to be looked for, and that on account of the existing war, and for the maintenance of our naval superiority, and the preservation of our commercial, maritime, and financial interests, an open trade is necessary.

8th That it is a well-ascertained fact, that during the time of the Protectorate, there were men who boldly violated the Company's Charter, and carried on the trade with such success, that they were able to sell the commodities of the East, in the different markets of Europe, on lower terms than had ever been known, and at this day individual merchants have traded to India with profit, even under all the difficulties, delays and taxes imposed upon them by the Company, that the Private Trade has continued to increase, although fettered with many restrictions, but that these restrictions deter people unacquainted with India, and residing at home, from engaging in the trade; that a free Trade to the East would be a measure admirably calculated for removing present evils, would be a substitute for the loss of European commerce, an equivalent for all other markets, and would necessarily open new and extensive markets, a field greater than any other country offers, and beyond the grasp of the enemy, a field to British skill, industry and enterprize, and to capital, otherwise useless whilst the national resources are stunted,—that thousands who are now reduced to idleness and poverty, might be actively engaged; that the capital, spirit
and

and *knowledge* of British merchants are unbounded,—that a free Trade to India would turn the wealth acquired by the foreign merchant, into the pockets of the subjects of this country, would excite a fair emulation to bring all the produce of the East to its proper level in the home market, to the great benefit of this country, would enable our manufacturers with more advantage to exert their skill and industry to produce new articles of trade, and to give full employment to the operative classes of the community, would circulate the trade, now confined to London, through every part of the United Kingdom, would be the means of increasing our maritime strength, our financial resources, and the wealth and glory of the British empire. Such is the general tenor of the petitions on this head, but the language of the one from Sheffield is so animated and sanguine, that it may not be improper to transcribe a part of it —“ The petitioners are fully “ persuaded if the trade to the East Indies were thrown open to all His Majesty’s “ subjects, such new and abundant markets would be discovered and established, as “ would enable them to set at defiance every effort to injure them, by that sworn “ enemy to the prosperity and the peace of Europe, the present unprincipled Ruler of “ France, and that the petitioners doubt not if the trade of this United Kingdom were “ permitted to flow unimpeded over those extensive, luxuriant, and opulent regions, “ though it might in the outset, like a torrent repressed and swollen by obstruction, when “ its sluices were first opened, break forth with uncontrollable impetuosity, deluging, “ instead of supplying the district before it, yet that very violence which at the be- “ ginning might be partially injurious, would in the issue prove highly and permanently “ beneficial, no part being unvisited, the waters of commerce that spread over the “ face of the land, as they subsided would wear themselves channels through which “ they might continue to flow ever afterwards, in regular and fertilizing streams, and “ that to the wealthy, enterprising, honourable and indefatigable British merchant, “ conducting in person his own concerns, no obstacle would prove insurmountable, “ no prejudice invincible, no difficulty disheartening, wants where he found them “ he would supply, where they did not exist he would create them, by affording the “ means of gratification ”

9th That the imagined hardship of depriving the Company of the only lucrative branch of their trade, that to China, will be alleviated by the wealth, influence, knowledge and experience, which in their united capacity they will still be enabled to oppose to the unassisted efforts of private merchants —that if indeed, the Company can carry on trade to greater advantage than the private merchant, they have nothing to fear, they will reap their merited reward by the benefit of competition, and without competition neither would commerce have risen to its present standard, nor will it increase to bear the increasing expenses of the nation. And with respect to the danger of excessive speculation, it is said by Glasgow to be imaginary, because the enterprise of individuals is uniformly limited by their means and success, because any evil of this nature is temporary and checks itself, and that *the very worst that can occur in the event of the abandonment of the trade by the Public, would be, that matters would again return to their present state*. On all the grounds, therefore, stated in the petitions, they in general require a full and entire freedom of trade to the Eastward of the Cape of Good Hope, including China, and all the countries within the Charter of the East India Company, *and for the means of indemnifying or remunerating the claims of the Company, one petition proposes, “ a fair and equal impost on the trade in question ”*

Your Committee having thus submitted an abstract, under different heads, of the contents of the petitions, in which abstract they are persuaded nothing material is omitted, will now proceed to offer some observations on each of those heads

And *first*, With regard to the doctrine of monopolies in general, your Committee do not conceive that they are much called upon to enter into any discussion of it, because what is termed the monopoly of the East India Company is, as it now exists and has long existed, an institution of a singular nature, formed upon principles peculiar to itself, not merely or chiefly for the purposes of trade, and must be examined with reference to the ends of its institution, and the importance of those ends, which will be the subject of the next article. In the mean time, it may be observed upon this first head, that the ablest writers upon political economy, and the most strenuous against monopolies, have not condemned them simply and universally, as most of the petitions now in question do. Even Dr. Adam Smith acquiesces in the establishment of the Chartered Banks of

of England and Scotland, which are a species of monopoly; and he praises the Act of Navigation, which is founded on the principle of exclusive privilege. He admits also the propriety of a temporary monopoly of new machines and new books, and what is more immediately to the present purpose, he grants, in agreement with Montesquieu and others, as some of the petitioners seem also candidly to allow, that "when a Company of Merchants (to use his own words) undertake, at their own risk and expense, to establish a new trade with some remote and barbarous nation, it may not be unreasonable to incorporate them into a joint stock Company, and to grant them a monopoly, in case of their success, for a certain number of years. It is the easiest and most natural way in which a State can recompence them for hazarding a dangerous and expensive experiment, of which the Public is afterwards to reap the benefit." But, even in this proposition, it may be observed, that the interests of the two parties, the Company of Merchants and the Public, seem scarcely to be equally cared for. The privilege given by the State, is a privilege for its own benefit, which is to cost it nothing, should the experiment fail, and of which it is to enjoy the permanent advantage, if the experiment succeed. It is safe from loss, and, besides its share of what present advantage there may be, is to have ultimately the fee simple of all the gain that may result. Undoubtedly, in this case, the term of enjoyment by the merchants, after all the season of hazard and vicissitude is past, should be ample, and it were to be wished, that those who are now so eager to take gratuitous possession of all the commercial establishments formed at such immense risks and expense by the East India Company, would consider more equitably than the language of their petitions does, the fair claims of a body, even if regarded merely in a commercial light, who have hitherto been working, through a long series of time, of difficulties and dangers, to the vast benefit of the nation, whilst their own fair compensation yet remains to be obtained.

Secondly, With respect to that species of exclusive privilege, called the East India Company's monopoly, your Committee cannot begin their remarks upon the accusations brought against it, without lamenting the surprising want of information which the generality of the petitioners discover relative to the Company's system, conduct and affairs; and your Committee are compelled to add, a mortifying defect of attention also regarding things that could not possibly be unknown to the petitioners, they treat the whole question of the monopoly, as if it were purely a commercial question, as if it involved no high question of policy, as if it stood unconnected with the acquisition, the government and the preservation of a great Indian empire, and as if, from its political relations, the question concerning it had no bearing on the British constitution. Thus, say some of the petitioners "the reasonings in favour of the monopoly proceed from narrow partial views, demonstrated to be fallacious, and which will apply equally to every other branch of British commerce," whereas it is abundantly obvious, that the exclusive commercial privileges enjoyed by the Company in the Indian trade (however well entitled they are to them on other accounts) are contended for by them, and have been continued by the Legislature, mainly because deemed to be necessary for the political government of India, and not at all on account of any pecuniary participation, which one of the petitions erroneously assumes to be now in question. The same cause also was understood to require the continuance of the China monopoly, though that privilege stands upon other irrefragable grounds, as the unlimited admission of British ships into any quarter of the Eastern Seas could not be thought compatible with the system adopted for the security of our Eastern territorial possessions. The commercial monopoly therefore is, in a word, an instrument in the hands of the Company, for the political government of India. Such it has been maintained by them, and admitted by ministers in the discussions respecting the Charter to be, but this great truth, either as a fact or as a principle, is unnoticed in the petitions. Some of the petitioners are indeed so just as to recollect that the India Company have territorial rights, and to say that it is not their wish to trench upon them, but they do not seem to be aware, that those rights can be enjoyed only through the medium of commercial privileges, or that any provision can be made for securing them compatibly with their own claims for an universal opening of the Eastern trade. The petitioners proceed, not only as if the renewal of the privileges in the Indian trade were merely a question of commerce, but as if it were a question of strict monopoly, such as was agitated in King William's time. To the admission given to Private Merchants into the Indian trade, by the Act of 1793, enlarged by the arrangement of 1802, and in practice occasionally still further extended (not to speak of the considerable privileges

6 REPORT FROM COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE

enjoyed by the commanders and officers of the Company's ships) the petitioners do not advert, except to blame the Company for the alleged inefficiency of all those concessions, which in reality greatly relaxed the monopoly, and made it what the late Lord Melville called a regulated or qualified monopoly. In thus censuring the Company, the petitioners resort to some representations formerly brought against them, and sufficiently answered on their part, except in respect to the irregular dispatch of the extra ships from India, a matter originating with the governments there from the political circumstances of the times; but that controversy is now past, and quite irrelevant to the present state of things. For another point to be held up to particular attention is, that the Company have lately acquiesced in vastly larger concessions, that is, in a general trade between the United Kingdom and India, through the port of London. Yet this new and great change in the Indian system, the petitioners too generally overlook. That it has ever attracted their notice is only to be inferred from their contending that the trade shall be general to all the ports of the Kingdom, but, in their attacks upon the Company, they act as if the whole original structure of the monopoly were still standing and obstinately defended; and when the Company acquiesce in large relaxations, the petitioners nevertheless persist in charging them with all the evils of the most rigid monopoly, for the purpose as it would seem of aggravating the case against the Company in the eyes of Parliament and of the Public, and strengthening the prejudices which so much pains have been taken to diffuse. Thus the political part of the Company's system and its intimate connexion with commerce, is left entirely out of sight; and the present state of the Company's commercial privileges is not accurately represented, nor the actual state of the question concerning the future measure of those privileges fairly brought into view.

But it ought to be again and again pressed upon the public attention, that the first and great object in any new arrangement for India, is not commercial, but political, and that the safe and beneficial administration of that empire, is a consideration paramount to all others. No one has denied, either that the Company have conducted and do conduct the administration to the great improvement of the security and happiness of the vast population that empire contains, or that the government of it should remain with them, and consequently that the means requisite to enable them to continue to execute so great a trust, should also be afforded. The nature and extent of those means form, therefore, the precise question now at issue; but on this important point, as has been already intimated, the petitions in general are quite silent, and the propositions contained in them go to deprive the Company wholly of those means, particularly the monopoly of the China trade, the reasons for continuing which will be explained in a subsequent head.

With regard to the effects of the monopoly on the manufactures, trade, and other interests of this country, if any thing said in these days to the discredit of the Company, could occasion surprise, it would be the representations given in the petitions on that head. The Company are accused of obstructing the export of the manufactures of this country, even by some (with an honourable exception of the rest) of those Woollen manufacturers who have owed their chief employment to the Company's commissions, continued for the benefit of the nation, under a certainty of deriving no profit from the exported article.

Of those "undeniable documents," by which one of the petitions in an authoritative style affirms, "it is proved, that if the trade be allowed to remain under its present restrictions, it will languish, decay, and pass into the hands of other States; that the monopoly must, if continued, diminish the resources of private wealth and of national revenue," your Committee have never heard, and they cannot conceive that any such documents exist. It is more probable that the petitioners have put their own sense upon the statements of the Company, which furnish the most authentic materials in this case, and if fairly examined, with a reference to other relative circumstances, will lead to conclusions directly opposite. The subject of the American trade to India, which seems chiefly alluded to, will be discussed in the sequel. That trade, as will hereafter more fully appear, has owed its increase essentially to the state of war in which this nation has been placed for a long series of years past. If the American trade with India were still going on, a much easier and juster remedy for the alleged evils of it could be found, than the extinction of the Company's remaining commercial privileges. But these heavy forebodings are pronounced,

pronounced, when America and every European nation (the distressed one of Portugal excepted) are actually wholly excluded from the Indian seas.

There seems to be a general and deplorable delusion respecting the practicability of a vast extension of the sale of the manufactures of this country, in India and China, and of the productions of those countries here. This question will be the immediate subject of a following article, but your Committee may, in the mean time, confidently say that the Company have, in a long course of years, made more numerous, persevering, costly experiments, in attempting to push the vent of British commodities, particularly woollens and metals, in the East, than the means, the resources, the safety of private merchants, are likely to enable them to make. The correspondence of the Company with their servants abroad at different periods, on this interesting concern, would fill many volumes. That the East India Company, far from impeding the prosperity of the country, as the petitions, in opposition to history and experience, allege, have by means of their monopoly essentially contributed to its wealth and its greatness, it will be much more easy to shew, than to discover accurately, where the limit of the advantages resulting from their institution is to be fixed. They gave a very early impulse to the manufactures and trade of this country, they opened a new commerce, not with the East only, but, by means of their returns from thence, with foreign Europe; they soon increased the ship-building and improved the navigation of the kingdom, both which they have, in latter times, carried to a degree of advancement that has made their fleets serviceable in the wars of the nation, and the commanders successful in adding to the naval glory of their country. Against the jealous rivalship of the Portuguese and Dutch, they, through a long course of hostilities from a superior force, maintained for this nation a share in the India trade, they preserved it from being totally lost, amidst all the convulsions of the civil wars, they outlived even the more dangerous innovations of subsequent periods; they upheld in India the national interests against the ambitious designs of European enemies, and the despotic violence of native powers, and in a long and arduous struggle, maintained, with little exception, at their own expense, they acquired a territorial empire for the mother country, which exalted its rank in the scale of nations. They have, since expelled every European nation, except our ally of Portugal, from the Indian continent and ocean, and they have given a better government to an immensely extended empire, than the East ever saw before.

In all this progress, not the ability and wisdom of their civil servants only have been conspicuous, but the talents and valour of their military officers have signally added to the glory and renown of the British nation. By those officers, a grand army has been formed of native troops, in discipline, attachment and efficiency, a just subject of admiration, and from the time of the first Clive downward, the exploits performed by the Company's military servants in India, equal in brilliancy those recorded in any period of modern history.

To all these public benefits is to be added, the direct wealth with which the Company have been the means of enriching the nation. The amount of these contributions, consisting in the profits of manufacturers, ship-builders and tradesmen, ship-owners and officers, servants and labourers, miners, re-exporters of Eastern productions to foreign parts, and other descriptions of persons gaining by the Company's trade, in dividends to proprietors, payments to Government, and the influx of private fortunes acquired in India, especially in the last fifty-five years, may perhaps be moderately estimated at one hundred millions sterling. Such are the injuries, the grievances, the evils, such the degradation, which the East India Company have brought on the country.

Thirdly, The charges under the third head are nothing more than groundless accusations, calculated to render the Company unpopular, and, except the first article, which is new, have been often answered. as to this article, it is not true that, on the whole, the Company's imports have decreased, although the sales have in some years, fallen off, by the exclusion of British commodities from the European continent, an evil common to all the merchants of this country, but now the occasion of a charge against the Company. And what virtue can the expulsion of enemies and rivals from the Indian seas have to increase trade, if, when merchandize is brought to Europe, there is only a tardy and diminished sale for it? Again, is it a thing of course, that recently acquired provinces, impoverished, unsettled, containing a people every way dissimilar to us, should purchase our commodities, when the

the inhabitants of other parts of Hindostan, where we have been settled for ages, have still so little relish for them? The stipulation in the Act of 1793, for a pecuniary participation by the Public, was a conditional stipulation, depending on a contingency, which has never become a reality but in one year, that immediately following the last renewal of the Charter. The long war in which, with hardly any intermission, this country has been engaged ever since 1793, has, by increasing the Company's expenses beyond the most extravagant supposition that could have been previously formed on that head, absorbed all the expected sources of accumulation. Of this, every Administration since 1794 has been sensible, but the same utterly groundless charge continues to be repeated. "This promised participation," say some of the petitions, "has been converted by the Company into repeated claims "on the public purse, and credit for enormous sums, to support their establishments " a most unfounded statement. The Company have never had occasion to apply for aid to support their establishments, their applications to Parliament have either been in consequence of levies by Government on the score of participation in the territorial revenues, or for reimbursement of immense sums expended for the State in military expeditions, sums very tardily acknowledged, and not yet fully paid or to enable the Company to meet the transfer of Indian territorial debt to this country, a debt not increased by their order, or according to their wish, though the petitions charge the increase to them, but sanctioned by His Majesty's Government and by Parliament, a debt which, every intelligent person knows, it never was or can be possible, in the nature of things, to discharge out of the Company's commercial funds, and therefore most unjustly made a ground of accusation against them.

Fourthly, The claim to a full and free Trade, as the right by birth and inheritance of every subject in the realm, and the arguments in favour of extending it to the Outports, are contained under the fourth head.

With regard to the general position on which the arguments are founded, little need be said. It is an obvious principle, that men, living in society, must submit to the laws of the society and to restraints upon their natural liberty, when the public interest, in the opinion of the legislative authority, requires it. The Indian monopoly was at first established, because it was thought beneficial to the commercial interests of the country. It was long continued on the same principle, now it is more a political than a commercial question. It may be stated thus—whether it be more for the interest of the nation to maintain the Indian empire, under the system which has hitherto preserved and improved it,—a system greatly relaxed as to the trade with India, and which has also preserved a lucrative commercial intercourse with China,—or to adopt a system of entirely free commercial communication with both countries at the hazard of losing that empire and the China trade, or of rendering the tranquillity and retention of the one, and the enjoyment of the other, less secure. Until this question, or one reduced to still lower terms, namely, whether it would be prudent, for the sake of the object in view, to run any hazard where the stake is so great, is solved in favour of an open Trade, the plea of natural inherent right has no title to be heard. No such solution has yet been produced. It has, on the contrary, been shewn, that dangers and disadvantages, both in the East and at home, would attend the opening of the Trade, but it has not been shewn, that any measures which have been suggested as preventives, would be at all effectual. No adequate provision, therefore, against those dangers and disadvantages is yet proposed, hence it may fairly be presumed, none has been found. But, until such a remedy is discovered, the present system ought not to be overturned. The opening of the Outports would, according to the unanswered reasonings of the Court, have this effect. The opening of a part of the Outports would lead to the same effect, though, perhaps, by a somewhat slower progress, for it would immediately reduce and derange the periodical public sales of the Company, which is the master wheel in the mechanism of their Import Trade. His Majesty's ministers, in not proposing to open all the Outports, both admit the contingency of danger from such a measure, and set aside the argument of universal inherent right, but it remains utterly unimproved, that danger would not result from opening even a few Outports, especially if the Export Trade is allowed to all, and that after any had been so privileged, which would be in effect a monopoly against the rest, those others would never be quiet, until they also were admitted, so that the whole of the danger will follow from the first step, and ought to be contemplated accordingly. It may just be observed, that the quality ascribed to certain countries, as giving the petitioners more particularly a right to a free Trade with them, the quality of having been "acquired" and

“ and maintained by the efforts and valour of the forces of His Majesty,” properly appertains neither to Hindostan nor to China, and that the territories held by the Company were acquired by undue exclusive powers and privileges received from the legislature.

Upon the same ground of natural inherent right, and of the necessity of the exercise of that right, as essential to the maintenance of the manufactures and commercial prosperity of the country, is placed the claim of the Outports to a free importation of goods from India and China. Under the fourth head, therefore, your Committee have collected the strength of the arguments contained in the petitions in support of this claim, arguments to which the President of the India Board was pleased to refer the Court. The argument of inherent right has been already considered. The other arguments, which may be given in the words of the Glasgow petition, are, “ That
 “ the confinement of the Indian imports to the port of London would be unnecessary,
 “ impolitic, and unjust unnecessary because, first, the ideal difficulty of collecting
 “ the taxes is fully obviated, by the known safety with which the duties are levied on
 “ articles of West Indian and American produce and secondly, because the duties
 “ may be collected with greater ease, and less loss from pilferage, in the Outports,
 “ unjust, because every mercantile place in the kingdom is entitled to the same pri-
 “ vileges, and impolitic, because the superior economy and dispatch that prevail at
 “ the Outports are requisite to secure an equality with foreign nations ”

On the second of these three arguments it may be observed, that the claim of all the Outports to a participation in the Indian trade, as matter of equal right, stands upon the same principle as the claim of all individuals, which has just been considered, and must be determined in the same way and order, it therefore demands no farther notice here. If it shall be judged, that no larger interest than that of the Outports opposes their claim, then, and then only, will it be entitled to attention.

The first argument is; the known safety, and greater facility, with which duties are collected at the Outports. Whether that facility be, in fact, greater or not, it is needless to examine. If it were indeed so, it would still leave undecided a much more important question, the danger of smuggling. On that danger the Court have enlarged in their Letters to the President of the India Board, of the 13th January, 1809, and 15th and 29th of April, 1812. Your Committee cannot but hope, that these Letters will be perused by Members of Parliament, as their contents are material to a just consideration of the subject. The Court have respectfully stated to Lord Buckinghamshire, that no adequate answer has been given to these letters. His Lordship in addition to what he has himself said, has referred the Court to the petitions. The argument just quoted, is the most direct and indeed the only one to the point which your Committee have discovered in all the petitions. But it does not meet the main objections of the Court, taken from the danger of smuggling; they remain untouched and unnoticed.

Those dangers were contemplated, upon the supposition, that only the opening of the Indian trade was in question, and in this way your Committee will now consider them, reserving to a future article some remarks on the still greater danger of smuggling, which would follow, if the China monopoly were abolished, and which would be experienced, whilst our merchants were permitted to visit China at all. It is from the facilities of smuggling Tea, that ships cleared out for or from India, would find in the Eastern Islands, in the voyage home, and on the coasts of Scotland and Ireland, that the Court have apprehended the chief dangers would arise. In the Eastern Islands there are no Custom-houses, clearances, or manifests. There are great ranges of coasts in the remoter parts of the United Kingdom, where there is no Custom-house. Bulk might be broken, and no detection follow where the ship should afterwards be regularly entered. It does not in the least follow, that these evils might not happen, though it should be true, that the taxes on West Indian and American commodities are safely collected, for these commodities come generally in very large unwieldy casks or packages, are, in proportion to their bulk, of much less value than Tea, which is also packed in small portable cases, and they come from countries abounding with regular Custom-houses, whence they cannot sail without manifests and clearances; yet with all these safeguards, your Committee are credibly informed, that the Americans find means to smuggle Tea into this country. But, even supposing ships came direct to an Outport, without having broken bulk, what comparison is there between the collection of duties at any port, provincial or

metropolitan, and the collection of tea duties with perfect certainty, facility, and a very trifling expense, at the India House? The objections stated at large in the Court's letters, your Committee beg leave to repeat, remain without any sound answer, and it is extremely material to observe, that the opinions maintained in them, on this subject, are corroborated by the reports which the Boards of Customs and Excise have made to His Majesty's ministers respecting the danger that would arise to the revenue, from the adoption of the new system; a danger which, in their judgment, would be inevitable.

The third argument urged in the petitions, is taken from the necessity of securing an equality with foreign nations, which it is said, the superior economy and dispatch at the Outports will do. If this alledged advantage of the Outports were admitted, it would in the opinion of your Committee, weigh but little in the general question. The difference cannot be material in itself, and its effect little, in a trade so unlikely to become of any magnitude.

There are, however, other considerations of great weight belonging to the question of opening the Outports, to which the petitions do not advert. One of these is, the immense interests which the port of London, with all its descriptions of merchants, tradesmen, tea dealers, factors, brokers, dyers, packers, callenderers, inspectors, labourers, ship builders, ship chandlers, rope makers, ship owners, mariners, and all their train of establishments, warehouses, wharfs, docks, yards, premises, shipping, formed in the course of two centuries in which the Company's privilege, and the law of the land, have made the metropolis the sole seat of the Eastern commerce, all these interests, with the Corporation of London, have represented to Parliament, the ruin in which they would be involved by the opening of the trade to the Outports. The Company's periodical public sales, on which so much of the order and success of their business depend, would be interfered with, and their very large property in warehouses and other buildings deteriorated, in short, all the institutions, public and private, of the capital, for carrying on the Eastern trade, would be shattered or broken down. The removal of the trade would effect this although the new speculations and enterprises would establish nothing equivalent in other places, far less compensate the losses of the supplanted parties. Your Committee cannot go into this subject sufficiently to give a just sense of the magnitude and importance of it, but they may seriously ask—Is the case equal between the people of London and those of the Outports? Would it be right to expose to privation and ruin one set, by withdrawing from them what they have long enjoyed, in order to add to the comfortable provision the other set already possess, and this only to save them the slight inconvenience of bringing their Indian imports to the port of London.

Let it never be forgotten too, that the Indian people are concerned in this question, the Court have already in their letters to Lord Meville and Lord Buckinghamshire stated their apprehensions, that the opening of the Outports to imports from India, might increase the resort of European adventurers to India. It has been advanced in return from some quarters, that the police of India is so excellent, as to obviate every danger of this kind, your Committee are sorry to observe, that they find in the records of the Bengal government, informations concerning the police, which do not warrant them to conclude quite so favourably of it, for in fact, with all the progressive improvements in the system of the government there, they have not yet been able to bring the police into a state of perfect efficiency. The Fifth Report of the Committee of the House of Commons has entered much into this subject, and one quotation from the conclusion of it, may suffice to justify this observation.—“It does not, therefore, appear to have been from any want of information in regard to the imperfect states of the police, that the Government was unable to prevent its becoming worse, but rather, as your Committee should suppose, from the difficulties which presented themselves to the application of an efficacious remedy.”

Fifthly, On the China monopoly. Besides the connection already noticed of the China monopoly, with the policy of our Indian system, the uniting of this trade under one head is necessary, both on account of the extreme caution required in the conduct of our intercourse with so jealous and inflexible a government as the Chinese, and of the security of the large revenue derived by the British public, from the branch of commerce. The habits of the Chinese nation are known to be as fixed as they are peculiar, their government is a pure despotism, jealous of the smallest tendency to insubordination or innovation, the people are guided by a principle of implicit sub-

mission to their superiors; and both government and people, hold all disorderly conduct in the utmost abhorrence. Foreign trade is held in low estimation, and the commerce which Europeans have been permitted to carry on is subjected to manifold and rigorous restrictions, intended to prevent the intermixture of strangers with the natives, and to guard against their entrance into the interior of the country, and hazard of their becoming, in any way, troublesome to the government. The ships of European nations are allowed to resort to only one port in an empire of so vast extent, and there even, no stranger is permitted a constant residence without credentials from the sovereign of the state to which he belongs. When a factory is established, for which one spot is fixed, the factors are confined to very narrow precincts around it, they dare not make an excursion beyond those precincts into the open fields, nor enter into the closely adjoining city of Canton. The government of China does not allow to its own subjects freedom of trade, or unrestrained intercourse with foreigners both are interdicted, and the restrictions imposed, together with the sumptuary laws in force, oppose the strongest obstacles to any great extension of the sale of our manufactures among the Chinese. The trade with Europeans is given in monopoly to a company of ten or twelve Chinese merchants, styled the Hong, and these merchants become responsible to the government for the conduct of the foreigners with whom they deal. After the ships are dispatched for the season, the factors are obliged to withdraw to the Island of Macao, a low Portuguese settlement, till the ships of next year arrive. And with respect to the ships, they are, whilst in harbour, under the controul of the Chinese officers, who are empowered by law to take the custody of their guns—and if, in the intercourses, and consequent frays, between the natives and our English sailors, one of the former happens to meet his death, by accident, from an unknown hand, it may produce the most serious consequences, for the Chinese government has been known, in such a case, to claim the life of an European in expiation, and for an occurrence like this the Company's establishment is held responsible, and their trade liable to be stopped. With a government so absolute, in requiring implicit conformity to its peculiar law and usages, and so marked with pride, suspicion, and despotism, British subjects have the utmost difficulty to act, and the Company's agents frequently submit to caprices and humiliations, to which the honour of a sovereign would not allow any representative of his to yield. Is it, therefore, in the least probable, that the Chinese would tolerate the indiscriminate ingress of numberless unconnected, unaccredited Europeans? or if they did give them admission, that their multiplied, irregular, desultory visits and intercourses with the natives, would not be attended with disorders, with violations of Chinese usages (with smuggling for instance, a high offence in China) which would soon end in the utter expulsion and exclusion of these strangers, or in such injustice and humiliating punishments, on the part of the Chinese government, as might call on the honour of this country to demand redress? The splendid embassy which His Majesty sent by Lord Macartney to the Emperor of China, had, with all its imposing attendant circumstances, and all the skilful address of that nobleman, no influence to induce the Chinese government to relax from their rigid restrictions on the commerce and intercourse of British subjects with its territories, and it may be safely concluded, that all which that government must have since heard respecting the revolutions in Europe, will make it adhere still more obstinately to its jealous precautionary system. To all these probable dangers, the petitioners oppose nothing but the honourable character of Britons, and the example of the American adventurers to China. Frail dependence!—British sailors carry to every shore their habits of excess, as is too often found in the Company's ships, notwithstanding the strict discipline established in them. The 'American seamen' are a much more sober and quiet class of people, and the adventurers of that nation have derived in China a sanction from the pre-establishment and credit of the English factory, to which, from their language and manners, they appeared to be related. It is, indeed, by the prudent respectable conduct of the Company's representatives there, in the management of their own trust, and the control exercised by them over other British subjects, it is by this means, and by the extent and regularity of the Company's dealings, by their probity, now so famed, as to pass the bales which have their mark, without inspection, through the Chinese empire, that this jealous and supercilious people have been at length greatly conciliated; but the Company's establishment could not on the principles now proposed, retain either its credit or position. To expose a trade of such value and importance to the nation and the revenue, to hazards so great, to break down the present system,

with the immense establishments and property connected with it, particularly the China fleet of the Company, a thing unparalleled in the commercial annals of the world, would therefore, in every view, commercial, financial, and political, be utterly unwise; and if this desperate risk were run, further evils would await the new system at home. Upon the supposition of a general resort of British ships to China, how would it be possible to prevent the smuggling of Tea on the coasts of England, Scotland and Ireland, with the facility which exists of receiving that article on board in many of the Eastern Islands, where there are no Custom-houses, and with the temptation of evading a duty of ninety-five per cent. at home. The petitions offer not the least satisfaction on this point; a point highly interesting, as has already appeared, if the question were only about opening the Indian trade to the Outports; but yet more interesting in respect to the proposal for laying open the China trade, which is, at the best, a proposal to incur the most imminent risk of losing that trade, and the great revenue arising from it, merely in order to change the hands through which it shall pass, for supposing it to be preserved to the nation, there is no reasonable ground to think that it could be increased, because the Chinese now *take our Woollens only in barter* for Tea, and the present importations of Tea are as large as the country requires.

Sixthly On the complaints of the superior advantages enjoyed by neutrals, particularly the Americans, in the Indian trade. The vessels of the American States first appeared in the Indian seas about the year 1785. At that time several European nations possessed settlements on the continent of India, in virtue of grants from the native sovereigns, recognised by this country, after the Company obtained territorial dominion. It had not then been disputed, that those settlements might receive other European flags as well as their own (though the Company have within these few years, properly held, that the original grant gave a right of trade only for the ships of the nation to whom the grant was made), therefore the Bengal government thought it politic to admit the American ships into the British ports, rather than oblige them by refusal, to carry their custom to the French, Dutch, and Danes. This was, however, merely a gratuitous licence, revokable at pleasure. But in 1794, the government of this country, induced by the political circumstances of the time, gave to the United States by treaty, a right to a direct trade between their own ports and those of British India, on the terms of the most favoured nation; and in 1797, the privilege of free ingress to the British ports in India was conferred on all friendly nations. By the long continuance of the war which followed the French revolution, these concessions proved of unforeseen high advantage to the subjects of the American States. The settlements on the Indian continent, of the French, and of the Dutch and Danes, who had fallen under French influence, were successively captured by the English. The Portuguese and Americans were then the only neutrals who frequented the Indian seas, and the troubles of Portugal at length left the neutral trade very much in the hands of the Americans, who succeeded in effect to the excluded traders of foreign Europe, and supplied their wants, as well as those of the increasing population of the United States, and the demands of Spanish America. The subjects of those States, undoubtedly, abused the privileges conceded to them by His Majesty's government, in the Indian trade, they were by treaty restricted to a direct trade between America and India, but they visited the ports of foreign Europe going and returning, and became the general carriers. They even supplied our own West Indian and North American colonies with Eastern commodities, and they entered actively into the China trade, deriving a facility of admission there, from being viewed as a cast of Englishmen, perhaps also, a sanction from the countenance of the British establishment there.

For several years after the appearance of the Americans in the Indian seas, they were, no doubt, assisted by British capital, partly by that which wanted a remittance to Europe, but to no very great amount. They exported from Bengal, in ten years, through which their trade on the whole was considerably progressive, and which ended with 1804-5, goods to the amount of sicca rupees 371,50,029 (£. 4,643,575) or £. 464,357 per annum; and they imported, to the amount of sicca rupees 3,12,48,544 (£. 3,906,068 or £. 390,606 per annum. The excess of exports above the imports, being in ten years £. 737,507, or £. 73,750 per annum, may be supposed to be the property of British residents in Bengal, remitted by the way of America. Whether they were furnished with British capital from London, and to what amount it is difficult to ascertain, but it appears evident, that as they proceeded in the trade, their imports

Imports to Bengal more nearly equalled than exports, which shews they were better able to do without Indo-British assistance, and probably it was the same as to European assistance* Upon this trade, however offensive to our private merchants, and in some views also to the Company, it may be justly observed, that it was favourable to British India. It carried seasonable and large supplies of bullion to that country, from year to year, not above a seventh of its imports being in goods, and these chiefly wines and other articles for the consumption of Europeans. It also carried the commodities of India to foreign Europe, to Spanish America, and other places to which British ships, on account of the war, could have no access; and when, by the policy and increasing power of Buonaparte, the produce of this country and its colonies were nearly shut out from the Continent, the Americans still continued to introduce the commodities of India there, and with the returns of their adventures they probably purchased English manufactures to carry to the American continent, so that this country also eventually benefited by their Indian trade and, however much their large participation of that trade became a matter of complaint among English merchants connected with India, it is certain, that whilst we were engaged in war with almost all Europe, those merchants could not, even by circuitous means, have occupied the place which the Americans filled in the Indian commerce, of which position no other proof is necessary, than the frequent want of sales for the goods, public and private, actually brought into the India House during the period in question. The great progress and profit made by the Americans in the Indian trade, therefore, proceed essentially, not from their activity, or the advantage of individual enterprise, but from their neutral character, which, besides giving them access to countries from which belligerents are shut out, enables them to navigate more cheaply, easily and expeditiously, and it may be taken as a certainty, that whenever war ceases, all their advantages will cease with it, and their power of entering into competition with us in the trade of our own settlements, be very greatly reduced. The cry that has been raised and continued against the Company on this account, confessedly with the view of obtaining a general admission of Indian ships into England, is therefore altogether unfair. If a circuitous trade in Indian commodities, from Britain to foreign parts, has been prevented by the rivalry of the Americans, the Company have suffered as well as individuals. They have suffered also by the smuggling of Eastern articles from America, into our West Indian and North American colonies. They were anxious to check the abuses of the treaty of 1794, and, when it expired, they obtained the consent of His Majesty's ministers to impose a double duty on the neutral trade with India, which then applied almost solely to the Americans, but if the complaints against the rivalry of the Americans in the Indian trade had been well founded, what was the natural and proper remedy? Was it, that the Company, part of whose own trade had, during the war, passed into American hands, should sacrifice the rest of their exclusive privileges, and, by the extinction of them, endanger the territorial possessions? Or was it not obviously, that the Americans should be excluded from a trade supposed to be carried on at the expense of Great Britain? Yet this cry is still unaccountably kept up, even when we are at war with America, and the flag of the United States darts not be seen in the Indian seas! Nay, it is kept up to injure the cause of the Company, after they have actually agreed on enlargements of the trade to England, greater than ever were contemplated, even by the private merchants of India, before the present negotiation; and, if enlargements could effect the object, more than sufficient to bring the whole Indian trade of the Americans to the port of London.

* Other Averages of the American trade with India, from Statements before your Committee, may also be here noted.

	In six Years from 1802-3 to 1807-8			In three Years from 1808-9 to 1810-11		
	Goods	Bullion	TOTAL	Goods	Bullion	TOTAL
Imports into all India	£ 957,224	£ 6,528,250	£ 7,487,524	£ 351,602	£ 4,531,233	£ 4,882,836
Exports - ditto - -	6,901,269	25,696	6,926,965	5,107,318	9,625	5,117,443

It is singular that the party who complains of the large share that has been engrossed by the Americans of the Indian trade, should be the same party who complain also of the large share which the Americans, in a state of neutrality, enjoyed of the British trade between Great Britain and foreign nations. It is well known, that previously to the rupture between England and the United States, it was urged as a grievance, that though America exported from this country to the amount of twelve millions sterling annually, the country was *not* benefited to the utmost possible extent from this export trade, because the British merchants and manufacturers were, by the intervention of America, deprived of the carrying and of the second selling profit upon the manufactures. America, it was alleged, bought from us to a great extent, and Great Britain was, to a certain degree, a gainer to the extent of the American purchases, but because America sold our goods at second hand (to the Spanish Americans for example) it has been alleged, that had it not been for the intervention of the North American States, *we* should have supplied Spanish America, and in addition to the profits we have received, would have engrossed all the advantage which has accrued to the merchants of the United States from the carrying and circuitous trade. But may it not, on the other hand, be argued, that if the British manufacturers, in an open trade and during a state of war, have found the assistance of America necessary to the circulation of their own manufactures, the same assistance was wanted by the manufacturers of India to the circulation of their productions; that the large exports from India, as well as the large exports from Great Britain, by the Americans, were owing to their neutral character; that if the trade between India and England had been as open as is now contended for, the quantity of Indian goods, circulated through the world, could not have been greater than it has been, under the competition that has actually existed between the merchants of the United States, and the East India Company, and that a greater share in the export trade from India could only have been obtained for the free British traders in one of these ways, either by America abandoning, or Great Britain returning to her pacific relations with other countries. If a free trade has the virtue that is imputed to it, why, under complete freedom of trade, has this country been rendered tributary to America for a rent to the produce of British industry? and if the pacific relations of states pass for no account in such a question, whence the congratulations we so often hear upon what we have gained, and may yet gain, by the rupture with America?*

Seventhly,

* The following Statement, which has been received from an intelligent merchant who resided a number of years in America, shews the advantages under which the trade of that country was carried on, in a state of peace.

The advantages which Americans, as ship owners, enjoyed in a state of neutrality, are obvious, not only from their free communication with belligerents, but from other causes.

Their first rate vessels do not cost one half what those of the same tonnage built in Britain generally cost, hence the capital employed is one half less, and one half the insurance is sufficient to cover the property at stake.

The premium of insurance of an American neutral from Britain to America, was less than half what was given on an English vessel for the same voyage. On Americans, the premium was from two to two and a half per cent, on English vessels from five to six per cent.

The countervailing duties in America, induced shippers always to give a preference to American vessels. Goods arriving in America, paid twelve and a half to fifteen per cent. duties, whilst the same goods, by a British vessel, not only paid the same rate of duty, but an additional ten per cent. on the amount of those duties, which is one and a quarter to one and a half per cent. increased duty.

The freight of goods from America to England, in American bottoms, was never, in the best times, higher than one shilling and sixpence per foot; and many times the whole freight of an homeward bound American of three hundred tons (that is to say, an American going from this country) could have been had for £ 300 or £ 400. The cargoes of three fourths of Americans homeward, consisted either of crates of ware, salt, or coals, which are well known to yield but a very small freight indeed, taking the whole difference betwixt the purchase and sale, as freight.

The provisioning a ship in America, did not certainly cost more than one half that provisioning the same ship in Britain would have cost. Bread at 16s; beef at 30s. to 36s; pork at 45s to 50s, rum at 2s.; I believe will not be more than half the British prices for the same articles; and these were the current rates in 1800 to 1803.

Upon a calculation of all these advantages, it will be found that an American, in war time, could make a saving voyage from any of these ports to this country and home, when an English vessel would inevitably have brought her owner into debt; and that an American could actually import goods into the United States from this country, and sell them, at their average wholesale importation profit, to others as low as a British merchant could send them to America in a British ship, and deliver them over to be transhipped without any profit at all.

The American ships being of a lighter construction than ours, they sail with at least one third fewer hands.

The

Seventhly, That the distresses of the manufacturers, the exclusion of our trade from, the continent of Europe and from North America, its consequent great decline and the support of the war, require new channels of enterprise, and therefore an open trade

Every British heart must lament the obstructions to which our commerce has been subjected, must wish for the removal of all continental exclusions as well as of our differences with America, and that commercial freedom and activity may be restored. It is also extremely desirable that new sources of trade should be discovered, and natural for those who are now suffering under privations and hardships, to catch eagerly at the flattering prospects and promises so confidently held out to them from opening the trade with the East. But can the Court of Directors, thoroughly convinced as they are, that all such expectations are groundless and delusive,—that those who should act upon them, if the trade were opened, would be sure to experience ruinous loss and disappointment, and that the abolition of the Company's commercial privileges would be in effect the extinction of the whole of the present Indian system,—can the Court, with these convictions, lend themselves to promote a dangerous deception, already too prevalent, at the sacrifice of so much individual interest, and of that public interest, the care of which is entrusted to them? If it were, indeed, probable, that by a slow process the commercial intercourse between this country and the East could be enlarged, the effect would be far too distant to relieve present pressures, and the first adventurers be more likely to plunge the trading world into fresh difficulties, as proved to be the result of the general rush into the trade of Buenos Ayres, where it was easy to send exports, but difficult to find sale or return. It will, perhaps, now be said, that the trade with Buenos Ayres has become a regular one; but it can be a regular one only to a very limited extent, being, indeed, partly what subsisted with Lisbon, before it was turned into a different channel. It may not, in a long time, replace the vast sums at first lost there; and, at any rate, it displaced no important system existing before. From the late very favourable change in the affairs of Europe, a better prospect of relief now appears, from the East, it will be found, that no hope of any can be rationally entertained.

Eighthly, That a free trade to the East would be a substitute and cure for all present commercial evils; would open an unbounded field to British manufactures, British capital, skill, enterprise and knowledge, which would not only supply the wants of the vast population of the East, but create wants where they did not exist:

The practicability of extending, in any great degree, the commerce of this country with the natives of the East, in Exports and Imports, is undoubtedly a vital question on the whole of the discussion respecting the renewal of the Charter, for if no such extension be indeed practicable, to what end should the present system, with all the establishments

The following Statement will better elucidate these remarks. An American of 250 tons is employed in a voyage to Britain and back her value, as a first rate vessel for that trade, is £ 2,000, and the voyage occupies five months. A ship of 250 tons would carry 3,000 barrels of flour, at 9s which was the ordinary freight

The average freight home of such vessels could not exceed	1,350
	600
	£. 1,950

AMERICAN CHARGES.		BRITISH CHARGES.	
Insurance out and home, £. 2,000	£ s d	Insurance out and home, vessel	£. s. d.
at 4½ per cent	95 — —	valued at £. 4,000 at 9 per cent.	360 — —
8 men 5 months, at £ 5.	200 — —	12 men 5 months, at £. 5.	300 — —
Captain and mate, £ 10. each	100 — —	Captain and mate	100 — —
2,400 lbs bread, at 16s	19 4 —	360 lbs. of bread for 14 people	
Beef, 10 barrels, at 32s	16 — —	5 months, at 32s.	57 12 —
Pork, 10 d ^o at 50s	25 — —	15 barrels of beef, at £ 4.	60 — —
150 gallons rum	16 17 —	15 d ^o - - pork, at 90s.	67 10 —
Interest of £ 2,000. 5 months	41 13 4	220 gallons rum, at 5s.	55 — —
		Interest of £. 4,000 5 months	83 6 8
£	513 14 4	£	1,083 8 8

These are not to be understood as the total charges on the voyage, but are those which shew the advantages which Americans have enjoyed.

establishments which have grown out of it, be destroyed? The British merchants appear to entertain the most extravagant ideas of a new world for commercial enterprise, ideas upon which they are ready to risk their own property, and to sacrifice all the interests of the existing Indian system. The Company, backed by the great mass of British subjects now in Europe, who are acquainted with the countries of the East, maintain, in direct opposition to all such imaginations, that it is not now possible greatly to extend among the inhabitants of the East, the consumption of British productions, or in this country, the sale of Asiatic commodities. On the side of the merchants, there is in truth nothing but a sanguine theory, on the side of the Company, there is the experience of all the nations of Europe for three centuries, there is the testimony of ancient history, there are the climate, the nature, the usages, tastes, prejudices, religious and political institutions of the Eastern people. If the discovery of the passage by the Cape of Good Hope and the account of the first Europeans sent by that route to the shores of India, were only just announced to us, some explanation might be given of the enthusiasm with which the hope of unbounded commerce thither is entertained, but that, after all the knowledge which successive ages have afforded upon this subject, men of general intelligence and cultivation should, in opposition to the usual course of human affairs, adopt the fond idea of entering at once into the enjoyment of a new world of commerce, is a most striking instance of credulity, and of the power which interest and imagination united, have to impose upon the understanding. The theory of Dr Adam Smith did not anticipate any such sudden burst of new commerce when he pronounced that the "East Indies offered a market for the manufactures of Europe, greater and more extensive than both Europe and America put together." Eminent as Dr Smith certainly was in the science of political economy, he was not infallible, his information respecting India was very defective and erroneous, his prejudices against the East India Company extreme, and his prognostics concerning their Indian Government wholly mistaken. In the period which has elapsed, of nearly forty years, since he first published his work on the *Wealth of Nations*, the endeavours of all Europe and America have made no discovery of that immense market for European manufactures which, he said, was offered by the East Indies, yet the same doctrine seems to be still in the minds of some of the petitioners, who made it a serious charge against the Company, that its exports to the immense regions of the East, do not amount to a fifth of the exports of this country to North America. But as well might it be a matter of charge against the merchants of England, that their exports to the great continent of Africa, which contains so many millions of inhabitants, less influenced by religious prejudices, and more inclined by taste and manners, than the people of the East to use our productions, do not equal their exports to our remaining American colonies. The reason is obvious in both cases. All the North American colonies are the same people as ourselves, live under a climate nearly similar, and have a variety of commodities valuable to us, to exchange. The Africans live under a tropical sun, are poor, and have little means of purchasing even such of our manufactures as they would like to use. It has been already noticed that the Americans have been in the habit of carrying our commodities into other countries.

A profound observer of human affairs, the president Montesquieu, had, before the time of Dr Smith, who, however, overlooks his opinion, reasoned more agreeably to nature and experience on this subject. "Although," says he, "commerce be liable to great revolutions, it may happen that certain physical causes, such as the quality of soil and climate, shall for ever fix its character. In the commerce which we carry on with India, in modern times, the export of money thither is indispensable. The Romans carried to India, every year, about fifty millions of *asses*. That money, as ours now is, was exchanged for goods, which they brought back to the West. Every nation which has traded to India has uniformly carried the precious metals thither, and brought back goods in return. Nature herself produces this effect. The Indians have their arts, which are adapted to their manner of life. Our wants are essentially different from theirs, and what is luxury to us never can be so to them. Their climate neither requires nor permits the use of almost any of our commodities. Accustomed to go almost naked, the country furnishes them with the scanty raiments they wear, and their religion, to which they are in absolute subjection, instils into them an aversion to that sort of food which we consume, they, therefore, need nothing

" from

“ from us but our metals, which are the signs of value, and for which they give in
 “ return, the merchandize that their frugality, and the nature of the country, sup-
 “ ply in abundance. Ancient authors, who have written upon India, represent the
 “ country precisely such as we now find it, as to police, to manners, and to morals
 “ India always has been, and India always will be, what it now is, and those who
 “ trade to India, will carry money thither, and bring none back ”

As the Court have, in their Letter of the 13th January 1809, to the President of the India Board, given the same views and in some detail, on this subject, not deriving their opinion from any single authority, but from the broad page of history and practice, it is unnecessary for your Committee again to enlarge upon it. but may not the attention of the manufacturers of woollens, metals, cotton fabrics, and potteries, be still called to the habits of the Indian people, the bulk of whom live all their days upon rice, and go only half covered with a slight cotton cloth, the rice and cotton both produced by their own soil? The earnings of the common labouring classes, and consequently their expenses, may be estimated, on an average, not to exceed * £ 4. 10s per man, per annum. They are indolent by nature, frugal by habit, under manifold religious restrictions. What demand of the manufactures from Europe is to be expected from these? Of the better classes few are rich, unless those connected with Europeans and *even these*, during a course of nearly three centuries, in which they have lived in European settlements, have adopted none of our tastes or fashions; unless, perhaps, in a few articles of jewellery and hardware, looking-glasses, and carriages, with the use of a mantle of broad-cloth in the cold season. As to the North of India, though the climate there be less dissimilar to ours, the people are extremely so and in poor ill-governed countries, where property is insecure and concealed, what hope can there be of a vent for foreign luxuries? The persons who now imagine that region to present a great field for commerce, have no conception of the difficulty of carrying goods there from the sea; the delays, expense, and insecurity that must be experienced, when the boundaries of the Company's Government are passed, and in finding and bringing back returns, if the European commodities could be disposed of. With respect to China, it is not denied that it might, in all probability, take off many of our manufactures, if the Chinese Government would allow the free dissemination of them. The jealous restrictions of that Government, however, which, though they have been already stated, it may be proper to notice again here, prevent their own subjects, in general, from any dealings with Europeans, and it has been seen, that the magnificent style of Lord Macartney's embassy, which bespoke the grandeur of the British Sovereign, with the refined diplomatic talents of that nobleman, which even struck the Chinese courtiers, were incapable of moving the Government to depart in the smallest degree from its established policy. If instead of the regulated, long experienced organ for European trade, the Company's Canton establishment, under whose respectability, in fact, the Americans were admitted, a swarm of unconnected private traders were to be let loose upon that country, it is altogether probable, that the Chinese would either shut their doors entirely upon them, or contract even the present narrow entrance

If so many proofs of want of knowledge on Indian subjects did not crowd on your Committee, they might express surprise at finding any persons still so uninformed, as to hold up the trade carried on by individuals in the time of Cromwell, as gainful to the parties, and useful to the nation. The fact is now ascertained to have been notoriously otherwise. The competition of the traders led them to undersell their exports in India and their imports in England. the Public, indeed, for a little time, got Indian goods remarkably cheap, but the adventurer could not go on, and Cromwell, induced by the representations made to him, in which several of those very adventurers joined, restored the Company, *in order to save the Indian trade to the nation*

Parliament is now told by the petitioners, that the Private Trade, to which individuals were admitted by the Act of 1793, enlarged by the arrangement of 1802, has succeeded, and produced a profit, even whilst the Company have been trading to a loss. The Court have very substantial reasons to believe, that although some articles of Private Trade may at certain times have sold to a profit, yet that large importations
of

* In a late statistical account of Dinagepore, a province of Bengal, there are statements of the annual expenses of different classes of society; and among them, one of the expenses of a labouring man with a wife and two children. The amount is only Rupees 22 10 11. or near £ 3 per annum; being at the rate of fifteen shillings per head. The article of clothing, for this family of four persons, is only six shillings per annum.

18 REPORT FROM COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE

of other articles, both into India and into England, have repeatedly sold to a loss, or have remained long on hand, for want of sale.

The nature of this trade should be considered; the numerous commanders and officers of the Company's ships (a very superior class of nautical men) have no adequate provision from direct pecuniary allowances, their compensation has been in the privilege of trade, and a certain allowance of tonnage, freight free. This has generally made them traders; and as they are to look to trade for their emolument, (for but few, comparatively, make money by passengers,) they continued to adventure, though often with little success; and your Committee are assured, that though they pay no freight nor commission, being their own agents, they still find it, on the whole, a precarious, unproductive business. Now, if these men do not succeed, it can hardly be expected that those who have freight and commission to pay can fare better.

But it will be said that other individuals do, nevertheless, embark in this trade. To this it is to be answered, that the manufacturers of Indigo, in Bengal, (an article originally promoted and always fostered by the Company,) generally send their produce to England; and this is a matter of necessity; because the great bulk of the article cannot otherwise be disposed of. Again, there is a certain annual amount of acquisition by Europeans in India, and as this, (doubtless, a large amount in all,) is in one way or another to be remitted to England, merchants in India may find their account tolerably well in taking up such money in India; investing it in goods, and granting bills, at a rate favourable to the drawer, payable from the sales in this country. A sort of new transit capital arises in this way every year, and men may be tempted, occasionally, to seek to make an advantage of it, who would not regularly fix a capital of their own in the trade. There is also a third sort of trade from India, which men of large capital speculate in when favourable occasions seem to offer; and in this way sometimes cotton piece goods, sometimes cotton wool, sometimes indigo and raw silk have been adventured in. But your Committee suppose it to be an undisputed fact, that these larger adventures have repeatedly been attended with heavy losses to individuals, particularly the very great importations of piece goods, exceeding in value two millions sterling, in 1802; the large importations of cotton, and even of Indigo, since that time; and what may be sufficiently decisive on this head is, that very large quantities of those have remained long in the Company's warehouses without a sale, or uncleared after sale. The following abstract Account will sufficiently exhibit these facts.

Value of PRIVATE GOODS from India, remaining in the Company's Warehouses.

	Sold	Unsold.	Total.
	£	£	£
On 1st January 1809 - - -	1,576,185	815,000	2,391,185
1810 - - -	1,370,958	1,057,760	2,428,718
1811 - - -	2,513,761	1,005,000	3,518,761
1812 - - -	2,547,668	1,002,932	3,550,600
1813 - - -	2,411,259	1,008,000	3,419,259
Of the Sold Goods remaining in Warehouses, 1st January 1813.			
246 bales Cotton Wool, have been in Warehouse ten years - - -			£2,460
112 - - - D° - - - five - - -			1,120
6,600 - - - D° - - - four - - -			6,600
30,000 - - - D° - - - three - - -			300,000
6,000 - - - D° - - - two - - -			58,930
<u>42,958 bales Cotton Wool, value - - -</u>			<u>£428,510</u>
71 Chests of Indigo, remaining seven years - - -			4,828
722 - - - D° - - - six - - -			49,096
424 - - - D° - - - five - - -			28,832
230 - - - D° - - - four - - -			15,640
5,121 - - - D° - - - three - - -			358,223
1,593 - - - D° - - - two - - -			108,324
9,080 - - - D° - - - one - - -			613,838
<u>17,241 Chests Indigo, value - - -</u>			<u>£1,178,786</u>
			1,607,296
Piece Goods, imported in 1803, 1804, and 1805.			
Remained in Warehouses in 1809 - - -			£276,784
D° - - - 1810 - - -			153,891
D° - - - 1811 - - -			152,094

But

But it will still be said, the Private Trade between Europe and India has greatly increased since the enlargement of 1793 was granted.

To explain this it is to be remembered, first, that, as already stated, the commanders and officers of the Company's ships, are in a manner obliged to be traders, and that they have greatly increased in number since 1793. they are forced to carry out goods, and therefore to bring goods back; because *in general* specie would be a losing remittance. Secondly, that the number of Europeans in India has been very greatly increased in India since 1793. Every class has increased. the civil, military, and medical servants of the Company, the king's troops, from a few regiments to twenty thousand men, the naval servants of the crown, ladies, lawyers, free merchants, free mariners, and the mixed race of European descent, now become a great multitude, who imitate, as far as they can, the fashions of their fathers. For all these descriptions of persons, every thing required for use or luxury is sent from this country. thus the exports are necessarily enhanced; and exports being made, returns for them, in the commodities of the country, become necessary, whether they are sure to answer or not.

A brief view of the state of the Private Trade between England and India may here be given from the Indian registers of external commerce, commencing with 1795-6, when the Act of 1793 began to operate in India, to the year 1810-11. But it is to be remarked, that only the Bengal registers commence in 1795-6. those for Madras and Bombay not till 1802-3.

Statement of the PRIVATE TRADE between LONDON and BENGAL, from the year 1795-6 to 1801-2, both years inclusive.

	IMPORTS INTO BENGAL.			EXPORTS from BENGAL.
	Merchandise	Bullion.	TOTAL.	Merchandise.
	S ^a R ^s	S ^a R ^s	S ^a R ^s	S ^a R ^s
1795-6 - - - -	17,91,623	4,81,538	22,73,161	84,08,800
1796-7 - - - -	15,49,906	2,33,096	17,83,002	50,79,310
1797-8 - - - -	11,88,043	3,46,176	15,34,219	69,71,529
1798-9 - - - -	10,13,105	7,30,209	17,43,314	41,07,834
1799-1800 - - -	31,50,696	16,36,405	47,87,101	67,66,649
1800-1801 - - -	40,98,360	3,74,112	44,72,472	84,87,336
1801-1802 - - -	36,51,650	3,24,019	39,75,669	1,31,97,420
	1,64,43,383	41,25,555	2,05,68,938	5,30,18,878

Statement of the PRIVATE TRADE between LONDON and BRITISH INDIA, from the year 1802-3 to 1810-11, both years inclusive.

	IMPORTS.			EXPORTS.		
	Stores and Merchandise	Bullion.	TOTAL	Merchandise	Bullion	TOTAL.
	S ^a R ^s .	S ^a R ^s	S ^a R ^s	S ^a R ^s .	S ^a R ^s	S ^a R ^s .
Bengal, in nine years, from 1802-3 to 1810-11 -	3,35,33,443	52,19,768	3,87,53,211	7,62,87,574	2,540	7,62,90,114
Madras - - - -	1,14,96,218	50,17,839	1,65,14,057	93,72,303	5,867	93,78,170
Bombay - - - -	1,48,03,575	29,65,079	1,77,68,654	93,18,775	53,644	93,72,419
TOTAL - - - -	5,98,33,236	1,32,02,686	7,30,35,922	9,49,78,652	62,051	9,50,40,703

This is the comparative state of the Private Trade with Bengal and India, in former periods, beginning with 1795-6, and at the present time; but the increase is by no means to be conceived as merely the result of the enlargement given by the Act of 1793, or afterwards. It is (let it be again observed) most materially to be ascribed to the increase in the number of the Company's commanders and officers, to the necessity of making returns in goods from India for their exports, to the great increase of Europeans and their descendants, in India, to the vast increase in the culture of indigo, cherished by the Company, and permitted to come in their ships before the Act of 1793; and what the enlargements of that Act, and subsequent measures have opened the way for, has been occasional large speculation in cotton,

20' REPORT FROM COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE

piece goods, raw cotton and indigo ; which speculations have more often failed than succeeded. But the great conclusion to be derived from the account of the trade since 1793, is this ; in all the period of nearly twenty years, from that time to the present, in which, undoubtedly, facilities and enlargements never enjoyed before, have been given for private enterprize and adventure, in which the Private Trade has considerably increased, and on the whole a very ample experiment has been made, *not one new article for the consumption of the natives of India has been exported*, and little perceivable difference in the few articles of metals and woollens, of which they participated before. This is a very remarkable fact, and ought to make a deep impression on all persons who in any way interest themselves in this subject. Let us not hear of that unfair charge so often repeated, that the Company's restrictions have prevented persons from availing themselves of the privilege held out by public regulations. Would the commanders and officers not restrained by high freight, or any uncertainty of getting tonnage, not have carried out articles for the use of the natives, if they had found that any such were saleable? Would not European residents in India, keen merchants, and acquainted with the dispositions and tastes of the natives, have commissioned for such articles, if they had seen any vent for them? Would not native merchants, who buy and sell European commodities, have recommended the importation of things for the natives, if they had seen any chance of a sale? Yet of 54,000 tons allotted for the Private Trade since 1793, only 21,806 tons have been actually used by private merchants, and these filled wholly with commodities for the use of Europeans. On the whole then, this may be pronounced a decisive experiment, a decisive proof that there is no opening, nor any material opening to be expected, for the sale of European articles for the use of the natives of India.

Of the Import Trade from India on private account, since 1793, after what has already been said, it may be sufficient to present the following Abstract:—

IMPORTS FROM INDIA IN PRIVILEGE TRADE.

	PIECE GOODS	RAW SILK.	COTTON WOOL.	INDIGO.	SUGAR.	SALTPETRE.	PEPPER.	DRUGS.	ALL OTHER ARTICLES.	TOTAL
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
1793-4	83,439	34,938	- -	47,038	12,465	- -	- -	3,850	- -	181,710
1794-5	296,098	17,069	11,054	103,346	6,286	32,706	- -	1,320	- -	469,879
1795-6	134,046	3,058	5,693	233,013	8,610	13,084	- -	10,283	- -	409,787
1796-7	319,053	3,315	30,148	273,654	15,525	17,169	- -	19,885	- -	678,749
1797-8	167,210	3,684	67,674	283,893	77,594	33,527	- -	13,200	- -	642,782
1798-9	214,616	- -	38,109	440,275	105,200	13,168	- -	61,484	8,810	881,662
1799-800	295,658	- -	445,413	782,449	94,959	- -	18,077	102,804	7,779	1,747,139
1800-1	197,732	53,009	395,372	491,472	222,118	12,483	40,041	130,009	24,736	1,566,972
1801-2	394,890	36,660	142,480	636,046	36,172	62,326	70,400	151,354	193,889	1,724,217
1802-3	861,872	37,588	180,915	789,314	41,424	101,871	120,673	206,054	246,870	2,586,581
1803-4	884,467	44,963	67,006	602,582	44,643	18,495	37,488	142,858	18,232	1,860,734
1804-5	673,787	65,218	93,242	811,214	65,391	11,220	33,718	92,479	6,781	1,853,050
1805-6	633,911	12,184	18,201	939,861	- -	- -	1,376	111,875	5,564	1,722,972
1806-7	164,111	165,839	122,072	549,871	- -	- -	572	24,230	2,067	1,028,762
1807-8	69,314	178,128	125,636	1,434,238	9,171	- -	19,918	90,506	4,774	1,931,685
1808-9	18,199	89,085	158,032	510,406	- -	- -	- -	19,372	2,135	797,229
1809-10	64,918	12,760	203,190	764,203	- -	- -	- -	62,491	16,826	1,129,408
1810-11	48,043	35,498	550,078	1,382,767	10,827	1,982	38,533	58,791	22,813	2,199,532
1811-12	149,079	90,335	257,545	425,074	20,924	89	19,921	178,356	27,690	1,169,023
Total	5,670,443	993,351	2,916,860	11,504,716	771,309	318,120	400,717	1,481,191	588,966	24,585,673

IMPORTS

IMPORTS FROM INDIA IN PRIVATE TRADE OF COMMANDERS AND OFFICERS.

	PIECE GOODS	RAW SILK	COTTON WOOL	INDIGO.	SUGAR	SALTPETRE	PEPPER.	DRUGS	ALL OTHER ARTICLES	TOTAL.
	£	£	£	£.	£	£	£	£	£	£
1793 4 -	98,190	- -	37,921	218,841	5,054	- -	5,280	76,640	3	441,929
1794-5 -	162,967	- -	- -	140,974	9,834	- -	- -	60,093	- -	373,868
1795 6 -	127,146	- -	- -	202,218	3,807	29	2,593	121,823	925	455,541
1796 7 -	55,303	- -	- -	148,659	1,324	- -	11,163	57,453	910	274,812
1797-8 -	25,254	- -	21,740	141,506	499	- -	- -	96,389	7,772	293,160
1798 9 -	29,499	- -	11,334	266,176	6,197	- -	1,768	129,372	3,715	448,061
1799 800	40,077	1,034	10,538	226,708	4,140	3,060	8,041	64,990	12,220	370,868
1800 1 -	91,387	46,615	8,889	280,886	17,332	- -	4,378	50,222	36,710	546,419
1801-2 -	34,965	274	- -	168,588	7,211	97	12,501	41,326	3,465	268,427
1802-3 -	207,799	- -	8,151	89,261	827	- -	18,367	102,530	29,117	456,052
1803-4 -	174,848	11,164	- -	100,052	924	- -	8,388	18,411	1,516	315,303
1804 5 -	180,034	60,233	593	269,926	- -	1,058	7,471	5,819	45,852	570,986
1805-6 -	138,089	32,044	7,636	452,997	- -	144	7,395	84,445	5,360	728,110
1806-7 -	36,401	86,231	19,433	224,515	135	14	980	47,529	9,556	424,846
1807-8 -	42,229	74,902	18,104	419,580	- -	377	- -	45,960	16,724	617,876
1808 9 -	47,334	12,696	35,220	300,152	- -	48	271	83,503	41,379	520,603
1809-10	12,646	90,433	22,021	231,735	- -	155	4,762	66,414	5,108	433,275
1810-11	76,335	121,695	7,626	360,180	1,602	194	17,664	91,678	13,422	690,396
1811-12	51,112	148,867	- -	47,637	- -	28	1,398	60,494	19	309,555
TOTAL -	1,631,615	686,188	209,258	4,290,591	58,886	5,205	112,420	1,315,091	233,773	8,543,027

SHORT ABSTRACT

Total Privilege	- - - - -	£ 24,585,673
Private Trade	- - - - -	8,543,027
		<u>£ 33,128,700</u>
Which contained Indigo	- - - - -	£ 11,504,716
		4,290,591
		<u>£ 15,795,307</u>
Cotton	- - - - -	£ 2,916,860
		209,258
		<u>3,126,118</u>
All other Articles	- - - - -	£ 18,921,425
		<u>14,207,275</u>

It may be proper to point out to attention the great proportion which the articles of indigo and cotton bear to the whole of these imports; and, likewise, to refer to the great quantities of these two articles, which, it has already appeared, remain still in the Company's warehouses, either unsold or uncleared. Of the practicability of enlarging the imports into this country, of Indian production, fit for the European market, it was formerly stated by the Court, that the diligence, not only of the different East India Companies of Europe, but of individual Europeans trading through the whole extent of the Indian seas, has been excited during three centuries, to discover articles which might be profitably exported to Europe, and after all the experience thus acquired, particularly in the present day, when the coasting and internal trade of India has been greatly enlarged, it is not reasonable to be assumed, upon merely theoretical ideas, that there is any source of materials raw or manufactured, in India, yet undiscovered, by which the imports from India into this country can be profitably augmented, and with respect to those articles which may now be considered as the staples of India; namely, cotton piece goods, raw silk, indigo,

indigo, raw cotton, and sugar, the demand for the first is reduced and limited, by the vast growth and excellence of the cotton manufactures of Britain and Europe, the second, to whatever extent demanded, can be brought home in the ships of the Company, the third, already imported to an extent that nearly supplies the consumption of Europe, may also easily be carried home in the same channel, and the article of raw cotton, brought from a great distance, at an unavoidably high freight, which renders it incapable, when this country is engaged in war, and North America and Portugal at peace with us, of entering into competition with the cottons of Georgia and Brazil, both superior in quality, and brought to this market more expeditiously, to meet the fluctuations of price and demand, and at a far cheaper rate of freight. As to sugar, if it could be imported to this market, so as to rival the produce of our West India colonies, which it cannot be in time of war, surely this is not a trade which could be, on the whole, profitable to the nation, and no other great article of Indian produce has ever been thought of, except hemp, of which the culture is still in an early stage in India, not capable of standing a competition with Russia, whenever our intercourse with that country is open. It is in this state of things, when the Company cannot find vent for more exports in the East when their warehouses are filled with goods from the East, for which there is no demand, and when they suffer from the continental restrictions in common with all His Majesty's subjects, that the Petitioners, whose chief complaint is of general stagnation of trade, censure the Company for not enlarging theirs.

Ninthly. The demand of a full and entire freedom of trade to the Eastward of the Cape of Good Hope, including China and all the countries within the Charter of the East India Company.

Such are the views of the Petitioners, professedly no less than a complete subversion of the fabric of the East India Company, and all the great commercial establishments connected with it, involving also the hazard of the political interests of the British empire Indian and European. Certainly, it must be presumed, the Petitioners expect such advantages to follow from all these changes, as shall compensate for the immense sacrifices which they require, but your Committee hope it has sufficiently appeared, from the preceding discussion, that all such expectations are illusory and vain. If, however, they are not indeed the offspring of sanguine theories, but the result of sober rational consideration, might not the same sobriety of thought be expected to pay an equitable regard to the ruin which would be inflicted on existing interests, and to look to some suitable provision against the possible contingency of final disappointment. Yet these important objects seem to have received no adequate attention. Against the alledged danger of excessive speculation, (a danger which is in fact, a public concern), it is argued "that the enterprise of individuals is uniformly limited "by their means and success." But if they involve all their friends, and sink in their attempts, and this should be the case of many, would not the result be a general calamity? The argument of the Petitioners assumes, that the new trade will be finally successful, but the foregoing review deprives them of all right to go upon this supposition.

For the deep injuries which all the London establishments connected with the Eastern trade would receive, there is absolutely no relief or reparation of any kind adverted to. And for the Company, they are told first of their wealth, knowledge, and experience (all of which have been before disparaged), as enabling them to oppose, unassisted, private efforts, that if they can carry on trade to greater advantage than individuals they have nothing to fear, and that they will reap their reward in competition. All this is particularly applied to the China trade, which is not a new trade, nor, as has been shewn, either susceptible of increase, or likely to be preserved at all as a general trade. The transfer of it to other hands would add nothing to the nation, whilst the entire benefit of it is necessary for the support of the political interests of the Company. Secondly, it is proposed, that for indemnifying and remunerating the claims of the Company, they "shall have a fair and equal impost "on the trade in question." If the trade and rate of impost were both likely to be considerable, which your Committee see no reason to suppose, the idea of an indemnification for the whole by giving afterwards a part (and probably a small part), can hardly be treated as a serious idea.

But for the detriment which the Company in their political capacity might sustain, for all the ill consequences that might ensue to the government and immense population

population of India, no provision whatever is proposed. And against an entire failure of the vast prospects now so sanguinely entertained, this consolation is at last administered, that "the very worst that can occur, in the event of" the abandonment of the trade by the Public, would be, *that matters might "return again to their present state"*

But can it be seriously supposed, that after the fabric of the Company and its immense dependent and connected establishments in England, in India and China, should have been set aside and left to decay and ruin; when India should have been laid open, and the China establishment superseded, and so much capital sunk, that things could be brought back to their former state. The possibility of such a mighty convulsion, and the ease with which it is contemplated by the Petitioners, may be sufficient to excite a salutary tear of the rage of theory, speculation and innovation, may suggest the prudence of stopping short of the precipice to which they would conduct us, of at least resting at some point, so far safe, as not to expose the whole of the empire, Indian and European, to the terrible alternative here brought into view. A great extension of the trade to or from the East, the object for which such dangers are to be run, is shewn in the preceding pages to be impracticable; and it has been also shewn, that in the prosecution of the attempt to obtain it, the interests of British India, and of the finances of this country, would be endangered. But if an experiment is still required to be made in the vast continent of Hindostan, and its adjacent islands. (for to push the experiment into China, would be to risk the trade of that country and all its advantages, without the chance of any benefit), the means of making a large ample experiment, in which the whole nation may participate, through the port of London, are now offered, means which shall give the fairest opportunity to ascertain the practicability of extending the trade, without breaking down present establishments, or exposing the Empire, in case of failure, to the most disastrous consequences. At the same point, therefore here described, your Committee humbly hope the wisdom of His Majesty's Ministers and Parliament, will still see fit to rest.

(Signed)

HUGH INGLIS.
 ROBT THORNTON
 JACOB BOSANQUET.
 W^m F. ELPHINSTONE.
 THEOPHILUS METCALFE
 JOSEPH COTTON.
 CHARLES GRANT.
 GEORGE SMITH
 EDWARD PARRY.
 SWENEY TOONE.
 WILLIAM ASTELL.

(East India Affairs.)

Copy of a REPORT from the Committee
of Correspondence to the Court of Directors
of The *East India* Company, dated 9th Fe-
bruary 1813, —on the subject of the TRADE
with The EAST INDIES and CHINA.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be printed,
11 March 1813.

T H I R D
R E P O R T

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

APPOINTED TO CONSIDER OF THE MEANS OF IMPROVING

AND MAINTAINING

THE FOREIGN TRADE

OF THE COUNTRY.

EAST INDIES AND CHINA.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
10 July 1821.

THE REPORT	- . - - - - -	p. 193
MINUTES OF EVIDENCE	- - - - -	p. 209
THE APPENDIX	- - - - -	p. 369

X:51.301:2-1101.

A821

T H I R D
R E P O R T.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE appointed to consider of the Means of maintaining and improving the FOREIGN TRADE of the Country, and to report their opinion and observations thereupon from time to time to The House, and to whom the Report communicated by the Lords, relative to the Trade with the *East Indies* and *China*, was referred;—HAVE, pursuant to the Order of the House, further considered the Matters to them referred, and have agreed to the following REPORT:

YOUR Committee purpose to call the attention of the House, in the present Report, to the peculiar regulations which govern the Commercial intercourse of this Country with the British possessions in the East Indies, the Commerce of those possessions with other parts of the world; and also generally the trade of the other countries included within the limits of the Charter of the East India Company, so far as the United Kingdom is interested.

The trade of British subjects, with all the countries situated between the Cape of Good Hope and the Straights of Magellan, was almost exclusively confined, for more than a century preceding the year 1814, to the East India Company. Your Committee do not think it necessary to trace the progress of this trade, or the partial modifications which were applied to the Company's monopoly, at former periods; or to describe the ineffectual attempts which were made to extend to the King's subjects generally, by any thing short of a permission to trade with India in their own ships, a participation in the India trade. Much valuable information upon these subjects will be found in the Reports from Committees in former Parliaments*, and in the documents and examinations which immediately preceded the establishment of the present system.

The East India trade is now regulated by the Act of 1813, styled The ^{53 Geo 3,} Charter Act; and by some later Acts to which Your Committee will ^{c 155} presently refer.

The nature and effect of the existing arrangement Your Committee will now proceed to explain; and they think it right to be the more particular in their statement of the laws, and of the practice which has been adopted under them, because they have reason for believing that much misconception has prevailed upon these points; whereby, in some instances, British merchants have been deterred from enterprizes which it was within their lawful competence to undertake.

The

* See particularly, Fourth Report from Select Committee on East India Affairs, ordered to be printed 10 April 1812, pp. 442—6, and the Supplement to that Report.

The Act of 1813, at the same time that it continued to the East India Company, for a period of twenty years, the administration (under the superintendence and control of the Crown, through the Board of Commissioners) of the British territories in India, renewed also for the same period, but with very important modifications and exceptions, the exclusive privileges, with regard to the trade eastward of the Cape, which had been conferred upon the Company by various former Acts, especially by that of the 33d of Geo. 3, c. 52, called The Charter Act of 1793.

That this re-enactment of the Company's monopoly, followed by the extension of certain limited rights to His Majesty's subjects generally, was the form in which the partial opening of the East India trade was effected by Parliament, is a point to which it is very necessary to attend. It is not for Your Committee to determine whether it might not have been more convenient to re-cast the whole law, and to establish by fresh enactments, the privileges of the Company and of private traders respectively; this was not the mode which the legislature thought fit to adopt. And the form which was actually adopted, has subjected the Indian trade, and the trade with all places within the limits of the charter, to a rule essentially opposite to that by which all other trade is regulated. So that, whereas in all other cases, the general rule to which merchants may appeal, is *permission*, and the *prohibition* is the exception; in the present case, the general rule is (as to all but the Company) a strict and rigorous interdiction of all commerce and intercourse with the countries eastward of the Cape, and *that* alone is permitted, for which there is a special warrant in an Act of Parliament. In some particulars, the exception is so extensive, as to amount to an abrogation of the rule; but a recollection of the peculiarity which has been noticed, is nevertheless in those cases important, with a view to a right understanding of the law, and the security of commercial enterprizes.

The privileges then, which the Act of 1813 extends to Private Traders, may be thus stated.

53 Geo 3,
c 155, s. 6

In the first place, any person may export, in ships navigated according to law, from any port or ports within the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, to all ports and places within the limits of the East India Company's charter, (save and except the dominions of the Emperor of China,) any goods, wares and merchandize, which may be legally exported; and he may also import, in ships navigated according to law, from any port or ports within those limits, except as aforesaid, into the United Kingdom, any goods, wares and merchandize, the product or manufacture of any of the countries within those limits, which may be legally imported.

The *limits of the East India Company's charter*, to which this general permission refers, comprise all the seas and countries eastward of the Cape of Good Hope, and westward of the Straights of Magellan; and it is to be observed, that whenever this description occurs in an Act of Parliament or elsewhere, without a qualification, it has this general extensive application; but the Act, in effect, establishes three subdivisions of these limits, (exclusive of China, which is altogether excepted) to each of which a different regulation is applied.

First, what are called "*The Company's peculiar limits*," being,—all places situate on the continent of Asia, from the river Indus to the town of Malacca inclusive, and any island under the government of the Company lying to the north of the Equator, (that is, Prince of Wales Island,) and the Company's factory at Bencoolen.

Secondly, all places, other than those included within the first division, which are situate more to the northward than eleven degrees of south latitude,

latitude, and between the 64th and 150th degrees of east longitude from London. These are sometimes styled "*The Board's limits.*"

Thirdly, all other places within the limits of the charter

The permission given by the Act, is, as to all countries included in the third division, subject to no qualifications excepting as to the size of the vessels, which must not be under 350 tons burthen. The trade therefore between the United Kingdom and New South Wales, the Isles of France and Bourbon, the Persian and Arabian gulphs, and the east coast of Africa, is, in effect, taken out of the monopoly; and may be carried on without licence, or hindrance from the Company. But Your Committee must here observe, in illustration of what they have said concerning the renewed rights of the Company, that a breach of the only restriction which still remains upon this branch of trade, namely, that which requires a ship of 350 tons at least, not only makes the voyage illegal, but subjects the Private Trader to all the penalties of unlawful trading, and to the powers given to the Company by the Act of 1793. Sect 13

The only exception to this restriction upon the tonnage, is to be found in the Act which permits vessels under a certain tonnage, to trade between the United Kingdom and New South Wales. 59 Geo 3.
c 122

The trade with places situated within the geographical limits described in the second division, which limits include the Islands of Ceylon and Java, and the Islands in the East Indian Archipelago, (with the exception of a very few) is, in practice, nearly as free as that which is without those limits. The Act indeed requires, that for carrying on this trade, there shall be a licence from the Commissioners for the affairs of India, which it is at their discretion to grant or withhold; but that Board has, from the commencement, promulgated its intention to grant licences in *all* cases, without any exception, in which they shall be desired, and these licences are subject to no fee. See Lords
Report
App^r p 553.
Appendix
(A)

The trade with the possessions of the East India Company, constituting the first division, is differently regulated. The licence to proceed to a port within these peculiar limits, is granted by the Court of Directors, and so far as concerns a voyage to one of the principal settlements of the Company (namely, Fort William, Fort St. George, Bombay, and Prince of Wales Island) is demandable of right, though not granted without a fee. With respect to any other place within the first division, the Court of Directors may refuse to grant a licence, authorizing such a voyage directly from any port in the United Kingdom; but they are required to state the reasons for their refusal, to the Commissioners for the affairs of India, who may direct the Court of Directors to issue such licence, recording the special reasons inducing them to give such directions. Appendix
(B.)

The Act of 1813, in so far as it communicated to the King's subjects generally, a part of those rights of commerce and intercourse, which had been the exclusive privilege of the East India Company, constitutes a compact between the State and that Company: its provisions originated in a negotiation between the King's Government and the Company, the result of which negotiation was the avowed basis of the Act*. Those provisions therefore of the Act, which were matter of agreement and compromise with the Company, are not to be repealed or altered without the Company's concurrence. The Act itself makes no distinction between these conventional enactments, and those which are merely matters of regulation,

* See the Papers ordered to be printed, on 12th & 18th March 1813.

regulation, which might have been at any time prescribed by Parliament; but it appears reasonable to consider as matters of compact, all those provisions which may fairly be deemed to have been taken into consideration by the Company, when they accepted the terms, to some of which they gave an avowedly reluctant consent. The 20th section of the Act, however, contained a distinct reservation, to the effect of leaving Parliament at liberty to make further regulations, for enabling His Majesty's subjects to carry on trade, directly or circuitously, with the places within the limits of the charter; and the only exception or proviso annexed to this reservation, is contained in the words "without prejudice to any of the restrictions or provisions herein contained, as to the resort to, and residence of any persons in the East Indies or parts aforesaid."

The power so reserved in the 20th section, was first exercised in the Act 54 Geo. 3d, c. 34, commonly called The Circuitous Trade Act; which contained two principal provisions:

1st. That by which the Company and Private Traders are permitted to touch and trade on their outward or homeward voyage, at foreign ports in America, as well as at the Cape of Good Hope, the Island of St. Helena; and on the outward voyage, at the Canaries, Cape de Verde Islands, and the Island of Madeira

2dly. A permission to the Private Traders, to carry on trade, directly and circuitously, between all ports and places whatsoever, lying *within* the limits of the charter, that is, from the Cape of Good Hope (*inclusively*, by a special clause) and the Straights of Magellan.

By this Act, ships proceeding to or from India, were still debarred from all traffic with ports in *Europe*, other than those of the United Kingdom; but in 1817, an Act passed, styled *The Malta Trade Act*, whereby vessels trading between the United Kingdom and India, whether belonging to the Company or to individuals, were permitted to touch at *Malta* and *Gibraltar*, and vessels were also allowed to trade between those places, and the limits of the charter, without coming to a British port.

57 Geo 3,
c 36.

Appendix
(C)

During the present Session, in consequence of the Second Report from Your Committee, an Act has passed, comprising all the remaining objects of the reservation (except as to British colonies) by permitting British ships to carry on trade, between all ports within the limits of the charter, and all ports, whether in Europe or elsewhere, belonging to countries in amity with His Majesty. The traffic so permitted, may either be carried on in ships, voyaging under the Act of 1813, from or to a port in the United Kingdom; or it may be carried on in ships, which neither commence nor terminate their voyage at a British port; to the latter case, the restrictions of the Act of 1813, especially that which is contained in the 13th clause, are in no way applicable.

1 & 2 Geo 4,
c 65.

Appendix
(D)

That the permission of a direct trade between India and Foreign Ports was contemplated by His Majesty's Government at a very early period, will appear from a communication made in July 1814 by the Earl of Buckinghamshire, then President of the India Board, to Mr. Canning and others, who as representatives of commercial towns, had made a representation to him on that subject.

His Majesty's Settlement at the Cape of Good Hope and the Isle of France being peculiarly situated, as to the laws affecting their commerce, Your Committee think it right to make a separate statement respecting them. The East India Company's Charter is exclusive of the Cape in its geographical acceptation; but inasmuch as the Settlement, which has come into the possession of His Majesty long subsequently to the grant of the charter, extends

extends as well to the eastward as to the westward of the Cape itself; the Settlement would, in strictness, have been partly within and partly without the chartered limits. The Circuitous Trade Act has provided that His Majesty's Settlement at the Cape of Good Hope shall be deemed to be within the limits of the charter, as to all trade by that Act allowed to be carried on between places within those limits; and this provision is not to affect any other rights of commerce which the Settlement possesses. A similar provision will be found in the Malta Trade Act, in the Navigation Laws Exemption Act (hereafter mentioned), and in the East India Foreign Trade Act of the present Session.

54 Geo 3, s 3
57 Geo 3, c 36, s 2
57 Geo 3, c 95, s 4
1 & 2 Geo 3, c 65, s 6

By an Act passed in 1809, and since continued and extended to all His Majesty's possessions to the eastward, except those which are under the Company, His Majesty is empowered to make regulations by Order in Council for the trade of the Cape. Orders respectively issued on the 24 September 1814 and 12 July 1820, are now in force. The latter allows of a trade, under certain limitations, with any foreign country in amity with His Majesty, as well in vessels belonging to such country as in British vessels.

49 Geo 3, c 17
57 Geo 3, c 1
1 Geo 4, c 11

Appendix
(E 1 & 2)

The Isle of France, as has already been stated, is within the original limits of the Company's Charter, required no special enactment for subjecting it to the peculiar repetitions applicable to countries so situated; but a similar order to that issued with respect to the Cape in 1820, was at the same time issued for the Isle of France.

Appendix
(E 3)

Your Committee have thought it their duty to inquire of various persons, who have engaged in the trade which has been opened, under the Acts of 1813, 1814, and 1817, to His Majesty's subjects, as well as of some of the leading men in the direction or service of the East India Company, as to the effect of the facilities given by the several Acts, and of the operation of the restrictions which are still preserved.

It appears certain, that the trade with India, whether of import or export, has materially increased since 1814*, and that the increase has been effected by the private merchants, while the trade of the Company has experienced a diminution. The House will find it stated in some part of the evidence, that the trade has been recently attended with loss; at the same time there is sufficient evidence, that the taste and demand for British manufactures has been gradually progressive since the opening of the trade, and that those manufactures have found their way to parts of India, and the neighbouring countries, which they had not been accustomed to reach.

Your Committee, before they proceed to consider how far the restrictions to which the Indian trade is still subjected, may have counteracted the facilities granted by the Acts, think it right to make an observation, which, whether in considering this or any other branch of trade, ought never to be disregarded:

Whenever a question arises, to grant or to withhold a permission to carry on unrestricted trade, with whatever part of the world, in whatever ships, and whatever commodities, the burthen of the proof rests upon those who propose to withhold the permission or to impose the restriction. Restriction, as Your Committee have observed in a former Report, being in itself an evil, requires, as well for its continuance as its original imposition, a special political expediency to support it.

Report of 1820, p 5

This

* See Lords Report and Appendix, and the Statements given in by Mr Grant. The Committee have only inserted in their Appendix such accounts and papers as are not contained in the Report and Appendix communicated by the Lords.

This is a principle no less of justice and duty, than of commerce and policy. To show therefore that a measure, from which, when proposed, great expectations of advantage were entertained, has not been followed by consequences beneficial in proportion to the sanguine anticipation of them, is not sufficient to authorize an opinion, that the measure ought not to have been adopted; for that purpose it would be necessary to show, that positive and considerable evils have resulted from it.

Under this impression, Your Committee forbear from a minute investigation of the progress and course of the trade which has been opened by the several Acts to which they have referred; and will confine themselves to a consideration of the restrictions which it has been proposed to withdraw, and the additional facilities which it has been proposed to afford.

The restrictions upon the trade with India, the effects of which are stated to be injurious, are of three descriptions;

First, The restriction imposed by the Act 53d Geo. 3, c. 155, sect. 13, on the size of vessels clearing out from a port in the United Kingdom for any port within the limits of the charter, or entering at a port in the United Kingdom from a port within those limits.

Secondly, The restriction of the same Act, sect. 11, whereby British vessels are restrained from proceeding directly to any port in India, except a principal settlement, without a special licence.

Thirdly, The restrictions imposed by former Acts, and only partially modified by the 33d section of the Act of 53d Geo. 3, on the resort of persons to India, and their residence there, for commercial or other lawful purposes.

Some difference of opinion exists as to the grounds upon which the limitation of the trade between the United Kingdom and India, to vessels of the burthen of 350 tons or upwards, was adopted in 1813.

The first proposition for imposing a limitation of this description, appears to have proceeded from the East India Company* in these terms: "No private ship to be permitted to sail either from Great Britain to India, or from India to Great Britain, of a less burthen than 400 tons." In the observations made upon this proposition by the then President of the Board of Commissioners, by whom the negociation with the Company was conducted, it was said to be "understood, that this proposition is founded on a principle of guarding against the dangers to which vessels of less burthen than 400 tons would be exposed on a voyage to the East Indies, and also of providing for the security of the revenue, which might be affected by permitting importations in smaller vessels †;" but Lord Melville expressed himself not satisfied of the necessity of the restriction.

In the reply on the part of the Company, the reason arising from the danger of Smuggling was adopted, and these additional reasons were assigned; that by allowing ships of 400 tons to engage in the trade, sufficient facility would be afforded to the *more respectable houses* of business desirous of entering into "an honourable commercial intercourse with India," to the exclusion of "characters not sufficiently responsible," disposed to engage in "speculations of mere chance outward, and smuggling homeward;"—that the larger vessels would keep alive the impression among the natives of the East, of the superiority of our maritime strength, especially to

* See "Hints approved by the Committee of Correspondence, and submitted to the consideration of the Right honourable Lord Melville," in Papers relating to the East India Company's Charter, printed 12 March 1813, p. 24

† See "Observations on the Hints suggested by the Deputation of the Court of Directors, 3 March 1812," in Papers relative to the East India Company's Charter, printed 12 March 1813, p. 31.

to that of the *Americans*, “*who navigate very small vessels to and from the ports of the East,*” and that the larger vessels would be more respectably officered, better provided with medical attendance, and more secure against sea risk.

In the further progress of the negotiation, it was urged by the Company, that the Company’s commercial profits, upon which their ability to bear their part in the system of Indian administration mainly depended, would be materially affected by the illicit importation of Tea, which might be expected to occur, if vessels “unlimited in number and size” were permitted to come to the Out-ports, and to resort to the numerous Eastern islands, where tea from China might easily be procured

Lord Buckinghamshire*, who had succeeded to the office of President of the India Board, expressed, in reply, the opinion of His Majesty’s government, that the apprehensions with regard to Smuggling were at least much overstated on the part of the Company; and that they might be obviated by various regulations, such as (amongst others) “the limitation of the trade to vessels of 400 tons burthen†.”

This is all that is to be found, immediately affecting the question of tonnage, in the papers of the negotiation, but it appears that the Court of Directors and the Court of Proprietors continued throughout the negotiation to urge the danger of smuggling in British ports, as a matter of deep interest to them, as well as to the state.

Your Committee have no hesitation in giving it as their opinion, that these apprehensions of extensive Smuggling were very greatly exaggerated, and that nothing has occurred since the opening of the trade, which warrants the suspicion of any such consequence having occurred from that measure; nor have they any reason to believe, that the limitation of the tonnage is in any degree necessary to prevent that consequence. If tea has been smuggled to any considerable extent, it has been owing to the formation of depôts of tea on the coasts of Holland or France, by foreigners who are under no limitation whatever as to the size or destination of their ships.

The Court of Directors indeed appear to have entirely lost sight of the apprehension of smuggling, even as connected with the question of tonnage, for the restriction, in that respect, is now stated by Mr Charles Grant, whose situation in the Company is sufficiently known to the House, to have “proceeded entirely from an apprehension, that if numerous small vessels were introduced into the trade of Eastern India, depredations might ensue upon the natives of the Eastern Islands” “In any other respect,” says Mr. Grant, “it is of no sort of consequence to the Company.” This impression, Mr. Grant thinks “is probably that of the body of Directors at large.” “The limitation of tonnage,” he again says, “was from a humane political reason.”

Evidence,
P 307

Evidence,
p. 308

The narrative which Your Committee have given of the introduction of the limitation of tonnage into the arrangement of 1813, while it serves, on the one hand, to show, that having been adopted at the urgent request of the Company, that limitation must be considered as a part of the compact with the Company, to which the faith of Parliament stands pledged, clearly shows, on the other, that the grounds upon which that pledge was required by the Company, have ceased to exist.

Upon

* Letter from Lord Buckinghamshire to the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Court of Directors, dated 24 Dec. 1812, in Papers printed 18 March 1813, p 23

† 350 Tons, registered measurement, is considered as equal to 400 Tons

Upon the general principle, that no restriction upon commerce ought to be imposed or retained, for which there is not a clear and undoubted necessity, Your Committee would, but for the agreement with the Company, have no hesitation in recommending the repeal of the 13th section of the Act of 1813, even if it had not been shown to be practically inconvenient, but it is represented by merchants actually engaged in the Indian trade, and others well acquainted with Asiatic ports, as creating a material impediment to our commercial intercourse, especially with the islands of the East Indian Archipelago, and with those countries of Eastern Asia, with which Great Britain has hitherto had little or no communication. Your Committee are far from holding out an expectation, that the sanguine hopes, entertained by some, of a rapid and great extension of traffic with Siam, Cochin China, the Persian and Arabian Gulphs, or even the Eastern Islands, will be realized in their full extent; but it is undeniable, that the chances of such extension are, in some part, wantonly thrown away, while British traders are deprived of any of the facilities of availing themselves of them, which the natural course of things allows, and which are in the power of all other nations.

The apprehension *now* stated, of danger to the natives of the Eastern Islands, from the access of smaller vessels, which would not arise from larger vessels, appears to be quite visionary. If there is reason for apprehending danger, it is rather to the British traders from the piratical Malays; but against this danger, those who engage in the trade may be expected, for their own sakes, to take sufficient precautions, and to employ such ships only as can be safely, as well as profitably, navigated.

Upon this subject of the tonnage, there has been one misconception, to which Your Committee find it necessary to advert. Many traders have supposed, that no British vessel of less than 350 tons burthen could legally trade, or be found, to the eastward of the Cape of Good Hope. It is very important that it should be known, that the restriction imposed by the law applies only to ships clearing out from a *British* port, or entering at a *British* port, for or from a port to the eastward of the Cape. Such is the distinct enactment of the Act of 1813, confirmed by subsequent Acts, but never extended*.

Vessels trading under the authority of the Circuitous Trade Act, "between all ports and places within the limits of the Company's Charter;"—vessels engaged in trade between Malta or Gibraltar and the East Indies;—vessels engaged in trade under the Act recently passed for permitting a trade with Foreign ports, vessels from the Cape of Good Hope (unless laden with goods from the eastward);—in a word, all vessels not proceeding from, or bound to, the United Kingdom, are exempted from the restriction of tonnage.

This fact illustrates the futility of any other reason assigned for the restriction, than that which the Company now appear to disclaim, the danger of smuggling *at home*. Danger, arising in the Eastern Islands, must be expected as much from vessels trading with the Mediterranean, or with any foreign port in Europe or America, as from those which proceed from England.

Your Committee, therefore, with every respect due to whatever may be considered as compact with the Company, think it their duty to give it as their decided opinion, that there exists not with reference to the State, and their

* Except that the Order in Council issued on the 24th of September 1814, under the authority of the Act of Parliament, prohibits the importation from the Cape into the United Kingdom, of the produce of Countries within the limits of the Charter, in vessels under 350 tons.

their conviction that there exists not in any peculiar interest of the Company, any sufficient reason for the continuance of the restriction.

Your Committee now advert to the provision of the 11th section of the Act of 1813, whereby British vessels are restricted from proceeding to any of the ports of India, other than the principal settlements.

Of the origin of this restriction, as well as of the necessity which now exists for continuing it, Your Committee will give the words of Mr Grant —
 “ With respect to the admission to the minor ports of the continent of
 “ India, the design of that restriction was, to prevent the access of vessels
 “ to places where there was no British authority on the spot, to prevent
 “ the irregularities that might ensue; there may be still some danger
 “ of this kind, but I do not hold it to be of great importance, nor do
 “ I think the Company attach any great importance to it.”

Upon this subject of Special Licences, Your Committee have been informed, that during the discussions in which they have been engaged, and subsequently to the reception of the evidence of Mr Rickards on this subject, which will be found in their minutes, the Court of Directors of the East India Company have come to a resolution, to comply with all the applications for special licences which were then pending before them, or before the Board of Commissioners. This resolution originated in the conviction, sanctioned by the opinion of the most eminent lawyers, that under a fair construction of the several Acts, British vessels trading under the ordinary licence to one or more of the principal settlements in India, and having completed that outward voyage, may remain in India, with the right to carry on trade from port to port in India, (including the minor ports,) or any other trade within, as well as without the limits of the Charter, or may take in a homeward cargo, as well at a minor port as at a principal settlement. The rights of the British traders, independent of a licence, being thus extensive, the Court of Directors have acted with a praiseworthy liberality, in not withholding from them the only additional facility, which, under the Acts, they might have refused to grant. Your Committee trust, that special licences for permission to proceed from a port of the United Kingdom to any port of India other than a principal settlement, will henceforward be granted in all instances in which they are desired.

Your Committee, however, think it right to observe, that objection has been made to the admission of British ships into the coasting trade of India, grounded upon the injury which may thereby be sustained by the India-built ships, which are not admitted into the coasting trade of this country, and have not the privileges of general trade belonging to British vessels

Upon this objection, Your Committee will observe, in the first place, that in order to remove the inequality and injustice to which it refers, they would much more willingly recommend, that the restriction imposed upon the ships of India should be removed, than that the limitation should be imposed upon the ships of England; but, in fact, the inequality is not so great as has been supposed

India-built ships, so far from being “ precluded from carrying on the
 “ direct trade to Europe,” are by the express terms of the Act 55 Geo. 3, Lords Re-
 port, p. 4
 c. 116, permitted to carry on that trade, whether directly or circuitously,
 as it is authorized by the Acts of the 53d and 54th of the late King. And
 in the Act recently passed, for permitting a trade with Foreign ports,
 India-built ships are also specially comprehended.

The third of the restrictions, of the operation whereof Your Committee have received a complaint, is that which has been imposed by repeated Acts, and re-enacted, with modifications, by the Act of 1813, upon the resort of individual British subjects to India, for commercial, as well as other lawful purposes.

The restrictions imposed by the Legislature upon the residence of Europeans in India, form an important part of the policy upon which the government of the British territories in that country is conducted. Your Committee feel themselves precluded from entering into a discussion of this policy. It is for them only to inquire, whether the partial modifications of it, which have been adopted by Parliament, have been so administered as to give to British commerce the utmost facilities which are consistent with the strict maintenance of the principle itself. Your Committee, indeed, find it difficult to pursue even this limited consideration, without transgressing the bounds of their duty; and they therefore think it sufficient to state, that the complaint of the operation of this restriction is by no means general; and that there is no allegation of partiality in the exercise of the powers vested in the Court of Directors, and Board of Commissioners.

For a statement of the practice adopted by these authorities, in granting permission to persons to reside in India, Your Committee refer to Appendix F; and they have only to add, that the provisions of the Act of 1813, for preventing too large an influx of Europeans into India, is the point specially excepted from the above-mentioned reservation in the 20th section of that Act. Your Committee, therefore, can only express their earnest desire, that no limitation will be imposed upon the residence of merchants and mercantile agents in India, which is not necessary for the security of the Government, and the protection of the Natives.

The Act of 1813 imposed another restriction upon the trade with India, which is not noticed by any of the witnesses, and which, it is therefore probable, has not been attended with any considerable inconvenience. The 10th section of that Act confines importations from places within the limits of the Charter, to such ports of the United Kingdom "as shall be provided with
" warehouses, together with wet docks or basins, or such other securities
" as shall in the judgment of the Lord High Treasurer, or of the Lords
" Commissioners of the Treasury for the time being, or any three or more
" of them, in Great Britain and Ireland respectively, be fit and proper for
" the deposit and safe custody of all such goods, wares and merchandize,
" as well as for the collection of all duties payable thereon." The ports which have been accordingly made ports of importation, are Liverpool, Hull, Greenock and Port Glasgow, Bristol, and Leith, to which must be added, the Port of London.

In their Second Report, Your Committee referred to the facilities and privileges of trade with India, possessed by Foreign European nations, and Americans.

The British possessions in the East are not subjected to the laws by which our Colonies in America and the West Indies are, generally, restrained from direct traffic with Foreign nations, and by which Foreign ships are prohibited from resorting to them.

The Act 37 Geo. 3, c. 117, empowers and directs the Court of Directors of the East India Company, with the approbation of the Commissioners for the affairs of India, "to frame such regulations for carrying on the trade
" to and from the British possessions in the East Indies, and the countries
" and states in amity with His Majesty, as shall seem to them most
" conducive

“ conducive to the interest and prosperity of the said British possessions in India, and of the British Empire.”

The Regulations made under the authority of this Act, and now in force, as to European nations, and the Convention by which the American trade is regulated, are already before the House*.

Your Committee have also to advert to two points connected with the Navigation Laws, as they affect India.

The 7th sect. of the Act of 1813, referring to the Act of the twelfth of Cha 2d, by which the produce of countries within the limits of the Charter, can only be brought into England “ from the place of production, “ or the usual port of shipment,” provides that the produce of *any* country within those limits, may be brought from any other country also situated within the limits

The 57th Geo 3, c. 95,—reciting the several Acts of Charles 2, William, Anne, and George 1st, whereby divers prohibitions, regulations and provisions have been enacted, respecting the importation of goods and commodities of the growth, production, and manufacture of Europe, into any lands, &c to His Majesty belonging, or in His possession, in Asia, Africa, or America, and also respecting the transportation of certain articles of the growth, production or manufacture of British plantations in Asia, Africa, or America; and that the said provisions have been commonly supposed not to apply, and have not in practice been applied, and that it is not expedient that the same should be applied, to the trade of His Majesty’s subjects to and from the East Indies, enacts, that nothing in those Acts, or in any other Acts passed for the like purposes, contained, shall extend to exportation or importation in British or Indian registered vessels, of any goods whatever, within the limits of the Company’s Charter, which, for the purposes of this Act also, are to include the Cape of Good Hope.

12 Ch², c 18
15 Ch², c 7
22 & 23 Ch², c 26
25 Ch², c 7
7 & 8 W^m 3, c 21.
4 & 5 Anne, c 5.
8 Geo 1, c 18

Your Committee have hitherto excluded from their consideration, the trade with China, and have adverted but slightly to the traffic, upon which the expectation of the Public has of late been highly raised, with the Islands of the East Indian Archipelago.

The ancient monopoly of the East India Company still remains, as to the trade with China, in full force and effect, and for the protection of this monopoly, the Company are vested with the exclusive right of shipping or carrying tea within the whole range of their charter, and of importing it into the United Kingdom.

The East India Company attach great and just importance to this monopoly, and state that the profits of their trade with China, constitute the principal resource from which their dividend is paid, and that that trade is in fact, the main prop of their financial system, in which the state has an interest neither inconsiderable nor very remote.

This monopoly then, as far as it is confirmed by Act of Parliament to the Company, is not a matter of discussion. Whatever it may be advisable to do when the Act shall expire, Your Committee are far at present from the intention of suggesting the surrender of that which is, to the Company, a valuable possession, and rests on the faith of the Legislature.

Different

* Bengal Regulation VII of 1818, among the Regulations of the Indian Governments, ordered to be printed 20 Feb. 1821.—Convention with America, 3d July 1815, presented to the House the 2d of Feb 1816

Different considerations, however, apply to those branches of trade, from which His Majesty's subjects at large are precluded, by privileges vested in the Company, of which the Company do not avail themselves. Of this description, in the words of the Lords Committees, whose Report has been referred to Your Committee, are "The trade in tea and other articles between Canton and foreign Europe; the tea trade within the limits of the Company's charter, exclusive of the ports of the Chinese empire; and the trade between Canton, and the western shores of North and South America."

The operation, upon the interests of the East India Company, of the admission of Private Traders into those branches of traffic, is not to be measured solely by the effect which such admission would have in reducing any profits which the Company now derive from the circuitous supply of those countries with which they have no direct intercourse. That effect would probably be very little; nor do the Court of Directors, as far as Your Committee are informed, attach importance to it. But the apprehension by which they profess themselves governed, in tenaciously adhering to their monopoly, is equally applicable to all measures by which the free resort of British merchants to Canton is permitted, whatever may be the nature or destination of the commodities in which they deal.

This apprehension appears to be founded upon the belief, that under the circumstances of an open trade, disputes would arise between the British sailors and the Chinese, whereby the anger of that jealous government would be excited, of which the injurious effects would be felt by the Company, as well as by the Private Traders, and even put in jeopardy the continuance of the trade itself.

It is also apprehended, that if the Private merchants were admitted into the tea trade, the tea purchased by the Company might experience a deterioration in quality, or enhancement in price, which would greatly affect the Company's profits.

That the first of these consequences has not followed the progressive increase of the American trade with Canton, is attributed to an alleged difference of character and behaviour of the seamen of the two nations; a difference, of the existence of which, Your Committee are by no means satisfied; and on this subject generally, they beg to refer the House to the evidence of Mr. Drummond, a Member of the House, and others who have been examined. It is however clear, that the American trade has never, from this cause, been impeded; and equally true, that never till recently, and then in articles of exportation only, have the interests of the East India Company suffered by the prosecution of that trade. Nor can Your Committee entertain the apprehension that greater danger will arise from the same extent of commerce transferred to, and conducted by British subjects, notwithstanding the different spirit in which, according to an apprehension stated by one of the witnesses, they might conduct the competition.

Mr. Grant's
Evidence,
pp. 310, 322

But it is here to be observed, that information has been communicated to Your Committee, by Mr. Grant, with permission of the Court of Directors, which places the effect of the American trade upon that of the Company, at least as to the export of British manufactures, in an entirely new light.

The following is an extract of a letter, of date so recent as the 20th of November 1820, from the supercargoes at Canton, to the Court of Directors.—

Evidence,
p. 313.

"The very alarming inroad that is now commenced by American speculations, into a trade hitherto confined to the honourable Company, will

“ will, it is probable, soon place all certainty of calculation in its economy,
 “ at defiance. Between 3 and 4000 pieces of broad cloth have been
 “ imported under the American flag, direct from England, and by the
 “ circuitous medium of America, during the present season, patterns of
 “ these cloths, with the prices and terms of their disposal, will be for-
 “ warded by our superintendent of imports, a number in the Thames
 “ packet.

“ The American export trade, which has hitherto been chiefly confined
 “ to dollars, purchased at a premium in America, or shipped by a cir-
 “ cuitous voyage in England, Lisbon and Gibraltar, has been considered
 “ as generally unprofitable. The Americans are therefore well contented
 “ to avail themselves of a channel of remittance by which they can realize
 “ the prime cost, and insurance of their investment; and are consequently
 “ enabled to undersell the honourable Company, by the absence of those
 “ heavy charges which their invoices usually bear.

“ The greatest evil, however, which we are led to anticipate from this
 “ encroachment, is, *the death blow which it inflicts upon the monopoly*
 “ *hitherto enjoyed by the honourable Company*, it is not so much the
 “ amount, as the uncertainty of that amount, which the very great fluc-
 “ tuation in American commerce renders totally incalculable, and which
 “ at once converts a trade, hitherto considered as regular and secure,
 “ into a most uncertain and dangerous speculation ”

To this information, Mr. Grant refers as showing “ that there has been, Evidence,
 “ within a few years, a surreptitious export of woollens from this country, P 313
 “ under the American flag, to Canton, and that the effects of that export
 “ are already becoming visible in the total change of the preceding state
 “ of this matter,” namely, the Company’s export of woollens.

If then the American trade with China, no longer secondary and subor-
 dinate to that of the English Company, has indeed met it in successful
 rivalry, the wisdom as well as the equity of excluding British subjects
 from the competition, becomes more and more questionable

It matters not, whether the adventures from which the danger to the
 East India Company is apprehended, are regular, or surreptitious. If, in
 point of fact, there exists a competition whether from Foreigners, or from
 Englishmen trading as Foreigners, by which the monopoly of the Company
 is threatened, it will be for the Company to consider whether they will not
 rather permit their fellow-subjects openly and legally to participate in that
 competition, than to leave it uncontrolled in the hands of foreign or clan-
 destine traders.

Your Committee are aware, that this new view of the effect of the
 American trader, has only recently been taken, and they are far from
 wishing the Company to act upon it without a careful estimation of all of
 its consequences, but they cannot but recollect the undoubted fact, that
 adventures to China in American ships, have left the port of London itself,
 with the knowledge of the Court of Directors, who adopted no proceedings
 against them

In thus referring to the trade carried on from England under the
 American flag, Your Committee are not to be understood, as recom-
 mending an interference with that trade, such a proceeding might have
 no other effect than that of sending the American to foreign countries
 for the articles of export, which they now procure in England. They
 adduce the permitted existence of this trade as an illustration of the
 justness of their opinion, that the time is come when the State as well as
 the British merchant may fairly ask the Company, either to protect their
 monopoly against illegal encroachment, or to relax it in favour of their
 fellow-subjects regularly trading

The question of the China monopoly has recently acquired additional importance as considered in connection with the trade of the East Indian Archipelago

The solicitude to explore new channels of commerce, and some late proceedings of a very enterprising servant of the East India Company, in the Eastern seas, has led to a very general expectation of increased and valuable commercial intercourse with the islands of that Archipelago, as well as the several countries bordering upon it.

Upon the principle which Your Committee have already laid down, they would not think an examination of the reasonableness of this expectation, necessary to induce them to recommend the removal of all legal restrictions, by which the trial of this or any other commercial experiment may be impeded. It would be enough to show, that the restrictions were unnecessary, without any reference to the degree of advantage to be derived from the removal of them.

But in the present instance the question is somewhat different, in as much as the difficulties which, according to the opinions of well-informed persons, obstruct the extension of British trade among the Eastern islands, arise in great measure from the monopoly of the China trade; the relaxation of which does not at this moment rest solely with Parliament.

The connection between the China monopoly and the free trade to the Eastern islands and Cochin China, depends chiefly upon the fact, of which there is abundant evidence, that the products of those islands, though very valuable, are not suitable to any European market, or indeed to any other extensive market than that of China. Although, therefore, there appears to be among the Malays a considerable demand, capable of much extension, for British manufactures (especially cotton goods, iron and steel, copper and woollens), no sufficient returns can be procured for these articles, otherwise than by way of China, or perhaps of Bengal, with a view to re-exportation to China, where the island produce may be exchanged for merchandize exportable to Europe. The exportation, therefore, of our manufactures to these islands is greatly impeded by the want of a return, which nothing but a permission to seek it at Canton can ensure.

Your Committee feel themselves compelled to observe, that the objection of the Company to permitting to unlicensed British traders an intercourse with Canton, is equally applicable to this as to any other purpose of such intercourse; and that they cannot press upon the Company more strongly in this instance than in the others, the propriety of departing from the resolution which they appear to have adopted, to adhere to their compact in respect of the China monopoly.

Your Committee however trust, that the operation which a relaxation of the China monopoly would have in facilitating our intercourse with the Eastern islands, will enter largely into the consideration of the Company, when they make that review of the state of the British trade at Canton, to which the progress of the American trade will probably soon compel them.

In the correspondence which took place in the last year, between the President of the India Board, and the chairmen of the East India Company, a modification of the chartered privileges of the Company was proposed, which it was hoped would have some, at least, of the effects of an opening of the China trade, without incurring the danger attending the resort of English vessels to Canton. This proposal was, that British subjects should be permitted to take in tea at a port in the East Indian Archipelago, and to bring it, not to the United Kingdom, but to foreign Europe, under the authority of the bill then in contemplation; for this purpose it was

was suggested, that the Company might form a depôt of tea at Prince of Wales Island, or some port in the Archipelago; or that tea might be brought to such intermediate port, with other China produce, by the ordinary country trade. The Court of Directors declined a compliance with this suggestion, for reasons which are stated in their letter of the 7th June 1820; and though Your Committee cannot admit the force of the whole of those reasonings, yet, as the matter depends entirely upon the acquiescence of the Company, it is scarcely worth while to inquire whether a measure of this nature would provide for the British manufactures exported, the desired return cargo.

Appx to
Lords Report
p 520

Another modification which has suggested itself, is, to admit British traders to Canton, with a prohibition from dealing in tea, and from importing into the United Kingdom.

This suggestion involves all the objections founded upon the apprehension of danger from the misconduct of our seamen, but does not, except through the means of illicit traffic, interfere with the Company's profitable monopoly. But Your Committee see in the suggestion so little of advantage, that if there really exists any risk in acting upon it, they do not think it sufficient to warrant its being incurred.

The only measures which can be adopted, without the Company's concurrence, with a view to the extension and security of the Island trade, are, the occupation of a convenient port, to be administered by an officer of the Crown; the establishment of a British consulate in Java, or in some other convenient situation, and such arrangements with the Netherland government, as may ensure to British subjects an access, upon equal or fair terms, to the possessions of that government, and an unrestricted intercourse with independent native states. Your Committee have been informed, that these arrangements with the Netherland government have been matter of negotiation; and until the result of that negotiation shall have been communicated to the House, Your Committee think it proper to abstain from any further discussion of the subject.

The House will find in the Evidence some information respecting the Fur trade. A trade in furs from North America to China, has been carried on extensively by subjects of the United States, and in a small degree by British subjects trading under licence from the East India Company; and a new traffic of this description opens itself through the discovery of the lands of South Shetland, southward of Cape Horn. These were discovered in the latter end of 1818, by a person of the name of Smith, on his return voyage from Val Paraiso to Buenos Ayres. A very valuable description of seal skins is procured in great quantities from South Shetland, which are likely to prove an article of advantageous traffic in the China market. In no part of the fur trade has the Company ever engaged, and it is to be hoped that they will be induced to take such measures as may prevent this promising branch of it from falling altogether into the hands of other nations, who have already begun to embark in it.

See the Evidence of Mr Blanchard, p 232

Another channel of commercial intercourse with China, has been pointed out to Your Committee, which is not only valuable in itself, but important as illustrating the possibility of extending the demand of British manufactures in the Chinese provinces, if that cheap and plentiful supply can be provided, which can hardly be expected but from the enterprise of individuals.

Mr Tate's Evidence, p 362.

It appears that a trade of barter had been for many years carried on between some merchants of Moscov and a few individuals of Chinese Tartary. In 1800, the two governments turned their attention to this traffic, and made it the subject of a kind of commercial treaty. Since 1811, a variety of British manufactures have found their way to Kiachta,

which is the seat of this rising traffic ; and in the last year, no inconsiderable quantity of British woollen cloth, camblets, silk handkerchiefs, muslins, and Manchester goods, in company with Foreign European produce, were bartered at Kiachta, for teas and other products of China. It appears, however, that the difficulty of thus introducing British manufactures into China, through Russia, is increasing ; a circumstance which, coupled with the evidence which the partial success of that circuitous traffic affords, of the value of the provincial market of China, ought to stimulate this country to every measure by which a more ready and direct intercourse with that great empire, may be accomplished.

In concluding this Report, Your Committee have only to recur, in regard to the trade with India, to the observations which they have already made on the inexpediency of continuing the Restriction upon the Tonnage of vessels, if it can be done away without interfering with the rights of the East India Company ;—and to repeat the expression of their hope and confidence, that the other restrictions which the system of 1813 imposes, may be put in force by the Court of Directors, and by the Commissioners for the Affairs of India, with a constant recollection of the inconvenience of all commercial restriction, and the necessity of alleviating the operation of it, wherever it cannot be removed.

As to China, it is unnecessary for them to deprecate, because the House would assuredly never contemplate, any interference by authority of Parliament, with the monopoly secured by law to the East India Company.

Nor are they prepared to recommend as desirable, independently of the consideration of public faith, any interference with that branch of the China trade, which is actually and profitably conducted by the Company, and constitutes their most plentiful resource in aiding the administration of the countries temporarily intrusted to their government.

If Your Committee were clearly satisfied, that the Monopoly, enjoyed and exercised by the Company, of the supply of Tea to the United Kingdom, would be in great danger of being either lost or seriously injured, through the regulated admission of British traders to the ports of China, for the purpose of carrying on those branches of trade in which the Company has no immediate concern ; and that this danger would be the peculiar consequence of a relaxation of the monopoly in favour of British merchants, while in the hands of Foreigners a similar traffic may flourish without injury to the Company,—they would readily admit that the duty of the Company might call on them to object to any modification whatever, in either branch of their monopoly : British subjects must, in such case, be still prohibited from resorting to Canton, and from concerning themselves directly in any branch of the trade in tea.

But, after a full consideration of the subject, and of the evidence taken by them, and communicated by the Lords, Your Committee cannot concur in all the apprehensions which the East India Company appear to entertain, of the consequences of a partial relaxation of their monopoly ; and on the other hand, they concur in the substance of the opinion stated in the Report of the Committee of the Lords referred to them, that under certain regulations calculated to obviate the principal objection that has been stated, without interfering with the monopoly of the British market enjoyed by the East India Company, the British merchant might be safely admitted to a participation in the direct Trade with the dominions of the Emperor of China : at the same time considering, that the monopoly, in its strictest form, is secured by law to the Company, they can only submit the evidence, and their observations upon it, to the House.

10 July 1821.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

WITNESSES.

Robert Rickards, Esq	pp 209, 325, 332	Charles Grant, Esq	- - pp 302, 311.
George Larpent, Esq	- - - p 218.	Charles Everett, Esq	- - - p 341.
Robert Addison, Esq.	- - - p 222	Sir G T Staunton, Bart	- - - p 343
Henry Blanchard, Esq.	pp 230, 237.	John McNeil, Esq.	- - - p 350.
Captain Daniel Ross	- - - p. 245	Mr. Anthony Robson	- - - p. 352.
James Thomas Roberts, Esq.	pp 254, 257.	Thomas Manning, Esq.	- - - p 355.
Mr John Hare	- - - p. 266.	Mr George Powell	- - - p. 357
Mr Patrick McLachlan	- - - p 277	Mr. Stephen Twycross	- - - p 359
John Forbes Mitchell, Esq.	- - p. 282.	James Drummond, Esq. (a Member	
Mr William Tate	- - - p 293, 362	of the House)	- - - p. 366.
Mr. Donald McIntyre	- - - p 294		

Lunæ, 19^o die Martii, 1821.

The Right Honourable THOMAS WALLACE, in the Chair.

Robert Rickards, Esq

Called in; and Examined.

WILL you have the goodness to describe the situation in which you are, and have been, in India?—I was for many years in the Company's civil service, on the Bombay establishment; at present I am in a house of India and general agency in this city.

Have you held public situations in India?—I have.

Will you state what those situations were?—I was for many years secretary to the government of Bombay, afterwards collector and chief judge in Malabar, and lastly a member of the government of Bombay.

Of course you are well acquainted with the trade of India?—I have paid more attention to it latterly than I did formerly.

Have you been at all connected with the private trade of India?—With the private trade, I mean.

Have you been at all engaged in the private trade?—Only as an agent.

As an agent, have you been extensively engaged in it?—Yes, extensively engaged; I was formerly better acquainted with the Company's trade than the private trade, of late years I have been extensively connected with the private trade to India.

Can you state what effects have been produced on the trade of India, by the openings afforded by the late charter?—The result of my observations upon the trade of India, ever since the opening, has been, that wherever the free traders have had access to the different parts of India, they have contributed very essentially to promote the commerce, and the use of British manufactures.

Are you of opinion that the trade on the whole has increased, or only that an increase has taken place in the private trade?—Our concerns and experience, as agents, lead us to the conclusion that the trade has on the whole very considerably increased.

Can you at all state in what articles the increase has taken place, in the use of British manufactures?—An increase has taken place in British staples generally, and particularly in the woollen and cotton manufactures. I received only a few days ago late letters from Calcutta, in which a comparison is drawn between the imports of British cotton goods in 1813, I think, and the last year of account 1819-20, from which it appears that the import of cotton goods into Calcutta in 1813-14, or before the opening of the trade, amounted to about 90,000 rupees, and that in the year ending the 30th of April 1820, the imports amounted to upwards of 2,600,000 rupees. The same letters mention a large import of woollens within the year, over and above the usual supply by the East India Company.

Do you happen to have any account of the Company's trade at the same periods?—I have seen printed returns, purporting to be official, and to give a view of the trade to the East both by the Company and by Free traders, from the year 1814

Robert Rickards,
Esq.
(19 March)

Robert Richards,
Esq.
(19 March)

to the year 1819 inclusive; the latter years of this statement show the Company's trade to be rather declining, but the amount of the free and privileged trade to India alone, actually exceeds that of the Company's to India and China put together, this excess is stated to be considerable both in imports and exports, in the latter years of this statement, if this statement had been confined to India alone, and embraced a period previous to the opening, it would have given a more accurate view of the increasing prosperity of the private trade; in its present state it includes China, where the Free traders have no access.

Do you think that the private trade is at present increasing or diminishing with India?—The private trade with India has lately received a check, from causes which have operated to the depression of trade generally, but if left to itself will furnish its own remedy; on the whole I conceive the private trade with India to be in a progressive state of increase, because the demand for, and consumption of British manufacture in that quarter, has considerably increased, and I have no doubt, that if this trade be freed from the restrictions and obstructions under which it now labours, it may be carried to a much greater extent than has been hitherto known

Do those restrictions and obstructions, to which you have alluded, apply to the private trade carried on with India?—They do.

Will you be pleased to state what the restrictions and obstructions are, to which you particularly allude?—The licensing system is generally complained of, and operates in my opinion, prejudicially to the interests of this trade. In respect to the licencing system, I would first beg leave to observe, that it does not appear to me to be executed in the way the legislature originally intended; the provisions of the Act of 1813, the 53d of the late King, require that licences or certificates of licence should be granted in all cases, to persons or ships applying for the same, where there is no objection to the character and pursuits of the individual, this, at least, I take to be the meaning of the Act, which makes no mention of free merchants or free mariners indentures, but licences are not granted in this way, or in all cases, as the Act appears to me to prescribe; the old system of granting free merchants indentures and free mariners indentures, is still preserved at the India House, and these are partially given instead of the licences or certificates of licence which are required by the Act, to be freely granted under the authority of the Board of Commissioners for the affairs of India, in some instances, to my knowledge, applications for these licences have been absolutely refused. In respect to the licences for ships, the Act of the 53d of the late King, as I have always understood it, vested the power in the Board of Commissioners, through the medium of the Court of Directors, to grant special licences to ships desirous of proceeding to any of the intermediate ports of India; but those licences have also been refused to the great prejudice of the trade, in several instances which have already occurred; one in particular I can mention, as having passed under the cognizance of our own house. The owners of goods on the coast of Malabar have been long desirous of consigning those goods directly to the European market, so as to be saved the heavy expense, risk and delay of a double voyage, by consigning their goods in the first instance to Bombay; they have written to their agents in this country, to engage freight on ships that might proceed to Malabar for that purpose. In the instance alluded to, freight was engaged on the Sarah, Captain Norton, for one of our correspondents in Malabar, and Captain Norton being the principal owner of the ship himself, was instructed to apply for a special licence at the India House, which he accordingly did; he was informed, at the proper office for granting licences, that no such licence was requisite, as the Act of the 54th of the late King meaning the Circuitous Trade Act as it is commonly called, superseded the necessity of any such licence; not being satisfied with this answer, Captain Norton repeated his application for a special licence, and again received the same reply; he then proceeded to India, under the engagement above-mentioned in respect to freight from Malabar, and having taken on board a portion of his homeward cargo in Bombay, proceeded to the coast to fill up; he was here informed that he could take no goods on board without a special licence, and from this disappointment Captain Norton I know was subject to a loss of many thousand pounds. Some time after the sailing of the Sarah from England, we (meaning the house of which I am a member) had occasion to engage freight on another ship called The Brailsford, for our Malabar correspondent; an application was accordingly made at the India House, for a special licence, but the same answer was again received, that a special licence was unnecessary, as the ship, under the 54th of the King, was at liberty to go to any of the

Robert Richards,
Esq.
(19 March)

the ports of India; the Brailsford accordingly sailed without a special licence, but intelligence arriving shortly afterwards, of the severe disappointment and loss to the Sarah, another application was handed up to the court, and after some correspondence of an explanatory nature and a little delay, a special licence was granted, which was sent after the Brailsford to India, but the system it would appear has been again altered, inasmuch as subsequent applications for special licences have been made, and positively refused. The injury in such case to those who have to consign goods from Malabar to England, is very great, inasmuch as they are now subject to an additional freight and insurance to Bombay, and mercantile charges there, which added to those of the freight and charges of the subsequent voyage homewards, will, in many instances, double the actual expense of conveyance.

Have many other instances of the same kind, come to your knowledge, besides those which you have stated?—Other instances of loss and inconvenience have arisen from the want of special licences, I particularize that of the Sarah, as having occurred under my own observation, and within the concerns of our own house; but I may add, that if special licences continue to be refused to ships desirous of carrying on a direct traffic between Great Britain and the intermediate ports of India, it will, in my opinion, have the effect of very materially checking the progressive improvement of the trade to that country in British manufactures.

Do you see any inconvenience that could arise, from the licences being generally granted for the purpose of carrying on such intermediate trade?—I know of no objection, and the whole course of my experience in India leads me to be assured, that the trade with India might be carried on by free shipping most unobjectionably, without the intervention of licences at all.

Have you ever heard of any inconvenience having arisen, in consequence of ships going to any of the intermediate ports, under the licences which have been granted?—I believe no ships have been licensed to go to the intermediate ports.

You are aware that the Sarah has since had a licence?—Yes, under peculiar circumstances, I have understood from Captain Norton, that a licence was granted to him in consequence of the losses which he had sustained on his former voyage, and for which the Court of Directors refused to make him a pecuniary compensation, Captain Norton, in addition to the loss of our constituents freight, having been obliged to leave behind him a large quantity of goods which he had ordered on his own account, but which from the disappointment I have before mentioned in a former answer, he was obliged to abandon, subject to a re-sale upon the spot, which I believe was attended with great loss to him. Captain Norton also added, that he was informed by authority at the India House, that though a licence was granted to him under these peculiar circumstances, it was still the determination of the local authorities in this country to grant no further special licences to private ships.

You have stated, that Captain Norton was informed at the India House, that a special licence was not necessary, can you on the behalf of Captain Norton produce the document on which that assertion is founded?—Captain Norton made his application in the first instance, at the India House verbally, but he was accompanied by a clerk, who has since made and subscribed an affidavit as to the terms of the application, and of the refusal;—when the correspondence regarding the Brailsford occurred with the Court of Directors, I was myself personally informed at the India House, that no such licence was necessary for private traders, and that the decision, in this respect, of the honourable court, was founded on the opinion of their own solicitor.

Can you state from whom Captain Norton, in the first instance, received this information?—It is mentioned, I believe, in his correspondence with the Court of Directors, not knowing that I was to be examined as to this fact, I have no memoranda of the occurrence here, but I can refer to a copy of that correspondence if necessary.

Are you not aware, that the application, and the alleged refusal, was on the part of a junior clerk in the Secretary's office, who has certified that he has no recollection of any such conversation?—I understood, that the clerk declared that he had no recollection of the fact, but the department where the application was preferred, was understood to be that in which licences were generally granted; and where the assertion or answer of the clerk was consequently supposed to proceed from authority. Indeed, applications of this nature are in the first instance made to clerks presiding or officiating in the several departments.

Are you not aware, that applications and answers to and from the Court of

Robert Bickards,
Esq.

(19 March)

Directors, are made in writing?—They ought to be, certainly, in matters of importance

And do you not think, in justice to himself, Captain Norton ought not to have taken a verbal reply, on a subject of such importance?—It would have been better for Captain Norton's interests, had he made an application in writing, and required an official answer; but if I recollect right, such an application was made in writing, in the case of the Brailsford, and a written answer, to the effect above-mentioned was given, that is, that no licence was necessary; in the case of the Sarah, it is therefore clear, that a written answer would have been to the same effect as the verbal one Captain Norton received.

You have stated, that the Court of Directors have adhered to their system of granting indentures to free merchants and free mariners; can you state any circumstance where refusal has been made to a person applying for a free merchant's indenture, or free mariner's indenture, that person being of character and proper pursuits?—Permission to go to India was very lately refused to a young man of the name of Purvis, who applied on the invitation of his friends in Calcutta to proceed thither for mercantile purposes; and this application was backed by a letter from a member of one of the first houses in Calcutta, now residing in England.

Was this gentleman about to establish himself with any person already established there as a merchant?—He is a young man of good talents, and most unobjectionable character; and it was on this occasion certified to the honourable court, that he would be employed in the first instance, as a clerk in a mercantile house; he had, moreover, friends on the spot from whom he expected assistance in his farther pursuits

Have you any doubt of there being a sufficient number of merchants in India to carry on the private trade?—I have no doubts, but a moral conviction, that if the trade were left to itself, an increase of numbers, according to the gradual and natural demand for the same, would greatly redound to the benefit of the public interest both in Britain and India. The object, I take it, of the Legislature in 1813, was to extend the private trade with India as much as possible, consistently with a rational view to security, and to the existing laws and regulations of the country, and the refusal to unobjectionable commercial men proceeding to India for the purpose, must necessarily impede, instead of promoting the object in view; the free traders hitherto having uniformly extended the boundaries of this commerce, wherever they have been allowed free access to, and intercourse with the natives of India.

Who is to be judge, in your opinion, of the unobjectionable character and pursuits of the gentleman making the application, the authorities to whom he applies, or the gentleman himself?—I should conceive that unless a solid objection could be raised against the character, or probable pursuits, of an individual applying for a licence to proceed to India, that according to the intentions of the legislature, he ought not to be refused permission to go thither. If his character be certified by respectable persons to be good, and his pursuits legitimate, I should presume it ought to be sufficient to influence the authorities to whom he applies, in his favour.

The same objection applied, in your opinion, to the system with regard to free mariners indentures, are you not aware that the only qualifications to go to India as free mariners, are their having been officers for a certain time in the Company's ships, or having been three years at sea; and that any person so qualified, is permitted to go to India as a free mariner?—I know that this is a qualification that was required under the old system, and I believe it is still continued, but the Act of the 53d of the late King, requires no such qualification in the person applying for a licence to proceed to India, and I am confident that it would be better for the interests of the free trade generally, if those qualifications and restraints were wholly abolished.

Are you not aware, that many of those free mariners are utterly out of employ in India, and find it quite impossible to get any whatever?—I have heard that several young men who went to India in search of employment, have returned, but this is an evil which would always correct itself, and requires in my opinion neither enactment nor remedy on the part of authority.

Are you aware that licences are granted by the Company, to persons to go to India, independent of the free merchants and mariners indentures, under the 33d clause of the Act of 1813?—I only speak of the cases with which I am acquainted, and in all those cases, free merchants or free mariners indentures have been

been granted; and as I always understood from the parties themselves, they were so granted in lieu of the licences or certificates of licence prescribed by the Act.

Robert Richards,
Esq.

Are you not aware that many persons have gone out, by certificates granted under the authority of the Board of Control?—I am not aware of any, from my own knowledge.

(19 March)

Are you not aware that persons who have received licence to go to India as free merchants, have gone into other pursuits of life, making the application for a free merchant's indenture, a cover for that purpose?—I know of no such instance; and if any such should occur, I should think it of little importance whilst there are laws in force in India, ably and rigidly administered to restrain the acts and designs of evil doers.

When you say that information was given at the India House, that it had been determined by the local authorities here, not to grant special licences, what do you mean by the term local authorities?—I mean the Board of Commissioners, and the Court of Directors, the right of granting licences being, as I conceive, expressly vested in the Board of Commissioners, through the medium of the honourable court.

Have you any reason for stating, that the Board of Control has expressed any such intention of refusing special licences?—No other than that as the Act vests the right of granting licences in the Board of Control, through the medium of the Court of Directors, it is to be presumed that an answer or declaration to the effect of that reported to me, could not have been given by authority at the India House, without the sanction of the Board of Control.

Was any such answer given by authority?—Yes, as I understood, by the chairman.

Did any body at the India House state, that the Board of Control had expressed an intention to refuse such a licence?—They did not.

Are you aware of any case in which an appeal has been made, on the subject of a special licence to the Board of Control, and rejected?—I doubt whether, according to the provisions of the Act, a private individual has a legal right to appeal to the Board of Control

But forwarded by the Company?—It is impossible for me to say whether applications are in all cases forwarded, but I presume they are.

Will you take upon yourself to state, that any instances have come within your knowledge, in which the Company has forwarded those cases, and they have been refused?—I cannot be supposed to know, or to be able to state, what has taken place between the Board of Control and the Court of Directors, I only mention what I conceive to be the regular course of proceeding on this occasion; an individual has no right, according to my construction of the Act, to make a direct application to the Board of Control, this being the express duty of the Court of Directors; and where an answer is given to an application of this description by the Court of Directors, or by a proper officer at the India House, it is naturally concluded by the parties concerned, that such answer must have received the sanction of the Board of Control.

You are aware that certain licences are granted direct by the Board of Control, under the 12th section of the Act of the 53d of the late King?—Yes, I am.

Did you ever know of any difficulty in obtaining those licences?—None whatever

Have the board established any regulations under the Act, as to granting those licences?—That I cannot speak to of my own knowledge. I would beg leave to add, on the subject of licences generally, that the objections now stated, are not meant to apply to the personal conduct or intentions of the local authorities in this country, but to the system itself, and to illustrate the evils and annoyances with which it is necessarily fraught, and I wish therefore to observe, that it would be very acceptable to the trade generally, to know what they have to depend upon in respect to those licences; and still more acceptable to them, to be relieved from the system of licences altogether.

Do you happen to know any instances, in which licences required to be granted under the 53d of the late King, have been refused for individuals to proceed to India, by the Court of Directors, and free merchants indentures granted to those individuals by the court?—I do not immediately recollect any instance of the kind. I have already mentioned one case within my own knowledge, where a licence was flatly refused; and in other cases where reference has been made to me by parties wishing to go to India, I have always understood from them, as the result of their

Robert Rickards,
Esq.

(19 March)

own previous inquiries, that they could only attain their object by getting the indentures above mentioned. In fact, whatever regulations may be in force to the contrary, it is certainly a very general impression in London, that licences are not obtainable at the India House, or not obtainable without considerable difficulty; and that free merchants or free mariners indentures must necessarily be applied for, and obtained as a favour from some one of the directors.

Can you inform the Committee, what the distinctions are between a licence directed to be granted under the 53d of the late King, and a free merchant's indenture, as granted by the court of directors?—I do not recollect having seen, or at all events having minutely examined, the form adopted for licences; the words of the Act seem simply to require an ordinary certificate of licence; whereas, the free merchants indenture is a document of a different nature.

Can you describe the nature of that document?—It is a paper of some length, and never having had occasion to take one out, I do not know that I can state the particulars, from a cursory inspection of such as I may have accidentally met with.

State the general objects of what it is intended to permit an individual to do?—It binds him to subject himself to the laws and regulations of the country, and to other certain conditions specified in the indenture, it also authorizes him to carry on trade in the country

Then it does not appear to you, that a free merchant's indenture is calculated to answer the purposes that a licence would, if granted under the 53d of the late King?—It may answer the purpose as well if it be as freely granted, but it does not appear to me to be the course prescribed by the Act; it is moreover attended with this additional trouble and difficulty, that in all cases of free merchants indentures, the parties procuring them are, I believe, obliged to procure friends to become their personal security at the India-house, which the Act does not prescribe in the case of certificates of licence. Indentures, too, can only be procured as matter of favour, and in limited numbers in each year, whereas licences are expressly enjoined by the Act to be freely granted, and without limit

What is the nature of the security that is so required?—To fulfil the conditions of the indenture.

Are you acquainted with the reasons why the Court of Directors prefer that mode of permitting individuals to proceed to India, in preference to the system of licences?—I know of no other reason than this, that upon the old system of granting indentures, it was always considered a part of the director's patronage, and is still probably considered in the same light.

Do you know what fee is charged at the India-house, for a licence required to be granted under the 53d of the King?—Not knowing of any licence being granted to a friend of our house, under the 53d of the late King, I cannot speak to the amount of the fee, neither can I from recollection state the exact amount of the fees paid for free merchants indentures; but I can give that information to the Committee accurately, if desired, as the payment of some have passed through our house.

Then will you be kind enough to furnish the Committee with that information?—I will

Do you happen to know, within the last three years, how many free merchants have been sent to India, and how many persons, under licences granted by the Court or the Board?—I do not; this is a matter connected with official details, which I have not the means of ascertaining.

Was the licence granted to the Brailsford after she sailed, acted upon in India when received there?—We have received no accounts yet.

By whom was the refusal given in India, to the captain of the Sarah, when he applied for permission to load on the coast of Malabar?—It was given in Malabar by the collector, Mr Babington, who made a reference on the subject to the Madras government; and the result of that reference was stated to be, that a special licence was indispensably necessary.

Do the Company's ships ever load in whole, or in part, on the coast of Malabar?—They did formerly, and I believe, do so still

Have the Court of Directors assigned any reasons to those applying for licences for private ships to load there, why they now refuse them?—The reason I have before mentioned was assigned in the first instance, namely, that under the operation of the 54th of the late King a special licence was unnecessary

Then on what ground do you understand the licence for the Brailsford was granted?—It was granted in consequence of a correspondence which took place between the Court of Directors and our house, in which the disappointment to the Sarah

Sarah was fully stated, from the want of a special licence, and the construction given in this respect to the Act by the local authorities in India, I believe that a reference was on that occasion made to the Company's law officers, who on further consideration of the question, gave it as their opinion that a special licence was requisite for the purpose of proceeding to an intermediate port, at all events, a special licence was granted by the Court of Directors, and we had no occasion to make further inquiries.

Robert Rickards,
Esq.
(19 March)

Is the Committee to understand you to have stated, that the company have since refused to grant such licences?—The owner of the Phoenix informed me a few days ago, that he had been refused a special licence to proceed to the coast of Malabar.

When the company do grant those licences, is the application and the granting of them, attended with any inconvenient delay?—It certainly is

Can you state in general terms, in how short a time an answer is given to persons applying for a licence?—I have known some weeks elapse between an application for a licence and the granting of it; and in those cases the parties have informed me, that they were frequently obliged to go to the India House, to renew their application, the delay in this case, I am aware, chiefly arises from the forms and observances necessary to be attended to, for in the usual course and dispatch of business at the India House great facility and courtesy are experienced from the gentlemen presiding or officiating in the several departments, but the system of licences necessarily involves the trouble and delay which I have before adverted to, and although it has never happened to me to experience either, except in the case of the Brailsford, the application for licences being always preferred by the ship owners themselves, or persons desirous to proceed to India, yet I have frequently heard this inconvenience and delay loudly complained of. In the case of the Brailsford, there was a delay certainly of several weeks between the first application and the ultimate granting of the special licence, during which interval the Brailsford sailed for India without a special licence, but with a letter from one of the secretaries of the Court of Directors, intimating, as far as I can now recollect, that no such special licence was necessary

Having stated the inconvenience, which you think arises out of the system of licences, will you be pleased to state to the Committee what are the other restrictions and obstructions, you alluded to in a former answer, as affecting the trade to India?—The licence system, as it is now acted upon, includes a prohibition to the free traders to go to any of the intermediate ports of India, and consequently restricts most extensively, and in my opinion, very prejudicially, their general intercourse with the natives. At present, the points of contact between the British free trader and the inhabitants of India are few, viz the presidencies, yet in these points the advantages resulting to both countries are found to be great and obvious, but, as the case now stands, all commercial intercourse along the coast of India, and therefore with the great mass of natives, is absolutely prohibited. The obstructions that arise out of this system are therefore so numerous and extensive in their operation, that they may, I think, be better conceived than generally detailed. In its present state the system is actually a preventive system, as far as regards India generally, and consequently curtails, to the extent of its operation, the use and consumption of British manufactures

Do you think that any material inconvenience arises to the private trade, from the description of ships in which they are obliged to carry it on?—Yes, I do. I think it would be much better, and more for the interest of the trade and ship-owners generally, if they were allowed to carry it on in vessels of such a size as they chose to fit out for the purpose. The Americans have for many years carried on their commercial intercourse with India and China, in ships of all sizes; and so far from its being attended with injury, they have, I believe, found the practice beneficial

Do you think that the demand for British manufactures, among the natives in India is increasing, and has increased considerably since the year 1813?—I have already mentioned, on advices which may, I think, be entirely relied upon, that in Bengal the increase of British manufactures has been very considerable. Our letters from the western side of India also lead us to conclude, that the demand is to the full as great, if not greater there. It has been of late years checked, particularly on the western side of India, by the difficulty which has lately prevailed of making returns from that quarter, and is still suffering from the same cause.

Do you know whether British goods find their way to any extent, in the countries in the north of India?—Both woollen and cotton goods have been commissioned,

Robert Esdaile,
Esq.
(19 March.)

and still continue to be commissioned from India, for the use of the natives in the northern provinces and states, to a considerable extent; the demand seems even to be increasing in that quarter. I know of several consignments of both woollen and cotton goods sent to the western side of India, whose ultimate destination has been the Persian Gulf. Coarse woollens and certain cotton goods are also sent out, known to be for the use of natives in the northern provinces.

Do you know whether the demand for British goods is at all increased in Persia?—I have mentioned, in my preceding answer, that several consignments have been made to the western side of India, which were ultimately intended for the Persian Gulf, from whence they would be conveyed into the interior of Persia, and the neighbouring Arabian states.

Is much trade carried on with those countries, to which the last questions have referred, by foreigners?—The trade with those countries is very considerably increased since the year 1813. When I left India it was principally carried on by ships belonging to native chieftains, and so far foreign ships, being independent of the British authority. (The Imaun of Muscat had many large ships employed in this trade, some of them of the burden of 700, 800 and 1,000 tons, navigated entirely by Arabs; and in returns which I have lately seen, of the state of the trade with the Arabian and Persian Gulfs, and which have been furnished from India, I find it stated, that the trade has increased from 14,716,119 rupees in 1814/15, to 23,226,130 in 1817/18, this is but a short period, and if a more extended one was taken, I have reason to believe, from the private advices that I have received from that quarter, that the trade would exhibit a still greater increase. It is an important feature in this trade, that the imports from the Gulfs into India in goods, have not materially varied in the period. In 1814/15 they were 2,793,532 R^s, and in 1817/18 3,322,489 R^s, whilst the export of goods for the same period was in 1814/15, 7,910,554, and in 1817/18 R^s 10,695,841. The great increase is therefore in the export of goods from India, many of which consist of British manufactures.)

Do you think that the obstructions applicable to British ships, to which you have alluded, tend to prevent them from having any participation in that trade?—Certainly; in as far as this trade might be carried on in British free traders, cheaper than in any other ships I know of, because also it would be cheaper to convey goods directly to the gulfs, instead of circuitously.

Then in your opinion they are prevented from engaging in it, by those obstructions?—Of course, if they are refused special licences or access to these parts.

You have stated the difficulty of making returns, would this difficulty, in your opinion, be much diminished by taking off the duty on the import of raw silk?—It certainly would, inasmuch as I have understood from silk manufacturers themselves in the city, that they would have no difficulty in competing even with the French silks, if the duty on the raw material was taken off, or rather proportionally lowered.

Would not the export to the Persian Gulf be much increased, by a direct communication from this country, instead of the circuitous one through our western possessions in India?—The trade between the Persian Gulf and India is chiefly carried on with Bengal, where the voyage is longer and subject to greater risk than with the western side of India, but there is also a direct communication between the western side of India and the Persian Gulf still, if a direct communication was permitted to free traders between England and the Persian and Arabian Gulfs, it would enable the inhabitants of those countries to procure British manufactures considerably cheaper, and therefore proportionally conduce to the increased consumption of those articles in the East.

Are there any other difficulties besides those which you have mentioned, in trading from this country, to the Persian Gulf, that you are aware of?—None that I am aware of; if the Committee will allow me I would beg to state another disadvantage attending the system of licences, which is, that many ship-owners conceive they cannot go to the eastward of the Cape without licence; and even when ships proceed to places where licences are unnecessary according to law, they still deem it necessary to provide themselves with such licences, lest in the course of their voyage they might find it necessary to enter those limits where licences are indispensable; they are therefore subject to the trouble, delay, and expense of procuring those licences before they depart, whether they be eventually used or not.

Do you conceive that facility would be given to the introduction of British goods into Persia, if our vessels were allowed to go direct, touching at Bombay?—Certainly, or to go direct to Persia, and afterwards to Bombay.

Are

Are you aware that our ships are not allowed to proceed directly to Bombay, and from thence to Persia?—I understand that such is the present system

Robert Rickards,
Esq

Have you heard, that the Emperor of Russia will not permit our woollens to pass through his territories, while he permits those of Prussia?—It has been so stated of late.

(19 March)

What are the returns that Persia can give us for our manufactures?—The returns from the Persian Gulf to India, are chiefly in specie; copper, horses, and other articles of trade are also imported

Are the Persians acquainted with the manufacture of glass, and of domestic utensils?—The Persian manufactures in these articles are rough and coarse, I have seen samples of the Persian manufactures in many articles of domestic use, sent to this country, for the express purpose of imitation, and they have been so imitated in various instances very successfully, and at much cheaper rates than the stated current prices of the same articles on the spot.

Then is it your opinion, that the consumption of those commodities would greatly extend, if the difficulties of our intercourse were removed?—No doubt it would, in all those articles which could be supplied cheaper and better from this country.

Is not the necessity of employing ships of a large size, a great drawback to the opening of such a trade and commerce?—Certainly; inasmuch as the Gulfs of Arabia and Persia are mostly navigated by vessels of a smaller tonnage

Then instead of employing ships of 350 tons and upwards, in your opinion it would be a great advantage to our merchants who took out valuable commodities, to go out with such vessels as would please themselves, and of such a size as would incur the least demurrage?—I have no doubt it would.

Is there an extensive trade from Bombay to Mocha, and to the borders of the Red Sea?—The statement which I gave a little while ago of the extent of the trade between India and the Arabian and Persian Gulfs, includes the trade to Mocha.

Is it within your knowledge, that the French and Americans go regularly to Mocha?—Formerly French and American ships used to go regularly to Mocha for coffee, and perhaps the Americans still continue to send vessels to that quarter; the French have not engaged much, of late years, in the trade to India

Have you known an instance, since the passing of the Free Trade Act, of a single English ship going to Mocha?—No, I do not immediately recollect any instance.

Is not this to be attributed to their not having another port in India to go to, in case the speculation entered upon does not turn out as expected, the question applying itself to the English free traders?—If such permission were granted to the English free trader, it would of course afford him a corresponding facility for engaging in a direct speculation to Mocha in the first instance

Have not the Americans great facilities over us in their commerce, from being allowed to go from port to port, just as they please?—The Americans have great facilities in that respect, and they do not fail to avail themselves of their privileges. They are subject to no restrictions in respect to their commercial intercourse with India or China, save what they experience from our laws and regulations. They have no system of licences, in respect to which system I would beg leave again to submit to the consideration of the Committee, whether, as it is now acted upon, it can fail to do otherwise than operate injuriously to the interests of the British trade, inasmuch as it very materially checks and controuls that free intercourse with the inhabitants of the East, which from the wording and spirit of the 33d section of the 53d of the late King, it appears to me to have been the anxious intention of the legislature to promote.

Do you see any advantage, in point of security or otherwise, derived to the India Company from the maintenance of those restrictions upon the private trade?—I really know of none; and the firm conviction of my mind, from long experience and intimate knowledge of the habits and dispositions of the natives of India is, that a free commercial intercourse, between Europeans and those natives, might be carried on without objection, and without the least fear of its being attended with injurious consequences to the public interests

Veneris, 23^o die Martii, 1821.

The Right Honourable THOMAS WALLACE, in the Chair.

George Larpent, Esquire;

Called in; and Examined.

*George Larpent,
Esq.*

(23 March)

IN what line of business are you?—I am in the house of Paxton, Cockerell, Trail and Company, East India agents, I have been in the house eighteen years, and a partner seven years.

Is that house much engaged in the trade to India?—It has been exclusively engaged in Indian agency, for nearly forty years.

Have you a general acquaintance with that trade?—As far as London business, to the fullest extent, I never was in India.

Can you state what effects on the trade with India have been produced, by the openings that were afforded by the charter?—The trade has been greatly increased.

Do you know whether the trade has been increased on the whole, or only increased in the hands of private merchants?—I cannot answer that question accurately, at the opening of the trade freights in India were high, and that attracted a great tonnage to India, they gradually fell from the year 1817; the freights which were at the commencement, perhaps 20*l.* per ton, gradually decreased to 6*l.* and 5*l.* 10*s.* according to the latest return, making it a most losing trade as far as the ship-owner is concerned, and from the relative prices in India, as compared with those obtained here, it must have been to those who have been speculating in goods, also a considerably losing trade.

From what time do you consider it to have been a losing trade?—To the ship-owners from 1817 or 1818, previous to that time, I should suppose from the state of freights in India, it must have been rather a beneficial trade to the ship-owners; with regard to the merchant I have a memorandum I took of the highest and lowest prices of the principal articles of East India produce, from the year 1812 to the year 1820. The opening of the trade was coincident in time with the peace, and the prices of many India articles rose in the years 1814 and 1815, 100 to 200 per cent, therefore it was at that time, a very advantageous trade; but all that advantage has been gradually subsiding, and from the trade being carried on to excess, there must have been latterly a great loss sustained, but as we confine our business to agency, we can only tell from the invoices, which certainly of late years have given a loss.

Are you acquainted with the regulations under which the private trade is carried on?—I am.

Is there any thing in those regulations that appears to you to throw any considerable impediments in the way of that trade?—I think there are no impediments in the two Acts of Parliament of 53 Geo III, and 54 Geo III, commonly called The Circuitous Acts, for the conduct of such trades as are permitted under those acts.

Do you think no inconvenience or impediments arise from the necessity of the ships taking licences?—None, that I am aware of.

No delay?—Nor delay.

Do you think any impediment arises to the general trade of India, from the size of the ships in which the trade is necessarily carried on under those Acts of Parliament?—I am not aware of any.

Have you any reason to think that any impediments arise from the restraint there is on private ships going to any port in India, except the principal settlements, without a special licence?—No, because under an opinion on the construction of the Act of Parliament, the free traders have obtained and exercised the right of country trade in India.

Do you mean by that, the traders that go from this country?—The traders that go from this country.

Do you mean that they have the power of touching at any of the ports of India, exclusive of the principal settlements, which may be convenient to them?—I mean,

in this manner, that if a vessel is at Calcutta, she may take a cargo down to Madras, and return again to Calcutta

May she touch at any intermediate port?—I am not aware of any commercial places that would make it desirable to touch intermediately between the principal presidencies, but persons acquainted with the country, would be better able to speak to that

Have you never heard any dissatisfaction expressed among the private traders, upon this subject?—Yes, I think from circumstances that were not in existence at the time the Acts of Parliament, I allude to, were framed, there are considerable difficulties

Have the goodness to state those difficulties?—The first to which I allude is, the principle upon which the Acts are founded, that no British subject may trade, except through the medium of those two Acts of Parliament, by which he is partially excluded from benefiting from the trade of Java, not being permitted to ship on a Dutch vessel. It is also a question, whether it be legal to ship on any vessel from a port in Holland to Java; and it is illegal to ship partly at Calcutta, fill up at Java, and proceed to the Continent. I know of no other impediments but those

Do you know of any other difficulties arising out of the laws as they now stand, but those you have stated?—No; except under the India Register Act, the 55 Geo III, chapter 116, I think there are great difficulties arising from the construction put upon that Act, the first difficulty that I should state, would be as to the property of the ship. (By the general Register Act, a ship ought to be registered where the owner resides. If a ship having an India register, is brought to this country and sold here, there does not appear any means, by which a subject, resident in Great Britain, can be owner of that ship, with a register at the Custom House. I think, also, that the ships built in India, are fairly entitled to all the privileges of British register, it being intended, in the spirit of the India register and other Acts, that the country trade should be completely given to them, and it seems a hardship, that whilst the country ships, built in India, are excluded from the benefits of a general register, the country trade should be thrown open to the free traders)

Have you reason to believe, that much difficulty is thrown in the way of exports of manufactures of this country to India, by the duties imposed by the East India Company?—None has fallen under my knowledge; I know it has been a very losing trade when it has been improperly carried on, but our house have never shipped themselves.

Are you not connected with a house at Calcutta?—Yes, a correspondent house

Does that connection give you the means of ascertaining whether the consumption of British manufactures in Bengal, has increased, or otherwise?—Not from any authentic documents, but from general report, it has very greatly increased; our letters state, that European articles, after the glut, have been in considerable demand.

Are they recovering in price?—They were recovering in price by the last accounts, but it is so entirely subject to fluctuation, if the exports are adapted to the European population, a very small excess will glut the market, if adapted to the clothing of the native population, they certainly may increase considerably, and from all accounts, speaking without seeing the result of investments before my own eyes, the trade, I understand, is in a progressive state of increase

What did you mean by saying the country trade has been thrown open to the free traders?—It was so understood, in India, for I had a letter from a house in India, requesting me to take an opinion upon the subject. I conceived, that the Circuitous Act only gave permission to touch at places in India, mentioned therein, and in prosecution of the direct voyages; that it did not allow of a voyage from Calcutta to Madras and back again. It was understood, that the coasting or country trade was confined to the India country ships. I took an opinion here, which distinctly stated, that the law gave permission to all the free traders to trade in the country trade in India, not merely in prosecution of the voyage, that is, touching at Vizagapatam, in the way from London; Madras to Calcutta, if licence were obtained, or vice versâ, that a free trader might take down a cargo from Calcutta to Madras, and return with another from Madras to Calcutta; a trade before thought to be confined to the country traders.

Do you happen to know, whether the liberty which you suppose them to possess, is actually exercised or not?—I should suppose so, from the subject having been pointed out to us from our house in India, with directions to make inquiry here as a subject of complaint there, in as much as it affected their India country shipping.

George Larpent,
Esq

(23 March)

George Larpent,
Esq.

(23 March)

Do you know whether they carry on the coasting trade in the same manner, and with the same freedom, as it is carried on in the country ships?—It is not within my own knowledge, but I believe they do.

Has any application come under your cognizance, from a person who wished to go from England to any place but a principal settlement?—None.

You are not aware of any inconvenience having arisen to the trade, from that exception in the Act?—No.

You state, that it is a question, whether it is legal for a British subject to send a cargo from Holland to Java, on what ground do you state that as questionable?—From the existence of all the old Acts of Parliament preventing a British subject haunting or trading between the Straits of Magellan and the Cape of Good Hope, except in the manner provided under the two Acts, the 53d and 54th of the late king. My own interpretation of those acts is different from the interpretation put upon them by the Custom House, in reading over the act I see it is expressly stated in the preamble, that it is expedient that all British subjects should have the right of trading in all parts within those limits; in all prior acts, the inexpediency of such free trade is implied, by the expediency of the monopoly being asserted; we are told that it is not a free trade with certain limitations, but that it is a close trade with certain permissions. I can only say in the case to which I allude, that of a Dutch vessel, it was refused to me as a British subject to load British goods thereon from hence to Java, I was told a Dutchman, a Dane, a Swede, or any foreigner, might ship to Java on a Dutch or foreign vessel, but that I, as a British subject, could not.

Have you found many difficulties in merchants acting under those acts?—None whatever, in the direct trade specified under those Acts of Parliament, I think it would be better if they were consolidated into one Act of Parliament, and drawn out in a clearer manner than they are at present, I think there are inconsistencies in the acts.

Though you have not experienced such difficulties yourself, have you not heard others complain of existing difficulties?—I do not recollect any case immediately, but I certainly have heard of complaints; I do not recollect any case so as to specify it.

Have you not found, on the part of those with whom the execution of the acts rested, every disposition to give you the utmost possible facility?—Certainly I have.

Do you mean to include in that, both the Court of Directors and the Board of Controul?—I applied to the Board of Controul as a natural channel to give me the information I required.

Why did it strike you that the Board of Controul was the more natural channel?—I considered the private trade more under the protection of the Board of Controul.

Was not the difficulty you complain of, arising from a want of proper construction of the Act of Parliament?—From a want of clearness in the Act of Parliament itself, which rendered it difficult for me to know whether my operation was safe or not.

Have you any knowledge of the duties paid in India, on the importation of British manufactures?—Yes, I have a statement of the duties payable at Calcutta on importations and exportations.

See Appendix (I 1) Have the goodness to deliver in that statement of duties?—[*The Witness delivered in the same.*]

You have spoken of a difficulty arising under the East India Register Act, did you refer to any particular case?—I have a ship here at the present moment, with an India register, which we wish to sell, and upon inquiry as to the sale, I was informed that it would be difficult to obtain a purchaser on that account, the difficulty existing

Do you know any thing of the duties imposed in the island of Ceylon?—I drew up, in conjunction with a merchant from Ceylon, a memorial to the Board of Trade, relative to the duties levied at the island of Ceylon, in which the prayer of the petition was, that they should be assimilated with the duties levied by the East India Company; the duties in Ceylon being heavier on many articles, and those important ones, than those levied in the Company's territories, the subject is under consideration I believe.

See Appendix (I 2) Are there not considerable duties levied on the exports from Ceylon?—There are some duties others have been taken off, but I could furnish the Committee with the tariff if it was wished. [*The Witness was directed to furnish the same.*]

Are

Are you acquainted with the duties payable on the importation of goods into Java, or the exportation of produce from that island?—I have them with me; I have it in the regulations of the alien law of Java, published by the Java government on the 1st of November 1818

George Larpent,
Esq.

(23 March.)

[*The Witness delivered in the same*]

See Appendix

(I. 3)

Are you aware, whether the trade is carried on from China with any of the Eastern Islands, in European or American shipping?—The trade is carried on I believe in produce of China to Java, but as the law exists at present no English subject can be engaged in trading from China to Java, and thence to London, without transshipping or originating the voyage again at Java for Great Britain, and no insurance from Canton to Java and London, by a British subject, would be legal

Is such trade carried on in American or European shipping, or both?—I believe it to be so.

Is it of considerable extent?—I believe it to be of some extent, but I have not the documents

Is such trade confined to Java, or is it carried on with other islands to the eastward?—From the information of persons from thence, I believe it to be a considerable trade, and extending throughout the whole of the Archipelago

Are you aware of any such trade being carried on from any of those islands with any other part of the continent of Asia, to the eastward of the Straits of Malacca?—Not within my own knowledge, from the general information, I have received, I believe there is a considerable trade of that nature. There is also a trade carried on immediately under our eyes here, which is, American ships loading in British ports direct to China, one sailed in January called the *Cordevia*

Do you happen to be acquainted with the nature of the cargo she carried out?—Her cargo was not very considerable in British manufactures. I have seen the cargoes of other ships, and they did comprise several large investments of British manufactures, woollens and other articles, I have seen the manifests of several of the ships

Are not British subjects prevented engaging in such accounts?—Certainly

Have you been concerned in the trade to Java?—As agents for an establishment at Java, we have

Have you made considerable shipments to Java?—We have, as agents, executed commissions from Java

Had you any difficulty in getting returned cargoes occasionally from Java?—Considerable difficulty in realizing the returns

Do you conceive that the demand of the eastern islands for European manufactures and produce, is greater than the produce they have to give us in return?—I have not the facts sufficiently before me as to the exports from hence, or the produce of Java, but I know the great difficulty of the trade between this country and Java to consist in the difficulty of obtaining returns

Do you conceive this difficulty would be removed, if those who took out cargoes to those islands were permitted to take another cargo on to China, provided they could not get one on to Europe?—I have understood that a very profitable trade was carried on between Java and China, and therefore there might be means from that source, of payment to the London house who advanced the money on the outward investment to Java, but I speak only as an agent. It is difficult to get paid for advances in purchase of goods on commission. These difficulties might become less, as the trade became more extensive. I have understood there was a profitable trade between Java and China, and that there are a variety of articles they carry up to China; but again, there would still be a difficulty in getting returns from China to Europe, except through foreigners, as the law now stands

Are you of opinion that increased facilities would be afforded to the trade between this country and India, if the present restriction on tonnage to three hundred and fifty tons were removed?—I am not aware of any facilities to be afforded thereby; but I have understood the Americans trade in smaller vessels.

If such permission was given for smaller vessels, and they should sail direct to other ports on the continent of India, and within the possessions of the Company, without calling at the Presidencies, is it not probable that such a trade might be carried on in such vessels to considerable advantage?—I think a person acquainted with India would be able to answer the question with more correctness than I can

Is the Committee to understand that you have not had any particular experience in that part of the commerce of India?—Certainly I have not.

Robert Addison,
Esq
(23 March.)

Robert Addison, Esq, Called in, and Examined.

YOU are a merchant?—I am

Have you been engaged in the trade with India?—I have

Are you engaged in that trade at present?—Not immediately; I have lately returned from Java and the eastern islands

Have you been employed under the East India Company?—I have, formerly; latterly as a private trader, chiefly in trade with Java and its dependencies, I lately returned from Sincapore and Java

Can you state what effects the opening, by the Act of the fifty-third of the late King, produced upon the trade of India?—I think it has had the effect of considerably increasing the exportation of British manufactured goods, particularly Manchester and Scotch goods.

Do you think it has been an increase on the whole, or only an increase through the private trader?—I think an increase on the whole.

Do you know in what particular articles of the manufacture of this country there has been an increased demand?—(Manchester cotton goods, and calico goods in particular of all descriptions, and woollen also; but probably the increase has not been so great in woollen as in cotton goods; I am not so minutely acquainted with the general trade to India, as the trade to Java)

Do you know whether those have been principally for the use of the natives?—Principally so, I think

Have you reason to think that the demand is increasing on the part of the natives, for the manufactures of this country?—Yes, I speak generally of India

Are you acquainted with the regulations under which the trade is carried on by the private merchant at present?—I am

Is there any thing in those regulations, which you conceive throws considerable impediments in the way of the progress of that trade?—I am hardly prepared to answer that question, I could not specify any in particular

Does any arise from the necessity of taking licences?—Not to any material consequence

Do you think any arises from the necessity of carrying on the trade in a particular size of ships?—It certainly would be an advantage, were smaller ships allowed to go to India, it frequently would be an advantage to individuals.

In what particular part of the trade would that advantage principally arise?—In carrying the exports from this country.

For what reason?—An individual engaging in that trade, might frequently have a private speculation in view, where a larger ship would be an expense that he had no reason to incur, a smaller ship might answer the purposes of the individual

It would open the trade to persons of less capital?—Yes, and where a smaller speculation might answer extremely well

Do you connect that answer, with a permission to go direct to the smaller ports of India, or to the Presidencies only?—It certainly would be a very desirable thing if they were open, smaller ships would have a still greater advantage.

Do you happen to know whether the country ships carrying on the coasting trade in India, are permitted to go indifferently to all the ports, whether they should be Presidencies or the intermediate ports?—I believe they are permitted to go to all ports.

Is that the case with English ships?—I believe not

Have you any reason to know that they are prevented from going?—No, I have not any particular reason to know that, but I believe that to be the case.

Do you conceive great advantage would arise to the trade if they had that permission?—I do, certainly.

From your knowledge of India, do you see any danger that could arise from that permission being granted to them?—There is not any that I am aware of

Do you think that it would be the means of increasing the export of manufactures from this country, if they were permitted?—It is probable it might increase the exports from this country. I believe a country ship, taking in a cargo in this country, proceeding to any of the Presidencies of India, could afterwards, clearing from thence as a country ship, proceed to any of the minor ports

Do you mean after disposing of her cargo?—No; with the same cargo as a country ship from China will take in, a cargo in China will reclear at any of the Presidencies of India, and come direct to this country.

Ans

Are you acquainted with the trade to Java?—I am more particularly acquainted with the trade to Java

And the islands?—And the islands.

Do you know whether the British exports to Java are increasing or diminishing?—They have very materially increased within the last four years, particularly in the cotton manufactures, as well as iron, woollens in a less degree.

Is that trade carried on for the supply of Java, or through Java for the supply of the islands?—Both; a very large proportion of the goods are used on the island of Java, but a great deal are exported to the eastern islands

To what description of goods do you allude?—More particularly cotton goods, iron, steel and some copper.

Are any of those goods, to your knowledge, sent from Java to China?—I believe not, after the goods have been landed in Java, but American ships taking in goods in this country, will proceed to Java first, not finding a market there, many of the goods will answer the China markets. The heavy duties, both on import and export in Java, would prevent business of that kind being carried on, those duties are not levied unless the goods are landed.

Can you state what proportion of the goods that go to Java, is for the consumption of Java, and what proportion for the consumption of the islands?—I cannot state that, I should presume the islands would take away nearly one half.

Is there any direct trade carried on from this country to the islands in the Eastern Archipelago?—No, there is not

Is not such a trade carried on from the British settlements in India to the islands by the country ships?—I believe it is prohibited by the Dutch to the islands immediately under their dependance.

Is any carried on by the country ships to the other islands?—Certainly

To a considerable extent?—I should presume not to a very considerable extent, if you exclude Manilla, it is something considerable there

Do you happen to know yourself, that the country ships or British ships are excluded by the Dutch from the islands and territories under their dependencies?—Certainly, the Dutch have merely opened three ports, all in the island of Java, viz: Batavia, Samarang, and Suraboye; lately they have permitted a trade at Anjere in the Straits of Sunda with ships bound to China, and no ports in any of the other islands.

Are those entirely free ports?—The Dutch regulation is this, a ship from Europe must discharge the whole of her cargo at one port, any one of those ports she may fix on, and she may take in a cargo at the same port, or at one of those other ports

The same regulations apply to the ships of all European nations?—Yes, the ships of all European nations.

There is no communication with the territories under the Dutch government in that part of the world except through Java?—No.

What islands do you suppose to be dependent on Java?—I might include all the Spice Islands, and all the islands east of Java, particularly where the Dutch have settlements, Banjarmassing on the island of Borneo, and Macassar on the island of Celebes.

Have you yourself traded among those islands?—No, I have not

Do you know any thing of Cochin China?—No, I do not.

Do you know whether the people of the Oriental islands are very much disposed to take the cottons exported from this country?—They certainly are, from the low price at which they are exported from this country, the consumption of them has increased very much.

Do you know whether they prefer the British?—I presume chiefly from the low price at which they can be sold, and the superior patterns.

Do you know what return cargoes those islands afford?—The returns are made entirely from Java.

If there was a direct trade from any of those islands, what means have they of giving a return cargo?—Those islands do not afford any great deal of articles for the consumption of this country, their produce is chiefly for the China market, the returns, with the exception of the Spice Islands, must be made by the way of China or India, betel nut, and various other articles, for the Chinese and Bengal market.

They have no means of paying for the manufactures they may receive from this country but in those articles, which are principally fitted for the China market?—Principally so.

Robert Addison,
Esq

(23 March.)

To how late a period do you speak as to the prohibitions of the Dutch?—Those restrictions were in force the latter part of last year.

What do you include under the name of the Spice Islands?—The whole of the islands that produce the nutmeg and spices.

Is the Committee to understand there is as strict a prohibition of the resort of British or other European ships to all the Dutch settlements in the Eastern Archipelago, excepting the three ports you have mentioned, as there is to the Spice Islands?—To the best of my belief there is; to my knowledge, within twelve months, ships have touched at Banca, at the settlement of Minto, and have been refused permission to transact business.

Do not the Americans carry on a considerable trade with those islands?—They do.

What means of access have they?—They are under the same restrictions as the British, the Americans carry on a trade with the same restrictions.

With what islands do they carry it on?—Only with Java; frequently taking cargoes from thence to China.

Have they no trade with any other islands not immediately under the dependence of the Dutch?—I believe little, if any, some with Manilla, which is a Spanish settlement, but not with those immediately under the Dutch.

Are not there many ships which trade with those islands, and collect from them articles for the China market, which they afterwards carry on, and exchange with China?—Certainly; the trade of those islands is principally carried on by colonial craft, Malay prows, and craft under Dutch colours; they export the British manufactured articles from Java, and distribute them amongst the minor ports, and the produce of the various islands is collected, and returned partly to Java, and from thence mostly for the China market, or, in some instances, conveyed immediately by the Chinese junks from the small ports to China.

Supposing the East India Company were to permit a vessel that had proceeded from Great Britain to Cochin China, or the islands, to proceed afterwards from thence to China, might not an extensive and profitable mercantile intercourse be established?—I conceive there might.

Can you inform the Committee what probably would be the details of such trade?—If there were any fixed port under the British flag in a convenient situation for distributing British manufactured goods amongst the islands, and collecting the produce of the islands, for they are very widely situated, a very considerable trade might be carried on between England and this port, and again to China. I conceive it requires a point to collect the produce of these different islands at.

Which, in your opinion, would be the best point?—I certainly am of opinion, that no better one could be found than the present settlement of Singapore.

If such port were not within the reach of our competence, what other would you recommend; would Prince of Wales's Island answer the purpose?—It has not all the advantages of Singapore, the situation of Singapore is much preferable; it is easier of access, and better situated.

Would a port in Cochin answer your view of expediency?—From being more under the influence of the monsoons, I think it would not have all the advantage of Singapore, and it would not be so centrally situated.

Were such a general intercourse admitted, would it not be your opinion that the manufactures of Great Britain might be greatly extended in their consumption among the people of those islands?—I certainly think so.

Excepting the charter of the East India Company, are you aware of any objection, upon general principles of policy, to the granting such an extension of our commercial privileges?—I am not aware of any.

What are the articles which you expect would be brought by the islanders to that intermediate point?—There is a long list, they are rather numerous, tin, birds nests, rattans, betel nut, pepper, beache de mer, gold dust, sago, catch or trapary, tortoise shell, mother of pearl, shells, dye wood, and a variety of other articles.

Is not there, in point of fact, at present, a considerable trade carried on between China and those islands, in Chinese junks?—There certainly is.

What goods or funds do the Chinese send to those islands, if they procure these articles?—A considerable quantity of porcelain ware and cotton manufactures, their coarser nankeens, and some tea.

Do not the Chinese, resident in those islands, make large remittances to their relations, which supply great part of the cargoes?—I believe they do.

If a trade was carried on with our porcelain, and our cotton manufactures, could not the same articles be procured in return for them, for the Chinese market?—I conceive so.

Would

Robert Addisont,
Esq
(23 March)

Would they be, in your opinion, equally adapted for the trade or better?—So far as the cotton goods, I conceive equally or better, it is a coarse kind of porcelain they require, that, perhaps, has not been tried from this country

Supposing those goods so collected, at such depôt as you have before alluded to, find their way to China, what return do you contemplate from China, for the European market?—Teas, raw silk, nankeens, drugs of various kinds, rhubarb and gamboge, china root, cassia, cassia buds, and all the articles that are usually exported from China and brought to this country, or to the continent of Europe.

Do you think the privilege of bringing tea to the continent of Europe, is essential to the carrying on that trade advantageously?—I think there would be a difficulty in finding a cargo, unless teas were allowed as part

Have you ever been in Cochin China?—I have not

Are you not aware that there is the same jealousy of foreigners in Cochin China, as in China Proper?—I believe there is a considerable jealousy there

What reason then have you to suppose that a trade could be carried on advantageously there?—I fixed on the port at Sincapore as a depôt, the question I answered with reference to Cochin China, was on the assumption of a trade being permitted there.

Do you know whether any trade from Europe is now carried on with Cochin China?—I am not aware of it

When you speak of the prohibition the Dutch impose upon us, do you speak of settlements under their influence, as well as those which actually belonged to them?—Certainly I do

Have you heard of a considerable consumption of our cotton piece goods having taken place in Bengal, Bombay, and Madras?—Certainly

Are you aware that the raw cotton is taken from those ports to China to be manufactured?—I am aware that the raw cotton is taken from those ports to China

Have you any knowledge as to the difference of freight from Calcutta to China, and from Calcutta to England, at this moment?—I am not acquainted with the trade from Calcutta to China, at this moment, as to the rate of freight.

Do you conceive from the general idea of freight in India, it will be as high from Calcutta to China, as from Calcutta to England?—Yes, I should presume that it would.

Do you know of any prejudices existing in China, against their consuming our manufactures?—No, I do not

Having in view the great consumption which has taken place in Calcutta, do you conceive a similar consumption might take place in China, if we had the same facilities of introducing them there?—Most undoubtedly I do, from my own knowledge, the consumption of British cotton goods has increased very much within the last few years. British cotton goods were unknown in Canton, to any extent, ten years ago, and they have been gradually increasing, the demand for them has increased yearly; and is now, I believe, to a considerable extent

Do you conceive from the great reduction in the price of cotton in this country, and our increased machinery, that the low price at which piece goods are brought to perfection here, has altered altogether the state of our commerce with that country?—Certainly, very materially

Do you think that if increased facilities were given to the merchants here, to lay in their investments as they pleased, and to go to what places their information led them to think would be advantageous, and in what sized ships they pleased, so that individual merchants could ship instead of, as in the present case, acting in conjunction from the great size of the ships to which they are limited, trade would open in various parts, which we at present do not find it our interest to go to?—Yes, I do think it would be the means of opening trade with places, with which at present we are not much acquainted, with China in particular; were British shipping placed on the footing that the American ships are, with the same privileges of proceeding to China that the American ships have, I conceive it would be the means of extending the trade very materially; the trade to China, in British goods, at present is carrying on through American ships

Provided the trade, to which you have referred, were opened to the private merchants of this country, would the removal of the restriction that now exists on the tonnage of shipping, employed in the trade with India, materially benefit that trade?—I think very materially

Do you know whether American ships, of a smaller tonnage, are much employed in carrying on that trade?—Yes, there are many Americans, of a much smaller tonnage, go to China.

226 MINUTES OF EVIDENCE BEFORE SELECT COMMITTEE

Robert Addison,
Esq.
(23 March)

Are not the greatest proportion of the American ships carrying on that trade of a smaller tonnage?—I think they generally run from 200 to 500 tons; in China, in the season of 1818 and 1819, it appears there were 46 American vessels, whose tonnage amounted to 16,022 tons I have here a statement of the cargoes of American ships from Canton, bound to Europe in the season of 1819 and 1820.

[The Witness delivered in the same, and it was read as follows:]

Cargoes of American Ships bound to Europe, season of 1819 to 1820.

Departures	Ships	Chests Congo	Chests Campoy	Chests Souchong	Chests Hyson	Chests Hyson skm.	Chests Young Hyson.	Chests Imperial.	Chests Pecos.	Chests Twankay	Peculs Cassia.	
1819												
October - 1	Boca Tigris - - -	- - -	- - -	150	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	250	- - -	- - -	(a)
„ 17	Canton Packet - -	100	547	950	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	250	- - -	- - -	(b)
December 15	Houqua - - - -	1,500	450	525	360	625	120	211	324	- - -	- - -	(c)
1820												
March - 1	Integrity - - - -	2,200	612	1,065	632	333	89	- - -	304	400	- - -	(d)
April - 1	North America - -	1,700	655	942	440	250	276	122	100	300	50	(e)
„ 13	Washington - - -	1,217	750	672	473	273	366	59	100	400	50	(f)
„ 13	George - - - -	1,868	664	930	- - -	- - -	- - -	58	110	- - -	- - -	(g)
„ 21	Montesquieu - - -	800	643	1,063	516	650	421	161	210	300	170	(h)
„ 25	Acosta - - - -	- - -	- - -	200	1,690	- - -	- - -	121	10	- - -	100	(i)
May - - 7	True American - -	1,207	847	1,242	1,289	255	69	155	639	621	265	(k)
		10,592	5,168	7,739	5,400	2,386	1,341	887	2,298	2,021	635	(l)

	Peculs Raw Silk	Peculs Sugar	Peculs Rhubarb	Peculs Cassia Buds	Peculs Gamboge	Peculs Ginger	Peculs Cassia Oil	Peculs Dragons Blood	Peculs Anniseed Oil	Cuttes Musk	Peculs Vermilion.	Peculs Gallangal.	Peculs China Root.	Pieces Nankeen.	Destination.
(a)	270	- - -	125	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	5	100	- - -	- - -	- - -	160,000	Gibraltar.
(b)	- - -	4,000	75	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	25	80	150	175,000	Cowes.
(c)	10	2,000	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	10	100	100	25,000	Amsterdam
(d)	- - -	- - -	12	- - -	3	25	2	2	- - -	- - -	- - -	100	- - -	3,200	D°
(e)	27	- - -	17	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	60	- - -	50,000	D°
(f)	- - -	- - -	- - -	22	5	- - -	11	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	50	- - -	80,000	D°
(g)	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	95	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	100	- - -	40,000	D°
(h)	- - -	- - -	20	- - -	- - -	- - -	6	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	61	- - -	80,000	D°
(i)	8	1,300	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	275,000	Gibraltar.
(k)	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	100	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	81,000	Cowes.
(l)	315	7,300	249	22	8	220	19	2	5	100	35	551	250	969,200	

Were British private ships allowed to proceed to China, I am of opinion at least three-fourths of this trade would fall to their share.

Will the Chinese use any kind of piece goods that go to that market, without distinction of pattern?—They are very particular as to patterns; as to colour, yellow is, I believe, prohibited; any thing entirely yellow being the court colour.

Is it the custom for the officers in the Company's service trading to the Eastern islands, to take in such goods as they cannot dispose of in the islands, and sell them in China?—Frequently

Would it not be a great inducement to merchants laying in their speculations in this country for the islands, to have permission ultimately to go on to China with what they could not dispose of in the islands, and such cargoes as they could get in the islands for China?—Certainly, it would, very great.

Do

Do you apprehend any difficulty in China, in getting cargoes for Europe for the goods they take on?—No, I do not. Robert Addison,
Esq

Have you been, yourself, in China?—I have frequently been in China

Do you mean tea inclusive, or independent of tea?—I should include tea, to the amount of two or three ships a year; cargoes might be procured in Canton, exclusive of teas, to the extent of six or eight hundred tons (23 March)

Forty-six American ships being there one season, do you happen to know what proportion of them went to the continent of Europe?—No, I do not know that, I will deliver in an account of the American imports and exports from China, in the season of 1818-19

[The Witness delivered in the same, and it was read as follows.]

Vessels 46,
Tonnage 16,022 }

ESTIMATE of the American Trade to and from Canton in China, 1818 and 19

IMPORTS.			EXPORTS.				
Articles		Dollars.	Articles	Chests.	Lba. weight.	Average Price, p' Pec.	Dollars
Specie Dollars	- - - - -	7,414,000	Bohea	749	262,150	Tales. 11	
Bills on England	- - - - -	200,000	Congou	16,582	1,426,052	23	
Ginseng	- - 1,414 Pic ^s - a' 55 D ^s	77,770	Campoy	7,023	575,886	24	
Opium (Turkey)	- 668 - - 650 -	434,200	Souchong	32,609	2,608,720	25	
D ^o - (Malva)	- 150 - - 630 -	94,500	Pecco	775	60,372	65	
Lead	- - 13,248 - - 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ -	76,176	Sunchi	663	33,150	24	
Iron	- - - 8,596 - - 4 -	34,384	Hyson	18,728	1,254,776	46	
Copper	- - - 14,402 - - 22 -	316,814	Imperial	3,725	351,325	62	
Cochineal	- - 84 - - 750 -	63,000	Young Hyson	22,443	3,132,085	38	
Coral	- - 84 - - 250 -	21,000	Hyson Skins	44,259	2,965,353	20	
Quicksilver	- - 9,345 - - 80 -	747,600	Twankay	2,841	255,690	22	
Betelnut	- - 8,591 - - 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ -	30,068	Singlo	701	63,090	20	
Sandal wood	- - 10,152 - - 9 -	91,368		151,097	11,988,649	Cost.	3,457,256
Cloves	- - 114 - - 90 -	10,260	Silks	- - - 291,396 P ^s - a' 12			3,496,752
Ebony	- - 614 - - 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ -	2,149	Sewing Silk	- - - 823 Pecul - 420			345,660
Rice	- - - 5,374 - - 2 -	10,748	Cassia	- - - 5,038 " - 28			141,064
Tin	- - - 2,954 - - 21 -	62,034	China Ware	- - - 3,747 " - 12			44,964
Glass (broken)	- 278 - - 6 -	1,668	Sugar	- - - 41,953 " - 7 $\frac{1}{2}$			304,157
Whale Bones	- 150 - - 13 -	1,950	Rhubarb	- - - 483 " - 58			28,014
Rattans	- - 1,214 - - 4 -	4,856	Vermilion	- - - 437 " - 110			48,070
Land Otter Skins	- 9,885 Pieces - 5 -	119,425	Matting	- - - 999 " - 20			19,980
Sea - d ^o	- - 4,431 - - 28 -	124,068	Gallungal	- - - 1,076 " - 3 $\frac{1}{2}$			3,766
Beaver Skins	- - 15,570 - - 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ -	70,065	Cassia Oil	- - - 41 " - 550			22,550
Seal - d ^o	- - 88,240 - - 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ -	110,300	Sugar Candy	- - - 709 " - 12			8,508
Fox - d ^o	- - 3,020 - - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -	7,550	Camphire	- - - 569 " - 38			21,622
Sea Otter Tails	- 2,896 - - 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ -	10,136	Nankeens	- - - 2,290,400 P ^s a' 48%			1,099,392
Rabbit Skins	- - 15,042 - - $\frac{9}{100}$ -	752					
Camlets	- - 1,788 - - 45 -	80,460					
Bombazetts	- - 2,400 - - 7 -	16,800					
Cloth	- - 769 - - 50 -	38,450					
Chintz	- - 600 - - 8 -	4,800					
Gin, Cases	- - 1,000 - - 5 -	5,000					
Glass Ware	- - 40 - - 40 -	1,600					
Mirrors, Pairs	- 16 - - 200 -	3 200					
Sph. Dollars	- - - - -	10,217,151	Sph Dollars	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	9,041,755

328 MINUTES OF EVIDENCE BEFORE SELECT COMMITTEE

ESTIMATE of Goods Exported by *American Ships* destined for Europe, Season 1818 and 19.

Articles.	Chests.	Lbs. weight.	Average Rate per Pec.	Dollars.
Bohea	262	91,700	a' 11	
Congou	11,732	1,008,952	a' 23	
Campoy	4,773	391,386	a' 24	
Souchong	6,743	539,440	a' 25	
Pecco	666	51,948	a' 65	
Sunchu	413	20,650	a' 24	
Hyson	4,625	309,875	a' 46	
Imperial	581	56,357	a' 62	
Young Hyson	1,070	101,650	a' 32	
Hyson Skins	6,134	410,078	a' 20	
Twankay	2,441	219,690	a' 22	
Singlo	501	45,090	a' 20	
	39,941	3,247,716	Cost - -	895,038
Silks	Pieces 645	a' 12		7,740
Nankeens	801,800	" 48%		384,864
Sewing Silk	Peculs 2	" 420		840
Sugar, soft	15,700	" 7½		113,825
Sugar candy	400	" 12		4,800
Cassia	1,491	" 28		41,748
Gallinjal	586	" 3½		2,051
Vermilion	25	" 110		2,750
Rhubarb	90	" 58		5,748
			Dollars - - -	1,459,398

Robert Addison,
Esq
(23 March)

You were understood to say, that the woollen trade was carried on by the Americans to China?—I did not particularly mention the woollen trade, I said the manufactures of this country were carried to China at present, by American ships.

Having stated that the export trade of manufactures from this country was principally carried on by the Americans, are you not aware that four-fifths of the imports into China by Americans is in bullion?—I am not aware of that circumstance, I alluded to some ships that sailed within the last few months from the port of London for Canton.

Are you acquainted with the American fur trade to China?—No, I am not.

It appearing, by the account you have given in of the American trade with China in the year 1818/19, that the principal articles of import in American ships to China, are bullion, lead, copper, sandal wood, furs and skins, all those articles being the produce of South America, is it not probable, if a free trade was permitted between South America and China, that it could be carried on to great advantage by this country?—Yes, it certainly would be an advantage to this country, so far as it would give the British merchant and ship-owner a fair chance with the Americans.

Would it not be a most profitable manner of remitting to this country the proceeds of manufactured goods shipped to the South American market, which consist in those articles?—Most assuredly.

Are not the furs and skins imported into China in American ships, exclusively the produce of the coast of America?—I believe nearly all the seal skins are collected at the islands in the South seas.

Do not the furs and skins form a valuable proportion of American imports into China?—Yes they do; the quantities of articles of that description imported into China, have varied very much in different years.

Have you, in making your remittances from Java to Europe, experienced considerable difficulty?—Yes, I have.

What is the nature of those difficulties?—The demand for British goods has been so considerable on the island of Java and its dependencies, that it has rendered remittances difficult, the produce of those islands not being adequate to the returns.

Is the cultivation of those islands extending itself, so as to afford a reasonable prospect of an increase of the means of remittance?—In the island of Java it is so.

Are

Are you acquainted with the duties that are paid in China on the importation of British manufacture there?—No, I am not, they are invariably paid by the Chinese purchasers.

Robert Addison,
Esq.

(23 March.)

Are you aware, whether any difficulty exists in the introduction of British goods into China?—Not any that I am aware of.

Are the duties very heavy on shipping in the port of Canton?—Yes, they are.

Are they levied proportionably to the tonnage?—I am not prepared to state, precisely, what the duties are, but vessels are divided into three classes, and I believe the duties are not always in proportion to the burthen of the ship, but depend on Chinese measurement.

Has any difficulty been experienced in Canton from the conduct of the American seamen?—Not any that I am aware of.

You do not suppose, that if a free trade was opened with China, more difficulty would be experienced by the conduct of our own seamen not under the establishment of the East India Company?—I certainly do not, in small ships they are more immediately under the control of the captain and officers, and I think are more peaceable and quiet.

No greater difficulty has been experienced of the management of American seamen, than in our seamen under the establishment of the East India Company?—Certainly not.

Do you conceive the Chinese make any distinction between the East India Company and private individuals in their dealings?—Not that I am aware of.

Do you conceive, that the government would make any distinction between the East India Company and individuals in point of the legal forms in port?—I have no reason to believe that they would make any, as they permit country ships to trade there.

Do you conceive, that if a sailor of a private ship were to do any thing contrary to the laws of China, the Chinese government would exact redress from the East India Company, or from that private ship only?—I believe from that ship alone.

Do you conceive, that if one American ship was to do any thing contrary to the laws of China, the Chinese government would visit with their severity the whole of the ships, or only that individual ship?—I believe only that individual ship.

Are you aware, that the Portuguese carry on a trade between Cochin China and China, in betel nut and sugar?—No, I am not aware that the Portuguese do that, unless in the China junks.

Have you any recollection of a French ship coming from Cochin China to Batavia, and selling some silk there?—I have not.

Is it within your knowledge, that the Americans go to Siam for sugar, and import it to Europe?—It is.

Has any reason occurred to you, for British ships not going to Siam?—No, not any.

Do you suppose the size of the ships would be an impediment?—I am not acquainted with the navigation there.

Do you conceive the trade of South America would be extended by permission to take the dollars and copper, and proceeds of investment there, on to China?—Certainly I do.

Do you conceive, that that would be an important branch of trade to this country?—I think it would.

Is there any trade carried on between the Philippine Islands and Canton?—Yes, there is from Manilla, a considerable trade.

In what ships is that carried on?—I conceive it is principally carried on in Portuguese vessels and China junks.

If that trade was opened to English shipping, is not it probable that a considerable trade might be carried on, or that we might get our share of that trade?—Certainly, from the low rate of freight in a British ship.

Are not our ships now admitted to Manilla?—Yes.

What produce, generally, is sent from Manilla to China?—It is of the same nature as described before, the produce of various islands in the Eastern Archipelago; mother-of-pearl, shells, and various articles.

Does not a good deal of specie also find its way from the Philippine islands?—I believe it does, I do not know whether gold collected from the Celebes is carried there or not, perhaps it may form a part.

Is not there a considerable trade carried on between the Spanish settlements in South America and the Philippine Islands?—I am not acquainted with it from my

Robert Addison,
Esq.

(23 March.)

own knowledge, but it is a trade that has been carried on to a very considerable extent in former times.

If the trade was open, might not the Philippine Islands form a depôt between China and South America, for the exchange of the produce of the two countries?—That has been the case in former times.

If the trade was open it would be the case again?—Certainly it might occasionally

Our ships being permitted to go to China would be an inducement to them to go on with investments to Manilla, looking to China in case of disappointment, and would extend the trade to the Philippine Islands, and the importation of the sugar of Manilla to Europe?—Yes.

You conceive from what has passed, that we cannot carry on the trade to those islands or to South America to the best advantage, without having the port of China as a dernier resort, open to us?—It would be a very great encouragement for speculations, were the port of China opened; the Americans at this moment, I conceive; loading with British manufactures, have the port of Java as well as Manilla, and ultimately the port of China

Can a British ship going to Bafavia go afterwards to Calcutta?—Certainly; I know of no objection,

Could she without licence?—Certainly not.

The great means by which the trade with China is carried on being specie and bullion, would it not be more naturally supplied from South America than from Europe, if there were the means of obtaining it?—Certainly.

Then the charge of sending the specie or bullion first from South America to this country, and then of exporting it to China, might be saved, if the funds could be found in South America and shipped direct from thence to Canton?—Yes, certainly there would be a saving of time, as well as in freight of the specie

Has not, in fact, since the opening of the trade with South America, a considerable quantity of bullion and copper been shipped from that country direct to India?—That is not within my positive knowledge; I believe it has been the case.

Lynæ, 26^o die Martii, 1821.

The Right Honourable THOMAS WALLACE, in the Chair.

Henry Blanshard, Esq.

Called in, and Examined.

Henry Blanshard,
Esq.

(26 March.)

YOU are a merchant?—I am a ship-owner, and have some limited concerns as a merchant

Have you had any connection with the trade to India?—Yes; I was in India myself twelve years ago, and I have since that period been connected with it as a ship-owner and merchant.

Extensively?—I have had fourteen or fifteen ships in the trade during the time that it has been opened

In the private trade?—Yes; and I am also managing owner of a ship in the Company's service.

Do you conceive that the effect of the openings afforded by the last charter, tends to produce a great increase of British goods to India?—Certainly, I do; and the export, which, though it suffered a temporary cessation and depression, from its having been originally began on too large a scale, now appears to be gradually and considerably increasing

Do you mean, that that increase has taken place in the private trade, or on the whole of the trade to British India?—An increase has taken place on the whole of the trade to British India

Are you aware of any considerable obstructions arising out of the regulations of that charter, and the Act of 1813, in a way that operates injuriously to the British trade to India?—I conceive that the interests of British ship-owners require to be placed on the broad basis, that they may be freed from those restrictions of our own laws, which prevent them performing those voyages, which our laws do not and cannot prevent foreign ship-owners from performing

What

What are the particular restrictions, to which you allude in that answer?—Foreign ship-owners can sail between the continent of Europe and our own settlements in India. The Americans carry on a very considerable fur trade between the north-western coast of America and China, which the English ship-owner cannot do; they trade very largely in the eastern Archipelago of India, and from thence to China, and fourthly, they can trade direct from England to China, and thence return with cargoes to the continent of Europe. These appear to me the four branches, in which we are greatly restricted by our present laws.

Henry Blanshard,
Esq
(26 March.)

With respect to the first, do you think that great advantage would be derived to the British ship-owner and the British trade, from a permission to trade between the continent of Europe and our own settlements in India?—I do, the Calcutta market is now almost exclusively supplied with wines, brandy, silks, and many other articles, by the French in French ships, which English merchants and ship-owners would certainly make on English account, and in English bottoms, if it were permitted to take them direct from France to India. When there have been French ships in Calcutta, taking in goods for France, there has always been a great demand for freight room by them; in a late instance, two French ships were readily and eagerly loaded at 16*l* a ton, when many English ships there could not get above 6*l*.

What were those ships so loaded?—French ships; one from Bourdeaux, I believe.

Do you think that if English ships could have performed that voyage direct, that they would have been preferred to the French ships that were taken?—I have no doubt that English ships would, always be preferred for Holland, Hamburgh, and many other places, some preference is given by the French, to goods imported in their own ships.

Is that from a belief, on your part, that English ships could have carried the goods cheaper than the French ships?—The English ships would have been glad to have taken it at 6*l*. or 7*l*, and I believe that English ships can navigate to India cheaper than French.

Supposing a permission to navigate direct from England to the continent of Europe, were given to British ships, do you think that a large proportion of the foreign trade between India and the continent of Europe, would be likely to be carried on in British ships?—I do, to a considerable extent.

Employed on account of foreigners?—I think they would then principally be loaded on English account.

Do you think that any considerable proportion of that trade, which is now carried on in foreign ships, on the account of foreigners, might be carried on under those circumstances in British ships?—I have no doubt of it. As the law now stands, the English subject cannot send goods on his own account to the continent of Europe from India.

Are you not aware that the Act that passed in the year 1793, does permit English ships to carry furs from the north-west coast of America to China?—I am aware that they can, by a licence from the East India Company, but, by a late Act in the year 1813, no ship can clear out for any places within the limits of the East India Company, of a smaller size than 350 tons, which being too large for the trade, amounts to an interdiction, independent of which, the ships not being allowed to load home from China, must be sold in that country, or brought home at a very serious loss.

In what sort of ships do the Americans carry on their trade?—The Americans began their trade in sloops and schooners, which did not exceed seventy tons burthen; they have since increased the size, but I believe they seldom exceed 160 to 180 tons.

Are you acquainted with the regulations subsisting in China, with respect to ships bringing furs from the north-west coast of America, if they should do so?—The East India Company did, when that trade was carried on, refuse to load ships, or to allow the owners to load them with China produce; and the proceeds of the furs were obliged to be paid in to the Company's treasury, for which they received bills on the Company, the ships were generally sold there, and the crews brought home as passengers in other ships at a great expense.

The consequence of those regulations, and the limitation of the size of the ships, has been such as to make the trade so disadvantageous, that it has been generally abandoned?—It has entirely ceased for the last fifteen or sixteen years.

Do you think, that if those restrictions respecting the fur trade, did not exist, that it might be a trade of importance to this country?—I am not sufficiently aware of the present state of the fur trade, on the north-west coast of America, but furs of a very superior description, are likely to be taken in great numbers, in the newly discovered

Henry Blanshard,
Esq.,
(26 March.)

covered lands of South Shetland, off Cape Horn. These were discovered in the latter end of 1818, by a person of the name of Smith, on his voyage from Buenos Ayres to Valparaysa, on his return to Buenos Ayres. A schooner sailed from that place, and in fifteen days obtained 13,000 skins, when they were first brought here they obtained forty-four and forty-five shillings each, now they are to be bought at eight or nine shillings, on account of their abundance, and the great quantity expected.

Do you believe that those skins would find a ready market in China?—I have shown them to gentlemen acquainted with the market, who think they would find a ready sale there. They are not equal to the sea otter skins, which generally sell from forty to fifty dollars each, but greatly superior to the seal skins, which have always sold for two dollars each.

Do you think this trade is precluded, by the state of the law and the restrictions imposed upon it in China?—It cannot be carried on except through the channel of the East India Company, and under their restrictions.

Do you think that those existing restrictions are such as to prevent it being carried on with any advantage?—I do not think that any person will be found to undertake the trade to China, under those restrictions.

Do you think, from any information you have received, that if those restrictions did not exist, and the trade could be carried on, it might be carried on to very considerable extent?—I am acquainted with owners of ships, who would not hesitate immediately to embark in it.

Are you at all acquainted with the fur trade, carried on by the Americans with China?—It was the first trade the Americans did carry on with China, and from which all their subsequent trade with China has grown. I am not aware to what extent it has lately been carried on, but it has afforded profits beyond what I ever heard of. I can give one instance of an American captain leaving New York, with an adventure which did not cost him 100 *l* principally in iron, and returning within the space of three years and a half, with a property of 30,000 *l* arising solely from that fur trade, and out of that adventure.

Are you acquainted with the particulars of the voyage, upon which that large profit was acquired?—I understand this person had got two or three smiths into his ship from other American vessels, by which he formed a great proportion of his iron into coarse articles of hardware, knives, fish-hooks, and other things. When he had expended those in barter, he proceeded to China with his skins, which he there sold, laid in another investment, and made several voyages between the coast of America and China, within that period. His name was Coffin.

Do you believe great profit to have been made by the Americans, in many other instances, besides the one you have stated?—From the great number of American ships, which have always been employed in the trade on the western coast of America, it evidently must have been a lucrative trade. The inhabitants of Owhyhee, are now, with the assistance of an American carpenter, building a ship of 150 tons to carry on the same trade, and also the trade between their island and China in sandal wood.

Do you know whether the Americans possess any advantages over the English, except in the size of the ships with which they are permitted to trade?—None beyond the other restrictions I have mentioned.

Then, if those restrictions were removed, you think that the English might fully participate with the Americans in the advantages of that trade?—Certainly, unless the Americans had formed permanent settlements on the north-west coast of America, and that we are now excluded from that coast.

What is the period of this successful American adventure you speak of?—Fifteen or sixteen years ago.

Are you aware, that the American fur trade has, within the last four years, greatly fallen off?—I am not aware of that, I have already said, I was not aware of what had been the latter state of it.

Are there any other furs, but seals, brought from the newly discovered lands?—Captain Smith reported, that whales, seals, and other marine animals, frequented those lands in great abundance, 150 miles of coast have already been made out, but the extent of country is not known, nor whether it consists of a continent or of detached islands.

Did the captain you mention, that got 13,000 skins, touch at more than one place?—They were all taken in one immediate neighbourhood.

Is the whole of the coast you have mentioned, accessible?—Only the northern coast has yet been visited, it appears to be quite accessible, with bold shores and deep

deep bays, and free from ice in the summer season I do not conceive it could be visited in the winter season.

The sealing only takes place in the summer time?—No; but the nearer they can approach to the winter, either the spring or the autumn, the better the skins; they will be thicker of fur.

Have those who have visited the coast, conceived that seals are as abundant on the whole line of coast as at this place that Captain Smith visited?—I hear it in general terms, that seals are abundant throughout

Are not British manufactures used by the Americans who trade to the north west?—To a limited extent they are, but principally iron and copper, and articles of hardware were in request.

With respect to the third point mentioned by you, be so good as to state what are the impediments in the way of British ships trading to the eastern Archipelago?—Small vessels are peculiarly adapted to that trade, and by the present Act are not allowed to sail in it.

Are you aware of any other difficulties in the way of carrying on that trade, except those which arise from the size of the ships?—The trade of those islands depends more on the intercourse with China than with Europe.

The great impediment therefore in the extent of that trade, is, the restrictions under which British ships labour with respect to the intercourse with China?—There always has, from China, been a great demand for articles supplied by those islands; nearly 2,000 tons of tin per annum have for several years been sent from Banca to China, pepper, sandal wood, betel nut, camphor, tortoise shell, rattans, birds nests, sharks fins, and many other things, are taken there every year in very great quantities

Do you think that for those things you have mentioned, British manufactures might be advantageously exchanged, if British ships could afterwards carry them to China?—The demand for British goods is considerably and rapidly increasing among the Malays; but we greatly want an emporium or port to the eastward of the Straits of Malacca and Sunda, as the Malays are in the habit of dealing in such small quantities, that there is not equal encouragement for English ships to go to their towns, that there would be to go to an English settlement, where those goods might be collected, they are quite retail dealers, and in the habit of bringing their goods to European settlements in their own small vessels.

Are you of opinion that if such an emporium was established, the Malays and the islanders generally would bring the articles you have mentioned, to such emporium, for the purpose of exchanging them for British goods?—We have full proof of the affirmative. In the instance of Sincapore, I have conversed with persons who were there in the beginning of 1820, at which time it had not been settled upwards of nine months, and there were then 7,000 inhabitants, and upwards of 500 prows and other country vessels in the roads. The natives were coming to settle there in great numbers, and were building not only houses but warehouses, they were not only bringing their own goods to exchange for European commodities, but were also bringing silver to make purchases of many articles, if their own goods did not meet a ready sale. They were particularly coming down from Siam for woollen cloths, the goods they wished to purchase were principally woollens and cottons of British manufacture, hardware, some glass and earthen ware, and numerous other smaller articles

Among the vessels stated to be in the harbour, were there many Chinese vessels?—I did not hear Chinese junks particularly mentioned, as Chinese vessels could only come at one particular season of the year, during the north east monsoon, I conceive that the short period the place had been settled, would hardly have given the Chinese time to have been aware of it, and made their preparations

What return cargo could the produce of those islands afford for the trade to England, independently of China?—There are upwards of fifty thousand Chinese settled on the western coast of Borneo, who, I understand cultivate sugar and coffee, besides working the gold mines. The native Malays do not cultivate those articles, but would supply a certain quantity of pepper, sandal wood, camphor, tortoise shell and spices, though I do not think in sufficient quantities, to give a great import trade to this country; in this I speak of the islands alone, in Siam and Cochin China and other places, where the people show a strong disposition to trade with Sincapore, sugar is produced in great abundance.

Then do you think that the permission either to go to China, or to trade in China goods, is essential to carrying on a commerce advantageously with those islands, on the part of the free traders of this country?—Essentially so, the commanders of

Henry Blanshard,
Esq
(26 March)

ships in the East India Company's service have for many years past, made large profits in taking the produce of those islands up to China. In consequence of the monsoon only allowing one voyage between those islands and China to be made in the course of the year, the freight or difference in the price of goods, which I consider as equivalent, must always vary considerably. The Americans also enjoy a very valuable trade in trading with those islands, and then taking up the produce to China.

Do you know in what way the Americans usually carry on the trade with them, whether it is a trade of money or of barter?—Principally with money, but by no means solely; articles are sent out from this country every year to America, to be shipped off to the United States to trade with those islands.

Do you know whether the supply of manufactures, conveyed to the islands through the medium of the Americans, and the privileged trade of the Company's officers, is sufficient for the demands of those islands?—The principal demand of those islands is for cotton goods, but which have hitherto been supplied from Madras and Bengal. English cotton goods are gradually coming into use, in the place of the manufactures of Bengal and Madras.

Have the British manufactures so conveyed to the islands, been chiefly through the medium of the Americans, or chiefly through the medium of the Company's agents?—They are only of late introduction into the island, and I believe have principally been introduced by English subjects resident on the island of Java.

Do you know any thing of the trade with Siam, or the probable market there might be found there for British manufactures?—The Siamese at Singapore were very desirous of purchasing our woollens, they sent two or three ships to Calcutta in the course of the last year, some of them as large as 350 tons, to purchase cotton piece goods, and other articles of necessity and luxury: I therefore conceive, that in process of time, it would be a valuable market.

Do you entertain the same opinions with respect to the Burhmans?—The Burhmans are also a civilized set of people, who navigate large and fine vessels, and I have seen them in considerable numbers in Calcutta, where I understand, they purchase considerable quantities of woollen and cotton goods.

Is there any thing that prevents English ships from carrying on a direct trade with the Siamese and the Burhmans, arising out of the laws of those countries?—The French many years ago had emissaries and agents at Siam and Cochin China, in consequence of which a great partiality for that nation exists; since the peace, three Frenchmen have been found at the court of Cochin China, where they had remained since previous to the French revolution, and greatly enjoyed the confidence and favour of the natives of the place.

Do you think there would be any indisposition on the part of the Cochin Chinese to receive British ships, or to carry on the trade with this country, if every facility was given on our parts to such trade being carried on?—The only difficulty I conceive likely to exist, arises from the very great encouragement lately given by the French to their subjects to trade to that neighbourhood; there is a great reduction of duties allowed on all goods brought into France in French ships from the East Indies, and if vessels import from any countries to the eastward of the Straits of Sunda, a further reduction of one half of the duties has been hitherto allowed.

Are you acquainted with the result of any adventure to Cochin China by the French, in consequence of those facilities?—I am not.

Are you aware that an embassy was sent from France in 1817, which the Cochin Chinese government would not receive?—No, I was not aware of that circumstance.

Are you not aware that the Portuguese, the Dutch and the English, formerly attempted a trade to Cochin China, which did not succeed?—No.

Do you know the character of the Cochin Chinese, their disposition towards foreigners?—They are said to approach the Chinese considerably.

Is not the character of the Chinese, that of considerable jealousy of any foreign intercourse?—They have a good deal of political jealousy, but I believe no religious prejudices like the Hindoos.

Are not the Cochin Chinese a very poor people, and of course not a country desirable to have intercourse with?—I am aware that Cochin China is a barren coast, but great part of the country is very fertile.

Are you acquainted with the population of Cochin China?—No, I am not.

Are you aware whether there are many or few ports to which trade can be carried on?—I really know but little about that; I never considered it a place of much importance, as we had no trade there.

You

You did not consider the trade of much importance?—Never having had any trade with it, I never made it a subject of particular inquiry *Henry Blunshard,*

You do not attach much importance to it?—No, I do not. *Esq*

(26 March)

Have you any knowledge of the trade which is at present carrying on between France and Cochin China?—Several vessels, have, I know, sailed and returned, but the result of the voyages I do not know

Do you know what their number is?—No, I am not prepared to say that

Do you know whether the trade carried on between France and Cochin China, is a trade which has been admitted by the Cochin Chinese?—I understand the French ships were well received there, and that they even brought home some young men of the royal family, for education in France

Does not it fall within your own knowledge, that a trade to a very considerable extent is carried on between Cochin China and Canton?—I am not aware of the particulars or extent of that trade

Can you speak from your own knowledge, of several ships having gone out from France to Cochin China, and returned?—I have myself insured five or six, some of which have repeated their voyages; and many insurances of a similar nature have been effected at Lloyd's Coffee-house.

Have those insurances been to a large amount?—I think I have known twenty thousand pounds in specie in one vessel

Of what period are you speaking?—From 1816, to the present date.

Do you happen to know, or have you happened to see, that the *Moniteur* or some French paper, on the return of the embassy to Cochin China, in the *Sybille* frigate, published that the embassy had been well received, and every circumstance that was expected to arise from it, had succeeded to the wish of the government?—I did not hear any thing relative to the embassy; but I understood that the French merchant ships had been well received, and had brought over two children or youths of the royal family for education in France

Do you suppose it probable, that if the Cochin Chinese had refused to receive the embassy of the King of France, the French merchants were likely to trade there, or not?—I conceive it would have been an obstacle to any further commercial negotiation

Are you aware that the Cochin Chinese have a very extensive trade to China in sugars?—The Siamese, I have understood, have, but with regard to Cochin China I know but little of their trade

You have mentioned, that Siam ships of 350 tons, went from Siam to Bengal, were those ships, belonging to the Siamese themselves?—Belonging to Siam and bearing the Siamese flag, it is a frequent thing in the printed list of shipping, sent home from Calcutta, to see Arabian and Siamese ships enumerated among those of other nations

Do you know the extent of the population?—No, I do not.

What are the chief articles of consumption they take from Bengal?—Principally cotton goods of Indian manufacture

Do you imagine our ships if allowed to go out of a small size, could trade direct to Siam?—In process of time I have no doubt of it, but I think, that at present, such an emporium as Singapore, would be the most effectual and immediate way of encouraging the intercourse.

Are you aware that the mouth of the Siam river has only about twelve or fourteen feet water?—I have understood it to be a shallow river.

Therefore ships of 350 tons could not go there, if they found it to their advantage to go there?—I am not particularly aware of the size of ships which can navigate that river

In case this country should give up Singapore, where do you suppose is the next most convenient station, in the Archipelago, for our commerce?—The island of Borneo, but I conceive no place can be equal to Singapore, as it commands the Straights of Malacca, and while the Dutch possess the Straights of Sunda, our trade with China would, in the event of a war, be greatly endangered by our enemies possessing the only two inlets to the China seas

What part of the island of Borneo?—The western and northern parts; but the western part is claimed by the Dutch

Is there nothing in the monsoon to make Borneo an inconvenient station?—I conceive that ships could proceed to and from England at any period, passing at one monsoon through the Straits of Sunda, and the other through the Straits of Malacca

Would you prefer the south part, if it were free to settle on, to the north?—

Henry Blanshard,
Esq.

(26 March.)

I understand it is the richest country, and there are some large and rich towns in the neighbourhood, but the west and north sides are in the direct track to China, whereas the southern and eastern sides form the straights of Macassar, which is a very circuitous navigation.

What do the inhabitants of Borneo, including the Chinese, chiefly receive from China?—I understand the greater proportion of the inhabitants of Borneo, as well as those of the neighbouring island of Celebes, are a very predatory set, except where settlements have been formed.

Is not Celebes the island where the people under the dominion of Birghis, trade from?—I am not aware.

Are not the inhabitants of Birghis a very extensive trading people?—I have understood they are.

Do they trade with Penang with their own produce, to exchange for British manufacture?—They do, but I have never been myself to the eastward of Calcutta, and am not personally acquainted with those islands.

Whence do you obtain your information upon the subject of the trade to the eastern islands?—From continued intercourse with persons who are continually going backward and forward to those countries.

Do you understand there is a considerable demand for British woollens at those islands?—Yes, a considerable demand.

Are those of the same description that the East India Company send to China?—No; I understand them to be coarser, light coarse woollens. A large quantity of red woollens used to be consumed by the Malays, of which the cost was not more than from 3s to 4s a yard.

You have mentioned various articles the produce of the Eastern islands, pepper, spices, and others, that might be procured for export to Europe; would not sugar, cotton, and coffee, also be met with in quantity, in that part of India?—I conceive the Malays are too indolent to cultivate sugar, except where Europeans have settled.

In what manner do the Siamese pay for the goods they purchase at Calcutta; in money, or in goods?—A large quantity of elephants teeth and tortoise-shell used to come from the eastward, and a great deal of gold comes from the Eastern islands.

Do you know whether in consequence of the encouragement you have stated to be given by the French, to the importation of sugar and other productions from Cochin China, any importations of consequence have taken place from that part of India to France?—I should not conceive above a dozen ships at the outside.

Within what period may this dozen of ships have arrived in France?—Three or four years.

Are you aware of what their cargoes have principally consisted?—Sugar was the principal thing.

Are you acquainted with the nature of the exports from France?—Silk goods form a large proportion, glass, and many other things.

Cotton goods?—I do not know that any cotton goods were sent.

Presuming that a direct intercourse for British ships could not be procured with China, are you of opinion, that provided permission was given for British shipping to carry all the productions of China, including tea, from an intermediate port such as Singapore, to the continent of Europe, that an important benefit would be derived from such a system, to British shipping and British interests?—Most undoubtedly it would.

Are you of opinion that such an arrangement would not be less advantageous than a direct trade for private ships being open with China?—I conceive the trade to China would be the most advantageous.

Do you not think, that the productions of China would be brought to such an intermediate port, in the first instance, by the Chinese, and there exchanged for British goods?—Yes, in considerable quantities.

Would not such a system then, produce all the benefits of a direct trade with China?—I conceive not.

Will you state what advantages would be derived from the system mentioned?—I conceive that a cargo of goods, carried direct from England to China, would be preferred to those which had been shipped at any intermediate port; they would be considered as fresher than any re-shipped goods; and with regard to the import trade from China, such an indirect and circuitous trade would be less advantageous, on account of the expenses and the intermediate profits that must be incurred.

Might there not be some hazard, in such a case, of disappointment in market, from the great extent or amount of such direct importations?—I conceive not more so than

than there would be at the intermediate port; and at China there would be a greater certainty of obtaining the return goods required.

Would there not be a greater competition and purchase from the various markets of consumption amongst the eastern islands, and on the continent of Asia, at the intermediate port, than could be expected to be met with at one port in China?—The trade is now so much in its infancy, it is difficult to give a satisfactory answer to that

From your experience in the general trade of the country, are you not of opinion that such a result is probable?—Not to be equivalent to the advantages attending the direct intercourse.

Must not the direct intercourse, according to the laws of China, be confined to the port of Canton?—Certainly, the English used to be admitted into a second port, but now they are confined to Canton only.

Might not this trade to the emporium, by the means of Chinese vessels, be carried to every port of China?—I am not aware of that, a considerable trade in Chinese vessels has been carried on between Batavia and the Chinese port of Amoy, but I do not know what other Chinese ports have this privilege.

Henry Blanshard,

Esq

(26 March)

Jovis, 29^o die Martii, 1821.

The Right Honourable THOMAS WALLACE, in the Chair.

Henry Blanshard, Esq.

Again called in, and further Examined.

DO you think that the restriction of the trade to India, in vessels above the size of 350 tons, is prejudicial to the shipping interests of this country?—I conceive if ships under 350 tons were allowed to sail within the limits of the East India Company, it would afford a great assistance to merchants who might wish to send out adventures of goods, they might like a vessel solely for their own employ, the ships that are now employed between Calcutta and London, or Bombay and London, generally average 450 tons, and I have no doubt, as carriers to those places, that the same size would be continued, but for private adventures small ships would be very serviceable

Henry Blanshard,

Esq

(29 March)

Are you aware of any disadvantages which would attend the permission of ships under 350 tons, to trade with India?—I am not aware of any At the first opening of the India trade in 1814, considerable stress was laid on the opportunities that might be afforded to smuggling, but from that period to the present, I do not think that a single owner of shipping, employed in the East India trade, has had any proceedings instituted against him for smuggling, nor has a single captain of any of the licensed ships been prosecuted to conviction. With regard to the safety of the smaller ships, I believe it is generally allowed by seafaring gentlemen, that ships of 150 to 200 tons are equally safe with those of any other size, there was an opinion, at the opening of the trade, that ships of 350 tons would be found small for it, but in the first 300 ships that were licensed by the East India Company, only three of them were lost, and of those, two were run ashore, it is supposed by the negligence or ignorance of the persons on board, and the crew of the other which was lost, was saved.

You have already stated, that you are acquainted with the state of the trade in the Spanish or Independent provinces of South America, are you aware whether any great market exists in those provinces, for the produce and manufactures of China or India?—A very considerable quantity of piece goods has been lately exported from India to South America, and the trade is now carried on to a considerable extent, but I am not particularly acquainted with it.

Would not the remittance of returns for British manufactures, sold in South America, be more profitable to British merchants, if made through India or China, than if remitted directly home?—Certainly, the principal articles of export from South America, consist of copper and silver, and the prohibitory duty which exists against the importation of foreign copper into this country, renders it necessary to make a large proportion of the remittances by way of India, China not being open to English merchants

Is there a considerable demand for copper and silver also, in the Chinese market?—I have known copper shipped for Bengal, at the time that the quotations from China were known in South America, to be considerably higher.

Might not a profitable trade be carried on between China and South America, by means of the funds arising from the sale of British manufactures, if the Chinese

trade

Henry Blanshard,
Esq.

(29 March)

trade was thrown open to the British merchant?—Certainly, especially in the exportation of dollars to China, besides, if we had permission to export goods freely from this country, it occasionally might be necessary to bring dollars back from China, as was done to a great extent, in the years 1813 and 1814, when the price of bullion was very high in Europe. By the laws of China, specie not being a legal exportation from China, at the period I allude to, there was no other way of getting it out of the country than taking it from the American ships, at the entrance of the river, on their arrival, who were satisfied to tranship it to English vessels, receiving an order on Canton for a similar amount of dollars, had it not been for that expedient, the importation of specie from China, which was then found very advantageous, could not be carried into effect.

The question was directed more particularly to the trade between China and South America, might not a considerable market be found in South America, for nankeens, teas, silks, China ware, spices, and other produce of China, and the other adjacent islands?—I have understood, that the China silks and nankeens were in great demand in South America, and the other articles would most likely be in request, but I do not know to what extent.

Your opinion is, that a considerable trade might be carried on between China and South America, if no restrictions existed upon that trade?—Yes.

Is any trade now carried on by the Americans, between China and South America?—I understand there is a considerable trade, but I have not full information on that subject.

Do you know any particular case where a British vessel might have been profitably employed in trade between China, South America, and Europe, if the present restrictions had not existed?—I will mention one case, of a ship called *The Daphne*, of which I was part owner. I had an offer of employment for her to proceed from London to Cadiz, thence to South America and China, and back to Cadiz. I was, on account of the existing laws, unable to accept the offer, which was accordingly taken for an American ship which happened to be in this country. I will lay before the Committee, an estimate I made, of what her freight and probable expenses would have been

[*The witness delivered in the following paper, which was read.*]

ESTIMATE of a voyage proposed to the Witness, by a Spanish House, for the employment of the ship *Daphne* of 553 tons, on a voyage from London to Cadiz, from thence to the Western Coast of America, thence to China and Manilla, and back to Cadiz; the voyage calculated to last 22 months.

553 tons, at 20s per ton per month	£. 12,166	£.
Primage, 10% per cent.	1,214	
		13,380
Expenses.		
Outfit, including repairs and coppering, sails, cordage, ship chandlery, provisions, anchors, &c. all which would have been spent among British mechanics and manufacturers	£. 4,500	
Insurance at 12 gs per cent on 10,000 <i>l.</i> and stamps	1,300	
Wages and allowance for commander and 34 men	2,400	
	8,200	
Tonnage duties, lights, &c.	150	
One-third of foreign tonnage duties, pilotage, and port charges, (the other two thirds to be paid by the charterers)	400	
Fresh provisions, and ships disbursements at foreign ports	600	
Brokerage, and guarantee of charter, 7½ per cent	1,000	
		10,350
		3,030
Expenses and insurance bringing the ship from Cadiz to England	-	430
Probable gain which would have accrued to the owners of the vessel	£	2,600

It appearing, by the above statement, that a profit might have been expected from the expedition of 2,600*l.* to the owners of the vessel, but that the gross freight would have amounted to about 13,500*l.*; was not, in fact, the loss sustained to the British interests nearly the whole amount of that gross freight?—It will appear, by the statement, that the greater part of the amount would have been expended among British manufacturers and mechanics.

Are you of opinion, that many ships might be employed on such expeditions, if the trade with India and China was entirely thrown open, without the limitation as to the tonnage of the vessels?—I conceive that we should supersede the Americans in a great proportion of their carrying trade.

At least we might be enabled to enter into a fair competition with them?—Certainly, we can sail our ships quite as cheap

Is there any demand in the markets of South America for linens, the manufacture of Germany, or the continent of Europe?—A very considerable demand

If there was a permission to import those linens into England, and export them free of duty, might not the returns for them in South America, form a fund for carrying on the trade with India and China?—I conceive it would,

Have you had lately any advices from South America, stating that a considerable demand now existed, if you could send German linens direct from this country there?—I received a letter from Valparaiso, dated in January 1820, stating that a quantity of British linens, which I had shipped off for that market two years before, and which were the closest resemblance that could be made to German linens, would not sell there, and the same letter expressed a strong recommendation of an assortment of German linens being sent out; which the same correspondent recommended should be taken on board at Gibraltar, on account of the heavy duty to which they were liable in this country, from this difficulty the recommendation was not attended to.

Were part of these linens Irish?—Part of them were.

Were the Irish linens so made up to imitate the German, not more approved of than the British?—I am not able to answer that, but the linens generally did not sell

Is it within your knowledge, that the East India Company used formerly to export dollars?—They have done it for many years, and continue the exportation unto the present time, the ship Cabalva was lately lost with 150,000 *l* sterling in dollars on board.

Is it within your knowledge, whether the trade the Company carry on to China from this country, in exports from this country, is favourable, or otherwise?—I do not know the result of their export trade

If the trade was carried on between South America and China, would it not be advantageous for the East India Company to have the proceeds of those speculations paid into their treasury there, instead of sending them to this country at the expense of freight and insurance?—Frequent instances have occurred, in which the East India Company have greatly encouraged the payment of dollars into their treasury in China, not only in the case of cotton sent from India, but some years ago in the case of a large quantity of furs that were sent out by private individuals from this country, under the express stipulation that the receipts should be paid into the Company's treasury.

Then do you think it would be advantageous to the East India Company, on the direct trade from South America to China, in this point of view?—I conceive it might occasionally be very serviceable to them

Have you heard of Chinese Hong merchants employing American ships in carrying their goods to the continent of Europe?—I have heard that the Chinese merchants have shipped largely on their own account, by American ships, but of the absolute destination of those ships, I did not hear the particulars. A very large shipment on Chinese account, was made a short time since to Antwerp, in a ship under Austrian colours

If they had been in the habit of employing American ships, do you see any reason why they should not employ British ships, had they the opportunity?—On the contrary, I think they would give English ships the preference

In the case of the trade from South America to China, putting the funds into the hands of those who have the disposal of the ships in China, do you believe that they would be able to invest considerably to the continent of Europe?—The Americans have made considerable investments, and I conceive that English merchants would be able to do the same

Do you conceive, that if the ships were there to be disposed of, that foreign supercargoes resident in China, are likely to employ them in trade to their own countries?—I believe that the English can navigate on those long voyages, cheaper, than the other nations engaged in the trade, and that the superiority of the character of English shipping, would, I conceive, obtain for them the preference.

Have you heard that cotton is grown in large quantities in Peru, and that the natives have clothes manufactured of cotton grown there?—I have heard of its being grown for the use of the natives, but was not aware that it ever was exported

Are you not aware that a cargo of upwards of 800 bales of cotton, has, within the last fortnight, arrived in Liverpool, from the coast of Peru?—I am not.

Henry Blanshard,
Esq.
(29 March)

Henry Blanshard,
Esq.

(29 March.)

Have you received any further information respecting the trade of the French with Cochin China, since you were last examined?—I have.

Be good enough to state it?—At the beginning of 1817, two ships, La Paix and Le Henri, sailed for Cochin China, encouraged by an engagement from the French government, that they should only pay half duties on the returns, the voyage of La Paix is more particularly referred to here. It did not prove successful, as she arrived after the produce of the country had all been shipped for China, but the captain and supercargo were very well received, having found several Frenchmen in the service of the king of Cochin-China, who made a treaty with them, engaging to take on their return, a certain quantity of French goods, which were particularized, at a stipulated profit; this determined the owners to send out a larger vessel, and the La Rose was purchased and equipped for the purpose; the French government continuing the half duties, and sending out the decoration of the Legion of Honour to the French mandarins.

The cost of the ship and equipment was	f. 289,072 - or -	£. 11,560
The invoice of the goods, bespoke for the king - - - - -	} 189,974 - or -	7,599
Cost of 12,000 dollars - - - -	66,145 - or -	2,646
Invoice of 1,040 cases brandy and wine -	42,044 - or -	1,682

So that the whole concern cost - f 587,235 - - £. 23,487

The ship was cordially received, and the treaty faithfully executed. In return for the goods delivered to the king, they shipped

970,123 lbs. Cochin-China sugar.
2,501 lbs. raw silk.
13,562 lbs tea.
402 lbs tobacco

The ship touched at Batavia on her return, and laid out there the dollars and the proceeds of the wine and brandy. The final result of the whole adventure only gave 12½ per cent profit, but as the ship had been bought expressly for the adventure, and was only sold for 4,000*l* at the end of the voyage, and the produce bought at Batavia left a considerable loss, the advantage derived from the dealings with Cochin-China must have been great, and the 7,600*l*. must have returned 20,000*l*. from the difference between which sums should be deducted, for a fair calculation of the real profit, freight and insurance, the owners continue the trade; and besides the vessels just mentioned, many others have performed the same voyage

The direct trade to Manilla has also proved still more advantageous to the French; and the government gave rise to that also, by engaging to reduce the import duties to half

How came you informed of the facts you have just detailed?—I effected the insurances myself for a house resident in London, that circumstance has furnished me with the detail of the outward cargo, and the merchant for whom I effected the insurance, has obligingly enabled me to fill up the remainder of the detail, which he received in correspondence from the owners of the ships and cargoes.

Have you obtained any information, whether the embassy was well received in Cochin China, sent there by the king of France?—I have obtained no further information on that subject; but the trade, as I have observed before, is still prosecuted with vigour by the French.

Has the British trade with the Eastern islands increased of late; and if so, to what causes do you impute it?—Yes, certainly; by the very liberal treatment which the natives experience in the English settlements, and from their being far less heavily loaded with duties than in the Dutch settlements, where they are only allowed to buy and sell with persons appointed by the government.

To what date can the predilection of the Chinese for the cotton manufactures of this country be referred?—The Chinese have only known the English manufactures since the English held Java; and they have been gradually introduced through that channel, and by means of the Americans.

You spoke of the advantages that would be derived from an intercourse between China and South America; would those advantages be effected if such an intercourse were permitted, without opening the trade between the United Kingdom and China?—I certainly think they would; for not only would the productions to China be taken in considerable quantities to the western side of South America, but also to the

the Brazils and the continent of Europe,—especially to the Mediterranean, which the Americans have for many years past been in the habit of supplying, to the almost entire exclusion of the English.

Henry Blanshard,
Esq.

(29 March)

Would the same advantage, or nearly the same advantage, be obtained, if China, being still shut against private British merchants, a depôt for China goods were formed in one of the Eastern islands?—I conceive not.

Why not?—Because any depôt in any of the Eastern islands would be supplied to considerable disadvantage from China, the intermediate profits, intermediate freights and expenses, would necessarily be incurred, and as the communication between China and the Eastern islands can only exist at certain times of the year, there is not that free communication between them which their geographical contiguity would lead one to suppose. Ships can trade between Manilla and China at any time of the year, as they can lay their course in either monsoon, but they can only make a passage to the islands situated more to the southward, at certain seasons of the year.

Supposing the East India Company's charter to prevent the opening of the trade with China, would the formation of such a depôt as that mentioned, produce any considerable facility to the trade you contemplate?—It would certainly be of considerable importance, at the same time, in the present period of peace, when the profits on mercantile adventures are so small, the addition of an intermediate profit, freight and contingent expenses, would still give foreigners a very considerable advantage.

Would the importance of such a depôt be much affected by the removal of the restriction upon the size of the ships?—It would be greatly assisted by that removal, which I consider to be essential towards cultivating the trade with the Eastern Archipelago.

Supposing the trade between China and South America to be opened in all articles except tea, would such a measure affect the advantages which you contemplate?—I am not aware of the consumption of tea on the western coast of South America; in the Brazils it is largely used, and several Portuguese ships arrive annually in the Brazils, loaded with that commodity.

You think the advantage would not be so great if tea was excepted?—The permission to trade in tea would be a great assistance.

What articles do you conceive, in that case, would be carried from China to South America?—I have never thought that the exports from China to South America, would be equivalent to the silver and copper which might be imported into China from South America, but South America would still take off a great deal in silks, drugs and nankeens.

Are you acquainted with the trade between the Indian presidencies, Calcutta, for instance, and the Eastern islands?—There is a considerable trade carried on from Bengal and Madras in piece goods, Borneo and the adjoining islands take off several thousand bales annually; there is a small vessel not exceeding fifty tons, very strongly armed, which sails every year loaded with opium from Calcutta, to trade in those islands; the returns are principally in elephants teeth, tortoise shell, a few drugs, dollars and gold.

Is that trade exposed to any difficulties, arising from the duties and regulations at the Indian presidency?—None.

Supposing a direct intercourse to be allowed between our East Indian possessions and the continent of Europe, do you think that imports would be made into the countries of foreign Europe, to a much larger amount than they are likely to be made when it is necessary to bring them through this country?—The markets on the continent at this time are fully stocked, and little encouragement is now held out for large importations from India; but I do conceive they would receive a larger proportion of their supplies direct from India than they now do.

In what articles, do you suppose, that would chiefly consist?—I conceive that sugar, rice, saltpetre, dye woods, cotton, numerous drugs, silk goods, and most articles which are imported into this country, would be imported into foreign Europe.

State your reason for thinking that that would be the consequence of our ships being able to navigate between the continent of Europe and the East Indies, in a greater degree than it is now, when there is no importation in foreign ships?—Our port charges would be the principal cause.

Would a British ship, trading directly from Calcutta to a foreign European port, have

Henry Blanshard,
Esq.
(29 March)

have any advantage over a foreign ship?—In our own settlements in India there is an additional duty averaging two and half per cent, on all goods exported in foreign vessels; and the rates of pilotage too, in Bengal, which in all instances are very heavy, are double on foreign vessels; in Hamburgh, Bremen, and many of the principal towns on the Continent, no difference exists with regard to whatever flag the ship may sail under; with these advantages, lower insurance and the superiority which the English have in sailing their vessels, I conceive a great part of the carrying trade would fall into our hands.

You are aware, that by the present law a British ship of 350 tons may trade from the East Indies to South America, provided she comes on to England, do you know whether much of such trade is carried on?—There have been instances of ships calling at South America, both outward and homeward bound.

Have you reason to know, whether that trade generally, has been profitable?—Ships, generally, call outward bound for specie; the productions of India and those of the Brazils are so nearly similar, I have not heard of much profit being derived; except in the article of piece goods, which have been occasionally sold in the Brazils to advantage.

Are you acquainted with the port charges for which a foreign ship is liable in China?—The Chinese impose heavy tonnage duties on all vessels that come to the port of Canton, beyond that I am not aware of any.

Does that tonnage duty vary with the size of the ship?—The Chinese measure ships in a mode peculiar to themselves.

Can you describe that mode?—The length between the masts is the principal point.

Is it not a fact, that the tonnage duty charged in the port of Canton is the same on all ships under a given size?—I am aware that the duty falls heavier on small ships.

Can you state what the tonnage duty would be on a ship of 350 tons in the port of Canton?—No, I cannot, but I can probably obtain it, and communicate it to the Committee

Supposing the charge to be between five and six thousand Spanish dollars on such a ship, are you not inclined to think that the saving of such a charge might compensate for the disadvantages that, in your opinion, would attend trading with a depôt in one of the Eastern islands, in the event of an exclusion of British ships from the port of China?—It would be a great obstacle to small ships going to Canton, especially at the present low rates of freight, at the same time I have never heard the Americans complain of it.

Are you acquainted with the quality of the sugar of Cochin China?—I am not.

Are you acquainted with the quality of the sugar of Siam?—I am not.

Do you compare it with the white or brown sugar of Bengal?—I am not particularly acquainted with it.

Are you acquainted with the trade carried on under the Act of the 57th Geo III, cap 36, between the East Indies, Gibraltar and Malta?—I have never been interested in it, and have no particular knowledge of it, I know several ships have been there

Have you considered the effect of permitting British subjects to export from the United Kingdom to China, importing to the continent of Europe?—I consider that two advantages would be gained to this country by such an extension of the trade, the first would be to preserve the China trade as it now is, from the invasion of foreign countries, especially the Americans; the second, that it would be a considerable market for our manufactures. Hitherto the Americans have exported to China little except specie and ginseng, and such other articles, as they may have obtained in trading with the Eastern islands, from our own settlements in India we have for many years past been in the habit of exporting a very large quantity of cotton. I have a memorandum of the quantity that has been exported from Bengal to China, from the year 1814 to 1819 exclusive, which I beg to deliver in; it will be seen on the average, from 1814 to 1818, inclusive, that 82,588 bales of cotton were annually exported from Calcutta to China; from Bombay I have not a similar authentic document, but I believe 50 or 55,000 bales may be considered a fair annual export, making together about 135,000 bales exported every year from India to China.

[The Witness delivered in the following Paper.

Comparative STATEMENT of the Export of Cotton Wool from Calcutta, for the years 1814 to 1819 inclusive

Henry Blanshard, Esq
(29 March)

Year	Shipped to Great Britain	Shipped to Foreign Europe	Shipped to China	Shipped in American Vessels.	Shipped to all other Places	Total Bales of maunds, or about 300 lbs
1814 - -	18,972	- - -	92,489	- - -	113	111,574
1815 - -	17,166	2,245	59,992	- - -	1,210	80,613
1816 - -	61,195	1,380	98,013	1,359	3,273	165,888
1817 - -	123,332	31,122	85,471	15,302	589	256,138
1818 - -	165,233	39,545	76,976	45,577	2,041	328,599
1819 - -	33,479	2,724	28,820	1,448	792	67,263

* There was a general failure of the cotton crops throughout India in this year

Export from 1st January to 30th September 1820

1820 to 30th Sep. }	4,709	- - -	32,080	- - -	312	37,101
---------------------	-------	-------	--------	-------	-----	--------

The European cotton market is the only foreign market which the Americans have hitherto known for their cotton, and from the depressed state of the market here, Bengal cottons have not been selling for above $5\frac{1}{2}d$ to $6d$ per pound, the latest account from China, quotes them at 13 tale per pecul, which is equivalent to $7\frac{1}{2}d$ per pound; in consequence of this state of the market, application has been made by individuals, to the East India Company, to export part of the large stock of East India cottons now in London, from this country to China. The Company have declined granting this permission, intending to ship a quantity of cotton on their own account, and 11,000 bales are now shipped or shipping for China, in the port of London, on account of the East India Company. The common kinds of American cotton, such as the Allabama and Tennessee cottons have for many months past not been quoted higher than $7\frac{1}{2}d$ to $7\frac{3}{4}d$ per pound in the London markets, where its superiority over East India cotton is acknowledged. It is understood, that the Americans are turning their attention towards exporting this cotton largely to China, where they expect it will, at least, obtain that superiority over the East India cotton that the two cottons bear in England, which is the only market where they have ever been brought into competition, and I conceive, that the loss of this trade, between India and China, would entirely annihilate all the trade now carried on by individuals on English account to China. Whereas the Americans whose intercourse with China, is entirely supported by their imports from that country, and who could export their cotton without any expense, while the freight from India to China is never less than from $7l$ to $8l$ per ton of five bales, this throws an additional premium of a penny per lb. on the exportation of American cotton to China.

Are the Committee to understand, that there is an increased importation of cotton goods into China, generally?—The demand for cotton goods has greatly increased in China of late years, the importations into China have principally been made by the Americans who sail direct from this country to China, and who have taken out very large quantities of cotton and woollen manufactures.

You conceive there is an increased consumption of cotton goods in China?—Yes, but the market is not yet generally understood.

Therefore it is not to be inferred, that the increased exportation of cotton goods from this country to China, would pro tanto, diminish the importation into China, of cotton goods manufactured in India?—I never heard of any importation of manufactured cotton goods from India to China.

Then in speaking of the cotton trade, between India and China, you are speaking of the raw cotton?—Yes.

Do you conceive there would be less importation of raw Indian cotton into China, if an import of American raw cotton were made into China?—Yes, I conceive it would greatly injure the trade.

In the same proportion?—Yes, in the same proportion.

You say, that a great many American ships have sailed from hence to China, do you know how many ships have sailed in the last three years, distinguishing them?—I am not aware that I said a great many ships, if I did, it was a loose expression, which perhaps I was not justified in using, several have gone.

Can you state to what amount the exportations of cotton goods from this country,

Henry Blanshard,
Esq
(29 March)

country, by the Americans, have been in the last few years?—Three ships cleared out last spring from the port of London, within a very short period of each other; some have been from Liverpool, and some others also from London.

Within what period, how much prior to the last year?—Individually it is very difficult to get that information; by an order from this Committee it could be obtained from the Custom-house.

You having stated, as one reason for the trade being opened by private individuals from this country to China, that the manufactures would be increased, the Committee wish you to state, if you know to what extent the East India Company is in the habit of exporting manufactures to China?—I have seen statements, but I do not bear the amount in mind; I believe the Company export few or no cotton goods manufactured

Are you aware, whether this trade by the Company is carried on to a gain, or loss?—I have no means of knowing accurately.

Upon what do you ground your belief, that an extensive trade, in the manufactured articles of this country, can be carried on in China?—On the information of several persons who have lately been in China.

Can you name those persons?—Connected as I am a great deal with the East India trade, and almost in the daily habit of conferring with persons arriving from India and China, I have obtained the information gradually, on what I conceive to be a sure foundation; they are principally persons in the Company's service

You having stated, that the cotton market here is exceedingly depressed, to what cause do you attribute that great depression of price?—To the excessive importations from different parts of the world

By whom are those importations made?—Private merchants.

You have stated, that the present price for good Bengal cotton in the London market is 6*d.* per pound; what price, in your opinion, could the importer afford to give for such cotton in Bengal, to sell it here at that rate?—It would require a little calculation, which I am not prepared with. I am very little in the cotton market, it bears a higher price in India than in London, and consequently leaves a considerable loss on importation.

Are you acquainted with the present price of such cotton in Bengal, by the last advices?—The price has lately been high in Bengal, in consequence of the shortness of the crops, and consequently the importation to this country has quite ceased for the present.

Is not the stock of East India cotton in this country equal to several years consumption, as far as it is in use with our manufacturers?—So long as American cottons are afforded at their present low prices, the consumption of East India cotton is very small, but if a failure of the crop in America, or any interruption of political tranquillity should take place, the present stock of East India cotton would not be more than sufficient for the consumption of a few months.

Would not such a failure of the crop of cotton in America, lead to a considerable advance in price there, so as to prevent the exportation to China?—It would.

Are you acquainted with the present price of such American cotton as you have described in America, Tennessee, and Alabama?—I am not.

Are you acquainted with what were the usual shipping prices of cotton in Bengal, previous to the opening of the trade, and of the considerable shipments made from England to thence?—As far as my recollection serves me it was about 13 to 14 rupees the maund; since that period it has frequently attained the price of 21 or 22 rupees

At the par of exchange 2*s.* 6*d.* what price per pound would such cotton stand when sold at 13 rupees per maund?—About four-pence halfpenny; at 14 rupees it is rather more than 5*d.* per lb.

In the event of there being no demand in India for cotton to ship to Europe, is it not to be expected that the price of such cotton in Bengal will again return to 13 or 14 rupees per maund?—I do not think it will, because the internal consumption of Bengal and the adjoining provinces is estimated at from 350,000 to 400,000 bales a year, consequently the exportation forms but a small proportion of it; and if the inhabitants have lately been paying at this advanced rate, I do not think that the importation being larger or smaller, will make any great difference in the price.

Do you know whether the internal consumption has increased since the trade was opened?—I have no means of judging.

Then if the internal consumption is not increased, and there is no demand for the European market, does not it follow, with the ordinary crops, that the prices should return

return to their former rates when there is no export demand but for China?—I conceive the cultivation of cotton would diminish, if they could not get prices equivalent to what they have lately received.

Henry Blanshard
Esq
(29 March)

Is the expense of cultivation increased in India, since the trade was opened?—I understand that the general prices of different articles have increased in the large towns; but with regard to the price of labour in the interior of the country, I have no means of judging.

Then presuming that the cotton of Bengal can be shipped at $4\frac{1}{2}d$ per pound, is there a probability, that the cotton of America can be shipped at such prices as will enable the American merchant to enter into advantageous competition with the Bengal merchant in the market of China?—That supposition would give the Indian trader a considerable advantage, which he has not had for many years past; they might go far towards preventing the Americans from extending that branch of their business.

Have you any knowledge of the fact, that the American merchants had, previous to the last year, actually shipped cotton, in any quantity, from the United States to China?—No.

Then the present season is the first in which the American merchant has contemplated shipping cotton to China, within your knowledge?—I have only lately heard of such being in their contemplation.

Are not the present prices of American cotton lower in the markets of Europe, than they were ever known before?—They are, the cultivation is so much increased, that the exports are nearly double.

You having stated, that the price of cotton is now such as to prevent the exportation from India, is not it attributable to the opening of the trade?—If the trade had not been opened, the excessive importations into this country, which have occurred, would, no doubt, not have taken place.

Is not, therefore, this increase of price injurious to the Bengal merchant?—It is to those persons who have speculated on the prices in European markets.

Lunæ, 2^o die Aprilis, 1821.

The Right Honourable THOMAS WALLACE, in the Chair.

Captain *Daniel Ross*,

Called in, and Exammed.

HOW long have you been in the service of the East India Company, and in what branch of their service?—In the Bombay marine, from 1796 to the present period.

Captain
Daniel Ross
(2 April)

In the course of that service, have you visited the greater part of the Indian seas and the Chinese seas?—Yes, I was stationed three years at the Moluccas, two years at Bussorah, and the last fourteen years I have been employed in surveying the China seas.

In the course of your survey, what ports of China have you visited?—I have visited several ports from one end of the coast to the other; from the Yellow Sea to the island of Huanan.

In what way were you received at the Chinese ports?—On my first going to China, when the pirates were in force, we were generally tolerated at any of the ports, but after the Ladrones surrendered, we were generally ordered out in a very peremptory manner, and not allowed to purchase refreshments.

Do you chance to know, whether English ships are allowed to trade with any Chinese ports except Canton?—During the time I was there, I never heard of any trading, except in one instance an English ship made the attempt at Amoy, and failed, that is the principal port of the eastern province of China Fokin.

What, in your opinion, would be the effect of opening the trade to British subjects, particularly with relation to the conduct of our seamen at the port of Canton?—I think that the conduct of the seamen would create considerable disturbances.

Could that be checked by any authority vested in the person of the chief supercargo?—Even the regulations that have been made, for the good government of the seamen belonging to Indiamen, have not been sufficient to make their conduct so orderly as the Americans.

Captain
Daniel Ross
(2 April.)

Do you apprehend, if an English sailor was to violate the laws of China, that the government would exact redress from the Company, or their representative?—If the transgression did not amount to the loss of a Chinese life, I apprehend the security merchant would suffer, but in a case where a Chinese loses his life, or is very severely wounded by accident or not, I am of opinion, that until the government is satisfied, the trade with the Europe ships would be stopped, and the factory involved in some difficulties

Upon what ground do you form that opinion?—From observing, that in many disputes between the Chinese and our men of war, the Chinese have always addressed themselves to the factory, notwithstanding they have been told that the factory had no control over the men of war.

Are you acquainted with Cochin China?—I have visited most of its ports.

For what purpose did you go there?—The first time I visited Cochin China, was to land 560 Chinese, which I took off a sand-bank in the China seas, and Turon being the nearest port, I took them there.

How were you received by the government there?—With a great deal of distrust.

When was that?—In 1808, although the king expressed his satisfaction at what we had done, yet we were not permitted to obtain supplies, and a Tonquinese boat arriving whilst we were there, from her I purchased a quantity of rice, and immediately that it came to the knowledge of the government they seized the vessel, and confined the commander for having sold us any thing. Besides which, they prohibited the inhabitants from bringing their articles to market.

Did you visit any other ports in the course of your voyage?—Several ports.

State what occurred at the other ports?—I visited Honecolie, Neatrang, and Saigon

Were the inhabitants there more friendly disposed than at Turon?—No, they were not, for in 1813, when I put into Saigon, much in want of provisions, I was not supplied, and in 1814, when our attendant vessel on the survey lost her main-mast, I went into Saigon a second time, to endeavour to get one, but notwithstanding the government sent its officers to ascertain our wants, they were not supplied, and the country appeared much alarmed at our presence; their war boats came down, and took their station near us. After remaining a week, and finding there was nothing to be had, I quitted the port.

Have you had any opportunity of judging whether the country of Cochin China is cultivated, or appears populous?—It is a very narrow strip of country, and all the middle and northern parts are very mountainous, therefore I should think cultivation is not carried to any extent in those parts

Do you know the population of it?—I should think not very extensive, if I may judge from the appearance of the coast, and what I have seen along it.

In those mountainous districts, by what means are the inhabitants supplied with grain?—By the southern provinces, with all their grain; I have been informed so by a mandarin, and I have seen vessels myself conveying the grain.

Did you see many fishing-boats?—There are many small fishing-boats.

What appearance was there on the shore, was it woody, or an open country?—All those fine harbours have only a very few fishing-huts in them, and being so very thickly wooded down to the water's edge, which are filled with beasts of prey, I conclude the population is not very great.

Have you been in the interior?—Not any very great distance; I have been shooting in the country.

Do the inhabitants appear well disposed to foreigners, or do you consider them equally jealous as the Chinese, of any foreign intercourse?—I think them equally jealous, if not more so

What is the nature of the government of Cochin China, is it arbitrary?—Very despotic, so much so, that I believe no man can say he holds any property but what may be taken from him

Are you acquainted with any influence the French have in that court, more than any other nation?—I should think they have not much more influence, in 1817, (I think it was) I saw the Cybele, commanded by Count Kergarion, going to Cochin China with presents, and it was generally believed in China, that she was dismissed without their being received, again, at Malacca in 1819, I saw a letter published, from a person in Cochin China, wherein it was stated, that she was not received.

Have you any means of knowing whether it would be advantageous for a ship, having proceeded from Great Britain to Cochin China, to go afterwards to China?—I do not think it would be any great advantage; I think there is nothing to be done in Cochin China.

What

Captain
Daniel Ross
(2 April)

What articles of export have the Cochin Chinese?—The export to China principally consists of hides, rice, arrack, and woods for furniture.

Do the Portuguese from Macao, carry on any trade with Cochin China?—For the first nine years that I was in China, I never observed that more than one ship was employed in that trade to Saigon, and since 1815, I believe they have discontinued it altogether.

Is not a considerable trade carried on between China and Cochin China in Chinese junks?—Not very considerable, I think three or four large junks are quite enough to carry it on.

You have been to the Philippine islands?—Yes, at Manilla.

What is the trade carried on between the Philippine islands, and Canton?—Not to any great extent, it is principally carried on by small brigs belonging to Macao.

Do not the Americans, carry on a considerable trade with the Malay islands?—I believe not at all with what are called the Malay islands; I mean all those to the eastward of Borneo.

How does the Malay production find its way to China?—From Batavia, and the north-west coast of Sumatra.

In what vessels?—The productions are principally collected by small vessels belonging to Penang and Malacca, and brought to those ports for the Indiamen to carry on to China as they are passing.

Do not those junks go to the eastern provinces of China, where the British ships are not permitted to go?—Almost all the trade that is carried on in junks, is to the eastern provinces of China, where the European ships are not permitted to trade.

To what extent is that trade?—I can scarcely pronounce, except as to the junks I have seen employed in it, I have seen eight or ten junks employed in it.

How many tons do the junks usually carry?—Various sizes, the largest may be five or six hundreds tons.

Were the eight or ten you have spoken of, of this size?—No, various sizes, some of the large ones were in that trade.

How many tons should you estimate there was in the trade, from your observation of the junks?—I should average them at 300, and there might be about eight or ten of those.

Does it make much difference to the Chinese junks, having to pass through the Straits of Malacca, and go up the west coast of the Malay Peninsula to Malacca?—I do not know that any Chinese junks go up the Straits of Malacca from China.

How do they get to Prince of Wales island, or Malacca?—There may be small junks from Siam and the neighbouring islands, but no junks from China itself.

Where were those junks you have been speaking of, going to?—To trade between the eastern islands, and the eastern coast of China.

What eastern islands?—Almost all the Moluccas.

Is there a trade wind down the China seas?—The trade wind that will carry them down the China seas, will also carry them along the Java seas, or they may pass to the eastward of Borneo.

The usual passage is along the China seas for the junks?—Yes.

If we had a station at Sincapore, they would touch at that without going much out of their way to the Molucca islands?—It would not be much out of their way.

If the produce of the Molucca islands was at Sincapore, it would be more convenient for the Chinese ships to take it from Sincapore, than go to the Molucca islands?—I do not know that it would be more convenient, where they had numerous connections among those islands to collect the produce for them.

The voyage would be shorter?—Yes, it would be shorter; for many of the voyages from the eastern coast of China to Macassar, occupy sometimes twelve, and sometimes eighteen months, that time I believe, is consumed in collecting the cargo, at least the greatest part of it.

From your knowledge of the Malays, would it be desirable to attempt to trade with them in small vessels?—No, it is very necessary for those to be well armed who do trade with the Malays, for you are never certain of being secure, at times when you least expect it, you are cut off; and there are numerous instances of it in India.

Are the Malacca prows disposed to act offensively from being well armed?—In general.

What number of men do they generally carry?—Forty or fifty men, and two long guns.

Captain
Daniel Ross.
(2 April)

Have any instances occurred, of their cutting off ship's boats, or capturing persons?—Many; in fact, there is not a Birghis trader but what is capable of acting offensively, they are so well armed and manned; I believe many instances have occurred where they have cut off the boats that have belonged to our men of war, that have been sent to examine them.

In your opinion, what would be a fit size for ships to trade with those islands?—That must depend upon the way she is armed; she must be well manned and armed whatever ship goes

What is the most convenient size?—I should think ships of 300 tons would be the smallest size; from 300 to 400 tons.

Supposing there was any danger from the pirates, what would be the most convenient sort of ship to carry on the trade with the islands?—Ships of about 300 tons; because most of the Malay villages and towns are up creeks and rivers, that would not accommodate ships of 100 tons, many of them are so shallow at the mouth

Do you know what sized ships the Americans trade with amongst those islands?—I do not believe they trade amongst them at all, in 1814, when I was at Batavia, I saw an American brig of about 200 tons; and I understood from her commander she had been a long time endeavouring to get a cargo along the coast of Java, and was afraid to go amongst the Malay islands, for fear of being cut off.

Can you speak to any particular instance of any ship being cut off?—Yes, I can speak to one, in which I was nearly concerned, a vessel that my brother commanded; she was a vessel of about 150 tons, and was cut off at Minto, a port in Banca, when trading there, after having made many voyages amongst them.

She had traded for some considerable time amongst them?—He had been many years a trader among the Malays,

Had the pirates been in force all that time?—He was not cut off by pirates, he was cut off by the people he was trading with.

Did it arise from any quarrel?—No, I believe it was only from a good opportunity presenting itself

In the various instances that he had traded with them, did no good opportunity occur?—Once before that they cut off the vessel he was trading with at Ponteano.

What did her crew consist of?—A good many Malays from Malacca.

Any English?—Not above one or two besides himself; she was carried off by the Malay part of the crew.

Can you state any European vessels that have been attacked and cut off by the pirates at sea?—They have never frequented that part of the sea, of such a size as to be liable to be captured.

Do you mean that part of the sea to the eastward or westward of Malacca?—I mean all the seas to the eastward of the Straits of Malacca, Borneo, Celebes, Amboyna and Timor, and all those parts

Do you know whether such a thing has happened to an American vessel?—I do not believe the Americans ever trade among those islands.

You never heard of any instance of it happening to an English ship at those islands?—No, of English country ships I have.

You have heard of instances of that?—Yes.

State the circumstances of any case that has ever occurred at that place?—That particular instance is very strong upon my memory, but there are very few Malay traders but who could give instances of it.

Do you know any instances of ships having been attacked by pirates, and carried off?—Yes, I know of instances where they have been attacked by pirates, but they have beat them off. There was a ship in 1819, going from Malacca to Batavia, commanded by a Captain Scott, she was attacked.

What size was she?—Between 3 and 400 tons I think; her name was the Racehorse.

Do you think the stationing of a ship of war in those seas, a frigate for instance, would be a sufficient protection for the trade?—Not any protection whatever.

For what reason?—The Malay prows have often been chased by men of war, and they have no chance with them, particularly in those seas where there are many calms and light airs

What size are the Malay prows, usually?—I cannot exactly say the tonnage, but they carry forty, fifty, or sixty men, and sometimes more

Having

Having seen them, judging from your eye, what should you say was their tonnage?—I suppose 70 or 80 tons, and many less.

What was the size of the ship that was attacked?—Between 300 and 400 tons

Was she attacked by more than one?—I do not know how many she was attacked by, but she was attacked by pirates, and she beat them off.

Have not the visits of men of war in those seas, tended much to indispose the Cochin Chinese to us?—They have. The frequent visits of our English frigates to Turon.

Are you aware of any particular object they have gone to this coast for?—I have always understood, they went to claim a debt said to be due to a house at Madras, for arms that were supplied to the king.

Does the king contend that the debt is paid?—Yes.

Is there any good port in Cochin China?—Many

You have stated, that the inhabitants of Cochin China, are very jealous, and that the French have not been able, to your knowledge, to trade with them?—No, not to my knowledge.

Should you conceive there was any greater difficulty in the English trading with them, than French?—Yes, I should.

State why?—I think from those visits of the frigates to the king, he is much exasperated against the English; and for many years the Portuguese at Macao, have been poisoning the minds of the Cochin Chinese against the English.

What is the size of the American ships that trade upon the coast of Sumatra?—I cannot possibly say. I have not visited that coast

What is the size of the Malay traders, from Penang to the eastward?—Various sizes; two, three, and four hundred tons.

Have you not known them going from Mr Carnegie, and other merchants at Penang, of from 40 to 50 tons in the trade to the eastward?—No, I have not, the smallest I have seen is about 100 tons.

By whom were those vessels manned?—A mixed crew of Lascars and Malays.

Is not a chief part of the armament of those vessels, one Newfoundland dog, is not that the chief guard against those pirates?—I never heard of that before

What is the smallest size of the American vessels you have ever seen in China?—The smallest I have seen is about 100 tons, and she was a schooner

Do not the Americans pass through those islands, at all seasons of the year?—They pass up the China seas

Do they not go through the Straits of Malacca, and both sides of Borneo?—I do not know that they pass both sides, they sometimes go the eastern passage

Does not that include the principal passages among those islands?—Yes, it does

You are not able to state an instance of a ship being cut off?—I mentioned the instance of my brother being cut off, and that was by the natives; he was killed and all his crew, and the vessel was carried to Java.

Where did that happen?—At Minto

Do you know the particulars of the case?—He was cut off by the inhabitants, while trading with them.

From what cause you do not know?—No other than I believe they are not secure at any time

When was that?—In the beginning of 1810

There was a very noted man at Penang, of the name of Scott, whom you knew?—Yes

You are aware that he used to go alone into all parts of the island?—Not when I was acquainted with him.

Are you aware that there are small parties, of a Dutch serjeant and a few people, scattered over all those islands, without any protection but themselves?—They invariably have a small fort to resort to, and on the Celebes I have seen their forts

You think in all cases they have fortifications?—Yes, I have always understood they have some fort to retire to

Do you know if there is any fortification at the Straits of Sappi?—I never was at the Straits of Sappi.

Then you are not acquainted with the circumstance of the Dutch having different parties unprotected in those Straits and the neighbourhood, by forts?—No, I am not.

You have been in Cochin China?—Yes, I have

What intercourse have you had with the Cochin Chinese?—Such as a vessel going

Captain
Daniel Ross

(2 April.)

going in would have, when requiring refreshment, walking about the little villages and towns.

What means of intercourse had you with the Cochin Chinese?—We always had a Chinese interpreter on board, and many of the Cochin Chinese could speak Portuguese; in almost all the ports you will find some who speak Portuguese.

Have the Portuguese had a considerable intercourse with them?—Owing to the Portuguese missionaries being established at Cochin China, there is a college or school kept by them, in which the Portuguese language is taught.

You have stated, that ships of 350 tons are the fittest size to go to those seas?—From 4 to 300 tons.

You have stated, that the rivers are rather shallow at their mouth?—Yes

How could those vessels enter them?—Many of the rivers are so narrow, they will not admit of being navigated by those ships.

But they admit their own vessels of 100 tons?—No, I do not know that any of their ships are of 100 tons.

Are those rivers numerous throughout the islands?—It is quite the Malay habit, always to build their huts up creeks and rivers, where they can be better defended, for they are always making war on each other.

Does not it appear to you, that from the less draught of water, small ships will be more likely to get into those rivers, on the banks of which you state the natives build their towns, than large ones?—Certainly, small vessels are better adapted to get into small rivers than larger ones, but by no means so secure; that is the reason I mentioned that size.

What was the general opinion entertained of the Javanese by the English, previous to our getting possession of Java?—That they were very apt to cut Englishmen off

Were we afraid to admit them into our ships, to navigate them?—Yes, for they did cut some off

Does it come to your knowledge, that at Java, the Dutch merchants are obliged to travel to their different counting-houses or their different residences, always protected by the military, or a strong body of armed followers?—I was nine months prisoner at Batavia, but never observed any thing of the kind.

When was that?—In 1809

Are the Committee to understand, that you had an opportunity of making those observations while prisoner; were you allowed to go into the country?—I was allowed to go at large, and lived with the governor some time.

Then the Dutch apprehended no danger in the interior of Java?—Not any

How comes it then, that we are to apprehend so much from those people out of the island?—It is very different where there is a military force, and they are likely to be punished for any offences they may commit

The Dutch have only a small part of the northern coast?—They have all the northern coast

Does it come to your knowledge, that Governor Raffles went himself into the interior of Sumatra, trusting himself entirely to these dangerous people, where never European had been before, and found himself well received, no attempt being made at any violence?—I understood from Sir Thomas Raffles himself, that he went across Sumatra, but not, I believe, without a sufficient military guard.

What do you consider a sufficient military guard?—I should suppose he would not travel with less than fifty men.

Then you conclude that Governor Raffles had a company of fifty men with him?—I cannot say the number of men, but I understood he had a guard, and I have no doubt of it.

Was it not customary for our men of war's boats to cruise in those seas for prizes, boats with oars?—I never heard of any

Have you heard of an American being cut off?—No; but I have heard of Portuguese and Spaniards

You have been in the Gulph of Persia?—I have.

Do you imagine that presents a field for our cotton manufactures being consumed?—I can say nothing about that, I was never concerned in trade

Do you think it would be dangerous for small English vessels to go up there?—It has been dangerous on account of the pirates, who are a very daring race.

Do you think it is less so now than formerly?—I cannot speak to that, I have been away so many years

Is the Gulph of Arabia dangerous?—I was never in it.

Have

Have you been at Siam?—No, I have not

Do you know if ships go from Bengal to Siam?—I cannot say I know of a ship's going from Bengal, but I know of a country ship going from Manilla to Siam to collect a cargo

How long is that since?—I think it was in 1817, that ship's name was the *Transit*, of *Ennore*

What success had she?—I cannot exactly say what success she had

Have you been at Sincapore?—Yes, I was there at the first establishment

Has it a very good harbour?—It is very secure, and it is a good harbour.

Do you happen to know how the Cochin Chinese are clothed?—Yes, the lower class of the people with a coarse kind of blue cotton, and the mandarins, and most of the females, in a very thin kind of silk

Have they any manufactures in that country?—They must, for I have seen cottons and silks that go by the name of *Cochin Chinas*

Do you know, in point of fact, whether the greater proportion of the cotton they are clothed with, is imported from China?—I do not know whether it is or not

Is there any trade from Cochin China into the Indian Archipelago?—I believe none

Did not the French obtain an establishment at Cochin China some years ago?—I believe never

Did you ever hear of any treaty conveying to them the bay of Turon?—No

Not in the year 1788?—No, I never heard of it

You state that they were ill received you understood, when they last went there?—Yes, it is generally believed so in India and China.

Do you happen to know, whether a revolution in the government had not taken place between 1788 and the time they went there?—Yes, I had understood that, and I have seen some French officers who assisted the present king to recover his dominion.

Do they remain in the country still?—Yes, there are two there now

Do you know whether there is any thing in the religion or laws of the people of Cochin China, to prevent the use of foreign articles of any description?—No, I do not

What proofs have you of the great distrust of the Cochin Chinese?—I think that is evident, from their not permitting me to purchase refreshments

Are you quite sure that did not arise from the circumstance you have stated, from the dissatisfaction at the coming of our frigate to collect debts?—That might be the case, but it proves a disposition not to hold intercourse with Europeans at all

Do you know whether the same want of hospitality was shown to any other nation?—I do not know that any other nation has visited it so frequently as we have done, except the Portuguese, who are permitted to trade to the southern part

Is not that permission a proof that there is not that jealousy?—I think there is a distinction made between the Portuguese at Macao, and the European Portuguese, for most of those men who go to Cochin China to trade, are descendants of Chinese and Portuguese

Did the conduct that was held toward you, appear to arise from any indisposition of the people to have a communication with you, and deal with you, or the orders of the government?—I think the orders of the government

You have stated your apprehension of ships being admitted to China, from the conduct of our seamen, what is the conduct of the American seamen?—They have generally conducted themselves with a greater degree of propriety than our own seamen have done, in the number of years I have been in China, I have seldom seen any disturbances with the American seamen.

Is there any permanent American authority established in Canton?—None that the Chinese acknowledge, but one that the Americans acknowledge, a consul.

Has he any control over the sailors in the ships?—I believe he has

Do you conceive that operates to make them more orderly?—I think they are a better description of men, they are picked, they have a greater choice than we have

Do you know that many of those ships that come there, are actually manned by British seamen?—Many of them are

And the conduct of those British seamen is the same as those of the American seamen on board the same ships, as far as you have observed?—It must be so, if the crews of American ships have conducted themselves better than the English

Captain
Daniel Ross
(2 April)

Do you believe the disorderly conduct of the British seamen is not owing to the authority of the supercargoes, and the protection they receive from them?—No, I do not think it is; I think it arises from the generality of our seamen having served in the navy, and after having again served in a merchant ship, they do not conceive they ought to be under such control.

Have you had an opportunity of observing British seamen on board merchant ships, in any ports where there was no such authority existing as that of the supercargoes, and where they depended on their own good behaviour?—I have not met with any English seamen in any other foreign port but Canton

You have heard of their being in other foreign ports besides Canton?—I cannot say I have

Are the Americans considered upon the same footing as the English, or what distinction is made between them in the port of Canton, in the estimation of the Chinese?—I think the English are considerably in favour; that I think proceeds in a great measure from their number.

How long have you known the port of Canton?—Since 1806

Do you recollect two instances in which the British trade was stopped during that time?—Yes, I do.

State what they were?—The first instance was in consequence of an affray that took place with part of the crew of the Neptune indiaman, the second time was in 1809, when a man was found dead near the British factory.

Did not a stoppage of the trade also take place, while Admiral Drury went to Macao?—The whole time he was there till they embarked it was stopped.

What was the cause of the first?—Owing to a disturbance I think, with the seamen.

Were any Chinese killed?—There was one killed, and it was supposed he was killed by some of the seamen

How was that settled?—There was a court held, and the men were brought up, and passed under some examination of the mandarins; and I believe the matter was arranged afterwards, by stating to the emperor, that it was an accident.

How long did the embargo continue?—I think it began some time in January, and it must have continued three or four months, for the ships did not sail till the early part of May

What was the occasion of the second instance, and how long was the embargo continued at that time?—The stoppage of the trade in that instance, was supposed to be on account of the Ladrões or pirates at that time treating with the government, at the mouth of the river; and it was supposed that the viceroy made a pretence of this man being found dead, to stop the European ships, and to hold out to the Ladrões, that they were ready to act against them if they did not accept the terms that were offered them

Then the stoppage did not take place in consequence of the death of this Chinese, but it was a piece of policy on the part of the viceroy?—It was supposed so, and afterwards on some communication between the viceroy and the factory, the ships were permitted to sail without any examination.

Have you been there since the affair that took place with the Alceste, when she forced her way up the river?—I was there at the time.

Were not there a great many Chinese killed in the fort?—Not one I believe; at a former time, when I forced my way through the same place, there were some killed.

In the case to which you alluded, did any inquiry take place?—It was the time when Admiral Drury was there, and there was a degree of hostility between us.

You were forcing your way out?—No; I was forcing my way in, by order of Admiral Drury.

Did no inquiry take place in consequence of that?—None whatever, I believe.

Did it produce any effect upon the trade?—The trade was then stopped, and had been stopped some time.

When the question arose, about opening the trade again, were any observations made upon it?—I was not there; I was ordered to Manilla.

Was the trade stopped in consequence of the Alceste forcing her way up?—I believe not

Did it produce much sensation at Canton?—I cannot say that it did.

Do you think the possible misconduct of a few seamen, in the port of Canton, is likely to have a worse effect upon the trade, than the forcing the river in two instances?—In those instances there was a degree of hostility subsisting, and the Chinese were glad to pass the business over, and allow the trade to go on.

What

What was the size of the vessel you commanded?—She was a ship of about 350 tons, and twelve guns.

Was that a sufficient protection for the ships going and coming?—Yes, from the Chinese pirates, the crew consisted of about 80 or 90 men.

Are the Malay pirates much more formidable than the Chinese?—Yes, much more so.

Have you ever commanded ships going into any European port?—No, never.

You have stated, that eight or nine junks carried on the trade from the Moluccas to the eastern coast of China?—Yes, from the Molucca islands to the eastern province of China.

Have you ever had any communication with any of those junks?—I have been on board them.

Did they appear to be carrying on a smuggling or an acknowledged trade?—I have understood, that the foreign trade altogether, on the part of the Chinese junks, is winked at by their government, that they do not admit a trade with foreign ports.

It is not an avowed trade?—No; I speak from what I have heard

From what part of China do they come?—Amoy, and all the ports in the province of Fokin, and all that part of the coast opposite to Formosa.

Do you know if any of them come from the Yellow sea?—No, I do not think they would go up so high

In what articles do they carry on a trade, what do they receive from the island, and what do they give in return?—I cannot say what they give in return, except from the cargo of a junk I saw wrecked; her cargo consisted of a variety of small articles, tea, sweetmeats, and a variety of small articles, the produce of China.

Were there any manufactures for the clothing of the people?—I cannot say I observed any

Do you know what they usually get in return?—Betel nut, rattans, hides, stags horns, and a variety of other things that they use.

Do you know whether those islands can supply any return cargo, fit for the European market?—No one place can furnish a cargo of itself.

None of the articles they supply are intended for the European market?—I believe not.

Have you not heard of the great consumption of British manufactures recently, that have been conveyed to those islands through Java?—No, I have not.

Do you know what has been the increase of the export of British cotton manufactures into those seas, in the last few years?—No, I have no knowledge of that.

If British ships traded with those islands, however valuable the trade might be, they could get nothing from them fit for the European market?—Nothing that is consumed in Europe

In point of fact, the whole advantage it would be possible to derive from the trade with those islands, depends upon the possibility of their having some intercourse with China itself?—I cannot exactly answer that question.

You have stated, that British seamen are much more turbulent than Americans?—Yes.

Have you known an instance of a small British vessel giving any trouble in China?—I do not know that there have been any very small vessels.

Did not vessels come formerly from the north-west, and do they not now come from New Holland?—I believe none come from New Holland but those that come from hence with convicts, and from thence to China.

Have you found those ships give trouble in China?—Not particularly those ships

Can you state one instance of a very small ship going to China, and giving trouble there?—I do not know of any particular instance, or of any very small ships going there.

Was the crew of your vessel British seamen?—In the first cruiser I commanded, they were principally British seamen, that was the Antelope, the second was a mixed crew

In the case of a vessel of 350 tons going to China from England, what would her crew consist of?—I should think not above from fifteen to twenty men.

Do you consider that there would be greater danger of giving offence to the Chinese government in a crew of eighteen or twenty men, where half are interested in the trade of the ship, than in crews of from 130 to 140 men, having only ten or twelve persons interested in a similar manner in the interests of the ship and owners?—

*Captain
Damel Ross*

(2 April)

I consider, in a ship that has 100 men, as well as a ship with eighteen men, that the conduct of one man may be sufficient to place the ship he belongs to in difficulties.

Which, in your opinion, in those cases, is most dangerous to the peace of our intercourse with China?—That would depend very much upon the discipline kept up on board the ships

Do you conceive the means that the Company's officers have of enforcing obedience, is greater than that of the smaller ships?—I think that there are a greater number of officers on board the Company's ships than there would be in the small ships, and men that have been accustomed to act under some discipline.

Has the captain of a Company's ship any authority from this country, that the captain of a small ship has not?—I cannot answer that, I do not know what authority they have

In point of fact, is the discipline on board one of the Company's ships better or worse, than on board a private trader?—It is certainly stricter.

Will not the number of officers on board each ship be in proportion to the number of men?—No, there are a greater number of officers on board the Company's ships in proportion to the number of men; because there is the captain and six or seven officers, besides a number of other officers that are not carried in the smaller ships.

Have you seen any of the private traders in the ports of Java?—Yes

What has been the conduct of the men on board those ships?—I cannot speak positively what has been their conduct, but I know several of them have been taken on board the Dutch admiral's ship and punished.

Was that recently?—In the last two or three years

Are you acquainted with the Persian Gulf?—I have been in most of its ports.

Have you ever seen a private trader there?—I never saw a private trader there.

Do you think that the discipline of a ship, where the crew are interested in the success of the voyage, is likely to be better than in a ship where discipline is kept up by the power of the officers of the ship?—I think that must depend very much upon the captain of the ship, upon his mode of keeping up the discipline, and the disposition of the people

James Thomas Robarts, Esquire, Called in; and Examined.

*J. T. Robarts,
Esq*

(2 April)

HAVE the goodness to state the situation you have held in India?—I have resided there eighteen years, during which time I have been engaged, not only as a Company's servant, but also under the sanction of the Company as a private agent

What situations have you held?—Supercargo in the Company's service, and also private agent

Have you carried on trade as a private agent?—Yes, between India and the Malay Islands, as a private agent, and also receiving consignments occasionally from the continent of Europe

You have been in a situation that has given you a knowledge of the Company's trade with China?—I have, and with the trade from India to China and the Malay Islands.

Have you also a knowledge of the trade that other powers carry on with China, including the Americans?—I have, certainly.

Will you state what peculiar advantages appear to you to arise from the Company's establishment in China, in the conduct of the trade?—I consider that there are many advantages, which I wish to state under two or three distinct heads.

State what those heads are?—In the first place then, those who are at all acquainted with the nature of the Chinese character, with their peculiar laws and customs, especially those which govern their intercourse with foreigners, must be aware that such system is only to be met by corresponding regulations on our part, calculated in every respect to meet its various exigencies, thus situated then, it has been from the earliest period of the Company's trade to China, the invariable practice and duty of those intrusted with the Company's concerns, to increase that power and influence, not only with the government but the merchants, which the vast extent of their trade, the largeness of their ships, the uniform correctness of their dealings and the general respect which so large a body demands, has been invariably preserved by them; so that at present I will venture to say, no other nation can or ever will enjoy those advantages and privileges which at present belong to the East India Company, but I think it would be impossible that this influence and power could

J T Roberts,
Esq

(2 April)

could be maintained, if it were at all to be diminished, by the resort of free traders to the port of Canton, over whom they could not have any control whatever, at least only a very limited one, for I am of opinion that if free traders did come to Canton, every imaginable evil would occur which possibly could happen, either by clandestine dealings with unauthorized Chinese, or in prosecuting distant adventures to other parts to the northward, which might ultimately involve us in serious disputes with the government. I am also of opinion that no less serious danger is to be apprehended from the admission of a vast number of sailors to Canton on liberty. For a Private ship is not like a Company's ship; in the one there is order and discipline amongst the crew, the commander and officers being bred up in the service from early life, and more or less interested in the voyage, consequently between them and the Company there is but one common interest binding the whole together; whilst with the free trader there is generally no order or control over the crew, for the captain and officers having nothing to depend upon but their pay and allowance, they cannot be supposed to have any great influence over the men, and therefore serious quarrels might arise with the Chinese, similar to those which took place in the year 1807, when a Chinese was unfortunately killed by a sailor belonging to the Neptune East Indiaman, when the trade was unfortunately stopped for several months, and had it not been for the great influence and power of the Company, I am firmly of opinion we should not have got over the difficulty, nor would the trade have been reinstated.

State what arises under the second head?—Secondly, I conceive that these advantages are no less conspicuous in the securing a sufficient supply of tea to meet the demand of this country, of the very best quality; for it is a notorious fact, that the Company have not only the preference of the very best qualities of tea, but absolutely the option of every other species of goods coming to Canton, but I am of opinion, that this advantage could not be maintained if free traders were admitted to compete with them, because the price would then naturally be enhanced in some measure, and the Company not have that selection they now exclusively have.

Proceed now to the third head?—Thirdly, I think the advantages are no less obvious with respect to the disposal of the great staple commodities of this country, woollen and metals, for it is equally a fact, that the importation of woollens is limited to China. In proof of which I may state, that during my residence for several years in the country, the Company were in the habit, with a view to assist the distressed manufactures of this country, of sending out double the woollens they now do; the consequences of which were, that not only the Company lost most severely by them, but likewise the merchants and the market was completely inundated with them. The Company, however, foreseeing this evil, have latterly, at the recommendation of their agents in China, reduced the quantity to a level with the actual demand in China, the consequence of which is, that instead of a losing it has at length become a gainful concern. These are the three heads under which I view the present advantages the Company derive from their present monopoly to be included.

Would not many of those advantages equally belong to a powerful company established in any other country, conducting the trade between this country and it?—I certainly conceive it would in some measure, were a company similar to our own to be established, but I do not think that any nation would ever have the power that we enjoy in China.

Do you think it would be an advantage to carry on the trade of this country with every other country in the world, through the medium of privileged companies?—I certainly think it would.

You have spoken of the dangers that would arise from the private ships coming to China, and you have stated that they would probably be engaged in clandestine dealings with unauthorized Chinese; and that they would be likely to engage in adventures to other ports than that of Canton; is there any danger in this respect to which the Company are subject, that does not arise as much from the Americans as it would do from the resort of British traders?—Certainly not

State how that is?—I do not pretend to say that the Americans might not pursue the same measures, and they do to a certain degree, but of course, by the admission of free traders, it would most likely become a regular system, and then it is impossible to say what the Chinese might not do to prevent it; the thing would be open to them, and no doubt they would adopt some measures to stop it.

Do you not conceive that the American trade is carried on on a regular system?

J I Roberts,
Esq.

(2 April)

—I do not certainly conceive it is carried on by any sort of regular system whatever.

Do you know any instance of clandestine dealing, between the Americans and the unauthorized Chinese agents?—Many, and our own countrymen too.

Have any adventures been made to any other ports than Canton?—No, not at present, but I believe it is in contemplation.

Can you state any disadvantages that have arisen to the Company, from those dealings of the Americans?—I cannot immediately recollect any disadvantage, but in various instances the merchants have threatened to put a stop to the trade, and in consequence we have been obliged to interfere, and call those to account who have been engaged in them; and particular instructions are given by the Company's representatives, to prevent smuggling as much as possible.

Do you apply this to the Americans?—As much to the Americans as to our own country trade.

Do you mean, that the supercargoes of the India Company have any power to call the Americans to an account for any conduct they may pursue?—No, but over British ships they have

Then you mean, that under the conduct of the trade at present, those clandestine dealings do take place?—They do in some degree, but they are as much as possible prevented by the Company, by restrictive regulations given to the commander, from British ships; these regulations are, however, infringed very often, nor is it possible for the Chinese government to prevent smuggling.

What description of English people are those unauthorized dealers?—Equally so of English persons as natives from India, who came on board the English country ships.

Then it is in a very trifling way?—The smuggling is carried on to a very great extent, so much so that the Chinese government or merchants are about to adopt regulations to prevent it as much as possible.

You are desired to state, whether the resort of Americans to the port of Canton, does not produce all the effects in the way of competition with the Company, that would be produced by the resort of English private traders to that port.

In some respects it certainly does; but it should be recollected at present, that the Company have always the preference of the very best qualities of tea. The Americans never come into the market till the Company have made their purchases, but if free traders, besides the Americans, were to come into the market, there would be a greater competition, and the Company would not then get their teas so cheap as they now do.

You have stated, that the Americans have not yet attempted to trade to any other ports but Canton?—Not to my knowledge.

Have you heard of any adventures?—None, whatever.

Is there any American authority existing at the port of Canton, which is responsible for the conduct of American sailors there?—There is a consul at Canton, who has a very limited authority, he merely receives the register of the ships, but he does not appear to have any control over the Americans, he merely performs the usual duties of consul.

What is the usual conduct of American sailors?—They are certainly more peaceable, less irascible in their temper, and less addicted to drinking, than the English sailors, an American sailor would quietly bear an insult from a Chinese, whereas an Englishman would immediately resent it.

Do you think that that irascibility on the part of the English sailors, arises a little from the consciousness of the protection they are likely to receive from the Company?—I think not, I think it proceeds entirely from the nature of an Englishman, his character and disposition.

Do you happen to know whether in point of fact, a considerable proportion of sailors on board the American ships are not English?—Certainly not, two-thirds of the crew are always American.

But the English sailors that happen to be on board the American ships, do conduct themselves as the American sailors do?—Not always, they occasionally fly from the American ships and come to the English; they are not so well treated on board the American ships; they frequently desert.

Have you not as supercargo, received complaints on this subject from American captains?—Yes, they do apply to the chief of the factory.

Has that happened in many instances?—Not many.

Then

Then the desertions are not very frequent?—Not very.

In point of orderly conduct and good behaviour, the English sailors have conducted themselves generally on board the American ships, as well as the American sailors?—I believe they do generally.

Is the discipline on board the American ships preserved by the power of the captain?—Generally, I believe it is, but I understand it is very lax indeed, there is too great an equality between him and his men.

Is the discipline on board the English private traders which you may have seen at any time, as good as that on board the American ships?—I conceive it is preferable in some measure.

What reason have you to think, if that was the case, that the conduct of the English seamen on board private traders, would be different from the conduct of English seamen on board American ships?—I do not conceive there would be any difference between the conduct of the two, if they were equally at liberty; I believe an English sailor would be the same wherever he went.

J T Roberts,
Esq

(2 April)

Jovis, 5^o die Aprilis, 1821

The Right Honourable THOMAS WALLACE, in the Chair

James Thomas Roberts, Esq

Again called in; and Examined.

THE Committee understand you have a wish to correct one of the answers you gave on a former day, state what that correction is?—The question was, Whether monopolies would not be equally beneficial in the trade to all other countries? I meant to say, certainly, only with respect to China, governed by such institutions and laws as that country is at present.

What are the peculiar laws you allude to?—The peculiar laws of China, as to the mode of conducting the trade, which I stated in the first part of my evidence, where such extensive responsibility is required by the government, from those who are empowered to conduct the trade.

What are the particular laws to which you refer?—The particular laws which govern the empire of China, particularly with regard to the foreign trade, and their intercourse with foreigners, which require in every instance such extensive responsibility both from the merchant as well as foreigners.

Do not those responsibilities equally attach to all foreigners resorting there?—Yes; the merchants are responsible for the orderly and good conduct of all foreigners, to the government.

Do you mean the Chinese merchants?—The Chinese Hong merchants; they are not only responsible for the duties and every individual transaction with foreigners, but also responsible for the orderly and good conduct of the foreigners themselves.

Are those merchants in the habit, or have you known instances of their refusing to take such responsibilities upon them, for the conduct of other nations?—Certainly not, they are bound to do it by the laws of the government.

Then the Chinese merchants, being the persons answerable to the government, and not the representatives of the trade of those nations, what is the immediate advantage which such establishments, as those of the Company, in relation to the operation of the laws, bear, over the arrangements under which the trade of other countries is carried on?—The great influence and power which that corporate body has acquired in China, it is a power which, from the earliest period, has been increasing, and I may safely say, that no nation can enjoy the advantages which they do from this monopoly.

Does the Company possess particular advantages in the mode in which their trade is conducted, over the advantages which other countries would possess?—They do, in having the offer of the very first qualities of tea, and every other species of goods which come to Canton, which their influence and power has enabled them to obtain.

Would not the merchants of other countries, possessing the same means of pay-

J T Roberts,
Esq

(5 April)

J. T. Roberts,
Esq

(5 April)

ment, be equally enabled to purchase the best qualities of teas, and the other productions of China, on the same terms with the Company?—Certainly not, because the Company have the preference of the first offer of every thing that comes to Canton, it is that influence and power which they have acquired there, which has enabled them to preserve that predominance over every other nation.

Is the Committee to understand, that the Company possess the monopoly in Canton, of the first qualities of teas, and such other goods as they may be disposed to purchase?—Decidedly so

Supposing these exclusive privileges of the Company no longer existed, would not the superior qualities of teas be equally open to be purchased by British merchants, as the merchants of other countries?—Certainly.

What advantage can you state the Chinese merchants derive, from selling the best qualities of their teas, or other goods, to the Company, in preference to the merchants of other countries who are equally able to pay for them, and to pay for them in the same manner?—They do not derive any other particular benefit, further than securing punctual payment for every thing, and it being so much their interest at all times to keep on good terms with the Company, besides, the Company have invariably fixed prices for all teas, according to their qualities, and which are contracted for the preceding season, in return for a certain portion of woollens. On the whole, then, it is evidently much more to the Hong merchant's interest to trade with the Company, than with the casual adventurers, for the one is a permanent transaction, and the other a more casual one.

Is it not open to the merchants of other countries, to make similar contracts, and similar arrangements?—It is so, certainly, but they have not made those arrangements, nor could they do so with advantage, all the first qualities of teas and other goods, being shown first to the Company's representatives.

Presuming that the trade was open from China to British merchants, permitting them to export tea, and the other productions of that country, to the continent of Europe, would not such merchants be enabled to make their purchases on terms as advantageous as those of the Company, possessing the same means of payment?—I certainly do not think they would.

Do you assign the same reasons for not thinking they would, as you have assigned when speaking of the purchases made by the merchants of other countries?—Yes, I do

How is the trade conducted in China by the Americans?—The Americans generally import dollars into China, very few species of goods are imported by them, and then after the Company have made their selection, they come into the market and get the refuse

Is the trade conducted through the same Hong merchants that deal with the Company?—It is, in many instances; but the Americans are in the habit of dealing with the outside merchants also

Does the same responsibility attach to the Hong merchants, in respect to the Americans, as applies to the British ships?—It does exactly the same

Do the Americans make contracts with those merchants, for their tea?—They do not certainly, I believe never, I may say they generally purchase them after we have selected ours

Is that contract when made with the representatives of the Company, a contract with an individual Hong merchant, or the whole?—With the whole generally, but to a fixed extent with each, according to their respective shares of the Company's business.

Is the bargain for the supply of teas, made with them in their corporate capacity, if it may be so expressed, or individually?—Individually.

Is there any reason why, if the merchants were disposed, the contract might not be made as well by the Americans or the British private trader, as the East India Company?—I should think the merchants would not be so much disposed to make their bargains with private merchants as the Company.

But if he was so disposed?—He might do it.

If it was to his own advantage to do it, he probably would do so?—Certainly.

In that case would not the merchant so contracting, either with the American or the private merchant, give him the same teas that he now gives to the East India Company?—Certainly not, I conceive

Not if he had contracted for them?—No, he could not contract for the finer qualities, because we occupy the whole of them

If

If the Hong merchants are free to contract with individual merchants, what is the reason that they contract to supply them with any teas as well as to supply the Company?—Because the Company, in the first instance, invariably secure the very best qualities of teas, and it is not to their interest to give them to any body else; it is more to their interest to give them to the Company; it is a permanent and fixed trade carried on under fixed regulations.

But if there was any thing occurred, which made it not for their interest to give it to the Company, is there any thing in the laws or government of China, that would prevent their doing it?—Certainly not

Is it not the invariable custom of the Company to contract with the Hong merchants, for all the superior teas?—All superior black teas, and some part of the green teas; the twankays and other low green teas; the hysons are generally purchased and appreciated at Canton

So that individuals, be they Americans or foreigners, are not supplied till the Company have taken theirs?—Certainly not

And this great extent of trade, carried on by the Company, gives them advantages over individuals, as far as that is concerned?—Certainly

So that in order for other parties to have similar advantages to the Company, they ought to carry on a similar extent of dealing?—Undoubtedly so

Do you think it possible that any individuals, or association of individuals, could have those advantages?—Most certainly not the advantages which the Company have

You are perfectly acquainted with the whole of the tea trade?—Perfectly so

What parts of China do the different teas come from?—The green tea comes from Fo-kien, and different places in the green tea country; and the other from the black tea country.

What is the species of contract the East India Company make with those merchants?—They contract for the supply of the black, and a portion of the green teas, the green teas come from the northward, near the sea-coast.

Do they contract to receive the teas at a certain price?—The prices are not fixed till they come down, when they are appreciated by our own inspector; the price depends upon the quality, and rests entirely with us

Do you mean, that you yourselves fix the prices?—Undoubtedly we do, always; if after the examination of the muster chest, there is any inferiority found in the whole chop (or brake as it is called in this country) it is reduced in price according to its quality.

Do you know of any instance, in which the merchants have refused take the prices offered by the Company?—Very few instances indeed; it has been so once or twice, but rarely so.

Is there any thing in the contract which obliges the Chinese merchants to receive British goods in exchange for his tea?—It is so specified in the contract.

What goods are those?—Entirely woollens, the metals are sold separately; the woollens consist of long ells, broad cloths, and camblets

Does the Chinese merchant prefer receiving woollens, or money?—He prefers receiving the woollens, rather

Do you know how those woollens are afterwards disposed of?—They are generally disposed of to what they call the cloth shops, the retail shops in Canton, whilst many others are sent directly by the tea merchants who purchase them, in exchange for the teas; it is the Hong merchant who makes this arrangement with the tea merchant, the latter taking woollens instead of money, where there is an agreement between them.

To what extent has that been carried?—The Company annually send out about 800,000 l. in woollens.

Have they been generally sold?—Now, they are generally sold, formerly, the Company sent out double the quantity, which, as I before said, was done to assist the distressed manufacturers of this country, by which they and the Chinese merchants lost considerably, but now the quantity is reduced to a level with the consumption of China, the consequence of which is, that instead of a losing price, both the Company and the Chinese merchants obtain a gainful price

By the reduction of the quantity, it has become an advantageous trade?—Yes

Do you know in what part of China the consumption of these takes place?—In all the northern provinces, even up as high as Peking, and to the northward of Peking

J. T. Roberts,
Esq.
(5 April.)

Do they prefer those cloths to their own manufacture?—Undoubtedly they do; they have nothing equal to them.

Are they bought up eagerly?—They are gradually so; it takes a certain time, of course, to sell them; perhaps the whole quantity is nearly sold before the coming season; it is generally about the month of February when the northern boats proceed up, beginning in the commencement of the S.W. monsoon.

Are those provinces, in which they are principally consumed, very populous?—Very populous, but at the same time, very poor; it is only the better class of people that use woollens.

What description of woollens are sent out, high or low priced?—Some high priced, some low.

For which do you think there is the greatest demand?—For the low priced, commonly called long ells, they are not so fine as the broad cloths or the camblets.

The only channel through which those British manufactures can go into China, is through the medium of the Hong merchant, and the merchant with whom he deals?—Decidedly so.

Do you think that if there were more channels opened, that the consumption might be greater,—Decidedly so. It is the vast expense of sending the goods to the northward, which makes the consumption so small.

Do you think, under any circumstances, any new channels might be opened?—I am decidedly of opinion, there is no probability of new channels being opened at present.

Do you think if there was any island or situation to which the Chinese trader could come, from different parts of the coast of China, and there find a large assortment of woollens and other British manufactures suited to the Chinese taste, that a great demand for them would not be opened?—I should think not.

State the reason why?—Because the Hoppo or the superintending magistrate over the European trade, would make such representations to the Emperor, that I think nobody would be allowed to import woollens into any other port.

Do you mean, that no Chinese boats would be permitted to take them?—I should think not, decidedly not.

Do you not know, that a very considerable trade with the islands, is now carried on in Chinese junks?—There is a considerable trade, but not in woollens.

Do you know in what it does consist?—Principally Malay produce, betel nuts, edible birds nests, hides, pepper, and various other things.

Do you know whether cotton manufactures are introduced through that channel?—I believe not, certainly.

Do all the vessels that carry on that trade, belong to the port of Canton?—No, they do not; they come from the ports to the northward, principally Amoy.

What reason have you for thinking, that if in conjunction with those things they do bring, they should bring also European woollens to different parts of the coast of China, that such a trade would be interfered with, or put a stop to?—If it was to be to any extent, I feel assured it would be put a stop to; but I do not think it does exist to any extent, or at all, no European goods are imported into any other ports of China.

Is not the coast of China divided into large governments, similar to that of Canton?—It is so.

Is not it advantageous to Canton to have a communication through it, for the introduction of British commodities?—It certainly is; that is apparent from the great wealth which Canton exhibits above every province of the empire.

Would it not be equally advantageous to every other province on the coast?—Decidedly so, if to the same extent.

What reason have you for thinking, that the influence of the Hoppo of Canton would prevail against the influence of the governor of any province, who wished to introduce those commodities?—Because it is a regular appointment, which he purchases at Pekin, for a considerable sum of money; and therefore it is natural to suppose, that if such a trade was to be interfered with, he would make such representations to the Emperor, as would prevent it.

Is it only upon that presumption, you think they would not be permitted to come into other places?—Yes, undoubtedly so.

The Committee see in the evidence given by you, some time ago, that you state yourself to think, that if certain impediments in China were removed, double and treble the quantity of British goods might be imported into China?—Yes I did.

State

State the impediments to which you refer?—Not having more ports in China than one, it is the vast expense of transporting the woollens to the northward, that makes them so little consumed; whereas if other ports were opened to the northward, we might export double and treble the quantity. China contains a vast population, consisting of about 133 millions.

As far as you have observed, do you think that the Chinese population are desirous of our manufactures?—Certainly they are, they admire them very much.

And they would, if not prevented by those regulations, consume more?—Yes, and the enhanced prices, for every mandarin has a large fee on every piece, in their way up the country.

The great impediment is the duties they pay in passing through each province, to get to the north of China?—Yes, it is.

You think, that if we could, by any means, have communications with the parts to the north-west of China, that it would be the means of very much increasing the consumption of British goods in that part?—Decidedly so.

Have any attempts been made, on the part of the Company, to obtain a communication with any of those parts?—One of the objects of the late embassy under Lord Amherst, was, I believe, to open a communication with other parts.

Does the objection, to admitting our trade into other parts of China, arise from their apprehensions of the conduct of our people, or from a dislike to encourage the trade?—It arises from the general policy of the government, to keep a proper control over other nations.

Would that apply to a trade in Chinese junks, without the intervention of Europeans?—I conceive it would, certainly.

In what way?—From the reasons I have already stated; from the influence of the Hoppo at Canton.

Do you think that the Chinese, if they were permitted to do so, would be likely to receive our cotton manufactures?—From my own information, I do not consider there is a very great demand in China for our cotton manufactures, therefore I do not think that would be the case, but that the evil may be got over, for being so cheap, they may buy them at the same price as their own.

How are the lower orders clothed in China?—Principally in cotton manufactured goods of their own manufacture from Bengal wool, and also the growth of their own provinces; the higher classes are clothed in silks or fine woollens and velvets.

Is this clothing of the lower and middle ranks of the Chinese, the produce of their own manufacture?—Decidedly it is.

From whence do they derive the cotton?—Principally from Bengal, but there is a great deal grown in China, which is far superior to India cotton.

Do you know whether that cotton is grown in great quantities?—It is, in very large quantities; and I understand it has lately increased.

Has it been made applicable to the clothing of the people?—Decidedly so, they do not export any raw cotton themselves.

Are the middle and lower ranks of the Chinese rich, generally?—Not generally so, rather poor.

Would it not be a very considerable object to them, to have their clothing as cheap as they could?—Certainly it would; but it should be recollected, that there are some millions of people dependent upon the cotton manufactures, and if we were to attempt to introduce any considerable quantity, such restrictive regulations would be imposed, as would render the speculation disadvantageous.

Has the speculation ever been tried?—I believe it has, in some instances.

Do you know in what instances?—I believe the Americans have lately taken some out, but from every information I have obtained, they have generally proved losing concerns; and the latest accounts from China gave me to understand, that the Canton market is inundated with Manchester goods.

Do you know whether those Manchester goods had at any time, a considerable sale?—They had not, I believe, generally.

None of those have been sent out by the Company?—About six or seven years ago they made a consignment, which turned out so ruinous, they did not renew it till last year, when a second experimental consignment was made, but the result of it has not yet been ascertained.

Are many of those cottons carried out by the Company's officers?—They are generally carried out by them in their private trade.

Latterly, they have been carried out by the Americans?—Yes, and woollens also.

J. T. Roberts,
Esq.

(5 April.)

The Americans had been accustomed, previously, to carry out dollars?—Yes, undoubtedly.

If the Americans did not conceive it to be more advantageous to carry out the manufactures of this country than dollars, do you think they would have done so?—No, I do not, there is a great deal of smuggling going on in China, which gives them a great advantage; and I believe, in most instances, the cotton goods have been smuggled.

Do you know any thing of the cotton manufactures of China, the establishments?—Yes, I have seen several.

Where are they?—Principally near Canton

What numbers do they consist of?—It is impossible to say; I suppose, some hundreds of thousands of people, whole families subsist by them; it is done a great deal by women.

Do you mean by that answer, that they are employed in the manufacture of it, or in the preparation of the cotton?—In the manufacture of it, both, indeed.

Do you know what price the manufactured cotton, for the clothing of the people, bears in China?—I cannot say I recollect at present, I have no memorandum by me.

Do you think, from any recollection you have of the prices, that the British manufacturers, if they had free access to China, could undersell them?—I should think not, certainly.

Do you know at all, the fact of the British manufactures having undersold the Indian manufactures in the market of India?—I have heard such to be the case, that the manufactures of this country have undersold India, in consequence of which, there is a great deal of poverty existing in India from that very cause.

Do you think, if they have succeeded in underselling the manufactures of India, there is any reason why they should not, if permitted to come in competition with them, equally undersell the manufactures of China?—I should think not, but I have no memorandum as to the relative prices between the two.

You are aware of the great increase of the American trade, in a few years?—It has greatly increased

To what causes do you attribute that?—In some measure from the increased population of America, and likewise from their having been the principal carriers of Europe since the peace of 1814

Do you know at what price the American ships sail?—I understand they can afford to sail from about 40 or 45 dollars a ton, the direct voyage from America to China.

Do you know whether they return to America, or go direct to the ports of Europe?—Sometimes they go from China to America direct, at other times they come to the continent of Europe, and very often return back again without going to America

Do you know at what freight a British ship would sail?—I think on the same terms, at the present low price of shipping materials.

You see no reason, if the same facility was afforded to British ships, against their becoming the carriers of Europe as well as the Americans?—No, none.

You have stated, that there has been latterly an increase of the American trade has that increase of the American trade interfered with the power or interests of the Company?—Not at all, at present

Has the power of the Company increased, within the same number of years in which the American trade has increased?—I think it has. I think the Company's power in China is yearly increasing

If the power of the Company has increased at the same time that the American trade has, what reason have you to think that the power of the Company would be diminished by the admission of free traders to the port of Canton?—By their not having that control over British private traders which they have over their own ships (there is a great difference between the private ships,) there is order and discipline in the Company ships, but in the private ships there is none. The commanders and officers of the Company's ships are bred up in the service, and have an interest in the welfare of the ship and cargo, whereas in the private ships, the officers and men have nothing but their pay to depend upon, and consequently they cannot have that control over their ships which the Company's officers have.

But the Company can have no control over the Americans?—No; but the American sailor is more orderly than the English

What objections are there to the supercargoes in Canton having authority over the
small

small ships that go there?—There is, at present, no objection; but it is impossible to suppose they can have that control over them, nor would their directions be so well obeyed; there is not that binding interest between the two.

What is the binding interest that exists among the private sailors in the Company's ships?—I was speaking of the commanders and officers, between whom and the Company there is a strong binding interest.

What is that binding interest?—They have a tonnage in the voyage

What is the interest of the men?—They have no interest, only there are better regulations; there are fixed regulations in an Indiaman, for the conduct of the men, which there are not in a private ship.

Have not the captain and officers of private ships the same interest, in conciliating the good-will, and gaining the favour of the owners of the ship, as the officers and captain have of the Company's ships?—I should think not so eminently, they have an interest certainly, but not so binding a one as the interests of the officers of the Company's ships.

If the government were to vest an authority in the chief supercargo, over those private ships that go there, similar to that they now have from the Company over their officers and ships, would that remove your apprehensions from private ships going there?—It would, in some measure, but I never can conceive that the Company's representative would have that control over the private ships as over their own.

What control have the supercargoes of the Company over the numerous country ships?—They have a considerable control. In the first place they are bound, in taking out their licences in India, to obey all such regulations in China as we may chuse to give them; consequently they put themselves under our authority when they resort there.

Then, a similar authority granted over the small ships that go from this country, that you at present possess over country ships, would make the smaller ships equally as innoxious as the country ships have been?—It would, certainly, if they were bound to obey it, with this difference, that there is a great dissimilarity between native sailors and British sailors; the former are more controllable.

Are there a number of seacunnies, or quarter-masters on board the country ships?—They are principally Portuguese or Spaniards.

You stated in your evidence the other day, that danger would arise from the liberty the sailors might have in small ships going to China, might it not be withheld from the sailors of small ships?—I much doubt whether they would submit to it.

Have you been in the habit of seeing small ships come from Batavia to China, that have gone out with convicts?—Yes.

Has any disturbance arisen in China, through small ships?—Frequently, most of the men have deserted from those ships to ours. I have always found them disorderly, and they have even threatened to disobey their commanders.

During the time you have been in India, have the supercargoes ever had occasion to interfere upon that subject?—I do not recollect it, but I know instances have occurred where we have interfered.

They are not of frequent occurrence?—No, they are not.

Do you not think, that the same disorderly character you attribute to the British sailors in the merchant ships coming to China, would have produced very considerable difficulty, in carrying on the trade of Great Britain with any other country in the world?—No, I do not see that it would interpose any difficulties, certainly not. All other countries are different from China, the laws are so severe in China; besides there is a proper police in other countries to control the disorderly conduct of sailors, which there is not in China.

If this character belonged to the British seamen, which you attribute to them, would it not be felt in all the trade carried on in different parts of the world, in British ships and by British seamen?—No, because I think the laws of other countries are amply sufficient to punish any offence of the kind; but I have no doubt there is the same want of discipline in private ships trading to other countries as China.

Have you any knowledge of the British trade to other countries, that enables you to say, whether any difficulties have at any time arisen or not?—I do not recollect any instances of difficulties having arisen; I have a general knowledge of the trade of other countries, but not so generally as the trade to China and India.

You have stated in your evidence, that danger would arise from ships going to

J. T. Roberts,
Esq.

(5 April)

the northern parts of China; is it within your recollection, that Mr. Shank sent a vessel to the north?—It is.

Did any disturbance arise with the government, from that circumstance?—No, but the ship was immediately sent away, and no cargo allowed to land; she went to Amoy.

When did that happen?—I think in the year 1808 or 1809.

Did she go from Canton?—She came from India, and went direct to Amoy.

Had you any information of it at Canton?—We knew before she was going there; it was a previous arrangement; they thought they should be able to land a cargo, but the man who had arranged it, went himself to Amoy for the purpose, and found himself grossly deceived.

He did not meet the market he expected?—The mandarin would not allow him to land the cargo, unless he would pay a very exorbitant price; that was said to be the reason at the time.

That price was too high to allow him to land the cargo?—Yes; but such is the venality of the government, I believe they would do any thing, if you would pay them for it.

Had he been able to make his bargain with the mandarin, he would have been allowed to land his cargo?—He would, certainly.

Are you aware, that the trade of the Americans is a great deal more than that of the Company, to China?—No, I do not think it is, it has been in the last year or two, in point of value, but not in tonnage; the reason of that is, that they take so much more manufactured silks than we do, which makes their cargoes come to more than the Company, but they do not take so much tea.

You have stated, that the Company have the preference of every thing from the Hong, as well as that of tea, if the trade of the Americans is a great deal more than that of the Company, and they take more silks than the Company, upon what principle do the Hong merchants give the preference of silk to the Americans?—Because the Company do not require manufactured silks, they are prohibited in this country.

The Committee wish to extend the question to any other produce of China, but teas?—The Company's exportations from China are limited to certain articles, and they have the preference of those articles; they do not export cassia or rhubarb, or those trifling articles, the staple articles are teas, nankeens, and raw silk.

You export nankeens and raw silk?—Yes.

Do you imagine you have the preference in those, over the Americans?—No doubt, we always contract for them, and have the very best that come down to the market.

Suppose I make a contract with the Houqua, for all the first class of nankeens he can purchase in the market of Canton, in that case would the Company get any of the first class of nankeens?—The Houqua would not make the contract with you in preference to the Company, knowing the Company take a regular supply of nankeens, he would not dare come to you with any of them till they were served.

How do you dispose of the Company's cotton from India?—It is carried to the merchants general account.

In barter for teas?—Not in barter, it is carried to the account.

Your trade with the Chinese, is altogether in barter?—Certainly not, because in many seasons when we are in want of cash, we often make the merchants pay in cash for the raw cotton.

Do you know of any quantity of cotton imported from Manilla?—A small quantity is imported from Manilla; it is a very fine cotton.

Does this cotton fetch a much higher price in Canton, than our cotton?—I almost forget, but I rather think it does fetch a higher price than our cotton.

You have stated, in answer to a former question, that the laws of other countries are sufficient to control our seamen, is it your opinion that the laws of China are not sufficient to control our seamen?—Certainly not, they never interfere with trifling matters; only the great offences such as murders; they never interfere with affrays.

Do you think that the intercourse between China and the East Indian islands could be extended?—No, I do not think it could be much extended; there is a trade carried on by junks from Amoy, but it is a very limited trade; they are very often out one, two, and three years, before they can get a cargo, they go to the islands to the eastward of Batavia; and there is a tacit agreement between them and the independent

J. T. Robarts,
Esq.
(5 April)

Independent rajahs governing those islands, which gives them the monopoly of that particular trade, which is denied to Europeans.

What islands do you speak of?—Celebes, New Guinea, and all the way to the eastward; I do not immediately recollect them.

Do you mean to say, there is not a considerable trade with Java, Borneo, and other islands?—Yes, that is more to the southward.

The question applies generally to the Eastern Archipelago?—Yes, there is undoubtedly a very large trade carried on there both from India and China.

Do you conceive that that trade between China and the Eastern Archipelago may be extended?—I do not think it can be much more extended than at present.

Do you mean, that the respective wants of the countries are not likely to increase?—I speak from the respective productions of the different islands.

In saying that the intercourse is not likely to be extended, do you allude to the regulations of the Netherland government?—Yes; I have understood that the Netherland government have it in contemplation to put all those places that belong to them, under one general system that shall secure the monopoly of this trade in their own hands, to the exclusion of foreigners.

Do you speak, in that last answer, from recent and authentic intelligence?—From recent and authentic accounts.

Are those accounts accompanied with any facts which tend to prove that the Dutch have this intention?—They are in some measure, because I understand they claim the Island of Singapore, where we have formed a new settlement, of which our right to maintain it is disputed, and which yet remains to be settled between the Company and the Netherland government.

Are you acquainted with the extent of the demand for our manufactures in the Islands of the Eastern Archipelago?—No, I am not particularly acquainted with that; I have understood that there is a great demand for them, I have been in the habit of collecting information from various parts, from having been engaged in the trade.

Have you any knowledge, which enables you to judge of the effect that would be produced upon the intercourse between China and the Eastern Islands, and between the Eastern Islands and this country, if a more liberal system of commerce were adopted by the Dutch?—No, I should think not any very considerable increase of the trade would take place, if any other system than that at present pursued by the Dutch, was to be adopted, the length of time occupied in getting the cargo, would prevent it.

You mean the return cargo?—I mean the cargo calculated for China; there is no cargo in these islands calculated for England or India, excepting pepper, and that is generally produced at Bencoolen, on the coast of Sumatra, which belongs to us.

Then supposing, after disposing of my English cargo in the Archipelago, I might go to China for a return cargo, what would be the effect of such a system as that?—It would give certain advantages, no doubt of it, to the British private trader.

If I might get such a return cargo, do you think that it would increase the consumption and exportation of British manufactures in the Eastern Archipelago?—No, I should not think it would.

Has the demand for cotton manufactures increased of late?—It is said, it has, they sell them so cheap, and imitate the patterns, there is a demand, but the difficulty is, in getting a cargo for China.

You conceive that the want of the power of getting their cargoes, which they receive in the Eastern Islands, carried on to China, is a great obstruction, and a great injury to the trade of those Islands?—Yes, I do.

Is there much tea brought from China to those islands?—Very little indeed.

If the tea might be brought from those islands to Europe, do you conceive much tea would be brought in junks?—I should think not. I should think regulations would be made to prevent it, because it would injure the trade from Canton and the interests of the Hoppo.

If the Chinese permit the Americans to trade from Canton to any part of the world, why should they prevent the junks from bringing tea to the Eastern Archipelago?—They do not prevent them, they do carry tea in some measure, but not to any great extent.

If there was a demand in those islands for tea as a return cargo to Europe, do you not conceive that it would be brought in greater quantities?—I conceive it would.

J. T. Roberts,
Esq.

(5 April)

If it was made lawful to bring tea from the Eastern Archipelago to other parts of the world than Great Britain, what would be the effect of such a system, in your opinion?—I should think it could not be brought so cheap from there as from China direct, but if the Chinese junks were to go down loaded with tea, it would be purchased by people resorting there

Do you not think that one natural consequence would be, an increased market for our manufactures in those Eastern islands?—I should think not; certainly not.

Do you conceive that a British trader would bring teas to foreign Europe from those islands, at as cheap a rate as the American brings them from Canton?—I should certainly think not, because he would have the freight to pay from China to those islands, and the profit which the Chinese would demand upon those teas, and therefore he had better go to Canton for those teas.

The question supposes that there was a partial opening of the trade, that we might bring teas from those islands to Europe?—I should rather think that it would not be a very profitable trade carried on from those islands.

You say that a certain increase in the demand for our manufactures, has taken place in the Eastern islands?—I have so heard.

From what cause?—From the cheapness at which they are sold.

If while this cheapness continues, there was an increased supply, do you not think the consumption would increase?—No.

State your reasons for it?—Because I conceive there is a limited demand for those goods, I think the quantity sent out is equal to the consumption, and I do not think it is likely to be increased to any greater extent.

Have you ever known a Company's ship find difficulty in filling up her cargo from the Malacca Straits, in coming to China?—Repeated instances of late, where they have not been able to procure a cargo from Malacca Straits or Prince of Wales island.

Veneris, 6^o die Aprilis, 1821.

The Right Honourable THOMAS WALLACE, in the Chair.

Mr. John Hare,

Called in; and Examined.

Mr
John Hare

(6 April)

WHAT are you?—I am a merchant.

Engaged in what trade?—The India trade.

Have you been long engaged in that trade?—Some years, I have been a considerable time in India, I have not been long in this country; only since last November

In what part of India have you been?—In Bengal, Madras, and Malacca, and the Malay Archipelago

Have you been much in the Malay Archipelago?—Yes, I resided there about five years

Where did you reside?—About three years of the time on Java, and eight months of the time at Banjar Massin

Of course you are acquainted with the trade carried on amongst those islands?—Yes I am, certainly

And with the character of the islanders?—Yes, as well as most people that have had opportunities of being there, can be.

State the nature of the trade carried on amongst those islands?—It is partly between India, China, and those islands, partly between Europe and those islands; and partly between the islands themselves, it is very various.

What are the exports of Europe that find a sale there?—They principally are iron, glass ware, and cotton goods, those are the most important; but every species of British manufactures go there, partly for the consumption of the Europeans that go there, and their descendants, and also for the natives; for the natives, iron and cotton are the most material.

Has the export of cotton been increasing latterly?—Very rapidly increasing.

Can you state any facts with reference to that?—When I first went to Java

in 1816, on the native habiliments you could not perceive one article of British manufacture, and now they are very generally clothed with British cottons

Do you think that the export is likely to increase?—I have not the least doubt of it

Does it pass directly to the islands, or through Java?—Almost entirely through Java at present

In what ships is it carried on from Java to the islands?—Mostly in ships with Dutch colours, almost entirely; some of them are owned by British individuals, but the majority by the Dutch, and a great number by Arabs and Chinese

Are you aware of any reason why that trade should not be carried on directly from this country, except the regulations of the East India Company, and in the ships of this country?—I conceive it would be very much to the advantage of the merchants here, to carry on the trade direct, because they have to pay 16 per cent on the importation into Java.

What is the size of the ships?—From 150 to 200 tons; some much less.

Do you think there is great advantage in being able to carry on the trade in ships of that size?—No, I do not conceive there would always be necessarily any advantage, provided it was possible for a British ship to convey the manufactures to the ports where they were chiefly consumed, and where returns could be procured; there could be no advantage in using them, except under particular circumstances.

Could vessels of all kinds go?—Undoubtedly they generally might

You would see no advantage in the permission being obtained for ships of a smaller size than those permitted to go under the existing law, being permitted to carry on the trade with that part?—With reference to the interest of the merchant here, I should think there often might be benefit, but it has generally been considered that a very small vessel is not so advisable for long voyages, I should think the merchants here would very often prefer a small vessel as the Americans do

Is there any considerable danger of pirates in small vessels?—No, unless you go with very small vessels indeed; and then not if you are armed

Are the pirates numerous?—Since the British flag was removed from Java, they have increased.

What sized vessel should you think affording security against the attacks of the pirates?—I have had the management and part ownership of two schooners of about 100 tons, which have been constantly backwards and forwards in the Java sea, and I have never felt the smallest danger in sending them

Do you recollect any instances during the time you were in India, of European vessels being attacked by pirates?—I do, there was a very small schooner attacked not very long before I left Java, about a year before I left Java, but it was under particular circumstances, when close alongside an island that had pirates upon it; and I understood from one of the individuals, that it would not have taken place, had it not been for the imprudence of the Europeans

Do you recollect any instances of any vessels being seized by the natives they were trading with?—Yes, there was a most particular instance at Sambas, a vessel from Manila, she was seized by the Sultan of Sambas, just after the British flag had been removed from Java, and at the time when the Sultan of Sambas was forming designs for the destruction of Pontiana, a rival power in the vicinity

What was the size of that vessel?—I cannot exactly speak to that, I imagine it was a considerable vessel, perhaps 200 tons.

Was she in the harbour at the time?—Yes, and they had contracted for some goods, which were weighing at the period of the capture.

She was taken by surprize?—Yes, and the Dutch commissioner of Sambas I believe afterwards came over in the same vessel to Java, which rendered it the subject of conversation

Would this have been guarded against, if the vessel had been of a larger size?—No, I think 200 tons, which I suppose her to have been, was sufficiently large for any purpose requisite, it must have been from some particular circumstance; the Sultan of Sambas had been a piratical power, suppressed by the English under Sir Stamford Raffles

Under what circumstances did you reside at Banjar Massin?—I went over from Java to my brother, who was at that time the honourable Company's resident there, and commissioner for increasing the communication or connexion with the Bornean states generally; at that time Sir Stamford Raffles had just left Java, and was succeeded by Mr Fendal the new lieutenant governor; when I went over to my brother, he did not know of these circumstances, but very soon obtained intelligence

Mr.
John Hare
(6 April)

of the change of government in Java, and received instructions to proceed as early as possible to Batavia, to prepare for the relinquishment of the settlement; as he had no European there but myself, I remained as his locum tenens during his absence, and until the commission from Java came to negotiate the relinquishment or abandonment of the place.

Can you give the Committee the particulars of the formation of that settlement?—
My brother was a merchant at Malacca for ten years anterior to the British expedition to take possession of Java, during which time Sir Stamford Raffles was there as agent for the government of India with the Malay states; during that time he was particularly intimate with my brother, and about that time my brother had communications from the Sultan of Banjar Massin, through his trading vessels, of which he had several navigating those seas, and by an agent sent on purpose from the Sultan of Banjar Massin, to communicate to him the dangerous precarious situation of his, the Sultan's, affairs, in consequence of the Dutch having abandoned his country, and of the Sultan of Sambas being in connection with the pirates on the eastern side of the island, to attack his kingdom, which rendered it desirable for him to have the assistance of an European force; he had made some application I believe, to the government of Prince of Wales's Island for the same object, but unsuccessfully, my brother being at that time well known throughout the whole Malay Archipelago, from his long residence and extensive commercial concerns, the application was made to him to permit some of his vessels to remain at Banjar Massin, and to form a commercial connexion at the place. Previous to the attempt to take Java, he had intended to form a commercial establishment at Banjar Massin, but upon Lord Minto coming down with the expedition, he communicated to him and Sir Stamford Raffles the overtures that had been made to him; he likewise explained that Banjar Massin was entirely distinct from the authority of the Dutch, having been specifically abandoned by the act of Marshal Daendels; on that account he considered it a situation peculiarly well suited for forming a permanent British establishment, as it would not necessarily be involved in the surrender of the island of Java, should that ever take place. It appeared to meet Lord Minto's particular attention, and my brother, who had the supply of the expedition at Malacca, proceeded in one of his own vessels to Java, with the expedition, not with any decided view to public employment, but as a merchant; when there Sir Stamford Raffles had communications on the subject with Lord Minto, who had likewise, I believe, had communications with my brother, and it was determined, and, I believe, mentioned in the minutes of instruction from Lord Minto to Sir Stamford Raffles, to form an establishment at Banjar Massin; soon after that my brother was appointed as resident at Banjar Massin, and commissioner for the Bornean states, by the Lieutenant Governor Sir Stamford Raffles, and afterwards confirmed by the Governor General in council, at Bengal; he proceeded there, and made a treaty with the Sultan, the basis of which treaty was, the perfect freedom of the sultan from Dutch authority; the treaty surrendered to the East India Company very valuable and extensive territories, the rates of the port, and various other privileges of importance to the Company; he then returned to Java. On his return, the government of Java was considerably distressed with a number of Javanese convicts that were in the prisons, from the lieutenant governor not having the power of punishing them by death, as under the Dutch government; the prisons being only built of bamboo, rendering it necessary that the person should be confined in a species of stocks, it became absolutely necessary essentially to provide some mode of getting rid of them, by transportation; some were, I believe, sent to the Isle of France, but the voyage being extremely long, it was not approved; others were sent to Coremon Java, a small island in the straits, where a convict establishment was attempted, but failed from the insalubrity of the air; a suggestion was then made, I believe, to send the convicts to Banjar Massin, and numbers were sent there, which formed a colony of Javanese in a part of the country almost uninhabited; at that time my brother had the privilege of trade, which was peculiar, and it was his intention, and sanctioned by government, to invest his own capital in forwarding the views of the settlement, which he did to a very large amount; he received at that time a grant of land from the Sultan of Banjar Massin, but under the authority and sanction of the lieutenant governor of Java, and, I believe, of the governor general in council subsequently. He remained there for some time, establishing connexions with the adjacent ports, and interior inhabitants, the Diac Beaju, a most barbarous race, and generally arranging the affairs of the settlement; he had scarcely accomplished forming

forming these arrangements when I came over to him, and brought intelligence of Sir Stamford Raffles being superseded by the new government, who were adverse to the whole connexion with Borneo; he then proceeded to Java, and left me on the place until the commission came from Java under the authority of the new government, who negotiated the abandonment of the place, and removed the convict colony to Java, they were carried back and refused admittance on Java by the Dutch government, in consequence of being convicts; they remained a considerable time on ship board, and at last were subjected to a new trial, although previously emancipated by the British from all punishment, many of them were sent to Banda, Banca, and others were liberated entirely.

Mr.
John Hare.
(6 April)

Was Banjar Massin so situated as to make it a convenient emporium for the exchange of the articles of the island with the continent?—I conceive it would have been of the first importance as such an emporium to the British, subsequent to the surrender of Java, but previous to that event, secondary.

Was there any British military force at Banjar Massin after the settlement was approved of?—A small military force; but with reference to the force it could not be called English, there were no English among them, it was a military force mostly raised out of the convicts, and officered by themselves, something analogous to a fencible force.

While you were there, was any and what sort of trade carried on?—The valuable trade between Java and Banjar Massin is in salt.

Was any trade carried on while you were there?—Yes, a considerable trade; a variety of Buggis vessels were in the habit of coming there, Chinese junks came there; a number of English vessels and Arab vessels

Did the trade increase while you were there?—It increased during the time my brother had the management of the port I was only there a few months, and that was during the change of the government; during the short time it was under the British government, it had increased, I think, upon the whole.

Do you mean the trade in salt was an import trade, or do they make it?—It is made in Java, and imported at Banjar Massin.

It was made for the consumption of the other islands?—Yes, and the consumption of Java itself,

Is there any now imported from Java?—At present the Dutch government have taken it into their own hands.

Is there much internal trade from Banjar Massin to the interior of Borneo?—There is a very large population; the internal trade was principally confined to salt, and a few of the cotton goods from Bengal, such articles as were brought primarily to Java, and secondarily to Banjar Massin

Were there any British woollens brought there?—Very few

Was there any demand for them?—Only for the clothing of the chiefs.

Was there any demand for cottons?—Cottons were a little bought when I was there I know a few came round from Bengal

What are the exports of Banjar Massin?—Chiefly gold, diamonds, rattans and garro wood, a sort of wood burnt for incense

Any thing calculated for the European market?—Pepper, very largely.

Of a good quality?—Very good, the best that comes to the market

Was Banjar Massin given up to the Dutch, or merely the establishment given up?—It was refused specifically to be given up to the Dutch, my brother had explained, particularly by letter to his government, the situation of affairs there, and the government refused to give it up to the Dutch, but abandoned it to the power of the Sultan

Has the Sultan since formed any connexion with the Dutch?—He has.

Have the Dutch any settlement there?—They have, they formed it while I was there.

Are any pirate vessels fitted out from Banjar Massin?—None there were formerly some frequented Coobai, Passir, and Pagattan

Have you resided at any settlement in the Archipelago, at which there was a Dutch establishment, either military or commercial?—During the last two months I was at Banjar Massin, there was a Dutch establishment; it was formed during the time I was there; I remained there with the British commissioners, situated upon this spot of land, independent of the Dutch and Sultan's authority

You have been in no other parts, of which the Dutch were in possession?—I have been in various Dutch possessions on Java

Mr
John Hare,
(6 April)

The question alludes to native ports, where the Dutch have the management?—I have never resided at any of the other out-ports; my brother had been at Ponteana to negotiate the treaty with the Sultan, and had particular knowledge of that settlement and its situation. at present, it is, I believe, something in the situation the question describes; a Dutch establishment is formed there, without having territory.

Have you any means of judging, whether such establishments are useful in the prevention of piracy?—I think I can state, most decidedly, they are. When my brother went to Banjar Massin, previous to that establishment being formed, Cootai, Passir, and Pagattan on the one coast, with several minor ports upon the other, were piratical ports; but by introducing an extension of European authority, and the protection of trade to those ports, the piracy had entirely ceased.

You mean, that the natives turned from piratical habits to peaceful habits?—Those piratical individuals, that had ascendancy, were driven from the ports, and the natives returned to the peaceful habits of trade.

How were they driven away?—It is very common for trading vessels, from piratical ports in Celebes, to assume a temporary power at ports where there is no strong government, and when the rightful sovereigns were supported by the authority of the British, those pirates were driven from the ports; it is my brother's opinion, that piracy arises from the want of protection being given to trade.

Do you conceive, that the trade of European nations generally, in those seas, is promoted by the establishment of European authority or influence in the native ports?—Trade must be extended and facilitated by European establishments; but when those establishments are adverse to the party trading, it is the reverse; as it is at present at Ponteana, where the Dutch share one-half of the port-duties, and are unfavourable to the British.

Would not the introduction of commercial dealings with the inhabitants of those islands, upon fair and liberal grounds, in all probability lessen the number of pirates?—I have not the least hesitation in saying that it would.

Do you consider yourself as having a general acquaintance with the character and habits of the Malays?—I have reason to believe, from the opportunities I have enjoyed, and the attention I have paid to the subject, that I have a competent knowledge of their character

Does that lead you to believe, that the demand for British manufactures among them is likely to be increased?—Most undoubtedly it does; and from the experience I have had, I should have no hesitation upon the subject, because it has increased in the four or five years I have resided among them; materially increased.

From that you except the island of Borneo, at least the part you resided on?—No, I do not, it should be considered, the short period I resided there, and even during that time, there was a trade introduced in British manufactures, which would not have taken place if the British had not been there.

In what articles do you apprehend such increase might take place?—During the time that Ponteana was an independent state, or connected with the British, a very extensive commerce took place between Bengal, Prince of Wales island, and Ponteana, in cotton goods, 150 chests of opium were annually shipped from Bengal for Ponteana, and a very great quantity of piece goods and chintzes from the coast of India. The same trade was, in some degree, carried on to Banjar Massin through Malacca, after Banjar Masin was independent of the Dutch. It is only latterly the British manufactures, even in Java, have gained ground over the Indian manufactures, and in time they would every where.

You are speaking of Java?—Yes, and when I speak of it, under the present government, I speak of it as the chief road through which the British goods find their way to the whole of the Malay Archipelago.

Are the habits of the Javanese, and those of the Malay small islands, nearly similar?—No; there is a very considerable difference, to a person who has had an opportunity of studying their characteristics.

State the nature of the dissimilarity, as far as it relates to the question of extending the commercial intercourse of the consumption of our manufactures?—Generally speaking, the people in the interior of those islands, are a very different race from those upon the coast. In the interior of a fine country similar to Java, people have rural habits, are of peaceful dispositions, and disinclined to dis-social qualities. Upon the coast where the government is strong, and the trade protected, they

they are equally a fair dealing, but a more bold race. In islands that are barren and unproductive, where no European trade or native trade has been attracted from the produce of the soil, they are given to gambling, cock-fighting, and are very frequently loose in principle, but in the character, even of the Malay so situated, there are some qualities of a commendable nature, which are not found among the quieter people of Java, in fact qualities, which, if brought forward by cultivation, I conceive would lead to greater results. They are bold, and in many respects have considerably the character of the highlanders of Scotland.

Are the inhabitants of the interior of Borneo quite barbarous?—They are, generally; the gradations of barbarity increasing, as the distance extends from the coast, and as the country becomes less populous.

Would the establishment at Banjar Massin require a strong force to protect it against the inhabitants?—It certainly would not, very little force indeed.

Does Banjar Massin lie in the track that the Chinese junks take in going from China, to trade with the Moluccas?—It does.

Is there a commodious port?—Yes, there is a very considerable river, and a large bay at the mouth of it; the place where the Dutch have established their port is considerably up the river, and perhaps not in the most convenient situation.

It is a large harbour capable of containing any number of ships?—The bay is very large, and capable of containing any number of ships, but the river has a bar at the mouth, which makes it, at certain times, not so convenient.

Does that bar alter with the tides?—Yes, it does, the depth of water of course alters.

Has the bar increased the difficulties of this passage lately?—I do not think it has increased by any means, it appears, from Captain Beckman, who gives the principal old account of the place, that it is pretty much in the same situation as to the state of the bar, I do not think there is much difference.

What is the depth of water?—I cannot exactly state that, without referring to a memorandum.

What sized ships could go over the bar for trade?—Two hundred and fifty tons, or three hundred tons, or larger.

Could ships be built in that river?—Ships could be built undoubtedly, but it is not the most convenient place for ship-building, other rivers are deeper at the mouth, and have not that bar.

In speaking of the tonnage, do you mean register tonnage or dead weight?—Register tonnage.

You say you have been concerned in two vessels, how were they manned?—Entirely with Javanese, with one European captain.

Did you apprehend any danger from the pirates, in those small vessels?—Never; the vessels have gone up and down constantly without the slightest danger.

Were they armed at all?—They had a few muskets, and perhaps two guns, sometimes one of them had four.

What number might the crew consist of, in each vessel?—About sixteen or seventeen.

Did piracy among those islanders become less frequent during the government of Sir Stamford Raffles?—The difference was extreme, the piracy in the Straits was almost entirely annihilated, it was not known during the time of the British government, I mean in the Java sea, which runs between Borneo and Java, that portion which has Java on the one side, and Borneo on the other; the pirates seldom entered into that; but since the Dutch have raised their flag on Java, they have frequented the sea, insomuch that I have seen a pirate vessel clear off the fishing-boats from the whole beach of a town.

Be good enough to state to what causes you ascribe this change?—There is a general opinion, that the Dutch have not the power on the seas that the British had. The vessels I am now speaking of, are principally merely pirate boats, not ships, they are coast-robbers more properly speaking, and of no importance to an armed vessel, or to a vessel of any size, some of these small pirates are said to inhabit Java itself, upon the coast, but they are of no consideration.

Would you be apprehensive of forming an establishment in the neighbourhood of those pirates?—In those parts that are called piratical, my brother did form establishments, and went to visit them himself, and the piracy was completely abandoned; it only existed through the poverty of the place.

Should you feel any objection on account of the pirates, for instance, in making an establishment at Mindinao?—I should feel no hesitation with a small force, to

Mr.
John Harr.
(6 April)

visit or establish there, although I am unacquainted particularly with the place; the Illanon pirates from that island however, are the most formidable.

From your experience, do you think that a merchant going alone in a country vessel with natives, to one of those ports, and acting conciliatory, would have any thing to apprehend?—I think not, if he conducted himself with proper discretion, and knew the language.

Would that difficulty be obviated if the people on board knew the language, if he did not?—It would not be so well certainly

Do you suppose if one merchant, your brother or yourself, were left at liberty to fix yourselves in any of those islands where you thought a profitable commerce would arise, if you had the permission of our government, and had no apprehensions from the Dutch government, that mercantile establishments might be formed at those different favourable ports throughout the Archipelago, to collect produce for those merchants who might send goods to be given in exchange for them?—There is not the least doubt of it

You speak this from your own experience amongst them?—Yes, an anxiety would I think, exist in many British merchants to form such establishments.

Not under the support of government?—No, on their own account; but not to be interfered with by the Dutch in native places.

Have you been on any of the other islands to the eastward of Java?—I have been on Lombok.

With what force did you go there?—No force, but in ships with their crews; no military force, unprotected merchant ships.

Were the crew natives?—Yes; there were several Europeans, but very small in comparison with the natives. I have been also to Kan-gian, a small island under a native government, to the eastward of Java; it lies further west than Lombok.

Were you well received there by the people?—I came there by stress of weather, during the period of the monsoon that was unfavourable for proceeding to Batavia

State the circumstances under which you remained there?—I came there under stress of weather, when it was impossible from the state of the monsoon, to proceed westward to Batavia, I put in there with a native establishment of about 120 people.

In the two vessels?—No; this native establishment and servants, besides the crew who were all natives I resided there two months in a large shed, among them, until the state of the monsoon afforded an opportunity of leaving it to proceed to Batavia

Did you observe any thing hostile apparently, during your stay there?—Not the least; perhaps it was in some respects as agreeable a time as I ever spent in my life

If mercantile men were to form such individual settlements throughout the Archipelago, as have been mentioned before; would the natives produce commodities to give in exchange for the manufactures they wanted from us, for instance pepper, betel nut, and sugars?—I conceive the immense population situated about Banjar, Masin, and the Musselman states of Borneo, would rapidly be induced to produce all the produce of Java; as coffee, pepper, and various species of produce are already cultivated there.

State what you suppose the population of Banjar Massin, and the neighbourhood, to be?—I am not at present prepared to state that; but I have in my possession a paper containing a census of the population

Are the villages numerous?—Very numerous.

Do you consider it a populous country?—Yes, comparatively, with the extent of the country.

How far are the rivers navigable in the interior of the island, by boats?—To a very great distance indeed; I suppose sometimes twenty days voyages are performed up in boats, and further, to an extent with respect to islands which is very remarkable, because large rivers are not very common in islands; but it is owing to the size of Borneo

Can you state to the Committee, the particular circumstances that took place on the Dutch government abandoning Banjar Massin, between the Dutch and the Rajah, was it totally abandoned by the Dutch?—The Dutch, when they first came, had sent a commissioner, Mr. Van Boeckholtz, with a Dutch military force, under the command of a major, they came to the town of Tattas, the Dutch establishment there, at the time when the Sultan and the royal family were very far in

in the interior, they ordered the Banjarese flag, that had been raised at the fort, to be taken down, and they raised the Dutch flag, without any authority from the Sultan.

The question referred to what took place, with the Dutch Marshal Daendels?—The settlement had become extremely inconvenient to the Dutch government at Java, from the British cruisers preventing any profitable connexion with the settlement, and, in fact, exposing it to considerable danger, Marshal Daendels, under these circumstances, sent a commissioner a Mr. Van Thiel, to negotiate the relinquishment of the settlement; he proposed to the sultan, in correspondence, of which I have a copy, to relinquish entirely all their sovereignty on the coast of Banjar Massin, provided the sultan would purchase the forts and settlements which the Dutch had formed, by giving a diamond sufficiently large. The sultan agreed, and sent a valuable diamond of twenty-two carats, which he considered much more than equivalent to the guns, gun-carriages, and the inventory of military stores of which they had rendered an account, they carried the diamond to Batavia, and Marshal Daendels sent a specific paper abandoning for ever all right and power in the kingdom of Banjar Massin. The Banjarese were soon afterwards assailed by the pirates, by Pangerang Anom, of Sambas, and the Sultan of Banjar Massin applied to the Dutch for the re-establishment of some protective authority, which they refused, and the letter of Marshal Daendels is particularly specific in denying any connexion with Banjar Massin, and offering to the sultan, should he proceed over to Java, that he would give him some native authority in the island of Java, with his family

Have you seen the deed by which the governor made over the right and property in the fort?—I have seen it, and a copy of it is in this country.

Was it after this cession that the estate your brother had got, was given to him by the Rajah?—Several years.

Is he in possession of it now?—No; because the Dutch by violence took possession of it, with all his property upon it, and they hold it at the present moment.

Would your brother have settled or continued a person there to carry on commerce, if the Dutch had not interfered?—He certainly would, he would have probably remained at the place himself; he had expended considerable property on it; his circumstances might have induced him to proceed to Europe, but that would have been a personal consideration

He would have had no apprehension of remaining alone?—No; only from the proximity to the Dutch power, but not from the natives, except as they might be directed by the influence of the Dutch, under such circumstances it might be a dangerous neighbourhood.

Has your brother travelled much in the interior of those islands?—When he first went to Banjar Masin, he paid considerable attention to gain a knowledge of the interior, and performed a pedestrian tour of considerable extent, from Banjar Masin to Pagattan; being absent for a long period, without any body but native servants with him.

What is the size of the vessels that trade with opium from Bengal to those islands?—Of various sizes, but generally about 200 tons or 250

Are you acquainted with the size of the American shups that trade upon the coast of Sumatra?—Not particularly on that coast; they are very various in size; they have brigs of a very small size, some of them scarcely a hundred tons

Have you seen them amongst the islands?—I have seen a very small American brig taking in a cargo at Samarang on Java.

Did you ever hear that they apprehended danger among the islands, from the small size of their vessels?—No, nor did I ever hear of an American vessel being cut off

Are you at all acquainted with the commerce between China and those islands?—I have seen junks arrive, and I have seen their cargo unloaded; and I have been in them.

State, for the information of the Committee, what the junks bring from China as cargoes?—A great variety of articles, it would be almost impossible to enumerate them; tea, earthenware, silks, iron pots, and paper in large quantities for burning in the Chinese worship.

Has this paper any thing peculiar in it?—Some of it has Chinese figures on it, and their idols, they burn it before their doors constantly in Java on their festivals.

Is there any objection at the present time, to individual merchants forming trading establishments, at any of the places subject to the native power, where they

Mr.
John Hart
(6 April)

Mr.
John Hare.
(6 April.)

they may think proper?—No, I should think not; except where those powers are supposed to be connected with the Dutch authority; at the island of Lomboë for instance. It is not an island to which the Dutch have the smallest claim, the native princes deny any European authority; but a British merchant, establishing there, would be in a very dangerous situation, the Dutch would probably take possession of his property

Supposing an individual merchant formed such a trading establishment as you have alluded to, would he be likely to gain as much advantage in trade as if a settlement was made at the place?—I conceive, in the present state of the Archipelago, he would not, because although the Dutch have not absolutely assumed the authority over the whole, it is supposed they have assumed that authority, and the natives are extremely shy in embarrassing themselves in disputes with the ruling powers of Java.

Be good enough to answer the last question, independent of the Dutch influence?—It is almost impossible to divest the question, or the situation of a British merchant so situated, with the question of the influence of the Dutch, because, with a British protecting power adjacent, I conceive, probably a British merchant would have comparatively equal advantages as if there was a settlement in the port; but it is well known to every person who has been among the Malays, that they are particularly careful to avoid involving themselves in political disputes; and their connexion with Java is necessarily so intimate and important to their interests, that they must be influenced by the power of the Dutch, or the ruling government there, whatever it is

During the time the British were in possession of Java, would an individual merchant have had as great an advantage in settling in a port where there was no public trading establishment, as in a place where there was a trading establishment?—I consider if he was a merchant of capital, establishing himself there, he would have perhaps equal advantages, as if there was an establishment, although not quite; I should think the authority of an establishment being of his own country, would increase his influence and commercial facilities in the port.

At present, would a Dutch individual merchant, trading upon liberal and good principles, have as great an advantage trading separately in his individual capacity, as he would have trading in a Dutch establishment?—I think his advantage would be superior where there was that establishment

To what would that be owing?—He would not be subject to the occasional caprices of the ruling government, to which he must be subservient, and which might occasion him considerable inconvenience. It is no unusual thing for Chinese junks and other trading vessels, to be obliged to give presents to a considerable amount out of their cargo, to the princes at the ports where they are trading; which I conceive answers the question

Taking into consideration those disadvantages, from your knowledge of the country, do you think that it would be possible to make such an establishment in a place where the Dutch influence did not exist?—Yes, I should think it would, certainly

Do you conceive it would be a great facility to the English commerce there, if a British flag was in that sea, with the declared intention of the protection of the British subject from all oppression from the Dutch, or from the natives in their intercourse with the English, being oppressed by the Dutch?—I should think it would be of the first importance to the British, and when we consider the small settlements the Dutch have found it necessary in former times to establish, by means of what they stiled post-holders, a serjeant and two or three natives; experience seems to prove the utility of such protective policy.

What does the trade between the Malay islands chiefly consist in?—Between the western and eastern islands, one considerable article of commerce is gambier, which is constantly eaten with the betel nut.

What is it?—A species of astringent concreted juice or gum, there is likewise a considerable trade from those places that have the betel nut, tobacco, cocoa nut, and oils in large quantities, to those places that have them not, from Celebes there is a very large trade in cotton goods, the manufacture of the island; there is also a manufacture of iron, they export iron from the coast of Borneo. Those articles I now state, are the produce of these islands, which form articles of trade; but the trade is very considerable in the produce of Europe and China, through Java and those islands

You have stated in your evidence, that there are occasionally attacks made on the

The part of the natives, against European powers trading there, do you consider that those attacks made on the part of the natives, proceed more from their own natural feeling of jealousy, than from the conduct of the Europeans, that might be provoked?—I do not exactly recollect that I have referred to attacks being frequent, but there have been attacks, and one instance I have mentioned at Sambas; in that particular instance, I believe it was an attack from the bad spirit of their ruler Pangerang Anom; but in many other instances it has proceeded from the indiscretion and bad conduct of the Europeans. There are several ports incorrectly considered piratical, from an anecdote of that kind having occurred at them, thus the port of Borneo Proper, has been entirely abandoned, and the Europeans intimidated from frequenting it, in consequence of a Danish vessel having been cut off at it.

When was that?—Some years ago; I have been informed by a respectable Portuguese merchant, who resided there at the time, and for twenty years subsequent, that it arose entirely from the villany and bad conduct of the captain. In an island close to Sumatra, the island of Engano, a vessel was cut off; no the vessel was not cut off, the individuals had escaped from a wreck on the island, they were treated in a very inhuman manner it was said, but those who have examined into the story, are of opinion, on the best authority, on I believe, the investigation that took place at Bencoolen, that it arose from the imprudence of the officers, in hastily firing upon the people.

They are a particularly savage people?—They are said to be particularly savage, but an investigating party was sent down from Bencoolen to inquire into it.

Engano lies to the southward of Sumatra?—Yes, it does, and stands by itself.

No European had ever had intercourse with it, till this vessel was lost upon it?—No, except perhaps some casual intercourse by a boat from a vessel; it is considered one of the most barbarous places.

Could any extent of produce be prepared for vessels going from China through the straits, in the course of a few years, if a regular intercourse was established between China and the straits, of rough produce, betel nut, pepper, tin, beche de mer?—Very great.

Can you conceive any limit to the capacity of the country to produce?—It must be very considerable indeed, the produce that could proceed from the Malay islands to China, even cotton, might in a very short period of time, if attention was given to it in Java, be an export to China.

Have you known of any shipments of cotton to China from Java?—Very little, if any.

Did it happen to come within your knowledge, whilst resident in Java, the extent and nature of the exportation of British goods or manufactures from that island to the eastern islands?—Yes, I have personal experience, having myself, during my residence on Java, had two considerable cargoes of British goods consigned to me, certain portions of which were shipped off in Arab and other traders to the Malay ports.

Did those goods meet with a ready and advantageous sale at those ports to which they were sent?—They did.

Of what did they consist?—British cottons chiefly, and iron.

In what manner was the payment for those goods made by the Malay purchasers?—I entrusted them to Arabs, who had vessels, and were likewise traders themselves, in whom I had confidence; they took them, and when they returned to Java they paid for them in dollars, or such articles as they might have in their vessels which I wished to ship to Europe.

Are you of opinion that such a trade is likely to increase and be extended?—I think it is hardly possible to appreciate at present, the extent to which it might be carried.

Do the natives of those countries, where British manufactures have been so introduced, give a preference to them over the piece goods of India?—They do in many respects, although in others we have still some degree of inferiority; our prices are now lower considerably, since the fall in cotton here, the last accounts I have had from Java, render it extremely likely there will not be a single piece come from Hindostan to the Malay islands, in consequence of the fall in the price of cotton in Europe.

What do you consider to be the production of those countries, in which they would generally pay for the manufactures and productions of this country and other countries in Europe, with which they might be supplied?—At present, the majority of these

Mr.
John Hare.
(9 April.)

these islands are in such a state, it is only the wild produce that could be given in exchange, wax collected from the forests, garoo wood, a very expensive species of perfume burnt by the Chinese; rattans in large quantities, dragon's blood, a species of gum, carried to China as a dye, and brought here as a medicine and for varnish; dammer, a species of cement, likewise exported and used for the caulking of ships; sapan wood, and various species of dyes, used in Java, camphor, sago, and chindana or sandal wood; these are the articles of wild produce of the country collected in the woods. They have likewise, in some of the islands, cultivated the various kinds of pepper and spices, gambia, and a little coffee, gold, diamonds, tin, pearls, birds nests, and tortoiseshell, are likewise to be obtained at many places.

Are not those articles, you denominate the wild produce of those islands, in general more suitable for the Chinese than the European market?—There are a considerable quantity of those species of articles come to Europe, the rattans are brought to Europe in large quantities, wax and many of the other articles

Is not the majority of them more suitable for the Chinese market?—I think almost all of them come to Europe, at least a part of them come to Europe as well as go to China; the pepper cultivation at Banjar Massin was very considerable during the former occupation of the Dutch.

If those islands were cultivated, might they not produce a majority of things calculated for the European market?—They certainly might, and almost all of them do produce even coffee; I have omitted rice, as a very considerable article of export from Lomhoc, and other islands

Amongst the articles you have stated, as forming a subject of export from the Eastern islands, is gambia one?—Yes.

Explain the uses to which that article is applied?—The largest quantity that ever came to England, came consigned to my brother in London, it was a new experiment, thinking it might be introduced for the tanning of leather, for which purpose it is used in China, but upon coming here we found that it was rated in the Custom-house book, under the term terra japonica, although it is not the same thing, and the duties were so heavy, it could not be possibly brought into use; we then exported it to France, there it was used, I believe, in adulterating wines; there was a very large prohibitory duty upon it there likewise; but we gave it the name of stil-de-grau, a species of dye, which prevented it coming under the duty.

Did it turn to a gain, or a loss?—A considerable loss, because the period of time it lay in the warehouses, long previous to the last peace, and the difficulty of exporting, was more than equivalent to any gain.

Were the duty with which the article is now charged upon importation here, to be in proportion with that paid in France, would the importation then take place to a considerable extent?—I think it would, and I have been very much astonished that it has not occurred to any persons who have had the arranging of the rates here.

Are you aware of the chemical quantities of this article?—I am told that it is the strongest astringent of any vegetable substance known.

You conceive it would be applicable to tanning, with great effect?—Yes, I believe it would, I believe there is an account of it in Mr Heynes's India Tracts, it is supposed to possess more tanning principle than any other article.

For the purpose of carrying on an extensive trade from this country to the Indian Archipelago, is it essential that the Europeans carrying it on should have access to China?—I think it would tend to increase the trade very materially, if they had free access to China, there is undoubtedly trade carried on between this country at present, and the Malay islands, but it is considerably embarrassed by the difficulty of returns at the present moment, from the Dutch engrossing and keeping up the price of coffee, by managing the sale of it in Java, which they contrive to do, I believe, almost according to their own inclination. If therefore the open trade could be had to China, it would materially improve our commercial advantages in many respects, and particularly in facilitating returns.

Lunæ, 9^a die Aprilis, 1821.

The Right Honourable THOMAS WALLACE, in the Chair.

Mr. Patrick M. Lachlan,
Called in, and Examined.

IN what situation are you?—I am a merchant, and agent to India
How long have you been in that situation?—The last ten years

Have you been engaged extensively in the trade?—Not very, pretty well

Have you been engaged extensively enough in it, to give you a thorough knowledge of the trade?—I do not know; I have shipped to a considerable amount annually, and I have latterly acted as an agent for constituents there; I have left off making consignments for myself

What part of the ten years you have been engaged in this trade, have you spent in India?—For the last ten years I have been resident in London, but before that, I was resident in India.

In what branch of the trade have you been principally concerned?—In shipping the goods and manufactures of this country

On account of private traders?—Yes, and on our own account, as private traders

To what part of India chiefly?—Bengal chiefly; latterly we have been shipping into the eastern Straits to Batavia.

What species of goods chiefly have you shipped?—Various articles of British manufacture, but latterly chiefly cotton goods, the manufactures of Manchester and Glasgow.

Have you exported any woollens?—Very few; we have begun in the last few years to export some, both to India and the Straits.

Since you have been in the trade, have you found the demand for British manufactures increase?—Unquestionably, for those articles we deal in

From any observations you made yourself, during the time you were in India, or from communication with your correspondents, have you reason to believe that that increase has taken place with a view to the supply of the natives, or the Europeans established there?—The natives certainly.

Do you think it probable, from any information you have received, that that demand is likely to increase among the natives?—I have no doubt it will, so long as we can continue to supply their wants cheaper than they can furnish themselves from their own sources, and more to their taste.

Are you aware of any impediments arising out of the existing regulations under which the trade is carried on, by the removal of which much greater facilities would be given to the conduct of that trade?—I do not know that the trade is under any particular restrictions to India at present; I am not aware of any facilities that could be thrown in the way, except that smaller ships ought to be allowed, probably to enable individuals to send such ships as they thought their own interest suggested. That would be better. I conceive all trade should be free and unlettered

In what way do you think the relaxation of that regulation with respect to the ships, would operate favourably to the trade?—I only know, that a house that would engage a ship of 300 tons, would not be disposed to grapple with one of 5 or 600, because they cannot always secure her freight home, they can manage to fill a ship out and home of 250 tons, when they could not one of 4 or 500.

Do you think any material impediment arises, from the restrictions imposed upon Europeans going up the country with their goods?—No, I am not aware of any; we find none; we have a house at Calcutta

Do you send Europeans with the goods, up the country?—No, we sell them at Calcutta, to the natives

If your house at Calcutta, were desirous to send their goods to the markets in the interior, to be sold there, or to submit samples for the purpose of entering into engagement of sale at those markets, would any obstruction be offered to such a system?—None, that I am aware of.

Mr
Patrick M. Lachlan
(9 April)

Mr
Patrick M'Lachlan.
(9 April)

Do you know of any instance of such a system having been adopted or resorted to?—Yes, we have sent samples up repeatedly ourselves, to the interior.

Have you ever sent goods?—We have sent a package or two

And in no case any obstruction has been offered?—No, I am not aware of any impediments thrown in our way by the Company, in the sale of our goods.

Of whom does your house in Calcutta consist?—We have two partners in Calcutta, and we have also two or three dependent upon us in the interior.

What is the name of the house?—John Anderson and Robert Storm are the partners, trading under the firm of Mac Intyre and Company, Mr. Mac Intyre the principal partner, having returned to this country

What is the name of your agent in the interior?—John Gordon; I do not know whether we have another or not, but there was a man of the name of Nichol, whom we had in the interior for some time, but I think the house have discontinued him.

Where is Mr. Gordon stationed?—Near Jahnpoor.

Have those persons all free merchants indentures?—Yes, I believe all, John Gordon has, I know, but whether Mr. Storm or Mr. Anderson have, I do not know, we found them in India, and formed the establishment there.

In what capacity did you go to India?—I sailed in the Company's service, going backwards and forwards as a surgeon, for several years.

And since that you have turned your thoughts to commerce?—Yes; Mr. Mac Intyre went out as my partner, as a free merchant, and then he came home, and left Mr. Anderson there

What ships did you sail in?—The Camden was the last ship I was in.

You have carried on trade in the Eastern Straits?—Yes.

Are there any impediments opposed to that trade, either by the present law or the regulations of the Company, which you think might be safely removed?—I should think if the trade to China were laid open, it would throw open a great deal of enterprize for British capital and adventure.

State how that would be?—I should think individuals would find various ways of supplying the wants of the natives, better than a corporate body, if we may judge from the increase of the trade to India since the trade has been laid open, and more facility given; if we were to reason from analogy, we might increase the China trade in the same proportion

What knowledge have you of China?—I have been there twice.

State any reasons, from your own observation of what you saw there, that lead you to believe a great increase of the trade with that country might take place, if facilities were given?—No further than that individuals, I think in general, pursue their own interests, and study the means more closely, to gain their ends, than a Company can do

In what situation were you in China?—Surgeon of one of the Company's ships.

Do you know how the trade is carried on there?—Yes, through the intervention of so many Hong merchants as they are called, appointed by the government to transact the business with Europeans

Are they not the channels through which the manufactures of this country have been carried into the interior of China?—I do not know whether they are conveyed through them into the interior, but they are landed under their authority.

Have you any reason to believe that, without the intervention of those merchants, our manufactures would be permitted to be conveyed into the interior?—Not at Canton, but other parts of the coast.

At Canton you do not see any reason for believing that the trade would be materially increased by a change in the system?—I do not know; I should think very likely a variety of things could be introduced by individuals, that are not carried out by the Company.

What reason have you to believe that access might be found to China, through any other ports than Canton?—I fancy ships can go to Cochin China, and trade to that coast.

The Committee understand you to be speaking of China itself?—Cochin China is part of the Chinese empire I believe, I have heard that ships have gone to Cochin China and made good adventures, the French used to carry on a considerable trade there

And all your reason for believing, that a great improvement of the trade with China could take place, is from your having heard that ships have gone to Cochin China,

China, and made good adventures?—I should imagine the trade to China might be increased, and a greater field of consumption found

*Mr.
Patrick McLachlan.
(9 April.)*

Have you any other reason for believing that it might be increased, but what you have stated, that ships have gone successfully to Cochin China?—I do not know of any other port we could have access to, but Canton

Have you any reason to believe, that the law that excludes us from all the other ports of China but Canton, is likely to be at all relaxed?—No, I have no reason to know that it will be relaxed

Then if it would not be relaxed, can you state any reason you have for believing that a great increase would take place through the port of Canton, in the trade between this country and China?—My idea is pointed more to our exclusion from the China trade, in favour of other nations. America for instance, is allowed to trade freely to Canton, and in British manufactures, if that was laid open to the British merchant, I should conceive it would be a considerable advantage to us. It is well known, there are a great number of our manufactures going in American ships to China

Is that a fact you have any knowledge of?—I understand, that there is an American ship loading now for Canton

What ship is that?—Indeed I do not know, but I understand there are goods packing for her to take from this country to Canton

Is that the only reason you have?—Yes, and I hear that British woollens are shipping through France to Canton, because there is no other course of proceeding from this country, they cannot be sent in the East India Company's ships

How do you know of those woollens being sent through France to Canton?—I have heard so.

Have you heard it in such a circumstantial way, that you could detail the circumstances to this Committee?—Upon my word I have not, but I think it could be traced very well, the gentleman who informed me, is a man who I think must know the circumstance, and it is the same house who are going to make a shipment of goods to Batavia

On account of whom, were you induced to believe those woollens were shipping from France to Canton?—The cloth manufacturers in this country.

You are impressed with the idea that it is for British account?—Yes.

From your local knowledge of China, have you any reason to suppose that the Company do not export so much woollen as the market will take off?—I should imagine they do.

At the time you were in China, what were the principal imports by the Americans?—I really do not remember; I think they came there chiefly with specie for their return cargoes, and some came with furs from the north-west coast

When you were in the Company's service, did you see any laxity or inattention to business, on the part of the Company's servants?—No, certainly not, I did not mean to charge them with any thing of that kind

Have the goodness to state, upon what particular articles you think the trade with China could be increased, if it was open to individuals?—I should think cotton manufactures could be introduced into China.

Are you not aware, that if it was the Company's pleasure, they could import cotton goods?—We know what they have done in India, and I should think that would apply to China, I should think the quantity that would be consumed would be very large, if we could introduce them at a price less than their own, and more to their fancy

Is it not open to the Company to import into China, as well as individuals?—Yes; certainly

Why do you suppose that individuals would import them more than the Company?—Only on the general principle, that individuals are more attentive to their interests

Have you observed, that since the trade with India was open, the importation of cotton goods into Bengal has increased very materially?—Yes

By whom has that importation been carried on?—By individuals

Previous to the opening of the trade, was the Company in the habit of importing cotton goods into Bengal?—I am not aware that they were.

You are then of opinion, from your experience of what has happened in Bengal, where you have stated the Company was not in the practice of importing cotton goods previous to the opening of the trade, and that since then that trade has been

Mr.
Patrick McLachlan.
(9 April.)

extended by private merchants, that a similar consequence might be expected to take place in China, where cotton goods have been lately introduced?—Yes; certainly.

Are you not aware of the different circumstances of the natives of India, and the subjects of China, as far as the Company are concerned?—The one are subjects, and the others are not, certainly.

Do you think there has been an increased consumption of cotton goods in Bengal, to the whole amount of the importation of such goods by private traders?—I should imagine, that inasmuch as ours have been introduced, that their own have been superseded

Is not this preference given to the cotton manufactures of this country, by the natives of India, on account of their being afforded at lower prices?—It is, and more to their taste.

Is it not to be expected, that the same inducements would produce the same effects in China?—I should think so.

Are you aware, whether any obstructions on the part of the Chinese government exist to the introduction of British manufactures generally, into China?—I am not aware of any.

Are you aware of the fact, that cotton goods have been imported into China from this country?—Yes

Do you know whether such importations have been beneficial or otherwise, in their results?—Some of our own goods, that have been shipped to Batavia and the Straights, have gone afterwards to China, and met with a beneficial return.

Have you reason to believe, that if means and facilities are afforded, that the trade may be expected to extend itself materially?—I should think so.

Have you, as a merchant in London, exported largely to the East India Islands?—Yes, we have for the last two or three years.

Has the demand for your exports increased?—Yes, it has.

For what articles?—Cotton manufactures.

To what port do you consign your goods?—Batavia

To no other?—There is no other open to us, Sincapore we did intend to send to, but owing to the doubts we have been under as to its continuing our settlement, we cannot ship there, we should rather prefer shipping there, because the duty and restrictions are much less than at Batavia.

Are the duties at Batavia, upon such transactions, very heavy?—They are very heavy

Are they drawn back, or any part of them, on re-exportation?—No; on the contrary, there is as high a duty on exportation as importation, unless you enter them for exportation immediately on your arrival, in that case, you are allowed to ship them on a duty of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Is it your habit to dispose of your goods at Batavia?—Yes, we generally dispose of them there

Are you acquainted with the ultimate disposal of them?—Nothing further than this, that we apprehend they are consumed on the island, from the immense duties charged upon them, for they would be subject to the export duty again; by the Dutch laws, the same duties are exacted from the exports and imports, unless they are entered, in the first instance, for exportation.

You cannot speak, of your own knowledge, as to the trade or consumption of any islands but the island of Java?—No, as far my knowledge goes, the goods we have exported, have been consumed on the Island of Java.

What returns do you get?—Coffee and sugars chiefly, the great difficulty is the return cargo from that country.

Do any means occur to you, of facilitating those returns, by any alteration of the present system?—The settlement of Sincapore would be a great facility to us, we could get our returns then free from the Dutch duties, and at a less price; but if we are obliged to get our returns from Java, we are obliged to get them with all those clogs; but if we could buy them at Sincapore, or any where else, we should be relieved from a considerable burthen, for the China or Dutch produce, brought to Batavia, is clogged with the Dutch duties.

To what returns do you refer as being likely to be obtained at Sincapore?—Sugar and pepper, and also China produce; it is close to Siam, which yields a large quantity of sugar, which would be brought and is brought to Sincapore for British ships that touch there, to load home

What produce of China do you allude to?—You cannot bring teas at present, on account

account of the Company, but you would bring nankeens, silks, and the drugs that China furnishes, I conceive Sincapore would be a great advantage to us, as relieving us from the heavy duties chargeable at Batavia

You have stated the difficulty of getting returns direct to Europe, would this be removed by your being permitted to take Straights produce direct to China?—In a great measure it would, and it is one of the means we have now of getting the proceeds of our constituent shipments from Batavia through China, it is done in two ways, either by carrying dollars on from Batavia to China, and investing them there by putting them into the Company's treasury for bills upon England, or if our representative at Batavia thinks it advisable, in the place of dollars, to send on the proceeds in Straights produce, if we cannot get the produce of Batavia at a suitable cost, that is the other mode we resort to

What means have you of sending to China at present?—No other excepting dollars, or Straights produce

By what ships do you send them at present?—We do not know yet; it was only last year we gave those instructions to charter a Dutch vessel.

Would a greater facility of intercourse with China in our own ships, by giving you a greater certainty of payment for goods taken from those islands, promote a greater export of our manufactures to the islands?—I should conceive it would; the more liberty we have to trade, the better and the more free it is from any impediments.

How long is it since you were in China yourself?—Not since 1804.

In what articles does the Straights produce consist?—Pepper, tin, betel nuts, rattans, birds nests and spices

Was there any American trade in the port of Canton, when you were there?—Yes; a considerable American trade.

Had you any opportunity of observing the conduct of the sailors employed in the American trade, and the sailors employed in the British trade?—I saw no particular difference.

Are you aware of any ground of apprehension, that the conduct of the British sailors in private ships, would be likely to produce any inconveniences to the trade, which the conduct of the American sailors in their ships has not produced?—No, I am not aware of any; I conceive the trade is sufficiently numerous now in the hands of the Americans to prove that; the Company's ships keep their men under more restraint and discipline while they are at Canton; they are under better government than any other sailors.

Did it appear to you that the American ships generally, were under better discipline than British ships?—There were none there.

Did it appear to you, that the discipline maintained in the American ships was better than the discipline maintained in British ships?—No, certainly not, that was one of the difficulties I first apprehended, that if the trade was laid open, perhaps that some difficulties might arise with the Chinese government, on account of the free admission of our people on shore, they have frequently thrown difficulties in the way of our trade, and stopped it for a month or two, from very slight causes, a little irregularity among our seamen; and I was afraid that might be increased by the trade being opened

Have you had reason to alter that opinion?—I judge from the free intercourse the Americans have had.

During the time they have carried on the trade with China, have you heard any instance of the trade being stopped on account of the conduct of their sailors?—No, I have not

Have you reason, from any information you have had, to believe, that subsequent to the peace, many British sailors have been employed on board the American ships that have been to China?—I have no direct knowledge, but I presume from the number of our seamen that have been discharged from our navy, that they would go and search for employment wherever they could get it.

Mr.
Patrick M'Lachlan
(9 April)

Jovis, 12^o die Aprilis, 1821.

The Right Honourable THOMAS WALLACE, in the Chair.

John Forbes Mitchell, Esquire,

Called in, and Examined.

*J. F. Mitchell,
Esq.*

(12 April)

WILL you state to the Committee, in what situations you have been with reference to the trade with India?—I have resided at Bombay, as a merchant, for about 10 years. I returned to Europe in 1812, and during the last six years, I have been an East India agent in London.

Do you conceive, that very beneficial effects can be produced upon the trade with India, by the opening afforded by the last charter of the East India Company?—I have reason to know, that the exports of all British manufactures and staple commodities, have been greatly increased since the opening of the trade to India.

From whence do you draw that knowledge?—From my own personal knowledge in the trade, and from the statements, from time to time, which are laid before the public.

In what articles has the export principally increased?—In metals. iron, copper, hardware, glassware, &c., but principally in cotton manufactures and woollens.

Has that increase been, in a great measure, with our own settlements or with Java?—Speaking of the trade to India, I should divide it into two parts—That which belongs to the Company's territories, and that which goes to Java and the Oriental islands. I think the greatest increase has been to the Company's territories, but there has also been a great increase to Java; and abundant means exist, of a great increase to the Oriental islands.

With respect to the increased trade to the British settlements, has that arisen out of the demands of the natives for our manufactures?—Yes, it has, certainly.

Do you think that an increasing demand?—Most certainly; increasing upon a very great scale. I beg to say, that I speak from positive knowledge.

Are you sufficiently acquainted with the natives of India, to know whether the prejudices, which have subsisted against the use of foreign manufactures, remain in the same force, that they did, (as we have been generally taught to believe) in former times?—During my residence in India, I never observed any prejudices amongst the natives, which would prevent their buying any articles with which they could supply themselves to advantage.

In what part of India did you reside?—I resided at Bombay; and during my stay in India, I visited the eastward and China.

Were you much in the interior of India?—No, not a great deal.

Do you form your opinion then merely from what came under your observation at Bombay?—Principally I do; but then Bombay is the market for all Western India.

Is not the character of the people of Bombay, strongly supposed to differ a good deal from the rest of the inhabitants of India, with respect to religious feelings; is there not much more laxity with respect to religious feeling?—The population of Bombay is composed of a great variety of people; but the religious ceremonies of each sect, residing at Bombay, are observed in all their original purity. The natives are extremely strict in observances of that kind; and our government always protects them. Bombay is the mart for the whole of the western trade of India, for the trade to the Persian Gulf, and to the Red Sea.

Does it appear to you, that the regulations under the charter, throw any impediments in the way of the increase of the trade?—I think, that the restriction as to the size of ships, is one material obstruction to the trade.

In what way?—Because the Americans and other nations carry the trade on in vessels of much smaller size, and of course at a cheaper rate, and with more convenience. A cargo, for a small vessel, can be found almost at all times, whereas a large ship cannot be so easily provided, and she may be delayed at a very great expense, and exposed to considerable demurrage. The demurrage of a small vessel

J. F. Mitchell,
Esq
(12 April)

vessel is comparatively trifling On the other hand, looking to the Eastern islands, the argument holds still more strongly, because of the difficulty of getting goods to bring back returns

Do you think, that the trade of America then, derives great advantage from the absence of such restrictions?—I consider certainly, that the Americans have a great advantage, in being able to trade in vessels of any size, suited to the object they have in contemplation, and being free from all restrictions

Does any disadvantage arise from the confinement of communication of ships, to the considerable ports or the principal settlements?—Yes

State how?—It certainly would be a great facility to the trade, if ships were permitted, after taking in part of their cargoes at the principal settlements, to fill up at the various ports on the coast, for example on the coast of Coromandel, or on the coast of Malabar I know an instance, last year, of a ship coming from Bombay, that was to have received cargo on the coast of Malabar, but was obliged to come home without a full cargo, because some local regulation prevented it

Have you any reason to think, that any material danger would arise to the East India Company, by a relaxation on this point, and by permitting ships to touch and fill up their cargoes at any port that is most convenient to them?—No, I certainly do not think that any thing like serious danger could result from that permission, and that it would be a very great convenience to do so.

Do you think, that great advantage might be derived to the English trade, from a permission to ships to go directly to and from the ports of India to the continent of Europe?—Yes, I consider that it would

State your reasons for that opinion?—It would save the expense of landing goods here, and sending them across from this country to the Continent

Do you think it would be the means of giving much additional employment to the British shipping?—Yes, I think it would certainly operate to give them additional employment; but I cannot exactly say that I think, in the first instance, it would be very great

Do you think it likely that English ships would be employed in the conveyance of goods from India to Europe, in preference to conveyance in Foreign ships?—I do, I certainly think that if English ships were permitted to carry goods from India to Foreign European ports, they would become the carriers of the direct supplies to the Continent, in preference to the Foreign ships themselves. At the present moment, for example, shipping in India is very cheap, freights so very low, that no Foreign merchant would attempt to send out his ship to India to bring home a cargo, when English ships could bring that cargo cheaper.

If freights rose to such an amount as to give a remunerating price, which they do not at present, do you then think that the conveyance would be in British, rather than in Foreign ships?—That depends entirely upon whether the Foreign ships or the British ships can sail cheapest, I think that the English ship would even then have an advantage over the Foreign ship, because there is almost always, in the course of the trade, a great supply of English shipping in the ports of India, ready to receive freights at all times

Do you not believe that an English ship has considerable advantages over the Foreign ship, in long voyages?—I am not able to give any decided opinion on that point I believe, generally, that English ships can sail as cheap as any others, what I mean to convey, is this,—that if a French merchant sends his ship out to India on purpose to bring home a cargo, he must pay the full freight, namely, the cost and expenses of the ship out and home, whereas, if he commissions his cargo from his correspondents in India, his agent in India may very possibly, and will very probably, be able to send that cargo home to Europe in an English ship, at a lower rate of freight than it would cost the French owner in his own vessel.

Are you acquainted with the trade to the Gulf of Persia?—While I was resident at Bombay, I had occasional transactions with the Gulf of Persia, as agent for others, and I have reason to know that there is a very considerable trade carried on from India to the Gulf of Persia

What are the articles that are principally bought by the inhabitants of the Gulf of Persia?—The articles carried from India to the Gulf of Persia are principally sugar, indigo, and spices, I think these are the principal Indian articles English iron, woollens, cotton goods, &c are also carried there

What are the articles exported from the Gulf of Persia in return?—The returns from the Gulf of Persia are for the most part bullion, with pearls and copper, also

J F Mitchell,
Esq
(12 April)

dates, and other rough articles. There are some articles brought through that channel from Europe, such as Venetian beads and gold leaf.

Do you apprehend that there would be any sale for British manufactures among the inhabitants of the coast of the Gulf of Persia?—I know that a large portion of the British manufactures, that is, the printed cottons of Manchester, which are sent to Bombay, are carried from Bombay to the Persian Gulf for the consumption of Persia, and I believe also, considerable quantities of woollen cloth.

Do you think that the taste for British manufactures is increasing, or likely to increase in Persia, and the neighbouring countries?—I know that it is increasing, and I believe it is likely to increase very largely.

Would there be any great advantage to the British trade, if the free traders from England, which went to the Gulf of Persia, were able to touch at Bombay to take up return cargoes on their way home?—Yes, undoubtedly; unless they were permitted to go to India, after leaving the Gulf of Persia, I do not see how they could get cargoes to bring home.

Then you think it essential to a direct trade in British manufactures from this country to the Gulf of Persia, that the vessels engaged in that trade should have permission to touch in India?—Yes.

How are they now prevented from carrying on such trade?—I am not aware that they are. With respect to obstructions to the increase of the trade with India, I beg to add to my former answer upon that subject, that the governments of India considering themselves still vested with the exclusive trade between India and China, prohibit, whenever it suits their purpose, the exportation from India of British staples and manufactures to China; and by that means, they certainly greatly counteract the export of British staples and manufactures from this country to India.

Have you any knowledge of the sales of British manufactures in China, by the East India Company?—I know generally, that the East India Company have been in the habit of selling considerable quantities of woollen and metal goods in China, particularly before the opening of their charter, for I believe, by law, they were formerly compelled to export goods to a certain value, and I did understand, when I was in China, that those sales were frequently effected at very great loss. With respect to the means of sale of woollen goods in China, I recollect an instance of a house at Bombay purchasing a very large quantity of woollen goods from the government, which had long lain in their stores undisposed of, and which woollens were sent to China, and would have sold to great advantage immediately upon their arrival, but the Company's officers prevented their being landed for some time; they were, however, afterwards landed, and sold by the private merchant. I recollect another instance of a house at Penang that purchased from the Penang government a large quantity of woollens, that it had been unable to dispose of during several years, and this house succeeded, I think, in the course of a year after the purchase, in disposing of the whole of these fabrics among the Eastern islands.

Do you conceive that the consumption of British woollens in China might be extended?—I conceive that they might be very much extended, and I would beg leave with permission, to read the extract of a letter from a gentleman, who I know possesses great local knowledge upon the subject.

He is not in this country?—No; Mr. Stewart, the gentleman alluded to, was the agent in China, of the house of Forbes and Co at Bombay, for several years. He is lately returned to India. The letter is dated from Nairn in Scotland, the 30th of June last, and in these words —“Opening the trade between this country and China, could in no way hurt the interests of the East India company, and would be of the utmost importance and benefit to the commerce of this country. I am of opinion, that if the trade was thrown open, China would in a very few years, take off as much of the woollen manufactures of this country, as perhaps all the world besides for they have no manufacture of their own, so well adapted to their climate. Metals, such as iron, copper, lead, &c would also find a ready sale in China, to an extent far beyond what is generally supposed; and even the cotton cloths manufactured in this country, would sell in China at a high profit, and to a great extent. It is impossible to form any correct judgment on these points by the operations of the East India Company, on the results of any of their speculations in those articles, for I do not think that they can send them to Canton (under the present system of their trade) at so cheap a rate as private merchants could do; besides, the quantity in which woollens and metals have hitherto been sent there, is so small compared to what I am certain the demand would be, under the operation of a free trade, as to form no rule or data from which any correct or satisfactory

satisfactory conclusion could be drawn. I think it was in 1807-8, that part of the woollens purchased from the Bombay government, was consigned to me for sale at Canton, and had I not been prevented by the Select Committee from landing them when we arrived in China, I could have sold the whole for a considerable advance upon the Bombay invoices, including freight, insurance, &c. In 1808-9, I had a small investment of Bengal cotton cloth of my own at Canton, and which I sold there at a considerable profit upon the original cost, including charges. (Some of the cotton piece goods sent out from England, by the Lowjee family to Bombay in 1813, were sent on to China on trial, and realized a fair profit, notwithstanding the heavy charges incurred upon them at Bombay, including freight and insurance from thence to China.) These are facts within my own knowledge, and which, though inconsiderable in themselves, the inference to be drawn from them may be of importance in considering the general question."

J F Mitchell,
Esq

(12 April)

Can you confirm the sentiments contained in this letter, from any thing that has occurred within your own knowledge while you were in China?—The fact as to the sale of the woollens, which I have already mentioned, confirms this letter entirely in that respect.

Can you state any thing additional, to confirm the sentiments contained in this letter?—I can state from my general knowledge of the subject, and from every thing I know of the China trade, that I believe the statements of this letter to be perfectly correct, and well founded.

Then do you believe that the East India Company do not dispose of their woollens and metals in China, to the extent to which they could dispose of them in that country?—I certainly do, I believe that woollens and metals might be disposed of in China, to a much greater extent than they are now disposed of, if it was open to the merchants of England to send them there.

Do you mean by being "open to the merchants of England to send them there," that some alteration should take place in the regulations in the law of England, or in the regulations established by the laws of China?—I mean, that British ships should be permitted to carry British staples and manufactures direct to China; that, in my opinion, would be the way to carry the trade to the farthest possible extent; or that British staples and manufactures, if the free direct trade to China is not permitted, should be allowed to be carried freely from India to China, by the private shipping or country trade of India, which would be the next step towards the extension of the export trade of this country to the east.

Why do you think that a free trader would be able to sell his goods now in China, at better price than the East India Company?—Merely because (what I have always had occasion to observe) a private merchant manages his business better than a great company, I mean by that, that he would carry on the trade with more minute attention, and at less expense.

Do the East India Company pay more for their goods, in the first instance?—I believe they generally pay more for their goods than the private merchant.

Where do they pay more for their goods, in this country, or in India?—In both, I believe, frequently, and then their establishment is very expensive, and their management very expensive.

How do they usually sell their goods at Canton?—They sell them to the Hong merchants, with whom they are connected.

Do they get as good a price as a private merchant would get for them?—In general the Company obtain nominally a higher price for their cotton, than the private merchants, but the Company sell in a particular way; they sell their cotton in exchange for their tea, and while they appear to get a high price for their cotton, they pay a high price for their tea.

How would the private merchant proceed?—The private merchant generally sells his cotton and other goods for money, and buys his commodities with money.

Are there any laws in China which would favour the Company more than they would favour the private merchant?—None that I am aware of, for I recollect two or three instances while I was in India, of interruptions to the trade of China; from disputes between the Company's supercargoes and the Chinese authorities; and on those occasions, the Chinese authorities drew a marked line between the Company's ships, and the private trade shipping, expressing their perfect readiness and willingness to carry on the trade with the private ships, at the same time that they would not trade with the Company's, because, as they said, the private ships came there as friendly merchants, to trade as merchants, and deal in merchandize

J. F. Mitchell,
Esq.

(12 April)

only; whereas the Company's ships came there armed as men of war, and the Company's supercargoes assumed the appearance and authority of political power.

When did that occurrence take place?—I think this took place in 1814; temporary interruptions took place twice, if not thrice before, while I was resident in India.

Were not all the free traders, of different nations from the East India Company?—When I speak of private traders here, I mean the private merchant ships of India, the private or country trade, at the same time, the port of Canton was occupied by the vessels of several foreign nations, but more particularly, Americans I recollect, when I was in China, there were at least 80 American ships in the river.

Have you ever known of any disputes between the Americans and the Chinese?—I never heard of any serious dispute whatever. There is a regulation observed by the Company's ships in China, to prevent their people going on shore, but the Americans do not restrict their people in this respect; their intercourse is perfectly open, and their boats pass along the river at Canton with the same freedom as on the Thames.

With whom do the Foreign ships trade at Canton?—With the Hong merchants. The whole trade in China is conducted by the Hong merchants, and every ship which arrives at Canton, being consigned to one of those merchants, he becomes surety to the government for the good conduct of the captain and of the crew.

Would the Hong merchants, as far as your information goes, have a greater objection to be the sureties for private traders than for ships of the East India Company?—I think, certainly, quite the reverse, that the Hong merchants would rather be sureties, if they had the choice, of the private merchant ships, than of the ships of the East India Company, and I understood, when in China, that Howqua, one of the principal Hong merchants, had 50 or 60 American ships, of which he was the surety merchant, in one season.

Did you ever know any instance of the Hong merchants refusing to become security for any ship?—No, I do not recollect any.

Do you think it is probable, that if the British free ships were permitted to trade with China, they would easily secure the security of these Hong merchants?—I have not the slightest doubt they might get it for asking for it.

In giving that answer, do you in any degree found it upon communications with these Hong merchants?—I have not had any direct communication with Hong merchants upon this particular point, but when I was in China, and in the course of my transactions with them, I certainly had reason to know that they would be perfectly willing to receive consignments from the private British merchants, and to be security for their ships. Indeed, I am quite sure, that there would be no difficulty whatever, in any private merchant consigning his ship to Howqua, or to any other respectable Hong merchant at Canton.

Can you inform the Committee, what this security is given for?—The security merchants become responsible to the Chinese government, that the commander and crew shall commit no infractions of the laws of China.

In case of any act being done by the crew of any ship so secured, contrary to the laws of China, what is done to the Hong merchant?—The Hong merchant is fined, and called upon to make reparation for the offence; and, of course, if any fines are paid, they are charged by him to the ship.

Is there, then, any reason to suppose, that if a private trader committed any thing contrary to the laws of China, that that fault would be visited upon all the other ships of that nation which were trading there?—Unless it was an offence of a very aggravated nature, I have not the slightest doubt, that the security merchant would be able to get the matter settled without making any noise about it, and, as I have stated on a former occasion, the interruptions to the private trade which have taken place in China, have, as I have understood, been occasioned more by the acts of the Company's supercargoes, than by the acts of the Chinese, for at the very time that the last general suspension took place, the Chinese government went the length of sending a mandarin, with a deputation, down to the private merchant ships at the mouth of the river, proposing to them to enter the port, unload their goods, and carry on their business, and not to be prevented by the interruption thrown in the way by the Company's supercargoes. I have a copy of the message or edict in my possession, written by the Chinese viceroy to the country ships.

In the case of any of the Company's ships committing a breach of the laws of China, has it been the custom to visit it upon all the rest of the Company's ships?—With the exception of the general interruptions before mentioned, I do not recollect any particular instances.

Did

Did those instances of general interruption arise from the misconduct of an individual ship; or the misconduct of all the ships?—The one to which I have last alluded, arose from a circumstance not connected with the trade or shipping. It arose, I believe, from a quarrel between the Select Committee and the Chinese government, about a Chinese servant of the factory, and had nothing to do with the shipping. This was in the year 1814. I have got a copy of the memorial of the Bombay merchants, on that occasion, but not with me. [*The witness was desired to produce the memorial alluded to, to the Committee at its next meeting*] The consequence of this quarrel was, to put a stop for some time to the trade altogether, but the stop was not the act of the Chinese, but the act of the Company. The merchants of Bombay, who had a very valuable property on board of their ships, in the Canton river at the time of this quarrel, subsequently memorialized the government of India and the Right honourable the Board of Control, to indemnify them for the losses which they sustained by the forcible stoppage of the trade on the part of the Company's supercargoes, by which a very considerable sum of money was sacrificed.

J F Mitchell,
Esq

(12 April)

Appendix
(K 1)

Was it remunerated to them?—No.

Can you state to the Committee, the circumstances of any other interruption of the trade to Canton?—No; I cannot recollect the particular circumstances of any other at present.

Were you at Canton yourself at this time?—No, I was there in the year 1809.

Supposing British private traders to be permitted by our laws to purchase tea in China, do you think that there would be the same facilities in making those purchases of the best sorts of tea, that the Company have?—I certainly am of opinion, that they would have no difficulty in purchasing tea in Canton, upon quite as good terms as the East India Company, and if I refer again to the letter to which I have already alluded, and from which I have read an extract, I shall find my opinion confirmed by a gentleman whose experience and local knowledge of China, are certainly much superior to mine.

Do not the Company contract for the whole quantity of the better sort of tea?—I believe they do, but I am not fully informed of the details of their arrangements.

Then do you think, the Chinese merchants would make contracts with private traders, inconsistent with their contracts with the Company?—I have no doubt, that any demand which the freedom of private trade would occasion, for tea in China, would be readily supplied by the immense resources of the Hong merchants. The gentleman to whom I have alluded, writes upon this subject —“ I think the only point contended for, that would, in the smallest degree, militate against the interests of the East India Company, would be, that of allowing British ships to carry tea from China to the continent of Europe; and which I think would have the effect of raising the price of the article in the Canton market very considerably. The East India Company are, at present, almost the sole purchasers of genuine good teas at Canton, (what the Americans take, are mostly old teas, or of inferior quality, and the same may be said, with regard to ships of continental Europe,) but were English ships generally allowed to export the article direct from China to Europe, it would, no doubt, be their interest to purchase of a good quality, and for the first few years the demand would no doubt be much increased, and the price in consequence considerably raised.”

Are you at all acquainted with the consumption of tea on the continent of Europe?—I have very little information on that subject.

In that extract of the letter which you have read, it is stated, that the East India Company buy the best kind of tea, and that the Americans and the nations of the continent of Europe, buy an inferior kind, is that owing to any preference that the East India Company enjoy from the Chinese?—I have no means of answering that question positively; but I am of opinion, that it is not owing to any such preference, but entirely owing to the wishes of the merchants in the execution of what they deem best for their own ends.

Do you think, that the trade between this country and China, derives any security from its being conducted through the East India Company?—In my opinion, the trade, if it was thrown open, would be carried on with quite as much security, and with much greater advantage.

Do you think, that any peculiar advantage is created in disposing of the exports of the manufactures of this country, from the contracts of government that are said to be entered into, between the tea merchants and the representatives of the East India Company?—My opinion is, that if British staples and manufactures were

J. F. Mitchell,
Esq.

(12 April.)

imported freely into China, by the free trade, that they would be disposed of in China, to a much greater extent than they are at present, or ever will be, through the intervention of the Company's system.

Do you know any channel through which they could be conveyed or introduced into the interior of China, but through the medium of the Hong merchants?—I have already said, that the trade of Canton is confined to the Hong merchants; but I have understood, that very considerable commercial transactions have occasionally been carried on by what are called *outside* merchants at Canton; that is, merchants not included in the Hong.

What is the nature of those merchants?—They are much the same as the others, only of inferior rank.

Is the Hong merchant the consignee of the whole cargo?—Frequently; sometimes not. According to the laws of China, the trade is confined to twelve Hong merchants, for the purpose of giving security to the foreign merchants; and in the event of the failure of any of the Hong merchants, according to the laws of China, his debts are paid by the Cottong, under orders of the government; on this account, all merchants trading to China, generally address themselves to Hong merchants; but sometimes commercial transactions are carried on upon the spot, with outside merchants, that is, merchants, not being members of the Hong.

Do you mean to say, that according to the law of China, any person may trade with any merchant he pleases, besides the Hong?—I cannot state precisely what the letter of the law is upon that point, but I had myself to arrange a transaction of this nature when in China, and I succeeded in recovering a large sum of money from the Chinese government in the way I have mentioned.

Is it probable that any Hong merchant would become security for a ship, of the trade with which he was not to have the benefit?—He may have a benefit without the entire management, for sometimes one merchant will secure, to oblige another.

Can any other merchant besides a Hong merchant, be security for a ship?—I believe not, the security is given to the government, and the government only recognizes those 12 individuals as the persons at liberty to trade with foreigners.

Do you, in looking to the improvements through a free trade with China, contemplate any access to the empire of China, but through the port of Canton?—No, I have hitherto contemplated carrying on the trade with the port of Canton, that being the only port which the Chinese allow us to trade with, but I consider that it would be of vast importance to obtain permission to trade to the port of Amoy, which formerly was open like Canton, to European commerce.

Why was that shut?—Some jealousy or other, I believe, was the cause of it.

Do you think it is probable that if private ships were permitted to trade freely with China, they would find access to different ports on the coast, which they have not at present?—I rather think it would be for the interest of the free traders to confine themselves to the ports opened by the Chinese government, and of course for the present to Canton, but the coasts of China are as yet very little known; and I cannot pretend to much information on the subject.

Supposing it was impossible to obtain any access to China itself for the private trader, do you think that any great advantages would arise from a free access to some of the neighbouring islands which the Chinese junks frequented, and from which the produce of China might be brought?—Yes; failing the opening of the trade to China itself, I consider that it would be of great benefit to the manufacturing interests of this country, to establish a safe port in the Oriental Archipelago, to which British staples and manufactures might be exported; and to which port the Chinese junks, and the various vessels of the Oriental islands would bring their commodities to exchange for the British goods.

Have you any reason to apprehend that if such a trade were established, it might be speedily put an end to by the interference of the authorities of government at Canton?—It would of course be in the power of the Chinese government to lay an embargo on their own junks; but I have no idea that they would do any thing of the kind, on the contrary, they are perfectly aware of the advantages of commerce, and perfectly ready to carry on mercantile transactions with all those who will trade with them simply as merchants.

Do you think that the restrictions that have been laid upon the European trade with China, have originated more in political apprehensions than in any indisposition to commercial intercourse with foreign European states?—Yes, I am certainly of opinion that the jealousy of the Chinese has arisen almost entirely from the dread of our political power.

Then

J. F. Mitchell,
Esq
(12 April)

Then you are of opinion that any species of trade which was not calculated to excite any such apprehensions, would not be likely to find any impediments from the authorities in China?—Certainly, I am of opinion that a free peaceful trade would not find any impediments; and the history of the American trade to China, furnishes a striking example. If the Chinese had been disposed to take alarm at the sudden rise of any one trade, they would have been so alarmed in the case of the Americans; but they have never been so, although the trade of that nation has risen rapidly from a few vessels, to many hundred vessels in the course of a few years. Coming in the way the Americans come to China, merely as private traders, and seldom armed, they excite no jealousy or suspicion in the minds of the Chinese.

Do you think that the American trade has derived any protection or advantage from the influence of the British power in China?—I am not aware of any advantage it has derived; the Americans have a consul of their own at Canton.

Do the Chinese make any considerable distinction between the Americans and the English?—The establishment of the East India Company is upon so great a scale, and the power displayed by the large ships of the Company, so formidable, that I have no doubt the Chinese look upon our nation with great respect, but I have reason to believe, they were upon the best possible footing with the American consul, and that gentleman was much respected in China.

Are the Americans and the English considered as the same nation in China?—O no, the distinction is well known to the better informed Chinese.

Why is it the policy of the governments of India to refuse a free export of British manufactures at all times from India to China, to what do you attribute it?—My opinion is, that they have refused applications made to them to permit the exportation from India to China of British staples and manufactures, upon occasions when they thought that granting permission, would interfere with the private advantage of their captains or officers, or of their own trade. There are instances where they have permitted it, and there are instances again, where they have refused it.

Are you acquainted with the exports of the Americans to China?—I believe the Americans carry bullion, dollars, principally to China, on one occasion, some years ago, they took a little cotton, and it is said they are going to carry it again this year, but the course of the American trade, for the most part, is generally to leave America with bullion, to traffic among the Oriental islands, and then to proceed to China.

Have you had occasion to know that, recently, the Americans, with a view to that trade which you have described, have been in the habit of taking out British manufactures in American ships?—Some months since, when I was likely to be called before another Committee in another place, I made some inquiries upon that subject, and I found two instances of goods exported from the port of London in American ships, to the value of £. 70,000, consisting of manufactures and specie. Since then, I have reason to believe, but I have not the details, that five or six other cargoes, of similar magnitude, have been exported from this place with the like view.

Do you know whether those exports were intended to go directly to China, or were intended for previous traffic among the Eastern islands, with a view of carrying the ultimate proceeds to China?—The two cargoes to which I have alluded, were intended for China itself, and I believe the greater part of those that have followed, have been for the same destination. I have understood, indeed, that the Chinese Hong merchants are getting into the practice of commissioning goods from the United Kingdom, to be sent out to them; and these commissions must be executed through Americans, because, as the law stands, they cannot be executed by British merchants.

How are the middling and inferior classes of the Chinese clothed?—I can only speak of my own personal observation at Canton, I should think the better sort of Chinese, in the colder season, are generally clothed in woollen or worsted cloths, and in warmer seasons, in cotton fabrics, the lower orders, mostly in the latter.

Are those cottons or woollens produced from their own manufactories?—The extract I have furnished, states, upon better authority than I can pretend to possess, that there is no manufacture in China of the description of woollen cloths, there are extensive manufactures of cotton.

Then, do you know from what sources the supply of the warmer description of clothing has been principally drawn?—Principally, I should think, from this country, through the East India Company, and through America by the Americans; also, overland through Russia.

J F Mitchell,
Esq
(12 April.)

To what extent do you think that the exports of either the cloths of America, or the manufactures of this country, could go to clothing the population of China?—Certainly to a very small extent.

Have they any cotton manufactories in China?—I believe they have very extensive; they manufacture cottons, nankeens, and silks.

Do they draw their cotton from China itself, or from India?—The Chinese market is and has been, for the last 30 or 40 years, supplied principally from India with cotton, principally from Bombay; but the Chinese formerly grew cotton themselves; and when I was in China, I recollect seeing a calculation, from which it appeared, that whenever the price of cotton rose above 12 taels the pecul, the Chinese could afford to produce cotton in China.

What is the usual price of cotton in China, the Indian imported from Bombay?—Seldom higher, on an average, than 12 taels the pecul, nor lower than 10.

Is the population of China in such a condition, as to make it probable that a very little difference in point of cheapness, would give the advantage to a Foreign market for the clothing of the people?—My knowledge of the population of China is confined entirely to Canton, it is very limited.

From what you have collected, what is your opinion upon that point?—I should think, judging from what I saw in China, that the Chinese are as likely to be able to purchase the conveniences and comforts of life, as any other people I know.

Do you think, that if we were in a condition to supply them with the materials of clothing, and other conveniences, much cheaper than they could make them at home, it is likely that the Chinese government would suffer the import of them to a considerable, or to an unlimited extent?—I believe that the Chinese government do not exclude or prevent the importation of any article which they consider conducive to the comfort and happiness of the people; the only article which they exclude, is an article which they consider injurious, I mean the article of opium; and it is expressly on the ground of its being a poisonous drug, that it is so excluded.

Having stated your opinion generally, that trade could be carried on much more extensively by private merchants, if they were permitted to do so; the Committee wish to ask you, whether when you were in China, and subsequently from information, you are not aware that the Company have always endeavoured to meet the demand?—I have no doubt that the Company have always endeavoured to meet the demand; and that the Company have done as much as they ever will be able to accomplish as a Company, but it is the very circumstance of their being a Company, that, in my opinion, prevents them selling so largely as private merchants would do.

Is not the Company's mark the security for the quality and quantity of woollen goods imported into China?—The Company's mark having been the mark under which those articles were first carried into China, and being considered a pledge or security as to quality and quantity, it has obtained great credit not only in China but in India, and it is a very common thing for a Chinese merchant to say, That he will take the article, provided it has the Company's mark; by which he means, that he will take it, provided he is secure of the contents being what they purport to be. This is the only advantage in my opinion, which the mark possesses. The marks of several of the great houses in India, are almost equally well known, and almost in as high estimation,

Does it happen to fall within your knowledge, that on the goods to which you referred, as having been lately sent from this country to China, a strong resemblance to the Company's mark has been affixed to the goods that have been so exported?—It is within my knowledge, that it was so; and I beg to observe, that this is one of those instances of minute attention to taste and circumstances, which will always give the private trader an advantage over the Company.

Does it happen to fall within your knowledge, whether the late importations into China have not been smuggled into that country?—I cannot state that it is, but I have understood, that a considerable portion of those exports have been made under orders from one of the Canton Hong merchants, and therefore I should doubt much they could go out in that manner. I am not aware of any law on the part of the Chinese government, that excludes any commodity except opium.

Do you know what is the duty that would be saved by smuggling?—I cannot state the duty, but it is very considerable.

Is it not about 17 per cent?—I cannot state it from memory.

Do you happen to know what is the state of the trade at present in China, for British

British manufactured cotton goods?—By the last account that I have seen of the Chinese market, the price of British cottons was not so favourable as it had been.

Then you do not happen to know, that they are now, by the latest accounts from China, without a demand?—I think it very probable, that if Canton prices current were produced, that we should find these words occurring in them, but in my mind, that is no sure criterion of the real state of the demand. I think, for instance, that an active private merchant in Canton, would find a demand where the author of the price current might very possibly not do so.

Supposing a trade to be carried on with the Eastern Archipelago, and the countries bordering upon it, what are the articles that they would principally take from us?—The principal articles of our export would be staples and manufactures, such as iron, copper, hardware, cutlery, glass ware, and woollen and cotton fabrics.

What could they supply in return?—Supposing an intercourse to be established between the depôt and China, their dead weight would consist of Siam and China sugars, and their light goods, of the more valuable Chinese commodities as well as spices.

What could those islands supply themselves?—Sugar, spices, coffee, pepper, and several other articles.

Do you know the mode in which the Americans conduct their trade with those islands?—I have stated, in a previous part of my evidence, that the mode of conducting the American trade to China, is, by purchasing with dollars the produce of the islands of the Eastern Archipelago, and carrying it into China, where they exchange it for articles that are fit for the European market.

Is that the mode in which you contemplate, that the trade carried on from this country to those islands should be conducted?—My idea of the best footing upon which the new trade to the Oriental islands could be conducted, is this, that there should be a depôt, such as Singapore, established in a convenient and eligible situation in the centre of those islands, that the British trade should go out to that spot, and there make the exchange for the Oriental products that would be brought there, to barter or sell for the British goods thus avoiding the navigation of the Malay islands, where it is necessary to have local information, and a knowledge of the languages; as well as protection against pirates, which frequently interrupt commerce in those seas. This would make Singapore the depôt for the outward cargoes, and for the collection of the homeward cargoes, and to which all the surrounding islands would trade in their own vessels, as well as the Chinese in their junks, in the cheapest possible manner.

Then you conceive, that to carry on that trade with those islands advantageously, it is necessary that there should be the means of obtaining Chinese produce for the homeward cargo?—Yes; I certainly consider that it would be necessary to obtain Chinese produce, for the purpose of bringing back the returns, in the event of the trade being at all extensive.

Do you include in that, the article of tea?—No; it would certainly be a great additional facility to the trade, to have the article of tea, but still I think that the trade would be carried on to a very considerable extent without it.

Do you think that if the article of tea was included, it would be the means of very much extending that trade?—I have no doubt that it would be the means of very much extending that trade.

And do you think, that if the article of tea is not included, the trade might always labour under great difficulties, and be subject to great limitation?—I certainly do think, that unless the article of tea is included, that the trade must necessarily be confined to much narrower limits than it would otherwise extend, and that while the trade in tea will grow up in the hands of our rivals the Americans, the East India Company will not be protected against the competition of others, by excluding British merchants.

Do you see any danger that could arise to the East India Company, from permitting British private merchants to trade in tea with the continent of Europe, if the monopoly in the supply of this country was sufficiently secured to the Company?—No; I certainly conceive, that no disadvantage could arise to the interests of the East India Company, from such a permission.

Can you anticipate any inconvenience, from the competition created by the private merchants of this country, to the interests of the East India Company in China, that is not already experienced from the competition of the Americans?—No, certainly I cannot. The Americans supply the continent of Europe at present,

J F Mitchell,
Esq.
(12 April)

and of course they must go into the Canton market to buy the means of the supply ; and the British merchant could do no more.

Do you know any instance of the Hong, as private merchants, ever having sent a cargo to the continent of Europe on their own account?—I cannot state that I know any particular instance ; but I have understood, that a very large portion of the American trade has been carried on with the assistance of advances made by the Chinese Hong merchants.

Is it not probable, that if British private ships had the same access to China that the Americans have, that the trade would be carried on through British ships, in preference to American ships?—I think it would follow, as a necessary consequence ; and one great facility would be, that a British merchant would always be able to buy his cargo in Canton for his bill upon London ; in fact, the Americans furnish themselves in general by credits upon London, which they have obtained from this country

Do you know at all what led to the Chinese merchants exporting on their own account?—I do not particularly know the reason

Do you happen to know the result of those expeditions to the continent of Europe, by the Americans, with the advances of the Chinese merchants?—The large advance which I had in my mind, was an advance made by Howqua some years ago, when I was in China, and in consequence of the interruption occasioned by the war between America and England, Howqua lay for several years out of his money, and met with losses ; but generally speaking, I have understood that Howqua expressed himself highly satisfied with the honourable conduct of all his American friends

Do you happen to know whether the adventure has been repeated in a similar manner?—I know that Howqua still continues to be the principal agent for the American ships in Canton, he buys and sells all their cargoes

Are you aware of any similar adventure?—No, I do not know of any

Do you happen to know what quantity of tea is now on the continent of America, exported thither by the Americans from China?—I cannot state the quantity.

Have you any reason to doubt, that it is less than four years consumption?—I really cannot say

Do you happen to know the state of the China trade in America?—I cannot give the Committee any information in the shape of particular details.

Is not every branch of trade throughout Europe, in the most depressed state possible, at present?—No doubt ; and has been so for some time,

If the trade with China was opened to the exports from this country, direct to China, in British private ships, and the exportation of Chinese commodities from China to the continent of Europe, were permitted, do you conceive any additional British authorities would be necessary, beyond the supercargoes of the Company, to be established at Canton for the control and superintendence of the conduct of the crews of British ships resorting thither?—I think it would be highly desirable that there should be a consul on the part of His Majesty at Canton ; but I do not think that any authority would be necessary beyond a consul, An accredited and acknowledged agent of His Majesty's government, would give every security that can be desired under the Chinese government

In the event of a depôt being formed in the Eastern seas, where, in your opinion, ought it to be established, with most advantage?—I think that the island of Singapore, of all the situations that can be named, is the most desirable

Is there any other?—The island of Banca is desirable, but that is in the hands of the Dutch.

Is there any other island equally desirable?—On the island of Bintan, nearly opposite to Singapore, there is a native Malay port, called Rhuo, said to possess a tolerably good harbour, and the situation favourable.

If you had taken a new commodity to China, would you show it to an outside merchant, or to a Hong merchant?—I certainly should prefer showing it to the outside merchant, because I think, through his means, the article would have the best chance of being introduced. It has frequently happened to me to send out articles to India, which, upon their first arrival, were declared to be unfit for the market, but which, within a very few weeks, sold at a profit.

To the inland merchants?—Yes.

Then is it your opinion, that if new articles are sent for consumption in China, it will

will be through the outside merchants, and not through the Hong merchants, that they will have the most chance of success?—I think the only way of extending the use of British manufactures in China, is by enabling free merchants to use all those means which free merchants will use, if they are left to follow their own interests, and for which they will have every facility at Canton.

The Hong merchants trade on a very great scale, do they not?—They do.

Are they likely to use their efforts to dispose of very small adventures that may be taken out by individuals, to so great a degree as the outside merchants will do?—It can scarcely be expected that any of these immense merchants, the greatest in the world, can possibly give their attention to these minute matters, at the same time that they are conducting such great undertakings. Howqua, for example, will introduce a person into his warehouse, of which he has the sole care and conduct himself, and in which will be seen arranged perhaps 20 or 30 cargoes ready for Europe, of all sorts of commodities, and in the course of half an hour, he will buy and sell property to an immense value, with a degree of facility quite unknown in any other country.

The East India Company only deal with these Hong merchants?—Only with the Hong merchants, but not with all of them, I believe.

J F Mitchell,
Esq.

(12 April)

Veneris, 13^o die Aprilis, 1821,

The Right Honourable THOMAS WALLACE, in the Chair.

Mr William Tate,

Called in, and Examined

WILL you state, if you please, what you are?—I am a merchant.
In what particular line are you a merchant,?—In the British cotton line.

Do you mean, you are engaged in the exportation of British cotton?—Yes, I mean the exportation of British cotton.

Have you, in your trade, been in the habit of exporting British cotton to the continent of India?—Yes, I have.

Have you been in the habit of exporting it on your own account?—Not on my own account. On the account of merchants here.

Have you found, that subsequent to the last charter, the export of British cottons to the continent of India, has increased, or decreased?—I have found that it has increased.

Has that increase been considerable, as far as your immediate connection with the trade, enables you to form a judgment?—It has

Has the increase been very considerable?—As far as my experience goes, there has been a very great increase.

What species of cottons might there be, in the trade of which to the continent of India you say this considerable increase has taken place?—Printed chintzes, long cloths, muslins, and latterly velvets.

Were these low priced goods, or high priced goods?—They were goods of all qualities, but chiefly low priced goods

Do you conceive, that these goods were for the use of the natives?—I am assured they are for the use of the natives, and it must be so, from the quantity that are exported

The velvets, and the other more valuable goods, I suppose, are for the use of the natives of the higher order?—I understand so; but most of the velvets go to China chiefly

Do they go to China through India?—Yes, they go to China through India.

Do you know whether they have found a considerable sale in China?—I am told they have, and I believe it is so.

How long is it since you first began to export velvets to India?—More or less have been sent for a number of years, but they have not been sent in quantities until within these last three years. In speaking of velvets, I mean velverets, thick-sets, &c.. There is a great variety in velvets

Mr
William Tate.

(13 April)

Mr.
William Tate
(13 April)

These are used chiefly for clothing in the colder parts of China, I presume?—I believe they are made a substitute for furs, in the northern parts of China; for the purpose of facing dresses and so forth; at least so I understood.

Have they been sent out through the medium of the East India Company, or by private adventurers?—They have been sent out by private adventurers, as far as I know.

Are these velvets you speak of, cotton?—All cotton.

Have you also been in the habit of sending out woollens?—No; that is not in my branch of the business. My trade lies only in cottons and linens of all denominations.

As you have been in the habit of trading to India, do you know any thing of a trade over land between this country to China?—Yes, I know something of it.

Can you state any thing to us on that subject now; or have you the means by you?—I shall be obliged if you will defer that to another period. I will give it in writing. If you wish it, I will state what I know now, as far as my memory will permit me.

Then will you be good enough to do so?—There has been an over-land trade through Russia to China, for many years; it commenced as early as the reign of Peter the Great, and was carried on then in coarse half-tanned leather, which the Russians exchanged on the frontiers of Tartary with the Chinese, for a few luxuries which they wanted, such as tea, rhubarb, &c. and some drugs. But as the Russians became more civilized, they became also more in want of luxuries, and consequently the trade increased.

How long is it since cottons, or any other manufactures of this country, have formed a part of that over-land trade, or were sent to China?—The first, to my knowledge, were in the year 1800, they were imported by some Russian merchants from Leipsic and Saxony.

What goods were then imported?—Velvets, and low-priced cottons.

Has that trade continued and increased?—It languished until 1809, when it increased very much from the Russians exporting teas; and at Caetka.

Have you any knowledge to what it amounted in the year 1809, and to what it amounts at present?—No; the Russians, by some means or other, got permission to send a certain number of Russian youths to Pekin, to acquire the Chinese language; and these youths were afterwards employed on the frontiers as interpreters and formed a body of merchants, who are privileged men, and are permitted to carry on this trade, they must be merchants who pay the patent of the first class, which is 500*l.* a year. The Russian government are exceedingly jealous of that trade, and do not permit any foreigner to participate in it, he must be a native-born Russian, and must pay the patent of the first class, which, as I said before, is 500*l.* a year; and therefore he must be some considerable person.

Do you suppose that, subsequent to the year 1809, a greater proportion of British produce entered into this trade, than in that year?—It increased, and continued to increase for some years, it received a check, however, during the Continental system, after 1809. Buonaparte's Continental system was about 1810 or 1811, about that time, a privilege was granted to the Prussian manufacturers, to allow the importation of woollen cloths, which gave them a decided advantage over the manufacturers of other countries.

Mr Donald M'Intyre, Called in, and Examined.

Mr.
Donald M'Intyre,
(13 April)

I BELIEVE, you are a merchant?—I am.

Are you a merchant carrying on trade with India?—Yes.

You have also, I believe, been a resident in India?—I have.

In what part of India have you been a resident?—In Calcutta; I have been at times a little into the interior, but I have been generally resident at Calcutta.

How long, have you been engaged in trade with India, including your residence there?—Nine years in India; I was absent from this country altogether ten years. I arrived from India in the month of July, in the last year.

Did you go out as a private trader?—Yes, I went out with free merchants indentures.

Have you an established house there?—Yes, I went out connected originally with

with the house of Duncan, Patrick M'Lachlan, and I was the resident partner in Calcutta for eight years; in the ninth year I took in three partners, whom I left there to take charge of the business, and now I am acting here

Have you been trading on your own account with India, during that period?—We have been trading on our own account until within these last two years, throughout all that period we took consignments, but we are now chiefly engaged in agency

During the time that you were in India, did it appear to you that the use of British manufactures, amongst the natives of India, was increasing?—When I first arrived in India the natives did not use cotton manufactures at all from this country I believe I was amongst the first that introduced them amongst the natives, from this country (In 1812, I began to import them for native consumption in a small degree, according to the encouragement I felt. In 1811, I did a little, but more by way of experiment. In 1812, the orders increased, and were since increasing gradually, and are now increasing to a very considerable extent, our consignments)

In what manner was that trade conducted?—First of all, I found it by attending to the delivery of the consignments, when the shopkeepers selected particular patterns for native consumption

The native shopkeepers?—Yes, and the European shopkeepers also, but the natives chiefly. I found them rather partial to some of the pieces of muslins, and I saw them actually divide them, to make dresses of. If they found a piece in a parcel of goods suited to their taste and fancy, they took it and cut it up, and made dresses of it on the spot. I also took a pattern of those descriptions, finding they liked them, and sent them home; the first experiments were all on our own account, without any orders.

After that time, you received orders?—After that time I received orders from the native merchants, and when I saw that a certain pattern suited their fancy, I ordered it from this country

Was it chiefly for the use of the natives in Calcutta, that these goods were, or was it for the use of the natives up the interior?—For Calcutta, and for the use of the natives up the country; but more particularly for the use of the natives up the interior

Was it from seeing the goods that you speak of, exposed in a shop, that they attracted the attention of the natives?—I cannot say it was, they might have seen them exposed in shops, but at any time that I have seen what I have now spoken of, it was when we were opening the packages. We generally had consignments of different descriptions of goods in the same packages, and amongst others there were particular goods which suited European ladies. I generally went round, on opening the packages, to examine the state in which they were, in the course of delivering them to the native shopkeepers.

Then, from knowing the taste of the natives, you showed them what you supposed pleased them?—No, it occurred to themselves first. I observed them taking notice of particular patterns, I naturally asked for what purpose they wanted them; and they told me, for the purpose of making dresses

At first, I apprehend, this trade was confined to a very few articles?—At first, it was confined to a very few

Then, did the number of articles increase, or was there an increase of the quantity in these particular patterns?—They increased in number also, and the trade increased in every thing in which we could imitate their own manufactures cheaper than they could do. We have tried experiments on their finer goods, but we could not do them in this country, but, generally speaking, we could imitate most of them

From the connections, through these means, which you formed with the native merchants, did you ascertain to what parts of the interior the British manufactures were chiefly carried?—They have been carried to the interior, as far as Thibet, to Delhi, and to the Mahratta States. I have had intercourse with the natives, direct from those places

Did you receive any orders from any considerable merchants resident in the interior?—Not from merchants resident in the interior, I did not like to take orders from people in the interior, because we were not particularly acquainted with them. Nor, indeed, did we like to take orders from the natives in Calcutta either

Do you conceive, that the native merchants in Calcutta bought these goods upon speculation

Mr.
Donald M'Intyre
(13 April)

Mr.
Donald McIntyre.
(13 April)

speculation to send into the interior, or that they had received orders from merchants in the interior to purchase these goods?—Some purchased on speculation, and some as agents of principals in the interior; and others purchased on their own account, for sale in Calcutta, and for experiment in the interior.

Is it customary for the principal houses in Calcutta to have resident agents throughout the country?—It is not generally so, but there are a few who have. We were one house who had. We had agents in the interior, but the natives did not willingly make their purchases of British manufactures from them.

Why do they prefer purchasing in Calcutta, to purchasing from agents in the interior?—Because they had more confidence in the goods being fresher by purchasing in Calcutta.

That applies to goods that would spoil; perishable goods I mean?—Yes; and cotton goods are of that nature. They will spoil if they are not looked after; if they are shut up for a long time.

And were there several houses, after your house was established, that carried on this trade at the same time?—Originally, that trade was almost principally confined to us, but now, I believe, there is not a house in Calcutta who do not receive consignments.

Did you, from time to time, send home patterns which suited the taste of the natives, to have more of that description sent out to you?—Yes; the natives are very capricious in their tastes, and that trade requires a good deal of study. At this moment there is a greater degree of study required in this branch of our trade than in any other.

Then that trade, as conducted now, has become a very considerable branch of trade to this country?—It has become very considerable.

Does it consist chiefly in cottons, or does it extend to other goods?—It has extended to woollens.

Within what period have the consignments of woollens been considerable?—Within these last few years only the consignments of woollens have been considerable. Throughout we have had small consignments of woollens merely for the use of the Europeans; but, I think, within the last four years, perhaps it may be five, but I will say four to be more sure, the imports of woollens, by private traders, have increased considerably in Calcutta.

Were they any particular description of woollens that were sent out?—Generally of the coarser descriptions.

The coarsest and the cheapest?—Not exactly; of course they were of a heavy description, but not very coarse.

Pray did that trade arise in the same manner as you have described the cotton trade arose?—It did.

And it has increased?—It has, as far as I have had an opportunity of judging.

I believe the East India Company have always exported a considerable quantity of woollen cloths?—They have generally imported a considerable quantity.

Do you know whether, in consequence of the import by private merchants, the export of the East India Company in woollens has been considerably diminished?—I do not think it has.

Have the East India Company ever been in the habit of exporting cottons?—I believe not, except heavy cottons, such as velveteens for China, but nothing of the sort to Calcutta, that I am aware of.

Then the trade in cottons from this country to India, is absolutely carried on by private merchants?—By private merchants.

Does it appear to you, from any information you have, that that trade is likely to be very much extended?—I think it is.

Is there any thing, that you have observed in the habits or prejudices of the natives, particularly of the higher ranks, that is likely to stand in the way of the general use of the manufactures of this country, if convenient to them, and coming within their means of purchase?—I never discovered any thing to the contrary. I have had people of the first rank in Calcutta coming to our warehouse, and select dresses for the holy days, when they are rather particular, and wish to have showy dresses; they have come into our warehouse, and selected our dresses, and preferred them to their own manufacture. I am speaking now of the first classes of natives, and the richest. We were not in the habit of retailing these goods; but by way of obliging these people, we would open a package to please them. I only mention that, to show that they had no prejudice against our manufactures. I might also mention, upon the subject of the manner in which the trade is extended, the confidence

confidence which the natives of the interior place in us; they now take these goods without opening the packages. They take them in the original packages in which they are exported.

That they have done with private merchants?—Yes, and in that state they send them into the interior.

Do you know whether any attempts have been made, to send the manufactures of this country into China, through Nepal?—I have no doubt whatever, that they have been sent there, because the Nepaulese are very considerable purchasers.

Have you any reason to know that, from any positive information?—No, but I know they have purchased direct from us. They have come from Nepal and purchased from us in Calcutta, to a considerable extent.

From the extent to which they purchased, was it your conjecture that they intended it for further trade; or merely for the supply of Nepal itself?—I could not say that; it did not strike me, it was for any other purpose but the interior consumption.

What species of goods were these?—Cottons and woollens.

Do you conceive, that the consumption of cotton goods, generally in India, has increased, or only the consumption of British cotton manufactures?—The consumption of British cotton manufactures.

Then is it to be inferred, that the consumption of the Indian cotton manufactures has diminished?—It certainly has.

Have you means of knowing, to what particular parts of India the demand for British manufactures is most prevalent?—In the upper provinces.

Belonging to Bengal?—Yes; and extending over to Bombay. They supply the other side of the country, and very often when they are short of supplies in Bombay, they come to our side.

Then, is the demand confined to British traders?—I should suppose not; I may say, certainly it is not confined to British traders.

Do you think there has been upon the whole, a much greater sale of woollens; or do you think it is only the private traders who now supply that, which the East India Company supplied before?—There has certainly been an increase in the consumption of woollens, for I believe the East India Company now import into the country as much as ever.

Since when has the demand from Nepal arisen?—Since the peace with Nepal. A good many Nepaulese came down at that time when the peace took place.

Are the Mahratta states supplied from Calcutta?—Yes, very considerably.

Do they take British goods to a considerable extent?—Yes, I believe they do.

How do the Nepaulese pay for their goods?—Generally they paid for them in cash; but they had some produce of their own, they had a very coarse kind of cardamom, and also wax, and different sorts of drugs, they have also a sort of madder root.

You mentioned, that you commenced business in 1811 or 1812?—In 1810 I commenced business in Calcutta.

How at that time did your exports from England take place?—Chiefly in Company's ships.

Was that under the Act of 1793?—Yes; there was a great number of country ships also coming and going.

Have you found greater facility in carrying on this trade since the renewal of the charter?—Certainly.

Are there still any inconvenient restrictions, either in the Act of Parliament, or in the Company's regulations, by the removal of which the trade would be still more extended?—The most immediate restriction is that of the size of the ships.

In what way does that operate?—Some private adventurers would find it more to their advantage, to send their goods in smaller ships of their own; that is, if they were allowed to go to different ports, instead of only to the different settlements.

From your residence in India, are you aware of any inconveniences that would arise from the permission to send smaller ships, or from the permission to go to the smaller intermediate ports?—Certainly, none of any consequence.

Does it not at this time require a licence from the principal settlements, to enable ships to touch at any of the intermediate ports on the coast of India?—It does.

Is that licence granted with facility?—Certainly not; there is a good deal of trouble attending it, and time lost, and after all that, they do not always obtain licences.

Is there any trade carried on between Calcutta and the Gulfs of Arabia and Persia?—I think a very considerable trade.

Mr.
Donald M^r Intyre.
(13 April)

Have you known these cotton goods exported to Persia from Calcutta?—I only in one instance exported them by way of experiment; but since then the Arabians who have the chief trade of the Persian Gulf, purchase them of us in large quantities, to carry there.

What do they give in exchange for your goods?—They carry down different sorts of coins; old coins of gold and silver; also some drugs, some very valuable, and of different descriptions. I could enumerate a great many, but probably it is not necessary. They also bring copper.

Do they bring the copper from Arabia, or from Persia?—I am not certain where it comes from.

Do the Arabians bring any coffee to Bengal?—Yes, they do; direct from Mocha.

Do you happen to know the extent of the capital employed in that commerce?—I do not know, without looking at the documents I have by me; but it is to a very considerable extent.

What size ships do the Arabs trade in?—Some in small, some in large vessels; but generally large.

Were they navigated principally by Arabs?—Principally; and some of them have got British commanders.

Do you send home from Calcutta the patterns for woollen goods, as well as for cotton goods?—Yes.

Are they in imitation of the native clothing?—No; they are entirely of our own manufacture.

Do not you make some in imitation of their shawls; are not the woollen goods made, some of them in imitation of their Cashmire shawls?—No; there have been some experiments made on a few patterns, but have not succeeded. A few patterns have been sent out, not in imitation of their shawls, but something like what we use for table covers, with a border round them; but nothing in imitation of Cashmire. In cottons, we send out imitations of their Cashmire shawls.

Were they thick, like the Cashmire shawls?—Yes, thick, exactly in imitation.

Are they made at Norwich?—I believe they are, and at Glasgow a good many.

Do you happen to know whether there is any trade in British manufactures, to Cabul or Cashmire?—There is not a doubt of it. A good deal of these goods were sent to Cabul, and I saw a Cabul merchant in our house at Calcutta, who bought a good deal of these goods to take there.

Had you any conversation with him?—Very little. I was, however, rather particular in asking him where he came from, he told me he came from Cabul, and was purchasing these goods for the use of his own country.

Did it appear to you, that this was a new speculation on his part; or did it appear in confidence of there being a demand for these goods in his own country?—I suppose it was from some of our goods having found their way to his country, through other channels, but they are not very communicative on such subjects.

In the various communications you must have had, in the course of your business with the native traders, from different parts of the country, or with native agents, was it the impression on your mind, that there was inclination for the use of British goods in the distant parts of the country, which was increasing rapidly?—It certainly was my opinion that it was increasing, and that it is now increasing.

Are you acquainted with the trade carried on from India to the Eastern islands and China?—I am, a good deal, but not from my having been there.

Have you ever yourself been in the Eastern islands or in China?—No, I never was.

But have you yourself carried on trade with the Eastern islands?—I have carried on trade with the Eastern islands, to a considerable extent.

When was it that you first commenced this trade with the Eastern islands?—It may be about four years ago.

Was that trade considerable, when you first entered into it?—Not from Calcutta; not in British goods. It was always a considerable trade in other goods.

But within the last four years, it has been carried on in British goods?—Yes, it has been carried on in British goods.

From the commencement, it has been an increasing trade?—I think it has; indeed there is not a doubt of it. It has increased very considerably, as far as relates to our British manufactures, our cotton manufactures; and I think it will also increase with regard to woollens.

If you have not been there yourself, have you had a great deal of communication with

Mr
Donald McIntyre.
(13 April)

with those who have personally conducted that trade amongst these islands?—Having an idea that our manufactures would be taken off there, I sent some small consignments, on experiment, to different ports to the eastward

To what ports did you make these consignments?—To Penang and to Batavia chiefly, but having got the information I wished for, I then sent out young men of our own, which was just the same as if I went out myself

What particular species of goods was it you sent out there?—The chief object of the voyage, generally, was that of getting off our British manufactures

What species of British manufactures do you mean?—Cottons

Were these adventures successful?—They were, more so than we expected. We got more for the goods there than we could get at Calcutta, that is, we realized more by them

Were you induced by that to increase your shipments?—Yes, and ultimately it induced us to send out goods straight from this, and to establish a branch of our house at Batavia

Were your exports made to Batavia, or to the Eastern islands?—They were made in vessels going circuitous voyages, we preferred those, (not having any vessels of our own,) that there might be a larger range for the collection of information

Did these vessels to which you first entrusted these goods, traffic amongst the Eastern islands?—Yes.

Have you sent considerable quantities of goods to Batavia, to be transported from thence into the different islands?—Most, undoubtedly we have

What did you receive in return?—Generally dollars, and some part in produce of the islands, sometimes a species of beetle nut, and different sorts of drugs, tin and copper also

And birds' nests?—They are included amongst the drugs sent for China.

These goods that you received, in return, were for the Chinese market?—No, they were intended for the Calcutta market, but now, as a direct trade is established, between this country and Batavia, it would be very much to our advantage to have our returns through China

Do these islands afford any produce that is fit for the European market?—Yes, coffee, pepper, sugar, and some other articles

Then if you were confined to the produce of these islands, a great proportion of your returns must be brought home in dollars?—Yes

Would that be the case if you had an opportunity of exchanging the produce of these islands for the produce of China?—Certainly not, we might be obliged to carry home dollars from China

Do you conceive it essential, with a view to carrying on any advantageous trade between this country and those islands, that there should be the means afforded of obtaining in China produce, an exchange for the produce of these islands?—I should think it very essential

When you speak of China produce, do you include the article of tea?—Yes; because without tea, a ship's cargo could not be well made up from China, at least not without serious loss to the ship-owner.

Are you at all acquainted with the trade to China itself?—I have not had a great deal to do with China, but I am pretty well acquainted with the trade

Have you had occasion to carry on any trade in Indian ships, between India and China?—I have had a little, not to any great extent, less in the China trade than in any other. We have consigned some of our British cotton manufactures, by way of experiment, to China

How did those adventures turn out?—They turned out very well.

Have you any reason to believe, that the consumption of British manufactures in China, is increasing?—Certainly, I have every reason to believe it is

Do the East India Company at this time, or did they during the time you were in India, and when you were more conversant with the trade, send out a sufficient quantity of European goods to meet the demand?—They could not have done so. If they did send out European produce to the extent of the demand required, we should not have got so much for our goods. There must be a great demand for these goods, or the people would not give so much for them.

Of what did your exports to China consist?—Chiefly in raw cotton. In fact we never did much with China. We sold the whole of our Bengal produce in Calcutta to native merchants or traders, who sold them to the Chinese

Did you ever send any woollens to China?—I never did

Mr.
Donald M. Intyck.
(13 April.)

Did you supply much cottons and woollens to China traders from your house?—We did not sell many cottons, because then the trade was not so well known to China, and woollens could not be carried there, not even in country ships.

For what reason could they not be sent from Calcutta to China?—They are an article prohibited by the Company.

For what reason are they prohibited?—I am not aware. They import large quantities of woollens into China.

And it would produce private competition with their own exports to China?—I suppose so

Did it appear to you, that if that prohibition had not existed, a considerable trade through India, in British manufactures, was likely to have been created in China?—I certainly think, in woollens and other British manufactures, there would have been.

Does this prohibition apply also to cottons?—No

Were cottons exported to a considerable extent, from Calcutta?—No, I believe to a very trifling extent. We made the principal shipments of cotton there. The principal shipments of cottons were made by ourselves, and to a trifling extent, because we were not aware whether they would succeed.

Have you reason to believe, that if greater facilities were afforded, the consumption of cottons or British manufactures in China, would increase?—Yes.

Why do you think so?—Because I do not see any prejudice that the inhabitants of China have to our manufactures, more than the inhabitants of Bengal or the other parts of India. In one of these experiments, I sent Mr. Anderson, one of our firm, to China

What was the result of his visit?—What we expected. He found our manufactures would sell very well in China, if they were suited to the tastes of the people. Some sold well, others did not.

Have you reason to believe, from any report you received from Mr. Anderson, that if pains were taken to suit the patterns and articles to the taste of the Chinese, that they would be likely to take a greater quantity of our cottons than they have hitherto done?—I have every reason to believe they will, to a considerable extent; both from the Calcutta branch of our house, and from the branch of our house in Batavia. And I have reason to suppose, that some of these manufactures are now going to China from Batavia in China junks

Have the Company ever exported cottons to China?—I am not aware of it, unless as I said before, it is in velvets and velveteens

What description of goods were they, that Mr. Anderson stated, were likely to succeed in China?—Woollens and cottons chiefly

Of what description?—Coarse woollens, and various descriptions of cottons, printed and white, that is, printed and plain.

Calculated for the higher or the lower orders of natives?—Calculated for all classes

Have Bengal goods, to a considerable extent, been sent to China?—Not much Bengal goods, except cotton

And muslins, I believe?—I am not aware of any muslins having been sent to China by the Company

What size are the vessels carrying on this traffic to the Eastern islands?—From eighty tons up to two hundred or two hundred and thirty tons

Do they ever lose any by piracy?—None.

Are they armed?—They are armed

How are they manned?—They are manned better than we generally man the coast vessels.

Supposing permission was given to British traders to come directly to ports of continental Europe, from India, do you think that much advantage would be derived by the trade of this country?—I think very great advantage would be derived from it

In what way?—In being able to dispose of a great part of the produce of India to a better account than it can be disposed of here; particularly from the Eastern islands, and, indeed, from all India.

Do you think such a permission would be calculated to extend the employment of British shipping?—It certainly would.

In what ships is the trade from India to continental Europe, now chiefly carried on?—Chiefly in American ships.

Do

Do you think that if British ships enjoyed the same freedom that American ships do, they would be likely to be preferred?—I think they certainly would

Will you state your reasons for that opinion?—All European traders would unquestionably, give a preference to British shipping; and, no doubt, the British shipping would carry their produce at fully as low a rate of freight as the Americans would, if not lower

Are you acquainted with the trade to Pegu?—I have not had any direct transactions there, but some of the natives of the East countries have been to Calcutta, and have purchased goods there from us

What description of goods was it they purchased?—Country produce, and a good deal of British manufactures. Cottons and muslins also They also purchased iron and ironmongery, of different descriptions, but cottons chiefly

Do you think that the manufactures of this country would find a market in the Burman territory, if small ships were allowed to go from this country there with our produce?—I should think they would In talking of American ships trading from this country, I should also say, that they carry a great deal of woollens from this country to China direct, and circuitously from their own country

Have you that from general information, or from your own knowledge?—Before I was aware of coming here, I was in one of the packing houses where the American goods are made up for foreign markets, and I saw several of the bales of goods finished off in the same manner as the Company finish their bales, with the name of the port they were to go to

Can you remember the name of the ship?—I do not; and I had not an opportunity of going back to see it, but I recollect there was the name of the ship distinctly on the package, and the word *Canton*, that I recollect distinctly, and the ship is now at the Custom-house, I hear.

Have the *Siamese* any trade direct to Calcutta?—They have a little, but they rather prefer trading to Singapore I understand now they have a good deal with Singapore, as much as the extent of the place will allow

What do they get in exchange from Singapore?—British manufactures, and they bring down their own goods to exchange

Are you of opinion that any and what benefit or advantage would arise to the British interests in India, if the present system of restricting individuals going from this country to India, were abolished?—I think it would be much to the advantage of British merchants, that the restrictions should be taken, in a great measure, off; that is, there is some difficulty, at present, in getting young men out, but I think also, it will be necessary to have reference to parties here, before they go out, though I do not think such great securities should be required, as are now required

What are the particular difficulties to which you refer?—Such as giving security to a large amount, which many young men cannot give, unless they have particular friends

Has a want of young men, for the purposes of business, been experienced in India?—No particular want that I am aware of, but there will be, as trade increases

Have any instances come within your knowledge, of licences being refused to individuals, who applied for them?—I have heard of a good many instances, but I have heard of but one lately

State the particulars of that one?—I was told by a house in the city, that they had applied for a licence, for a young man to go out to India, but it was refused

Then the Committee are to understand your view of the subject, is, that if the securities are reduced or wholly abolished, that would give great facility to young men going out to India, if respectable references only were required?—Undoubtedly

Are you acquainted with any rule which the Company have laid down for the exclusion of any peculiar class of persons from going out to India?—I am not acquainted with any rule, but I understand that no young men in the situation of clerks are allowed to proceed to India.

Have you, in your experience, felt any disadvantage from the want of a sufficient number of Europeans to act as clerks?—No, because we have had a sufficient number of partners in the house

Is it not easy to get half cast clerks?—Yes, they do very well for the Company's public offices, but they do not suit British merchants

Are you of opinion that the restrictions on tonnage should be withdrawn altogether, or only reduced?—I am of opinion that it would be better to withdraw it altogether, no British merchant will send his goods out in a ship that he does not consider sea worthy for such a voyage

Lunæ, 16^o die Aprilis, 1821.

The Right Honourable THOMAS WALLACE, in the Chair.

Charles Grant, Esquire,

Called in; and Examined.

*Charles Grant,
Esq*

(16 April)

IT is almost unnecessary to ask you, what situation you hold?—I have been an East India Director for six or seven and twenty years, saving the intermediate years

Will you state what, in your opinion have been the effects upon the Company's trade, by the openings granted to Private traders, in the last charter with respect to India?—I think it has reduced the scale of the Company's Indian trade to a certain degree, and reduced the profits upon that trade, I gave in something of a statement upon this head, to the Committee of the Lords, by whom I was examined, but I have it not now by me.

Do you think the increase of the trade carried on by private merchants, has been equal to the decrease of the Company's trade, or has very much exceeded it?—I believe the increase in the private trade, has been more than equal to the decrease in the Company's trade, in the same articles, I speak of the years that have passed; but I have not the least conviction that the present scale of the private trade will continue, it has been decreasing for the last two or three years.

Have you any other reason for thinking that the private trade will not hold, than the decrease in the last two or three years?—I understand that a great part of the exports of this country to India, particularly on the Eastern side, Bengal, has either remained unsold, or sold at a great loss

Are you informed, whether that is not owing to the excess to which that export has been carried in the course of the last two or three years?—I have no doubt that such excess has contributed, but I believe the greater part of what has been sent abroad, was excess above the consumption, all the articles sent abroad, being, as I conceive, intended for the use of Europeans; except cotton piece goods, which have been sent of a sort adapted for the use of the natives

Have you reason to believe, from the information that has reached the India House, that the consumption of the manufactures of this country, latterly, has considerably increased, and is increasing among the natives of India?—I have no reason to think that any material increase has taken place, except in that single article of cotton manufactures

Can you state in what proportion the export of the cotton manufactures of this country has increased, through the private merchants?—I believe the whole of the exports of cotton manufactures, to the Eastern parts of India, may be considered as a new export, since the opening of the trade; but I do not think the exports hitherto made, constitute any criterion for determining the settled demand of that country, in the article of cotton piece goods, because there is no evidence that the whole of them have sold, and there is evidence that part of them has been re-exported to the Eastern islands from Bengal With regard to Bombay and its vicinity, and that side of India, I believe the cotton fabrics of England have had greater currency in the sale, because they were opposed by no great cotton manufacture in that quarter.

But the fact is, that the amount of British manufactures, exported to India, has been considerably increased, under the openings afforded by the last charter?—There is no doubt of that fact, but there is no evidence that the sales have been in any proportion to the exports

When did the exports of cotton manufactures, from this country, by private merchants, commence?—I conceive that the trade may be said to have become an observable trade, from the opening of the charter, there were some assortments of cotton fabrics sent to Bombay, long before then, but to no great extent.

Has it not been gradually increasing from that period?—I think not; I think the increase was rapid, and it is now upon the decline, taking the trade generally.

The

The question refers to that particular trade, the export of cotton manufactures?—With respect to cotton manufactures, I really cannot exactly state how the proportions have stood, in the last four or five years; but as the number of ships engaged in the trade, has very materially decreased, and gradually, in the course of the last three years, it is not improbable there has been a decrease in that article too.

Charles Grant,
Esq
(16 April)

Can you state, whether the decrease of shipping in India, has not been owing to the quantities of shipping that were deprived of employment, at the conclusion of the war, and were sent to India, with a view to find an employment there, in much greater quantities, than employment could be found for?—Yes, I believe that a number of ships, out of employment, rushed into the Indian trade, at the time of its opening.

Up to that period of the last two or three years, when those ships so rushed into the Indian trade, was not the trade, conducted by private merchants, considered profitable to them, both with respect to the manufactures and the ships?—I believe quite otherwise, I believe it to have been a losing trade, from the time of the opening of the trade till now.

State your reasons for believing that?—It is a matter of perfect notoriety, that the exports of this country, in Calcutta, have sold there for less than prime cost, and that part remained unsaleable, the inference from thence is unavoidable, that the trade must have been a losing one.

Do you mean, that that has been the case from the opening of the trade, up to the present time?—I believe it has; and I have the confirmation of the Reporter of external commerce in Bengal, whose statements I have delivered in some time since, to the Lords, and which go to that point.

What are your grounds for concluding, that the trade has continued to decrease, for the last two years of the period?—The decrease of the number of ships employed in it.

You have mentioned, that you judge of the decrease of the trade, from the decrease of the shipping employed in it; the trade now carried on being chiefly in cotton and woollen goods, might not an extended trade go on, with a diminished quantity of shipping?—In the first place, I do not understand that the trade consists only of cotton and woollen goods; I speak of the general trade, not of one or two articles; but with respect to one of those two articles, woollens, of which I have not spoken before, I apprehend the consumption of them in India, has not perceptibly increased, whatever the exports may have been; and with respect to the cottons, it is no doubt possible, that the export of them may not have decreased, although the number of ships on the whole, may have decreased. But as cottons cannot form a cargo of themselves, and as every cargo that goes must be an assorted cargo, from the diminution of the number of the ships in general, I am led to infer, there may have been a diminution in that article likewise, but whether there has or not, there is no evidence of the currency of the sale of those articles, in the eastern parts of India particularly.

You have stated, that cottons would not form a cargo of themselves, this is alluding to the size of the ships that those goods are sent out in, do you, from thence conclude, that small ships would be an advantage to those who wish to ship investments of cotton goods alone?—That is a point upon which I do not feel myself particularly qualified to speak, but in general, I do not believe, that the size of the ships hitherto sent out has decreased, nor am I aware, that even in small ships a cargo could be composed of cotton goods only.

You have stated, that the principal consumption of cotton goods in India has been at Bombay, in consequence of no manufacture, or at least none to any great extent, being established in that country?—Yes, meaning thereby a greater currency of sale.

Are you acquainted with the comparative cost of the manufacture of articles of nearly a similar quality in England and in India?—No; really that is a point upon which I believe there is hardly any accurate information in this country.

Is the sale of British cottons in India, at all affected by the prejudices of the natives in favour of their own manufactures?—I apprehend they have very little feeling of that sort.

Then, if we could supply India generally with cotton manufactures, at a cheaper rate from this country than she could be supplied by her own manufactures, is it not your opinion, that to the extent of the consumption the trade might be entirely

Charles Grant,
Esq.
(16 April.)

carried on almost from this country?—In the first place, I do not conceive that the articles worn by the common people, in the vast interior of Hindostan, which are of the lowest description, and of the cheapest rate, could ever be well supplied from this country, so as to drive out the native articles they now use. I conceive the British cotton fabrics, which are now used there, are chiefly bought by persons above the lowest class, and resident in the British settlements. But with respect to that very large question, I take the liberty to offer one remark; (we have, by protecting duties at home, and our improvements in machinery, almost entirely excluded from this country the cotton fabrics of India, which were formerly their great staple, and if we use the power we have over that country now, to introduce into it the fabrics of this country, so as to exclude their own, it may be questioned how far we act justly with respect to our Indian subjects, for it may be taken for granted, that if they were under an Indian government they would impose protecting duties upon their own fabrics, in their own market, as we have done in ours.)

Would not a great compensation be given to India, for the loss her manufactures would sustain, in consequence of the supplies being principally sent from this country, by the encouragement which is given, and which might be still further increased in the markets of this country, to raw articles the produce of India?—I very much doubt it, I know of no great raw articles that country could supply to this, except cotton, sugars, raw silk, indigo, and a few others of minor consideration. With respect to cotton, the state of it in this market now is well known; a great deal of it is stored, which cannot be sold at prime cost. With respect to indigo, there is as much comes from India now as supplies all Europe. With respect to sugar, it is already under a disadvantageous duty, and were it to come in greater quantities it would only serve to reduce the produce of our colonies, of the low price of which the complaint is now general.

Has not in fact, the supply of cotton from India been very much increased, in the few last years?—No doubt it has; there is a great deal now on hand unsaleable, at prime cost; and there does not seem a hope of entering into competition with the American cotton at this market, unless some very great change should happen in the state of the political and commercial world. And I beg to observe once for all, that I do not take the quantity of imported goods from India into this country, nor the quantity of goods exported from this country to India, since the opening of the trade, to be any criterion of either the amount or the success of that trade, as long as it is known that great quantities of British goods remain unsold in India, and great quantities of Indian goods remain unsold in England.

Is not the quantity of silk, supplied from India, rather increased?—The quantity of silk, supplied from India, was very large before the opening, during the late war, that has since been somewhat increased, but chiefly by the Company, because they are now more confined with respect to other exports from India.

Is it not probable, from the greater value of silk, as an article of raw produce, that it may hereafter be considerably increased?—I conceive, that the state of the silk manufactures in this country, must regulate the quantity of raw silk imported from India, but if there is any increase in the present scale required, the East India Company are perfectly competent to give that increase, and have advantages and facilities from their long established factories, which private traders, going single voyages, cannot possibly have.

Is not a considerable quantity of Indian silk supplied to the manufactures of other countries, beyond the manufactures of England?—I am not aware that there is any Indian silk exported from this country; nor do I know of any export of Indian silk to Foreign Europe, from India.

What other articles of British manufacture, are principally in consumption among the natives of India, besides cottons?—They use woollens to a certain moderate extent, in the cold weather; (I speak chiefly of the eastern parts of India;) and except some consumption of metals, I am not aware of any other considerable article, the produce of this country, used by the Indian people. Of late years, a quantity of empty glass bottles have been sent, which is a new article, and I believe has had some currency there.

Has the consumption of woollen manufactures much increased, since the opening of the trade in India?—I apprehend not; it is possible that the extremely low price to which the woollens exported by private merchants have fallen, might have induced some new consumption of them; but it by no means follows, that when the price is at a proper level, that the consumption will continue.

Have

Have the goodness to explain, what you mean by a proper level?—I mean a rate that would allow a living profit to the manufacturer and merchant here.

Then, if the price of the woollen manufactures in this country should still increase, a more considerable consumption would be obtained for it in India?—Both these are hypothetical assumptions; in general, however, the climate is very little calculated for the use of woollen manufactures.

Is there any native manufacture of woollen?—In the higher India, there is a very coarse kind of blanket which they use, and a very coarse kind of cloth, made of goats hair, something resembling some of our very coarse woollens, but chiefly confined to the higher India.

Is there not a considerable consumption of woollen manufactures on the Malabar coast, amongst the natives, for the purpose of clothing?—I am not aware that there is; during the existence of the native princes there, it is possible a quantity might be purchased for the clothing of their Sepoys, but we have taken that business into our own hands.

You have stated, that since the opening of the trade, there has been a considerable accumulation of the productions of India in Europe, and of the manufactures and productions of this country in India, beyond the demand in either, notwithstanding, is it not a fact, that the consumption of the productions of India, particularly the great staples, cotton, sugar, saltpetre, indigo and silk, in Europe, and British manufactures and metals generally, in India, has increased since the period of the trade being opened?—With respect to the consumption of cotton in England, which article I take to be the most considerable of the imports from India, I believe it was very materially promoted by the last war with America, which suspended the importation of American cotton into this country, but since the return of the regular intercourse with America, I understand the sale of Indian cotton has extremely flagged, and that now there are very large quantities of it unsaleable, in the warehouses in England. In such a state of things, I do not know how to affirm that the consumption is on the whole increased. The importation of sugar, I believe has increased, and I believe, too, there has been an increased sale of it, but, I apprehend, at losing prices, and I do not conceive, upon the scale of the prices at which it has gone lately, that the trade in it can increase. Saltpetre, as far as it is necessary for the dunnage of ships, must have increased too, from the increased number of ships employed, but that is an article, the extent of which must depend upon the general trade, as it is used for ballast, and in a time of general peace, I do not conceive that the consumption of it can have materially increased in any way. With respect to indigo, the quantity annually imported has, for a series of past years, rather exceeded the demand of Europe, and it is now the great object of the Indian capitalists through whom this trade is carried on, to reduce the produce in India; I have the opinion of one of the most eminent merchants concerned in that trade in India, and I am very much inclined to accede to it myself, from some knowledge of the subject, that the indigo trade has for some years past been, on the whole, a losing concern. With respect to silk I have already spoken; I am not aware that the consumption of it has of late much increased. I am not at all informed of the consumption of British metals in India; I believe the exportation has been increased.

Are you aware that when peace was made with America, in the spring of 1815, the interruption occasioned by the war had left a considerable stock of cotton accumulated in the United States, that notwithstanding that, the importation of cotton from India, in the years 1815, 1816, and 1817, was large and regularly increasing, and that its results, generally, were very beneficial to the importer?—I am not aware of the latter circumstance, the increase of imports in those years, I believe

Are you aware that since that period, the importation has also been very considerable; but that owing to the very extended cultivation of the United States, and in the Brazils, the supply to the market of this country has been carried to so great an extent, as to cause a great reduction of the price in this country, both of the cottons of those countries, and of India?—My answer went to the question about the Indian trade, and to a direct fact which is well known, that there is a great quantity of Indian cotton now on hand, and has been for a considerable time here unsaleable, and as I have understood, not to be sold now at the prime cost.

Can you state to the Committee, what is considered a fair remunerating price to the grower of cotton in India, under ordinary peace freights and insurances?—I have seen calculations of that sort, but I cannot take upon myself to offer any

Charles Grant,
Esq.
(16 April.)

thing to the Committee worthy of their notice, in point of accuracy; the rates of land, and the fluctuations of the market, making it very difficult to state any standard of that kind.

Do you think that India will ever be able to supply Europe with cotton, in competition with the United States and the Brazils, upon equal terms of duty, in time of peace?—I would not wish to decide absolutely upon so very important a question; but I confess that it appears to me India would not be able.

Are you apprehensive that the Americans may interfere with the cotton market in China, which is now supplied from British India?—I have heard that they either have commenced, or are about commencing such an undertaking; but by the advices received from China, the other day, I apprehend they are not likely to succeed, and that even the Indian cotton there is likely to fall in value, because the Chinese appear to have increased the culture of their own cotton, and to give a decided preference to it wherever they can.

Can you inform the Committee, what was usually the ordinary price of cotton in Bengal, after productive seasons, previous to the opening of the trade?—The export trade in cotton in Bengal, is only a recent business, and the cotton so exported is not produced in the Bengal provinces, but in the countries about the Jumna. There have been great fluctuations in the price, almost annually, and without a reference to papers and figures, I am not able to state to the Committee any one price that may be taken as the general standard, with respect to that cotton.

Can you answer the question, as to Bombay?—Neither can I undertake to answer that question, with respect to Bombay, the fluctuations there having been also considerable, on account of the continually increasing demand, for a series of years, in China.

In point of fact, has not the demand for cotton goods, from this country, since the trade was opened, led to a material increase in the price in India, and a consequent advantage to the growers in that country?—That there has been an increase in price, since the opening of the trade, I believe, but that the growers have profited much by it, I doubt, I believe it has chiefly centered with the capitalists, employed in the purchase and export of the article.

Do you not, therefore, attribute the cotton trade between Europe and India, entirely to the circumstances which excluded the cotton of America, and do you not think it is not a trade likely to be followed up with success, without the existence of such circumstances as shall give it temporary advantages?—I am inclined to believe, that upon the opening of the trade, there would have been a rush into the export of this article, as well as others, independent of our rupture with America; but I have always conceived, that that event was an extremely fortunate one, for the exporter of Indian cotton. That Indian cotton can continue a great article of export from that country to this, in usual times, and in opposition to importations from North and South America, though I very much wish it could, I own, I doubt whether it can.

Do you not consider it to be an injury to the interests of India, to have occasional inducements held out, under temporary circumstances, to go into a cultivation, which, when those circumstances cease, must be dropped?—I believe India has several times suffered, from causes of that sort, and I think that is one of the evils of the whole of the trade, between India and Europe, that it is liable to very great fluctuations, and, within my memory, has never been reduced to a regular steady trade.

Is not the expense of labour and cultivation, generally, of cotton in India, understood to be much lower, than in either the United States or the Brazils?—I am not enough acquainted with the price of labour and cultivation, in the United States and the Brazils, to speak to that point, but I should conceive, the answer must be in the affirmative.

Is not the quality of the cotton, at present raised in India, generally inferior to that of both the United States and the Brazils?—I have understood so.

Is it not more owing to the inferiority of quality, than the expense of production, that the cotton of India cannot be sold in the markets of this country, on terms equally advantageous to the exporter, as that of the United States and the Brazils?—I take the inferiority of the quality to be a very essential circumstance in this question, and that, upon which the failure of the article, in this market, has turned.

Are there not, in some districts of India, cotton of a very superior quality, but in limited quantity, now raised?—No doubt, on the vast continent of India the quality of the cotton must be various, and in some districts, particularly Dacca, in Bengal,

Bengal, it is peculiarly fine, but that is to a small extent, if the quality of Indian cotton could be materially improved, it might very much alter the state of the trade.

Can you give any reason for the inferiority of the cotton; does it proceed from the difference of the soil, or from the difference of labour in preparing it?—I should conceive both the soil and the skill in culture

You have stated, in a former answer, that the Company, from the establishment of their factories, and other advantages in the interior, could procure silk on better terms than the owners of, or adventurers in, private ships; for single voyages, do not the established houses of agency in India possess advantages that enable them to purchase silk, and the other productions of India, on terms equally advantageous with the Company?—I apprehend not, with respect to silks, certainly not

You have also stated, that cottons, woollens, metals in their raw state, and empty bottles, have been exported to a greater extent to India since the trade was opened, has not the export and consumption of other articles of British manufacture, such as china and earthenware, glass-ware, manufactured hardware of all descriptions, saddlery, haberdashery, hosiery, besides many other articles of less importance, likewise increased?—I have no doubt the exportation of all these articles may have increased; and I have heard, that several of them may be purchased in Calcutta for even half of the prime cost, but I do not at all know that the consumption has much increased.

For some years after the opening of the trade, was there not large quantities of silver bullion exported from this country to India, in order to provide funds for the payment of the importations from thence?—For indigo and cotton it is very probable there were Indigo, at all times, has been partly exported from thence by means of supplies of bullion from this country I presume the same may have been the case upon the large increase in the import of cotton

During the last two years to eighteen months, has not the exportation of bullion greatly decreased, and of late ceased almost wholly?—I apprehend not, but the decrease which may have taken place, I ascribe very much to the fall of exchanges in India, which are now become much more favourable for remittance to this country than they were.

To what causes do you impute that fall in the exchanges?—I am inclined to ascribe it to the stagnation of trade there, in different articles, money not being so valuable there as it was

May that not be owing to the circumstance of the extensive exports from this country having produced a surplus of money, which it is found difficult to remit?—I apprehend not, many of those exports not having sold

Must not also the alteration in the exchanges of India have arisen, in a great degree, from the altered value of the pound sterling, as compared with gold and silver?—They have been partly affected by the cheaper purchase of bullion in this country, to export to India

Do you not consider that the open private trade to India, has not yet lasted long enough, to form any sound conclusions as to its consequences?—I have myself formed no further conclusion than this, that the scale of exports thither, since the opening of the trade, and the scale of exports from India to this country, has been greater than formerly, and all that I meant to infer from that statement was, that the mere exports from one country and the other, which have been often alleged of late as criteria of the value of the trade, furnish no criterion at all

It having been stated, that saddlery, glass ware, hardware, and other minor articles, have been exported to an increased amount to India, are you not aware, that those formed a great part of the trade of the captains and officers of the Company's ships?—Undoubtedly; it was chiefly in their hands before the change.

So that the increase, in a great measure, may be considered a transfer, rather than an augmentation of imports?—It is a transfer of what they used to carry out before.

And as the ships employed by the Company are now reduced in number, of course their captains and officers are?—Certainly

Will you state whether it is your opinion, that the restrictions now remaining upon ships, and the access to different ports in India, except those of the Presidencies, are essential to the security of the interests of the Company?—With respect to the size of the ships, limiting the lowest scale to 350 tons, it proceeded entirely from an apprehension, that if numerous small vessels were introduced into the trade of Eastern India, depredations might ensue upon the natives of the Eastern islands;

Charles Grant,
Esq.
(16th April)

in any other respect, it is of no sort of consequence to the Company. With respect to the admission to the minor ports of the continent of India, the design of that restriction was, to prevent the access of vessels to places where there was no British authority on the spot, and so to prevent the irregularities that might ensue; there may be still some danger of this kind, but I do not hold it to be of any great importance, nor do I think the Company attach any great importance to it.

With respect to the ships, has the experience which has been had of the conduct of the Private trade, since the opening under the last charter, in your opinion, tended to remove the cause of these apprehensions?—I believe that very few ships from this country have gone to the Eastern islands; those that have gone to India have generally resorted to the principal ports, and then have been subject to the regulations of the country government.

Are you of opinion, that if it was deemed desirable to the trade of this country that those restrictions, with respect to ships and ports, should be removed, that any material objection would be opposed to it by the East India Company?—I am not authorized to say what the Company might think fit, upon such a question, to do; the impressions I have stated, as far as I know, are probably the impressions of the body of Directors at large.

Have any cases been reported to the Company, of depredation, since the opening of the trade?—I have mentioned that few ships, I conceive, have gone to the Eastern islands, where those things were apprehended, and because there is no regular government there, to take cognizance of disorders that might happen in those numerous islands; not what might happen in India, where there are regular governments.

The Committee are to understand, that the apprehension applies to islands and ports where no British authority existed?—To the Eastern Archipelago and the surrounding coast.

Do you not suppose the native authority on those islands, would be sufficient for their protection, in any case of that description?—Except so far as the authority of the Dutch government extends, I think there is no protection of any kind, in any of those governments.

Are not those seas particularly liable to depredations, by native pirates?—Yes; the whole country may be said to be in a state of disorder.

Is it not therefore presumable, that a people living under such a state of things, would be particularly guarded against any act of depredation and outrage from any quarter?—They are almost all in a state of hostility one with the other; there is no safety; on both sides mutual injuries take place. These barbarous people will take revenge on an innocent vessel, for an injury they have sustained from another; then there may be retaliation of the same kind from the other side, and it is more likely to happen from British ships, where there is no British control or inspection.

The Committee is therefore to understand, that your apprehensions apply to the consequences that might result to the persons so trading, and not to any interests of the Company?—No; the interests of humanity, not the interests of the Company, and also the credit of the country.

If therefore greater extension was given to that trade, you are not aware that the interests of the Company could suffer by it?—It was not the interests of the Company that regulated these points, as I mentioned before.

Have reports been made to the Company, of any great irregularities of this description, on the part of the vessels of other nations who trade freely in the Indian seas?—There are very few ships of any European nation, or of America, that trade in those seas; in fact a great deal has been said about that trade, but I believe it will be found that very few ships of any nation trade there, except those that go from the settlements in India; I mean, none from the states of Europe or America.

Is not the trade entirely open to all other but British vessels, or is there any other country in Europe, which puts its subjects under the same restrictions that the subjects of this country are put under?—I am not aware of any regulations to that effect on the continent of Europe; the Act in question passed at a time when none of the nations on the continent had any settlements in India; the European settlements were all in our possession; and with respect to the admission to the trade, no nation in the world, that I know of, is prohibited from trading there; there is no exclusion of any kind; the only circumstance, is, limiting our ships to the size of 350 tons; and that was from a humane political reason.

Do you know, whether subsequent to the last charter, the trade with the Gulf of Persia from India, has been much increased?—I rather think the trade, in the course of the last forty years, has declined to both the Gulfs of Arabia and Persia.

The question meant, as compared with the period immediately preceding the last charter?—I think the trade was at a very low ebb, as far as my recollection goes, about the period of the charter, owing very much to the unsettled state of Persia, and the misgovernment and disordered state that country had been under for many years.

Then, in point of fact, however, it has been increasing since the opening of the trade?—Of that I am not much aware; I believe the increase has been but very moderate

Do you know, whether the export of British manufactures to the Gulf of Persia, has been extended from India?—The report of the external commerce of India, will show, specifically, what has been done in those articles, I have not sufficient recollection of it, to enable me to speak accurately to it.

Do you know, whether, subsequently to the last charter, the transport of British manufactures into the interior, and the upper provinces of India connected with it, that are independent of us, has been increasing?—I have not heard of it, and I very much doubt it, from the disturbed state of that country during the late war there.

Is it your opinion, that the prohibition of all Private trade to China, is necessary to the security of the Company's trade with that country?—There is a large private trade carried on now, from India to China, under the auspices and superintendance of the British government in India, which has not endangered the trade of the Company; but as to an open trade from this country, in the ships and by the subjects of this country, to China, I am decidedly of opinion that such a trade would expose to great hazard, the existing trade of the Company with China

State your reasons for that opinion?—To do justice to my view of this subject, would require a considerable time, and the production of many documents with which I have not come prepared; but I have given, both my opinions and the documents upon which they are founded, to the Committee of the Lords, sitting upon the Foreign trade. In general, it is to be recollected, that the Chinese government has itself, imposed a rigorous monopoly of the foreign trade into China. That there is only one channel for that trade, called The Hong, consisting of ten or eleven merchants; and foreign goods cannot be imported or sold in China, but through the medium of that Hong, which therefore is to be considered as one individual, acting by unity of council and operation. If a number of individual traders dealing in the same articles as the Company do, were to enter into competition with them, the consequence would be, to throw the price of the imported articles, entirely at the mercy of the Hong, reducing them to the lowest point; and in the same manner, to raise the price of the commodities, required to be exported from China, both upon the Company, and upon individuals,—according to the rigid rules of the Chinese government, there is no escape from this difficulty. There are a set of people, called Outside traders, at Canton, (the only place in China, at which foreign commerce is admitted,) who, under the sanction of the members of the Hong, are permitted to deal in retail, in foreign commodities, but they are entirely at the mercy of the Hong; and if they ever do any thing to displease them, they stop their trade immediately. I have a recent instance, which has been sent to me now, which shows that 200 shops of the outside dealers, have been shut up lately, in consequence of the edict of the viceroy and Hoppo of Canton, on the complaint of the Hong merchants. In the next place, the jealousy and repulsive character of the Chinese government, with respect to foreigners, is extremely well known, it is with great difficulty, the Company have been able to maintain themselves there, and keep the establishment they now have, by a long course of prudential management and a fixed permanent trade, of an extent that gives them great consideration in the country. If a number of individual traders, from this country, were to proceed there, under the sanction of the legislature, and as it might be believed, with no great disposition to maintain the interest of the East India Company, the consequence might be expected to be, a state of contention and resistance to the establishment of the Company, which would tend, in the course of time, to subvert the whole of their establishment. Besides, the character of British sailors, and their proneness to enter into disorders, which are odious to the Chinese, are well known; and the danger of that kind would be much increased by the indefinite resort of individual traders. I state these things briefly here, having stated them at so much length, before the other Committee.

Charles Grant,
Esq

(16 April)

Charles Grant,
Esq
(16 April.)

Are there any of those reasons that do not apply as much to the Americans, as they do to the Private traders of this country?—I think they do not equally apply to the Americans; because in the first place they bear no proportion to the number of private traders that would resort there, if the trade was open to this country, they have not, I conceive, at all the same feelings to the East India Company that those traders would have, nor do they go with the confidence which those traders must be inspired with, if proceeding under the sanction of the Legislature. I should apprehend, from such a state of things, a collision, which must end in the subversion of the East India Company's establishment there altogether.

Is there any reason, why the Private trader should feel differently, going under the permission of the law of this country, from the American traders, going under the permission of the law of their own country?—I have just mentioned, I believe, that those traders would go with no friendly feelings towards the East India Company; and I freely confess my apprehension to be, that if they were admitted into the smallest share in this trade, they never would rest till they got the whole of it.

What reasons have you for these apprehensions?—I have seen the same thing happen with respect to the East India trade. In the year 1793, for the first time, British individuals were admitted into some share in the trade to India, through the Company's ships. Not satisfied with that, they soon remonstrated, and claimed to have ships particularly set apart to convey their trade; that was done. Still not satisfied, they then claimed a free trade, without carrying their goods at all in the ships of the Company; that was the last point to which things were brought, at the renewal of the charter in 1813. I have been a spectator of all this from 1793, and I freely own, that I expect the same spirit would prevail with respect to the China trade.

Have the Private traders used any means to obtain those ends, but that of convincing the Legislature, that it was essential to the commercial advantages of the country, that they should have them?—It is not my business now to enter into a review of these proceedings, or to inculcate those who I may think have acted irregularly, and as to convincing the Legislature, I have seen a great deal upon that subject, upon which it is not necessary to enlarge.

Have the interests of the Company suffered materially in China, by the intervention of the Americans?—The Americans, who by the way, I believe, came in under the Company's establishment there, have carried on their chief trade for the supply of their own very extensive territories; so far I do not apprehend that the Company can be said to have suffered by them, because the Company were not in the habit of supplying those territories with China goods. The Americans did besides, for a time, supply some of the British colonies in their neighbourhood in America; and in that respect the Company, I think, have suffered by them, though not to a very great extent.

The question went, rather to the inconveniences that the Company had suffered from them, in China, than elsewhere?—I have mentioned that the Americans, I believe, originally came in with the good will of the British establishment there. They have risen gradually in their trade, and have been very prudent and careful, and I do not know that the Company have suffered much inconvenience, or much loss, from that trade. Because with regard to their imports into China, they have been, till very lately, chiefly in bullion, and with respect to their exports, the only article in which they entered into competition with the Company, was tea, which they usually purchased, after the Company had provided their supplies for the year.

Do not the Company usually purchase, by a previous contract made with the Hong merchants, their supplies for the year?—Yes.

Then, in that respect, would not the private British merchant be in the same situation as the American?—I apprehend, if an indefinite and probably large number of private ships, of whatever country, were to enter there, each acting for himself, it must occasion very great competition, that would immediately affect the prices, whether they were settled by contract, or ready money purchases, or in any other way.

Does not the American tonnage, employed in that trade, nearly equal that of the East India Company, at present?—No; I think by no means; besides it is very uncertain, and the Company's is a regular fixed steady trade, the American, I conceive, not to be so, except as regards the supply of their own country to a certain extent.

The

The American tonnage is very large, is it not?—The tonnage has, in several years, been very large, but much the greater part of it employed in the trade to America; that part does not enter into competition with Europe

Charles Grant,
Esq
(16 April)

Have not the Americans acted independently of each other, in individual adventures?—They are not a Company certainly, they act under a consul there, who it may be presumed influences their proceedings a good deal

Have you ever heard of any suspension of the American trade, in consequence of the misconduct of the crews of any of the ships employed?—Not of the suspension of the American trade, but we have, at various times, of the suspension of the English trade, from a similar cause.

Has not in some instances, the trade been suspended, not by the Chinese government, but by the supercargoes themselves?—There was upon one occasion, within these few years, such a series of ill usage experienced by the supercargoes from the Canton government, that they were obliged to threaten the suspension of the trade themselves, and actually took measures to that effect, which reduced the Canton government to reason; but on other occasions, and more frequently, the government has suspended the trade, on account of the irregular conduct of the British seamen there.

Do you recollect more than one instance, in which that was done, besides the case in which the Chinese subject was killed?—There have been various instances at different times.

Do you happen to know, whether a considerable proportion of the sailors on board the American ships, are not British?—I cannot speak to the fact, but I should think not, or if they are, they are probably persons domiciliated, and married in America, and then falling in with the American manners

Are you of opinion, that the conduct of British sailors, as distinguished from the conduct of the American sailors, may not in some degree arise from their confidence in the power of the Company to protect them?—That is an idea I have never heard mentioned before.

Have you any reason to suppose the American sailors more easy to keep under control, than the sailors of this country?—Yes, it is generally understood that the American sailors are men of a better class in their own line, that they are married men, and that they have some interest in the success of the expedition; in all which respects they are probably different from the generality of British sailors.

Martis, 17^o die Aprilis, 1821.

The Right Honourable THOMAS WALLACE, in the Chair.

Charles Grant, Esquire,

Again called in; and further Examined.

YOU have stated, that the Foreign trade with China, was conducted through a company of merchants, who exercised a species of monopoly; do you know whether they act with respect to ships, in their corporate capacity, or individually?—Particular members of the Hong give security for particular ships, and the particular security is, in the first place, responsible for any misconduct of that ship, or the crew belonging to it, but I apprehend, in case of any failure of satisfaction from him, that the whole of the Hong would be made responsible.

Charles Grant,
Esq
(17 April)

Is the Hong responsible for the peaceable conduct of the ship, or merely for the duties that are to be paid to the Chinese government?—For the duties, and an observance of all the Chinese laws and regulations

Then, if there should be any misconduct on the part of the ship, would not the Chinese government, in the first instance, come upon the Hong?—No doubt, but they do not rest there, the Canton government are very ready, in case of any misconduct in the European traders, to mulct the Hong security, but wherever there is a transgression of the Chinese laws, the Foreigners are likewise made amenable in their own persons. As for instance, it has happened within these few years, that a ship, I believe an American, was discovered to have opium on board, which is

Charles Grant,
Esq

(17 April)

a contraband article, and for this smuggling the ship was seized, and the Hong merchant, who was the security for her, fined in a very large sum, I think I have heard 300,000 dollars. It was a mere arbitrary act, in order to fleece him. The Canton government knew perfectly well, that opium was an article in constant use, but they took advantage of their pretended discovery.

Do you know whether the Hong can transact business individually, with any merchants that come to Canton?—Not separately; individually they may, but by general concurrence, they are all responsible to the government for the acts of each other.

Then, is the agreement that is entered into by the agents of the Company and the Hong, such as to preclude their transacting any business with any private merchants?—Certainly not.

Then, if private merchants had the permission to come to Canton, would not it be in their power, through the Hong, to obtain the same teas that are obtained by the Company?—In the first place, any private merchant coming to Canton, must deal with the Hong, by the regulations of the Chinese government; and no doubt private merchants might obtain tea from the Hong; but the effect upon the prices would be very great, as then there would be a multitude of English buyers, in the place of the one buyer there is now.

But there is nothing to preclude, from the regulations in China, private merchants from obtaining such teas as they may require?—No, it is in that way that the commanders and officers of the Company's ships have always provided their investments in China, through the same Hong.

Is it a part of the contract of the Company with the Hong, that in return for the tea, a certain quantity of British manufactures should be taken?—The usage of the trade is so, but it is matter of annual settlement; there is no one fixed principle for all times, there is annually a settlement made of the prices of the Company's imports into China, and the exports which they send from it.

Has the effect of that been, to introduce a considerable quantity of British manufactures into China?—Undoubtedly, the Company have, for a long series of years, exported British commodities, chiefly woollens, to the amount of about one million sterling per year.

How long has the demand in China been to that amount?—The demand has been gradually increasing, since the Commutation Act of 1784; and from that time to the end of the late war, I think the exports might have amounted from between three and four hundred thousand pounds, to eleven hundred thousand pounds.

Have the exports of British manufactures to China, diminished within the last few years?—The Company, since the renewal of the charter, which compelled them to attend in some instances more to the commercial part of their system, have, from the losses attendant on the sales of woollens in China, been under the necessity of reducing the exports of them to a certain extent; but from a consideration for the manufactures of this country, they have still kept up a very large export of woollens, perhaps to the amount of seven or eight hundred thousand pounds.

To that amount, the Committee have understood it is a profitable trade?—Very little profit, even now, during the war there was a decided loss, during the whole of the late war.

Was that owing to the excess of the export beyond the demand of the country?—It was owing, in the first place, to the very great rise in the price of woollens here, during that long war, and the absolute refusal of the Chinese (who are a people bigoted to established usage) to increase their prices in proportion to the cost of the article here, so that the Company, in order to get their woollens received there still, were obliged to submit to a loss in the exchange of them; for the same Hong who took the woollens, paid for them by teas in return, each being rated at a fixed money price.

Has the price of woollens fallen considerably in this country, since the peace?—I believe not; the same causes which occasioned the rise during the war, still operate.

Then, in consequence of that, the Company have reduced the amount of their export?—Perhaps about a fifth of the woollens.

And since that, it has ceased to be at a loss?—Since that, the loss has been less, but I cannot now call it a gaining trade, nor is it a gaining trade to individuals who export woollens there, unless they contrive to evade the duties, which is not unfrequently done, but that is a practice which I need not say the Company cannot possibly resort to.

Do you attribute any influence upon the prices of woollens in China, and the reduction of the Company's trade in woollens, to the exports of woollens carried on from this country by the Americans?—No, in what I have said, I have had reference only to the anterior state of things, but there has, within these few years, been a surreptitious export of woollens from this country, under the American flag, to Canton, and the effects of that are already becoming visible, in the total change of the preceding state of this matter, which I can show from some documents I have here.

Charles Grant,
Esq.

(17 April)

[The witness read the following extracts from a commercial letter from the supercargoes in China, dated 20th November 1820.]

BROAD CLOTH.

“ On our consultations of the 20th October, we have stated at length the very coercive reasons which induced us to submit to a reduction of 2 mace in the superfine proportion of this consignment, and which we have now the honour briefly to recapitulate.

“ Supposing the price of 2 taels 4 mace to be the full value which broad cloth is capable of producing in the China market, and the quantity specified by our Indent sufficient for its regular supply, it was natural for us to expect that reduction in that value, would be contingent on any augmentation in the quantity, and this expectation was confirmed by the immediate depression of that portion remaining in the hands of the retail dealers, the moment the extent of our present importation was generally ascertained.”

“ There can be little or no doubt, that the consumption of broad cloth in China may be rendered equal to the present supply, and even increased beyond it, but it must of course be effected by reducing its value; and supposing the monopoly of the cloth was fully enjoyed by the Company, we should feel inclined, from present and past experience, to consider our former Indent as the standard uniting the greatest advantages, in extent and appreciation, beyond which, increase in quantity and reduction in price, will be found to proceed in equally comparative ratio

“ We have considered, under the present circumstances, that the price of 2 taels 2 mace per yard, was as high an appreciation as the merchants could be expected to submit to, with any view of protecting themselves from actual loss; and on those terms our superfines have been delivered to the merchants, generally taking the precaution of demanding the draper's bond, in security for the payment for the junior Hong.

“ The very alarming inroad that is now commenced by American speculations, into a trade hitherto confined to the honourable Company, will, it is probable, soon plate all certainty of calculation in its economy, at defiance. Between 3 and 4000 pieces of broad cloth have been imported under the American flag, direct from England, and by the circuitous medium of America, during the present season; patterns of these cloths, with the prices and terms of their disposal, will be forwarded by our superintendent of imports, a number in the Thames packet.

“ The American export trade, which has hitherto been chiefly confined to dollars, purchased at a premium in America, or shipped by a circuitous voyage in England, Lisbon and Gibraltar, has been considered as generally unprofitable. The Americans are therefore well contented to avail themselves of a channel of remittance by which they can realise the prime cost, and insurance of their investment, and are consequently enabled to undersell the honourable Company, by the absence of those heavy charges which their invoices usually bear.

“ The greatest evil, however, which we are led to anticipate from this encroachment, is, the death blow which it inflicts upon the monopoly hitherto enjoyed by the honourable Company; it is not so much the amount, as the uncertainty of that amount, which the very great fluctuation in American commerce, renders totally incalculable, and which at once converts a trade, hitherto considered as regular and secure, into a most uncertain and dangerous speculation.

“ One advantage, however, the Company most incontrovertibly possess, and which the Americans can neither compete with or deprive them of, it is, that of unimpeachable character and credit; the experience of the Chinese in the uniform excellence of their consignments, and the passport which the Company's mark affords to every uninspected package, through all quarters of the empire, are the causes to which we are now indebted for the ready circulation of our woollens, while those

314 MINUTES OF EVIDENCE BEFORE SELECT COMMITTEE

Charles Grant,
Esq
(17 April)

those imported by Americans, are chiefly confined to the consumption of Canton, are exposed to severe scrutiny, and viewed with a suspicion which the inequalities, both in the measures and quantities of the present importations, are ill calculated to remove

“ The reasons which influenced us in endeavouring to effect a sale of the long ells for cash, having met with the decided sanction of the honourable Court, it is with extreme regret that we have seen ourselves compelled to desist from the attempt. When it was first made, the long ells bore so high an appreciation in the market, that they were an object of profitable speculation; commercial credit was more efficient, and there was no competition.

“ At present, the article is depressed in price; commercial credit is at a low ebb; and the introduction of a quantity of scarlet long ells, by the Americans, threatens to destroy that counterpoise, by which, alone, the price of the black is maintained in our assorted investment.

“ From the depressed state of the trade, generally, and the great difficulties that attended the disposal of our long ells, last season, we contemplated a reduction in price as inevitable, on the investment of the present, to render that reduction as low as possible, and to secure the proceeds of their sale, to the greatest advantage, were the principal objects to be attended to, in the disposal of the present consignment.

“ The arguments adduced by these three merchants,* in opposition to our proposal, are fully detailed, on our consultations, under that date; they were at length, however, successfully combated, and it was finally agreed, that, with the exception of 15,000 pieces, which they wished to be set apart for Puankequa, they would receive the whole remaining quantity, in three equal shares, at 7 taels 5 mace.

“ They made it appear, however, that, by acceding to this plan, they would incur a loss to the extent of 10,000 taels, on the additional 20,000 pieces, individually, and we consented, as a compensation, to receive such a quantity of tea from them, as would cover that loss, either to be purchased in the market, this season, or contracted for, in the next, and we also agreed not to demand payment in cash, for the balance that might be due by them, at the close of the season.”

CAMLETS.

“ The remarks which we have already had occasion to make to your honourable Committee, upon the subject of broad cloth, in reference to the American trade, are equally applicable to camlets, a considerable quantity of which have been imported, under that flag, during the present season.

“ As a large portion of the importation has been smuggled from the ships, at Whampsa, by which a duty of 17 dollars a piece, is evaded, it is difficult to ascertain the amount, with precision, such accounts, however, as we have been enabled to procure, accompanied by the samples, will be found, a number in the Thames packet.

“ Your honourable Committee will perceive, from these samples, that the major part consists of a smaller and very inferior kind of manufacture, which, although it can never be brought into competition with the honourable Company's investment, yet, being brought into circulation by clandestine introduction, barter, sales and long credits, must seriously interfere with the consumption of the inferior kinds.

“ Conseequa, who has been in the habit of purchasing these goods, at what we consider the standard value of 40 dollars per p. has urged the infraction of the monopoly, as a plea of reduction in that price, and expressed his inability to offer more than 36 dollars p. p for the present consignment.

“ Very considerable failures, amongst the retail dealers in camlets, having taken place, during the period of our recess at Macao, and the indigent and impoverished state of this class of people, generally, corroborates the opinion of the Committee, and the assertion of Conseequa, that little or no profits have been reaped by them, since the period that our camlets have attained their present sale standard.

“ After combating much hesitation and reluctance, we have induced Conseequa to receive these goods, at 38 dollars; and in this, consenting to a reduction of two dollars p. p. we consider our decision as equally consonant with justice and prudence.”

SALISBURY FLANNELS.

“ We are unable to hold out any hope to your honourable Committee, that these goods can be resumed, without the incurrance of loss; and the fact of their interference

* Puiqua, Monqua
and Chumqua.
17th Nov'

ference with the disposal of the long ells, would render them most unwelcome, under our difficulties, in the sale of that manufacture ”

Charles Grant,
Esq

(17 April)

BRITISH COTTON GOODS AND VELVETS.

“ As we have received no offers for these goods, that equal the invoice cost, we are reluctantly compelled to defer our observations on them, till some sale can be effected ”

IRON.

“ To account for the circumstance, referred to in the context, that the Americans consider this commodity as sufficiently profitable, to induce them to engage in its importation, we beg to represent to your honourable Committee, that every remittance is considered by them as decidedly advantageous, which bears a profit, in comparison with the export of bullion, no charges are therefore calculated, excepting for insurance and commission; and on the return from China, the actual profits of the voyage, and discharge of the expenses of the ships, are generally considered to depend ”

COTTON.

“ From the total failure of the cotton crops on the western side of India, we have experienced a disappointment in this branch of the honourable Company’s commerce, five ships having arrived from thence in ballast, and the remaining three having been consigned to Bengal, for the transmission of such cotton as the governor-general might be enabled to purchase, in supply of such deficiency

“ Notwithstanding the very limited supply which has reached China, during the present season, on private account, and the total failure of the honourable Company’s investment, the price in Canton has by no means experienced a proportionate increase, a very strong proof that the indigenous cotton can be rendered nearly sufficient to the supply of the manufactures, and that difference in price alone, insures the circulation of that imported from India

“ The cotton imported from Bengal, on the honourable Company’s account, per Castle, Huntley, Astell and Asia, having been principally purchased in the market, is far inferior in quality to that usually bearing the Company’s mark, and resemble that imported by private merchants, the demand, at the same time, was extremely languid, under these circumstances, we considered ourselves as fortunate in obtaining the price of 13t. 2 from Monqua Puiqua and Chumqua, to whom 11,915 bales were delivered.

“ The sale of our consignment from Madras, which consists of cotton of the very best quality ever imported, equally free from seed and every other impurity, has experienced the effects arising from the preference which the Chinese indigenous cotton has obtained over it, when procurable at a parity of price, the substitution of this cotton, which it is represented can be grown at 16 t. 5, and after deducting the duty at 15 tales, has rendered the demand for that imported from Madras, almost nugatory, and it is only the excellence and uniformity of the present consignment, that has enabled us to maintain from Puankequa, the price of 15 tales p pecul.”

PEPPER.

“ The high price to which this species of merchandize had attained, last season, in China, has created very extended importations during the present; the market has experienced the apprehended consequence of a considerable depression, and great losses have been incurred by the importers. Under these circumstances, we were glad to effect the sale of the pepper consigned to us by the London to Puiqua, at 12 dollars per pecul, which, in the present sales of the market, might certainly be considered a fair and liberal price.

TEAS

“ We fully detailed to the honourable Court, in our despatches last season, the motive which induced us to decline attempting any reduction in the price, or charges in the classification of the Congo teas, these motives, have this year acquired additional force, by a combination of untoward events, contributing greatly to enhance the price of the teas

“ These untoward events are to be traced to two sources; the first taking its rise from a natural cause—the great drought throughout most provinces of the empire; the second, from a providential affliction, an epidemic disorder that is raging with

Charles Grant,

Esq.

(17 April)

great violence, and making dreadful devastations among the population of a district where land-carriage is obliged to be resorted to for the transport of the teas.

"The drought, though it has not had the apprehended effect of deteriorating the quality of the teas, has been the cause of considerably diminishing the quantity. The rivers, always shallow, have in many parts been left dry, and land-carriage by human means has been the expensive consequence. In other parts, where the rivers still remained navigable, heavy loss has been sustained by numerous wrecks, from the diminished depth of the water.

"The epidemic that is committing such terrible devastation among the labouring class of the community in the neighbourhood of Nam Hong, and among the passes of the Mory Lang mountains, is the more lamentable cause of the more enhanced price of the teas, the progress of this disorder is most sudden, rapid, and decisive; the coolie that is hired, though perfectly well, perhaps, in the morning, is suddenly attacked in the midst of his labour, and inevitably dies; those that are with him, if they escaped a similar fate, hasten away and never return. A considerable part of the population, and especially the labouring part of it, have been thus swept off; and notwithstanding the merchants have forwarded considerable sums of money, and offered an increase of wages to a quadrupled extent, it has been extremely difficult to find any person willing to encounter the danger.

"It is our earnest desire to conform to your honourable Committee's wishes and instructions in the regulation of our conduct, regarding His Majesty's ships in China; and it has at all times been our wish and endeavour, to avoid by every possible means in our power, becoming parties in discussions or differences arising between His Majesty's naval officers and the Chinese government, although the latter have on all occasions (as we have fully explained to His Majesty's captains) considered, and will no doubt continue to consider, that an inseparable connexion exists between the honourable Company's representatives and His Majesty's naval officers, and have also at all times considered the Committee responsible for all difficulties and embarrassments, arising from acts of His Majesty's ships in China."

During the time that the woollen trade was a losing trade, and you were obliged to sell very much below the cost of the cloths, were the Chinese ready to take them, and did they take them at that lower price?—No; it has always been a matter of difficulty with the Hong merchants, to get these goods taken off and circulated through the country; we understand it is no unusual thing to see the warehouses of the Hong merchants stowed with bales of the Company's woollens.

What inducements could the Americans have to bring goods, and to take so much pains to smuggle them into the country, if there was not a demand for them at the low price?—It appears by the extract I have just read, that it is the exports on the part of the Americans, that has interfered essentially with the sale of the woollens before imported by the Company, and it appears further, that the Americans import woollens, because it is a more saving remittance than that of bullion, not that there is any actual profit upon the article of woollens.

Does not it also show, that the Chinese are ready to take them, if they can have them at the low price?—I think, as far as hitherto appears, it only shows that they will take them from one person who sells lower, instead of taking them from another who sells higher, but it does not follow, that the importations of both will be sold.

If the woollens make a better remittance than silver, which would otherwise be sent, is not that a real profit to the trader?—It will make his return cargo come at less; but, in strictness of language, it cannot be called a profit upon the article of woollens.

If he has a certain sum, which he must remit to China, and he can make that remittance by woollens, instead of silver, is not all that difference to him profit?—If he gets for his woollens nothing but the prime cost, I apprehend there is no profit upon the article, then it is to be considered, that part of these woollens have been smuggled, and saved 17 dollars a piece the duty.

When it is stated, in the paper you have delivered in, that a piece of cloth, sold by the Company, sold for thirty-eight dollars, has the duty of seventeen dollars a piece been already paid by the Company, upon those woollens?—I apprehend that the Chinese have to pay a duty besides, and that this is the price given upon our invoice; but I would not wish to speak with absolute certainty upon that point, not having lately looked into the details of the woollen trade.

If there is a duty upon woollens, amounting to near fifty per cent, and by the relaxed state of the Chinese Custom-house laws, those duties are habitually evaded,

Charles Grant
Esq.

(17 April.)

is it possible that a Company, disdaining to practise such an evasion, can long carry on the trade, in competition with those who do practise it?—The whole of this importation of woollens, by any merchants, except the Company, and their captains and officers, as a new business, I do not understand that the smuggling is habitual, and it is exposed to very great risks. I have already instanced the case of the Hong merchants, the security for the American ship, who was fined in 300,000 dollars, for the smuggling of that ship, in opium.

But is it not still the fact, that the Company's servants, in Canton, represent the Company's trade to be materially endangered by the practice of smuggling?—The representation, in the extract I have just read, is the most important and alarming, that, I believe, has ever come to the Company, and relates to the new attempts of the Americans, to enter into competition with the Company, in their staple articles of woollens; aiding their adventures, in part, by means of smuggling.

If then the practice of smuggling should continue, would it not have the effect of destroying the Company's trade?—No doubt, if it was to become a regular practice, it would very essentially interfere with their trade in woollens; it might then reduce them to the necessity of importing bullion there, instead of woollens, which would be little disadvantage to them, but great disadvantage to this country; I conceive, however, that the supposition of a settled system of smuggling, at all general, is not a very probable one; considering the terrible fines, to which the Hong merchants are subject, when discoveries are made.

If the Chinese import woollens, or any other manufactured articles of this country, through other channels than that of the Company, would not the Company be able to raise funds by means of drafts upon them, or upon their presidencies in India, instead of sending out bullion?—I think not for the whole of their investments; they annually supply a part of their investments from the Indian funds.

If Europe supplies the goods to China, must not China equally pay to Europe, whether the importation takes place by the Company, or private individuals?—No doubt.

Do you not think all you have been now stating, upon the subject of woollens, shows that the consumption of woollens in China, is a question of price, more than any thing else?—I do not in the least conceive it to be so.

Why, because it is quite evident, when they are at a low price they can be sold?—But then it is not evident, that the Company's goods can be sold, at the same time, it is only shifting the supply from one hand to another, it does not increase the quantity.

Do you know the amount to which the sales of the Americans have gone?—It is mentioned, in this letter, 4,000 pieces of broad cloth.

In what proportion has the Company's sales of woollens been reduced, during that period?—It has not been at all reduced, in consequence of those American importations, which are recent. They have reduced their importations from other causes, but it is the sales there on the spot by the Company that are interfered with by the Americans.

Have you any information from the Company's servants in China, stating that woollen goods to a large amount, go from the North of Germany, overland, through Russia, into the North of China?—Yes, we are aware that such a trade as that from St. Petersburg, overland, by Kiatchka to Peking, has subsisted above a century; and the woollens so exported, we understand, to be chiefly not British woollens, but woollens prepared in Prussia, and some in Russia, and other states of the Continent.

Are you aware, that that trade, has of late, considerably increased?—I do not conceive that it has, there was an account of it, now near forty years ago, by Mr. Cox, in his account of Russia, which stated the exchangeable value of those commodities at 4,000,000 of roubles; that appears to be the standard of it by the latest account.

Have you any information, that would enable you to state to the Committee, that it has not increased?—I laid a paper upon that subject, before the Committee of the Lords, which I take to be one of the latest accounts of it in this country; it is not however specific, as to the comparative view of the amount of the trade as at the present, and any former period of the trade, but from a cursory view I took of it, I do not think the increase could be estimated at any thing considerable, I would further observe, upon that, that is entirely a trade of barter, there is very

Charles Grant,
Esq.

(17 April)

little interposition of coin, as metals, in the trade. Many of the articles being of great bulk to be conveyed a vast distance overlaid; I think there is, in the nature of things, a limit to the extent of the trade.

If woollen goods could be manufactured on the Continent, at a considerably cheaper rate than here, for any length of time, should not you apprehend that it would have the effect of reducing materially, our woollen trade to China?—I understand that those woollens, imported into China, over land, are exclusively confined to the Northern part of the Chinese empire, and that the people in the South, at Canton, never see them, or know any thing of them; on the contrary, that some of the articles, such as velveteens and velvets, are sent among the woollens, from St Petersburg to Pekin, over land, some of those very articles, of a very good quality, are produced in the central provinces of the Chinese empire, manufactured by the Chinese themselves; but the empire is of such a vast extent, and the freedom of commercial circulation, so imperfect, that even those commodities, produced in the centre of the empire, do not seem to be known on the Northern frontiers, where those importations from Petersburg arrive.

The Committee is to understand, that the woollens imported into China, by the Americans, are shipped in England?—It is so stated in this letter, and we have reason to know, that the statement is true, to the amount of the quantity here mentioned.

Do you conceive that that exportation, from this country, is legal?—I do not; but it is a question that has not been legally tried.

If this trade continues, will the effect produced upon the Company's concerns, at Canton, be different from that which would be produced by a similar export, by British subjects, in British ships?—I conceive that woollens, imported by any description of ships, into Canton, and smuggled in whole or in part, as those now spoken of appear to have been, must interfere materially with the Company's trade in woollens, and if it went to any great extent, it might oblige them to discontinue their trade in woollens, and use bullion instead.

Might not individuals be able still to carry on that trade, although no longer profitable to the Company, in consequence of the Company not being able to carry it on, under the practices that individuals use?—I have already mentioned, that I do not conceive the practice of smuggling can become systematic and general.

Have you not, in your answer, stated, that the practice of smuggling is so general, as materially to interfere with the fair trade of the Company, and to render its continuance doubtful?—I think not; but I have stated a case, that has recently occurred, as reported by the Chinese supercargoes, which is the most considerable of the kind, I have heard of, and as the result, I have added my opinion, that the practice of smuggling is not at all likely to become general and established.

Is the Committee to understand, that without smuggling, an exportation of this sort, by the Americans, will materially injure the Company?—The Committee may very well draw their conclusion upon that point, from the letter I have just stated, showing the limitation of prices there, upon this competition entering the market.

Then, supposing that British subjects might, in British ships, carry on this trade to which the extract produced by you, refers, how would the Company be in a worse situation than they are now?—The Company are not now in a bad situation on this account, the present being the most considerable instance of smuggling that has occurred; it cannot be assumed, therefore, as a fixed state of the Company, as it may not continue, if the practice of smuggling were to prevail generally, or if even a large importation of woollens, without smuggling, were to continue, the Company would in that article most materially suffer.

Do you know, in general, what those American ships bring back?—The greater part of the American ships that go to Canton, return directly to America, loaded with teas chiefly, and silks, nankeens and drugs; I do not consider the trade which they carry on, directly from China to America, to interfere with the Company's system at all; but another part of the trade has of late years been in the export of tea to the Continent of Europe, in which branch they supply the former trade, carried on by the Dutch, Danes and Swedes, who furnished foreign Europe with tea.

Do you suppose that the Company buy their woollens upon fair terms, for shipments to China?—I have not the least doubt of it; the buying is done with great care; they not only buy them on good terms, but they get the best articles.

Are there any charges added to the invoices of their goods, which would not exist in the invoices of any private individuals?—I apprehend not.

Are the Company's servants limited not to sell under the invoice cost, or are they

left

left at liberty to use their own discretion?—They are left at liberty to use their own discretion, but with strong injunctions to get the best price possible.

What is the general amount of charge incurred upon the invoices of woollens to China?—I have given in a statement upon that head, to the Committee of the Lords; it is not distinctly in my recollection at present, but I believe it is altogether under ten per cent

Do you think that charge exceeds or falls short of the charge, at which any private merchant could send those woollens to China?—The Company are subjected, from their peculiar constitution, to a higher charge for the freight of their superior class of ships, than private merchants are, their China ships being destined for war as well as commerce; but, taking the whole expence out and home, upon the cargo to China, and the return cargo, I very much question, except in the single article of freight, whether the Company's expence for the voyage, is not less than that of the individual adventurer.

Is not the freight out to China of your goods, very inconsiderable?—Very inconsiderable, this high freight, I speak of, falls chiefly upon the homeward cargo.

To what extent do you think the freight on cargoes home, in this superior class of shipping, which you represent the Company to use, is higher than what might be conceived to be the average freight of free shipping, supposing such shipping to be permitted to go into the trade?—The average freight of free shipping has been decreasing every year since the peace, which I understand to be owing to the want of employment, if a comparison is to be made between the present freight of private ships and those of the Company, I should conceive the Company's freights must be nearly double, but I do not apprehend that the freight of private ships can permanently remain at the low rate that it is now, and the advantage of employing one class of ships or the other, is not to be discovered by the comparison merely of the numerical rates of freight for each

Does there remain in any part of Europe, any Company having the exclusive right of trade to India or China?—I believe all the old companies are dissolved, and I have not heard of the formation of any new ones

Was not the trade of all those countries, who had the principal trade with China, and India, formerly carried on through exclusive companies?—The French and Dutch, and Swedes and Danes, all had exclusive companies, which I believe are all dissolved, and I believe most of them, at least several of them, were dissolved in consequence of the violent changes introduced by the French revolution.

Are you aware that the Dutch company, the most considerable of them, has not been renewed since the restoration of the government there?—I do not understand that it has.

Are you aware, that the trade from the greater part of Europe with India and China, is a free trade open to all countries, and at present principally carried on by the Americans?—I understand the trade to be generally free to the nations of Europe, and that the Americans are the carriers of the China produce to Holland, I do not understand that they import the China produce to other countries in any great degree, or Indian produce at all, unless it be to the Mediterranean, where I believe the trade is much smaller. It is of course to be remembered, that foreign ships from India or China, have no entrance into this country

Is not Holland, from its communication with the Rhine, the great means of commercial communication into the heart of Europe?—I suppose it may, but I do not understand, that the products either of India or China circulate in that way, to any great extent.

In what direction do you conceive the principal commerce of foreign Europe with India and China, to circulate?—I do not understand that there is at present any great commerce between Europe and India, or China, except what is carried on between China and foreign Europe, by the Americans, the Portuguese have always carried on some commerce between their own settlements in India and Portugal. I understand, likewise, of late, that a few French ships have visited the continent of India; but, except the trade of the Portuguese and of the Americans, with whatever may have arisen since Java has been restored to the Dutch, I do not know that there is any material trade between the continent of Europe and the Eastern seas, now carried on

If British merchants and ship-owners were permitted to trade between Foreign countries and China, have you any reason to suppose that they would not be able to enter into competition with the Americans, in that trade?—I have been disposed to think that, in no great time, the Continental countries of Europe that formerly

Charles Grant,
Esq.
(17 April)

carried on trade with India and China, would nearly resume their old stations; if they do not, it is probable the Americans may continue to be the carriers of it. If British merchants were allowed to carry commodities from China to foreign Europe, the first question that arises, is, what I have already spoken to, the danger that would ensue to the established system of the East India Company in China; waving that point now, my opinion is, that the whole of the trade carried on by the Americans from China to foreign Europe, is an object of small magnitude, not furnishing any inducement to hazard even, the breaking down of the present system of trade between this country and China.

But to the extent of it, such as it is, you see no reason why British adventurers could not fairly enter into competition with the Americans, in the trade?—Supposing the East India Company not to be in question, and the Chinese to choose to continue the admission of Foreigners into their country, on another system, I am not disposed to contend that point, but I think a great many other questions are to be settled, before it comes into practice

Are you aware, that the people of Holland and the Netherlands, are, after the people of this country, the greatest consumers of tea, the principal article of China produce?—I had been led in the beginning of these discussions, to imagine from the large importations of tea into Holland, that the consumption of tea there might approach to eight millions of pounds or more per annum; but from later and more accurate information, I do not conceive, that the whole consumption of the Continent, exceeds five millions of pounds of tea a year; and the utmost benefit that can be expected upon such a trade, I do not take to form any object sufficient to induce this nation to change its present determination, with respect to India and foreign Europe and China

When the India Company had the exclusive privilege given them to trade to China, were not the other principal commercial countries equally acting under the same system?—Not at the time of the last charter

At earlier periods, when the system was first established?—The system of trade between Europe and Asia, has been by companies up to the time of the dissolution of the French company; that happened in the year 1769; from that time, the French company ceased, and the Dutch company, from the extreme mismanagement of its affairs, was tottering to its fall before the French revolution put an end to it.

Under such circumstances, there existed then, little inducement to open to the general trade of the country, the intercourse with China?—I believe it was the general conviction of Europe, at that time, that the trade to China in particular, could be best managed by exclusive companies, and with respect to China, considering the peculiarity of its government and institutions, I confess that to be my opinion still.

Under such a system then, there was little inducement to open the trade to the merchants of this country, generally?—I do not think it was a question among the merchants themselves, I speak with respect to China.

Has not that state of things materially altered now, when the trade with China is open every where, but in this country?—The trade of China is, as to the regulations of the different states of Europe and America, open to their subjects, but not so, excepting in one prescribed form, by the Chinese government itself; it has one port and one organ in that port, for the reception of foreign goods, and no other in the empire, and from that system it is not likely to depart.

The question alludes not to the freedom of the trade, in China, but the freedom of the trade in Europe?—I conceive, to make the freedom of the trade in Europe, beneficial, in the common way that we understand freedom of trade, a freedom on the part of the Chinese government, is also necessary

Is not the trade so far free in China, that all individuals, of all nations, may equally trade with the Hong merchants at Canton?—I cannot affirm that, because the Chinese government, within these few years, has refused to admit Russian ships into Canton, saying, they had a trade with them over land, and that they would give them no further privilege; how they might choose to discriminate, with regard to any other nations, claiming for the first time, entrance there, I do not know.

Do you know any instance of such discrimination, except in the case of Russia?—I know of no instance of any applications, of late years, excepting that of Russia.

Has the Company ever attempted to carry on any part of the trade, between China and foreign Europe?—Never; they have never been permitted.

Has the Company ever attempted to carry on any trade, between the Spanish colonies

colonies and China, across the Pacific?—They have never been permitted; their charter only authorises the trade between China and this country.

Has the Company ever attempted to carry on the trade, between the North West coast of America and China?—For the same reason, the Company have not considered it within their charter; but if it had been opened to them, I do not conceive there was any inducement whatever to undertake that trade.

Has the Company ever made any attempt to carry on the trade of supplying China with furs, through Canada?—The Company might, if they had thought it an object worthy of attention, have supplied furs from this country to China, but I believe the importance of the fur trade has been very much mistaken; it never has been nor is now a trade of any importance.

Are you aware, that the furs of Canada are sent through the United States, to China?—We have had accounts of the importation of furs by the Americans into China, for the last twenty years, and I believe this Committee has been furnished lately with a recent account of the amount of the importation of furs into China, in the year 1818, the whole amount of it does not exceed 90,000*l.* in value, and I take that to be a large year.

Is not that a trade, which the Company could not, by their charter, carry on, otherwise than by the furs passing through this country?—Not before the last charter, I apprehend that the privilege of circuitous trade to America, given to individual ships since the last charter, by a subsequent Act, is likewise given to the Company, but the fur trade is certainly not an object worthy of their pursuit.

Are there not branches of trade that might answer very well to individuals, that might not be worthy of the pursuit of a great Company?—In some articles, such as that of furs to a small extent, but these have hitherto been supplied by the commanders and officers of the Company's ships, and might continue to be so, to the extent of the demand.

Are you aware, that there is a considerable trade between the Spanish colonies on the Western side of America, and India and China?—No, I am not aware of any such trade existing in any material degree, further than Manilla, and the long established intercourse between the British settlements in India, and that Spanish settlement.

Have there not always been annual shipments from Lima and Acapulco to India?—I believe not, nor to Canton; occasionally to Canton there may have been, but of late years, I rather think the whole has been discontinued.

Would it not frequently answer to the exporter of British manufactures to that part of the world, to carry their dollars straight to China?—That will depend upon what return trade they would carry on, the bare article of bullion is of itself not profitable article.

Does not it become more important, in consequence of the opening of the trade with the Western coast of America, to give the greatest possible freedom of trade with China and India, to British subjects?—With respect to China, I do not conceive that any of the commodities of the West coast of America, or of any part of America, can have vent there to any considerable amount, nor do I understand that the commodities of China are in much demand by the Spanish colonists on the West coast of South America. With respect to the trade between India and the West coast of America, I apprehend the whole of it must center in the cotton fabrics of India, and that, as far as there is a vent for them, channels are open to that trade now, from British India through Manilla; and that if there is a free trade established between the subjects of this country and those colonies, their object will be rather to carry the cotton fabrics of Britain there, than to carry on the trade with India with the cotton fabrics of that country. But with regard to the whole of this question, of the trade between the coasts of America and India and China, I really do not conceive that it can be in any form, with the freest permission to private merchants, carried to any great extent.

Might not the various descriptions of trade, which have been stated in the questions to you, such as the trade between China and foreign Europe, and the trade between China and Spanish America, be opened to British subjects, without any further injury to the Company, than such as might result from the danger of any dispute with the Chinese government?—It is not the danger, only, of dispute with the Chinese government, but the danger of the conflicts that would arise between the British private traders admitted from this country into Canton, and the Company's establishment there, which I conceive most to be dreaded; and believing that the two could not long stand together, and that it is of more importance to this

Charles Grant,
Esq.

(17 April)

country, to preserve the present system of trade with China, than to substitute a trade by private merchants, if the Chinese even would tolerate that trade, I consider that point of admitting individual traders, to involve the whole of this question.

By conflicts between individuals and the Company, do you mean the rivalry of trade, or do you apprehend any personal or political conflicts?—I apprehend an opposition of the system, and a hostile disposition towards the Company, on the part of the traders.

Do you mean, that that hostile disposition will diminish the profits of the Company's trade, or that it will involve them in political difficulties?—My apprehension is, that it will end in subverting the whole of their system in China.

In what manner?—In making their position there, untenable, that the continual feuds and conflicts that would arise between the parties, and the complaints that would be incessantly made against the Company's system, as obstructing the progress of the private traders, would end, at length, in the necessity of putting an end either to one or the other, and, as I stated yesterday, the history of the last twenty-seven years shews, that in every public contest between those parties, the Company have been worsted.

Your opinion, then, is, that British merchants cannot with safety be allowed to carry on that portion of the trade with China, which the Company does not carry on, and which is carried on by Americans and other nations, for fear of conflicts with the Company's servants at Canton, which shall endanger the position of the Company there?—My opinion is, as I have already repeatedly stated, that the admission of the ships and traders of this country, without limitation, into the trade of China, would be incompatible with the existence of the Company there, upon their present footing, or with any footing which could enable them to discharge the duties they now perform towards this country and the Indian government.

If the chief supercargo at Canton, were vested with the same authority over British subjects going there, that he has at present over the subjects going from British India, would that obviate the danger you apprehend from British subjects going there?—I believe, the two cases cannot be made parallel; the Indian ships manned chiefly with Asiatics, go there under the licence of the governments of India, where the owners have their domicile, and are amenable to a regular and strong government, who might refuse to continue the licence upon any evidence of misconduct. The subjects of this country, generally proceeding by the authority of the legislature to Canton, would stand in a different predicament, no authority with which the supercargoes could be vested, would be sufficient to control them upon the spot, there must be appeals to the government of this country, and the time lost in such appeals would defeat the ends of justice in almost every instance; and if it were possible, under the jealous eye of the Chinese government, for the Company's supercargoes to exercise any political authority over the subjects of this country, those subjects could, in any case, appeal to the country courts, who would not fail both from national pride, and probably from meaner motives, to take them immediately under their protection.

Have not British subjects, trading from India to China, the same right of appeal to this government, that those traders would have?—I think not.

Will you be good enough to state, under what light you consider those British subjects, trading between India and China, to stand, that the legislature here could not place the subjects of this country under similar regulations?—I have just stated, that those subjects are resident under the British government in India, and are amenable to those governments, I apprehend, that the subjects, resident in this country, going from hence immediately, under the authority of the government at home, could not be placed in those circumstances.

How many instances have you known, of any conflicts between the factory of the Company, and the Chinese government?—There have been, I may say, continual conflicts from a long period, at pretty distant intervals, but they are habitual things.

Are you aware, that any similar difficulties have arisen, so as to lead to any serious consequences between the Americans or other nations, having no factory, but carrying on a free trade there?—Since the dissolution of the European companies, I am not aware, that any body belonging to that race has traded to China in any considerable degree, except the Americans, I have already spoken to what their state has been, since their entrance into China, and the reasons which I apprehend, have prevented much collision between them and the Chinese government.

Do you, therefore, in thinking there would be more danger to arise from a free communication

communication with British ships, attribute that apprehension to the more querulous and disorderly character of British seamen?—Not solely, but such an unlimited admission of British subjects into China, as those questions contemplate, is an untried case; and from all that I have seen and known, or can judge, I believe there would be incomparably more danger from that, than any experiment that has been made hitherto.

*Charles Grant,
Esq*

(17 April)

You stated, yesterday, that the Hong in China, was a strict monopoly, did you apply that to ships trading there, or in relation to their own government?—To both.

Did not the Hong originally consist of four members, when the trade was yet in its infancy?—They have consisted of different numbers, from even two to eleven, and it has been an attempt, within these few years, very strongly made by the Chinese government, to reduce them again to two; because that would put the foreign trade more immediately into the hands of the Chinese government, and it has been owing to the resistance of our supercargoes, that that despotic plan did not take place.

It appears that most of the objections you have stated, have rested upon the danger of the access of British subjects to China, supposing any point could be fixed upon, to which the Chinese subjects could have access, and bring the commodities of China, and to which British subjects could have access, with the commodities of Europe, do you see any objection or any danger in British subjects receiving the commodities of China for the purpose of transporting to foreign Europe, including tea?—I certainly should think, that putting the tea trade of foreign Europe into the hands of British subjects, would be a very ready way to increase the danger of smuggling tea into this country; with respect to an intermediate station, of the nature mentioned, it would require a great deal of maturing, before it could be rendered practicable; and the first difficulty to overcome would be, to obtain the consent of the Chinese government, a thing not at all likely to be ever obtained, because they discourage all emigration from their own country, and unless the leave of that government were obtained, if it were to hear that the British nation encouraged the emigration of Chinese subjects, for the purpose of carrying on intermediately, the trade of China with Europe, it might become a question, how far that would immediately affect the British establishment in China itself, if the question refers only to the conveyance of Chinese commodities to the British settlements in the Eastern seas, I conceive that British traders could never depend upon the way in which the Chinese junks carry on their business, and that the Chinese government would discourage any trade of that nature by means of Europeans or their ships.

Then, the only danger you appear in that answer to contemplate, is first, with reference to the revenue of this country, next to the insecurity of the traders themselves, and lastly, as to the disposition of the Chinese government. Can you state any danger that would arise to the Company, from such a trade?—The same evil that would affect the revenue, would affect the trade of the Company. The other objection I have stated, goes against the practicability of a supposed establishment, but such an establishment not at all involving any competition with the Company in China itself, or serving as a medium for smuggling tea in Europe, I do not conceive that the Company would consider as much affecting their interest.

Then you confine the direct danger to the Company from such a trade, to the effects arising from smuggling in this country?—I am not prepared to state that no other danger might be possible, what I offer, is what appears to me likely to be the immediate result.

Are you aware of any law in China, prohibiting the carriage of tea in the junks to the Eastern islands?—The junks, I understand, are privileged to carry tea to Cochin China and Tonquin, and, I suppose, to the countries east of China, but it is to be remembered, that the whole of their proceedings are under strict inspection, and that nothing new can be introduced into their practical trade, without the express sanction of the Chinese authorities.

In point of fact, is there not a considerable trade now carried on from the ports of China with the Eastern islands, in the commodities of China, which are there exchanged for those of the Eastern islands?—I believe not from China, by Chinese vessels.

Nor by any other vessels?—Yes, in some degree by other vessels, chiefly the Company's ships, who collect at particular ports, such as Batavia or Penang, and some others in the Eastern islands, the small portion of trade carried on by country

Charles Grant,
Esq.

(17 April)

proas and little vessels at those places, and carry the produce, so collected, to China.

Do not Chinese vessels carry the productions of China to those islands, and dispose of them there, in exchange for the productions of those islands?—There are, I have understood, about eight or ten junks that go from the Eastern part of China, to Manilla, and there are some others that go to Cochin China and Tonquin; there may be a few that go to Borneo, where the Chinese are numerous, and some to Batavia; but the whole is a slow and protracted business, and would never suit the activity of British commerce; the Chinese junks, that go from the Eastern parts of China to Manilla, are eighteen months on the voyage.

Supposing the Chinese junks so employed, were to exchange a part of their cargoes, the productions of China, for the manufactures of this country, at those ports to which they so resort, would any obstructions and difficulties exist, in China, to the introduction of such manufactures so carried to China by those junks?—If they were European manufactures, infallibly.

Is the Committee to understand, that such are prohibited from being carried?—Undoubtedly, they can be carried to Canton only, and then sold to the Chinese subjects only through the medium of the Hong

Although imported by Chinese subjects?—They cannot import them

What, in your opinion, are the increased facilities you conceive would be given to smuggling, was the tea trade from India to the continent of Europe, open to British shipping?—I believe there is at this moment, on the continent of Europe, tea for more than four years consumption of that continent, and, that as things are, there is a danger that part of this tea will be introduced clandestinely into this country; and I cannot doubt, that if British ships were allowed to bring home tea to foreign Europe, they would rush into that trade as they have done into every other, and deluge the continent with it, for which there would be no outlet but smuggling; therefore, the danger of smuggling would be exceedingly increased, by admitting them into that trade.

Then is the Committee to understand, that the only mode of smuggling that you are apprehensive of danger from, is smuggling from the continent of Europe into this country, after the teas have been landed there?—No; I have not said that, but I apprehend, that the admission of British ships into this trade, would increase the danger of smuggling.

Can you give any further information to the Committee, connected with the general subjects of investigation, with which they have been occupied during your examination?—I have the heads of my examination before the Lords; which if the Committee will allow me, I will deliver in, and if the Committee should be pleased, to require from me, any particular information under those heads, I shall be happy to furnish it.

[The same was delivered in, and is as follows.]

See the Appendix
to the
Lords' Report.

- 1 Present state of the free trade, from Great Britain to India.
- 2 State of the trade, from India and England to China, on account of the Company, and of individuals.
- 3 List of the shipping employed by the Company, in their trade to China.
- 4 The conduct of the Company, in carrying on their trade to China, and with respect to the extension of it there, and elsewhere.
- 5 A view of the privileges, now speculated on by certain private merchants and ship-owners, in the trade to China; with observations on their memorials.
- 6 A view of the consequences which would result from granting those privileges, and of the danger to which the British trade to China has been, at different times exposed, by the conduct of British subjects at Canton, and the arbitrary nature of the Chinese government.
- 7 Observations on the American trade to China, the Eastern Islands, and India generally
- 8 On the supposed facilities of increasing the British trade, in the Eastern Islands, Cochin China, and other parts.
- 9 On the trade from China to Foreign Europe, particularly in the article of tea.

I have only brought with me, a memorandum of the tea exported from China, by the Americans, into Foreign Europe, in the years 1817-18, 1818-19, 1819-20, which I now submit; it will show the amount of the cost of that tea in every year, and the profit that might be derived from it, at different rates of sale

[The same was delivered in, and is as follows.]

ON THE FOREIGN TRADE OF THE COUNTRY.

325

Memorandum.—Tea exported from China by the Americans, intended for the consumption of Foreign Europe, in the China seasons

Charles Grant,
Esq.
(17 April)

	Pounds weight	Cost value in China. Dollars.
1817-18	2,086,245	645,291
1818-19	3,103,651	895,023
1819-20	3,318,156	1,048,038
	<u>8,508,052</u>	<u>2,588,352</u>
Average	lbs. <u>2,836,017</u>	<u>Dts 862,784</u> , or at 4s. 4d - £. 186,986.

The average quantity of Tea exported from China by the Americans in the three last years, intended for the consumption of Foreign Europe, cost in China, as above stated, £. 186,986; therefore

Pounds weight.	At 25 p' cent.	At 20 p' cent.	At 15 p' cent.	At 10 p' cent.
1,000,000 - would cost £. 65,933, and the profit thereon would be	£. 16,483	£ 13,187	£ 9,889	£ 6,593
2,000,000 - d° - 131,866 - - d° - - d° - -	32,966	26,374	19,778	13,186
3,000,000 - d° - 197,799 - - d° - - d° - -	49,449	39,561	29,667	19,779
4,000,000 - d° - 263,732 - - d° - - d° - -	65,932	52,748	39,556	26,372
5,000,000 - d° - 329,665 - - d° - - d° - -	82,415	65,935	49,445	32,965

As it appears, from information received from the Netherlands, that in the month of May 1820, there were about 118,000 chests of tea remaining at Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Middleburgh and Antwerp, being almost equal to four years consumption, it cannot be supposed, in any case, that the net profit on a voyage from Europe to Canton and back, after paying freight and all charges, would extend beyond 25 per cent on the cost of the return cargo in China, though under the circumstances stated, it is probable the net profit would be much less than that rate per cent.

In addition to that, I would state, that the average importations of tea by the East India Company into England; in the last five years, has been lbs weight 26,416,219, and the prime cost £. 1,717,216, per annum

Veneris, 4^o die Mai, 1821.

The Right Honourable THOMAS WALLACE, in the Chair:

Robert Rickards, Esquire,
Again called in; and Examined

HAVE you any further statement to make to the Committee, respecting the licensing system?—I wish to add a few explanatory remarks. When I had last the honour of attending the Committee, being unprepared for the examination which occurred, I could only reply to some of the questions put to me, from the general impression and recollection I had at the time, of the various complaints of difficulties and annoyance made to me, by sundry persons, in respect to the operation of the licensing system, I have since ascertained some facts, which it may be of importance to the Committee to know.

Robert Rickards,
Esq.
(4 May)

Be so good as to state what those facts are?—I find, on inquiry, that the term Licence is only recognized at the India House, in the case of ships, and that no such thing as a simple licence, or certificate, is ever granted at the India House to persons proceeding to India. The only documents under which persons can now, I understand, proceed to India, are actual indentures or covenants, designated according to the situations or pursuits of the persons proceeding thither, of those I have procured two, for the inspection of the Committee, and which I beg leave to submit to them

Robert Rickards,
Esq.
(4 May)

them [delivered them in] The one is intitled, "Free Merchants Covenant," and the other "Persons to reside Covenant." These documents are word for word the same, with the exception of a few words in the fifth and sixth lines. The Free Mariners Covenant is also the same. Now, all these documents are actual indentures or covenants, and as neither can be procured by a private individual, without the favour of a Director, or the special interference of a house of business, it accounts for the common belief adverted to in my former examination, that the simple certificates prescribed by the 53d of the late King, were not obtainable at the India House; and also for persons having confounded indentures which are, in reality, so much alike. The fact seems to be, that when an application for a licence or certificate, as prescribed by the Act, is made, and that application is intended to be complied with by the Court of Directors, the person applying is presented with a "Persons to reside Covenant" to execute, which, it may be remarked by the Committee, is almost word for word the same as the Free Merchants Indentures, and which he is obliged to execute in the same way; accompanied by the production of personal securities, for the due fulfilment of the said covenant. If, then, this "Persons to reside Covenant" is intended as a substitute for the licence or certificate prescribed by the 33d section of the 53d of the late King, I would beg leave, with great deference to the Board of Commissioners and the Court of Directors, to submit to the Committee, that the covenant is materially at variance with the wording and spirit of the Act.

Appendix
L)

The Act requires the certificate or licence to be granted indiscriminately, to persons desirous of going to, and remaining in India, for lawful purposes; the covenant is only granted by the Court of Directors on special application, and for special purposes, an individual merely applying for leave to proceed thither, for the lawful purposes of trade is refused. The Act requires certificates or licences to be granted without limit, as to the persons residence in either of the principal settlements of the Company, the covenant limits their residence to one spot, which, if rigidly enforced against a mercantile man, might often be fatal to his lawful occupations and pursuits. The Act declares it to be the duty of this country, and to be expedient, to promote an intercourse with the natives of India, and therefore (as I understand its meaning) requires licenses or certificates of permission to be granted freely, subject only to refusal where the Board of Commissioners shall see good and sufficient reason for the same. The covenant is only granted, on application for persons to join particular established houses in India, or to act as the agent of an established house there, or for some other specified object equally indispensable. The object of the Act is clearly to promote free intercourse with the inhabitants of India, the covenant as clearly restrains it within narrow limits. The one, in short, is a simple certificate or licence, required to be granted, the other is a covenant or indenture required to be executed by the parties applying, and to be accompanied by two personal securities for the due fulfilment of the contract, of which securities the Act says nothing. In cases of seafaring men, there is, I believe, no other documents than the Free Mariners Indenture, subject, as I understand, to the old regulations for free mariners, although the Act admits of no distinction in this respect, seafaring men and mercantile men being equally entitled by the Act, to simple licences or certificates. Since my last examination, I have discovered several instances where the covenants or indentures before mentioned, have been entered into by persons in whose behalf applications had been preferred for licenses or certificates of licence, but I am acquainted with no instance where any such certificate has been granted. Generally speaking, persons desirous of going to India, find it for their interest to avoid raising difficulties at the India House, about the documents they may be furnished with, or the mode of procuring the same, in order to obtain the desired accommodation, they will always prefer following the course prescribed to them, taking what may be offered, and departing quietly. In addition to the facts mentioned in my preceding examination, I can now add the following. When Mr Milburne proceeded to India, with the permission of the Honourable Court in 1818, he applied for leave on behalf of his son, whose services and assistance he at this time urgently required; but permission was refused to the son. In the course of last year, one of the partners of our house applied for a licence or certificate, as prescribed by the Act, for Mr. James Mackintosh to proceed to Calcutta, he learnt at the India House that leave could not be granted, unless he would certify that Mr. James Mackintosh was intended to join the house of Mackintosh and Company in Calcutta, he accordingly wrote a letter to this effect, and Mr James Mackintosh was then allowed to proceed, on executing a covenant,

or

or indenture as above-mentioned. The case of Mr Purvis has been already mentioned, this gentleman requested his application might be forwarded to the Board of Commissioners, whether it was so or not I cannot tell; but this letter is the final reply he got to his application.—“ East India House, the 20th February 1821; Sir, I have laid before the Court of Directors of the East India Company, your Letter requesting permission to proceed to Calcutta, with a view of obtaining employment there; and in reply I am commanded to acquaint you, that your request cannot be complied with; I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant, J Dart, Secretary.”

Robert Rackards,
Esq.

(4 May)

“ To Mr Thomas Purvis ”

What was the situation of Mr Purvis?—He was a young man who applied to go out to join his friends at Calcutta, where he was informed he would get immediate mercantile employment

Was he a person going out to look for employment, or had he friends and expectations there?—He had very respectable relations and expectations on the spot

Do you know, whether this was stated in his application to the Company?—Yes, it was, as he repeatedly assured me. His application was also accompanied by a member of one of the principal houses in Calcutta, to certify that he would be employed in that house on his arrival, and he offered, at the same time, to produce very satisfactory testimonials to his character and conduct, by persons of the first respectability in London. Another gentleman, of the name of Fairs, preferred a similar application to the Honourable Court, and this is the answer he received “ East India House, 3d April 1821. Sir, With reference to your Letter, dated the 28th ultimo, soliciting permission to proceed to and reside in Bengal, I am directed by the Committee of Correspondence to request, that you will explain to me, for their information, the objects you may have in view in visiting India, or the nature of the business in which you purpose to embark on your arrival there, and that you will produce to me any letter which may be in your possession, containing an invitation for you to go out to that country. I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant, P. Auber, Assis Sec “ Mr. Charles Fairs.” From the tenor of this letter, Mr Fairs despaired, as many others had done, of getting the licence he applied for, and therefore abandoned the object

Had he had no invitation from India of any kind, or had he no object to state?—I do not know what invitations he had from India, neither am I aware of the legal necessity for any such invitations being produced. Mr. Fairs's chief object was, the lawful purpose of trade. I know his connexions are very respectable here, and they would have vouched, if necessary, for his good conduct. A short time ago, a respectable young man named Beatson, represented to one of the partners of our house, that, though he had served the usual period in the Company's service, he was still, on application at the India House, refused a free mariners indenture, because his three voyages had not been completed previous (I think he said) to the year 1819. On Mr. Beatson's case being represented to one of the directors, that gentleman was kind enough to give him a free mariners indenture, as an act of favour from himself, and he accordingly departed in the General Harris to India. According to the present regulation, it is understood that free mariners indentures can only be obtained through a director, if so, a seafaring man can only now proceed to India by an act of favour or patronage, his right under the Act being effectually barred. On the subject of special licences, I beg to submit to the Committee, a copy of the reply of the Court of Directors to the owners of the Brailsford, in August last year, which is as follows —“ East India House, 10th August 1820 Sir, I have laid before the Court of Directors of the East India Company, your Letter, renewing your application that the ship Brailsford may be allowed to touch at Tellicherry, in addition to the ports named in the licence granted for that ship; and I am commanded to acquaint you, that it does not rest with the Court to grant licences for ships to proceed to any other places in India than the principal settlements, and the factory of Bencoolen; nor is such a licence necessary for the purpose which you have in view, the Act of 54th Geo. 3, cap 34, having provided for a trade, directly and circuitously, between all ports and places within the limits of the Company's charter, except the dominions of the Emperor of China. I am, Sir, your obedient and humble servant, J Dart, Sec. “ To Robert Helme, esq ” By this letter it appears, that at that time the Honourable Court thought special licences altogether unnecessary, after the passing the Act of the 54th of the late King. From the same document it may clearly be inferred, that Captain Norton, of the Sarah, would have received the same answer, as the

Robert Rukarus,
Esq.
(4 May)

owners of the Brailsford did, had his application been made in writing instead of verbally, as related in my former examination. Captain Norton stated his losses, in consequence of having been misled, as before explained, at several thousand pounds, and I have reason to know, that, owing to this disappointment and loss, he was subjected to great difficulties after his return to England.

In my former examination, I mentioned an application by the owners of the Phoenix, for a special licence to touch in Malabar; the application was dated in February last; the owners informed me that they were refused the special licence by the Honourable Court, on which they appealed to the Board of Commissioners, but had received no reply when the Phoenix sailed.

A similar application was preferred in December last, by the owners of the Mulgrave Castle, and was also refused.

I have here, as in my former examination, confined myself to facts within the cognizance of our own house, many others I know have occurred, equally vexatious, and as much complained of. I would beg leave, however, in conclusion on this subject, to add, that in the objections I have urged against the licensing system, I am far from meaning the slightest disrespect to the Board of Commissioners or the Court of Directors, I have merely wished to explain the difficulties, obstructions, and annoyances, incident to the system itself; and I should probably not have urged, my objections so forcibly as I have done, were I not thoroughly convinced that the whole system might be abandoned, without in the slightest degree impairing the security of the Company's possessions in India, and as firmly convinced that its abolition, by multiplying the points of contact between British traders and the natives of the East, would materially conduce to the extension and improvement of the commerce of both countries. In fact, I consider the Licensing System, as now acted upon, to be one of the most serious evils and obstructions under which the Indian trade labours.

Do you happen to know whether, subsequent to that letter written to the owners of the Brailsford, any impediments have been thrown in the way of British ships trading from port to port, as requested in that letter?—The instances of the refusal of special licences, which I have mentioned above, were all subsequent to the application by the owners of the Brailsford. The object of those who have so applied for special licences, was not, as I understand, to trade from port to port in India, but merely to carry on a direct trade between this county and the minor or subordinate parts of the East.

To what clause of the Act of 1813 do you refer, as requiring the Court of Directors, when they grant permission to persons to go to India without appeal to the Board, to grant it, by way of certificate, and without condition?—In what I before stated, I referred to the 33d and other clauses or sections of the 53d of the late King, and the impression of my mind is, that in all cases of permission to persons to proceed to India, a simple license or certificate, to be furnished by the Court of Directors, is more in accordance with the spirit, if not letter of the Act, than the indentures or covenants now used. The words of the 33d section are as follows. “And whereas it is expedient to make provision for *granting permission* to persons desirous of going to and remaining in India for lawful purposes, be it therefore enacted, That when and as often as *any application* shall be made to the said Court of Directors, for or on behalf of *any person or persons* desirous of proceeding to the East Indies, for permission so to do, the said Court shall, unless they shall think fit to comply therewith, transmit every such application within one month from the receipt thereof, to the said Board of Commissioners for the Affairs of India; and in case the said Commissioners shall not see any sufficient objection thereto, it shall and may be lawful for the said Commissioners to direct that such person or persons shall at his or their own special charge, be permitted to proceed to any of the said principal settlements of the said Company, and that such person or persons shall be furnished by the said Court of Directors with a certificate or certificates, according to such form as the said Commissioners shall prescribe, signifying that such person or persons hath or have so proceeded, with the cognizance and under the sanction of the said Court of Directors.”—These words seem clearly to embrace *every application* that may be preferred, for leave to proceed to India for lawful purposes, and thereon to require (as I should conceive) of the Court of Directors, either “to comply therewith,” or “grant permission,” for which a simple certificate or letter of licence seems all that is requisite, or objecting thereto, to refer the application to the Board of Commissioners, with whom it then rests to order such certificate to be granted.

Robert Richards,
Esq
(4 May)

granted by the Court of Directors, unless they, the Board of Commissioners, see good and sufficient cause for rejecting the application. In the subsequent sections of the Act, viz 36 to 40 inclusive, in which the residence of persons in India, with or without authority, is treated of, it is always with reference to licences or certificates from the Court of Directors. These are the express terms of the Act, and applied indiscriminately to the cases therein adverted to. The Act seems to contemplate no other form of permission than a licence or certificate from the Court of Directors. Indentures or covenants are nowhere mentioned or even referred to; but even these indentures would probably not be so much complained of, but for the difficulty of procuring them; whilst despair of succeeding, except in the special cases I have before mentioned, prevents many persons from applying, who would otherwise gladly avail themselves of the provisions of the Act.

You spoke of the rights of free mariners under the Act, to what Act and clause did you then refer?—I spoke of seafaring men generally, and referred to the 33d section of the 53d of the late King; inasmuch as that section makes no distinction between seafaring men and others, but seems to me particularly to direct or prescribe that *all persons whatever*, applying for leave to go to India for lawful purposes, should be allowed to proceed thither, under licence or certificate, unless as before stated, the Board of Commissioners should see reason to object.

Are you aware of the answer which Mr Fair's returned to the letter which he received from the Court of Directors?—I have already stated, that despairing of success, he abandoned the application.

When you speak of other cases "equally vexatious," of refusal of special licences to trade with the minor parts of India, do you refer to vexation arising from the provisions of the Act itself, or from the conduct of the Court and the Board under the Act?—From the provisions of the Act, or rather the construction apparently given to it by the local authorities. My former answer referred to personal as well as to special licences; but I beg leave to explain, that I had no intention of applying the term vexatious, to the personal conduct of the Board of Commissioners or the Court of Directors, whose courtesy and urbanity, on the contrary, are well known and generally acknowledged; but to the operation of the system itself as now acted upon, as well as to the disappointments and losses consequently sustained by the free traders, and the unnecessary obstructions thereby thrown in the way of their commercial speculations and pursuits.

Then the Committee is to understand that, in your opinion, the refusal of those special licences was according to the spirit of the Act?—That depends upon the construction given to the Act. If my opinion be asked, I should say that, according to the spirit of the Act, special licences ought to be freely granted; others may construe the Act differently.

Do you not think, that Act leaves a discretion to the Court of Directors?—My idea is, that it does not, I should construe the 11th section of the 53d of the King, as not vesting a discretion in the Court of Directors to withhold special licences; they are required, on the contrary, in the event of their not thinking fit to comply with applications for special licence, to transmit the same to the Board of Commissioners, but they are also at liberty to make any representations on the subject they may think proper; and those representations would no doubt be duly considered in the final determination of the Board of Commissioners.

Are not you aware, that the Act requires the Board of Commissioners, when they direct such a special licence to be granted, to record the special reasons for that direction?—No doubt it does; but the power of withholding the special licence seems to me to be vested solely in the Board of Commissioners.

Do you apprehend danger from an intercourse between the free traders and Indians, arising out of the peculiar prejudices or casts of the natives?—I have often expressed my opinion very decidedly on this subject, and if acceptable to the Committee, I will detail, as concisely as I can, the grounds thereof. I know it to be the common opinion in this country, that the casts of the native Indians present insurmountable obstacles to a free commercial intercourse with Europeans; but I do not hesitate to pronounce the opinion unfounded. With many persons I have found it to originate in an erroneous conception of the casts of the natives, and of their religious prejudices and observances. This opinion, or rather error, proceeds upon the notion, that the population of India is divided into four classes, named Brahmin, Khetry, Viasya, and Soodra, each class separated from the other, as commonly observed, by impassable barriers, and having its duties and privileges so rigidly ordained and guarded by their religion and laws (supposed also to be of divine

Robert Rickards,
Esq.
(4 May.)

origin,) as to be past the possibility of evasion. Whence the Hindoo is doomed to be an animal of a perfectly stationary nature, tied down to certain usages and observances, by the most rigorous enactments; incapable therefore of change or improvement; doomed to exist on the simplest vegetable food; and inaccessible to the allurements of sense, except the very limited gratifications which his divine Law-giver may have thought proper to sanction. But this, I beg leave to assure the Committee, is a very exaggerated and erroneous view of the frame of Indian society. In the first place, no such division of the people into four casts exists, and probably never did exist, in any part of India; and a very little consideration will, I believe, convince reflecting minds, that such a frame or constitution of society, in a numerous population more especially, could not possibly hold together for many years; their own wants and necessities must speedily overthrow it. Certain it is, that when the supposed divine laws of Menu were compiled, (and these are admitted, to be of very high antiquity,) the intermixture of the pretended unmixible casts had taken place, to a very great extent, and covered the land with mixed or degraded tribes; leaving the "twice born" tribes, as they are called, or the Brahmin, the Khetry, and the Visaya, to constitute a kind of aristocracy, or, at all events, a separate body, distinguished by powers and privileges from their inferiors. In these divine laws, the mixed tribes are treated as abject beings unworthy of legislation; and to whom therefore the enactments of the divine code are inapplicable, save in one chapter, which effectually provides for their continued degradation. They are described as men subsisting by such employments as the "twice born" or privileged casts despise; and "to whom permitted and forbidden meats are equal," they are consequently subject to no legal restraints, either in respect to occupation or food. Their consequent and general usefulness, as members of the social body, must have occasioned their rapid increase after the intermixture had began; and the fact is, that we find India universally peopled with these mixed tribes, headed by the order of Brahmins. The priesthood have naturally held their ground; but the other three tribes are probably extinct. I have heard it doubted by respectable natives themselves, whether a genuine Khetry, a genuine Vaisya, or a genuine Soodra, are now to be found. At all events, the great mass of the Hindoo population at the present day consists, as above mentioned, of the Brahmins and mixed tribes, to whom, that is the mixed tribes, every thing as far as the divine law is concerned, is admissible. The mixed tribes are divided and subdivided, into casts of almost innumerable denominations; and they have doubtless their prejudices, as every other people have; of some of which they may be the more tenacious, because arising out of the system of casts. Wealth and influence have also caused some, as is natural, to affect greater purity and superiority over their inferiors. But Menu having declared all the mixed tribes to be degraded, neither their prejudices nor their pretensions have any claim to the sanction of divine authority, and are not therefore of that formidable, mysterious, and unalterable nature, which they are commonly represented to be in this country, neither are they more difficult of change, as far at least as regards the use of foreign commodities, than the prejudices and habits of other persons. We have had ample proof, particularly of late years, of the facility with which British manufactures of various descriptions, and even of novel construction and pattern, may be introduced into use and consumption among the natives of India, where access has been allowed to free traders; and, as far as regards the staple articles of British manufacture, it is now proved, that there is no limit to their consumption in India, arising from religious prejudices or prohibitions. The only limit is, that of the pecuniary means of the people. Generally speaking, they are poor, from causes I have elsewhere explained; and being poor, it is of the greater importance that the goods they want or fancy should be conveyed to them, at the cheapest possible rates. Free access to the extensive coasts of India would materially advance this object; it being quite obvious, that goods could be thus conveyed to various ports, at a much cheaper rate than through the circuitous and expensive channels of the different Presidencies. Greater consumption and extended commerce would, sooner or later, be the natural consequence of this free intercourse. As therefore it is quite clear, that there is no religious check or impediment to the unlimited interchange of the principal commodities of commerce; so there is nothing I can perceive to be apprehended on the score of security, from affording to it every practicable facility, or in other words, the freest scope. The laws in force in India are sufficient to protect the natives against aggression, and to insure justice in commercial dealings. But, independent of this consideration, the most powerful of all motives exists, in the private interests of the parties, to carry on their dealings in the spirit

spirit of good faith, and good fellowship; the most conciliating and upright conduct being, generally speaking, indispensable to the success of their operations. Such an intercourse is, in its nature and principle, of all others, the farthest removed from danger. I can confidently add, from long experience, that the natives of India are universally aware of the advantages and blessings of commerce, so as to desire its continuance, and to be zealous in promoting its increase. Conciliatory conduct is also sure to engage their good will and personal attachment. And as this conduct is but the natural concomitant of free commercial intercourse, which, so far from wounding prejudices, would silently remove many, I should anticipate additional security, rather than danger, to our possessions in the East, from the greater degree of cordiality between the Europeans and natives, which this beneficial intercourse is calculated to promote.

*Robert Rickards,
Esq*
(4 May)

What other races of people exist in India; are they numerous, and what are their habits?—There are several other races; and in a question of this nature, it is of importance to consider their uses and influence in the society of which they compose a part; and more especially as, in discussing this question, it often happens that the advocates of the restrictive system, seem to argue as if they thought the whole population of India consisted of the prejudiced and unchangeable Hindoo above mentioned. The most numerous of the other tribes, is the Mussulman; Mr. Orme estimates their number, I think, at eleven millions. Of native Christians, Jews, Portuguese, and Armenians, there cannot, I think, be less than from three to four millions. There is also a numerous body of Parsees on the western side of India, of most intelligent, industrious, and enterprising habits. All these are much given to commercial pursuits in every part of India; and of these classes, it is not even pretended they are influenced by any of the prejudices erroneously imputed to the Hindoos.

Do you mean to say, that the present race of Hindoos are under no legal restraints or prohibitions, in respect to their food and occupations in life?—In the laws of Menu, a great deal is said about the food and occupations of the “twice-born,” or higher classes; and there is a list of animals given, few in number, which they are forbidden to eat. Of other animals, including all quadrupeds, camels excepted (which have but one row of teeth,) they are required to eat freely at certain religious festivals in the year; and of the Brahmin, who shall refuse to eat flesh-meat on those occasions, it is expressly said, “he shall sink in another world, for twenty-one births, to the state of a beast.” There is an excellent paper in the Asiatic Researches by Mr. Colebrooke, on the subject of the employment or lawful occupations of the Hindoo classes, which shows that individuals, even of the four superior classes, might almost indiscriminately have employed themselves in the more important and useful of the businesses of life, but three of those casts being probably extinct, or nearly so; there only remain to consider the duties or occupations of the Brahmins and mixed tribes. The business of religion, and officiating at religious ceremonies, is, and has at all times, been reserved to the Brahmins, but the Brahmin may also employ himself as a soldier, in tillage, attendance on cattle, and in traffic generally; avoiding only certain articles. They are also employed universally in ministerial and servile offices, from prime ministers of state down to humble clerks, accountants, hircarrahs or messengers, &c. The mixed classes, being described in the laws of Menu as degraded, are liable in this respect to no restraint, and though distinct occupations are assigned to some of those enumerated in the above code, yet every other occupation seems open to them, whilst in fact, we daily see the various branches of handicraft, commerce, and agriculture, filled by men of various casts and denominations.

The Brahmins in the present day, in the south of India, confine themselves to vegetable food. There are, however, Brahmins in the Concan and the Deccan who eat fish; and many of the Brahmins of Bengal, Hindostan and Cashmere, are said to eat the flesh of fawn, mutton, and whatever is slain in sacrifice. They, as well as the better orders of the mixed tribes, are averse to the sight of beef; the mixed tribes, however, those at least who can afford it, eat other meats daily. In Bombay there is a regular but separate meat market, or bazaar, in which mutton, kid, and fish are daily sold for the use of Hindoo families, some of which pretend to be of the Khetry tribe. The coasts of India are lined with a numerous race of fishermen, many millions in number, whose daily food is fish; and a vast quantity of dried fish is carried into the interior, for the consumption of the inland inhabitants. Game is also eaten by the Hindoos of the higher orders, whilst some of the lower

Robert Richards,
Esq
(4 May.)

class live by catching wild animals; and some casts absolutely devour carrion, or dead animals, wherever they can be found. The lower orders of Hindoos also drank freely of strong liquors.

I enumerate these instances to show, that the prejudices of the Hindoos are greatly magnified in this country, and that, in the breast of many well-disposed persons, they are the cause of unnecessary alarms, which are thus allowed to obstruct the natural progress of improvement, and the extension of commercial intercourse between the two countries.

Lunæ, 7^o die Mai, 1821.

The Right Honourable THOMAS WALLACE, in the Chair.

Robert Richards, Esquire,
Again called in, and Examined

Robert Richards,
Esq
(7 May.)

IS it not known to you, that the markets of India have at times been glutted with European goods since the opening of the trade, and that great losses have been sustained thereby?—No doubt the markets have been glutted, and several individuals have suffered great losses in the trade; but these are easily accounted for. In the first place, such occurrences are but too common on the first opening of extensive channels of trade; but nothing is to be dreaded from this evil, inasmuch as it is sure to furnish its own remedy, whilst the glut itself is often found to be an efficient cause of future permanent increase of consumption. In the present instance, however, with every allowance for individual error and precipitation, I take the glut to be in a great degree occasioned by the restrictions under which the trade still labours. As the system is now acted upon, free traders can only go to the principal settlements of India, and goods are consequently poured into those markets, some suited, and others not suited, to the wants or tastes of the natives; none of which goods can afterwards be conveyed, but at a great expense, to other parts where they may chance to be in demand; they consequently lay on hand, or will only sell at a heavy discount. In the meantime, the coasts of India are inhabited by like races of people, for several thousands of miles, who would all be as well pleased with our manufactures, as their brethren at the presidencies, if they could get them equally cheap. It is therefore easy to conceive, that the quantity of goods sufficient to glut three or four markets, would still constitute but a fractional part of the demand for the same description of goods, if they were allowed to be freely and cheaply conveyed to the hundreds of other markets, along the coasts of India, Persia and Arabia, from which they are now effectually excluded.

Can you state with a little more particularity, what are the markets to which that answer refers?—All the principal towns along the coast of Malabar, Coromandel, Guzerat, Cutch, Sind, and the Persian and Arabian Gulfs, in which towns, or at least those on the coast of Guzerat, Malabar and Coromandel, or the neighbourhood thereof, there are local officers of government stationed, under whose authority and control, trade might be carried on without danger or inconvenience, between the free traders and the natives.

Do you think, that for access to those intermediate ports, as well as the trade to the Persian Gulf, small vessels would be preferable to those in which the trade is now permitted to be carried on?—The trade to the Gulfs of Arabia and Persia, the coasts of Guzerat, Cutch, and Sind, and to the eastern Archipelago, would be more advantageously carried on in vessels of a smaller burthen than that now allowed by Act of Parliament. Large ships may visit any part of the coasts of Coromandel and Malabar

—Is it on account of the nature of the harbours, or because it would admit a greater number of small capitalists than can engage in the trade at present?—Small vessels are better calculated than large ones, for some parts of this extensive line of coast I have before described, some of which cannot, in fact, be approached by vessels of a large size, but it would also be a decided advantage to small capitalists to be allowed to embark in this trade, in vessels of such a size as they have the means to fit out for the purpose

Do

Do you know of any other obstructions, or impediments, in the way of the Indian trade, which you think it would be desirable to remove?—If the object be, as I presume it is, to extend the commerce of this country with India, and to promote, as much as possible, the use and consumption of British manufactures, I can mention several other obstacles and restraints which are now complained of, and the removal of which would, I think, materially tend to promote the object in view.

Robert Rickards,
Esq
(7 May)

Be so good as to state them?—I have already adverted to the size of the ships employed in this trade, which is considered by the merchants generally to be one unnecessary obstruction to the further extension and improvement of this trade. Secondly, it is a source of great mortification to British merchants (and as they think of loss) to find themselves excluded from an extensive and lucrative branch of trade, which is now solely carried on by rivals, between India, China, and the parts of the continent of Europe, in which British merchants think it would be but just to allow them to participate, more especially as they conceive that their participation would not interfere with the East India Company's monopoly. When examined before the Committee of the House of Lords, I laid before their Lordships a statement, to show the magnitude of the trade carried on by Americans with Canton. Of late years, these industrious and enterprising traders, who are fortunately free from all restraint, have taken large quantities of goods to China, including woollens and other articles. They come to our own ports for the purchase of these commodities, and convey them to Canton, where it must be presumed they sell them to advantage, as they continue their purchases here with unabated ardour. Their establishment, moreover, at Canton, is intimately connected with one of the wealthiest of the Hong merchants, who is known to be a partaker in some, at least, of their speculations, and under whose advice their purchases in this country are supposed to be made. Of late their attention has been turned to cotton piece goods, as well as to woollens, &c, and their agents are at this moment purchasing largely of those goods for the China market; the British merchant is thus obliged to look quietly on, while foreigners take, as it were out of his very hands, and from his own shores a lucrative branch of trade, without his being able to partake of its benefits. I have extracted from the Custom-house reports, the entries which they contain of the cargoes conveyed from this country by American ships to Canton, during the year 1820, and up to April 1821, which will serve to show to what extent this trade is now carried on. The statements themselves cannot be relied upon for entire accuracy, because the valuations of the goods have been given in to the custom-house by the actual exporters, but it may, I think, be safely concluded, that the real value of these exports have considerably exceeded the amount of the valuations.

Are you acquainted with any of the American ships that have recently sailed from this country, and the cargoes they have carried out?—The American ship *Cordelia*, sailed from hence in January last, with a cargo, of which the entries in the Custom-house reports, amount to 28,757*l* besides about 20,000*l* worth of goods brought from Holland. The American ship *Clay* sailed in March last, with a cargo valued as per the entries aforesaid, at 33,911*l*; and the *Nautilus* sailed for Canton in April last, with a cargo valued as per entries at 155,995*l* of which about 140,000*l* are stated to be woollen manufactures and British cottons. These ships may return to America, or to any part of the continent of Europe, with valuable cargoes collected in China, the Eastern islands or in India, resources from which the British merchant, strange to say, is wholly shut out.

Proceed to state the other heads?—Thirdly, by exclusion from the port of Canton, the British trader is deprived of another branch, which would be of material use and advantage to those who trade to the Eastern islands, viz the trade between those islands and China, which is not only lucrative in itself, but if opened to British traders would enable them to extend considerably their commercial speculations in that quarter, this trade is also open to, and profitably carried on by the Americans. Fourthly, I consider our commercial intercourse with the Eastern Archipelago to be very much obstructed just now, by the restrictive regulations and monopoly of the Dutch, who assume a kind of sovereignty in those seas, they have restored the old monopolizing system in all its rigour, they will not allow foreign vessels to frequent any of their own ports, or others under their influence and control, excepting three which they have opened, under certain regulations also, on the island of Java. The trade with the Eastern islands would therefore, I think, be materially promoted, if an emporium, such as Sincapoe, to be continued permanently as a free port, were firmly established in those seas, without any

Robert Rickards
Esq.

7 May

fear, after occupation for some years, of its being abandoned; and that encouragement and protection were at the same time given to British merchants to settle in various parts of those islands; there being many parts where traders would be hospitably received, and well treated by the natives. It is well known likewise, that the inhabitants of this Archipelago have already a taste for British manufactures; iron, cotton goods, hardware and glassware, are the principal articles of export to that quarter; but with the advantage of numerous subordinate establishments, and adequate protection, there is no foreseeing to what extent the consumption of British goods might be carried, as many of those islands are extremely populous, and the inhabitants of very industrious, commercial and enterprising habits; English settlers interspersed throughout those parts, would prove the more useful if not requisite, to counteract the present pernicious influence and restrictive system of the Dutch. Fifthly, under the restrictive system at present in force, the fur trade to Canton is wholly thrown into the hands of the Americans; they alone can carry furs from the north-west coast of America, and also seal skins from the south seas. The late discovery of New Shetland has opened a wide field in this respect, to the enterprising; some of our ships have visited the spot, and found it abounding with seals, whales and other marine animals. Two ships, unable to go to China with the produce of their fishing, as the Americans do, have lately imported here from 30 to 40,000 seal skins, which they will probably sell at about five shillings a-piece; whilst the Americans may get as many dollars each for theirs in China, besides the advantage of the return voyage. This branch is the more deserving just now of consideration, when coupled with what is known of the trade carried on with the northern provinces of China, *via* Russia and Tartary. Formerly the Chinese were supplied with Siberian furs through this latter channel, but for some years back the castor is supposed to be extinct in the north of Europe, and the sable has become very scarce, whence some of the north-west furs imported into this country, now go to Russia for the supply of this trade. On the failure of the former supplies of Siberian furs, the Chinese sought coarse woollens and thick cottons in barter for their teas, silks, &c. and a considerable quantity of our manufactures of the above description, consequently found their way to the annual fairs at Novogorod and Kiachta; but they can only be smuggled thither, under the existing regulations of Russia; whilst Russian manufactures are allowed to pass, on paying a transit duty of three per cent. It is however, certain, that if free access were allowed to the port of Canton, the northern provinces of China might be supplied by British merchants, with the goods they require, both furs and British manufactures, the latter too of far better quality, and at one-third, or perhaps one-fourth, of the price they now cost the Chinese, by the route above mentioned. Sixthly, Another serious grievance complained of by the ship-owners employed in the East India trade, is, the charges to which they are subject in the East India docks; they formerly paid fourteen, and now twelve shillings per ton, for what is performed in the London and West India docks for three and five shillings. It is needless, however, to dwell on this subject, as a petition was presented to Parliament in 1818, and proceedings thereon held, in which most minute and accurate information was given respecting the charges and inconveniences experienced in those docks: there the matter has since rested, as far as I know; but whenever a favourable opportunity occurs, it is earnestly hoped by the East India trade generally, that the enormity of this evil will be duly and justly considered.

In your former examination you gave it as your opinion, that the trade between India and Great Britain had materially increased, do you found this opinion on any documents you have examined, or on your general experience of the trade?— I believe that the experience of every merchant in the city of London concerned in the East India trade, will lead him to the conclusion, that this trade has very materially increased in quantity and value of goods since the opening in 1813. I have no means of referring to official documents, save such as are occasionally printed, but I believe I may safely quote the following: (In the Appendix N^o 24, to the Fourth Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons on East India affairs in 1812, there is an account given of the actual sales of the East India Company's and Private trade goods for seventeen years, or from 1793-4 to 1809-10 inclusive, which statement will, I think, give a tolerably accurate view of the extent of the India and China trade for the period in question; the sales on account of the East India Company averaged for that period, 6,007,564 *l.* per annum; the average of private sales 1,999,485 *l.*; total 8,007,049 *l.*) Now as these sales by the Company are certified in the same Report, to have yielded a profit of about 25 per cent,

over

over and above the actual cost and charges of the goods, we may safely conclude that the 8,007,649*l* is the utmost annual value of the whole import trade for that period. Comparing these results, however, with the printed statement of the East India Company's and of the free trade to and from China and India, from 1814 to 1819 inclusive, lately laid before Parliament, I find that the imports by the East India Company and the free traders (given I presume at their invoice cost only) average for that period 12,435,548*l* per annum, showing therefore a decided and most important increase since the opening of the trade. In the 25th Appendix to the Fourth Report, the value of goods from India alone, sold by the East India Company in the seventeen years above mentioned, & the total costs and charges averaged 2,328,184*l* per annum, add the private trade as above stated less 25 per cent for the alleged profit on the sales, or 1,490,614*l* and we have 3,827,798*l* for the total invoice value or cost and charges of the import trade of that period from India alone, but the imports on account of the free and privileged trade alone, in the year ending 5th January 1818, are stated at 5,097,748*l*, in 1819, 7,008,650*l*; and in 1820, 6,207,510*l*; what the amount of the Company's imports from India has been during those three last mentioned years, I have not the means of ascertaining, but with every allowance for a decline in their trade, it will probably be thought moderate, from a review of these results, to state that the trade between India and this country has doubled, or nearly so, since it has been opened to the energy and enterprise of free traders.

Robert Rickards,
Esq

(7 May)

Your preceding answer refers chiefly to the quantity or value of the goods imported, what do you conceive to be the actual state of the consumption of goods in this trade, as well in India as in England, is it, in your opinion, on the increase or decrease?—I have reason to know, that the demand for the principal articles of Indian produce is, and has been, on the increase, since the opening of the trade, of cotton for example, the clearances on deliveries from warehouse, for home consumption and export, were in 1814, 23,748 bales; but in 1818, 130,700 bales; and in 1820, 85,800 bales. The falling off since 1818, is entirely to be ascribed to the peculiar circumstances under which East India cotton has of late been held by the consignees in England, in expectation of a return to higher prices. The demand for the article generally may be judged of by the consumption and export, being in 1811, 316,334 bales, and in 1820, 518,478 bales. The deliveries of indigo, in 1811, were 2,996,000 lbs, and in 1820, 6,710,000 lbs. The deliveries or clearances of East India sugar, in 1813, were 34,181 cwt, and in 1820, 241,200 cwt. Of silk, the deliveries in 1812, were 5,914 bales, and 6,740 bales in 1820. Of the demand for East India coffee, some idea may be formed, by the amount of the stocks on hand. At the close of 1814, the stock was 80,000 bags, in December 1820, it was only 27,800, and has since been reduced to about 7,000 bags. Of these articles, it may be added, that the consumption appears to have gradually increased, throughout the intermediate years of the periods above given, and even during the two years that trade generally was said to be so much depressed.

The Committee perceive, from your preceding statement, that it is confined to the consumption of articles of India produce in this country, and the Foreign markets of Europe; have you any account or statement, which leads to show that there has been an increased consumption of the exports from Europe to India, during the same period?—In my former examination, I stated some facts, on the authority of advices I had then received from Calcutta, to show that a very considerable increase had taken place in the imports into Calcutta of British manufactures, since the opening of the free trade; subsequent to that examination, I have received further letters from Calcutta, in which I have been again informed, that the demand for British manufactures of certain descriptions and qualities, continues to be great, and is likely to go on progressively increasing. In documents respecting this trade, I find it stated, that the total imports from the United Kingdom into Calcutta, have increased from R^s 39,44,247 in 1811-12, to 2,81,05,654 in 1818-19. In this increase, by far the largest proportion consists of merchandize, as distinguished from treasure, and it is impossible, I conceive, to account for this great augmentation of the import trade, without admitting, at the same time, a vast increase in the real or effectual demand for goods.

In your opinion, has the freedom of trade operated at all, as a stimulus to the industry of India?—It certainly has done so; to as great an extent as could well be expected, and this is proved, by the increased quantity of goods, which we have for some years received from that country, and by the increased consumption of

of the Eastern islands, to be exchanged for these returns on the spot, the American is enabled to procure them on far better terms than the British merchant, who may accidentally pick up some of these articles, at such of the ports of India as he is now allowed to visit

Robert Ruckaras,
Esq
(7 May.)

Do you not think, in point of fact, the advantage of the trade with the Indian Archipelago, depends in a very great degree, upon the power of going to China for a return cargo to Europe?—I think it does, for the reasons I have above stated.

If means were taken to preserve the monopoly of the tea trade to this country, to the East India Company, do you think any material objection exists to the private trader being permitted to carry that article to foreign ports, either in or out of Europe?—I cannot conceive any reasonable objection to his doing so; it would not interfere in the smallest degree with the Company's monopoly of the tea trade in England; whilst the consumption of America, and of foreign Europe is now, and will continue to be, supplied by the enterprising Americans themselves, to as great extent as if British merchants participated therein. This, moreover, is a branch of trade into which the Company themselves neither can, or, I believe, would enter. By the selfish policy of vesting, it is wholly thrown, with all its advantages, into the hands of foreigners and rivals. The British merchant is thus excluded from a branch of trade, which the East India Company neither can, or, I imagine, wish to enjoy, merely because the latter have now a close monopoly of the tea trade to England, but it is quite obvious that the exclusion is of no advantage to the Company, or to any other class of his Majesty's subjects; and it may therefore be fairly and justly stated to be pure and unmixed loss to the nation at large.

Have you any information respecting the American trade, its progress, and its amount, and the distribution of it between America and foreign Europe?—When examined before the Committee of the House of Lords, I delivered in a statement showing the amount of the American trade from Canton, both to foreign Europe and America. I have reason to believe that that statement is authentic, and I would beg leave to refer to it here, as containing detailed information upon the subject inquired into.

Have you reason to believe that much of the tea imported to America, finds its way to other countries in Europe?—I should think not, inasmuch as the Americans have free access to the continental ports, and may import it direct, and therefore at a less expense than by the circuitous route of America.

Do you believe that the tea trade, as carried on from Canton to Holland, during the last years, has been an advantageous trade?—The market in Holland has, on the contrary, been overstocked with teas from China; but I have at the same time learned from merchants trading with the continent of Europe, that the consumption of tea in Germany is on the whole increasing, and the present cheapness of the article will probably tend to promote its further use.

Do you know whether the imports from India and China to Holland, are chiefly conveyed in Dutch vessels?—There are several Dutch ships employed in the trade between Java and Holland; but the principal imports into Holland from China are made by American vessels, who also convey Javanese, Siamese, and Indian produce to the same quarter.

Can you state any reason for the preference of American vessels, on the part of the Dutch, to their own?—No other than that the Americans are a more enterprising and energetic people, they have not even the same advantages as the Dutch in this trade, inasmuch as they are subject to higher duties on importation into Holland; notwithstanding which, the greater part of the trade between Holland and the East, seems to be conveyed in American bottoms.

If the law permitted British vessels to compete with American vessels in this branch of the carrying trade, do you think they could do it successfully?—I have no doubt they could; I know several ship-owners and merchants, who would immediately embark in this trade if it were once opened to them; they are also persuaded that they can now navigate their ships as cheaply as the Americans do; and if the port of Canton were opened to them, they would again engage in the fur and seal skin trade, in the conviction of its fully answering their expectations, and being attended with considerable profit.

Has not the fur trade as carried on by the Americans, diminished considerably of late from the north-west coast?—I do not exactly know to what extent it may have diminished of late years, but the statement I delivered in to the House of Lords, before referred to, will show the exact amount of the annual importations of furs

Robert Rickards,
Esq.
(7 May)

and skins by the Americans into China, for the period comprised therein. That statement exhibits considerable fluctuation in the annual amount of imports; in the latter years there seems to be a diminution in the number of otter and seal skins, but an increase in rabbit, neutra and beaver skins.

Have you any documents relative to the trade carried on with the north of China, through Russia?—I communicated to the Committee of the House of Lords, all the information I then possessed upon this subject, I have since received the following letter relative to this trade.

“ Extract from a letter to R. Rickards, Esq. on the subject of the trade to China, *via* Russia and Tartary; dated in 1821

“ The trade in British manufactures to China through Russia, has not increased during the last year, this is in a great measure owing to the promised transit of foreign manufactures not having been carried into effect by the Russian government, in consequence, many of the British articles which would find a ready market at Kiachta, are not permitted at all to enter the Russian empire. Indeed it now appears to be the policy of that government to check the importation of foreign merchandize, particularly such articles as are of the manufacture or produce of Great Britain. The tariff of 1821, gives a strong evidence of this fact, as the new duties there imposed, are almost exclusively levied on goods either from British colonies or of British manufacture.

“ The whole amount of goods which pass by way of Kiachta from Russia into China, do not amount at an average to more than one million sterling per annum; the average expenses incurred on British goods, before they arrive at Kiachta, amount to nearly three times their original cost. The journey from Kiachta to Petersburg takes upwards of five months, even when sent direct, and in case the goods change proprietors at the fair of Vishney Novogorod (which is generally the case) it requires nearly a year to make the journey.

“ The Chinese goods received in barter, are equally slow in reaching the markets where they are sold, so that an operation from St. Petersburg to Kiachta, usually occupies a period of upwards of two years before it is finally realised.

“ Goods intended for Kiachta generally change proprietors at the fair of Vishney Novogorod, which takes place in the month of August, from thence they are conveyed in carts or sledges to Kiachta, where they are purchased in barter by the Chinese merchants. The demand at Kiachta commences in November, and lasts till the beginning of March. The barter, it is true, continues during the whole year, but it is only during this period that it is carried to any extent, Kiachta is not the only frontier town of Russian Tartary to which the Chinese merchants resort, there is also a considerable trade through the town of Haimatschim, on the frontier of Mingolia, I do not know the extent of business carried on through that channel, but I understand that trade has fallen off lately, the market at Kiachta being preferred.

“ The distance from Kiachta to Petersburg is 4,311 English miles, and again from Kiachta to Pekin 1,014 English miles, in all 5,325 English miles, chiefly by land carriage.

“ The usual quantity of tea imported through Kiachta, is from forty to fifty thousand chests, of this about one half is usually sold at the fair of Vishney Novogorod at that fair in August 1820, 27,000 chests of black tea were sold, exclusive of green and cake tea, which last is called in Russia *Ziegeltha*.

“ The black tea sold for 420 roubles per chest; green, 500 to 600 roubles; and cake tea from 175 to 200 roubles. This last is an article not used in this country.

“ The woollen cloths of Prussia and Saxony have an advantage over those of Great Britain, in consequence of their being received in Russia at a less duty than cloths of British manufacture. This reduced duty in favour of these countries, was established during Buonaparte's continental system, and has continued ever since, our government having made no remonstrance on the subject, they are also permitted to be sent to Kiachta, on paying a transit duty of 3 per cent.

“ The Russians are extremely jealous of their overland trade to China, and it is exclusively Russian-born subjects, and such as pay the patent as merchants of the first class, that are permitted to trade to Kiachta. The Chinese, on their part, also confine that trade to a privileged company of native merchants. British goods, which are sent to Kiachta, are almost all contraband, no British goods being permitted in transit through Russia, that privilege, as I have already stated, is, however, granted to goods of Prussian manufacture, and exclusively to them.

“ I have

I have not been able to ascertain what duties are levied by the Chinese government, as the interior trade of that country is entirely confined to native Chinese, who come direct from Peking to that market, there are regular fairs in Chinese Tartary, but as nothing but native Chinese are permitted to be there, I am also unable to give you any details respecting that branch of trade. The road from Peking to Kiachta is chiefly through a flat desert country. Merchandizes are conveyed in carts of about half a ton each, the expense of carriage I have not been able to ascertain.

Robert Richards,
Esq
(7 May)

“ In the month of June last, 785 carts laden with Chinese merchandize arrived at Maimutschin from the interior of China; these performed the journey from Peking to that place in 51 days, and brought 943 chests of tea, 589 bales of nankeens, exclusive of manufactured silks, sugar candy, &c &c. About the same period, goods to nearly a similar value arrived at Kiachta from the interior of Russia, of these, about three eighths were British manufacture, consisting chiefly of Manchester velvets and a few muslins, the other were furs, Russian leather, woollen cloths and horses, Russian horses find a ready market in the northern provinces of China.

“ My sole object in giving these details is to prove to you, that some articles of British manufactures are suitable for the consumption of the northern provinces of China, and that in spite of every obstacle, they have found their way to that distant country, by an overland journey of upwards of five thousand miles, a part of which is through regions where there are neither roads nor inhabitants.”

In what proportion do you think the goods, carried in this way, could be supplied cheaper to China, if they could find access through any of the northern ports of that empire?—I should think that British goods might be conveyed through Canton to the northern provinces of China, at probably one-fourth of their present cost, by the way of Vishney, Novogorod, and Kiachta. If access were given to British traders, to any of the northern ports of China, those goods could be supplied to the northern provinces at a less expense, by all the costs of the land carriage, from Canton, of which I have no means of judging, I should conceive however, generally speaking, that the cost of conveying goods to any of the northern ports of China, would be much the same as to the port of Canton.

At what difference of cost do you think private traders could supply British manufactures to the Chinese, through the port of Canton, as compared with the East India Company?—I know of several purchases made in the city of London by private merchants, of woollens of the same description as those supplied to the East India Company, and declared to be of equal quality, at 25 per cent under the Company's prices. The freight upon those goods to China, in private traders, would be less than in the Company's ships, whence it is obvious, that private traders might dispose of their goods to a profit in China at sales prices, which would still be attended with loss to the Company.

Do you apprehend, that that is the comparative difference of price between British manufactures conveyed by Americans, and of those sent by the East India Company?—I know it to be the case in some instances, having seen the books of a considerable warehouseman in the city, who had sold goods to an American for consignment to Canton, and the prices paid to him for the same, compared with the prices of goods of the same quality, usually prepared for the East India Company, were less by twenty to twenty-five per cent. The difference arises from the different mode in which the goods are got up for private sale, the Company's woollens are dyed and finished in London. It is now ascertained, that the same processes can be performed equally well, and much cheaper in the country. I have myself had repeated offers made to me of woollens for the India and China market, warranted to be of equal quality with the Company's cloths, and at 25 per cent under their prices.

Have you reason to believe, that at the prices at which the Americans can afford to sell the manufactures of this country, they have found a ready sale in China?—It is very commonly reported of the American trade, that it has been a losing one to them, and I know that the American agents in this town assert the same fact, but when I see this trade carried on to such an extent, as the statements I have this day delivered in show it to be, by such respectable and enlightened merchants, as Mr Perkins and Co of Boston, Mr. Cushing, their agent at Canton, and those gentlemen intimately connected, as they are known to be, with the great Chinese Hong merchant, Howqua, I cannot conceive it possible they would persevere in this trade, if on the whole it was found to be a losing one.

Robert Rickards,
Esq

(7 May)

Have you reason to believe, that the Chinese prefer the trade carried on in goods to the trade carried on by specie?—Formerly, the exports to China were chiefly in specie, but of late years, from the quantity of goods that have been carried to China by the Americans, as well as by the captains and officers of the Company's ships, there is reason to believe that they have no objection to receiving our goods, of such patterns and descriptions as may happen to suit them, in preference to specie. An anecdote which I have lately heard, may serve to illustrate this fact. A gentleman belonging to one of the Company's ships, gave to his friend in the city a few days ago, an account of his last adventure to China in goods, which appeared to have been a losing one. His friend observed, "then I suppose you will take no more goods to China." He replied, "I certainly shall, for goods of certain descriptions are in demand there, on my former voyage I knew not what would best suit the taste of the Chinese, now I know it, and I expect my next adventure will be a profitable one."

Presuming that the sale of British manufactures, particularly cotton, is much extended amongst the population of India, and that they are introduced into general use there, what effect do you consider such a state of things would produce on the employment and resources of that portion of the native population that is now occupied in the manufacture of cotton goods for the consumption of India?—I think it very likely that the further introduction of our cheap cotton manufactures into India, may supersede, as they have done already to a certain degree, the use and consumption of many of the cotton manufactures of the country, but I am not aware of any injury to the population of India, that is likely to result from this state of things, probably, the most beneficial trade that can be carried on between India and this country, will be found to consist in the exchange of the raw produce of the East, for the manufactured goods of Britain. I believe the native Indians have it in their power, from the cheapness of labour and food in that country, and the great fertility of the soil, to produce raw articles calculated for the manufactures of Britain, at a cheaper rate than perhaps any other country in the world, and if their industry should be directed to this point, instead of to local manufactures it will interfere the less with their present occupations and employments, inasmuch as the weavers generally throughout India are cultivators of the soil also, and are occupied to the full as much in their fields as at their looms. I believe the alarms on this head, to be as unfounded as those which exist in respect to the supposed casts and peculiar prejudices of the native Indians. From general poverty and want of capital, labour in India is by no means so subdivided as in the more improved countries of Europe. Weavers, at least when I was in India, were very commonly of those versatile habits, and at the same time so poor, as to be obliged not only to raise their own food, but to conduct the whole process of their art, from the formation of their tools to the sale of their production. Whatever, therefore, may tend to accumulate capital, and to confine the labour of the industrious to particular objects, will be a manifest advantage to the country at large, and it is obvious that it will be far better for the Indian to raise cotton than to spin and weave it, when he can procure the manufactured article he wants, cheaper than he can make it, by exchanging it for the raw material. Greater attention to agriculture might also be the means of improving the quality of Indian cotton, a matter of no small importance, as a trifling improvement of the staple would render it more valuable to our manufacturers than the broad cottons of America. It may be satisfactory to those who entertain apprehensions on this head, to know, that there is a large class of coarse piece goods manufactured in India, which have not yet been successfully imitated in this country, at the same prices, in proof of which it is stated from Bengal, that large quantities of these goods continue to be exported from Calcutta to America, the exports of piece goods to America in 1818-19, having exceeded that of 1817-18, in no less a sum than 9,76,369 rupees. The weavers, therefore, incur no risk whatever that I can see, of being thrown out of employment, by any changes now in progress, or that are likely to occur, in the course or state of this trade.

Jovis, 10^o die Maii, 1821.

The Right Honourable THOMAS WALLACE, in the Chair.

Charles Everett, Esquire,

Called in; and Examined

STATE your profession?—My profession is an American commission merchant.

*Charles Everett,
Esq*

(10 May)

In what particular branch of the American trade are you engaged?—In selecting goods, and making contracts for shipments.

To the United States?—Yes.

And to other parts of the world, on account of the subjects of the United States?—Yes, wherever I receive the orders for.

Has your business led you to become acquainted with the state of the trade carried on through this country, by the Americans, with the East Indies and China?—It has, so far as regards British manufactured goods, I have not a general knowledge of the trade. What I know of it, is only from buying the articles for the markets.

Are there a number of merchants of the same description as yourself, resident in this country, employed in the purchasing of goods?—Yes, buying for themselves and buying on commission.

Do you know how many of them are engaged in the commission trade, as connected with the East Indies and China?—I do not know of any one excepting myself, that has purchased goods for China.

Have you yourself been engaged extensively in purchasing goods for China, on account of Americans?—I have purchased only for one house, at least the orders have come through one house, and I feel myself bound to execute those orders only.

Have those orders been extensive?—I have no objection to give the amount of the shipments. The trade has been very much overrated, and it is for that reason I feel myself at liberty to expose the amount.

How long have you been engaged in this business?—Since 1818.

Will you state the amount of the manufactured articles shipped by you, in each of the years subsequent to the year 1818?—In 1818, I had orders to a great amount, I had orders, for instance, of one particular article for 10,000 pieces not executed, owing to the state of the market. The amount shipped, at that period, was about 1,800*l.* consisting of articles for experiment, of those articles, only about three, out of many, were suitable for the market. I ought to observe, that the house had been shipping goods before I had the agency of it, and that many of those had been returned to the United States as unsaleable.

When they previously shipped goods, was it from America or this country?—Part of those I speak of were sent to America, and from there to China.

Speaking of the previous shipments you say the house had shipped before you were employed, did they ship from America to China, or, as they now do, from this country?—From America, they may have been brought here, and sent to America.

This business of shipping goods from this country to China, commenced with your receiving the commission?—Yes.

In the subsequent year to 1818, did you increase the quantity of articles sent out, considerably?—The next year I was enabled to execute part of the orders I had in hand, the decline of the markets here was such that I was enabled to do it.

The export of manufactured articles was more in 1819 than in 1818?—Yes.

Can you state by what proportion it was more?—In 1819, the shipments were in the last six months of the year; they began in July.

Were they much more in that year than the year before?—In the last six months of 1819, we shipped about 26,448*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.*

When did you receive the account of the result of your experiment?—That would follow in about nine or ten months after.

Charles Everett,
Esq
(10 May)

Were the shipments made in 1819, in consequence of receiving that account, or before you received that account?—I am uncertain as it respects that; I cannot recollect, probably it was from the decline of the market, which was very real in 1819 and 1820

Were those shipments made after you had received the account of the result of your experiments the preceding year, or not?—I should say no, they were probably made from the decline in the market, that enabled me to execute the orders.

Then you had received the result of those experiments, previous to making those shipments?—No, I could not have known the result previous to the first shipment in 1819. One shipment was made in December 1819, and I might have received intelligence before that time, of the preceding shipment.

Was that shipment, which was made in December, regulated by the accounts you had received of the results of your experiments?—I presume it was, but I cannot say positively, not having the documents before me

Are you led to believe that, from the articles of which it consisted?—Yes, I should conceive so, from the number of articles

Have you any objection to state, whether those articles were woollen manufactures or cottons, or what description?—Woollens.

Altogether woollens?—Yes

In the year 1820, were your shipments much increased?—I shipped, in 1820, 139,639*l* 4*s.* 4*d*

State, subsequent to the year 1820, what shipments have you made this year, up to this period?—The present year, the whole shipments have been 67,933*l*

It appears from this statement, that subsequent to the period of your experiments, the shipments have been gradually increasing, will you inform the Committee, whether that increase has been owing to the state of the market here, or to the increased probability of disposing of them in China?—It has been owing to the price of specie, and the reduction in the prices of manufactured goods here

It has been owing to your finding them a more beneficial export to China, than bullion would have been?—Yes, paying a little more profit than specie.

Have you any reason to know what sort of a market they found in China, whether there was any difficulty in disposing of them?—I do not know of any difficulty in disposing of them.

Do you happen to know whether they sold at a profit, or no?—They were sold at a fair profit, considering they belonged to the owners of the ships, if they had belonged to individuals, and they had paid the freight and incidental expenses, and had no advantages in Canton beyond those of a common merchant, there would have been no profit. My employers have had a house in Canton for many years

Did they comprehend one sort only, or were there many?—There were a variety of woollens, both coarse and fine

Are you aware, from any information you have received, of any particular difficulties attending the carrying on the American trade, in the port of Canton?—I do not know of any in particular, it is a trade that requires a complete knowledge of the people, and manners, of course

If you are aware of any difficulties, be so good as to state them?—The Chinese are naturally jealous, and if they should see an extraordinary quantity of goods coming into the market, it is my opinion there would be an objection to it by the Chinese government

Have you ever been in China?—No

What reason have you to think, that there would be an objection to it from the government?—From the instructions of my employers, I am directed to begin my invoices with number one, of almost every article, so that they may not see, by the high number on the package, there is any considerable quantity of the article

Is that with a view to prevent the merchant knowing what the quantity is that is brought to market?—I presume it is in order to cover the quantity, both from the merchant and the government.

Can you state, what description and size of vessels the trade is usually carried on in?—From 300 to 500 tons, manned by few men compared with English vessels.

What number?—I think a ship of 350 tons, takes from twenty to twenty-five men, including the mates.

Are there any more houses in London that ship goods to China, besides your's?— I do not know of any; I presume, if there was, I should know it, that is to say direct, it may be presumed some do, by indirect means.

Charles Everett,
Esq

(10 May)

Do you know of any goods being shipped from this country, on account of the Chinese Hong merchants themselves?—To a very small amount, I have purchased myself, which were intended for the Hong merchants

At what period did the shipment of British manufactures direct from hence to China, by the American commerce?—It was in 1819 that the first vessel went direct from here.

Are you acquainted with the general progress of the American trade to China?— I have not had an acquaintance with it till the time I have previously mentioned

Has the trade increased or fallen off, since that time?—It has decreased nearly one half; it has now fallen into very few hands.

To what cause do you attribute that decrease?—To the cargoes not selling to advantage

From what particular cause did they cease to produce a profit?—That I cannot tell

From whence do you draw the conclusion, that the trade has fallen off since 1819?—General information

Is that information from China, or from people in this country?—Persons I converse with, Americans and others in this country.

Is it from any information from China?—No

Do you happen to know the number of American vessels that have gone to India or China, within the last year, direct from this country?—Three

Were those vessels freighted by you?—By my employers, the cargoes were purchased by myself

Can you state the number of vessels that have gone direct to China or India, from this country, in the year 1821?—I cannot speak to India, I can only speak as to China, there is only one that has gone there

You have stated, that you are not aware of any persons who freight ships direct from hence to China, but yourselves?—No

What ship was it that went in 1821?—The ship Nautilus

Do you know any thing of the American ship Clay, that sailed in March 1821?—Yes

Were you the agent for freighting that ship?—I bought a small part of the cargo.

Did you know of her sailing?—Yes, she sailed to another Port in India

It appears by the Custom-house accounts, that the Nautilus carried a considerable amount of cottons, as well as of woollens?—Yes

Were they purchased by you?—Yes, they were

Had you sent any cottons previously?—I had sent a few previously

Has the export of cottons increased as well as woollens, through that channel?—In about the same proportion, one tenth of the last shipment was cottons

Are there any vessels going at present on that destination?—None that I know of, only five or six of the principal houses continue in the trade, the smaller ones have been obliged to quit it.

Sir George Thomas Staunton, Baronet, a Member of the House,
Examined

FROM what period have you been in the service of the East India Company?— From 1799

Sir
G T Staunton,
Bart

(10 May)

During what proportion of that period have you resided in China?—Eight or ten years.

State your opinion of the feeling entertained in China, with respect to the trade with this country, by the government and the people?—I think they are sensible of the advantages that the country derives from it, and are desirous of its continuance.

Did it appear to you, that they were desirous also of its increase?—In a commercial point of view, I should imagine they would be favourable to its increase, provided it was not presumed to have any political effect that might interfere with the interests of the country

Confined strictly to a commercial intercourse, do you think that the Chinese government are disposed to encourage it?—I can only judge from their conduct, as far

Sir
G T Staunton,
Bart

(10 May)

as I have had experience of it, from which I do not see any disposition to discourage it.

What are the feelings entertained with respect to British subjects, as compared with those entertained with respect to subjects of other European states?—I should be inclined to think that they possessed, generally speaking, a higher character in the estimation of the Chinese than those of any other country, but they are generally at the same time, in a much greater degree, the objects of jealousy.

To what do you refer the causes of that jealousy?—To the great power of Great Britain, as evinced by our fleets which have visited China, the operations of our armies in India, and various other circumstances, no doubt known to the Chinese

Do you think, that from that circumstance they are disposed to view the conduct of individuals from this country in China, with more jealousy, and to attach more importance to it, than to the conduct of individuals connected with other countries?—Certainly I conceive so

Have you seen any instances in which they have acted upon that feeling?—I cannot at this moment, and should hardly think it necessary to specify particular instances, as I consider the whole system of their conduct to be a proof of that disposition

Are any other restrictions imposed upon the intercourse of British subjects, by the government of China, than are imposed upon the intercourse of the subjects of any other European nation?—The regulations of the trade once established, apply to all equally, there are certainly no specific regulations applicable to the English.

In what part of their conduct does that disposition show itself?—In the execution of those regulations

Do you think that there is any thing in that feeling which creates in itself an objection to the admission of free traders from this country, on the same footing as the subjects of the United States or those of other nations are admitted?—I should conceive that such admission would excite a certain degree of jealousy and suspicion in the first instance, and very possibly lead to an endeavour to impose some new restrictions on the trade, but whether that jealousy would continue, and those restrictions be enforced, I should conceive would depend very much upon their conduct.

If the jealousy which you have stated, arises out of their knowledge of the political power of this country, is it not more likely to connect itself with the great establishments and ships employed by the East India Company, than the smaller and inferior ships in which the trade would be carried on by free traders?—I should conceive that the ships of the free traders would be connected with the East India Company, in the eyes of the Chinese, nearly in the same manner as the ships now engaged in their own trade

Is there any other ground of apprehension arising from the admission of free traders, except the general jealousy which you have stated?—I should conceive that in a commercial point of view, if they confined it strictly to the same branches of trade, and to the same extent that the Americans now do, no injury could arise,

Do not the Americans embrace every species of trade that is carried on by us with the Chinese?—They have done so, but in a limited degree, which has certainly interfered with the Company's trade in some instances; but if the British trade was similar in extent, no greater interference of course could take place.

Then you apprehend no danger from the admission of British traders, to the extent to which the Americans are admitted, and carrying on the trade to the same amount, beyond that which arises from the admission of Americans?—I have stated, that there would be no danger, as far as I am aware, in a commercial point of view.

State in what other point of view?—That which I have already alluded to, the exciting the jealousy of the Chinese government, the degree of which would depend upon their conduct in carrying on that trade.

If, in the conduct of that trade, it was made clear to the Chinese that there were no objects looked to but commercial ones, do you think that in that case any danger would arise from it?—My apprehensions of the jealousy of the Chinese government being excited, does not arise from an opinion that they would impute political objects to them, but I think that their individual conduct, and the increased number of persons belonging to a nation whose power and resources are so well known to the Chinese government, would unavoidably excite jealousy.

Do you apprehend that the Chinese are unacquainted with the power and resources

resources of the Americans?—I should imagine by no means in an equal degree as they are with those of Great Britain, of which they have had so many and such decisive proofs.

Do you entertain any apprehensions of the conduct that would be held by the free traders, that is not applicable to the Americans?—I can hardly presume myself qualified to judge what their conduct would be under such circumstances; but certainly causes of disturbance and dissatisfaction to the Chinese, have arisen more frequently from British subjects than from Americans, in the course of the trade as it has been hitherto carried on.

Has not that very much arisen from the practice of British sailors being permitted to visit Canton in large bodies together on liberty?—No doubt that has been one of the causes.

Has not it been a principal cause?—It has been the immediate cause of several disturbances that have actually taken place.

Is not that cause now removed?—The intercourse with the Chinese, of the sailors, though now restricted, cannot be altogether put a stop to. I believe an instance has very recently occurred, in which a Chinese was unfortunately killed

That was by an officer?—Yes, with a boat's crew, in consequence of stones being thrown at them.

Have you ever heard of any of those instances occurring, with respect to the Americans?—I am by no means sure they have not occurred, though I do not recollect to have heard of any.

Did you ever hear of the American trade being impeded or stopped by any thing of that kind?—I recollect hearing of individual American ships being detained by order of the Chinese government

Did it appear to you, when you were in China, that there was a greater degree of insubordination amongst the British than the American sailors?—I can only say, that I have heard of disturbances occurring among the former, of which no similar instances have come to my knowledge respecting the latter.

Arising out of the misconduct of the sailors?—Arising out of the conduct of the sailors, under, no doubt, great provocation from the Chinese.

Do the Chinese common people hold a different conduct towards the British sailors than they do to the American sailors?—I am not aware that the distinction is recognized by the common people generally

Do you think that the conduct of the British sailors may not, in some degree, arise from a consciousness of the protection they receive from the power of the British establishment there?—I hardly feel myself competent to give an opinion of their motives, or what principles operate in forming their character, but certainly the effects have been such as I have alluded to.

Do you think that the evils arising from this possible want of subordination might be obviated, by giving a power of control over all British ships that should come to Canton, either to the Company's committee there, or to a consul, or a joint power to the committee and a consul?—I should conceive, that in the event of such an alteration in the system of the trade, it would be essential that the whole of the shipping should be placed under the control of some one authority, and whether under the name of a King's consul, or a select committee, appears to me comparatively immaterial, provided the powers were united in the same body.

Do you think that that power would be sufficient to obviate the dangers arising from the disorderly disposition of the British sailors?—I should conceive, that if regulations could be established, placing the private ships in the same degree under the control of the select committee in China, as the East India Company's ships now are, the danger would be greatly diminished

Would not the same effect be produced, were they placed under the direction and control of a consul?—I conceive that the existence of two separate powers would be productive of great danger and injury to the trade

When you resided among the Chinese, did the government appear to entertain a jealousy of any display of power and magnificence on the part of other nations?—I do not recollect any instances having occurred, that would give them an opportunity of displaying those feelings.

Did they not appear, when the last embassy went up to the seat of government, very unwilling that the ambassador should make any considerable show, with respect to attendants, music, &c?—The unwillingness seemed to me, altogether to arise from a wish to reduce the number of the suite, and thereby to prevent the

Sir
G. T. Staunton,
Bart.

(10 May)

political consequences of admitting a considerable number of strangers to the heart of the empire

You do not apprehend that they are jealous of any display of power, unless they apprehend they are likely to receive injury from it?—I cannot say that that view of the subject strikes me.

When you were in China, did you observe any indisposition, on the part of the Chinese merchants, to trade with the private traders who come from India?—None whatever, their views appeared to me entirely regulated by their prospect of commercial advantage

Did they appear as willing to carry on trade with those persons, as the agents of the Company?—By no means did they place the same confidence; but in a trade of barter, which did not require confidence, I am not aware that any difference existed. Trade upon credit would require confidence.

Do you know of any instances in which there was a disposition, in the local government of Canton, to trade with private merchants, at the time when the intercourse with the Company's ships was stopped?—I remember an instance in which the intercourse was stopped, by the authority of the Company's servants, which the Chinese were very desirous to renew, either with the whole or any portion of the trade of the port

Did the Hoppo at that time make a separate communication to the private trader, independently of the supercargoes?—He did, and specially invited them to renew the trade

When was that?—In 1814.

Were you in China then?—I was.

Do you happen to have a copy of the communication from the Hoppo?—I think I have a copy of it by me; but this and all other papers connected with the subject are upon the records of the East India Company.

Will you have the goodness to relate all you know of that transaction?—The paper to which I have just alluded, cannot be clearly understood without adverting to the whole circumstances of the trade, and the measures taken by the members of the Committee at that time.

Relate them?—It is difficult to give a very satisfactory account of the proceedings at that time, in a few words, but it may be sufficient just to mention, that very serious changes were contemplated by the Chinese government, in the system of the trade, and some very oppressive regulations attempted to be established, which induced the Select Committee to conceive it necessary to suspend the trade, until those regulations should be removed, and the intention of altering the system of the trade abandoned,—The measures they adopted in consequence were completely successful. During the period of that suspension, the Chinese government, wishing to defeat the objects of the Select Committee, endeavoured to induce the commanders of ships then at the port, to disobey their orders, and open the trade, in which, if they had succeeded, the objects of the Select Committee in suspending the trade would of course have been frustrated.

To what do you attribute the regulation of the Chinese government, restricting our intercourse with them to the port of Canton alone?—I conceive it entirely arises from their general jealousy of foreigners, particularly the subjects of the British power, it is a general principle with the Chinese to admit foreigners only to one part of their dominions, as they have actually excluded the Russians from the port of Canton, in consequence of having a communication by land to the northward.

Is not the apprehension, on the part of the Chinese government, more likely to be excited by the large armed and handsomely fitted ships of the East India Company, than the smaller and more unpretending vessels which might be employed by private traders?—A very considerable jealousy has been excited by ships of war on the coast of China, but I am not aware that a similar feeling exists towards the Company's ships, notwithstanding their size being nearly the same.

Do you think that the apprehension of the British power would have been as great, if the Chinese had not been in the habit of seeing so many of those large ships of the Company?—I should hardly be disposed to attribute any difference to that circumstance

The Committee understand you to say, the Chinese have not the same apprehension of the power of the United States of America?—Certainly

Then, may not the difference in their estimation of the two powers, arise from the circumstance of the one appearing in those large ships, with expensive and dignified establishments, and the other simply in the character of a trader?—I should rather be disposed

disposed to attribute it to the report of our great power and successes in Hindostan, to the repeated visits of the British troops to the coast of China, and the number of British men of war who frequented the port of Canton during the late war

Of what nature were the regulations proposed by the Chinese government, which led to the stoppage of the intercourse in 1814?—The chief commercial alteration was a material reduction in the number of merchants permitted to carry on the Foreign trade, which, in the opinion of the Select Committee, would have produced a strict monopoly, and placed the trade entirely at the mercy of the few remaining persons permitted to conduct it.

Then, on that occasion, the supercargoes, by firmly refusing to submit to the new regulations, led the Chinese to abandon them?—That was the result of the measures of the Select Committee.

Do you think that the same firmness and apparent disregard of the threats of the Chinese to put a stop to the intercourse with us, might be used to induce them to extend that intercourse to other ports?—I conceive that it is a very different thing, to prevent encroachments and innovations, and to obtain new privileges; and as the latter could not be obtained without the direct interference of the court of Peking, I should much doubt whether any local measures that could be adopted at Canton, would accomplish it.

Do you know whether, in the instance of 1814, the new measures originated with the court of Peking, or the local authorities of Canton?—It is difficult to speak positively upon the subject, but I rather suppose from the local authorities of Canton, on the report of whom, they received the temporary sanction of the government of Peking.

Were you at Canton, when the American trade first commenced?—It had commenced some time before I first went to China.

Do you at all know under what circumstances the intercourse began?—I am not aware of any particular circumstances, but Canton is understood to be a free port to all nations except the Russians.

Have you any recent account of the state of the American trade in China?—I have lately received a letter, an extract from which I beg leave to give in, it is from a gentleman of whose veracity and intelligence, I have the highest opinion.

[*The Witness delivered in the following Paper*]

“ Extract of a letter from a gentleman in China, received by Sir George Staunton in London, on the 8th of May 1821; and dated Canton, November 30th, 1820.

“ I imagine that, at present, the Americans wish the envied traffic were vested in our or any other hands, instead of their own, as, unless it shall meliorate, more and sooner than there is any appearance of its doing, the great mercantile ability and resources of Mr. ———, backed as they are by *Howqua*, will hardly bear even him out from very great loss. In fact, the Americans now begin to be convinced, that their great commercial successes during the war, arose not so much from their own superior wisdom and enterprize, as from favourable external circumstances, and that they cannot engage in successful competition with the nations whose consolidated capital and formed commercial habits, have now as fair a field. Their tonnage here, in this season, has greatly diminished, and must, it is pretty evident, be in future still smaller, regulated by the extent of their own consumption, and amount of their capital applicable to it.”

Is the letter from which the preceding extract is taken, from a servant of the Company?—It is

Your correspondent has stated it to be his opinion, that the trade carried on by the Americans with China is likely to diminish, because it will be regulated by their own consumption, and amount of their capital applicable to it, are you not aware that the American merchants carry on a very considerable direct trade from China with the continent of Europe?—I have understood that they have carried on such trade, but I infer from my correspondent's letter, that he supposes that trade will be carried on in future chiefly by the ships of the respective nations on the continent who are interested in it

Is it not the fact, that up to the present time, the American shipping employed in that trade is considerable, and that the exports of that description from China to the continent of Europe, are very extensive?—I am totally unacquainted with the extent of the carrying trade of the Americans, I conceive it would be highly

Sir
G. T. Staunton,
Bart.

(10 May)

important that that should be ascertained, with a view to the proposed measure of opening that trade to British subjects.

As the population of America is understood to be regularly increasing, is it not to be inferred that the quantity of tea, and other productions of China consumed, must increase in that proportion in the United States of America?—Yes.

Is not that fact also at variance with the opinion entertained by your correspondent, that their trade is likely to diminish and fall away?—I should infer from my correspondent's letter, that their trade has latterly been a trade of speculation, and not in proportion to the wants of the United States, and therefore the failure of those speculations would naturally operate its reduction.

By speculation, do you mean exports from China, or the importations to China, or both?—I think in both instances.

Are you at all acquainted with the nature of the importations the Americans have made into China?—I am aware of the chief articles of which their trade consisted, but of the quantity of each I have no idea.

Are you aware that in the course of the last two or three years, a considerable exportation from this country has been made by American traders, of the productions and manufactures of this country to China?—I am certainly aware of it, as my correspondent alludes to the fact in another part of the letter.

Can you inform the Committee, what is understood to be the result in China, by the American merchants, of those importations there?—My correspondent mentioned, that it was very unfavourable to the Americans.

Have you understood that they were unfavourable, owing to the excess of the quantity imported, or owing to the goods not being suited to the markets of China?—My correspondent does not mention, and I have no other source of information.

Are you aware that shipping of the size such as is employed in the trade from America with China, ought to be navigated under their system, at a much less expense than that of the Company?—I am not sufficiently acquainted with the subject, to form any decided opinion.

Can you assign any reason, whilst the Company's trade is considered to be a prosperous one, that that of the American merchants should be otherwise?—The American trade is certainly extremely prosperous in some instances; but as its extent depends upon accidental circumstances and the speculations of individuals, I conceive it has not borne the same proportion to the actual demand.

Are there duties laid upon the importation of goods into China?—Yes; both upon imports and exports

Do you happen to know the amount of revenue received from the foreign trade in China?—I have no precise information upon the subject.

Do the Chinese government place much importance upon the revenue derived from the foreign trade?—It is certainly an object of some importance to the government; but not one, I conceive, that would be put in competition with any question of political danger.

Do you not imagine an increase of trade, from the duties it would bring into the port, would be an object to the government?—It certainly would.

Are you acquainted with the manner in which the regular ships of the Company are manned, and the extent of their crews?—I have sailed in them several voyages, but I cannot speak to that particularly

Generally speaking, of what number does the crew of a 1,200 ton ship consist?—It is very much influenced by a state of war, when the difficulty of procuring crews is very great, and they are under the necessity of making up their number by Chinese. To the best of my recollection, in a ship of that tonnage, the crew consists of about 130 or 140 men

Are you aware of the number that the crew usually consists of in a private trader, in the trade with India, of 500 tons?—No, I am not.

You are not aware that the number, including officers, which usually constitutes the crew of a free trader of 500 tons, is thirty or thirty-two in all?—No, I am not

You have stated to the Committee, that an increased jealousy would exist, on the part of the Chinese government, was the commerce with this country to be materially extended?—Not on account of the commerce itself, but the circumstances that would attend it.

If that extension was to take place in small vessels of 500 tons, and their crews consisting of such a limited number as has been stated, would not that fact be less likely

likely to produce such a feeling of jealousy, than if it was to take place in large ships, such as the Company now employ, with numerous crews, such as you have stated?—I think the difference would by no means compensate for the diminished control and subordination which might be supposed to arise from their not belonging to the regular marine of the East India Company, and subject as they are to the authority of the East India Company's servants in China

Presuming that the private trade, were it admitted to China, was made subject to the control of the establishment of the Company there, and that the number of the officers in proportion to the number of the crew, was similar to the establishment on board the Company's ships, would not a lesser size of ships, so circumstanced, be less likely to excite increased jealousy on the part of the government, than an increase in the larger class of ships would occasion?—It is possible that some difference might exist, but I am really not aware of the size of the Company's ships having excited any peculiar jealousy.

Then, if the large size of the Company's ships has not excited any particular jealousy, does not it follow that less would be apprehended from the introduction of smaller vessels, fitted and manned for commercial purposes alone?—I conceive the jealousy to arise from the ships being manned by Englishmen, and sailing under the British flag, and therefore the jealousy would be proportioned to the extent of the persons and the tonnage

Then the number of the crew being so much less in proportion to the tonnage, would not that fact be known to the government, and diminish any apprehensions they might otherwise entertain?—I doubt whether the difference in the proportion is so great as may at first appear, as one or two of the largest ships in the Company's service, generally classed with the 1,200 ton ships, have carried home nearly, or as much as 2,000 tons

Are you not aware, that when the tonnage of shipping is spoken of, it has reference to register tonnage, and that the tonnage of India is considerably less, therefore that a ship of 500 registered tons usually carries from seven to eight hundred India tonnage, and in proportion, a 1,200 ton ship would carry 1,800 or 2,000 tons?—My experience, with respect to the smaller ships in India, is rather of a contrary tendency, as I have heard of ships of the class of 800 tons, not carrying their tonnage

Those are the Company's ships you are alluding to, and not private traders?—
Yes

Supposing it should be impossible from any circumstances, to obtain a more extensive access to Canton for British ships, do you think there is any thing in the feelings or laws of China, that would prevent a trade of barter being carried on through the medium of Chinese ships, at any port which might be fixed upon in the Eastern islands?—I have no doubt such a trade would be practicable, if not by consent, by connivance, or even in defiance of the Chinese government, but that it would be subject to many obvious disadvantages, as compared with the direct trade, from the want of means of selecting the cargoes and other causes.

Are you aware whether the importation of the productions of Europe is permitted into China in Chinese vessels, at any one or more ports upon the coast?—I am unable to speak distinctly respecting what part of the China trade is permitted by the Chinese government, and what takes place without its permission, but I have every reason to believe, the trade is carried on between many of the ports of China and the Eastern islands, and that the vessels engaged in that trade, would be enabled to introduce into China British manufactures

Are you aware whether the government does or not prohibit the importation of such goods, through such a medium, as for instance supposing such were from the island of Java?—I have an idea that in such cases, the vessels are entered as trading from port to port in China, and not as coming from a foreign port, but I am not aware that there are any specific restrictions respecting the nature of their cargoes

Are you acquainted with the fact, that the productions of Europe imported to Canton, are afterwards carried coastwise to other ports of China, in Chinese vessels?—I am not aware of the fact, but I see no reason why it should not be the case, if there was any commercial advantage in so doing, but it is very doubtful with me, whether the additional expenses and duties attending the transport by sea, would not prevent recourse being had to that mode of traffic. I beg to add, that on this point, I speak from an anxiety to give every information in my power to the Committee, but rather from general impression than actual knowledge.

Veneris, 11^o die Mai, 1821.

The Right Honourable THOMAS WALLACE, in the Chair

John M^cNeil, Esq.

Called in; and Examined.

John M^cNeil,

Esq

(11 May)

HAVE you been engaged any considerable time in trade in South America?—
I have, for thirteen years.

In what part of South America?—The Brazils, Buenos Ayres, and Chili.

What parts of Spanish South America are now generally open to the British trade?—To the southward of the Brazils, Buenos Ayres, Monte Video, and two or three small ports to the southward of the River Plate, the trade to them is not of importance, though we employ our shipping in the coasting trade; round the Cape there is Valparaiso, the principal port in Chili, and Coquimba.

Are not the principal ports between Chili and the isthmus of Panama, except Lima, now open to English vessels?—We have made them open, we have forced a trade into them, but we have been noticed, that we are blockaded by the squadron commanded by Lord Cochrane.

The principal impediment to the trade in those parts, is the state of hostility now existing between the Independents and the Spaniards?—No doubt of it.

Are you of opinion that the whole of that coast, including Lima, will soon be open to the English trade?—We can hardly doubt, that if the Independents succeed, as we have reason to expect they will, and get possession of Lima, the whole coast will be thrown open.

If Lima should fall to the Independent forces, is it not extremely probable that all the Spanish possessions to the northward, will follow the fate of Lima?—As far as the isthmus, I consider it certain.

Has any considerable trade been carried on between the late colonial possessions of Spain on the eastern and western side of America, and India?—Yes, a trade of a great deal of importance, previous to which, I know of some trade having been forced from the Brazils to India, by Englishmen in English vessels, although they were obliged to get Portuguese papers and colours for the vessels so employed, and pass the property as Portuguese, our own laws preventing English vessels going from the Brazils and returning to Rio Janeiro, but permitting the Portuguese.

Then that trade would have been carried on in British ships, if those restrictions had not existed?—Certainly, one ship I know of, a British ship, owned by people in England, but was covered by Portuguese papers and Portuguese colours at a great expense, to make good the voyage, I also know of the same management being used at Buenos Ayres, with a British-built vessel sent from Buenos Ayres; I believe she had two sets of papers, but she was obliged to enter at Calcutta with the Buenos Ayres flag and papers, being under 200 tons burthen.

Are you of opinion that any considerable trade could be carried on between our East India possessions and the Brazils, if the trade was open, without any restriction, to English vessels?—Yes, I think we could cope with the Portuguese in their own ports.

Has much trade been carried on between Buenos Ayres and India?—Yes, a good deal; a good many ships have arrived.

What have been the principal exports from Buenos Ayres to India?—Copper and silver.

What have been the principal importations from India into Buenos Ayres?—The principal value has been piece goods, there has also been some import of rice and sugar; although both are produced in the Brazils, they may occasionally bring them as cheap from India, as the prices in the Brazils vary very much.

Has any coffee been imported?—I do not recollect any.

Any spices?—Very few; I do not recollect any quantity.

Is it your opinion, that if no restrictions existed with respect to the tonnage, by which that trade is carried on, and if all other restrictions were also removed from it, that it would considerably increase?—It must increase, every facility afforded to merchants, encourages them to adventure more extensively.

Has

Has much trade been carried on from the ports of Chili with India, since the independence of Chili was established?—A very considerable trade

Have the exports from Chili to India been much of the same description as those from Buenos Ayres?—Very much the same.

Is not copper an article in great abundance in Chili?—It is, in great abundance

The quantity exported might be very much increased, if there was an adequate demand?—I do not know that a regular demand would produce an additional supply, as there is abundance in the country; but we have seen, sometimes, a ship arrive in Chili for a cargo of copper when it could not be got at.

Although there might be a momentary cessation of supply, if there was an uninterrupted demand, your opinion is, that the quantity would be very much increased?—Yes, it would.

Has any great quantity of specie, gold, silver, or bullion, been exported from Chili to India?—A very great quantity of silver, in specie and bullion

Have the returns for specie and bullion, shipped through India to England, been much more profitable to British merchants, than if they had been sent to England direct?—Certainly, the exchange in Chili being 4s to 4s. 6d; and the exchange in India being 5s. to 5s. 6d. per dollar, I am informed.

Have any considerable importations of East Indian produce taken place in Chili, since the ports were opened?—Yes, very large importations.

Of what have those importations chiefly consisted?—The principal value has been in cotton goods; there were also silks I think they carried some sugar to Chili in one or two vessels.

If the ports to the northward, including Lima, should be opened, are you of opinion, that the consumption of British manufactures in South America would very much increase?—Very much indeed.

What, in your opinion, would be the most profitable manner of making returns for the sales of such manufactures?—I conceive, from the experience I have had, if we had the privilege of sending our specie to India in vessels of any size, we could send it from time to time through India, and bring it to England, very much to the advantage of the persons so interested

Do you know of any trade having taken place between South America and China, in American vessels?—I have heard of it frequently, the whole country was supplied by the Americans, for several years

With what was it supplied?—With nankeens and silk goods of all descriptions, suitable to that country.

If the trade between South America and China, was open to English vessels, is it not probable that a great proportion of that trade would be carried on by British merchants?—The bulk of it would be.

Have you known any instances in which trade has been forced through other channels, in consequence of the existing restrictions upon British vessels, between South America and India?—I have, several, one under the direction of my own establishment. A party, wishing to make a shipment to Calcutta and receive a cargo in return, would have been very glad to have employed a British vessel, but for the restrictions, and in consequence of them, employed an inferior Spanish vessel, which vessel was condemned at Calcutta, to the great annoyance and disappointment of the parties.

Is it possible, if the trade was opened, that any trade might be carried on between the islands in India, and South America?—I am not aware of any advantage that would be derived from it.

Would it not be of great importance, that all restrictions, with respect to the size of the vessels trading between South America and India, should be removed?—Of very great importance. Parties wishing to make adventures, for the purpose of procuring cargoes, are anxious to do it on that scale they can arrange within themselves. In some of the ports of South America, a large cargo might not answer at the period that a small cargo would. A man may have a ship of his own there of a moderate size, and be desirous of an opportunity of employing his own ship, instead of a larger one, which he must now do, if he undertakes the voyage under British colours, because the small one cannot go according to law.

Would it be the means of extending the trade considerably?—I think it would extend it; every facility afforded would extend it.

Might not it also happen, in consequence of the interference of British manufactures with East India piece goods in the markets of South America, that the trade

John M'Neil,
Esq

(11 May.)

John McNeil,
Esq
(11 May.)

trade to India might be principally a return trade of remittances to this country, which could be carried on at less expense, and more beneficially in small vessels?—As soon as the British manufactured goods interfere with the sale of East India goods, I think that would be the case, but hitherto we have found East India goods cheaper than British manufactured goods.

Are there any other articles of South America, besides copper and specie, suited for the markets in India?—I am not aware that there is a sufficient quantity of any article at present, to make it an object of trade; cotton certainly might be cultivated to a very great extent in the Spanish part of South America, (as it is now in the Brazils) if the country were in a tranquil state.

Do you get your crockery from China?—No, we used English ware entirely.

Is any trade carried on between the settlements in South America and the Cape of Good Hope?—We have imported wine from the Cape to Buenos Ayres.

Is there any other trade?—None of any importance.

What is the actual extent of the trade that is now carried on between South America and India?—I should think at this moment, there is capital exceeding 300,000 *l.* employed in the trade between Buenos Ayres and Chili, with India.

Is it a trade that has increased much?—Very much of late, and is increasing.

Will not the trade between Peru and India, become of much greater importance than the trade between Chili and India?—Of much greater, as soon as the ports of Peru are open to our trade; in fact, the imports into Chili now, are forced into Peru; Chili would not be sufficient for the consumption of all those cargoes, but they are forced into Peru.

Is not tin an article of export from Chili?—It is

When you speak of a capital of 300,000 *l.* invested in trade between Chili and India, you do not mean that to include the specie remitted to India, arising from the sales of British manufactures for returns to England?—No, I consider that the capital employed now in the regular trade from Buenos Ayres and Chili to Calcutta and back

Does Chili afford any other means of return for British manufactures, than specie and copper?—None of any importance, that will answer to bring to England.

Do you not export hides?—A very small quantity from Chili

Do you know the proportion the trade from Acapulco to India, bears to that of Chili?—The trade now between Acapulco and India is not open to the English.

Have you a knowledge of the extent of it?—No, I have not.

Do you happen to know the proportion the trade of Peru may bear to that of Chili?—It is impossible for me to say, the English have not been allowed openly to carry on the trade from any of the ports of Peru, although they have done so occasionally from several of the ports, by particular arrangements with the Spanish authorities

Is that owing to the Spanish regulations?—Yes, the Spanish laws prevented British subjects settling in Spanish America, or carrying on trade in their ports.

Mr. Anthony Robson, Called in; and Examined.

Mr
Anthony Robson
(11 May.)

STATE what you are?—Master of a ship.

What trade have you lately been employed in?—The Pacific Ocean.

Have you been employed in the fur trade between the Columbia River and Canton?—Yes

Upon what occasion?—I went in the schooner Columbia, of 199 tons, from this country, in the employ of the North West Company, to the river Columbia and China, in the years 1814 and 1815.

Had you a licence from the East India Company?—Yes.

What cargo did you carry from the Columbia river to China?—Furs.

How long did you lay in Canton?—The ship was about five or six weeks there.

What number of seamen had you on board?—Upwards of twenty.

Were many other English ships lying there at that time?—Yes, a great many.

Did you see any thing of the conduct of the sailors in the port of Canton?—Nothing particular.

You heard of no disturbances that took place?—Not in the least.

What is the sort of communication you permit between your sailors and the Chinese, as to going on shore, what rules are established as to the permission of sailors to go on shore?—No other than that they must be on board at a certain hour in the evening.

What

What number do you permit to go at the same time?—Generally half the crew, on the Sunday, which is the only day they have permission to go

You do not mean to the town of Canton, but only the island?—No; the sailors never go to Canton, unless they go up with the captain in the boat, which is generally every other day, six or eight of them

They do not mix with the people, but remain in the boat?—No, they go wherever they think proper.

Whilst you were there, did any quarrels or any affrays occur?—I never heard of any

Neither with your own sailors nor others?—No

Did you understand that affrays were common with the sailors?—No, I never understood that

Do you know any thing of the American seamen?—Yes

Do you think there is any thing in the character of American seamen, very different from that of the English?—Not any other I believe, than when they do meet, they generally quarrel with each other

Is there any thing in the character of the men?—Nothing particular.

Do you think the discipline is much better on board the American ships than the English?—No, quite the contrary, much better on board the English

Do you think the character of the Americans, in reference to foreigners, is more or less quarrelsome than the English?—I certainly think they are more quarrelsome.

Did you hear of any affrays into which the American sailors had got?—No, I do not recollect, but it is very common on board the American ships in the harbour; they are generally quarrelling with their masters or officers

Do you think it would be safe to trust English sailors in any port, and with the same liberty that is given to American sailors?—Yes, I should think so.

Is the discipline on board the smaller ships, as good as on board the larger ones; was the discipline on board your ship as good as on board the Company's ships?—Yes, I certainly do think the discipline was equally so, but I do not say it is generally so, there may be a difference between them.

Do you not think a small crew is generally under better control and management than a large crew can be?—They are under the same control, and more easily managed.

You have been employed in other trades besides this?—Yes

Have you had occasion to see English ships in various parts of the world, and in various foreign ports?—I have

Have you also seen American ships in various parts of the world, in foreign ports?—Yes.

Was the conduct of the British sailors, generally, as good as the Americans, in those ports where you have seen them?—Equally

Not more liable to get into affrays?—No

Nor disposed to commit outrage, when on shore?—No, by no means.

Have you had very extensive acquaintance with American ships?—Yes

Will you state, whether the result of your experience and acquaintance with American ships is such, as to satisfy you, that the conduct of the English sailors is as much to be trusted in any port whatever, as that of the Americans?—I certainly do think so

Do you think, from what you have seen of American ships, you would rather trust to English sailors than Americans?—I would, equally so.

Do you think, if you had the command of a private ship in the port of Canton, you should have any difficulty in preserving order amongst your crew, or in trusting to their conducting themselves as prudently and discreetly as any other sailors whatever?—Not the least difficulty, I should think.

When you arrive in China, you get instructions, stating the danger that will arise to the ship, from any mischief and trouble arising to the Chinese?—Yes.

After perusing these instructions, did you feel any uneasiness from any probable danger arising from your own crew?—Not in the least

Do you think small ships coming from England, would be likely to cause danger?—Not on account of their people, I should not have the least fear whatever.

When you arrived in China from the north-west, had you a security-merchant or not?—Yes, every ship has, or had at that time

Was your cargo sold to that security-merchant, or an outside merchant?—Not to that merchant, but another.

Mr.
Anthony Robson
(11 May)

A merchant in China streets?—Yes.

Did you bring a cargo away on your account, or for the Company?—I left the vessel there, but she afterwards came back to the north-west coast, with a cargo for the Company

Have you been, since the period to which you have alluded, in the Pacific Ocean?—Yes.

State when you were last there?—I sailed from here in November 1817, direct to the Columbia river, in the brig Columbia, of 200 tons; and after having discharged my cargo at the Columbia river, I then visited the Russian settlements on the north-west coast of America; from thence to Chili, and then to Lima, with a cargo of British manufactured goods on board; and since that time I have been trading on the coast under a Spanish licence, to the Brazils and back to Lima, in the same vessel

Are you of opinion, that small vessels of that description are better adapted for the trade of South America, and particularly the coasting trade, than large ones?—I certainly do

Is it not your opinion, that if the trade between Lima and other parts of South America with India was open, without restriction, to vessels of that class, a considerable trade might be carried on between them?—O certainly; a very considerable trade.

When did you leave Lima last?—The 13th of September last.

Then was it generally considered that the whole ports of South America to the southward of Panama, would very soon be in the hands of the Independents?—Yes, it was generally expected so.

Were the ports nearly all open, except Lima?—Guayaquil has fallen since I came away; there is no other port open upon that coast but that; all the ports to the south of Rica and Chili were open.

Do you know whether any trade was carried on between Chili and India?—I believe a good deal; several ships have arrived there from India, and likewise sailed.

Is there any considerable demand in Lima for Indian goods?—I believe there was a very large ship arrived there with a complete cargo of Indian goods, at the time I was there, an English ship consigned to the Phillipine Company there.

Do you know of any instances where trade has been carried on between South America and China, by American vessels?—One vessel sailed some months before I left Lima for China direct, and to come back again to Lima; that is the only small vessel I know of, except the Phillipine Company's own vessels.

If the trade was open between Lima and Canton, are you of opinion that any considerable trade could be carried on between those countries?—I should think not very considerable, not particularly so; several ships might be very well employed in it

Do you happen to know what the cargo of this small American ship was?—I do not know what she took in; but a good deal of money, for one thing.

Do you happen to know whether the British or Indian manufactures are preferred there?—British things they wear principally

What are the principal British articles taken there?—Cottons and cloths.

Hosiery, or things of that kind?—Yes.

Printed and plain cotton goods?—Yes; and muslins.

Do you know whether the Spaniards prefer the German or the English goods?—The English, I have reason to believe they have had a few French linens there, which they like very well

They prefer the Foreign linens to the British?—I think they do; but all the cottons and woollens and muslins, they give the preference to the English; the only thing I have seen preferred in French, is the shirting,

Do you know any thing of New South Shetland, that has been discovered?—No, very little, only from what I have heard from other people; I have not been there

Did you meet, when on the coast of South America, with people who had been there?—Yes, there is a vessel arrived in the river now from there, with a cargo of seal skins

Jovis, 17^o die Mai, 1821.

The Right Honourable THOMAS WALLACE, in the Chair.

Thomas Manning, Esquire,

Called in; and Examined.

IN what situation are you?—I am not in any situation at present

Are you a merchant?—No, I am not

Have you resided a considerable time in China?—Yes

In what capacity?—Under the protection of the Company, with the hopes of being able ulteriorly of penetrating into China

You were not in the Company's service?—I was not

Did you effect your purpose of penetrating into China?—No, I did not

Did you make several attempts to do it?—I made a perpetual attempt at Canton, I made the attempt through Cochin China, and I made the attempt through Tibet, therefore I may state, that in three different ways I attempted it.

By what circumstances were those attempts rendered abortive?—By the absolute refusal of the Chinese, their jealousy, and their strict attention to prevent any foreigners passing their boundaries

Was it the jealousy of the government, or in the disposition of the people?—The jealousy of the government, decidedly,

Have you reason to think, from any thing you observed, that the people are disposed to receive foreigners, and consume foreign productions, if they were permitted to do so?—I think they are not at all indisposed to it

Will you state the opportunities you had of making observations upon that; and what were the general observations you made, in the several attempts you made?—The opportunities were, first, a residence of a considerable time, secondly, some acquaintance with the language I believe I can state no other particular opportunity I came in contact with Chinese of different descriptions, and in different points. When in Tibet, one of the principal mandarins asked me, if I had any authority from my government to treat on commercial matters, and seemed to regret when I informed him I had not, and similar questions were asked me by the Chinese soldiers in Tibet

Was this part of Tibet under the Chinese government?—Completely, and all matters of importance were decided by them

Do you think those mandarins would have had authority to have entered into a commercial intercourse with you?—No further authority than to have communicated with the court of Peking

Did they in themselves seem sensible of the advantages of such an intercourse?—They seemed desirous of treating upon that subject, and made inquiries respecting the different goods that could be brought from the place I came from

Do you recollect, amongst those goods, any European articles being enumerated?—All foreign articles are comprised in one word, therefore they would not distinguish between European articles and those of Indian articles, they ask, no doubt, for articles manufactured in Europe, cloth for instance; they are ignorant where they are originally made

Did it appear to you, that an intercourse might be established upon the borders of China, between the Europeans and the Chinese, without penetrating into the country, do you suppose goods might be admitted through that channel, and exchanged on the borders?—At Lasson, where I was arrested, I think it is too distant and too difficult a passage.

In going through the provinces in Bengal, you would observe our manufactures worn by the different people, if you did so, to what extent would it go?—I proceeded north no further than Pompoor. I do not recollect seeing them worn; it might be my inadvertence

Had any European been in that part of China you attempted to penetrate, before you?—Italian Roman Catholic missionaries had been there two centuries before, two, I think

Thomas Manning,
Esq

(17 May)

Thomas Manning,
Esq
(17 May)

In what state did you find the poor people there, in relation to their comforts?—Living sparingly, few of the luxuries of life.

Were they well clothed?—Pretty fairly

And their country well cultivated?—What patches of ground were cultivated were very well cultivated, the people require a great deal of clothing

If a vent was found for our manufactures there, what do you think they could give in exchange?—I endeavoured to collect what might possibly be of service in that case, but I do not now recollect any thing except musk, and probably horses; for although there are metals in that country, it would require a great deal to prevail on them to allow them to be worked, except for their immediate occasions

Did you visit Cochin China?—I attempted it, but was not allowed; I went in a Company's cruiser to Turon, but the mandarins would not allow me to stay there a few days, which was my intention

Do you know the reasons for which they would not allow you to remain in Cochin China?—No, it was an absolute refusal, civilly couched.

Did you understand the language?—Not at all

Did it appear to you, that any danger would arise from the admission of British ships to the trade with China, in the port of Canton, independent of those under the control of the East India Company?—I do not see any danger, nothing has struck me as likely to lead to any danger, provided the Company, on certain conditions, have authority over those ships.

What species of authority, in your opinion that might be established, that would preclude any danger?—That is a question I have not thought of.

With relation to the conduct of the crew?—I am not aware of the powers the consuls have in the Mediterranean, but I should presume powers analogous to those would be best.

Had you any opportunity of observing the conduct of the British sailors in the port of Canton?—I have had some opportunities.

Have you had much opportunity of observing the conduct of the American sailors there?—Not much of the sailors, which may have arisen from their not having given any occasion to disturbance.

Was your attention ever drawn to it sufficiently, to make any comparison between the American and English sailors?—No, never

Did any disturbance take place while you were there?—Yes, one very considerable disturbance.

In what year?—In 1808 a man was killed, and the trial was conducted in the English factory.

Did that arise from a want of subordination among the sailors?—In a considerable measure from that circumstance.

Did it appear to you, generally speaking, that British sailors differed much in their character from other sailors?—At the time I was there, there being a general war in Europe, I had not an opportunity of observing the conduct of other European sailors

As it respects the American sailors?—Their conduct has never drawn my attention to them, therefore I conceive they must have been more regular.

Do you suppose that the Hong merchants would be glad to see small ships come into Canton, in opposition to the Company's interests?—That depends upon circumstances; there are merchants who have a surplus of tea, who would be glad of any thing to take it off

You conceive that small ships would be welcome to those merchants?—Whether to the government or not I cannot tell, but to the merchants they would.

Do you conceive that a greater number of small ships would give more facility to the introduction of commerce into China, than large ones?—I cannot speak to that.

Have you any knowledge of the consumption of woollens in China?—I have gone over the documents, but they are not in my mind now, I know it is what is called a very extensive circulation.

Do you conceive more would be sold if the price could be lowered?—That would depend upon what the reduction is, I could not speak to a very small percentage, but if it was a considerable per-centage it would bring them into wear by the next class of people to those who now wear them.

In that case would the consumption be very much extended?—Yes very much, on account of the great extent of the population of every class.

What

What particular woollen manufactures do you allude to?—Such cloth as they wear for their outside garments, I do not know whether they wear flannels now, except in the north of China

Thomas Manning,
Esq

(17 May)

Do you apprehend the Chinese government would be jealous of our introducing cotton manufactures, if we could supply them lower than themselves?—I conceive not at all

Do you conceive the consumption of furs extensive in China?—Yes, very extensive, I am sure it is

Does it appear to you, that a great part of the population are clothed with furs in the winter season?—In every town there is a very large body of people clothed with them, but not the majority of the population

Where do the furs worn in Canton principally come from?—Part are imported by the Americans, and part from the northward of Canton

Do you conceive that English private ships could be admitted safely to China, the chief of the Company's factory having the authority over them that he has at present over the ships in India?—I see no reason why it should not be perfectly safe

Do you conceive, that if an accident was to arise to one of those small ships, the Chinese would visit the severity that might be imposed by the government, upon the Company, or the individuals belonging to the ship?—Wherever it would fall most effectually, independent of every other principle

Have you known any instance of that kind arise, as it respects the Americans?—I do not know of any instance in which the Company has been visited for the sins of the Americans

Do you know of any case of aggression by any single American ship, in which they have punished all the ships of that nation?—I am not aware of any circumstances that enable me to answer that question properly

Did you ever hear of the American ships being stopped?—I never heard of one being stopped

Did you ever know of any case of difficulty arising?—I heard of an instance of a difficulty, as to their clearance, arising, but not any serious difficulty

This difficulty never went beyond the individual ship to which it attached?—I do not recollect it sufficiently to answer the question

Do you not conceive the Chinese government sufficiently just, to punish only the persons by whom the law has been transgressed, and not the innocent?—Their principle allows them to punish all that are connected by family, or by tribe or nation, that is their principle, as it was in Europe formerly

Upon that ground, if a ship belonging to India does any thing wrong, they punish the whole as being subject to the Company, but in the Americans they punish only the ship who has been found guilty according to their laws?—It may be, I am not aware of the circumstance of their stopping the whole or only one ship

Mr George Powell, Called in, and Examined.

WHAT situation are you in?—I am master of a ship.

What ship have you lately commanded?—The Eliza.

From whence have you last arrived?—South Shetland

Did you go from this country direct?—No, I went from Rio Janeiro.

In what vessel?—The Eliza.

What burthen was she?—One hundred and thirty-eight tons.

What objects of trade had you in going there from Rio?—To procure fur skins.

Were you successful in the object of your voyage?—Yes, very; we procured 18,000 seal skins.

What articles of trade did you exchange in barter?—Not any; we took them ourselves, we took the seals and cured the skins.

Are there any inhabitants there?—No

You are almost the first person who touched at that island, to procure those skins?—No, there was a polacca from Buenos Ayres the season before me, got 15,000, and an American schooner got 9,000.

When was the country first discovered?—Three years ago.

In what latitude and longitude is it?—The place I procured my skins at was in latitude 62° 45" longitude 61° 30"

At what season of the year were you there?—On the 29th of November I arrived there, and I left it on the 7th of January

That was about the middle of the summer?—Yes, the height of the summer there.

746.

3 Z 4,

What

Mr
George Powell

(17 May)

Mr.
George Powell
(17 May.)

What sort of climate was it?—Cold.

Was there much ice?—Yes, a good deal of ice.

What kind of weather had you generally?—Very boisterous in general, and when we had light winds we had thick heavy fogs

State to the Committee, generally speaking, the appearance of the country, and the manner in which you preserved the skins?—It is a barren rocky coast, we procured the skins by our own crew, and salted them.

Were they easily taken?—No, not very easily; there was a great deal of risk in landing to procure the seals, and also danger in attacking them; we killed them with clubs.

Did it appear to you, that any quantity of skins could be got there?—Yes; I reckoned there would be from about two or three hundred thousand skins taken by the Americans.

Where do the Americans carry these skins?—To Canton, as they informed us there.

Is that very profitable?—Very, the Americans considered that they would get four dollars a skin on the average.

Did the quantity appear to be very much diminished in consequence of these large quantities being taken away?—Yes, they had begun to get scarce for that season

Do you consider that they were really become scarce, or become shy?—They became scarce where the vessels were at work, because they were all upon one spot

Why did not you shift your ground?—The coast is so dangerous, when we had got a good place we did not like to shift.

Of what extent of coast, have you any knowledge?—Not more than about 90 miles.

Is it ascertained whether this is an island or not?—Yes, it is ascertained that the part we were at was an island, but we saw land to the southward, which appeared like a continent

What was the appearance of it?—Very high, and the Americans stated that they saw a volcano on it.

Was it covered with ice and snow?—Yes, it was; that part where the skins have been procured this season, consists of three islands, standing south west and north east

Did you see many whales?—Yes, an abundance of whales, fin backs, but no other sort, and they are of no utility; they are hard to kill, and yield very little oil

Do you make any oil from the seals?—No, it would not pay for the trouble, they have so little blubber on them

In no part of these islands, at which you have been yourself, or what you have heard from others, were any inhabitants seen?—No, I do not conceive it is any ways habitable.

Did you land?—Yes

Were there any traces of any animal?—Not any; I walked over several necks of land, and saw nothing

Was there any soil?—No, where the snow had got off the ground it was swamp; most part was hard ice and snow

Was there any shrub?—No, only short moss

What is the value of these skins?—We only got 4s. 9d on the average.

Was your voyage a very profitable one?—No, but it would have been, if the skins had fetched the same as they did the last voyage, two years before, they then paid seventeen shillings upon the average.

To what use are the skins applied?—I cannot exactly say.

Was this ninety miles of coast, of which you have spoken, on one of the islands only?—Yes.

Did any one land upon the main land?—None, that I ever heard of

Do you suppose that the climate is such, that persons could remain there to collect the skins?—I think they could not.

Did the fogs last a great while?—Yes, sometimes a week.

Was there shelter for your vessels?—Very bad, I was obliged to anchor most of the time I was there; the harbour was pretty well protected, but the ground was very rocky.

Did you, or any others there, examine the coast, to see if there were other good

good harbours?—Yes; I have been round the three islands, and so have the Americans

Did you discover any other harbour?—No, not any.

Have they attempted to take seals any where else but there?—Yes, several parts of the coast, there were as many as fifty sail of vessels at work upon the coast, American and English.

Was the majority, American or English?—Two-thirds American.

Were they all fishing for seals?—Yes; we were forced to go in large bodies to fight with them, to procure our cargoes, they would bring their boats armed to try and beat us off the beach, they were so eager after the skins.

Did the Americans go direct to China with their skins?—They will go on to the coast of Patagonia first, and dry them; they salt them first on board, and then take them there, and hang them overboard and dry them, and then carry them to Canton, they are better for the market.

Did you bring yours to England salted?—Yes

In the wet state?—Yes

Would you have taken yours to China, if you had been permitted?—Yes, if we had been permitted, it would have been more profitable to us all

Would you have gone there in a vessel of 130 tons?—Yes, or to any other part of the universe, I believe the Americans, when they take cargoes to Canton, take property in return for the skins, so that they share in the proceeds of the return voyage.

What was the number of your crew?—Twenty-two in number; she was one of the Berwick smacks.

Do you intend to continue in that trade?—Yes, if I consider it in any wise profitable.

If you could go to Canton, what would be the general plan of your voyage?—To dispose of the skins there, and return again, either to England or to New Shetland, to procure more skins.

Would you not go to other parts of South America?—No, I do not see that it would be profitable.

Do you conceive that it would be a great advantage to you, to be permitted to go to China?—Yes, certainly, speaking of my last voyage, it would be an advantage of 300 per cent, to what we obtain by our voyage, ours only fetched 4s. 9d. each, and the Americans fetched four dollars on the average.

Mr Stephen Twycross, Called in, and Examined,

STATE in what situation you are?—I am in a mercantile line.

What particular branch of trade are you concerned in?—In a general branch, I have been resident at the Cape of Good Hope for several years, and have had correspondence with England, and importing English goods into the Cape.

Where is your present residence?—My house is still at the Cape

How long have you left the Cape?—Since last July; I merely came home here with my family for a visit.

And you propose to return there to carry on your trade?—Yes, very shortly.

How long have you been resident there?—Since 1811

While you have resided there, has any considerable trade been carried on there?—Yes, I do conceive there has been a very considerable increase of trade.

Describe, generally, the course of trade to the Cape, and the mode in which it has been increased; and state to the Committee any opinion you may have formed as to any facilities it may now require?—The increase of trade I look upon to have arisen from the property that has been thrown into the Cape by the British government, in consequence of the great sums of money that have been drawn by the British government, which being as payments for the supplies of the colony, has enabled the inhabitants to enter into more expensive ways and means than what they had been enabled to do before, there are also the productions of the colony, which have, of late years, found a very extensive market in this country; the principal production is the wine, there has been occasionally, too, some oil and corn exported, and there has been a considerable increase of population from abroad, principally English

What are the articles you import into the colony?—Generally, every kind of manufacture from this country, hardware, cottons and woollens.

Mr.
George Powell.
(17 May)

Mr.
Stephen Twycross
(17 May)

M^r.
Stephen Tappin.
 (17 May.)

Is there any importation of East India goods into the Cape?—A considerable importation, speaking proportionably of the trade of the colony.

How are they imported, by the Company, or by individuals?—Chiefly by the Company; but of late years, since the trade has been thrown open, a great deal by individuals

Such as are imported by the Company, are they thrown into the market at once?—They immediately hold public sales in very small parcels, for the accommodation of the inhabitants

Are the Committee to understand, that there is no more India goods imported into the Cape, than are required for the consumption of the colony?—Certainly; except by accident, when a ship may be cast away there.

You are not permitted to export them to any other part but this country?—None, and then we do not enter into it except under a particular licence; and when a ship is cast away with a cargo of India goods, we are not permitted to export the goods except to this country.

Is there any intercourse between the Cape and South America?—Very little.

Has any attempt been made to open such an intercourse?—Only in consequence of a scarcity of rice, or corn, or coffee, when a few individuals have gathered together a number of Spanish dollars or gold, and sent it over there, because we had nothing in the Cape we could send over there by way of exchange, either to the Brazils or the Spanish part.

If it were lawful to re-export India goods from the Cape to any other place than the United Kingdom, do you think it might be done advantageously?—I do not consider at the present day that it would be of any great consequence, because there is not sufficient capital in the Cape to allow them to be imported there and exported again, there are no men of capital there, if there were, it would follow as a matter of course in due time, if they had the liberty of exporting East India goods to the Brazils, they would send them for the return of sugar, tobacco, coffee and rice; but at South America they can give us no returns to answer our purpose.

Do you conceive that any intercourse might advantageously be carried on with the Cape of Good Hope and the British Colonies in the West Indies?—Until our wines are acceptable to them, we have no opportunity of carrying on a commerce with them, except in East India goods.

Corn?—That is so uncertain an article with us, it is not to be depended upon; we may run five or six years with only a sufficiency for the colony, and in the seventh year we may have to mix barley with the corn, as it has been this year, in consequence of the short crops

You are now importing corn into the Cape?—Yes, we are, in consequence of that, I have eaten bread nearly as black as my hat.

What do you conceive to be the cause of the vicissitude of the crops; you sometimes export great quantities?—No; generally it has generally arisen from the want of the rains at the end of the seasons; instead of rain, there has been very dry weather.

Do you conceive, that if Americans were permitted to call at the Cape for East India produce, they would rather take in their cargo there, than go for it to India?—They certainly would exchange their cargoes there, if they could do it; but it is not a thing to be expected to be done for a long time; there are not sufficient men at the Cape of capital to introduce that quantity or variety of cargo, that any vessel would go there under the possibility of making an exchange.

Do you conceive that there is any thing in the state of our laws, which prevents the Cape of Good Hope from having all the facilities of trade which her situation would naturally give?—I do

State them?—Those laws which prevent foreigners coming in and selling their cargoes, certainly tend in a great degree to prevent the Cape thriving so well as it otherwise would do, if foreigners were permitted to come in there with their cargoes, they would be under the necessity of taking away the productions of the colony beyond a doubt, which I conceive would tend materially to improve the colony.

What productions of the colony would they take away?—The principal production is the wine, of which any quantity might be made.

Has the quality of the wine improved of late?—It has, beyond a doubt.

You have stated, that the great obstacle to the extension of the trade of the Cape, is the want of capital; if greater facility was afforded to the trade there, would not the capital increase for the purpose of carrying on that trade?—I certainly labour under that impression.

Do you refer to any facilities, except opening the trade to foreigners?—No, I do not.

Under the Circuitous Trade Act is there much intercourse between India and the Cape?—No, very little.

Is there much intercourse with New Holland?—Not above once in the course of two years do we have a vessel between New Holland and the Cape.

Are you aware, whether there is any consumption of Cape wines, except in this country?—There has been, in North America, when the trade was open to them, and they would take back again, beyond doubt, East India goods also if they could.

How could they pay for them?—By the introduction of their own productions

Of what nature?—Of tobacco and rice; and there has been a time when they introduced a great quantity of furniture, flour, and various things of produce

You have mentioned oil as an export from the Cape, is that animal or vegetable oil?—Whale oil

Do you send out ships for it, or fish from the shore?—From the shore

Are those establishments successful?—Sometimes they are, and sometimes not, it is always a matter of risk, that fishing

But is it to that extent to be of importance to the colony?—Undoubtedly it is of very great importance

Where are the chief fishing stations?—False Bay, Table Bay, and Algoa Bay, there are also two other bays open for fishing, which have not been improved, although it is well known whales go there, Muscle Bay and Plettenberg Bay

Do you get any seals on the coast of the Cape?—We do get a few

But not so as to be an important article of commerce?—It has not up to the present moment risen to any consequence; but for the last few years they have gathered eight or ten thousand seals in the vicinity of Cape Town.

Do any of the new settlers, going out there, direct their attention to the sealing or fishing, or devote themselves to agriculture?—They must give it up entirely to agriculture.

Have you as many employed in the fishing as you can employ?—Yes, they are too far from the coast to employ themselves in that.

Upon what terms is oil, the produce of the Cape, admitted into this country?—If we allude to the law, it is 6*l.* odd the ton; but that has been overcome by a Petition to the Lords of the Treasury, who have allowed it to be introduced upon the payment of 20*s* per ton.

Have any ships been built at the Cape?—No, only trifling craft, too trifling to consider it ship-building.

Is there any difficulty arising from the law, or the regulations at the Cape, in freighting any vessel between the Cape and India?—At first every one laboured under an impression, that no vessel could go from the Cape towards India to trade, unless it exceeded 350 tons, and in consequence of that impression applications were made to the Cape government to give the vessels a colonial register, by which they felt themselves authorized to trade with the productions of the East Indies, but at the present moment they do not labour under that inconvenience, and any vessel may go to the East Indies, and return to the Cape with the productions of India, and discharge it there; but we cannot proceed on to Europe with the cargo

But if you take in a fresh cargo at the Cape you may come on to England?—Not with an East India cargo.

Why not?—Not in any vessel under 350 tons

Why not?—Because we labour under the impression that the law does not allow it.

Can you point out the law, which, as you conceive, makes it illegal to import East India goods in a vessel of 350 tons into this country?—It is arising from the extract from the Circuitous Trade Act, which was published in the Cape Gazette.

Have you had any French or Netherland manufactures imported into the Cape, since the peace?—Very trifling from the Netherlands. We have the impression they have the liberty of trading there seven years, and they have introduced some linens from Holland, but so inferior to the English, that they lost a great deal by them. Provisions are introduced from Holland, and also their spirits, paying a considerable duty

Have you any idea of the Flemish goods competing with the English?—No, they stand no chance at all

Mr.
Stephen Twycross,
(17 May.)

You say the harvests at the Cape are very uncertain; is that likely to operate very unfavourably to the agricultural colony established there?—Yes, certainly; but I think, so far as relates to the consumption of the colony, that may be overcome by perseverance.

But it will still be a great obstacle?—Yes, as an article of export, I cannot look upon it but that there will be always a sufficiency for their own consumption.

Veneris, 18^o die Maii, 1821.

The Right Honourable THOMAS WALLACE, in the Chair.

William Tate, Esquire,

Called in; and again Examined.

William Tate,
Esq.
(18 May.)

WHEN you were last before the Committee, you stated, that you had some information, which you wished for time to collect and arrange, that you were desirous of laying before the Committee, on the subject of the trade carried on with China, through Russia?—Yes, I did.

Are you prepared to give that information at present?—I am.

Be so good as state to the Committee, the information you have collected and arranged?—I had been recommended to put the result of my information into writing, which, with the leave of the Committee, I will now read as follows:

“ A trade of barter, upon a very limited scale, had, during many years, been carried on between some merchants of Moscow and a few individuals of Chinese Tartary. This rude traffic increased with such rapidity, that, about the year 1800, the Chinese and Russian governments were induced to turn their attention to it. In consequence, a kind of commercial treaty was then formed, a table of duties was agreed upon, and Kiachta (a small town in Tartary, on the frontiers of the two empires) was fixed as the exclusive market for that trade. In consequence, the town of Kiachta, which was originally a poor village in Tartary, and situated 6,538 versts, or 4,337 English miles distant from St. Petersburg, has become a large place, and is daily increasing in wealth and importance. All the native merchants of Russia, who pay the patent of the first class, are permitted to trade there; but the Chinese are limited to a fixed number of individuals, whose powers and character seem to be similar to the Hong merchants of Canton.

“ The Russians barter the following articles at Kiachta: juffs, (a kind of half tanned leather, of Russian manufacture,) furs, viz. sable, fox, beaver, otter and seal skins, Saxon cloth, some coarse Russian manufactured cottons and chintzes, and, since about the year 1811, a variety of British manufactures, which have latterly had a preference over most other wares, and now absorb a large share of that trade, of which I shall hereafter give some details.

“ The Chinese barter the following articles at Kiachta: tea, rhubarb and other drugs, nankeens and silks, both raw and in a manufactured state, and the parties mutually pay their balances in silver, which is always received with extreme reluctance by the Chinese, who give a decided preference to goods; and it has been solely from a scarcity of the description of goods suitable for the markets of the north of China, that the trade to Kiachta has not, ere now, been much more extended. The supply of furs from Siberia (particularly sable skins,) had decreased very much in latter years; this forced the Russian traders to substitute other articles, and has led to the introduction of British manufactures to these distant markets

“ The British manufactures which were sold at Kiachta, during last year, consisted of the following articles; viz.

“ Woollen cloth, in imitation of Saxon cloth, 400,000 yards.

“ Cambletts, bombasetts,

“ Chintzes (which were smuggled through Russia,) imitation bandanna handkerchiefs, also smuggled through Russia, of these two latter articles the quantities are uncertain

“ Sundry

" Sundry muslins and white cottons, 200,000 yards

" Manchester velveteens, 120,000 yards.

" Manchester velveretts, 40,000 yards.

" And the whole amount of manufactures of different European countries, bartered at Kiachta last year, appear to have been in value, one million sterling

" In exchange for these goods, teas, silks, &c. &c. were received from the Chinese. Of the former, 40,000 chests were in the year 1819, forwarded from Kiachta into the interior of Russia. These teas are chiefly black, and of a quality in flavour much superior to what are sent from Canton and sold in London

" The goods received from China are sent from Kiachta to Irkutz, one of the capitals of Siberia, and which is situated 5,777 versts, or 3,832 $\frac{1}{2}$ English miles from St. Petersburg, from Irkutz to Tobolsk, also in Siberia, situated 3,118 versts, or 2,110 $\frac{1}{2}$ English miles from St. Petersburg, from Tobolsk they are forwarded direct to Nishney Novogorod on the Volga, which is 1,118 versts, or 741 $\frac{1}{2}$ English miles from St. Petersburg, where a very large annual fair is held in the month of August. It was formerly held at Alakarief, on the same river; but owing to the inundations which took place, it has been removed to Nishney Novogorod

" Amongst other articles, a considerable quantity of rhubarb is imported from Chinese Tartary, it is of a very fine quality, and is known here by the name of Russian rhubarb; fifteen chests of it were lately reported in London. The Russians enjoy advantages in their trade with China which are not generally known. In the reign of Iwan (the father of Peter the Great) a treaty was made between the two countries, one article of which was, to permit the Russians to establish an academy at Pekin, where a certain number of Russian youths are educated. This academy exists at this day, and the persons there educated are afterwards employed at Kiachta as interpreters and agents. This gives great facility to trade, particularly as those jealousies and quarrels, so common at Canton, are not known at Kiachta; and furs and coarse cloths being considered by the northern Chinese as articles of the first necessity, every possible indulgence and encouragement is granted to the Russians who frequent that market.

" The extent and value of the commercial operations which take place at Nishney Novogorod, during the annual fair, are but little known in this country. If the Russian official statements are entitled to credit, they amount to many millions of pounds sterling per annum.

" The duties and other charges on most articles of British manufacture, are enormous, yet the prices procured for them cover all these expenses, and leave a large profit to the Tartar merchants. Last year, the article of Manchester velveteen (a particular description of cotton velvet) which in London sold for about 2s or 2s 2d. per yard, was re-sold to the Chinese at Kiachta in barter, at a value equal to 8s 6d or 9s. sterling per yard.

" The trade in British manufactures to China through Russia, has not increased during the last year. This is in a great measure owing to the promised transit of foreign manufactures not having been carried into effect by the Russian government. In consequence, many of the British articles which would find a ready market at Kiachta, are not permitted at all to enter the Russian empire. Indeed, it now appears to be the policy of that government to check the importation of foreign merchandize, particularly such articles as are of the manufacture or produce of Great Britain. The tariff of 1821 gives a strong evidence of this fact, as the new duties thus imposed, are almost exclusively levied on goods either from British colonies, or of British manufacture.

" The whole amount of goods which pass by way of Kiachta, from Russia into China, do not now amount, at an average, to more than one million sterling per annum. The average expenses incurred on British goods, before they arrive at Kiachta, amount to nearly three times their original cost. The journey from Kiachta to St. Petersburg takes upwards of five months, even when sent direct; and in case the goods change proprietors at the fair of Nishney Novogorod (which is generally the case) it requires nearly a year to make the journey.

" The Chinese goods received in barter, are equally slow in reaching the markets where they are sold, so that an operation from St. Petersburg to Kiachta, usually occupies a period of upwards of two years, before it is finally realized.

" The fair of Nishney Novogorod takes place in the month of August; from thence goods are conveyed in carts or sledges to Kiachta, where they are purchased in barter by the Chinese merchants. The demand at Kiachta commences in November, and lasts till the beginning of March. The barter, it is true, continues

William Tate,
Esq.
(18 May.)

during the whole year; but it is only during this period that it is carried to any extent. Kiachta is not the only frontier town of Russian Tartary to which the Chinese merchants resort; there is also a considerable trade through the town of Alaimatschine, on the frontiers of Mongolia.

" I do not know the extent of business carried on through that channel, but I understand, that trade has fallen off lately, the market at Kiachta being preferred.

" The distance from Kiachta to St. Petersburg is 4,311 English miles, and again from Kiachta to Pekin, 1,014 English miles; in all, 5,325 English miles, chiefly by land carriage.

" The annual quantity of tea imported through Kiachta, is from 40 to 50,000 chests; of this, about one half is usually sold at the fair of Nishney Novogorod. At that fair, in August 1820, 27,000 chests of black tea were sold, exclusive of green and cake tea, which last is called in Russia, Ziegeltha. The black tea sold for 420 roubles per chest, green 500 to 600 roubles, and cake tea from 175 to 200 roubles; this last is an article not used in this country.

" The woollen cloths of Prussia and Saxony have an advantage over those of Great Britain, in consequence of being received in Russia at a less duty.

" British woollen cloths of all widths pay a duty of 2s 2d. per pound, or about 4s. per yard, and are not permitted to be entered for transit; Prussian and Saxon woollen cloths are permitted to be entered for transit, and in that case they pay a duty of 2½d per lb or about 4½d. per yard. If of a narrow width, and entered for Russian consumption, they pay a duty of 1s. 4d. per lb. or about 2s. 6d. per yard, and if of a width exceeding 56 inches, and entered for Russian consumption, the duty is about 4s. per yard, being the same as on British cloths of all widths. This reduced duty in favour of these countries, was established during Buonaparte's continental system, and has continued ever since.

" The Russians are extremely jealous of their overland trade to China, and it is exclusively Russian-born subjects, and such as pay the patent as merchants of the first class, that are permitted to trade to Kiachta.

" The Chinese, on their part, also confine that trade to a privileged company of native merchants. British goods, which are sent to Kiachta, are almost all contraband, no British goods being permitted in transit through Russia; that privilege, as I have already stated, is however granted to goods of Prussian manufacture.

" I have not been able to ascertain what duties are levied by the Chinese government, as the interior trade of that country is entirely confined to native Chinese, who come direct from Pekin to that market. There are regular fairs in Chinese Tartary, but as none but native Chinese are permitted to be there, I am also unable to give any details respecting that branch of trade. The road from Pekin to Kiachta is chiefly through a flat desert country. Merchandizes are conveyed in carts, of about half a ton each. The expense of carriage, I have not been able to ascertain.

" In the month of June last, 785 carts laden with Chinese merchandize arrived at Mamachin, from the interior of China; these performed the journey from Pekin to that place in 51 days, and brought 943 chests of tea, 589 bales of nankeens, exclusive of manufactured silks, sugarcandy, &c. &c.

" Goods, to nearly a similar value, arrived at Kiachta from the interior of Russia, of these, about 3-8ths were British manufacture, consisting chiefly of Manchester velvets, and a few muslins. The others were, furs, Russian leather, woollen cloths, and horses. Russian horses find a ready market in the northern provinces of China. Articles of British manufactures are suitable for the consumption of the northern provinces of China; and, in spite of every obstacle, they have found their way to that distant country, by an overland journey of upwards of 5,000 miles, a part of which is through regions where there are neither roads nor inhabitants."

Have you any other memorandums upon the trade to China?—No, I have no knowledge of the trade to China, but the overland trade.

Have you any personal intercourse in trade with the islands of the Indian Archipelago?—I have none; all my business is with the merchants residing in London, who ship goods to those islands.

From what sources do you draw your information respecting the commerce of Japan and the Eastern Archipelago?—From the experience I have had in supplying goods for those markets.

Do you find that their consumption has increased latterly?—Yes, very much.

What are the particular kinds of goods that you ship for that market?—I ship cotton manufactures chiefly, chintzes, long cloth, shirting, and muslins. Fashions change

change there very much, which has surprised us all exceedingly. They change there as much as in London, which has astonished us very much. A few years ago they only used single coloured chintzes, now they use a variety of rich dark coloured goods. The Malays used to form one particular description of robes, now they take the regular printed cottons of this country. They adopt European patterns and fashions, and styles of goods.

*William Tate,
Esq*

(18 May)

Are the Committee to understand from the answer you have given, that the people of those countries have ceased to have the attachment that they had to particular patterns of goods, and that they now purchase more generally the patterns that come from Europe?—Yes; I meant that exactly.

From the accounts you have received, you conceive that the supply went beyond the consumption of the European inhabitants?—Most undoubtedly.

Are there any particular qualities of goods you send out for the Chinese inhabitants of those islands?—We used to send low priced single coloured goods, they now take large pattern chintzes of a variety of colours; similar to what we are using in this country for furniture.

Do you apprehend any competition from the Dutch themselves, supplying, from their own manufactures, that market?—Not in cotton, certainly not. I am not so well acquainted with some other articles.

Is it your opinion that the export of our manufactures will be more extensive to that country, if we had greater facility of obtaining returns for them?—I have no doubt of it, particularly as the consumption of tea is increasing very much on the continent of Europe.

Upon what do you found your opinion that the consumption of tea is increased on the continent of Europe?—From reports that I have received from different parts of the Continent where I correspond.

Do you speak of the north, or the south?—The north chiefly. I allude to Germany, France and Switzerland.

How do you apprehend those countries are supplied with tea?—They are supplied, in a certain degree, overland through Russia. There is a drawback allowed by the Russian government on all teas passing through that country, and they are in a great measure supplied by American ships, which take some goods from Europe, and some from America to China, and bring back teas, that are sold on the continent of Europe; delivering them at Amsterdam, Antwerp, Havre, &c &c.

Are you at all acquainted with the countries bordering on the Mediterranean, and the trade carried on there?—I know something of it, having resided on the borders of the Mediterranean for some time.

Can you state to the Committee, from your own observation while you were there, or from any information you have received, whether the use of tea is not increasing in those countries?—It is considered highly valuable there. I made a present of two small chests of fine tea to the vice-king of Fez, the nephew of the Emperor, which were highly prized. I might state another fact upon this subject. I was appointed by the British resident at Tanger, as his agent for supplying the presents to the Emperor of Morocco. I supplied these presents for a number of years, so long at least as the blockading squadron remained off Cadiz; and every year the quantity of tea ordered increased very much.

Did you send any produce of the East Indies, except tea?—Yes, pickled sweet-meats, pickled nutmegs, &c. I had orders to purchase all I could find in London, which I did, and shipped them. I was ordered to take care to carry out nothing that had spirits in it, or was fermented, as it was contrary to the laws of Mahomet.

Did you send any of the manufactures of the east?—No, I often sent British muslins for the seraglio. I got different cloaks and dresses for the Emperor, made on purpose from particular patterns sent home. The Emperor was very much attached to every thing that was British.

From any information that you have received from the merchants, with whom, you have dealt, in the supply of the trade through Russia, which you have described, have you understood that the consumption of British manufactures was increasing, or otherwise?—It was increasing very much, but the obstacles thrown in the way of passing them through Russia, is a thing almost insurmountable.

Did those obstacles appear to you, from what was stated, to arise from the conduct of the Russian government, or the Chinese?—The Russian government, certainly.

Were any woollens included in those exports?—Yes.

Of what description?—Coarse woollen cloths.

William Tate,
Esq

(18 May)

Of low prices?—Low prices; as low as 4 or 5 s. a yard.

Did they describe to you, to what purposes they were applied?—Yes, for clothing the people

The lower orders?—The people generally, I think. The Manchester velveteens were used in the place of cloth by the poor, and in considerable quantities.

Did it appear to you, from what had been stated to you, that the Chinese in that part of the country were disposed to take the British cloths and cottons, as far as they had the means of paying for them?—Yes. There was indeed a scarcity of these articles at Kiachta.

The Committee understood, from part of the statement you have made, that something like the same establishment, on the part of the Chinese government, had been formed at Kiachta, that exists at Canton?—Something of the same nature

And that the trade there is also monopolised?—Yes, by a certain portion of the merchants.

Were you led to believe, from what was stated to you, that if greater facilities could be obtained for sending the British manufactures, such as woollen cloths, into the northern parts of China, that greater quantities of them would be taken off for the use of the people?—Certainly, very considerable quantities indeed. The difficulty of getting 5,000 miles over land, and the system of selling there, is an evidence of that fact, but such an overland trade can never be of national importance. It only proves the taste of these people for British manufactures, if they can get them. It is a proof of their desire to have them, under every difficulty.

At what price do you apprehend that that which is sold at 8 s. 6 d. in consequence of the land carriage, could be delivered through the northern ports of China, if it could be conveyed directly by sea?—It would be delivered at about 2 s. 6 d. I calculate the expenses at about 20 per cent.

James Drummond, Esquire, a Member of the House, Examined.

James Drummond,
Esq

(18 May)

YOU have resided a considerable number of years in China?—Yes, 20 years.

You were president of the Select Committee there?—Yes.

Will you be so good as state to the Committee, what objections you feel to the admission of private ships of this country to a participation in the trade with China?—At the period of giving my evidence before the Committee, in the year 1812, I was decidedly of opinion, that it would be extremely injurious to the country, and to the interests of the East India Company, to admit ships of any description to participate in the trade to Canton, viewing the dangers of a misunderstanding with the Chinese, as a probable means of losing the trade altogether, and affording facility to smuggling in small ships, which did not exist in those of the East India Company. Since that period, I understand, that the seamen are no longer admitted to go on liberty to Canton; and I think the first danger, or apprehension of danger, which I then entertained, no longer exists, and therefore one part of my objection is certainly removed, and I do not see that there would be so great an objection to allowing them to participate, to a certain extent, in that trade, though I still entertain the same apprehensions with respect to the smuggling from smaller ships, either in St. George's channel or the British channel.

Should it be thought right to admit the private ships to a direct trade to China, can you state, what species of control you contemplate as sufficient to protect the trade against danger?—I think a control, similar to that which has been in practice with respect to the country ships, might be sufficient; but as I understand it is doubted, how far the supercargoes can legally enforce the fulfilment of the covenants entered into by the captains of these ships and the India merchants, I think it would be advisable that it should be regulated by a specific act of Parliament, with a power to the Chief and Select Committee to take any person misbehaving on board any of the private traders, out of his ship, and sending him home to this country, on board those of the Company.

Do you think a person sent out, not with the character of consul, but empowered to act in such cases conjointly, with the view to police only, with the president of the Select Committee, would be sufficient to preserve order?—I conceive, that the power had better be intrusted to the Chief and Select Committee, giving consular powers, if it was necessary, to the chief, or the person acting in that capacity.

Do you think that the admission of private ships would have an injurious effect on the Company's interests in their trade, if an effectual system of control could be

be

be established?—Provided the private trade be not carried to a very considerable extent, or nearly equal to that of the Company, I have no apprehension that it would.

James Drummond
Esq
(18 May)

Do you think it would produce any competition that would be injurious to them in their tea trade?—To the extent to which the American tea trade is at present carried on, I do not think it would.

Do you think it would be the means of introducing a greater quantity of British manufactures than are now taken by the Chinese?—As far as my experience goes, (but, having now left the country 14 years, I am not so competent to judge,) I should decidedly say, not, that many and various experiments were made by the Company, during my residence there, with every desire of extending the consumption of British manufactures as much as possible, but which have almost invariably failed.

Do you happen to know, that British manufactures, to a considerable value, have been recently exported from this country, in American ships, to China?—Only from report.

Would it not be in the power of individuals to import their goods at a much less cost, than it is possible for the East India Company to do?—I should think it would, certainly, according to the method at present practised by the East India Company for their shipping concerns.

Do you not think that the consumption of British manufactures in China, is a good deal a matter of price, and that if they could be had cheap, they would be much more extensively consumed; and that they will be extensively consumed, in proportion as they may be had cheap?—I think, in some measure, that is certainly the case, and that if ports could be opened to the north, our woollens, to a very considerable extent, might be consumed in China, and such has always been my opinion.

Are the imposts on goods, passing through the interior of China, very heavy?—I have understood they are, the expense of carriage is very considerable, and also some transit duties.

Have you any reason to believe, that the woollens or other goods imported into Canton, ever reached the northern provinces of China?—They certainly reach the provinces of Nankin and Pekin, and I have also frequently seen at Canton, merchants from the provinces of Shensi and Shansi, which are north and west provinces.

Do you know any thing of a Russian trade carried on by land to China?—I am totally ignorant of that trade, and I have been rather surprized at the extent to which it is asserted to be carried on, having always understood that it was a trade of very minor importance.

What is your general opinion of the disposition of the Chinese to receive our manufactures?—As far as my own observation went, during my residence in China, I have every reason to imagine that they were disposed to take no other of our manufactures than the woollens, and I should apprehend great danger to that trade, if it were carried to any extent beyond what the market requires.

Do you know any thing of the importation of cotton manufactures of this country into China?—I do not.

If facilities were given, and the importation of goods, the manufacture of this country, was carried to a considerable extent, do you, from your knowledge of the proceedings of the Chinese, think it is likely that any prohibition would be imposed upon it, to put an end to such a trade; with a view to the support of their own internal manufactures?—I should think decidedly not, no prohibitory regulations, except as regarding opium, and perhaps one or two other articles, having ever existed during my residence in China.

Supposing the private traders should not be admitted to China, and any point was fixed upon, to which British traders might have access, and which might also be convenient for the access of the Chinese vessels, and suppose a trade in such a place were established, do you think that the jealousy of the Chinese government would interfere to put an end to it, and to prevent their subjects from carrying it on?—Foreign trade being strictly prohibited to the subjects of the Chinese empire, although a trade is extensively carried on at various ports adjoining to China by the connivance of the provincial magistrates, I do not imagine that any regulations would be adopted by the Chinese government to prevent the exportation of goods to a similar or even greater extent than is at present practised. Of the advantages of such a port of deposit, I have been so strongly convinced all my life, that more

James Drummond,
Esq.
(18 May)

than twenty years ago, being then at Manilla, I wrote to a member of the government at home, recommending strongly, that if Manilla should ever fall into our possession, it should be retained as a port expressly for that purpose; affording all the advantages for carrying on our tea trade, supposing any misunderstanding with the Chinese should exclude us from the ports of China.

Do you consider that the Chinese market, being overstocked by woollen or any other goods, would produce a detrimental effect, beyond that which will be produced occasionally in a market overstocked with goods?—I have observed, that the market in China is longer in recovering the effects of a glut than almost any other market with which I am acquainted; and so far it must be injurious to the manufacturer of the woollens of this country, by stopping the exportation for a certain number of years I view it only in that light.

You stated, that you apprehended danger from smuggling, if small vessels were allowed to go to China from this country, and coming home here, would there be any increased risk, from what there is at present by American ships carrying on the same trade, in all sizes of vessels, and going to the continent of Europe?—If that trade were confined to the Mediterranean, decidedly not, but if they were to pass through either of the Channels, I think the superior knowledge of our captains and officers would give them facilities in smuggling on the coasts and to the ports of Great Britain, much superior to those of America.

Is it your opinion, that small vessels would go from this country to China, for the purpose of smuggling alone?—I do not wish to cast such a reflection on my countrymen, as to say they would be guilty of smuggling; but passing through the Channel would give them a facility to do so, of which they might avail themselves to a certain extent, though not to the extent of a whole cargo.

During your residence in China, did ever any interruption arise to the trade, from misunderstandings with the Chinese?—Various minor negotiations took place with the Chinese, but there was no serious interruption to the trade, during my residence in China.

Supposing an individual of a private ship to be guilty of a crime amenable to the Chinese laws, if that person were given up to the authorities of the law of China, would it put an end to all difficulties that were likely to arise?—I should think so decidedly.

Do you conceive the stoppage of trade has at any time arisen from our refusing the Chinese the exercise of their laws upon our subjects, who have been guilty of crimes?—Partly, I should conceive, it has, but I believe many of the misunderstandings have arisen from crimes committed by persons unknown, and, as such, the Council at Canton could not take upon themselves to give up an innocent person.

Do you suppose that the Chinese would punish an innocent person?—I have no hesitation in saying, that in the event of a murder or death, they would certainly put to death any person given up to them, whether guilty or innocent.

Supposing no person was given up, they were allowed to pitch upon the supposed guilty person, would they in that case give him a regular trial?—I should say, according to the form of their government, they would give what they may call a regular trial, but which I should consider, from my knowledge of them, a very irregular and unjust one.

Do you suppose that an accident arising from a private ship being permitted to go to China, which gave offence to the Chinese government, they would visit such an offence against the Company?—I think they would consider the Company responsible for the acts of all persons and ships sailing under the British flag.

Did you, in the course of your residence in China, ever know an instance of this kind with the American ships who had been guilty of a misdemeanor?—I do not recollect an accident of this kind occurring in the American ships, during my residence there.

Did you know of any Madras long cloth, which was imported into Canton at any time whilst you were there?—I believe there was, to a trifling extent.

Is there any other observation which you wish to make, as to the proposition of admitting private traders into the China trade?—No, but, generally speaking, I think it is a matter of considerable danger to interfere with a trade yielding, as at present carried on, so great a revenue as 4,000,000*l.* sterling, collected with so much ease and so little expence, and so regularly paid, and at a period when so much distress is prevalent in this country.

A P P E N D I X.

LIST.

Appendix

- (A 1)—ACCOUNT of the number of Ships, with the amount of their Tonnage, for which Licences have been granted by the Commissioners for the Affairs of India, under the authority of Act 53 Geo. 3, c. 155, s. 12, from the passing of the Act to the latest period to which the same can be made out p 373
- (A 2)—Account of the rate and amount of Fees demanded by the Commissioners for the Affairs of India, on account of Licences granted under the authority of the Act 53 Geo 3, c. 155, s 12 ibid.
- (B 1)—Account of the number of Ships, with the amount of their Tonnage, for which Licences have been granted by the East India Company, under the authority of Act 53 Geo 3, c. 155, s 11, from the 12th April 1814, to the 14th March 1821; distinguishing each year, and the Presidencies for which such Licences have been granted p. 374
- (B 2)—Account of the rate and amount of Fees demanded on account of Ships Licences, granted by the East India Company, under the authority of Act 53 Geo 3, c. 155, s 71 p 374
- (C.)—Copies of all Lists of Licences granted or refused, which have been transmitted to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonial Department, by the Governors of Gibraltar or Malta, in pursuance of the 5th sec. of the Act 57 Geo 3, c. 36, so far as the same have been received ibid
- (D) —Copy of a Letter from the Earl of Buckinghamshire to Mr. Canning, on opening the circuitous Trade with India p 375
- (E 1)—Order in Council, dated 24th September 1814, for regulating the Imports and Exports at the Cape of Good Hope ibid.
- (E 2)—Order in Council, dated 12th July 1820 . . . D° . . . D° p 376
- (E 3)—Order in Council, dated 12th July 1820, for regulating the Imports and Exports at the Island of Mauritius p 378
- (F) —Statement delivered by Thomas P Courtenay, Esq a Member of the Committee, concerning permission to individuals to proceed to India p. 379
- (G) —Return of the Exports from the Presidencies of Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay, to Prince of Wales Island and those to the east of it, in the five years from 1802 to 1806, both inclusive, and in the five years from 1813/14 to 1817/18, both inclusive, distinguishing the species of goods Also the Imports for the same period, distinguishing goods and specie p 380
- (H) —Return of Exports from the Presidencies of Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay, to the gulfs of Arabia and Persia, in the five years from 1802/3 to 1806/7, both inclusive, and in the five years from 1813/14 to 1817/18, both inclusive, distinguishing the species of goods. Also the Imports for the same periods, distinguishing goods and specie p 388
- (I 1.)—Calcutta Custom-house Regulations p 399
- (I 2)—Comparative Statement of Duties levied on Imports into Ceylon, and those charged on the same articles imported into the territories of the East India Company p 408
- (I 3)—Regulations of the Java Government, from 1st November 1818 p 409
- (K)—Letter to the Court of Directors of the East India Company, with Memorials, &c relating to the suspension of the Country Trade with China p 418
- (L) —Form of Covenant for Persons to reside in India p. 432

Appendix (A.1.)

AN ACCOUNT of the number of Ships, with the amount of their Tonnage, for which Licences have been granted by the Commissioners for the Affairs of India, under the authority of the Act 53 Geo 3, c 155, s 12, from the passing of the Act to, the latest period to which the same can be made out

DATE	Number of Ships	Amount of Tonnage
From 10th April 1814 to 10th April 1815	36	17,163
From 10th April 1815 to 10th April 1816	78	36,598
From 10th April 1816 to 10th April 1817	106	48,254
From 10th April 1817 to 10th April 1818	124	59,321
From 10th April 1818 to 10th April 1819	122	52,911
From 10th April 1819 to 10th April 1820	78	31,378
From 10th April 1820 to 10th April 1821	76	34,290

India Board, }
14 April 1821 }

Tho' P Courtenay

Appendix (A 2)

AN ACCOUNT of the rate and amount of Fees demanded by the Commissioners for the Affairs of India, on account of Licences granted under the authority of the Act 53 Geo. 3, c 155, s. 12

NO Fees are demanded by the Commissioners for the Affairs of India,
on account of such Licences

India Board, }
14 April 1821 }

Tho' P Courtenay

Appendix (B 1.)

AN ACCOUNT of the number of Ships, with the amount of their Tonnage, for which Licences have been granted by the
14th March 1821, distinguishing each Year, and the

Years	BENGAL.		MADRAS		BOMBAY		Bengal and Madras.		Bengal and Bombay		Bengal and P W. Island.		Bengal and Bencoolen.		Bombay and P W Island.		Bengal, Madras, and Bombay		
	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons	Ships.	Tons	Ships	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons	
1814-15	21	11,509	2	777	7	4,430	11	4,976	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1,334
1815-16	8	4,153	-	-	8	5,677	25	13,459	-	-	1	387	3	1,323	-	-	-	6	2,518
1816-17	21	10,181	-	-	10	5,482	26	12,663	2	1,112	-	-	1	454	-	-	-	15	6,858
1817-18	9	4,483	-	-	6	3,329	30	16,809	4	1,589	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	6,599
1818-19	4	1,606	-	-	7	3,267	16	6,631	-	-	-	-	3	1,247	1	720	11	4,682	
1819-20	1	469	-	-	-	-	10	5,708	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	2,681
1820-21	2	893	-	-	-	-	9	4,436	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	716

AN ACCOUNT of the number of Ships, with the amount of their Tonnage, for
authority of the Act of 53 Geo 3, c. 155, s 11,

YEARS.	SHIPS.	TONS.
1817 - - - -	1	823
1820 - - - -	1	466
1821 - - - -	1	498
	3	1,787

* Mem^o by the Committee.—This Licence not having been granted

East India House,
the 21st March 1821.

(Errors excepted)

Appendix (B 1)

East India Company, under the authority of the Act of 53 Geo. 3, c 155, s 11, from the 12th April 1814 to the 14th March 1821

Bengal, Madras, and P W Island		Bengal, Madras, and Bencoolen		Bengal, Bombay, and Bencoolen		Bengal, P W Island, and Bencoolen		Bengal, Madras, Bombay, and P W Island		Bengal, Madras, Bombay, and Bencoolen		Bengal, Madras, P W Island, and Bencoolen		Bengal, Madras, Bombay, P W Island, and Bencoolen		TOTAL			
Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons.	Ships	Tons	Ships	Tons.	Ships	Tons	Ships.	Tons	Ships	Tons.	Ships	Tons.	Ships.	Tons		
1	366	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	4,256	-	-	-	-	1	355	52	28,003		
2	975	-	-	-	-	-	-	36	16,214	2	964	1	484	3	1,290	95	47,444		
2	865	-	-	-	-	1	360	61	27,613	5	2,216	2	1,143	19	8,932	165	77,879		
1	691	1	766	1	353	1	647	47	20,906	-	-	3	1,686	67	31,303	186	89,161		
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32	14,128	3	1,200	1	390	90	40,369	168	74,240		
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	8,939	1	462	-	-	52	23,938	89	42,097		
-	-	1	352	-	-	-	-	8	3,720	2	886	-	-	64	29,291	88	40,294		
GRAND TOTAL																-	-	843	399,118

which Special Licences have been granted by the East India Company, under the Act of 53 Geo. 3, c 155, s 11, from the 12th April 1814 to the 14th March 1821

DESTINATION.

- * From the west Coast of America and the Pacific Islands to China
- From Bombay to any part of the Coast of Malabar
- From Bombay to Tillichery and Choughaut, or either of them.

under the Act 53 Geo. 3, ought not to have been noticed here.

J. Dait, Secy.

Appendix (B 2)

AN ACCOUNT of the rate and amount of Fees demanded on account of Ships Licences granted by the East India Company, under the authority of the Act 53 Geo 3, c 155, s. 71.

RATE OF FEES.

		Amount of Fees.
From 12th April 1814 to 13th July following, £. 8 ^s on each licence	Total	£ 104 —
Since the above period - - - - - £. 5 on each licence	"	4,150 —
Grand Total		4,254 —

East India House,
the 21st March 1821

(Errors excepted)

J. Dart,
Secy

Appendix (C.)

Copies of all Lists of Licences granted or refused, which have been transmitted to His Majesty's principal Secretary of State for the Colonial Department, by the Governors of Gibraltar or Malta, in pursuance of the 5th sec. of the Act 57 Geo. 3, c 36,—so far as the same have been received

GIBRALTAR.

N ^o of Licence	Date	Quality	Vessel's Name	Master	Owners.	Whereunto belonging	Built.	Tons.	Number of Crew	Gun
1	1817 16 Sept	Ship	Jaie - -	Robert Mearnes	Richardson Borradaile of London	London	British	205 ¹¹ / ₁₆	14	1
2	27 Sept	Brig	Rattler -	Henry Holton	Thomas Stanforth and Thomas Blunt	D ^o - -	D ^o - -	174	10	1
3	12 Oct	D ^o	Wasp - -	John Ware - -	D ^o - - - - -	D ^o - -	D ^o - -	319 ⁸ / ₁₆	18	1
4	30 Dec	Ship	Kent - -	Edw Bingham	J Deacon and S. H Holland of London	D ^o - -	American made free.	217 ¹¹ / ₁₆	16	1
1818										
5	15 June	D ^o	Grace - -	J F Steel - -	M Boyd - - - -	D ^o - -	British	249 ⁸ / ₁₆	14	1
6	3 Sept	Brig	Rebecca	A S de Peyster	G Brown and Jas Laing	D ^o - -	D ^o - -	295 ¹¹ / ₁₆	21	11
7	29 Oct	Ship	Salicia -	Tho Tankersley	J Stanforth and J Blunt - - -	D ^o - -	D ^o - -	192 ⁸ / ₁₆	11	1
8.	24 Dec	D ^o	{ City of Edinburgh	William Wiseman	John Farquhar - -	D ^o - -	British Plantation	366 ¹¹ / ₁₆	35	1
1819										
9.	25 May	D ^o	Pallas - -	Henry Philip -	Henry Philip - -	Gibraltar	British	362 ¹¹ / ₁₆	26	1
10	31 July	Brig	Mary - -	J Lawden - -	R Cochrane, jun and R. Cochrane, sen. of Paisley - - -	Paisley	D ^o - -	190 ⁸ / ₁₆	14	1
1820.										
11.	6 June	Ship	Lindsayes	William Lockerley	W Lockerley - -	{ American made free	- - - -	270 ¹¹ / ₁₆	15	11
12	14 Aug	D ^o	Porcupine	Benjamin Laing	Messrs Fair and Laing of London	British	- - - -	282 ¹¹ / ₁₆	15	1

MALTA.

N ^o of Licence	Date	Quality	Vessel's Name	Master	Owners.	Whereunto belonging	Built	Tons.	Number of Crew.	Gun
{ 1.	1817 13 Sept	Ship	Snipe - -	George Orton -	J Stanforth and J Blunt	London	British	181 ⁷ / ₁₆	11	4
{ 1.	13 Sept	D ^o	D ^o - - -	- - D ^o - -	D ^o - - - - -	D ^o - -	D ^o - -	181 ⁷ / ₁₆	11	4
1818										
{ 3	15 Oct.	D ^o	Good Azar	Daniel Munro -	Calvert Ball and Co	D ^o - -	D ^o - -	263 ⁷ / ₁₆	--	--
{ 4	29 Dec	Brig	Wasp - -	J Ware - - -	- - D ^o - - -	D ^o - -	D ^o - -	320	--	--
{ 5	29 Dec.	D ^o	D ^o - - -	D ^o - - - - -	- - D ^o - - -	D ^o - -	D ^o - -	320	--	--

Appendix (D.)

Copy of a Letter from the Earl of Buckinghamshire to Mr Canning, on opening the Circuitous Trade with India

Sir, India Board, 21st July 1814
I HAVE had the honour of receiving the letter of the 5th Inst addressed to me by yourself and other gentlemen, whose signatures were affixed With reference to the several objects to which it adverts, I have to inform you.—

1st That I have had a communication with the Chairman of the East India Company, upon the subject of fees charged at the India House upon the issue of licences, and he informs me, that the Court of Directors have determined that, in future, the charge shall not exceed five pounds, exclusive of the stamp duty paid thereon.

2d With regard to the licences to be granted by the Court of Directors, to persons proposing to trade within the Company's territories, who have licences from the Board of Control to trade without the said territories, I certainly agree in the sentiments you express, and have been confirmed in the construction I put upon the Act of the last Session, by the opinion of the King's law officers, which was taken previous to a communication, made by me to the Chairman of the Court of Directors upon that very point, in the course of the last month, and I can venture to assure you, that all difficulty in that respect has been removed.

3d After much inquiry and discussion, and upon a very full consideration, the arrangement respecting the duties has been nearly completed, and in conformity to the provisions of the Act, will shortly be laid before Parliament It is proposed to relieve the direct commerce between the ports of the United Kingdom and the British possessions in India, not only by reduction of duties and the establishment of drawbacks, but also by the introduction of one uniform rate at the several settlements, and by a regulation which shall render the payment of an import duty at one port, an exemption from the same duty at any other

4th I have communicated with Lord Castlereagh, upon that part of your letter which relates to the statement made by him in the House of Commons, when the Bill for regulating the Circuitous Trade was under discussion. The object then in his contemplation, and to which he adverted, was to place the British Merchant upon as favourable a footing, at least, as that of the Foreign trader That object will not fail to engage the continued and vigilant attention of His Majesty's Ministers,—but the effects of a general pacification, connected with the new system which Parliament has provided for carrying on the trade with India, can alone enable them to form a correct judgment, whether the general interests of the British Empire would be best promoted by provisions calculated to render the United Kingdom the emporium of commerce with our settlements in India, or by regulations which should open a direct trade between those settlements and foreign Europe

I remain, SIR, Your most obedient humble servant,

(Signed) BUCKINGHAMSHIRE,

The Right Hon George Canning, &c. &c. &c,

Appendix (E 1.)

At the Court at Carlton-House, the 24th of September 1814 —present,
His Royal Highness the Prince Regent in Council

WHEREAS the Order of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent in Council, dated the first day of October one thousand eight hundred and eleven, for regulating the trade to and from the Cape of Good Hope, has ceased and determined, the Act under the authority of which the said Order was issued having expired And whereas by an Act passed in the last session of Parliament, intituled, "An Act to continue, until the twenty-fifth day of March " one thousand eight hundred and sixteen, an Act for regulating the trade to the Isle of " Malta, and to revive and continue, for the same period, several Acts relating to the " trade to the Cape of Good Hope, and to the bringing and landing certain prize goods in " Great Britain," His Majesty is authorized, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, by any order or orders to be issued from time to time, to give such directions, and make such regulations, touching the trade and commerce to and from the said settlement, and the territories and dependencies thereof, as to His Majesty in Council shall appear most expedient and salutary, any thing contained in an Act, passed in the twelfth year of the reign of his majesty King Charles the second, intituled "An Act for encouraging and " increasing of shipping and navigation," or in an Act, passed in the seventh and eighth years of the reign of his majesty King William the third, intituled, "An Act for " preventing frauds, and regulating abuses in the plantation trade," or any other Act or Acts of Parliament now in force relating to His Majesty's colonies and plantations, or any other Act or Acts of Parliament, law, usage, or custom to the contrary notwithstanding, His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, in the name and on the behalf of His

54 Geo 3,
c 18.

12 Chas 2,
c 15'
7 & 8 Wm 3,
c. 22

Majesty, and by and with the advice of His Majesty's Privy Council, is pleased to order, and it is hereby ordered, that it shall and may be lawful, until further order, for all ships and vessels belonging to the subjects of any country or state in amity with His Majesty, to enter into the ports of the said settlement of the Cape of Good Hope, and of the territories and dependencies thereof, for the purpose of repairs and refreshment only, in which case, a part of the cargoes of such ships and vessels may be permitted to be disposed of for the purpose of defraying the expences of such repairs or refreshment, and that it shall also be lawful for any vessels belonging to the subjects of any country or state in amity with His Majesty, to import into the ports of the Cape of Good Hope, and of the territories and dependencies thereof any articles of provisions, with the permission of the Governor of the Cape of Good Hope first had and obtained, by licence in writing under his signature, which licence he is hereby empowered to grant and His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, and by and with the advice aforesaid, is further pleased to order, and it is hereby ordered, that goods, wares, or merchandise, the growth, produce, or manufacture of the countries to the eastward of the Cape of Good Hope, legally imported into the said settlement, or into the territories or dependencies thereof, may be exported from the said settlement, or the territories or dependencies thereof, to the ports of the United Kingdom, subject to the rules and regulations contained in an Act, passed in the fifty-third year of his majesty's reign, intituled, "An Act for continuing in the East India Company, for a further term, the possession of the British territories in India, together with certain exclusive privileges, for establishing further regulations for the government of the said territories, and the better administration of justice within the same, and for regulating the trade to and from the places within the limits of the said Company's charter," or to any ports or places to which a trade in such articles is permitted to be carried on from the said settlement, or the territories or dependencies thereof, under the provisions of an Act passed in the last session of Parliament intituled, "An Act for the further regulation of the trade to and from the places within the limits of the charter of the East India Company," and subject to the rules and regulations in the said Act contained, in British ships or vessels, or in such ships or vessels that shall have been built within the territories belonging to the East India Company, or in the ports under the immediate protection of the British flag in the East Indies, and that it shall in like manner be lawful to export from the said settlement of the Cape of Good Hope, or its territories or dependencies, in British ships or vessels, or in such ships or vessels that shall have been built within the territories belonging to the East India Company, or in the ports under the immediate protection of the British flag in the East Indies, to any ports or places to which trade may be lawfully carried on from the said settlement or its territories or dependencies, any articles of British or of European produce or manufacture, which shall have been legally imported into the said settlement, or the territories or dependencies thereof, provided, however, that nothing in this Order contained, shall extend, or be construed to extend, to permit a trade in tea between the Cape of Good Hope, or its territories or dependencies, and the countries to the eastward thereof, or from the said settlement, and its territories or dependencies, to the ports of the United Kingdom, nor to permit any vessel under the burthen of three hundred and fifty tons, to export from the said settlement, or the territories or dependencies thereof, to the ports of the United Kingdom, any articles the growth, produce or manufacture of any countries situated within the limits of the East India Company's charter and it is His Royal Highness's further pleasure, that the trade and commerce to and from the said settlement; and the territories and dependencies thereof, shall be subject to such of the laws of trade and navigation, and the rules and regulations thereof, as would have affected the same, if this Order had not been made, except so far as such laws are contrary to this present Order.

And the Right honourable the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, and the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, are to give the necessary directions herein as to them may respectively appertain

Jas. Buller.

Appendix (E 2)

At the Court at Carlton House, the 12th of July 1820 —present,
The King's Most Excellent Majesty in Council

WHEREAS by an Act, passed in the first year of the reign of His present Majesty, intituled, "An Act to continue until the fifth day of July one thousand eight hundred and twenty-five, an Act of the fifty-seventh year of his late Majesty, for regulating the trade and commerce to and from the Cape of Good Hope, and for regulating the trade of the island of Mauritius," His Majesty is authorized, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, by any order or orders to be issued from time to time, to give such directions, and to make such regulations touching the trade and commerce to and from the settlement of the Cape of Good Hope, and the territories and dependencies thereof, as to His Majesty in Council shall appear most expedient and salutary, any thing contained in an Act, passed in the

1 Geo. 4,
c 11,

the twelfth year of the reign of his majesty King Charles the second, intituled, "An Act for the encouraging and increasing of shipping and navigation," or in an Act, passed in the seventh and eighth years of the reign of his majesty King William the third, intituled, "An Act for preventing frauds and regulating abuses in the plantation trade," or any other Act or Acts of Parliament now in force relating to His Majesty's colonies and plantations, or any other Act or Acts of Parliament, law, usage, or custom to the contrary, in anywise notwithstanding, His Majesty is pleased, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, that from and after the date of this present Order, British vessels arriving at any port of the settlement of the Cape of Good Hope, or of the territories and dependencies thereof, from any country in amity with His Majesty, laden with any articles of the growth, production, or manufacture of such country (excepting all articles composed of cotton, iron, steel, or wool, of foreign manufacture,) shall be permitted to enter and land their cargoes, and dispose of the same in the said ports, subject to such duties as may be there payable thereon.

12 Chas. 2,
c 8
7 & 8 Wm 3,
c 22.

And it is further ordered, that British vessels arriving as aforesaid, shall be permitted to export to any such foreign country in amity with His Majesty, cargoes consisting of any articles, of the growth, production or manufacture of the settlement of the Cape of Good Hope, or of the territories and dependencies thereof, or of any other articles which shall have been legally imported there, on payment of such duties as may be payable thereon.

And it is hereby further ordered, that vessels belonging to the subjects of any foreign state in amity with His Majesty, which foreign state shall allow British vessels to carry on trade as aforesaid between the ports of such state and the settlement of the Cape of Good Hope, or the territories and dependencies thereof, shall be permitted, in like manner, to import into the ports of the said settlements, or of the territories and dependencies thereof, from any port of the state to which such vessel shall belong, any articles of the growth, production, or manufacture of such foreign state (excepting all articles composed of cotton, iron, steel, or wool, of foreign manufacture), and to dispose of the same in the ports of the said settlement, or of the territories and dependencies thereof, on payment of the same duties as shall be payable on the like articles when imported from such foreign state in British vessels; provided, however, that if higher duties are charged on the export of such goods from any such foreign state to the settlement of the Cape of Good Hope, or the territories and dependencies thereof, in British vessels, than are charged on the export of similar articles to the said settlement, or the territories and dependencies thereof, in ships of such foreign state, a countervailing duty, of equal amount, shall be charged on the said articles when imported into the said settlement, or the territories and dependencies thereof, in vessels of such foreign state, over and above the duties payable on the like articles when imported from such state in British vessels.

And it is hereby further ordered, that every such foreign vessel shall be permitted to export a cargo consisting of any articles of the growth, production, or manufacture of the settlement of the Cape of Good Hope, or of the territories and dependencies thereof, or of any other articles which shall have been imported there, on payment of a duty of eight per cent. ad valorem over and above the duties charged on the like goods when exported from the said settlement, or the territories and dependencies thereof, to such foreign state in a British vessel, provided, however, that in cases where satisfactory proof shall be given, that the said articles, when imported into such foreign state from the settlement of the Cape of Good Hope, or the territories and dependencies thereof, in British vessels, are charged with no higher duties than are charged on the like articles when imported in vessels of such foreign state, and that such articles, when imported in British vessels, are entitled to the same privileges and advantages with respect to warehousing and internal consumption, or otherwise, as when imported in vessels of such state, then and in such case, no higher duties shall be charged on the export of such articles from the settlement of the Cape of Good Hope, or the territories and dependencies thereof, in vessels of such foreign state, than shall be charged on the export of the like articles in British vessels to such foreign state.

It is, however, hereby further ordered and declared, that no foreign vessel, allowed by the terms of this Order to export a cargo from the settlement of the Cape of Good Hope, or the territories and dependencies thereof, shall be permitted to export such cargo to any of His Majesty's possessions, or to any other place than a port or place belonging to the state or power to which the vessel itself shall belong.

And the Right honourable the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, and the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, are to give the necessary directions herein, as to them may respectively appertain.

Chetwynd

Appendix (E 3.)

At the Court at Carlton House, the 12th of July 1820: — present,
The King's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

57 Geo 2, 12 Chas 2, c 18, 7 & 8 Wm 3, c 22

WHEREAS by an Act, passed in the first year of the reign of His present Majesty, intituled, "An Act to continue until the fifth day of July, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-five, an Act of the fifty-seventh year of his late majesty, for regulating the trade and commerce to and from the Cape of Good Hope, and for regulating the trade of the island of Mauritius," His Majesty is authorized, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, by any order or orders to be issued from time to time, to give such directions, and to make such regulations touching the trade and commerce to and from all islands, colonies, or places, and the territories and dependencies thereof, to His Majesty belonging, or in His possession, in Africa or Asia to the eastward of the Cape of Good Hope (excepting only the possessions of the East India Company), as to His Majesty in Council, shall appear most expedient and salutary, any thing contained in an Act, passed in the twelfth year of the reign of his majesty King Charles the second, intituled, "An Act for the encouraging and increasing of shipping and navigation," or in an Act, passed in the seventh and eighth years of the reign of his majesty King William the third, intituled, "An Act for preventing frauds, and regulating abuses in the plantation trade," or any other Act or Acts of Parliament, now in force, relating to His Majesty's colonies and plantations, or any other Act or Acts of Parliament, law, usage, or custom to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding, and whereas by virtue of the powers granted by the above recited Act of the fifty-seventh year of his late majesty, an Order in Council was passed on the twenty-eighth of May one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, for regulating the trade of the island of Mauritius, with states in amity with His Majesty, on the conditions therein set forth, His Majesty is pleased to direct that the said Order be and the same is hereby revoked, and His Majesty is further pleased, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, that from and after the date of this present Order, British vessels arriving at any port of the island of Mauritius, or its dependencies, from any country in amity with His Majesty, laden with any articles of the growth, production, or manufacture of such country (excepting all articles composed of cotton, iron, steel, or wool, of foreign manufacture), shall be permitted to enter and land their cargoes, and dispose of the same in the said ports, subject to such duties as may be there payable thereon.

And it is further ordered, that British vessels arriving as aforesaid, shall be permitted to export to any such foreign country in amity with His Majesty, cargoes consisting of any articles of the growth, production, or manufacture of the island of Mauritius, or its dependencies, or of any other articles which shall have been legally imported there, on payment of such duties as may be payable thereon

And it is hereby further ordered, that vessels belonging to the subjects of any foreign state in amity with His Majesty, which foreign state shall allow British vessels to carry on trade as aforesaid between the ports of such state and the island of Mauritius, shall be permitted in like manner to import into the ports of the island of Mauritius, or its dependencies, from any port of the state to which such vessel shall belong, any articles of the growth, production, or manufacture of such foreign state (excepting all articles composed of cotton, iron, steel, or wool of foreign manufacture), and to dispose of the same in the ports of the said island and its dependencies, on payment of the same duties as shall be payable on the like articles when imported from such foreign state in British vessels, provided, however, that if higher duties are charged on the export of such goods from any such foreign state, to the island of Mauritius in British vessels, than are charged on the export of similar articles to the said island in ships of such foreign state, a countervailing duty of equal amount shall be charged on the said articles when imported into the island of Mauritius, or its dependencies, in vessels of such foreign state, over and above the duties payable on the like articles when imported from such state in British vessels.

And it is hereby further ordered, that every such foreign vessel shall be permitted to export a cargo consisting of any articles of the growth, production or manufacture of the island of Mauritius, or its dependencies, or of any other articles which shall have been legally imported there, on payment of a duty of eight per cent ad valorem, over and above the duties charged on the like goods when exported from the island of Mauritius, or its dependencies, to such foreign state in a British vessel, provided, however, that in cases where satisfactory proof shall be given that the said articles, when imported into such foreign state from the island of Mauritius in British vessels, are charged with no higher duties than are charged on the like articles when imported in vessels of such foreign state; and that such articles when imported in British vessels, are entitled to the same privileges and advantages with respect to warehousing and internal consumption or otherwise, as when imported in vessels of such state, then and in such case, no higher duties shall be charged on the export of such articles from the island of Mauritius, or its dependencies, in vessels of such foreign state, than shall be charged on the export of the like articles in British vessels to such foreign state.

It is, however, hereby further ordered and declared, that no foreign vessel, allowed by the terms of this order to export a cargo from the island of Mauritius, or its dependencies, shall be permitted to export such cargo to any of His Majesty's possessions, or to any other place than a port or place belonging to the state or power to which the vessel itself shall belong

And the Right honourable the Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury, and the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, are to give the necessary directions herein as to them may respectively appertain

Chetwynd

Appendix (F)

STATEMENT delivered in by Thomas Peregrine Courtenay, Esq a Member of the Committee

SOME parts of the evidence which has been given to the Committee, on the subject of the execution of the Act 53 Geo 3 c 155, s 33, concerning permissions given to individuals to proceed to and trade in India, appear to me to require the explanations which, as Secretary to the Board of Commissioners for the affairs of India, it is in my power to give

It has been stated, " that no such thing as a simple licence or certificate, is ever granted at the India House to persons proceeding to India, and that in all cases, a covenant with conditions similar to those contained in the Free Merchants Indenture," is executed by the person permitted to proceed The fact is, that when the Court of Directors give the permission upon their own view of the merits of the case, and without reference to the Board of Commissioners, a covenant of the nature described is executed by the party

But in the only case in which a " Certificate" is required by the Act, such Certificate is invariably given, and in that case there is no covenant I annex a form of Certificate, as settled by the Board in conformity with the requisition of the Act

In justice to the Court of Directors, I think it my duty to add, that the permissions given by the Court, are not matters of patronage with the individual Directors, but that certain rules have been laid down by the Court, whereby the grant of such permission is regulated, and that the legal right of the Court to grant or withhold the permission, subject to the control of the Board of Commissioners, has never been questioned.

The indentures to free merchants and free mariners, are granted by the Company in their commercial capacity, and with respect to them, I cannot speak officially of the practice of the Court

I feel it also to be my duty to state shortly, that the very respectable witness who has stated to the Committee, some particular cases of refusal, has been misinformed as to some of these cases

Not conceiving the present to be a very material object of inquiry with the Committee, I close my statement here

Tho P Courtenay

Appendix (G.)

A RETURN of the Exports from the Presidencies of CALCUTTA, MADRAS, and BOMBAY, to Prince of Wales Island, and those to the east of it, in the five years from 1802 to 1806, both inclusive, and in the five years from 1813/14 to 1817/18, both inclusive; distinguishing the Species of Goods Also, the Imports for the same periods; distinguishing Goods and Specie.

CALCUTTA.

EXPORTS

DESCRIPTION of MERCHANDIZE.	1802/3	1803/4	1804/5	1805/6	1806/7	1813/14	1814/15	1815/16.	1816/17	1817/18
	<i>Rupees.</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees.</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees.</i>	<i>Rupees.</i>	<i>Rupees.</i>	<i>Rupees.</i>	<i>Rupees</i>
Piece Goods - - -	14,74,559	7,03,751	5,44,975	8,16,612	3,30,257	4,73,689	9,36,078	4,04,900	1,89,282	6,43,172
Shawls - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	800	2,607	2,600	500	- - -	4,500
Indigo - - -	- - -	- - -	418	605	285	5,700	-	-	-	-
Sugar - - -	33,389	341	37,993	4,607	2,957	- - -	11,544	1,900	3,446	9,193
Sugar Candy - - -	505	- - -	670	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	759
Silk - - -	1,055	45,288	- - -	1,60,318	19,261	3,995	8,026	738	1,250	-
Gram - - -	2,16,109	93,150	97,340	1,61,820	1,10,216	67,462	39,836	43,442	47,312	20,084
Bengal Rum - - -	16,124	- - -	4,235	4,273	7,427	4,914	750	- - -	- - -	3,546
Opium - - -	10,35,666	9,13,989	15,03,158	21,23,209	11,62,365	12,27,655	12,49,670	15,45,721	11,45,981	9,24,362
Salt Petre - - -	51,142	1,775	3,014	2,209	470	2,563	1,050	28,955	- - -	31,697
Guns - - -	80	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Borax - - -	101	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cotton - - -	18,517	66,893	40,667	- - -	17,559	- - -	5,989	-	-	-
Cotton Thread and Yarn	2,071	140	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gunny and Gunny Bags	32,301	2,570	3,668	10,679	5,346	16,530	17,325	10,410	3,020	7,094
Stick Lacc and Shell } Lacc - - -	738	300	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,229	900	3,566
Long Pepper and Root	1,406	- - -	- - -	1,368	1,363	-	-	-	-	-
Pepper - - -	838	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ginger - - -	2,119	- - -	376	4,500	400	- - -	319	300	- - -	927
Turmeric - - -	1,219	- - -	200	776	718	- - -	- - -	240	-	-
Tamarinds - - -	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cassia - - -	- - -	406	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Camphire - - -	- - -	467	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benjamin - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	639
Salamonic - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,128	-	-	-	-	-
Drugs - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	720	- - -	1,161
Hemp, Flax, and Twine	396	126	- - -	150	1,105	2,130	468	241	- - -	1,486
Canvass - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	11,457	10,105	12,825	9,431	3,364	1,050	12,203
Carpets and Blankets -	- - -	- - -	- - -	4,736	445	1,152	1,128	621	- - -	1,968
Wearing Apparel and } Haberdashery - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,026	- - -	3,933	452	-
Shoes and Boots - - -	7,696	2,959	3,443	5,547	2,313	2,182	476	-	-	-
Wax Candles and Tal- } low Candles - - -	6,349	2,506	4,999	1,918	1,811	4,154	745	930	1,520	1,285
Soap - - -	916	- - -	358	- - -	- - -	1,896	915	776	200	1,577
Seeds of various sorts -	9,887	829	2,116	872	502	887	3,958	4,723	1,463	4,110
Ghee - - -	8,507	3,302	4,131	4,094	6,782	30,580	29,858	10,605	28,185	12,279
Oils - - -	80	622	624	588	2,238	728	608	1,243	-	-
Tobacco - - -	6,690	- - -	- - -	1,824	- - -	- - -	411	149	- - -	1,415
Safflower - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,383	4,208	7,243	2,336	-	-
Coosoom Flowers - - -	45	- - -	1,153	556	-	-	-	-	-	-
Beads - - -	- - -	- - -	802	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carriages and Palan- } keens - - -	6,300	2,000	11,340	19,660	5,350	10,500	1,500	- - -	2,000	2,103
Gold and Silver Ware, } thread and lace - - -	1,355	- - -	1,260	2,135	620	6,612	871	- - -	- - -	1,400
Salt Provisions - - -	3,759	4,193	1,999	208	- - -	2,324	5,347	1,393	444	1,436

Appendix (G)—Return of Exports, &c —continued

CALCUTTA—continued.

EXPORTS.

DESCRIPTION of MERCHANDISE.	1802/3	1803/4	1804/5	1805/6	1806/7	1813/14	1814/15	1815/16	1816/17	1817/18
	Rupees	Rupees.	Rupees	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees	Rupees
Iron Works and Iron-mongery	3,648	12,633	3,843	1,710	-	-	-	3,477	-	-
Skins	-	1,572	-	-	1,890	-	7,789	-	-	-
Bengal Paper	270	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Country Sundries	12,674	2,254	7,681	7,621	6,843	23,741	13,662	12,433	13,719	16,743
Spices	47,138	1,055	725	-	-	-	734	-	-	-
Madeira Wine	39,271	3,284	13,883	56,460	13,650	39,468	28,786	12,576	5,544	5,358
Liquors	19,050	6,406	9,076	7,965	2,377	79,286	26,655	4,609	4,488	27,473
Rose Water	-	-	-	365	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tea	155	-	1,420	-	3,600	-	-	-	-	-
Rhubarb	60	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Copper and Copper Nails	580	9,923	3,506	-	-	-	11,111	22,320	4,500	2,072
Iron, Iron Nails and Keatledge	92,916	47,796	19,269	27,561	4,843	9,736	56,927	16,966	17,576	48,676
Brass and Brass Ware	4,874	1,624	5,950	1,121	-	-	-	-	-	-
Steel and Cutlery	11,478	6,128	6,198	832	346	-	3,204	-	-	6,877
Tin	-	-	300	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Foreign Piece Goods	-	-	-	-	-	21,219	-	3,640	-	10,595
Broad Cloths	5,368	10,572	2,384	9,165	-	-	-	500	-	-
Pictures and Looking Glasses	100	-	2,090	338	-	2,351	-	-	-	-
Books	-	-	-	-	-	1,810	-	-	-	-
Senna Leaves	20	105	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cordages and Cables	11,372	198	3,807	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cour	-	-	1,185	-	-	-	-	-	600	-
Anchors	-	-	2,385	4,854	-	-	-	-	-	-
Glass Ware	3,420	11,150	2,019	1,257	1,439	3,447	626	100	-	6,428
China Ware	-	-	4,227	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sadlery	-	-	3,460	467	-	7,028	-	-	-	502
Stationery	-	-	1,058	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brimstone	-	1,765	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paint	-	668	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stills	-	589	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Morocco Skins	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,204	-	-
Hats	934	-	-	-	-	826	457	-	-	653
Hoops and Rivets	7,227	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Clocks and Watches	-	8,280	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Europe, Sundries	17,091	6,484	3,520	13,729	5,200	59,465	15,880	5,156	2,660	67,755
TOTAL	32,17,575	19,78,098	23,66,409	34,80,416	17,34,394	21,54,496	25,03,026	21,72,720	14,75,600	18,84,972
Treasure	1,14,393	-	-	-	-	-	16,875	11,250	-	11,250
TOTAL	33,31,968	19,78,098	23,66,409	34,80,416	17,34,394	21,54,496	25,18,901	21,83,970	14,75,600	18,96,222

IMPORTS

	1802/3	1803/4	1804/5	1805/6	1806/7	1813/14	1814/15	1815/16	1816/17	1817/18
	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees.	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees.
Goods	11,73,879	5,69,133	8,27,729	12,86,639	14,15,999	7,16,367	5,10,921	9,85,590	8,01,048	3,00,850
Treasure	5,04,503	7,04,321	7,78,904	15,03,969	18,10,687	6,09,705	9,75,689	2,89,253	4,16,746	6,04,760
TOTAL	16,78,382	12,73,454	16,06,633	27,90,608	32,26,686	13,26,072	14,86,610	12,74,843	12,17,794	9,05,610

Appendix (G)—Return of Exports, &c — continued

FORT ST GEORGE—continued

EXPORTS

DESCRIPTION of MERCHANDIZE.	1802	1803	1804	1805	1806	1813/14	1814/15	1815/16	1816/17	1817/18
	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees
Gums - - -	222	62	35	- - -	172	-	-	-	-	-
Gold Lace - - -	-	305	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gold and Silver Thread - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,935
Silver Plate - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,076	-	-
Orpiment - - -	-	-	-	-	98	-	-	-	-	-
Perfumery and Hair Powder - - -	762	163	-	297	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paints of sorts - - -	108	104	531	128	98	-	-	-	-	-
Pictures - - -	-	309	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Alum - - -	-	33	-	28	-	-	-	-	-	-
Saddlery - - -	523	-	-	163	650	-	-	-	-	-
Scales and Weights - - -	195	380	-	-	163	-	-	-	-	-
Haberdashery - - -	52	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tea - - -	1,158	37,063	-	195	53	-	-	-	-	-
Coffee - - -	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sugar and Sugar Candy - - -	13,449	41,670	23	279	148	-	-	-	-	-
Glass and China Ware - - -	948	4,079	49	84	98	-	-	3,650	2,344	3,658
Hardware - - -	1,083	-	45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jewellery and Toys - - -	47,697	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Inaigo - - -	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grinding Stone - - -	-	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fire Works - - -	-	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Precious Stones - - -	-	2,791	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Books - - -	-	211	-	49	33	-	-	-	-	1,050
Cutlery - - -	-	169	-	58	39	-	-	-	-	-
Garden Seeds - - -	-	49	-	16	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coral Beads - - -	-	98	11	113	50	-	-	-	-	-
Rough Coral - - -	153	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carnages - - -	6,143	488	1,333	-	325	1,400	-	1,550	2,450	-
Sandal Wood - - -	-	-	2,399	-	19	-	-	3,502	1,328	-
Stick Lack - - -	-	-	3,305	-	621	-	-	-	-	-
Casks, empty - - -	-	-	-	98	-	-	-	-	-	-
Confectionery - - -	-	-	-	52	-	-	-	-	-	-
Furniture - - -	-	-	-	199	65	-	-	-	1,359	-
Baskets - - -	-	-	11	274	149	-	-	-	-	-
Washing Sand - - -	-	-	-	25	211	-	-	-	-	-
Cologne Water - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,354
Corks - - -	16	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carpenters Tools - - -	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wax and Wax Candles - - -	222	3,449	3,477	49	462	-	-	-	-	-
Clocks and Watches - - -	1,625	-	-	-	33	-	-	-	-	-
Earthenware - - -	162	140	155	240	393	-	-	-	-	-
Sundries - - -	-	246	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL Merchandize	18,54,142	14,33,845	11,26,441	10,62,732	10,58,546	12,06,130	13,28,749	14,61,130	14,72,370	17,08,373
Treasure - - -	1,17,212	80,756	32,685	-	-	56,664	-	31,215	25,157	9,616
TOTAL	19,71,354	15,14,601	11,59,126	10,62,732	10,58,546	12,62,794	13,28,749	14,92,345	14,97,527	17,17,989

IMPORTS

	1802	1803	1804	1805	1806	1813/14	1814/15	1815/16	1816/17	1817/18.
	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees.	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees
Goods - - -	4,38,967	11,24,919	6,60,780	7,85,012	6,22,116	7,88,016	4,63,796	7,37,281	5,70,334	5,89,091
Treasure - - -	18,35,603	8,15,797	9,85,680	13,18,190	7,43,293	10,32,874	4,55,209	6,96,043	12,28,730	12,84,005
TOTAL	22,74,570	19,40,716	16,46,460	21,03,202	13,65,409	18,20,890	9,19,005	14,33,324	17,99,314	18,73,096

Appendix (G)—Return of Exports, &c—continued.

BOMBAY—continued

EXPORTS.

DESCRIPTION of MERCHANDISE.	1802/3:	1803/4:	1804/5:	1805/6:	1807/8 *	1813/14	1814/15	1815/16	1816/17	1817/18
	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees.	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees
Glass Ware - - -	-	-	-	-	231	1,900	900	336	-	-
Gold and Silver Lace and Thread - - -	-	1,128	-	-	-	2,000	410	1,920	671	-
Guglets - - -	-	-	180	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hurtal - - -	400	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hing - - -	1,900	400	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Horses - - -	-	3,000	-	-	500	-	2,200	3,000	-	-
Indigo - - -	1,150	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iron and Ironmongery	8,382	1,257	1,200	7,980	850	6,553	1,275	11,900	5,400	13,685
Jewellery, Europe - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,804	-	2,275	-
Kiamisses - - -	235	4	200	-	-	-	-	570	1,085	746
Leomits - - -	128	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lead - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26,408
Lack - - -	185	18	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Long Ells - - -	-	-	-	-	-	526	-	-	-	-
Looking Glasses - - -	-	46	500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mamary - - -	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Myrrh - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	632	-	-
Munjeet (Madder) - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100
Merabolins - - -	-	-	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Medicines - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	150	-	-
Musk - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,000	-	-	-
Nutmegs - - -	-	236	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nails, Copper - - -	-	45	200	-	-	-	260	-	-	-
Needles - - -	300	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Olibanum - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,150	-	-
Opium - - -	86,760	3,410	-	-	-	-	-	-	55,962	32,134
Otto of Roses - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	200	-	-	-
Oils of sorts - - -	717	2,238	427	-	-	924	550	-	4,060	-
Piece Goods - - -	1,23,263	84,719	1,29,743	9,566	66,994	1,59,872	1,45,732	2,10,256	1,25,870	1,03,662
Pitchuck or Woolplate	725	1,777	1,034	-	-	-	16,800	1,100	1,728	-
Printed Cottons and Calicoes - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,600	-
Paper - - -	-	-	732	-	155	-	-	-	-	-
Perfumery - - -	-	-	300	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Plate and Plated Ware	400	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	900	-
Pictures - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100	-
Pistachia Nuts - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Purpets - - -	-	-	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Quicksilver - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,500	16,065
Raisin Black - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	118	-
Radish Seed - - -	-	-	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rose Malloes - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	500	-	-	-
Rose Water - - -	427	-	174	-	-	-	230	900	950	-
Raw Silk - - -	-	-	-	-	-	13,000	-	-	-	-
Radrax - - -	-	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ramas - - -	-	-	360	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sugar - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,125	-	-
Sandalwood - - -	-	550	-	7,200	-	499	-	14,280	-	-

Appendix (G)—Return of Exports, &c—continued

BOMBAY—continued

EXPORTS

DESCRIPTION of MERCHANDIZE	1802/3	1803/4	1804/5	1805/6.	1807/8:*	1813/14	1814/15	1815/16.	1816/17	1817/18.
Salt - - - -	Rupees 5,575	Rupees 1,550	Rupees. 2,730	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees 1,985	Rupees 720	Rupees. 860	Rupees. 1,021	Rupees. 580
Saltpetre - - -	8,100	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,615	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Sadlery - - - -	- - -	- - -	450	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Steel - - - -	3,650	1,004	170	- - -	- - -	440	- - -	803	4,300	5,510
Sullum - - - -	90	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Soap - - - -	883	- - -	1,435	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	126	880	325
Seeds - - - -	1,372	47	940	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	200	208	200
Stationery and Books -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	300	- - -
Saffron - - - -	240	250	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Shawls - - - -	- - -	890	146	- - -	- - -	2,596	1,270	- - -	950	400
Tortoiseshell - - -	413	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Tin Plates, Tincal and Tin Ware - - - }	- - -	14	14	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Twine and Lanes - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	560
Tea - - - -	- - -	- - -	200	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Toys - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	100
Targets - - - -	27	79	60	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Topies or (Moor Capes)	- - -	- - -	425	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Tutenague - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,750	4,000
Verdigrease - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	126	- - -
Vitriol (Mortook) - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	175	431
Wine - - - -	4,260	- - -	- - -	740	248	- - -	39,578	1,800	2,082	1,100
Wool and Woollens - -	- - -	2,800	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Sundries - - - -	730	- - -	80	- - -	153	- - -	- - -	- - -	312	- - -
TOTAL Merchandize -	3,63,401	1,62,448	1,91,809	1,19,931	4,15,840	2,70,576	5,03,397	7,78,112	2,78,126	2,43,225
Treasure - - -	1,48,127	2,734	- - -	- - -	- - -	50,756	5,20,791	50,300	- - -	21,900
TOTAL of Exports -	5,11,528	1,65,182	1,91,809	1,19,931	4,15,840	3,21,332	10,24,188	8,28,412	2,78,126	2,65,125

IMPORTS

	1802/3	1803/4	1804/5.	1805/6	1807/8 *	1813/14	1814/15	1815/16	1816/17.	1817/18
Goods - - - -	Rupees 6,19,601	Rupees 4,34,893	Rupees 7,01,430	Rupees 2,93,890	Rupees. 9,12,107	Rupees 5,79,597	Rupees 7,65,466	Rupees. 4,80,007	Rupees. 7,56,209	Rupees. 6,91,052
Treasure - - - -	34,711	1,11,538	61,405	1,24,040	33,188	27,344	14,910	69,715	1,100	4,360
TOTAL -	6,54,312	5,46,431	7,73,835	4,17,930	9,45,295	6,06,941	7,80,376	5,49,722	7,57,309	6,95,412

* Note—The Exports and Imports of the Year 1807/8, are in this Account, substituted for those of 1806/7, in consequence of the Report of the External Commerce of Bombay, in the latter year, having been lost with the Ship by which it was sent to Europe, and no Duplicate of it having been since received at the East India House.

ABSTRACT.

EXPORTS

	BENGAL			FORT ST. GEORGE			BOMBAY			TOTAL		
	Merchandize	Treasure	Total	Merchandize	Treasure	Total	Merchandize	Treasure	Total	Merchandize	Treasure	Total
	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees
1802/3 - -	32,17,575	1,14,393	33,31,968	18,54,142	1,17,212	19,71,354	3,63,401	1,48,127	5,11,528	54,35,118	3,79,732	58,14,850
1803/4 - -	19,78,098	- - -	19,78,098	14,33,845	80,756	15,14,601	1,62,448	2,734	1,65,182	35,74,391	83,490	36,57,881
1804/5 - -	23,66,409	- - -	23,66,409	11,26,441	32,685	11,59,126	1,91,809	- - -	1,91,809	36,84,659	32,686	37,17,344
1805/6 - -	34,80,416	- - -	34,80,416	10,62,732	- - -	10,62,732	1,19,931	- - -	1,19,931	46,63,085	- - -	46,63,085
1806/7 - -	17,34,394	- - -	17,34,394	10,58,546	- - -	10,58,546	4,15,840	- - -	4,15,840	32,08,780	- - -	32,08,780
1813/14 - -	21,54,496	- - -	21,54,496	12,06,130	56,664	12,62,794	2,70,576	50,756	3,21,332	36,31,202	1,07,420	37,38,625
1814/15 - -	25,02,026	16,875	25,18,901	13,28,749	- - -	13,28,749	5,03,897	5,20,791	10,24,188	43,34,172	5,37,666	48,71,838
1815/16 - -	21,72,720	11,250	21,83,970	14,61,130	31,215	14,92,345	7,78,112	50,300	8,28,412	44,11,962	92,765	45,04,727
1816/17 - -	14,75,600	- - -	14,75,600	14,72,370	25,157	14,97,527	2,78,126	- - -	2,78,126	32,26,096	25,157	32,51,253
1817/18 - -	18,84,972	11,250	18,96,222	17,08,373	9,616	17,17,989	2,65,125	- - -	2,65,125	38,58,470	20,866	38,79,336

IMPORTS

	BENGAL			FORT ST. GEORGE			BOMBAY			TOTAL		
	Merchandize	Treasure	Total	Merchandize	Treasure	Total	Merchandize	Treasure	Total	Merchandize	Treasure	Total
	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees
1802/3 - -	11,73,879	5,04,503	16,78,382	4,38,967	18,35,603	22,74,570	6,19,601	34,711	6,54,312	22,32,447	23,74,817	46,07,264
1803/4 - -	5,69,133	7,04,321	12,73,454	11,24,919	8,15,797	19,40,716	4,34,893	1,11,538	5,46,431	21,28,945	16,31,656	37,60,601
1804/5 - -	8,27,729	7,78,904	16,06,633	6,60,780	9,85,680	16,46,460	7,09,430	64,405	7,73,835	21,97,939	18,28,989	40,26,928
1805/6 - -	12,86,639	15,03,969	27,90,608	7,85,012	13,18,190	21,03,202	2,93,890	1,24,040	4,17,930	23,65,541	29,46,199	53,11,740
1806/7 - -	14,15,999	18,10,687	32,26,686	6,22,116	7,43,293	13,65,409	9,12,107	33,188	9,45,295	29,50,222	25,87,168	55,37,390
1813/14 - -	7,16,367	6,90,705	13,26,072	7,88,016	10,32,874	18,20,890	5,79,597	27,344	6,06,941	20,83,980	16,69,923	37,53,903
1814/15 - -	5,10,921	9,75,689	14,86,610	4,63,796	4,55,209	9,19,005	7,65,466	14,910	7,80,376	17,40,183	14,45,808	31,85,991
1815/16 - -	9,85,590	2,89,253	12,74,843	7,37,281	6,96,043	14,33,324	4,80,007	69,715	5,49,722	22,02,878	10,55,011	32,57,889
1816/17 - -	8,01,048	4,16,746	12,17,794	5,70,584	12,28,730	17,99,314	7,36,209	1,100	7,37,309	21,07,841	16,46,576	37,54,417
1817/18 - -	3,00,850	6,04,760	9,05,610	5,89,091	12,84,005	18,73,096	6,91,052	4,360	6,95,412	15,80,993	25,84,177	41,65,170

Appendix (H)

A RETURN of the Exports from the Presidencies of CALCUTTA, MADRAS, and BOMBAY, to the Gulfs of Arabia and Persia, in the five years, from 1802/3 to 1806/7, both inclusive, and in the five years from 1813/14 to 1817/18, both inclusive, distinguishing the species of Goods —Also, the Imports for the same periods, distinguishing Goods and Specie.

CALCUTTA.

EXPORTS.

DESCRIPTION of MERCHANDISE.	1802/3	1803/4	1804/5	1805/6:	1806/7	1813/14	1814/15.	1815/16	1816/17	1817/18
	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees.	Rupees	Rupees.	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.
Pisce Goods - -	8,77,916	7,19,161	6,68,904	8,45,788	12,69,887	15,36,541	11,47,570	14,03,767	28,54,808	29,66,959
Shawls - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	31,808	13,907	18,546	100	62,013	62,308
Indigo - - -	83,955	77,556	3,02,420	2,00,806	4,41,981	4,63,042	4,41,540	11,98,032	6,94,068	7,71,605
Sugar - - -	85,628	54,617	99,442	5,36,659	8,22,431	4,10,170	3,18,338	4,10,583	2,72,991	5 28,160
Sugar Candy - -	812	230	2,670	596	2,233	7,202	11,311	7,298	3,753	11,643
Silk - - -	8,631	420	43,749	73,994	1,24,505	36,188	45,709	41,238	39,086	15,137
Bengal Rum - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	3,508	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Grain - - -	1,30,230	1,51,300	2,24,062	3,91,928	3,12,308	2,09,236	1,66,824	1,57,302	1,67,796	2,32,458
Opium - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,753	3 230	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Salt Petre - -	52	- - -	144	- - -	365	- - -	- - -	3,240	- - -	620
Borax - - -	- - -	- - -	253	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	256	- - -	734
Gunny and Gunny Bags	1,020	- - -	- - -	2,276	688	400	- - -	300	- - -	- - -
Cotton and Thread -	- - -	- - -	4,384	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,964	624	- - -
Stick-lack and Shell-lack -	536	602	871	4,438	14,297	7,861	14,004	74,519	40,681	19,015
Benjamin - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	5,146	- - -	- - -	- - -	733	- - -
Long Pepper and Root	190	1,764	1,040	13,264	1,59,762	434	282	2,423	2,166	759
Pepper - - -	- - -	27,374	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,902	882
Hemp, Flax, and Twine	1,118	640	135	340	409	- - -	- - -	114	- - -	- - -
Vermilion - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	166	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Ginger - - -	2,455	13,675	33,206	37,782	13,267	14,510	18,543	28,178	18,844	912
Turmeric - - -	- - -	145	1,895	19,406	16,100	4,551	7,861	7,764	3,493	1,003
Seeds of different sorts	1,525	456	2,187	16,304	1,34,760	4,015	7,651	7,645	12,854	8,312
Wax Candles - -	- - -	229	65	2,203	1,644	- - -	- - -	640	270	- - -
Tobacco - - -	71	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,754	6,945	2,382	1,212	- - -
Oil - - -	- - -	- - -	3,815	- - -	- - -	- - -	557	- - -	- - -	- - -
Shoes and Boots -	144	- - -	- - -	440	365	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Hats - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	3,726	- - -	- - -	- - -
Carriages & Palanquins	- - -	100	- - -	530	180	- - -	- - -	- - -	100	- - -
Ghee - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	132	274	877	420	668	3,593	2,020
Salt Provisions - -	750	- - -	- - -	- - -	185	1,462	- - -	152	543	- - -
Gold and Silver Lace and Thread -	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,653	- - -	- - -	27,854	23,784	11,335	- - -
Silver Ware - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,375	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Bengal Paper - -	163	511	109	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	711	- - -
Skins and Hides -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,322
Canvass - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	5,267	1,193	262	- - -	124	900	- - -
Carpets and Blankets -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	722	- - -	- - -	- - -	163	- - -

Appendix (H)—Return of Exports, &c—continued.

CALCUTTA—continued

EXPORTS.

DESCRIPTION of MERCHANDISE.	1802/3	1803/4	1804/5	1805/6	1806/7	1813/14	1814/15	1815/16	1816/17	1817/18
	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees
Broad Cloths - - -	438	1,040	- - -	5,201	532	- - -	- - -	2,800	240	-
Velvets - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	6,500	-	-	-
Spices - - -	2,500	584	498	4,978	59,144	6,444	- - -	- - -	16,540	26,605
Sal-amoniac - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	220	7,657	10,286	5,122	6,603	10,319
Camphre and Drugs -	- - -	- - -	333	- - -	- - -	- - -	226	- - -	878	1,501
Alum - - -	- - -	6,669	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Assafetida - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,530	-	-	-
Cochineal and Cassia -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	3,495	- - -	- - -	371	4,014	-
Tea - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	136	-	-	-	-
Coffee - - -	3,645	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	9,030	7,586	564	31,726	946
Sago - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	8,000	-
Country sundries -	878	889	508	2,520	1,986	10,802	5,491	17,544	26,912	17,682
Madeira - - -	192	600	600	- - -	- - -	3,824	630	6,512	5,409	1,575
Liquors - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	300	786	1,484	736	-
Copper, Copper Nails, and Brazen Ware } Lead - - -	60	- - -	- - -	119	- - -	- - -	5,350	7,570	11,600	-
Iron, Iron Nails, and Ironmongery } Tin - - -	5,568	6,919	- - -	5,582	10,088	- - -	117	4,960	3,759	10,959
Books - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	300	- - -	5,426	-	-	-
Looking Glasses - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	600	- - -	800	-	-	-	-
Glass Ware - - -	4,000	- - -	500	520	250	7,805	11,205	- - -	26,076	1,380
Beads and Corals - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	400	99	- - -	- - -	7,838	-	-
Sadlery - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	97,316	11,267	-
China Ware - - -	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sugar Candy - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	3,312	-	-	-	-
Steel, Cutlery, and Plated Ware } Europe, sundries -	811	3,150	2,485	6,081	792	6,200	3,510	10,858	31,482	10,630
Medicine - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	4,329	-	-
Foreign piece goods -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	37,041	84,041	52,026	16,733	29,524
Sappan Wood, Sandal Wood & Red Wood } Saffron and Brimstone	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,145	1,443	6,203	3,707
Haberdashery - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	13,721	6,609	-	-
Lametry - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	11,480
TOTAL - - -	12,13,304	10,68,634	13,94,275	21,85,287	34,38,320	28,07,953	24,04,422	36,06,821	44,32,777	47,92,682

IMPORTS

	1802/3	1803/4	1804/5	1805/6	1806/7	1813/14	1814/15	1815/16	1816/17	1817/18
	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees
Goods - - -	5,21,891	3,61,233	5,04,079	3,70,500	4,41,068	6,06,241	5,75,457	3,38,696	9,10,792	16,12,408
Treasure - - -	7,38,499	4,27,101	4,32,352	7,98,412	13,55,981	5,56,248	9,65,375	15,67,151	43,19,838	25,37,139
TOTAL - - -	12,60,390	7,88,334	9,36,431	11,68,912	17,97,049	11,62,489	15,40,832	19,05,847	52,30,630	41,50,047

Appendix (H)—Return of Exports, &c—continued.

FORT ST. GEORGE.

EXPORTS.

SPECIES of MERCHANDIZE.	1802	1803	1804	1805	1806	1813/14	1814/15	1815/16	1816/17	1817/18
	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees.	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees.	Rupees	Rupees.
Piece Goods - -	3,84,224	3,46,547	4,12,835	974	3,85,748	5,175	11,72,711	46,974	8,96,240	7,30,273
D° D° Silk - -	- - -	470	41	46	223	-	-	-	-	-
Spice of sorts - -	23,441	2,576	1,24,586	55,939	7,781	33,469	12,722	29,428	17,216	33,710
Pepper - -	1,10,552	12,975	13,168	- - -	86,017	53,228	68,677	1,01,849	41,588	70,617
Rice - -	2,84,398	2,53,516	97,100	2,18,350	3,08,539	5,95,428	5,89,956	6,57,576	4,87,203	5,30,300
Grain of sorts - -	- - -	- - -	948	1,262	174	- - -	1,494	-	-	-
Sandal Wood - -	3,132	29	16	- - -	180	3,211	2,613	4,418	1,101	-
Sapan Wood - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	571	- - -	- - -	3,238	- - -	- - -	3,850
Timber of sorts - -	55	142	6,016	4,422	59	1,018	-	-	-	-
Jungle Wood - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,005	-	-	-	-
Teak Wood - -	5,297	165	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D° Planks - -	33,062	49	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	4,790	- - -	2,637	1,183
Poon Spars - -	14,389	5,004	- - -	- - -	- - -	5,987	6,827	10,008	6,177	3,816
Turmeric - -	13,156	2,423	1,910	2,784	1,139	9,659	9,415	10,977	20,082	22,937
Drugs of sorts - -	7,904	- - -	441	4,047	51	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,329
Dyes - -	1,117	- - -	384	- - -	516	-	-	-	-	-
Indigo - -	- - -	2	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,078	1,850	-	-	-
Jaggery (Molasses) - -	13	- - -	9	- - -	108	- - -	- - -	1,284	-	-
Cocculus Indicus - -	779	- - -	5,363	3,580	2,157	- - -	- - -	1,062	-	-
Chillies - -	5	318	- - -	80	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fruits of sorts - -	958	21	4,160	1,131	14	-	-	-	-	-
Beetle Nuts - -	6,658	117	5,590	782	1,384	- - -	1,176	-	-	-
Cocoa Nuts - -	- - -	2,096	13	- - -	1,665	3,170	3,695	1,150	- - -	2,136
Iron - -	940	108	585	- - -	10	3,349	3,977	-	-	-
Lead - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	759	-	-	-	-	-
Copper - -	- - -	- - -	60	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Naval Stores - -	4,988	110	259	1,368	7,042	-	-	-	-	-
Military Stores - -	785	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Provisions - -	109	37	118	392	371	-	-	-	-	-
Ginger, dried - -	- - -	113	1,915	312	6,828	19,113	16,100	23,518	40,219	50,472
Oils - -	862	46	2,500	3,493	2,720	2,815	1,036	-	-	-
Arrow Root - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	3,759	2,112	-	-	-
Tortoise Shells - -	31	80	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ganjah - -	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stationery - -	14	- - -	- - -	- - -	233	-	-	-	-	-
Tobacco and Snuff - -	- - -	143	17	3	2,078	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,126
Furniture - -	497	- - -	25	103	70	1,250	-	-	-	-
Toys - -	- - -	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leather - -	171	232	112	61	56	-	-	-	-	-
Cott. Rope - -	- - -	1,647	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	11,465	3,031	1,043	4,844
D° Cable - -	- - -	173	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	9,810	2,292	-

(Appendix (H)—Return of Exports, &c —continued

FOR ST GEORGE—continued

EXPORTS

SPECIES of MERCHANDIZE.	1802.	1803	1804	1805.	1806	1813/14	1814/15	1815/16.	1816/17	1817/18
	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees.</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees.</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>
Earthen Ware - - -	- - -	69	- - -	- - -	17	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Ghee - - - - -	- - -	84	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	4,159	- - -	- - -
Sugar and Sugar Candy - - -	- - -	652	6	- - -	19	- - -	- - -	1,460	6,345	- - -
Coffee - - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Glass and China Ware	10	- - -	- - -	13	8	-	-	-	-	-
Hardware - - -	11	- - -	9	54	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mats - - - - -	33	- - -	22	29	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cattacamboos - - -	67	- - -	172	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Candles - - - -	15	26	- - -	200	46	-	-	-	-	-
Tamarinds - - -	16	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cowries - - - -	- - -	- - -	110	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wax - - - - -	- - -	20	- - -	- - -	12	-	-	-	-	-
Gums - - - - -	- - -	125	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Perfumery - - -	- - -	2,092	15	- - -	20	-	-	-	-	-
Nux Vomica - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	18	-	-	-	-	-	-
Garlic - - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	11	-	-	-	-	-	-
Woollens - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	73	-	-	-	-	-
Carpets - - - -	- - -	17	- - -	- - -	50	-	-	-	-	-
Coloured Paper - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	16	-	-	-	-	-
Conchore - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	15	-	-	-	-	-
Arrack - - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	10	-	-	-	-	-
Millinery - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	10	-	-	-	-	-
Oilman's Stores - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	16	-	-	-	-	-
Cotton - - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	26,117	11,834	- - -	- - -
Saffron - - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,830	- - -	- - -	- - -
Honey - - - - -	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sundries - - - -	77	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL Merchandize	8,97,791	6,32,278	6,78,510	3,00,010	8,16,264	7,43,714	19,41,801	9,18,538	15,25,143	14,56,629
Treasure - - - -	- - -	- - -	29,575	334	1,215	1,200	600	- - -	- - -	2,208
TOTAL	8,97,791	6,32,278	7,08,085	3,00,344	8,17,479	7,44,914	19,42,401	9,18,538	15,25,143	14,58,837

IMPORTS.

	1802.	1803	1804	1805	1806	1813/14	1814/15	1815/16	1816/17	1817/18
	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees.</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees.</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>
Goods - - - - -	1,66,302	41,007	93,230	57,384	61,823	85,687	1,05,877	1,33,084	52,295	60,479
Treasure - - - -	25,350	2,59,741	73,743	53,008	1,90,819	2,31,386	4,16,244	2,68,366	1,97,595	2,86,027
TOTAL	1,91,652	3,00,748	1,66,978	1,10,392	2,52,642	3,17,073	5,22,121	4,01,450	2,49,890	3,46,506

Appendix (H).—Returns of Exports, &c.—continued.

BOMBAY.

EXPORTS

SPECIES of MERCHANDISE	1862/3	1863/4	1864/5	1865/6	1867/8	1813/14	1814/15	1815/16	1816/17	1817/18
	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.
Anchors and Grapnels	1,101	530	70	377	1,190	2,049	1,571	380	2,294	1,831
Articles of wearing Apparel - - - }	2,627	375	- - -	- - -	150	2,069	1,618	1,211	1,788	2,554
Assafetida (Hingra) -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	150	220	177	2,073
Almonds - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	5,600
Agates - - - -	452	3,483	945	- - -	4,996	570	- - -	649	1,440	653
Arrack - - - -	605	595	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Alves - - - -	60	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	173	- - -	- - -	380	500
Acculcarrah - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	153
Alum - - - -	4,345	- - -	2,188	200	1,460	5,271	3,282	2,735	4,915	8,106
Arsenic (Hurtal) -	- - -	- - -	100	200	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	105
Agla wood - - -	2,798	3,126	4,086	20,540	16,520	1,309	6,230	1,317	7,472	9,450
Azwanseed - - -	- - -	402	1,230	778	608	773	556	995	210	151
Beer and Porter -	- - -	880	380	500	1,545	596	592	- - -	288	- - -
Benjamin - - -	8,672	3,337	12,284	9,530	5,109	26,993	26,333	10,200	28,554	14,704
Bdellium - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	177	622	184
Bangles, Glats, Horn, Wood, and Ivory }	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,326	945	529	1,552	2,868
Brandy - - - -	84	206	300	590	1,072	720	489	150	- - -	280
Beads - - - -	312	1,937	670	500	842	7,265	14,777	29,318	17,472	28,656
Books and Stationery	- - -	80	150	175	145	475	1,804	2,798	5,839	2,138
Boots and Shoes -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	30	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Broad Cloth - - -	7,829	16,309	11,825	7,075	21,140	28,363	71,744	35,780	17,490	21,423
Brass, and Brass and Copper Ware - }	700	2,715	966	197	- - -	33	10	20	110	1,453
Beetlenuts - - -	2,330	767	655	1,650	2,210	1,966	2,414	1,165	563	400
Bird shot - - - -	- - -	95	- - -	- - -	- - -	140	160	- - -	- - -	112
Boxes, Chests, and Barrels - - - }	- - -	72	375	1,318	- - -	1,717	881	1,975	10	- - -
Borax (Cudrakhan) -	- - -	- - -	132	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	205
Cotton - - - -	86,260	70,563	98,690	53,413	25,820	2,05,440	3,28,820	2,15,713	1,35,001	63,128
Cotton Yarn and Thread	5,939	5,593	4,901	47,401	31,293	1,442	2,337	3,417	13,502	6,983
Cotton Rope and Lace	- - -	- - -	824	168	- - -	20	- - -	260	- - -	- - -
Colombo Root - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	450	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Copal (Chundroose) -	281	- - -	- - -	- - -	525	260	- - -	530	- - -	1,187
China ware - - -	64,790	27,915	1,02,952	35,233	53,297	99,610	61,378	1,12,008	97,786	1,13,063
Cinnamon - - - -	53,052	13,518	1,067	162	81	210	- - -	158	- - -	- - -
Cassia, and Cassia and Nogkeper Buds }	8,603	12,842	61,268	24,734	31,299	15,496	52,638	14,131	1,02,683	75,747
Capes or Topes - -	- - -	179	236	184	319	140	20	2,997	1,651	2,765
Cardamoms - - -	15,812	17,360	29,417	13,724	27,499	52,360	25,774	77,453	63,226	39,423
Cloves - - - -	2,500	2,083	6,250	8,053	6,214	13,924	47,106	33,203	28,140	29,565
Coffee - - - -	19,675	2,326	- - -	2,625	1,32,166	15,810	2,33,956	84,413	1,01,993	41,031

Appendix (H.)—Return of Exports, &c.—continued

BOMBAY—continued

EXPORTS

SPECIES of MERCHANDISE.	1892/3.	1893/4.	1894/5.	1895/6.	1897/8.*	1813/14	1814/15	1815/16	1816/17	1817/18
	Rupees	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees	Rupees.	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees
Challans Hooks	-	20	27	94	-	257	-	-	-	-
Camblets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	400	-	-
Canvas and Cordage	-	-	-	1,550	-	1,200	225	-	575	800
Carpets	-	250	-	-	-	165	160	280	-	220
Cubels	605	463	-	-	-	225	-	-	-	110
Cutlery and Hardware	4,109	2,436	5,480	2,287	1,036	310	810	946	640	1,050
Cornies (Kouras)	3,800	60	-	-	520	200	458	1,403	-	154
Cut loose and Rope	1,805	794	1,334	795	4,220	7,467	3,621	6,717	2,225	2,236
Copper Sheet, Cake, and Copper Ware	187	2,132	2,255	2,971	3,041	5,862	1,174	959	270	5,682
Copperas (Keerakusees)	-	-	-	-	409	-	-	-	1,600	-
Camphor	-	5,945	17,130	13,824	4,869	4,579	7,497	22,775	21,951	11,549
Confectionary and Sweetmeats	190	426	410	72	1,389	5,024	4,888	7,463	4,285	2,211
Cordials	-	120	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Candles	1,053	643	2,441	175	3,094	1,014	1,010	4,101	939	5,168
Carriages and Sadlery	400	190	-	-	125	450	-	226	-	-
Cocca-nuts (Hooks)	2,295	250	57	-	160	790	1,640	1,450	225	500
Cochineal	2,796	6,827	24,205	5,663	40,340	6,920	550	-	-	1,334
Cauth (Terra Japonica)	590	60	-	240	-	4,085	3,300	1,105	865	654
Copra	3,587	-	-	-	2,034	6,533	4,177	5,350	4,718	5,920
Cupoorcacherry (Zedoary)	2,520	1,106	1,365	-	-	659	1,088	319	3,061	2,034
Clocks and Watches	100	2,400	-	420	100	-	-	500	900	2,750
Casnee	-	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
China-roots	360	2,016	3,600	623	2,438	892	1,675	3,331	4,392	2,491
Coral	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	200	-	-
Cornelians	-	-	1,150	1,400	3,625	17,068	21,262	9,555	4,942	8,894
Dates and other Fruit	-	-	367	-	180	700	1,400	760	-	942
Dammer	2,264	1,140	-	559	-	375	1,746	-	611	970
Drugs	64	925	1,808	2,589	4,492	3,560	2,916	5,471	8,766	9,650
Dragons-blood	-	-	42	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Elephants Teeth	-	-	-	-	-	300	-	-	115	-
Embroidered work	-	-	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eatables	-	120	170	200	178	328	660	-	2,900	655
Emery (Samada Stones)	-	-	-	-	200	-	-	-	-	-
Earthenware	-	-	-	200	-	320	350	100	-	-
Ebony Wood (Abnoos)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,785	5,575	6,000
Empty Bottles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	161
Furniture	215	180	220	220	278	1,378	2,930	2,525	2,504	2,836
False Beads, Pearls, Coral, and Amber	2,590	2,045	758	470	175	3,549	5,050	13,052	4,657	10,586
Fanes	-	-	70	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Appendix (II)—Return of Exports, &c.—continued.

BOMBAY—continued

EXPORTS.

SPECIES of MERCHANDISE.	1802/3	1803/4	1804/5	1805/6:	1807/8	1813/14	1814/15	1815/16:	1816/17	1817/18
	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.
Fireworks - - -	125	- - -	230	- - -	793	1,210	- - -	4,150	1,296	3,165
Grain - - -	1,64,022	11,830	27,372	5,40,996	97,821	3,91,757	1,21,069	62,106	1,47,804	1,17,619
Galls - - -	353	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	190	- - -	1,802	1,985	1,625
Galangal (Koolingen)	805	1,245	1,660	- - -	- - -	1,523	4,600	3,323	10,674	8,836
Gunnies - - -	- - -	- - -	300	- - -	150	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Ghee - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	5,976	350	- - -	360	- - -	500
Guns and Pistols -	300	400	- - -	84	2,510	300	- - -	450	600	490
Gunpowder - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	200	- - -	- - -	- - -	114
Glass-ware - - -	2,383	2,699	480	1,500	4,580	3,716	3,320	6,047	4,420	9,158
Gun - - -	- - -	40	100	- - -	100	- - -	100	- - -	- - -	- - -
Ginger - - -	14,127	20,620	17,142	24,263	3,541	2,830	19,087	13,020	22,860	14,255
Gold Bala - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	190
Gurmall - - -	- - -	- - -	95	32	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Gums - - -	250	460	- - -	- - -	- - -	116	1,685	200	750	225
Horns and Hornware -	3,439	1,162	1,200	1,464	1,004	115	1,522	170	136	129
Hoops, Snakes, and Bedree - - - }	- - -	15	20	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	405
Hemp Rope and Hemp	3,146	- - -	- - -	805	653	1,575	2,260	3,326	1,480	1,900
Hing - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	260	- - -
Indigo - - -	2,523	5,445	68,588	15,475	59,617	58,519	77,310	23,817	4,221	79,656
Iron - - -	48,734	1,05,414	93,704	91,114	20,917	29,710	39,341	88,243	1,04,140	58,000
Ironmongery, Hoops, and Rivetts - - - }	1,113	19	146	2,000	21,900	1,357	3,442	2,277	441	644
Jagaree (Molasses) -	215	27	28	772	2,968	300	- - -	586	8,085	5,404
Japanned Ware - - -	400	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Jewelry (Country) - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	300	- - -
Ivory Work and Ware	636	467	349	893	1,165	- - -	152	425	- - -	574
Kismisses - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	230
Liquorice (Jethee Mudle) - - - }	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	325	- - -	340	- - -	190
Lamits - - -	- - -	675	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	411	- - -	- - -	- - -
Lead - - -	15,152	15,568	75,420	30,498	47,531	17,905	22,275	25,525	36,228	56,163
Leather - - -	500	- - -	- - -	352	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	253	1,048
Long Ells - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	16,800	8,085	800	2,250	425	- - -
Lack - - -	853	1,372	7,613	6,402	29,995	44,950	19,551	8,878	2,610	1,424
Long Pepper - - -	- - -	- - -	16	- - -	675	- - -	- - -	550	1,600	250
Looking glasses - - -	322	2,367	430	360	- - -	67	30	227	- - -	111
- D ^o - Country - - -	- - -	- - -	710	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Mathematical and other Instruments }	- - -	4,500	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	300	- - -	- - -	120
Manary - - -	1,875	910	2,025	400	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Merobalms (Hurlakey or Hurdeh) - - - }	33	6	- - -	43	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	175	- - -

Appendix (H)—Return of Exports, &c.—continued

BOMBAY—continued

EXPORTS

SPECIES of MERCHANDISE.	1802/3	1803/4	1804/5	1805/6	1807/8 *	1813/14	1814/15	1815/16	1816/17	1817/18
	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees
Mice - - -	1,400	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	227	125	- - -	10,000	2,357
Mograal - - -	- - -	- - -	110	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Manjeet (Madder) - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	955
Medicines - - -	50	350	150	- - -	660	1,594	1,599	3,295	2,757	2,754
Mammeran root - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	670	- - -	510	2,450
Mudasing - - -	- - -	- - -	20	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Musk - - -	23,115	6,475	48,450	9,740	12,620	48,447	7,805	22,030	29,650	36,554
Mats - - -	155	60	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Nutmegs - - -	7,245	- - -	3,259	8,224	9,434	2,676	3,421	170	- - -	6,008
D ^o - - false - - -	- - -	- - -	107	265	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Nails, Iron - - -	431	185	180	555	- - -	489	938	1,440	1,020	3,132
Nails, Copper - - -	30	- - -	110	- - -	135	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Now Sagur, Salt (Sal- amoniac - - - }	4,090	3,430	760	7,071	13,121	22,740	20,756	5,281	5,165	6,892
Nankeens - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	900	6,469	3,815	26,855	64,359
Nux Vomica (Cutchoora) - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	100	- - -	- - -	- - -
Needles - - -	50	- - -	- - -	- - -	120	- - -	- - -	- - -	200	- - -
Nuckla (a species of small tortoise-shell }	50	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Olibanum - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,400	- - -
Opium - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	19	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	800	1,813
Otto of Roses - - -	- - -	112	451	- - -	- - -	104	- - -	- - -	260	- - -
Oils of sorts - - -	1,109	9,068	13,780	11,606	2,737	47,529	8,205	9,973	11,739	8,310
Piece Goods - - -	23,24,459	15,58,561	19,56,693	19,57,066	13,80,058	13,24,122	15,11,368	18,88,954	21,75,788	21,51,851
Pepper - - -	70,036	1,35,889	1,17,613	36,471	31,266	25,528	39,238	1,52,153	3,72,948	1,50,676
Petchuck - - -	- - -	- - -	555	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Paint and Paint Brushes	54	- - -	100	- - -	200	612	225	100	109	750
Papers - - -	707	833	671	2,982	51	238	170	712	1,260	1,538
Perfumery - - -	- - -	100	400	- - -	- - -	1,945	262	1,569	1,360	895
Plate and Plated Ware	1,500	600	- - -	- - -	191	992	- - -	- - -	- - -	750
Pearls - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,200
Printed Cottons and Calicoes - - - }	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	8,064	5,409	11,700	4,500	40,202
Preserves - - -	- - -	99	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	975	- - -	- - -
Pictures of various sorts	- - -	240	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	150
Pudwas - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	692	1,495	8,572	1,565	1,075
Pimplemote - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	16	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Purpels - - -	- - -	- - -	1,200	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Pitch and Tar - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	300	- - -	260	- - -	100	100	700
Patch leaves (Lavendar Flowers) - - - }	35	- - -	95	370	6,186	1,305	270	840	1,113	835
Quicksilver - - -	200	300	15	5,751	- - -	- - -	775	610	- - -	150

Appendix (H)—Return of Exports, &c.—continued.

BOMBAY—continued

EXPORTS

SPECIES of MERCHANDISE.	1802/3	1803/4	1804/5	1805/6	1807/8.*	1813/14	1814/15	1815/16	1816/17	1817/18
	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees.	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.
Red and White Lead -	240	56	- - -	250	404	1,242	2,898	2,209	2,490	658
Rosewater - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	487	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	230
Rum + - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	220	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Rafters and Bamboos -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	152	1,113	290	- - -	100
Raw Silk + - - -	476	- - -	2,340	8,038	2,550	5,454	4,723	12,135	53,818	98,318
Red Earth - - -	65	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Rasventy + - - -	- - -	39	181	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Rampaty Leaf (False Mace) - - - - }	50	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	100	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Rhubarb + - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	150	168
Rose Malloes + - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	118
Sugar and Sugar Candy	3,08,877	2,50,720	2,68,328	4,10,852	2,82,527	3,38,381	3,89,706	2,10,685	2,05,602	5,00,248
Sandalwood - - -	2,689	901	400	2,324	5,350	9,870	11,285	5,407	8,513	11,834
Sappan and Brazil Wood	5,551	25,774	17,943	24,819	10,715	8,106	22,026	20,532	7,023	10,448
Silk and Silk Work -	18,388	8,897	43,719	45,565	23,314	16,209	20,063	33,860	29,813	18,212
Salt - - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	185
Salt Rock (Scindry Nu- muck Persia, &c) }	117	- - -	251	- - -	114	58	225	440	150	905
Saltpetre + - - -	847	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	226	- - -	300	- - -
Silver Leaves - - -	- - -	- - -	142	15	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Staves of sorts, Spars, Masts, and Oars }	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	160	- - -	1,720
Steel + - - - -	12,569	12,549	27,953	9,872	9,969	16,143	19,753	17,704	8,034	11,987
Sellam (Salep) - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	200	- - -	- - -	- - -
Soap and Soap Nuts (Arretta) - - - }	- - -	28	796	321	629	125	- - -	765	290	1,479
Seeds + - - - -	1,163	698	1,603	6,074	6,842	4,922	7,520	9,058	9,577	8,401
Summerheads, Paper, and Silk - - - }	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	235	- - -	- - -	- - -	125
Surma + + - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	750	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Saffron + - - - -	2,332	351	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	175
Spikenard (Jutta Massee)	- - -	689	176	168	125	446	649	738	360	1,529
Skins and Hides (Unt- corn and others) }	- - -	- - -	25	90	259	- - -	- - -	- - -	215	- - -
Shawls + - - - -	11,026	25,743	20,010	26,058	7,700	41,302	55,772	52,332	67,849	1,72,356
Tutenague - - - -	13,086	31,924	6,134	6,400	25,606	2,763	5,205	4,566	7,538	9,832
Tin + - - - - -	4,036	422	3,405	34,107	97,336	36,657	70,052	72,886	1,59,972	1,18,694
Tinplates, Tinware, and Tincal - - - - }	320	218	513	431	- - -	310	1,159	- - -	- - -	318
Twine + - - - -	- - -	290	1,380	1,600	4,853	2,290	1,805	663	1,865	290
Tea - + - - - -	110	608	1,495	1,190	2,705	1,093	1,355	725	24,400	16,575
Toys + - - - - -	2,705	2,458	1,353	2,291	198	555	30	753	830	213
Thread - - - - -	- - -	800	3,704	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Tobacco and Snuff -	- - -	1,173	6,379	19,704	9,508	26,133	33,420	25,771	50,385	15,191

Appendix (H)—Return of Exports, &c.—continued.

BOMBAY—continued

EXPORTS.

SPECIES of MERCHANDISE	1802/3	1803/4	1804/5	1805/6	1807/8 *	1813/14	1814/15	1815/16	1816/17	1817/18
	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees
Turmeric - - -	7,378	501	10,257	14,813	445	915	5,817	15,713	16,726	10,536
Timber and Plank - - -	2,077	3,139	- - -	1,365	5,997	280	4,590	5,100	3,189	4,820
Targets - - -	227	1,099	1,775	1,692	402	1,792	4,648	6,443	1,553	2,705
Tents - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	200	- - -	- - -	100
Tamarinds - - -	300	645	400	737	- - -	1,269	5,119	1,861	1,181	190
Tallow - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	60	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Varnish (Roghun) - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	250	- - -	- - -
Vermilion - - -	570	1,580	7,372	8,800	7,863	1,298	3,912	3,718	9,322	14,155
Verdigrease - - -	158	298	437	385	- - -	200	2,575	1,139	350	878
Vitriol (Moortook) - - -	150	405	1,717	1,024	- - -	409	- - -	1,594	235	905
Velvet - - -	1,200	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Wine - - -	1,520	5,503	6,580	1,370	4,674	4,462	4,423	- - -	2,070	2,635
Wooden Ware - - -	1,025	335	265	96	- - -	1,171	755	96	1,360	1,825
Wool - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	825	100	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Wax - - -	400	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	725	600	- - -	432
Sundries - - -	5,043	8,708	4,697	4,313	21,507	9,410	2,010	10,411	2,351	2,745
TOTAL Merchandize	34,21,879	24,95,612	32,89,087	36,58,681	27,45,334	31,42,989	35,64,331	36,20,104	43,89,832	44,46,523
Treasure - - -	- - -	2,000	4,500	- - -	30,583	11,563	13,780	10,800	3,960	74,200
TOTAL	34,21,879	24,97,612	32,93,587	36,58,681	27,75,917	31,54,554	35,78,111	36,30,904	43,93,792	45,20,723

IMPORTS

	1802/3	1803/4	1804/5	1805/6	1807/8 *	1813/14	1814/15	1815/16	1816/17	1817/18
	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees
Merchandize - - -	8,41,537	11,41,759	14,17,958	12,74,473	11,33,597	11,34,178	21,12,198	16,68,936	16,45,787	16,48,902
Treasure - - -	31,53,144	28,94,193	47,96,723	42,32,852	24,42,507	16,89,025	26,16,031	45,29,815	48,27,328	63,08,226
TOTAL	42,94,681	40,35,952	62,14,681	55,07,325	35,75,904	28,23,203	47,28,229	61,98,751	64,74,115	79,57,128

* Note.—The Exports and Imports of the year 1807/8 are here substituted for those of 1806/7, in consequence of the Report of the External Commerce of Bombay, in the latter year, having been lost with the ship by which it was sent to Europe, and no duplicate of it having been since received at the East India House

ABSTRACT.

EXPORTS

	BENGAL			FORT ST. GEORGE.			BOMBAY			TOTAL		
	Merchandize	Treasure.	Total	Merchandize	Treasure	Total	Merchandize	Treasure	Total	Merchandize	Treasure	Total
	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>
1802/3 - -	12,13,304	- - -	12,13,304	8,97,791	- - -	8,97,791	34,21,879	- - -	34,21,879	55,32,974	- - -	55,32,974
1803/4 - -	10,68,634	- - -	10,68,634	6,32,278	- - -	6,32,278	24,95,612	2,000	24,97,612	41,96,524	2,000	41,98,524
1804/5 - -	13,94,275	- - -	13,94,275	6,78,510	29,575	7,08,085	32,89,087	4,500	32,93,587	53,61,872	34,075	53,95,947
1805/6 - -	21,85,287	- - -	21,85,287	3,00,010	334	3,00,344	36,58,681	- - -	36,58,681	61,43,978	334	61,44,312
1806/7 - -	34,38,320	- - -	34,38,320	8,16,264	1,215	8,17,479	27,45,334	30,583	27,75,917	69,99,918	31,798	70,31,716
1813/14 - -	28,07,953	- - -	28,07,953	7,43,714	1,200	7,44,914	31,42,989	11,565	31,54,554	66,94,656	12,765	67,07,421
1814/15 - -	24,04,422	- - -	24,04,422	19,41,801	600	19,42,401	35,64,331	13,780	35,78,111	79,10,554	14,380	79,24,934
1815/16 - -	36,06,021	- - -	36,06,021	9,18,538	- - -	9,18,538	36,20,104	10,800	36,30,904	81,44,663	10,800	81,55,463
1816/17 - -	44,32,777	- - -	44,32,777	15,25,143	- - -	15,25,143	43,89,832	3,960	43,93,792	1,03,47,752	3,960	1,03,51,712
1817/18 - -	47,92,689	- - -	47,92,689	14,56,629	2,208	14,58,837	44,46,523	74,200	45,20,723	1,06,95,841	76,408	1,07,72,249

IMPORTS

	BENGAL			FORT ST GEORGE.			BOMBAY			TOTAL		
	Merchandize	Treasure	Total	Merchandize	Treasure	Total	Merchandize	Treasure.	Total	Merchandize	Treasure	Total
	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>	<i>Rupees</i>
1802/3 - -	5,21,841	7,38,499	12,60,390	1,66,302	25,350	1,91,652	8,41,537	34,53,144	42,94,681	15,29,730	42,16,993	57,46,723
1803/4 - -	3,61,233	4,27,101	7,88,334	41,007	2,59,741	3,00,748	11,41,759	28,94,193	40,35,952	15,43,999	35,81,035	51,25,034
1804/5 - -	5,04,079	4,32,352	9,36,431	93,235	73,743	1,66,978	14,17,958	47,96,723	62,14,681	20,15,272	53,02,818	73,18,090
1805/6 - -	3,70,500	7,98,412	11,68,912	57,384	53,008	1,10,392	12,74,473	42,32,852	55,07,325	17,02,357	50,84,272	67,86,629
1806/7 - -	4,41,068	13,55,981	17,97,049	61,823	1,90,819	2,52,642	11,33,597	24,42,307	35,75,904	16,36,488	39,89,107	56,25,595
1813/14 - -	6,06,241	5,56,248	11,62,489	85,687	2,31,386	3,17,073	11,34,178	16,89,025	28,23,203	18,26,106	24,76,659	43,02,765
1814/15 - -	5,75,457	9,65,375	15,40,832	1,05,877	4,16,244	5,22,121	21,12,198	26,16,034	47,28,232	27,93,532	39,97,653	67,91,185
1815/16 - -	3,38,696	15,67,151	19,05,847	1,33,084	2,68,366	4,01,450	16,68,936	45,29,815	61,98,751	21,40,716	63,65,332	85,06,048
1816/17 - -	9,10,792	43,19,838	52,30,630	52,295	1,97,595	2,49,890	16,46,787	48,27,328	64,74,115	26,09,874	93,44,761	1,19,54,635
1817/18 - -	16,12,908	25,37,139	41,50,047	60,479	2,86,027	3,46,506	16,48,902	63,08,226	79,57,128	33,22,289	91,31,392	1,24,53,681

Appendix (I 1.)

CALCUTTA CUSTOM HOUSE REGULATIONS

Territorial Department, the 26th September 1817 :—NOTIFICATION

THE existing provisions of the regulations relative to the renewal of Rowannahs, having been found, in their application to the trade in shawls and shawl goods, insufficient to answer in all instances, the object of their enactment, the Honourable the Vice-President in Council, with a view to afford every just and reasonable accommodation to the mercantile community, has been pleased, with reference to the rules prescribed in Section 26, Regulation 9, 1810, to authorize the collectors of customs to grant to the dealers in shawls and goods, an indefinite renewal of the original Rowannah, provided the conditions specified in the above mentioned Section shall be strictly fulfilled.

Published by order of the Honourable the Vice President in Council,
Holt Mackenzie, Sec to Gov

A. D 1817 REGULATION XV

A REGULATION for imposing a duty on foreign Salt imported by sea into any port or place within the limits of the territories immediately dependent on the Presidency of Fort William —Passed by the Vice-President in Council on the 9th September 1817

[This Regulation will be found among those ordered, by the House, to be printed on 13 July 1819, p 22]

A. D. 1817. REGULATION XVI.

A REGULATION for imposing a duty on foreign Opium imported by sea into any port or place within the limits of the territories immediately dependent on the Presidency of Fort William —Passed by the Vice-President in Council on the 9th September 1817.

[Ibid, p. 23]

A REGULATION for imposing a duty on Opium not being the produce or manufacture of the Territories immediately dependent on the Presidency of Fort William, imported into any port or place dependent on the factory at Bencoolen — Passed by the Vice President in Council on the 9th September, 1817

WHEREAS it has been deemed expedient, with a view to the improvement and security of the public revenue, to impose a duty on opium, not being the produce or manufacture of the territories immediately dependent on the Presidency of Fort William, imported by sea into any port or place dependent on the factory at Bencoolen, the Vice-President in Council in Bengal, with the sanction of the Court of Directors of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies, and with the approbation of the Board of Commissioners for the affairs of India, has enacted the following rules, to be in force throughout the aforesaid factory and its dependencies, from the period of their promulgation within the said places.

II. All opium, excepting opium made within the limits of the territories immediately dependent on the Presidency of Fort William, shall, on importation by sea into any port or place dependent on the factory at Bencoolen, be subject to a duty at the rate of Spanish dollars 6 per lb.

III. The aforesaid duty shall be paid and levied under the same rules and provisions as are applicable generally to the payment and collection of the duties of customs on goods or merchandize imported by sea, subject however to the provision contained in the following Section, and any opium imported or landed in breach of the said rules and provision, shall be forfeited two-third parts to the said United Company, and one-third part to the person or persons who shall seize, inform or sue for the same, and shall and may be seized as forfeited by the collector or any of the officers of the custom-house or customs, to be by them conveyed and deposited in one of the said United Company's warehouses or other secure place.

IV. The proprietor or proprietors of opium imported as aforesaid, may, if he or they be so disposed, instead of paying the duty, due and payable thereon, in the manner prescribed generally for the payment of the duties of customs on goods or merchandize imported by sea, deliver it on shore at the said United Company's warehouses, or such other warehouse as shall be approved by the chief officer of the said United Company resident at the said factory at Bencoolen, and secure and lodge it therein without payment of duty in the first instance, provided however, that opium so warehoused shall not be removed until the duty imposed by this regulation shall be duly paid.

V. The importers, proprietors or consignees of opium, which shall have been lodged or secured as aforesaid, shall within twelve calendar months, to be computed from the date of the production of the manifest at the custom-house, clear and take from and out of such warehouse, or places, all such opium, and shall pay the full duty imposed by this regulation, and in case any such importers, proprietors or consignees, shall fail or neglect so to do, it shall be lawful for the chief officer of the said United Company resident at the said factory at Bencoolen, or such officer as may be duly empowered by him on his behalf, to

cause all such opium to be publicly sold or exposed to sale, and after such sale, the produce thereof shall first be applied to the payment of the duty imposed by this regulation, and the overplus, if any, shall be paid to the proprietor or other persons authorized to receive the same, provided that no such opium shall be sold unless a price can be obtained for the same, equal at least to the full amount of the duty aforesaid, but if such price cannot be obtained, then all such opium shall be effectually destroyed, by and in the presence of such person as the chief officer of the said United Company resident at the said factory at Bencoolen shall appoint

Published by order of the Vice-President in Council,
 Fort William, } *W. B Bayley,*
 23d September, 1817 } Sec. to Gov^t Jud^t Dep^t.

NOTIFICATION —Fort William, the 5th December 1817.

INCONVENIENCE being experienced from the want of some defined rules regarding the course to be followed by individuals, in making applications to government on matters connected with the customs, the Honourable the Vice-President in Council has been pleased to direct, that the following resolutions be published for general information.

All persons deeming themselves aggrieved by any order passed by the Board of Revenue, and who may be desirous of preferring an appeal against the decision of that authority, to government, shall, in the first instance, make their appeal to government through the channel of the board

If the Board of Revenue shall, under the discretion vested in them, refuse to forward to government, the application so submitted to them, it will of course be open to the party to address government directly, in the last resort

All applications regarding the import, export, or transmit of military stores, shall in future be made to the Secretary to Government in the Territorial Department, from whose office the orders of government will be issued directly to the Collector of Customs, and to the parties making the applications

The above rule, however, shall not be considered applicable to applications from the commanders or owners of vessels, to land guns belonging to them, as a temporary convenience, or for the reshipment of guns so landed All applications of that nature shall, as heretofore, be addressed to the Board of Revenue, who are authorized to comply with them, without reference to government

Published by order of the Honourable the Vice-President in Council.
Holt Mackenzie,
 Sec. to Gov^t Terr. Dep.

A. D 1817 REGULATION XXI.

A REGULATION for modifying and explaining certain parts of Regulation IV, 1815 —
 Passed by the Vice-President in Council on the 28th October 1817-

[*This Regulation will be found among those ordered, by the House, to be printed on
 13 July 1819, p. 85*]

[Government Gazette, May 28, 1818]

THE second and third paragraphs of an advertisement, published by the acting collector of government customs, by order of the Board of Revenue, under date the 22d of January 1818, as well as the annexed form of application for port clearance, having been productive of delay and inconvenience, and the necessity which gave rise to their introduction, no longer existing; the Honourable the Vice-President in council has been pleased to rescind them, and to direct the present modified advertisement to be published for general information

With a view to relieve the mercantile community of the port, from the delays which have hitherto occurred in discharging drawback claims, and of contracting the time of payment within the narrowest possible compass, as well as to fix it to a certain period, the Honourable the Vice-President in council has been pleased to direct, that the following forms be hereafter observed

1st All claims for drawback will as usual, be made in the export application, accompanied by rowannahs, if for goods, the produce or manufacture of India, or by the specification of the import, date and number, if for goods imported by sea The necessary examination of the claims will be made previous to the shipment of the goods, and if found correct, a certificate will be given to the exporter, on the presentation of which after the prescribed period, with receipts in duplicate for the amount, the certificate will be discharged by a draft on the sub-treasurer, signed by the collector of government customs.

2d. If any ship, on the cargo of which a certificate has been granted, or the amount of drawback paid, shall return to port, without accomplishing her voyage, and the exporter be desirous of relanding the whole, or part of such goods, he will be permitted to do so after the examination and entry into a register, to be kept for that purpose, of the quantity relanded, on making a deposit in cash or government securities, for the amount of drawback which may have been paid, until such goods shall be re-shipped.

By order of the Board of Revenue,
 (Signed) *C. D'Oyly, C. G. C.*
 Government Custom House, Calcutta.

[Government Gazette, January 29, 1818.]

WITH a view to relieve the mercantile community of the port, from the delays which have hitherto occurred in discharging drawback claims, and of contracting the time of payment within the narrowest possible compass, as well as to fix it to a certain period, the Honourable the Vice-President in council has been pleased to direct, that the following forms be observed from the first day of February 1818

1 All claims for drawback will, as usual, be made in the export application, accompanied by rowannahs, if for goods the produce or manufacture of India, or by the specification of the import date and number, if for goods imported by sea. The necessary examination of the claims will be made previous to the shipment of the goods, and if found correct, a certificate will be given to the exporter, on the presentation of which, after the prescribed period, with receipts, in duplicate, for the amount, the certificate will be discharged by a draft, signed by the Collector of Customs, on the Sub-Treasurer

2 All applications for a port clearance, shall be made out according to the annexed form, showing in three columns, the whole of the ship's cargo

1st Articles on which duty has been paid

2dly Articles free of duty, not entitled to drawback.

3dly Articles free of duty, on which drawback has been claimed Every such application, previous to its being signed by the collector, shall be attested by the person in charge of the imports by sea, as well as the person in charge of the exports by sea, that all the duties have been collected or settled

3 No certificate will be considered entitled to payment, unless the goods, for which it has been granted, have been specified in the application for port clearance made by the captain of the ship, as having claimed drawback, as this only will be considered a sufficient assurance from the commander, that such goods have been actually received on board the ship

4 If any ship, on the cargo on which a certificate has been granted, or the amount of drawback paid, shall return to port without accomplishing her voyage, and the exporter be desirous of relanding the whole or part of such goods, he will be permitted to do so, after the examination and entry into a register, to be kept for that purpose, of the quantity relanded, on making a deposit in cash or government securities for the amount of drawback which may have been paid, until such goods shall be reshipped

By order of the Board of Revenue.

C D'Oyly, Act Col G. C.

FORM of application for Port clearance,

To A B Collector of Government Customs

Sir, Please to grant a Port Clearance for the Ship C——, Captain D——, under E—— Colours, bound to F——, with the undermentioned cargo,

LIST OF EXPORT CARGO

DUTY	FREE.	
	Not entitled to Drawback	Entitled to Drawback

Calcutta, the of 1818

I am, Sir, &c

(Signed)

E. F. Commander

[Government Gazette, February 12, 1818 —NOTIFICATION]

WITH a view to the accommodation of the commercial community, during the present confined state of the wharf at the Custom House, the Honourable the Vice President in Council has been pleased to authorize the acting Collector of government customs, to adopt the following arrangements in regard to passing certain imports and exports through other ghauts than the established Custom House ghaut

The articles hereafter specified, shall, on regular application from the merchants, be allowed to be landed at the ghauts enumerated below

Applications for landing such of the enumerated articles as are subject to duty, at any of the specified ghauts, if the amount of duties has not been deposited in cash or government securities, must be accompanied by an invoice, or statement of the value, sworn to by the importer or captain of the ship, if imported by sea, and the duties paid before permission is granted to land them at the ghauts. Applications for indigo, must be accompanied by rowannahs and invoices.

Any goods attempted to be landed at those ghauts, not being goods enumerated in the annexed list, shall be liable to detention, and to the same penalties as at present exist

Articles of a bulky nature, as per annexed schedule, under shipment to the United Kingdom, may on application as above, be exported from the ghauts, on the production, with the application, of the rowannahs or statement (if imported by sea,) of the import date

date and number, and (if necessary) a certificate of their identity from the original importer, or if repeatedly sold, countersigned by the immediate owners. But no article subject to drawback on foreign bottoms, or on British bottoms, bound to any port but to the ports of the United Kingdom, shall be allowed to be exported without being brought to the wharf, and a due examination regularly made of the weight, quality, import, date and number of original import, if by sea, and correctness of rowannah, if from the interior of the country.

It is to be clearly understood by the public, that this modification of the existing regulations is to be considered only as an indulgent relaxation of the strict letter of the law, and liable to be revoked without any formal legislative enactment, if it should be found productive of abuse, or circumstances should hereafter occur, to render its continuance unnecessary.

LIST OF GHATS.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Colvin's, or Cutchagoody Ghaut | 4 Baretto's Ghaut. |
| 2 Coila Ghaut | 5. Bebee Ross's Ghaut. |
| 3 Old Fort Ghaut. | |

Enumeration of articles, duty free, which may be landed at and passed from the above Ghats.

Marine stores, the produce or manufacture of the United Kingdom.					
Metals unwrought	-	-	ditto	-	- ditto.
Woollens	-	-	ditto	-	- ditto.

Enumeration of articles imported by sea, which though subject to duty, may be landed at and passed from the above Ghats.

Marine stores,	Rattans,
Timbers and spars,	Cocoa nuts,
Red wood,	Cowries,
Coir and Coir cordage,	Swedish iron and steel,
Sea coal,	Betel nuts,
Chalk,	Empty bottles.
Buckum or Sappan wood,	

Enumeration of articles, which may be exported from the above Ghats, to the United Kingdom.

Indigo,	Wines and liquors,
Saltpetre,	Benjamin,
Sugar,	Gum copal,
Dry ginger,	Safflower,
Raw silk,	Raw hides and leather,
Pepper,	Munjet,
Red wood and other woods,	Lac.
Borax and tincal,	

By order of the Board of Revenue,
Calcutta, 7th Feb. 1818.

C. D'Oyly,
Act^s Collector G. C.

[Government Gazette, Aug 13, 1818]

Fort William, the 31st July 1818 — TERRITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the several collectors of government customs have been authorized and directed, to grant free rowannahs for indigo proceeding from the interior of the country to Calcutta, on receiving from the parties bonds for the amount of transit duty payable on the said article, with the security of some responsible person, executed according to the form annexed to this notification, and subject to the several conditions hereafter specified.

The rowannahs above described shall be granted, either by the collector of government customs at Calcutta, or at the Custom House, from within the range of which the indigo may be dispatched.

In the event of a dispatch of indigo, for which a bond rowannah may have been obtained, falling short of the quantity therein specified, the collector whose Custom House the indigo may first pass, will, on application being made by the party, note on the face of the rowannah the real quantity dispatched, and the party shall be held bound only for a proportionate share of the duty specified in his bond, the rowannah being good only for the quantity noted as aforesaid.

In like manner when a portion of the indigo covered by a rowannah shall be exported, the collector of government customs at Calcutta, shall note on the rowannah the quantity so exported, specifying the vessel on which the article may be exported, and the place to which it may be consigned; and in the event of the indigo being exported otherwise than on a British bottom to the United Kingdom, Gibraltar, or Malta, the collector before permitting the export of the article, shall require payment of a proportionate share of the amount of the bond, with such further export duty as may be prescribed.

Bonds granted under the terms of this notification, shall bear interest at the rate of 12 per cent, but no demand for the interest due on the bond shall be made in any case in which the indigo, therein specified, shall be exported by sea, whether on a British or foreign bottom.

If any indigo specified in a rowannah, granted as above, shall not be exported within the period of one year from the date of its being granted, the parties shall be allowed to renew their bond for a further period of one year, on satisfying the collector of government customs at Calcutta, that the said indigo is still forthcoming, but if any indigo, specified in a bond granted under the terms of this notification, shall remain not exported at the expiration of the second year, the amount of duty payable on such indigo shall be paid, with interest at the rate of 12 per cent, excepting always cases of unavoidable loss and accident as provided for in the bond.

Bonds shall not be received for any sum less than 500 rupees. All dispatches therefore of indigo, which may be less than 100 maunds, shall be subject to duty as heretofore.

Persons receiving bond rowannahs, shall pay a fee of 2½ per cent, on the amount of their bond.

All persons who may prefer taking out rowannahs as heretofore, are of course at liberty to do so, and in like manner persons who may not be able to find a responsible surety to join them in a bond for the prescribed duty, must take out rowannahs for their indigo, under the rules contained in the existing regulations.

FORM OF BOND.

KNOW all men by these presents, that we are jointly and severally held and firmly bound to the United Company of merchants of England trading to the East Indies, in the sum of Sicca rupees to be paid to the said United Company, or their certain attorney, agents, successors, or assigns, for which payment to be well and truly made, together with interest, at and after the rate of 12 per cent per annum, we jointly and severally bind ourselves and each of us, and our respective heirs, executors, and administrators, by these presents. Sealed with our respective seals, dated the day of in the 58th year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third, and in the year of Christ

Whereas the above bounden is (or are) justly and truly indebted to the said United Company of merchants of England trading to the East Indies, in the sum of Sicca rupees being the amount of duty payable to the said United Company, at the rate of per on maunds of indigo, in lieu of prompt payment, whereof the above written obligation has been accepted by the said United Company. And whereas the duty upon indigo is allowed to be drawn back upon exportation to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, or to Malta or Gibraltar, on British ships duly navigated, but a duty is payable upon the exportation thereof to any other place whatever

Now the condition of this obligation is such, that if the above bounden his or their heirs, executors or administrators, shall within one year from the day of export or cause to be exported, the above mentioned quantity of indigo to any part of the said United Kingdom, or to Gibraltar or Malta (unless prevented by unavoidable loss or accident), the proof whereof shall be upon the said and of which exportation due proof shall be given by the said to the satisfaction of the collector of government customs at Calcutta or if the said shall within the period of one year, export or cause to be exported to any other place whatever, the said quantity of indigo, (unless prevented by unavoidable loss and accident as aforesaid), the proof whereof shall be upon the said and shall pay to the said United Company the full duty payable thereupon, without interest, and make due proof of such last mentioned exportation, and payment, to the satisfaction of the collector of government customs at Calcutta, then this obligation to be void, otherwise to remain in full force.

Published by order of His Excellency the most Noble the Governor General in Council
Holt Mackenzie,
 Sec to Gov^t Terr^t Dep^t.

[Government Gazette, October 1, 1818]

FORT WILLIAM, September 25, 1818.

THE following extract of a general letter, received from the Honourable the Court of Directors, under date the 6th September 1813, and revised table of rates to be charged to private merchants, for the management of such Indian merchandize as may be lodged in the Company's warehouses in England, under the Act of the 53d Geo 3, cap. 155, as established by the Honourable the Court of Directors, are re-published for general information.

7 " You will cause advertisements to be issued in the most public and general manner, notifying that the Company will continue to receive into their warehouses in London, any goods and merchandizes whatever, the property of individuals, and to defray all the expenses of housing, landing, and managing the same, and also of selling the goods at the Company's sales, if the parties choose that mode of disposing of them, for which the Company are to be remunerated by a graduated per-centage, agreeably to a table of rates which shall be sent out by the regular ships of the season, varying according to the value and bulk of the goods."

SCHEDULE OF RATES to be charged by the East India Company, for the Management of Goods imported by Private Merchants.

For Warehouse Rent per week, payable upon such parcel of a ship's cargo from the day on which the first parcel of goods by that ship shall be delivered into the Company's warehouses.

N B.—On goods sold at the Company's sales, the importer is to pay the weekly rent until the prompt day,* from which day the buyer is to pay it.

For Wharfage, landing, cartage, housing, cooping, taring, mending Packages, if broken by ordinary ships, breakage, enlarging Indigo or other chests, when necessary, weighing, showing to the Buyers, printing Catalogues, selling at the sale at the East-India House, or showing and attendance, in case the Importer shall sell the goods by private sale, and delivering, calculated on the sale value of goods sold at the Company's sales, and on the estimate value of goods sold by private bargain,—viz

	RATES per Cent.		Rent per Week	
	£.	s	s	D
ALOES - - - - -	4	-	- 2	per chest.
Asmatto - - - - -	2	10	- 1	d°
Anniseed - - - - -	4	-	- 1 ½	d°
Arrack and other spirits - - - - -	2	-	1 -	{ per butt. per pipe per cask
Arrow Root - - - - -	4	-	- 2	per chest.
Arsenic, hartall and orpiment - - - - -	4	-	- 1	d°
Assafœtida - - - - -	3	-	- 1 ½	d°
Bark - - - - -	4	-	- 1	d°
Bees' wax - - - - -	3	-	- 1 ½	d°
Benjamin - - - - -	2	10	- 1	d°
Borax - - - - -	2	-	- 2	d°
Calicoes, printed or dyed, (<i>vide</i> prohibited Piece Goods)	-	-	-	-
Calicoes, white - - - - -	2	-	- 2	per bale.
Cambogium - - - - -	2	-	- 1 ½	per chest.
Camphire - - - - -	2	-	- 1 ½	d°
Canes and sticks - - - - -	3	-	- 3	per 1000.
Cardemons - - - - -	2	-	- 1 ½	per chest
Cassia buds - - - - -	2	10	- 1	d°
Cassia ligna - - - - -	2	10	- 1	d°
Castor beans - - - - -	4	-	- ½	per bag.
Castor oil - - - - -	2	10	- 1	per chest.
Cayenne pepper - - - - -	4	-	- ½	per bag
Chillies - - - - -	4	-	- ½	d°
China root - - - - -	4	-	- ½	d°
Chinese manufactures, viz china-ware, coque de perle, fans, ink, mats, lacquered ware, mother o'pearl ware, paper, soy, &c. - - - - -	2	-	- 1	per lot.
Cinnabar - - - - -	2	-	- 1	per chest.
Cinnamon - - - - -	1	-	- 1 ½	per bale
Cloves - - - - -	1	-	- 1 ½	per chest.
Cochineal - - - - -	2	-	- 1 ½	d°

* That is the day (fixed at the time of sale) upon which the buyer engages to pay in full for the goods brought by him. In case the Goods brought pass the Sales, the whole of the Warehouse Rent, until the period of delivery, will of course remain a charge upon the Goods, and be paid by the Importer, or the person to whom he may transfer his property in the Goods.

Schedule of Rates—*continued*

	RATES per Cent		Rent per Week
	£	s	S. D
Coculus indicus	4	-	- $\frac{1}{2}$ per bag.
Coffee	2	-	- 2 per bale - 1 per large bag - $\frac{1}{2}$ per small bag of about 112 lbs.
Columbo root	4	-	- 2 per chest
Coral beads	1	-	- 1 per lot
Cornelian, agate, and Arangoe stones, beads, and manu- factures of ditto	2	-	- 1 d°
Cotton thread or yarn	1	-	- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per bale.
Cotton wool, Bengal, Madras and Surat	1	10	- 1 d°
Cotton wool, Bourbon	1	-	- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per bale.
Cowries	4	-	- $\frac{1}{2}$ per chest.
Cubebs	3	-	- $\frac{1}{2}$ d°
Dragon's blood	3	-	- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per chest.
Elephants teeth and Sea Horse teeth	2	-	- 1 per cwt.
Frankincense	3	-	- 1 per chest
Galanga root	4	-	- $\frac{1}{2}$ per bag
Galbanum	4	-	- 2 per chest.
Galls	3	-	- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d°
Ginger	4	-	- $\frac{1}{2}$ per bag.
Gum ammoniac	2	10	- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per chest.
Gum annimi	2	10	- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d°
Gum Arabic	2	10	- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d°
Gum copal	2	10	- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d°
Gum kino	2	10	- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d°
Gum mastic	2	10	- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d°
Gum olibanum	2	10	- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d°
Gum senega	2	10	- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d°
Gum tragacanth	2	10	- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d°
Hartall (<i>vide</i> Arsenic)	-	-	-
Hemp and Sunn	2	-	- 1 per bale
Hides	4	-	- 3 per 100.
Horns	4	-	- 1 d°
Indigo	2	-	- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per chest.
Kelp, barilla, or alkali	7	-	- $\frac{1}{2}$ per cwt.
Lack lake	2	-	- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per chest.
Long pepper	4	-	- $\frac{1}{2}$ per bag
Mace	1	-	- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per chest.
Mother o' pearl shells	4	-	- $\frac{1}{2}$ per cwt.
Munjeet	4	-	- $\frac{1}{2}$ per bag.
Musk	2	-	- 1 per chest
Muslins, printed or dyed (<i>vide</i> prohibited Piece Goods)	-	-	-
Muslins, white	1	10	- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per bale.
Myrabolans	4	-	- $\frac{1}{2}$ per bag.
Myrrh	3	-	- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per chest
Nankeen cloth	2	-	- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per bale or chest
Nutmegs	1	-	- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per chest.
Nux vomica	4	-	- $\frac{1}{2}$ per bag.

Schedule of Rates—continued

	RATES per Cent.		Rent per Week.	
	£.	s	s	D
Oils, chemical - - - - -	2	-	-	$\frac{1}{2}$ per bottle.
Opium - - - - -	2	4	-	1 per chest.
Orpiment (<i>vide</i> Arsenic) - - - - -	-	-	-	-
Pepper, black - - - - -	2	-	-	1 per bag of 36lb.
Pepper, white - - - - -	2	-	-	$2\frac{1}{2}$ d° 24lb.
Prohibited Piece Goods - - - - -	1	10	-	$1\frac{1}{2}$ per bale.
Puree - - - - -	2	-	-	1 per chest.
Rattans - - - - -	4	-	-	3 per 1000.
Rhubarb - - - - -	2	-	-	1 per chest.
Rice - - - - -	2	-	-	$\frac{1}{2}$ per bag
Safflower - - - - -	3	-	-	$\frac{1}{2}$ per bale
Sago - - - - -	4	-	-	$\frac{1}{2}$ per bag
Sal ammoniac - - - - -	4	-	-	2 per chest.
Saltpetre - - - - -	1	-	-	8 per ton.
Sea Horse teeth (<i>vide</i> Elephants teeth)	-	-	-	-
Sealing wax - - - - -	4	-	-	2 per chest.
Seed lark - - - - -	4	-	-	2 d°
Sezna - - - - -	4	-	-	1 per bale
Shellack - - - - -	4	-	-	2 per chest.
Silk, viz. (Raw Silk of Bengal or China)	1	-	-	$1\frac{1}{2}$ per bale or chest
Silk, viz. Wrought Silks (prohibited Piece Goods)	-	-	-	-
Skins - - - - -	4	-	-	1 per 100.
Spirits (<i>vide</i> Arrack) - - - - -	-	-	-	-
Sticklark - - - - -	4	4	-	$\frac{1}{2}$ per bag
Sugar, Bengal, Bourbon, or Java - - - - -	2	-	-	$\frac{1}{2}$ per bag $1\frac{1}{2}$ per basket or chest.
Sugar candy - - - - -	2	-	-	1 per chest.
Talc or ubruck - - - - -	4	-	-	1 per box.
Tamarinds - - - - -	4	-	-	2 per chest.
Terra Japonica - - - - -	4	-	-	2 d°
Tin - - - - -	1	10	-	$\frac{1}{2}$ per chest
Tortoiseshell - - - - -	2	-	-	1 d°
Turmerick - - - - -	4	-	-	$\frac{1}{2}$ per bag.
Tutenague - - - - -	2	-	-	$\frac{1}{2}$ per cwt.
Wood for dyeing and all other wood - - - - -	3	-	-	3 per ton
Wool, of sheep or goats - - - - -	3	-	-	1 per bale

Articles not enumerated, will be charged according to their Value and Bulk.

These rates are calculated on the usual packages in which goods have hitherto been imported; proportionable rates will be charged for any other kinds of packages.

All packages weighing more than three hundred weight and a half gross, will be liable to double warehouse rent

If goods require to be garbled, or to have new packages, a reasonable price will be charged for the same.

A charge of one quarter per cent on the gross value of all goods whether sold at the sale, or delivered by valuation, will be charged to the proprietors in addition to the above per-centages respectively, and the hitherto customary fees of one half per cent, paid in the accountant's office, and ten shillings and sixpence per mile paid in the treasury office, are for the future not to be paid to, or received by the clerks in either of those offices

The usual petty fee of lot or loading money, will be paid to the warehouse keepers, by the parties who may take the goods away.

By order of the Board of Trade
R. C. Plowden, Secretary.

NOTIFICATION.

HIS Excellency the most noble the Governor General in Council having deemed it right to relieve the merchants from the payment of town duty on goods brought into Calcutta, for exportation by sea, whether to the United Kingdom of Great Britain, or elsewhere, has directed the following rules to be observed from this date —

1. Upon any dispatch of such goods, being imported by way of the river Hooghly, the boat or boats on which the same shall be laden, shall, on their arrival at Bolookhal to the north, or Muggah Thannah to the south, bring to, until the proprietor shall have made application at the custom house, for permission to pass the goods free of town duty. Such application shall be accompanied by the rowannah covering the goods, and shall specify the quantity, quality, and value of the article as entered in the rowannah. The collector shall then grant a pass, under which the goods shall be conducted in charge of a peon, to the custom house wharf, to be weighed, provided, however, that no goods shall in any case be entitled to exemption from town duty, except under such pass, and that articles attempted to be landed at any other place than that indicated in the pass, or attempted to be landed any where, without such pass, shall still, as heretofore, be chargeable with the payment of the established town duty.

2. Should the goods be imported by the route of the Sunderbunds, the boat or boats on which they shall be laden, shall bring to at the custom house chokey at Gurraah Ghaut, and there await the receipt of the pass to be granted by the collector, under the above rule, which shall in all its provisions be held equally applicable to such case.

3. The points at which goods coming by land shall wait for the arrival of the said pass, are the first custom house chokeys at which they may arrive in their route to Calcutta, from whence they shall be conducted direct to the custom house, for the purpose of being weighed. It is, however, hereby declared, that, should any goods be brought within the boundary chokeys above described, without such pass from the collector, or be found within those limits at any time, previously to having been weighed at the custom house, otherwise than in their actual transit, under such pass to the custom house, they shall in all such instances be chargeable as heretofore with town duty.

4. If a merchant be desirous of storing goods, imported and actually weighed off at the custom house, under either of the three preceding rules, he shall be at liberty to do so, on entering into a bond, bearing interest at the rate of 12 per cent, for the discharge of the full amount of town duties due upon the goods, in case they shall not be exported by sea, within the period of one year from the date thereof. No bond shall be taken where the amount of duty on the goods shall be less than 100 rupees, nor shall it contain any restriction as to the place, to which the goods comprehended in it, shall be exported, but, in all other respects, it shall be similar in form and conditions to those which are executed by individuals on receiving indigo for exportation.

5. It shall be the duty of the collector to have the said bond cancelled on the exportation of the goods, or to realize the amount of the same, if not cancelled within the appointed time, provided, however, that it shall be competent to the owner of such goods, to transfer by sale, or otherwise, the whole or any portion of them, under the immunity derived from the said bond, so long as it may last, but the bond shall not be cancelled until the collector shall have satisfied himself, that the whole of the articles embraced in it, have been cleared out for exportation by sea, in default of which it shall take effect against the original executor, for so much of the goods as may remain uncleared,—any such transfer notwithstanding.

6. A fee of 2½ per cent, on the amount of the bond, shall be levied upon their execution, for the benefit of the collector, his deputies, and head assistant.

7. It shall be discretionary with the collector to refuse the above indulgence, in any case wherein he may have good reason for doubting the sufficiency or respectability of parties tendering the bond, and to require in cases where he may deem fit, a deposit of Company's paper, or the actual payment of the town duties, in the first instance: an appeal will, of course, lie to the board of customs, should any individual conceive himself aggrieved by the award of the collector in this respect.

HIS Excellency the most noble the Governor General in Council, having been pleased to adopt the above rules, solely from the consideration of the present confirmed state of the custom house wharf, it is of course to be understood, that they are to be in force only until the warehouses now constructing at the custom house are completed, when the provisions of clause 2d, section xxx, Regulation X. of 1810, will again be strictly adhered to.

By order of the Board of Customs, salt and opium,

Gov^r Custom House, }
Calcutta, Aug 5, 1819 }

C. D'Oyly,
Col G C.

Appendix (I 2)

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of Duties levied on Imports into CEYLON, and those charged on the same Articles imported into the Territories of the Honourable East India Company.

DESCRIPTION of GOODS.	R A T E per Cent of CEYLON DUTY	Rate of Duty at Ceylon, per Weight, Measure, or Tole.				Rate of Duty at East India Company's Ports	Excess of Duty charged at CEYLON
		R.	D.	G.	P.		
Green baize - - - -	10 p' cent p' yard	-	2	-	-	Duty free	10 p' cent.
Military caps, leather belts, &c	10 p' cent	-	-	-	-	2 ½ p' cent	7 ½ p' cent.
Ale and porter - - - -	20 p' cent p' hogshead	10	-	-	-	2 ½ p' cent	17 ½ p' cent.
Blacking - - - - -	10 p' cent	-	-	-	-	2 ½ p' cent	7 ½ p' cent.
Boat cloaks - - - - -	12 ½ p' cent ed.	2	-	-	-	free	12 ½ p' cent.
Boots - - - - -	15 p' cent p' pair	2	-	-	-	2 ½ p' cent	12 ½ p' cent.
Glass bottles - - - -	10 p' cent p' gross	1	6	-	-	2 ½ p' cent	7 ½ p' cent.
Butter (salt) - - - -	15 p' cent p' lb	-	1	-	-	2 ½ p' cent	12 ½ p' cent.
Cables (hemp) - - - -	15 p' cent p' cwt	4	-	-	-	free	15 p' cent.
Camblet - - - - -	12 ½ p' cent p' yard	-	2	-	-	-	12 ½ p' cent.
Canvass - - - - -	10 p' cent p' bolt	2	-	-	-	-	10 p' cent.
Cards - - - - -	25 p' cent p' dozen	2	-	-	-	2 ½ p' cent	22 ½ p' cent.
Chalk - - - - -	50 p' cent p' cwt.	-	4	-	-	2 ½ p' cent	47 ½ p' cent.
Cheese - - - - -	12 ½ p' cent p' lb	-	1	-	-	2 ½ p' cent	10 p' cent.
Cyder - - - - -	10 p' cent p' dozen	1	-	-	-	2 ½ p' cent	7 ½ p' cent.
Cloth (woollen) of sorts -	10 p' cent p' yard	-	-	-	-	free	10 p' cent.
Cotton goods - - - -	6 p' cent	-	-	-	-	2 ½ p' cent	3 ½ p' cent.
Confectionary - - - -	12 ½ p' cent	-	-	-	-	2 ½ p' cent	10 p' cent.
Covers (dish) - - - -	10 p' cent	-	-	-	-	free	10 p' cent.
Flannel - - - - -	10 p' cent	-	-	-	-	-	10 p' cent.
Gloves - - - - -	10 p' cent	-	-	-	-	2 ½ p' cent	7 ½ p' cent.
Hams - - - - -	12 ½ p' cent per lb.	-	-	-	-	2 ½ p' cent	10 p' cent.
Hats - - - - -	10 p' cent	-	-	-	-	2 ½ p' cent	7 ½ p' cent.
Herrings - - - - -	12 p' cent p' keg	-	6	-	-	2 ½ p' cent	9 ½ p' cent.
Hoop iron - - - - -	11 p' cent p' cwt	1	-	-	-	free	11 p' cent.
Bar Iron - - - - -	18 p' cent p' cwt	1	-	-	-	-	18 p' cent.
Pig lead - - - - -	12 p' cent p' cwt	1	6	-	-	-	12 p' cent.
Sheet lead for ships' stems	14 p' cent p' cwt.	2	-	-	-	-	14 p' cent.
Paints - - - - -	16 p' cent p' cwt	-	-	-	-	2 ½ p' cent	14 p' cent.
Perry - - - - -	7 ½ p' cent p' cwt.	-	-	-	-	2 ½ p' cent	5 p' cent.
Quicksilver - - - - -	20 p' cent p' lb.	-	4	-	-	5 p' cent	15 p' cent.
Rosin - - - - -	100 p' cent p' lb.	-	-	2	-	free	100 p' cent.
Salmon (salted) - - - -	7 ½ p' cent p' keg	1	-	-	-	2 ½ p' cent	5 p' cent.
Salt beef and pork - - - -	7 ½ p' cent p' tierce	5	-	-	-	2 ½ p' cent	5 p' cent.
Sauces (meat and fish) - -	10 p' cent p' doz pints	2	-	-	-	2 ½ p' cent	7 ½ p' cent.
Shot (bird) - - - - -	25 p' cent p' cwt	4	-	-	-	free	25 p' cent.
Cask staves - - - - -	10 p' cent p' 100	4	-	-	-	2 ½ p' cent	7 ½ p' cent.
Silk stockings - - - - -	7 ½ p' cent	-	-	-	-	2 ½ p' cent	5 p' cent.
Cotton d° - - - - -	10 p' cent p' dozen	2	-	-	-	2 ½ p' cent	7 ½ p' cent.
Tar - - - - -	18 p' cent p' barrel	2	-	-	-	free	18 p' cent.
Tin plates - - - - -	10 p' cent	-	-	-	-	-	10 p' cent.
Vinegar - - - - -	15 p' cent p' dozen	1	-	-	-	2 ½ p' cent	12 ½ p' cent.
Sheet copper - - - - -	14 p' cent p' lb.	-	1	-	-	free	14 p' cent.
Cutlery - - - - -	10 p' cent	-	-	-	-	-	10 p' cent.
Ironmongery - - - - -	10 p' cent	-	-	-	-	-	10 p' cent.
Anchors - - - - -	10 p' cent	-	-	-	-	-	10 p' cent.
Cordage - - - - -	10 p' cent	-	-	-	-	-	10 p' cent.
Stationery - - - - -	10 p' cent	-	-	-	-	2 ½ p' cent	7 ½ p' cent.
Ribbons and British silks	10 p' cent	-	-	-	-	2 per cent	8 p' cent.
Camblets, bombazeens, Irish poplins and Norwich shawls	10 p' cent	-	-	-	-	free	10 p' cent.
Blankets - - - - -	10 p' cent	-	-	-	-	-	10 p' cent.
Worsted stockings, Guernsey frocks & woollen caps -	10 p' cent	-	-	-	-	-	10 p' cent.
Wines of sorts - - - - -	10 p' cent	-	-	-	-	10 p' cent	-
Brandy - - - - -	20 p' cent	-	-	-	-	20 p' cent	-
Jamaica rum - - - - -	40 p' cent	-	-	-	-	20 p' cent	20 p' cent.
Hollands - - - - -	60 p' cent	-	-	-	-	20 p' cent	40 p' cent.
Table and kitchen utensils							
Locks, bolts and hinges -							
Scale and weights - - - -							
Clocks and watches - - - -	10 p' cent	-	-	-	-	free	10 p' cent.
Nails - - - - -							
Mathematical instruments							
Brazier - - - - -							

The Par of Exchange for the Rix Dollar, is taken in estimating the per-centage charged at Ceylon, on the English cost of the various Articles.

Appendix (I 3)

REGULATIONS of the JAVA GOVERNMENT, from 1st November 1818.

ALIEN LAW.

WHEREAS experience having taught that the rules and regulations, with regard to the arrival at, the stay on, and the departure from this island, are in part incomplete and insufficient, and in part become useless, and wishing to promote the public good and the welfare of the citizens of these possessions, so we have seen fit to decree, as we decree by these,

Art. 1.—The commanders, whether of Netherlands or other vessels, coming from Europe, America, or any of the possessions of European powers in Asia or Africa, are bound immediately on their arrival in the roads, to fill up a blank form given them by the harbour-master, to contain the name, age, profession, country, and last place of residence of each passenger on board

Art. 2.—The harbour-master shall send this form, so filled up, to the bailiff

Art. 3.—No passenger may embark or come on shore, before the abovementioned blank is filled up

Art. 4.—The passengers, on the day of their coming on shore, shall attend at the office of the bailiff, and deliver their passports or any papers of that nature which they may possess

Art. 5.—No persons whatever, tavern-keepers or private individuals, are at liberty to receive in their houses, or to entertain persons thus arriving, without reporting thereof to the bailiff, upon pain of the forfeiture of 300 guilders

Art. 6.—The bailiff shall place such persons as are not provided with passports or papers of that nature, under the necessary charge of the police

Art. 7.—The bailiff shall report such persons to the Governor General, and attend his orders

Art. 8.—Whenever the Governor General shall see fit to permit such persons to remain in or about Batavia, the bailiff shall give them a written permission to remain there during the time fixed by the Governor General, at the termination of which, further petition for a longer stay must be made.

Art. 9.—Whenever the Governor General considers that permission to remain ought not to be granted to persons arriving here, he shall give such orders as shall be deemed serviceable, and the commander of the ship in which the person came, is bound on his departure to take him with him

Art. 10.—No persons above referred to are permitted to go beyond the environs of Batavia, much less to travel from one place to another through the island, without previously having requested and obtained permission from the Governor General, whilst by this, all post-masters, livery-stablemen, tavern-keepers, and other persons, are expressly forbidden conveying or entertaining strangers who are not provided with such permission, on pain of a penalty of 300 guilders

Art. 11.—The tavern-keepers or other persons, who receive travellers, must make known their arrival to the local authority, whether they be provided with passports or not, and in the first case, present the passports for countersigning

Art. 12.—The above mentioned persons shall visit no other place or places than such as are mentioned in the passport; nor is any resident or other civil servant permitted to grant another, or to make any alteration in the one granted, upon pain of the forfeiture of their place

Art. 13.—No one may establish himself on Java, without the express permission of the Governor General

Art. 14.—To obtain permission for establishment on Java, a petition must be presented to the Governor General, with a relation of all the circumstances, delivery of the passports and other papers, and the development of the petitioner's definite plans

Art. 15.—Whenever the petitioner shall be permitted to establish himself on Java, a suitable act must be issued to him

Art. 16.—This act must be registered at the bureau of the place where the new inhabitant wishes to fix himself, he being bound to give in to the local authority or magistrate, the oath of allegiance to his Majesty, to the Governor General, and of obedience to the laws and regulations; of which oath mention shall be made upon said act

Art. 17.—The established citizens of Java are at liberty to travel through the island, and wishing so to do, shall call on the resident or magistrate for a travelling pass, which he may not refuse to grant

Art. 18.—Citizens travelling, shall be bound to exhibit their passports to the residents of the places through which they pass

Art. 19.—Citizens established on Java wishing to leave it, shall be bound publicly to make known their intention, by advertisement in the Batavia Gazette, at least six weeks before their departure, to the end that each one may govern himself accordingly relative to unsettled concerns.

Art 20.—The established citizens who wish to leave Java, and give evidence of having fulfilled the requisitions of the last article, as well as each one who may wish to absent himself for a certain length of time, shall be provided by the magistrate or resident of the places of their residences with passports, which they must exhibit to the magistrate or resident of the place of their embarkation, and there have registered.

Art. 21.—All commanders of vessels are forbidden to convey any persons from this island, who are not provided with suitable passports, on penalty of a fine of 1000 guilders, for the payment of which the vessel and cargo are declared bound.

Art. 22.—In every instance when the resident or magistrate grants a passport for leaving this island, he shall acquaint the Governor General thereof.

Commissioners General for Netherlands India. Per order,

The Secretary General.

(Signed) R.D'Oxy,

Batavia, 28th August 1818.

REGULATION for levying the Import and Export Duties in JAVA and MADURA, to take effect from and after the 1st November 1818.

Harbours open for Vessels

Art. 1.—Vessels coming from Europe, America, or any of the possessions of European powers in Asia or Africa, may enter no other harbour than that of Batavia. These vessels must also enter and discharge their cargoes at Batavia, unless for particular reasons, permission is given by the supreme government to enter and discharge at Samarang or Sourabaya

Art 2.—Vessels departing for places mentioned above, may clear out at Batavia, Samarang, or Sourabaya, as they choose, provided they have taken in all their cargo at the place where they clear out

Art 3.—None of the vessels referred to above, may touch at any other harbour or place on Java or Madura, much less discharge or take in goods there, except by express permission from the supreme government.

Art 4.—The Chinese junks shall be admitted at Batavia only

Art 5.—Vessels belonging to the inhabitants of Java and Madura, or of any other places situated in the eastern seas and under Netherlands jurisdiction, as well as all vessels belonging to Indian princes and nations with whom the Netherlands government is in amity, may enter and leave the harbours of Java and Madura, submitting themselves to existing rules and regulations. These vessels sailing to Europe, America, or the possessions of European powers in Asia and Africa, are subject as other ships, to the requisitions of Art 1, 2 & 3

The payment of and freedom from Duties on Imports and Exports in general.

Art 6.—The import and export duties must be paid on all goods brought to or taken from Java and Madura, with the exception only of such as are by this regulation expressly declared free, and according to rules and regulations further to be made.

Art 7.—The duties must be paid so often as the goods go from, or come to Java and Madura, to or from places situated out of these islands

Art. 8.—Goods taken from one place to another on Java and Madura are not subject to the import and export duties—keeping in view however the regulations for the coasting trade made or to be made, the commanders of such vessels shall however be bound to deposit the export duties, or produce satisfactory security for their payment, before they can legally discharge at the place on Java or Madura, to which they are bound.

Art 9.—Ships putting in, in distress, or those bound to places situated out of Java and Madura, and anchoring in the roads, pay no import duties, except on such goods as they may be obliged to discharge or sell. These discharges however may not take place, except by express permission from the supreme government or local magistrates, and under the necessary inspection

Art. 10.—Goods shipped from one vessel on board another lying in the roads, are subject to the same import and export duties as other goods—moreover such transfer may not take place without permission, as before, and under the needful inspection

Art 11.—No duties are levied on goods imported for exportation, provided such intention is made known before their discharge—the goods themselves sent to the public stores at Batavia,—a payment made of 2 per cent, on their estimated value, and of a reasonable store-ment. The goods may remain there one year, at the termination of which time the usual import duties must be paid

Art 12.—The following articles are declared free of import duties:

Coined gold and silver

Manufactured gold and silver bars, &c

Horses, cattle, sheep, goats

Jewels and precious stones.

Baggage of the military

Baggage of seafaring persons, and passengers, with the understanding that the articles cannot be considered objects of trade.

Art 13 —The following articles are declared free of export duties

- Coined gold and silver
- Salt
- Jewels and precious stones
- Baggage of seafaring persons, military and passengers, under the regulation of the foregoing article
- Rations and provisions for the support of the land forces, and for the use of the ships equipages on board the Royal Netherlands or Indian ships of war

Art 14 —The import and export duties must be paid in silver coin, declared current by the supreme government of Netherlands India, and at the value fixed by them

The amount of Import and Export Duties and contraband Trade

Art 15 —The amount of the import and export duties shall be determined (so soon as that can be done with exactness,) by a prepared schedule, of all such goods as are subject to such duties.

Art 16 —For so long as this schedule shall not be formed and published, the money value of the goods as expressed in the invoice of shipment, shall be the basis on which the import duties are to be levied

Of this value increased by the addition of 30 per cent, must be paid.

By Netherlands vessels, 6 per cent

By foreign vessels cleared out in the Netherlands, 9 per cent

By foreign vessels coming from foreign ports, 12 per cent

all with regard to foreign vessels, for so far as no different arrangements shall have been entered into by his Majesty and any of the foreign powers

Art. 17 —Whenever the prices of the goods, according to the invoice, are entered too low in comparison with other goods arrived with prices current, or with other known criterions, the person entering them is at liberty to hand in an improved and more correct statement. The collector is in duty bound to consider and take the opinion of the water fiscal upon this statement

Art. 18 —When the person interested refuses to give in such corrected statement, or in case he declares that he possesses no invoice, the import and export duties must be calculated and paid according to the market prices of the day, upon which according to law the statement must be presented

Art 19 —Indian goods brought by vessels of the natives, shall pay the import duties on the amount at which they are valued

Art 20 —Goods brought by Chinese jonks, are not included in the foregoing regulations, but must pay the import duties according to the following standard

A large jonk from Nympho	-	-	-	-	-	-	f 6000
A small ditto - - ditto	-	-	-	-	-	-	4000
A large jonk from Canton	-	-	-	-	-	-	5000
A small ditto - - ditto	-	-	-	-	-	-	3000
A large jonk from Eymuy	-	-	-	-	-	-	4000
A small ditto - - ditto	-	-	-	-	-	-	2000

upon the payment of which, the whole cargo brought by these jonks may be freely landed, with this understanding, however, that in this cargo there are not included European goods or productions, nor goods originally from the west of India, which however they are permitted to bring, but the import duties on which must be paid according to the foregoing regulations

Art 21 —For so long as the schedule referred to in Art 15, is not prepared and published, the value of the goods shall be fixed by the market prices, on the day of entry for exportation

On this value must be paid,

In Netherlands ships, 6 per cent

In foreign ships bound to the Netherlands, 9 per cent

In foreign ships bound to foreign ports, 12 per cent

all with regard to foreign ships, provided no different arrangements shall have been entered into, between his Majesty and any of the foreign powers

Art 22 In the foregoing regulations are not included the following goods, which are subject to permanent export duties, as follows —

	In Netherlands Ships.	In Foreign Ships to the Netherlands.	In Foreign Ships bound elsewhere
Coffee, per picul of 125 lbs	f. 2 -	f 3 -	f 4 -
Pepper, d° d°	1 -	1 15	2 -
Sugar, d° d°	1 -	1 15	2 -
Arrack, per legger of 388 jugs,			
1st quality	10 -	10 -	10 -
2d d°	8 -	8 -	8 -
3d d°	6 -	6 -	6 -
Rice, per coyang	3 -	3 -	3 -
Horse, per head	20 -	20 -	20 -

Art 23 —Foreign ships bound to the Netherlands, shall, besides paying their reguladuties, deposit at the custom house the surplus, which must be paid by foreign ships destined elsewhere, and which surplus shall be refunded them on their arrival in the Netherlands.

Art 24 —The importation, exportation, so well as transportation, over land, of any sort of ammunitions of war, is rigidly forbidden, unless an express permission be granted by the Governor General

Art 25 —The importation of cloves, putmegs, and mace, for account of individuals, is forbidden

Art 26 —Opium, whether Bengal or Levant, may not be imported in a less quantity than a whole chest, weighing at least 125 pounds

No opium may be imported from one place to another, without express permission from the water fiscal

No one is at liberty to buy or sell a less quantity of opium excepting of, and to the farmer.

No chest may be opened except in the presence of the water-fiscal and farmer, or some one acting for them.

Art 27 —In this regulation, by Netherlands ships, is understood such vessels as are the property of citizens of Netherlands or Netherlands India, and regularly brought and sailing under the Netherlands flag

At the termination of a period hereafter to be defined, the privileges granted to Netherlands ships shall be enjoyed only by such as are built in Netherlands or Netherlands India

Art 28 —Vessels belonging to Indian princes, or nations on friendly terms with the Netherlands government, are placed on the same footing with the Netherlands vessels.

Requisitions on entering, and of discharging and loading Goods.

Art 29 —The captain, chief officer, and supercargo (if there be one,) must, within 24 hours after their arrival in the roads, deliver at the custom house, or to an officer who may be thereto appointed, a signed declaration or certificate, containing an account or list of all goods on board, and expressing their sort, quality and quantity, according to the following form —

We, the undersigned arriving from
with the ship declare under oath, that to the best of our knowledge,
we have not brought within the jurisdiction of Java, any other or more goods,
wares and merchandize, than are found expressed in the following general state-
ment, that no deception, with our knowledge, is practised, no goods concealed,
nor any plans formed, or exertions made, to defraud or evade the public dues
Goods on board are the following. —

N N
N. N.

Art 30 —The above-mentioned persons must produce at the custom house the original ship's papers, viz the register, the sea letter, the commission, the manifest, the clearance, the invoice or invoices

Art 31 —No one may discharge imported goods, nor take in any intended for exportation, nor transport them in any vessels, before they are entered at the custom house, and a permit is received

Art 32 —The regulation of the last article has reference also to such goods as pay no duties, for the transportation of which a consent billet shall be obtained

Art 33 —The entry must be made in writing, signed by the captain, supercargo or merchant, or their agents, for which act, however, the principal remains answerable

Art 34 —The entry, and the request to discharge or load, must contain an exact statement of the goods which are wished to be loaded or discharged, with their proper names, and expressing the sort, quality, quantity, weight, or measure of the same, as also the marks and numbers of each package

Further, the name of the ship and captain, wherewith as well as the place wherefrom, or to which the goods came or are to be sent; and finally of the merchant to whom they are consigned, or by whom they are sent

Art 35.—The payment of the duties must be made to the collector, immediately on their being regulated according to the entry, unless he sees fit at his own risk to accept security, while at all events the payment must be made within a month after the discharge.

Art 36—After the payment is made, or security given, there shall be granted to the person entering, a loading or discharge permit, either for the whole cargo or for separate quantity, and upon which permit the time shall be expressed, within which the goods must be loaded or discharged

Art 37 —For goods not subject to duties, a consent billet will be granted.

Art 38 —There may be no loading or discharging on Sundays and hof days, except by express permission of the water fiscal Before sunrise and after sunset, all loading and discharging is forbidden

Art 39 —No one may transport any goods to load or discharge on other than the usual waters The masters, &c of prauws, ciraupangs, tjuniers, and other vessels, are particularly forbidden to transport in or out of any rivers, creeks, or other streams, goods which they take or bring from on board any ships, or even to take in or unload such on the beach.

Art. 40.

Art 40 — No goods may be discharged, loaded, or transported, unless accompanied by the permits or consent billets.

Art 41 — In case a permit to load or discharge is given for a whole cargo, the same, in case of transportation, must be accompanied by a separate statement, signed by the captain, or other person who is charged with taking in or unloading, containing the exact account of the goods sent by each prauw or vessel, with the marks and numbers of each package

Art 42 — These permits, and before referred to statements, shall be given in at the custom house, and countersigned by the collector

Art 43 — The custom house officers are obliged to visit the transported goods, and to compare them with their accompanying papers, and in case of the breach of laws, to seize them

They are also authorized to be present at the loading or discharging of cargoes, and to make such examinations on board the ships, as may be necessary for securing the public rights

They are, however, most rigidly forbidden to vex, annoy, or oppress the merchants, captains, or seamen, but, on the contrary, are admonished and bound to render prompt assistance to each, to give every useful information, and do all in their power for the promotion of honourable trade

Art 44 — With a view to rendering every possible assistance to commerce and commercial men, it is permitted that these may amend or correct abuses they may have experienced, so long as the permits are not given up, or any seizure of goods been made.

Art 45 — They are further at liberty (to the end of preventing abuses) to require, that the goods entered by them, be counted, measured, or weighed, by thereto sworn individuals, while themselves sustain the costs.

Art 46 — The captain or merchant, after having regularly entered goods for exportation or importation, may leave the calculation of the duties to the public officers, and it shall suffice him if he pay accordingly, unless they have combined together to defraud the public, and in all cases, the accountability of the public officers is maintained

Art 47 — Duties on goods damaged on the voyage of importation, shall be paid on a value, to be estimated by capable judges

The departure of Vessels for sea

Art 48 — A captain wishing to put to sea, shall make it known at the custom house, and give over in duplicate, the manifest of his cargo, and with all the permits received by him

Art 49 — The collector is bound, as speedily as possible, to compare this manifest and the loading permits thereof with his books, and finding all to agree, he shall affix to the manifest a certificate that all public dues are paid, and, further, that all is performed required by the laws

Art 50 — The collector is further bound, in case the captain had arrived here before with a cargo, to give him a certificate of his having also paid the import duties on the same, and performed all requisitions relative thereto

The collector shall give for ships clearing out for Netherlands, a certificate that to the fulfilment of the requisitions of Article 22 of this Regulation, there has been deposited at his office the surplus duties which a foreign ship, bound elsewhere, would have to pay

Art 51 — To commanders bound to the Netherlands shall be given certificates of their having paid the export duties on those particular goods which are noted in the manifest, to the end that these may be entitled to the advantages of the goods free of duties in the Netherlands

Art 52 — The commander is bound to lay these papers before the water-fiscal, who will act upon them according to his instructions and sign, as having seen them

Art 53 — After these papers shall have been returned to the captain, he and the chief officer, with the supercargo (if there be one,) shall give in to the magistrate or resident, under oath the following affidavit —

We, the undersigned
with the ship
departing for
certify under oath, that to the best of our knowledge,
no other or more goods, wares or merchandize, have been shipped on board the
vessel under our charge, than are contained in the manifest made up by us, and
examined by the collector and water fiscal, and that, so far as we know, no fraud
has been practised, no goods on board concealed, nor any plans formed or ex-
ertions made to defraud or evade the public dues, further promising, solemnly and
sincerely, that we will take no other or more goods on board our above-mentioned
ship, without giving the requisite account thereof at the custom house, and which
shall appear by the permits to be received for such after shipment, and to the best
of our knowledge, without thereby diminishing the public dues.

N N
N N.
N N

Art 54 — After this certificate is given in and sworn to, the magistrate or resident shall grant the captain a regular passport, after which he is at liberty to proceed to sea, previously, however, attending at the office of the harbour master, to fulfil there the existing Rules and Regulations

Art 55 — A certificate shall be granted by the proper officers, to all vessels bound from one place to another on Java or Madura (whose cargoes according to Article 8 of this Regulation, are free of duties), of the export duties having been duly deposited or secured

This certificate, after the discharge at the place of destination, shall be countersigned, and the amount which was deposited by the captain refunded, or in case of his having given security, the bond cancelled

Forfeitures, Penalties, and Punishments.

Art 56 —The goods of which the importation, exportation, or transportation, is forbidden by this Regulation, being notwithstanding imported, exported, or transported, shall be declared forfeited

In case the same are entered under false names, or packed with other goods, besides the forfeiture of the whole, the person entering them shall incur the penalty of 1,000 guilders

Art 57 —All goods imported or exported, which, according to this Regulation, must be entered at the custom house, and which notwithstanding are not, or of which entries have been made under false titles with a view to evade the payment of a higher duty, or such as shall be discharged, taken in, or transported without permits, shall be declared forfeited

Art 58 —Goods conveyed upon forbidden waters, or landed, discharged, or put on shore at forbidden places, shall be declared forfeited.

Art 59.—The commander, officer, or supercargo, who neglects giving in the certificate required by Article 22 of this Regulation, within twice 24 hours, shall forfeit a penalty of 200 guilders

Art 60 —The captain or owner, who causes entered goods to be transported, in loading or discharging, without their being accompanied with permits and other necessary papers, shall forfeit the penalty of 500 guilders

Art 61 —The captains who transfer goods from one ship to another lying in the roads, without having express permission, shall forfeit the sum of 500 guilders

Art 62 —Those who discharge or load at forbidden times, shall forfeit 300 guilders

Art 63 —The declaration of forfeiture will not be the consequence of errors in delivering wrong packs, marks, numbers or initials, while there is no deception attempted, and the goods are really the same for which they were entered. The expenses incurred by the seizure of such goods, however, must be sustained by the captain or owner.

Art 64 —The vessels from which the goods are discharged, or on board which they are shipped or transported, are held bound for incurred forfeitures

Art 65 —Those who wilfully oppose or annoy custom-house officers in the performance of their duties, shall be punished according to circumstances, with scourging, banishment, or a forfeiture in money not exceeding 1,000 guilders

The management and superintendence of the import and export Duties.

Art 66 —The collection of the customs is confided at Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya, to distinct and suitable officers, with the title of Receiver of the Import and Export Duties. In the other Residencies, at which the native and coasting vessels only are admitted, the collection is confided to the harbour masters or other officers there, but never to the resident

Art. 67.—The charge of observing that the laws are duly complied with, and of conducting the legal prosecutions relative to their violation, is confided to officers under the titles of Water-fiscals, who must reside at Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya.

Art 68.—In the other residencies at which the before-mentioned vessels alone are admitted, the charge of observing that the laws are complied with, is confided to *hoof'd kommissen* or head clerks, or in case of indisposition, to the receivers themselves

Art 69 —The head and other clerks, who are associated with the water-fiscals as assistants, are subordinate to these, and must make reports of their transactions to the water-fiscals of their respective districts

Art 70 —The water-fiscals are subordinate to the fiscal-general at Batavia, which office is provisionally conferred on the attorney-general of the supreme court

Art 71.—The more exact regulations regarding the rights and duties of these offices, shall be determined by separate instructions

Seizures, legal Proceedings, and Compromises

Art 72 —All custom-house officers are authorized, even out of the place to which they belong, to inform of the breach of laws in the seizure of goods, relative to which this regulation treats

Art 73 —The officers seizing goods, shall deliver them into the public store, for the purpose of being opened and examined by a committee from the court of justice, under whose jurisdiction they are seized. In case the owner or his agent choose that the goods be opened at the place where they were seized, it must be done, and they examined under the superintendence of the resident or assistant resident.

Art. 74 —After this examination, only the goods relative to which the breach of the laws was made, shall be retained, and the remaining goods shall be immediately restored, provided the forfeiture be duly deposited

Art 75 —The same course shall be pursued with regard to ships departing, whether Netherlands or foreign,—the concealed goods to be taken out, and the captain left at liberty to depart immediately on depositing the penalty.

Art 76 —The custom-house officers shall immediately make the water-fiscal acquainted with all seizures they make

Art 77.—All legal proceedings relative to the breach of laws regulating customs, shall be brought by the water-fiscals of the first instance at Batavia, before the magistrate or such

such other court as may be there in future established, and at Samarang and Sourabaya, before the courts of justice, for so far as their respective jurisdictions extend

Art 78.—The cases shall be treated according to the proceedings usual with the counsellors of justice.

Art 79 —Appeal can be made from the decisions of the above-mentioned court and council of the first instance, in concerns of 500 guilders and upwards, to the supreme court at Batavia

Art 80 —There can be no compromise or agreement made relative to the breach of the regulations for the import and export duties, except under the superintendence or with the sanction of the judge, and after the opinion of the fiscal-general shall have been taken

In violations by native commanders of native or coasting vessels, this sanction shall not be necessary, and the settlement can be made under the superintendence of the resident or assistant resident

Art 81 —A settlement otherwise agreed upon than determined by the above article, shall be attended with no consequences to the violator, though notwithstanding he shall be obliged to pay the forfeiture, while the officers who have settled the matter in an illegal manner, shall be punished as circumstances may require

Art. 82 —The net proceeds of goods declared forfeited or of collected forfeitures, shall for one-third result to the benefit of the public treasury, while the other two-thirds shall be equally divided between the fiscal-general, the water-fiscal of the district where the seizure is made, and the informer

Commissioners General for Netherlands India. By order of the same,
Batavia, 28th August 1818.

The Secretary General
(Signed) R D'Ozy.

SHIPS CERTIFICATES AND PASSPORTS

WHEREAS, having taken into consideration that it is requisite some fixed and just regulations were made, relative to granting ships certificates and passports to vessels owned in India, and sailing under the Netherlands flag

Therefore is it, that we have seen fit, with the cancelling of all previously existing laws and regulations, lawful or unlawful expressed or implied usages or customs, to determine as is determined by these, the following

Regulation regarding Ships Certificates and Passports.

Art 1:—It is forbidden for all ships and vessels, owned by citizens of Netherlands India, to bear any other than the Netherlands flag

Art 2 —No vessels, owned by citizens of Netherlands India, newly built, or going to sea for the first time, for account of such citizens, can be made use of unless an application has been made and granted for a certificate thereof, upon penalty of *f* 2 for each last the ship measures

Art. 3 —The certificate shall be granted by the Governor General, in the name of his majesty, according to the form placed at the end of this regulation

Art 4 —The application for a certificate must be accompanied with,

1st An Affidavit (sworn to before the proper authorities of the place,) of the applicant or applicants being a citizen or citizens of Netherlands India, and the owner or owners of the vessel

2d. An affidavit of the ships carpenter if built in India, otherwise the last bill of sale

3d. The ship's name.

4th The name of the captain or commander

Art 5 —The certificate so obtained, shall be registered at the bureau of the place where the ship belongs

Art 6 —The certificate shall be of effect so long as the ship's name is not altered, or she does not change owners

Art. 7.—With the alteration of the name or the change of owners, either wholly or in part, the certificate becomes void and of no effect, in which case, the same must be reported at the bureau of the place where the ship belongs, at farthest within eight days, upon pain of forfeiture of 1000 guilders.

In the same penalty, no ship may be demolished before the certificate is returned

Art. 8 —Each commander of a vessel is obliged always to have its certificate on board with him, and on his arrival at any place under Netherlands jurisdiction, to exhibit the same to the commandant or other person thereto appointed, upon pain of forfeiture of *f*. 2 for each last the ship measures.

Art 9 —All changes of ownership of the vessel, either wholly or in part, whether by sale, death, change in partnership, or whatever other causes, must be made known at the bureau of the place where the ship belongs, at farthest, in case of change of owners among the living, within six weeks, and if caused by death, within three months, upon pain of forfeiture of 1000 guilders.

Art 10.—On the change of ownership without the country, he, who is here known as the owner or joint owner, must each, for so far as his property in her extends, make it known within the above-mentioned periods of six weeks and three months, upon pain of forfeiture as above.

Art. 11.—Should the vessels be sold out of Netherlands India, demolished or cast away, the commanders are bound if the certificates are saved, by tearing to render them useless, and in that state to deliver them over to the Netherlands commandant (if there be one) of the place where they arrive, who is bound immediately by sending up the instrument, to inform the Governor General.

In case they arrive at places not under Netherlands control, they must immediately, if opportunities offer, forward the instrument referred to, up to the Governor General, or directly on their arrival at a Netherlands possession, give the same over to the government.

Art. 12.—The captain of any vessel owned by citizens of Netherlands India, for which a certificate has been obtained, must provide himself moreover, with a passport for each particular voyage he is to make.

Art. 13 —With the application for this passport must be given in,

- 1st The ship's certificate.
- 2d The name of the captain who is to command the vessel.
- 3d The name of the place to which the vessel is destined.
- 4th The number and character of the ship's company.
- 5th An account of the arms.

Art 14.—The passports shall be granted by the Governor General, in the name of his majesty; they shall be countersigned by the resident of the place where the ship belongs, to whom also the application must be sent in

Art 15 —No certificates or passports for each particular voyage, shall be granted to native vessels not rigged as European vessels, they are bound however to provide themselves with a yearly passport

Art. 16 —With the application for a yearly passport must be sent in,

- 1st The sort and name of the vessel.
- 2d. The names of the owner and commander
- 3d The burthen of the vessel in lasts or coyangs.
- 4th The number of the ship's company
- 5th The number of guns, pikes, sabres, cutlasses, and whatever else of that nature, with the quantity of ammunition.

Art 17.—The yearly passports for such native vessels, shall also be granted by the Governor General in the name of his majesty, they shall be countersigned by the resident of the place where the vessel belongs, to whom also the application thereof must be sent in.

Art 18 —Each commander of a native vessel is bound always to have his passport on board with him, and on his arrival at any place under Netherlands jurisdiction, to produce or exhibit it to the commandant or other person thereto appointed, upon pain of 1 guilder fine for each last or coyang the vessel measures

Art 19 —Each commander or owner of such native vessel, is bound at the end of the year for which he has received a passport, to return it to the resident of the place where it was registered, upon pain of 100 guilders fine. No new passport shall be granted him unless the above is performed

Art 20 —A commander, who puts to sea without being provided with such a passport, shall be arrested, and forfeit the sum of 2 guilders for each last or coyang the ship or vessel measures

Batavia, 28th August 1818

Commissioners General for Netherlands India.

By order of the same,

The Secretary General,

(Signed) R. D'Ozy

HARBOUR REGULATION for the in and outgoing, anchoring, lying and departure of Vessels in the Roads, and the duties of Harbour-masters and Commanders

WHEREAS, having taken into consideration that whatever relates to the management of, and in, the harbours of Java and Madura, should stand in connection with the regulations for the arrival, stay, and departure of aliens and citizens, for the import and export duties, and for ships certificates and passports

So we have seen fit, with cancelling of all previously existing laws, regulations, lawful or unlawful expressed or understood usages or customs, to determine as is determined by these, the following

Art 1.—All ships or vessels entering harbours, shall display their flags The flag on shore shall be hoisted for square rigged-vessels The harbour-masters, or officers acting as such, shall send on board each ship arriving, a hailing letter of the following contents.

The commander of the ship arrived in the roads, is requested to fill up the following.

Date,

Harbour Master.

is

- Flag of the ship.
- Name of the ship.
- Burthen of the vessel in lasts or tons.
- How manned.
- How armed
- Where from
- When sailed.

Harbour Regulation, &c —continued

At what places touched

Where bound

What cargo

Names, country, profession, age, and last residence of the passengers.

The state of the health of the ship's company and passengers

Important tidings.

Date,

Signature of the Commander

Art 2 —The harbour master shall send a written report thereof, signed by himself, to the Governor General, to the resident or other highest local civil servant, to the general bureau, to the bailiffs, to the water fiscal, to the collector of customs in his district, to the president and council of the board of finance, and to the fiscal general of the customs

Art 3 —The harbour master, at the same time that he sends the hailing letter on board, shall let it be accompanied with a copy of this Regulation, so well as of those for the import and export duties, and the stay of strangers on Java

Art 4 —The captains and supercargoes of vessels, shall so soon as possible, wait upon the harbour master, to give him (or the authorities conferred by an appointment from the harbour master), such subsequent or further explanations as shall be required of them

Art 5 —The harbour masters are authorized, in case they consider the public interests require it, to go on board the vessels, to muster the crew, and compare the muster rolls They are bound to make the Governor General acquainted with all circumstances of importance.

Art 6.—All local authorities which are interested, are bound, with the advice of the harbour masters, to determine, as plainly as possible, the boundaries of the roads, subject to the sanction of the Governor General

Art 7.—The commanders of vessels are bound to drop their anchors within the thus defined boundaries

Art 8 —No ballast may be thrown overboard from a ship entering or lying in the roads, upon pain of *f* 10 fine for each last she measures

Art. 9 —All vessels not owned in India, shall be bound to pay the following anchorage dues

Netherland ships, 15 stivers for each last she measures.

Foreign ships, 1 guilder.

These dues once paid by vessels, it cannot be required of them again during six months, even though the same enter other harbours

Art. 10.—Ships chartered by government are not free of harbour dues

Art 11 —The harbour masters are obliged to cause lost anchors to be fished up, and the owners, besides the incurred expenses, shall pay them one-third the value of the anchors

Art 12.—Anchors, of which the owners are unknown, shall, after having been three times publicly advertised in the Gazette, and themselves lain publicly exposed for one year, be publicly sold to the highest bidders, for the benefit of the public treasury, after deducting the amount to which the harbour master, by the last article, is entitled

Art 13 —The right of the harbour master to supply ships with firewood and water, to the exclusion of all others, is by this recognized, without lessening, however, the freedom which is left to all commanders, of taking off these necessaries with their own boats and people.

Art 14 —The harbour masters, who shall take upon themselves to supply ships with fire wood and water, shall be reciprocally obliged to make such arrangements that no delay takes place

Art. 15.—The tariff, according to which these supplies shall be made, will be hereafter settled, and shall always hang in the office of the harbour master open to the public

Art. 16 —All ships departing for the Netherlands, are obliged, at the request of the supreme government, to take a number of officers or men of the land or naval forces, and to resign a certain quantity of ship's room, and must report themselves therefore in good season, that the government (so desiring) may take advantage thereof

Art 17 —All commanders are bound, at least three times 24 hours before their departure, to give the harbour master notice

Art 18.—The commanders may not depart, unless they have received from the harbour master a suitable regular clearance. There shall be no separate clearance given to native vessels sailing under a yearly passport, but the permission to depart shall be written on the back of this passport.

Art 19 —The harbour master shall grant no clearance, unless there are exhibited to him.

1st, A certificate from the magistrate or resident, that all local laws are fulfilled.

2d A certificate from the collector, that all public dues relative to customs, are paid.

This certificate must be signed, as having been seen by the water fiscal,

3d The ship's roll

Art 20 —The harbour master, considering it serviceable to the public good, is qualified to go on board of outward bound vessels, for the purposes of comparing the ship's company with the muster roll, and to examine if there be any persons on board belonging in Netherlands India not provided with the necessary passports to their departure

Art 21 —For the granting a clearance, shall be paid by vessels not belonging to Netherlands India, five guilders besides the stamp

Art. 22.—Whenever a public guard ship shall be stationed in the roads, this clearance must be there exhibited at the request of the commandant

Art. 23.—Commanders, who depart without the clearance from the harbour masters, shall be stopped, and, in case of immediate seizure, pay a penalty of f 10 for each last the ship measures.

Should the commander escape arrest, it shall be made known to all the authorities of Netherlands India, to the end that at his eventual return in the same or another ship, he may be compelled to payment.

Batavia, 28th August 1818 }	} Commissioners General for Netherlands India. By order of the same, The secretary General, (Signed) R D'Ory.
--------------------------------	--

Appendix (K.)

LETTER to the Court of Directors, with Memorials, &c relating to the suspension of the Country Trade with China.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honourable Sirs,

WE, the undersigned Merchants of Bombay, beg leave to represent to your honourable Court, that, in the past season, in consequence of discussions between the Canton government and your select committee of supra cargoes at Canton, the commerce of private British merchants was for a time suspended by your select committee, and that, in consequence, very serious injury was occasioned to the interests of the port, that, although tranquillity appeared at one time to have been restored, the recent intelligence from China has announced the great probability of a recurrence of similar, or more threatening differences of opinion, between the Canton governments and your select committee of supra cargoes, in consequence of which it is to be apprehended, that private commerce will be again suspended on arrival of our ships at Canton

In consequence of the alarming results that have already sprung from the suspension of our trade, and because the continued operation of such a system involves still more serious injury than has yet been sustained, we have felt it to be a duty, as well to ourselves as constituents, to submit the matter to the consideration of the Right honourable the Board of Commissioners for the Affairs of India, and we have delivered into the Right honourable the Governor in Council of this presidency, copies of the Memorials as framed and transmitted.

Assuring ourselves as we do, of the unvarying disposition of your honourable court to take an indulgent and liberal view of the interests of individuals when properly brought to notice, we should have submitted our claims to the sole consideration of your honourable court, had they been merely of a retrospective nature; but, as it is of vital importance to our future trade, that the restrictions, to what it is by law subject, should be pronounced upon it, did, on consideration, appear to us, that the proper channel of representation, where the aggregate interests of one of the classes of a community are involved, was direct to the Right honourable the Board of Commissioners for the Affairs of India, and this, the more especially, as a very principal object of that representation is to obtain, founded upon an exhibit of its real and extensive importance, such further sanction to our trade, of which either in reality or in supposition, it may at present be devoid.

It is our earnest hope, that your honourable court will, in the high importance of the subject, and for the reason we have thus stated, see that the channel of representation we have sought, is not objectionable, and that we have succeeded in what certainly was an endeavour, to avoid all expression of offence, whilst in the transmissions of copies of our Memorials to your local government prior to their transmission, we hope to be considered as having evinced every respect, both to your honourable court and your constituted authorities.

Copy of Memorial, No. 1.

To the Right honourable the Lords Commissioners for the Affairs of India.

The humble Memorial of the undersigned Merchants of Bombay trading to China,—showeth,

THAT your Memorialists are, and have been in the habit of trading very extensively from the port of Bombay to China, for very many years past, without any hindrance or molestation on the part of the honourable the East India Company's government of Bombay, or on the part of the honourable the East India Company's select committee of supra cargoes at Canton, until last year.

That it has been their invariable endeavour, in the conduct of that trade, to demean themselves with all respect to the constituted authorities of the honourable the East India Company

Company on the one hand, and to the established laws and usages of China on the other; and they respectfully beg leave to lay claim to success in their endeavours to this end, which it is within the reach of your lordships to ascertain, by such inquiry as may be deemed proper.

That, for the most part, the export trade of Bombay to China consists in cotton, the staple product of the honourable the East India Company's territories, and generally of this side of India, and that, in return, they bring from China merchandize and bullion of vast value.

That the export trade from hence to China, is not only of vast importance to your individual Memorialists, whose fortunes are to their fullest extent embarked in the commerce of this port, but further, that it is indispensably necessary to the prosperity of the subjects of the honourable the East India Company in Guzerat, as affording the chief means of a market to the produce on which territorial revenue has been paid to the honourable the East India Company.

That, the import trade from China is of equal importance, inasmuch as it constitutes, combined with the happy situation of the port for the commerce of the western side of India, and the Persian and Arabian Gulfs, Bombay, as an emporium to which resort is had for the supply of the wants of the territories of the East India Company and neighbouring states, and is now of more especial importance in the enlarged opportunity of commerce with the mother country, where demand exists for many of the products of China, not of sufficient value to bear the heavy charges of freight incidental to the ships of the honourable the East India Company.

That, for the successful prosecution of this trade, it is indispensably necessary, that those concerned in it should not be subject to such interference or impediment as is calculated not only to diminish its advantage, but which in its exercise, brings inevitable ruin upon the individual engaged in it.

That, in the past season, your Memorialists did experience that hindrance and molestation, by the concurrent councils and authority of the captains of H. M. ships at China, and the honourable the East India Company's select committee of supra cargoes, by the forcible detention of their ships, and the prohibition that was issued to their proceeding to Whampoa, the only place where their trade is conducted, notwithstanding the express invitation by the Chinese to the commanders of country ships.

That your Memorialists refrain from occupying the further present attention of your lordships, upon the subject matter of the losses they sustained in the past year, or of the causes that exposed their interests to such unprecedented and enormous sacrifice, because those losses, and all the attendant circumstances, will form the subject of a future respectful, yet earnest appeal for redress, to the justice of your honourable Board, and of the honourable the Court of Directors.

That the precise object of this address to your lordships, is to represent, that your Memorialists have heard, with the most deep concern, that, in consequence of certain events which have had rise in China, still more recently than those which led to the lamentable state of things that produced the suspension of trade in the past season, it appears highly probably that a similar exertion of authority may be resorted to, and the valuable commerce of your Memorialists be again suspended on the arrival of their ships in China, because, if the existence of disputes between the Chinese government and the select committee of supra cargoes at Canton, is held to be valid reason for the prohibition to the conduct of the trade of your Memorialists, it is obvious, that the restriction imposed in the last year, will, on the recurrence of the same events, be drawn into precedent, and be acted upon as a system, in the present and all future seasons, by the honourable Company's select committee of supra cargoes at Canton.

That, although the knowledge thus early obtained, and the experience of the act of authority last year exercised, may, as respects the present, prevent the same ruinous loss, still it can only in a degree control it, because, for the greater part, cargoes have already been provided, whilst, in regard to a still more distant period of time, your Memorialists most respectfully urge their conviction upon your lordships, that the power of control by the honourable Company's select committee at Canton over individual trade (whilst, as heretofore, peaceably conducted) must, in the repetition of its exercise, entirely annihilate the whole of the private trade between the various ports of British India and China.

That your Memorialists, whilst they most cheerfully submit to the continuance of such wholesome exercise of authority on the part of the honourable East India Company's supra cargoes at Canton, as tends to restrain all acts of violence on the part of British subjects resorting thither, and to ensure due respect to the laws and usages of China, they most respectfully beg leave to represent, that, in their contemplation, the legislature has not delegated to the Company the right of prohibiting the private merchants of India from trading with China, but, on the contrary, that subject only to due observance of order and decorum, that they are in possession of a right to carry on trade as heretofore with China.

That such trade is not subject to be suspended by the local authorities of the honourable the East India Company in India, where the voyage has commencement, nor to the interdiction whilst on progress, by the select committee at Canton, which species of interruption is still more injurious than its being in toto prevented.

That the continuance of such trade is essentially necessary to this side of British India, as ensuring to the cultivators in the honourable Company's territories the means of vend for their produce, and your Memorialists venture to suggest to your lordships, that it is of almost equal importance to the interests of the honourable the East India Company, as by

the prosperity of the private commerce of this port, an extensive and very valuable class of shipping is at command in case of state emergency, and further, in the very large amount of revenue which is derivable to the Company, firstly, from the duty which is paid on the import of all cotton in the first instance, over and above the territorial revenue collected on such part of the produce of Guzerat as is grown within the British territories, and again, on the merchandize which is brought to this port from China, in return for the staple product of this side of India, besides that, on many occasions, the funds of individuals sent to China have afforded, and may again afford, desirable resources to the East India Company in China.

That your Memorialists are impressed with due respect towards the honourable the East India Company's select committee, also, generally towards the supra cargoes at Canton, and they put it to the candour of your lordships, that the operation of that sentiment is not disproved by the present appeal, because it proceeds wholly upon public grounds, seeking for the control of your lordships over a system, which in its continued operation, strikes at the very root of the commercial prosperity of this port. Under these circumstances your Memorialists humbly pray, that, in the wisdom and consideration of your lordships, such measures may be adopted as shall in time to come, relieve our trade from that contingency of ruin which is involved in the power of restraining it at the pleasure of the honourable the East India Company's authorities in this country, to the end, that so much of value as is at stake in the extensive private tonnage of this port, and the capital embarked in the trade to China, and the labour and responsibility of those engaged in it may so be employed, and under such safe assurance for its unmolested prosecution, as shall best redound to general and individual advantage; and, without which the trade of your Memorialists must fall into irretrievable and early decay

Copy of our Letter to Government, handed up with the foregoing Copy of the Memorial to the Lords Commissioners for the Affairs of India.

To the Right honourable Sir Evan Nepean, Bart. President and Governor in Council.

Right honourable Sir,

OWING to the very serious injury which, collectively and individually, we sustained in the past year, in consequence of the suspension of our commercial intercourse at China, and the apparent likelihood of resort to the same measure in the approaching season, in consequence of a continued state of hostile discussion between the honourable the East India Company's select committee of supra cargoes at Canton and the Government of China, (from the occurrence of those circumstances, as advised in the last accounts from China, which it is conjectured will lead to renewed conflict of opinion,) in which event, judging from the precedent of last year, it is to be more than apprehended, that the valuable commerce of this port will again be exposed to the ruinous consequences that have flowed, and ever must spring from the suspension of trade, we have, after very mature consideration, deemed it indispensably necessary to make representation of our case to the right honourable the Lords Commissioners for the Affairs of India, and, conceiving that it is decorous towards your honourable Board to make you acquainted with our proceedings, we beg leave to hand you copy of the Memorial we have framed, and intend transmitting by the first opportunity

This measure, we beg leave to assure your honourable Board, has not been precipitately adopted, neither has it rise in the operation of any ordinary or temporary injury to the interests of the individuals who have subscribed their names to the Memorial, but proceeds in the first place, from an enormous extent of loss, as respects our commercial concerns of the past year, and a thorough conviction that the certainty of entire annihilation of our trade with China, is involved in the continued exercise of similar power by the select committee of supra cargoes at Canton over the private commerce of British India.

We have the honour to remain, with the greatest respect,

Right honourable Sir,

Your most obedient and faithful servants,

✓ (Signed)

Bruce, Fawcett, & Co.
Forbes & Co
Shotton, Malcolm, & Co.
John Leckie & Co
R. De Faria ✓
J. W. Tasker
Pestonjee Bomanyee.
Hormajee Bomanyee.
Framjee Nanabhoy.
Cursjee and Jehangeer Ardaseer.
Kasie Goolam Hoossain.

Dhunjeebhoy Sorabjee.
Framjee Cowajee
Madowdass Runsordass.
Mody Nagurdass Kerjee.
Nanyee Siskurn
Motichund Amichund
Framjee Nasservanjee.
Pestonjee Bhicajee.
Lamjee Bhicajee, Sons, & Co.
Sorabjee Cowajee Patel,

Bombay, 15th May 1815.

Copy of Memorial, No. 2

To the Right Honourable the Earl of Buckinghamshire, President, &c &c &c,
Right Honourable the Board of Commissioners for the affairs of India.

My Lord,

WE had the honour of addressing ourselves to your lordships on the 15th May, in the form of a memorial, briefly setting forth the injury which we had sustained in the past year, by the forcible suspension of our trade at China, by the concurrent acts of the captains of His Majesty's ships of war then there, and the honourable the East India Company's select committee of supra cargoes at Canton, and the apprehension we entertained from the tenor of late advices from China, that in the ensuing season we should experience still further injury from similar exertion of authority, acting upon the recurrence of circumstances of a like or a still more threatening aspect, than those which induced its exercise in the past season

The prayer of that memorial was, that your lordships, in the exercise of your wisdom and consideration, would be pleased to grant us prospective relief, by causing our trade with China to be placed upon such a footing of security from the interference of the honourable the East India Company's authorities, as should best contribute to its advantage, and without which, we ventured to represent to your lordships, it must fall into irremediable and early decay.

In that memorial we further stated, that we should take the liberty of again obtruding ourselves upon your lordships attention, for the purpose of submitting to notice, the enormous losses which were last year entailed upon our commerce, by the act of interference therein referred to, and of enumerating the causes of such loss, in order that we might obtain that redress, to which under all circumstances, we humbly contend we are entitled, upon the broad principles of justice and equity

We have now therefore, to crave the attentive and indulgent consideration of your lordships, in the detail we are about to enter upon, and we trust, for excuse in so far varying from the ordinary mode of addressing your lordships, namely, in the precise form of a memorial, because such form is not so well adapted to that full explanation of circumstances and the arguments deducible from them, which we conceive will be found necessary to elucidate our case and support the claims we put forth

Before proceeding to the subject of our present address, we desire to impress upon your lordships conviction, that whilst we are impelled to the measure of appeal, by the pressure of an imperious necessity, from a firm belief that in substance the question of trade or no trade between British India and China, is involved in the continuance of that system which was last year carried into effect, by the select committee of supra cargoes at Canton, we are equally animated by a sincere desire, strongly to represent the injurious consequences that must flow from the continuance of that system, and to abstain from all approach to such expression as shall be referable to individuals as such. We desire to be viewed as respectfully protesting against a public measure, carried into act by the public servants of the honourable the East India Company, in conducting which, it is indispensably necessary to state their acts as public servants, to show how they have affected our interests, and to submit, whether they are powers, the exercise of which is delegated, by law to the East India Company

The object we have in view, in the present appeal to your lordships, is twofold, the one to claim indemnification from the honourable the East India Company, for the actual losses we sustained last year, upon the ground that they were the consequences of the forcible suspension of our trade, the other to pray, that as respects our future commercial intercourse with China, it may be relieved from such power of suspension by the public authorities of the honourable the East India Company

To establish our claim as respects the past, it will we are aware, be necessary to show, that in point of fact, there does not exist any legislative enactment, upon the authority of which, the honourable the East India Company is authorized to suspend the trade of individuals between British India and China, such persons being resident in India with due sanction, and as our claims in this respect, and fortified by circumstance, arise out of the law of the case, they have received the best attention of our legal advisers, whose opinions are to the contrary of any such delegation of authority by the British legislature to the honourable the East India Company, under all the facts submitted to their notice. With regard to those measures of prospective operation for the security of our commerce, which it is our object to obtain, they only so far hinge upon antecedent enactments, that if as respects the past, our interests have in substance been legally protected, so must they now be considered and hereafter, and the clear exposition of that law by your lordships would set the matter at rest; but in any event, and without reference to the interpretation of the present provisions of the legislature, we do consider it of vital importance to our commercial interests, that for the future they should be relieved from the evil consequences already submitted to your lordships, as inseparable from the suspension of our trade with China.

In stating the merits of our claim to pecuniary indemnification from the honourable the East India Company, for losses sustained, it will be necessary to draw your lordships

attention to a short detail of facts as they occurred in China, to the substance of an official document bearing the signatures of the select committee, which was read to the commanders of the country ships, on board the ship commanded by the senior officer of His Majesty's ships then present, and by one of the honourable Company's supra cargoes at Canton, to the British subjects there, convened at the honourable Company's factory for that purpose, upon this public document two acts were founded, namely, the prevention of country ships as they arrived at Chunpee, a place about five miles below the entrance of the Whampoa river, from proceeding up to Whampoa, and the ordering away within a given number of days, all His Majesty's subjects from Canton

For greater perspicuity, we will briefly state the circumstances relative to the last year's suspension of trade, in order of time as they had rise. In the early part of October last, several country ships from various ports of India, arrived at the mouth of Whampoa river, amongst them the Ann, Friendship, Anna Milford, and Good Success, belonging to the port of Bombay, all these ships were forcibly restrained from proceeding to Whampoa, the only place where cargoes are delivered and received. To this measure of detention protest was unavailingly made, and on the 9th of November the commanders of the country ships addressed a letter to the select committee of the supra cargoes, of which copy is enclosed marked (A). To that letter, reply was received, of which copy is also enclosed marked (B). On the 12th of November, a mandarin of rank came down to Chunpee, and the commanders of the various country ships having repaired on board the Ann, he delivered a message from the viceroy of Canton, inviting them to enter the port and trade as usual; assuring them of his protection, and that they should meet with no interruption from the Chinese government. He also delivered to each commander, a paper in the Chinese language to the same effect, of which translation is enclosed marked (C). On the 27th November, the embargo was taken off by the sanction of the select committee. The enclosed document marked (D) is, we have reason to believe, a correct copy of that which was read to the commanders of the country ships, as explanatory of the causes of the embargo.

These being the facts, so far as we are acquainted with them, the grounds in which we rest our claim to redress, are two-fold, first, the right of trade between the ports of British India and China, in the contemplation of the charter itself, secondly, the right by sufferance and special permission

It becomes us to speak with great diffidence to your lordships, regarding the interpretation and force of a legislative enactment, we therefore content ourselves with submitting, that as respects the present charter of the honourable the East India Company, it would seem, that the legislature had principally in view the regulation of the direct trade between the United Kingdom and places within the charter of the honourable Company, but that it left the domestic trade of India as between the several ports within the limits and China, to be conducted in the same way as it has been, from the first day when the capital and industry of British merchants residing in India were engaged in supplying the various and distant parts of the honourable Company's empire, of other places within the limits and China, with the respective products of each. That trade has considerably beyond the memory of any one subscribing this letter, been unmolestedly carried on, in its prosecution it has tended very much to enrich British India, and has certainly created the commercial importance of Bombay. Until the expiry of the last charter of the honourable Company, licensed British merchants and the natives of India, shut out as they were from such free participation in the trade with England, as can alone render it advantageous, had no other direction to give to their commerce, and we do admit, that until the past year, they experienced no hindrance from the authorities of the honourable Company, in regard to commercial intercourse with China, the free exercise of discretion, both as respects the extent and periods of adventure, was granted to individuals, the measure of their trade was precisely that of their means and their own views of advantage. The operation of the present charter has widely extended private commerce, and the merchants now trading to England, may send home lawfully all articles of China produce from any of the ports of India, save and except only tea, in no view of the case therefore, would it seem that the controlment of the domestic trade of India is vested in the honourable the East India Company. Every inference is against it, and we submit to your lordships, that if any inference be at all to be drawn from the context of the present charter, as legislating for the trade between the ports of British India one with the other, and between them and China, it makes directly in favour of the position, that such trade is legally protected, in as much as the honourable Company are guaranteed in the levy of customs and duties upon that trade, if therefore commerce is burdened with duties on the one hand, so on the other, must the free exercise of commerce be guaranteed, otherwise it can never be productive, but not only are these customs and duties payable, but in point of fact, from this port they are collected to the extent of five per cent on the cotton, before the adventure be well commenced. Whether this be or be not the view, that your lordships in consideration will take of the matter; we respectively beg leave to represent, that even if the clauses of the present charter do vest in the honourable the East India Company, the sole and exclusive privilege of trade between ports and places in India and China, if they do possess the power of making it a close monopoly; still that after individuals shall, with the sanction of any one of their competent authorities, have embarked in the trade to China, it is not competent for any other of their constituted authorities to interrupt the progress of that trade, for we persuade ourselves, that your lordships will plainly see how much less injurious is the operation of a law entirely restraining the employment of capital, than is the exercise of that authority in the middle stages of adventure. The loss occasioned by
entire

entire prohibition to trade is certainly great, but the hindrance of trade when in progress, creates positive loss upon capital, and defeats the legitimate reward of labour.

We have now endeavoured to show the fact of the interruption of our trade, that such interruption contravenes either the provisions of the legislature, by which that particular branch of our trade is protected, or, that it is not borne out even of the permission under which that trade was conducted, must be considered as especially granted. We further state to your lordships, that our interests have been seriously injured, both as shipowners and as merchants, and although we refrain from occupying your time by amplification on this head, we have put our agents into full possession of necessary statements, and they will be prepared to furnish such information as may be called for. We anxiously trust, that we shall be found to have made out our case for redress, as respects past losses, and we rest confidently assured, that if in the deliberate consideration of your lordships, the application of existing laws to the facts stated, shall illustrate our right to indemnification, the magnitude of those losses will not be suffered to affect the principle on which our claims for redress is so demonstrated.

Sic Orig

We now come to the second object of this address, namely, the establishment of the position, that it is necessary for the welfare of our commercial intercourse with China, that it should in future be protected from the power of suspension by the honourable the East India Company's authorities in this country.

We will not trespass upon your lordships time by argument, to show a position so self-evident, as that commerce must thrive in the very proportion of the security it possesses, but proceed to show how essentially important, to the interests of British India, is the unrestrained opportunity of commercial intercourse between all its ports and China, that it is impossible Bombay can exist, as a port of commercial importance, without that trade, and we shall endeavour to prove how inseparably involved the honourable the East India Company's interests are in the prosperity of that trade, and lastly, it will be our object to point out the impolicy of hindrance to such trade, founded upon the peculiar situation in which China stands with relation to any or all commerce that is carried on, or can be offered to the merchants of that empire.

The importance of the present existing trade between British India and China, is happily illustrated in its hitherto effects, in the aspect which commerce has assumed in India, in the multitude and excellence of her merchants ships, in the advantageous circulation of capital. It is evident that the continuance of this trade is of the utmost importance to those now embarked in it, it is indisputably important to the general prosperity of India, for the products of the soil are such as afford the means of trade with China, in infinitely greater proportion than as respects the trade between any two given ports within the dominions of the honourable Company. The principal products of India, that compose commercial adventure to China, are cotton and opium, the former is common to the trade from the three presidencies; the latter is exclusively sent from Calcutta, it is not permitted as an article of export from any other of the Company's presidencies, unless it can be proved to have been purchased at the honourable Company's annual sales of opium at Calcutta. The trade with China is the only one (except that with England) which can afford to employ vessels of the burthen and value now so numerous in India, it is true, that even the most valuable ships may occasionally find profitable employment in the trade between the various parts of the honourable Company's dominions, but the China trade is the grand root of all the domestic commerce of British India. The China trade then, as affording the most considerable market for the products of India, cannot be dispensed with, and the question arises, How shall that trade be conducted? Shall it be left free to the industry of British subjects in common with the honourable Company, or shall it be a close monopoly to the honourable Company? Shall it belong of right to the honourable Company to transport the whole of the territorial produce, as well of their own dominions as of places within the limits, or shall the merchants of India be at liberty to engraft another benefit on the productive powers of their own capital and labour, upon the happy fertility of Indian soil and climate? We submit at any rate, that if such exclusive privilege of trade between India and China be granted, the legislature must contemplate that such trade will be carried on, and we beg leave to urge upon the attentive consideration of your lordships, how the honourable Company are prepared to conduct that trade, in point of present means, or how it may in any case be within their power to carry it on, as points most naturally affecting the general scope of this subject. In the first place, we submit, that the trade between British India and China, must be considered in all its bearings, and especially as a trade both of export to and import from China. Now, in point of fact, the honourable Company never have carried it on as a whole trade, their commercial adventures to China have then had termination, and the proceeds have gone to supply the means of that still more valuable trade in tea, direct from China to England. In the second place, it is to be considered, what extent of tonnage and of capital is now embarked in the commerce between British India and China, and whether it would be convenient or for the interest of the honourable Company to carry into that trade, equal extent of either of those means which are indispensable, and are now possessed by individuals. In order to appreciate this, the means are within your lordships reach, and may be accurately drawn from the official records of the honourable Company. In order to illustrate it so far as our means allow, we shall state it in a manner, and to an extent, of which at least the error will be in failing adequately to show the importance of the subject, from falling short rather than exceeding the extent and value of the present private capital and tonnage embarked in the China trade.

The least estimate that can be formed of the annual export of private cotton to China, if one hundred thousand bales, or fifty thousand candies of 784 lbs, in measurement four bales equal one ton, so that for the cotton alone twenty-five thousand tons of shipping is requisite, the value of which is about	Rupees 50,00,000
The average price of cotton on board ship certainly exceeds, but let it be calculated at R ^s 140 per candy, and the value is	70,00,000
The charges of transit to China at R ^s 40 per candy	20,00,000
Of the quantity of opium annually sold at the honourable Company's sales in Calcutta, at least 2,500 chests may be assumed as the quantity exported for China in British ships, this at R ^s 1700 per chest amounts to	42,50,000
	<u>Rupees 182,50,000</u>

The most moderate estimate then of the value of tonnage and merchandize necessary for the present extent of the trade to China, is upwards of two millions two hundred thousand pounds sterling, excluding the value of pearls, sandal wood, patchuck and articles of still inferior value, that likewise are exported to China, and the honourable Company, to carry on the whole trade, must employ twenty-five thousand tons of shipping, and divert that extent of capital from their home trade, or supply it from the revenues of India. We submit to your lordships, that it is immaterial whether the honourable Company can so embark in the trade, whether they have refrained from it from motives of policy or otherwise, so is the fact, that by the application of private capital and labour, the commerce between British India and China has grown, in a series of years, to the very considerable extent we have pointed out, as between two of the honourable Company's presidencies only, but considerable value, and an interesting trade, is also embarked in private ships from the eastward, in pepper, beetlenut and rattans, of which we do not state more, because our information is not perfect enough to hazard even an estimate in an address of this nature. The importance of the trade between British India and China having, we humbly hope, been thus demonstrated, and that the trade, as a whole trade, has been exclusively conducted by private merchants, we represent with great earnestness, to the wisdom of your lordships, that either it is or ought to be protected in its progress, that we should be put into possession of a right to seek markets for it at Canton, without the restraint of the honourable Company's authorities.

We now show your lordships, that without the trade hence to China and back, Bombay could not exist as a port of commercial importance. It is known that Bombay does not afford, either in produce or manufacture, the means of export trade beyond the reach of its immediate vicinity. It is a place certainly not very happily endowed by nature, but it is geographically well situated for trade, and an active commerce affords employment for a most enormous population. From the port of Bombay all the cotton that is grown in Guzerat, surplus to the wants of that country, is eventually exported, and China has, and it is probable will continue, at least for some years, to constitute the chief and most profitable mart for it. In return for that cotton, and generally for the value of the outward loading of our ships, articles of China produce and bullion are imported, which again constitute the means of an important trade, and gives rise to a distinct and numerous set of merchants. The merchandize so imported, is peculiarly fitted for the wants of the Persian and Arabian Gulphs, the northern parts of Guzerat, and the dominions of his highness the Peshwa. In the resort hither of the ships and traders from all those places, an accession of advantage accrues to the commerce of this island, and in this constant flux and reflux of the products of many various parts of the world, results that advantage which has made Bombay so conspicuous amongst the commercial ports of the east. But as Bombay does not produce in itself those articles that are necessary to the wants of neighbouring and distant countries, this place is mainly dependent upon the China trade for its present commercial importance, and if that be abstracted from the industry of British merchants and native traders, either by law or by the operation of any system that defeats the practical advantages of that trade, the lapse of a very few years would leave but the record of history for the commercial importance of this place, and the barrenness of the rock on which we reside, would justify a doubt of its once having yielded the means of subsistence to a population as numerous perhaps as the subjects of some independent states.

In the vast importance of this subject to us, we hope to find the excuse of your lordships for the endeavour to show, that in the continuance of the trade between British India and China, the interests of the honourable Company are as much at stake as this of the humblest individuals who now present their claims to notice. In this attempt we feel it right to leave to the infinitely greater wisdom of your lordships, those points of primary importance, which are founded in the relative duty of the sovereigns of India towards its subjects, our aim is to show, that in revenue, and in the political resources which result from the trade of individuals, the honourable the East India Company very largely benefit.

In regard to revenue resulting from commercial intercourse with China, here again your lordships may command the most accurate information. In Bombay it consists in a levy of customs on the import of cotton from Guzerat, or upon its export at the port from whence it is shipped for Bombay. Upon the import of goods from China, (bullion being free of duty,) a town duty of 4 per cent is collected upon articles not re-exported from Bombay. Of the extent or scale of duties and customs levied by the honourable Company, on the transit of cotton from the province to Calcutta, we are not accurately informed, but, including the revenue drawn from the quantity of opium annually sent to China, it is
a very

a very great degree surpasses that which flows into the honourable Company's treasury from the commerce of other places, and although it is not immediately within our reach to point out the grand total of advantage that thus results to the honourable Company, from the course of trade between British India and China, we have thus taken the liberty of generally showing its sources, so that if, as we anxiously trust and confidently assure ourselves, your lordships shall permit the substantive importance of that trade to establish a very principal claim to the adequate security of its conduct, the means are within your lordships' reach of ascertaining the quantum of advantage, separately considered from the interests of individuals, that in this view of the matter it affords

As respects the political resources accruing to the Company, abstractedly considered from the advantage that springs from the encouragement to the greatest practicable extent of production from the soil of their own territories, and the circulation of wealth among all classes of their subjects, we submit to your lordships, that through the medium of commerce there are ever present means of transporting troops, conducting distant expeditions, and of alleviating in its occurrence the tremendous evil of famine, which occurs occasionally at different parts of the honourable Company's dominions. This resource is not in speculation, we do confidently appeal to the experience of events during the past charter, for practical demonstration of the fact, and great extent of it, and it is evident, that in the present widely extended dominions of the honourable Company, embracing as they do nearly all the sea coast of India, the power of immediate command of shipping is more than convenient, whilst by the existence of the valuable tonnage possessed by the merchants of India, the honourable Company command an unfailing resource, not only free of all cost to them when not required for public service, but which when not so engaged, is employed to the mutual advantage of the honourable Company and individuals. We should not have adverted to this particular, of which your lordships are fully aware, except that as connected with the position we have in a former part of this address endeavoured to demonstrate, it derives peculiar force, namely, that the largest and most valuable class of Indian shipping, is chiefly supported through the medium of the subsisting commerce between the ports of British India and China, if, therefore, political considerations the value of that resource, so necessarily is demonstrated the necessity of such a system as is calculated not merely to improve, but indispensable to the maintenance of the existing extent of that resource

Sic Orig

It remains for us humbly to represent to your lordships, the impolicy of any hindrance, and we may especially say such hindrance to our trade, as that which has given rise to this appeal to your lordships, founded upon the peculiar situation of China itself. Your lordships know, that the extent, fertility, and population of the dominions of the Emperor of China, the various soil and climate of its provinces, calculated to the productions of all the world, beside of every necessary that ministers to comfort or luxury, leaves China as a nation completely independent of foreign supply through trade, the internal commerce of China, for which by nature there are such admirable facilities in its numerous rivers, and by art through canals, supplies with mutual advantages its most distant provinces with the natural products of each. Satisfied with the prodigal bounty of nature, jealous of strangers, governed by despots, China until, comparatively speaking to the rest of the trade of Asia, a recent period, shut its ports to all foreigners, and to this day, after any experience of benefit which foreign trade may be supposed to have occasioned, still they act with a caution and jealousy, that, to have lasted so long, must be as characteristic of the minds of the Chinese, as it is of the genius of their government. With such a people, and under such disadvantage, no foreign trade can be so beneficial as under opposite circumstances it might be rendered, both to China and foreigners, but the fact being so, the real question is, whether under such circumstances, it be or be not advantageous to trade at all. For we think ourselves justified by experience, as well as by all that is reported of the jealousy and inveterate prejudice of the Chinese government, to presume that in its estimation of the relative value of any the most insignificant of its laws or usages, and of the importance of foreign trade, the latter is held to be perfectly insignificant. In thus stating the comparative nothingness of advantage resulting from their foreign trade, we refer chiefly to the view that is taken of the matter at the chief seat of government, and it is not reasonable to suppose, that the larger benefits which accrue to Canton as being the port of trade, through the corruption even of the officers of that government, ever will produce lasting concessions to foreigners, at variance with the general rule of policy prescribed by their laws, and with regard to the English, in particular, probably confirmed by their fears. On this part of the subject we have further to submit, that China as a nation, is still more independent upon foreign trade, as furnishing the means of revenue to the state, than it is as relates to the people, from its natural abundance, and variety of its products; for, in the largest estimate that can be framed of the value of the whole foreign trade that centres in the port of Canton, and on the largest computation of the revenue that flows into the imperial treasury, such deficit in the revenues as would be the consequence of the cessation of that trade, could scarcely be felt in such an empire as China. But it is to be remembered, that even if their trade be essentially important to the general and particular interests of China, still it is not solely dependent upon the trade of the United Kingdom for a market for its produce, for that merchandize which is now transported so largely through the means of British trade, is equally the object of desire, necessity, and means of revenue to all the world, and would soon be carried off in its present extent, through the trade of other European nations and of America. Even then supposing the continuance of their foreign trade to be aparamount object, the certainty of that trade being sought with avidity by all nations, would induce a despotic government, above all others, not to tolerate

the commerce of any one country, the authorities of which occasionally restrained it, and that in the ports of that government. These arguments, we conceive, are thus brought to bear upon the individual interests, the protection of which we solicit from your lordships. The government of China can only take one view of English trade, namely, that which frequents the port of Canton under the British flag; it does not recognize the trade of the honourable Company as peculiarly privileged; nor is the honourable Company there considered in any other light than as a commercial body. But if the emperor find, that such commercial body exercises within his dominions, such control as to interdict part of the trade of the same nation, if he witness such exertion of authority as shall shut out any portion of that trade with his dominions which is tolerated by his laws, if he see all the ships under the British flag, that are collected at the very mouth of his harbour to carry on trade with his subjects, sailing away from his port in obedience to the interdictory orders of that commercial body,—we submit to your lordships, that he can no longer consider that body as commercial only, the single view that the laws of his own jealousy does take, and is the sole plea of admission within his territories.

We further submit to your lordships, that whilst the government of China, on the one hand, will only view the establishment of the honourable Company at Canton as purely commercial, so on the other, as we are advised, is it considered by the British legislature; and that the honourable Company is not, in any view of the case, armed with political power, or can they legally exercise control over private property belonging to British subjects. And we respectfully represent to your lordships, that the suspension of our trade at any one given period of time, whilst it must tend to our ruin, cannot in reality insure any object of permanent good, in as much as the whole of the foreign trade in China is, in Chinese estimation, of infinitely less value than their laws and their prejudices.

We have now fully laid before your lordships, all that occurs as necessary upon this very important subject; it has been our endeavour so to state our case, that in earnestly soliciting the protection of your lordships over the commerce between this place and China, we shall be held to have discharged a duty to ourselves, without using the language of offence. In remonstrating against measures highly injurious to us, it is obviously necessary to state that injury, its extent and its cause, as well as to show the grounds upon which we lay claim to compensation and future protection, and we sincerely trust that the subject matter of this address will be honoured by the attentive consideration of your lordships.

We have the honour to remain with the greatest respect, my Lord,

Your lordships' most faithful obedient humble servants,

Bombay, 22 May 1815.

[Signed by the Merchants of Bombay]

(A)

Copy of a Letter addressed by the Commanders of the Country Ships detained at Chumpee, on account of the disputes with the Chinese Government, to J. F. Elphinstone, Esq. President of the Select Committee.

Sir,

WE have hitherto abstained from addressing you on the subject of our detention here, in the hope that the discussions with the Canton government would terminate favourably.

It appearing now that no rational hope can be entertained of an early adjustment, we beg leave to request your attention to the heavy losses that will be sustained by our employers and ourselves, in consequence thereof.

The country traders, by a temporary suspension of commercial intercourse with the Chinese, are sufferers in a much greater degree than the honourable Company, the favorable season for purchasing returns to India terminates early; the accumulating expenses of the ship, and loss of interest on the capital employed, bear much harder on individuals than on a powerful and opulent body, and the plans for the future employment of their shipping completely frustrated, involving them in utter ruin, while the honourable Company only suffer a partial inconvenience.

We beg leave further to represent to you, that last year, when discussions were pending of great importance, they were brought to a favourable issue, without its being necessary to lay any restraint on the country trade; and that the merchants in India have continued their speculations to China, confiding that their trade would suffer no interruption from disputes with the government.

These considerations we cannot but hope, will have weight, and induce you to listen to our request, that we may have permission to avail ourselves of the disposition manifested by the Chinese government, to allow us to trade unmolested, until the present discussions are brought to a conclusion.

As individuals, we beg leave to state, that we conceive it a peculiar hardship that we have received no orders for this detention, that can be produced to our employers, for our justification.

Professing our readiness to give the strictest obedience to all orders that we may receive, we have the honour to remain, Sir, your most obedient servants,

(Signed by)

Chumpee,
9th November 1814 }

Thomas Reddock	-	Ship Ann.
Thomas Howell	-	Friendship.
C. Learmouth	-	Milford.
John Tate	-	Anna.
Tho' Toussaint	-	Cambridge.
J. Reid	-	Good Success.
A. Acres	-	Frederick and Maria.

(B.)

Copy of the Reply of the Select Committee to the Commanders of Country Ships detained at Chuenpee.

Gentlemen,

WE have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th instant, and have to assure you, that we are fully aware of the loss and inconvenience that must attach to all the English trade at this port, much as we regret the circumstance, the delays that have occurred, and are likely to continue, are unavoidable, arising solely from the unjust proceedings of the Canton government, and depending solely on them to withdraw from or persevere in their conduct, it is impossible for us to say when they will terminate.

At the period that it was thought expedient, by the officers of His Majesty's ships, in conjunction with the committee, to prevent all British ships entering the port, the Canton government had suspended all trade, and interdicted all supplies to His Majesty's ships. Any explanation of such hostile proceeding was refused, our representations were returned unopened, and the government continued issuing most insulting edicts, and resorting to measures highly injurious to the interest of all persons connected with the trade of this port, and which, we trust, was satisfactorily explained to you in the paper sent for your perusal, through the senior officer of His Majesty's ships.

The only alternative in our power to draw the attention of this government, was, to prevent the entrance of British ships within the Bogue, a measure not more called for, by a consideration of what is due to the honour of the nation, than the security and safety of the property and persons of British subjects.

The present discussion, involving the interests of all British subjects equally, it was impossible to adhere to our usual mode of proceeding, that of permitting the country trade to go on (as in the last season, and several years preceding,) whilst those of the honourable Company remained suspended.

The view of the Chinese government, in inviting the country ships to enter the port, is from a hope of avoiding the granting the necessary security against the future molestation of British subjects, but until some explanation is obtained from them, there is a danger of these attempts and insults being repeated, and an annual suspension of trade.

As yet, therefore, we see no opening of which you can avail yourselves of entering the port, we sincerely hope the Chinese will not hold out, but the only chance of obtaining what is required, is by a firm and mutual resistance. Indeed we are disposed to believe, had it not been for the inconsiderate conduct of persons in Canton, representing their heavy losses sustained by the interruption of trade, and their conversation amongst the Chinese, thereby giving encouragement to the government to hold out, that ere this, the point in discussion would have been granted.

We are, &c

(Signed by) *J F Elphinstone,
Tho' Cha' Pattie.*

(C)

Translation of the Chop, delivered at Chumpee, to the Commander of Country Ships, from the Viceroy.

Tseang the Viceroy, to the Keun-min-foo and Tso-tang of the Heen-heang-shan, or district.

AT this time, the third English supercargo, Staunton, came to Canton and requested, that an officer might be sent out to him, as he had something to state. Half a moon has already elapsed, and the only thing that he has stated, is about Ayew. Ayew is a man who did not keep his own station, but rashly presumed to purchase rank, which is already stated to court, that he may be punished.

When the English nation prosecutes (or punishes) criminals, the Celestial Empire does not go over to ask them about it, and when the Celestial Empire prosecutes criminals, it is more unsuitable for the said nations, foreign merchants, to ask any questions. As to Ayew last year going to Peking and carrying the chief Elphinstone's presents to Sung-chung-tang, it was from the good heart of the chief, but the officers of the Celestial Empire cannot properly receive presents from foreigners. The affair was reported to his majesty, and the things returned, that, with Ayew's present crime, has no connection. The time in which he was a servant in the foreign factories, was during the ninth year of Kia-king, at that time Elphinstone had not come to Canton. How was he to know that Ayew was a man that did not keep his place, and was involved in crime? Only prosecuting him. Foreign merchants need not cherish doubts or suspicion. Twice already have explicit edicts been published, and Staunton still holds fast, dull apprehension unawakened. The ships which have arrived at Whampoa, have not opened their hatches, and those which have not entered, do not enter (the river). Several millions of property are in those ships, and they are allowed to be detained and injured (or ruined) for the sake of obtaining favour (or influence) in behalf of a Chinese criminal. It is greatly inexplicable. If the said nation's king does not wish to trade, it is proper for us to report it immediately to his majesty, that it may be put an end to, and we be spared from giving the useful productions

productions of China for useless foreign goods, and you, also, be spared the toil of coming from a remote distance. Won't it be more convenient for us both?

As the merchantmen come in succession, it appears that the said nation's king does not know of the business. It may be seen that Staunton has an intention to spoil the cargoes, that when the said nation's king inquires into the crime, he may throw the blame on Elphinstone, and get the situation of chief for himself, therefore, in his successive statements, he has not written Elphinstone's name, from which it is manifest he has an intention of usurping the chiefship—never to perceive this, is what may be called the greatest simplicity (or silliness)

It is now the commencement of winter, the wind and cold of heaven are collecting; it is also considered that the men in your merchantmen are floating at anchor on the wide ocean, wasting their provisions, and are deeply involved on account of Staunton; it is also apprehended that the bottom of the ships may be rotten, and they cannot return home, a case still more deplorable. Besides, already graciously allowing the three country ships to open their hatches and take in their cargoes, that they may leave the port, the Tsan-tsean of the admirals second (or middle) division, has been directed to examine the contents of this letter, and taking with him other officers and linguist to go to each of the country and company's ships (both those who have entered the river, and those who have not) and promulge the edict, inquiring whether or not it be the fact, that the said nation's king does not wish to trade, and report accordingly. Give a copy to each ship, and let them do as they like. They ought not like Elphinstone to allow themselves to be befooled, and act criminally towards the king of the said country.

This letter is moreover forwarded to the Tso-tang of Macao, that he may, in obedience hereto, promulge an edict to all the foreign merchants at Macao.

Do not oppose

19 year, 9 m 27 day

Nov 8th, 1814

Outside cover addressed to the Kium-min-foo and Tso-tang

Send a special messenger, mounted on the fleetest steed, and fly like the shooting star, to deliver this to the Tso-tang

(D)

A STATEMENT of the Discussion with the Officers of the Canton Government,
in the Season 1814-15.

1st—On the 9th May, two boats belonging to His Majesty's ship Doris proceeded to Whampoa, and there boarded the American schooner Sphynx, they remained on board for some time, the officer then withdrew his people and returned to his ship.

2d—This transaction was very fully discussed, first with the Hong merchants, and afterwards with the chief magistrate of the Macao district. It was attempted to be explained, that as the committee possessed no authority or controul over His Majesty's officers, that the discussion should be more properly carried on with Captain O'Brien. This the Chinese declined, and when a letter from Captain O'Brien was delivered to the viceroy, on understanding it came from that officer, he immediately returned it, declaring he would receive communications only from the committee.

3d—As the Chinese government were understood to be favourably disposed, and with the hope of adjusting differences, the committee entered into discussion with the parties before-mentioned. The proceeding of His Majesty's ship Doris's boats to Canton, was distinctly disavowed, or any act violating the neutrality of the Chinese dominions. It was asserted, that no authority had been given by the English government, for any act infringing the neutral rights of China, and that it was far from the intention of His Majesty's officers that such acts should be committed.

4th—In proof of the existence of these statements, it was observed, that for 16 years His Majesty's ships of war had been in the practice of coming to China, no act of this nature had taken place, neither was it probable it would be again attempted, it was further remarked, that had Captain O'Brien entertained other sentiments, a larger force would again have proceeded to Whampoa the following day.

5th.—The Chinese government, through the parties before-mentioned, (who appeared fully authorized to discuss the subject in question,) distinctly stated to the committee, that the affair might be considered as finally adjusted and settled.

6th—This single act, however, of the Doris's boats proceeding to Whampoa, appears however to be the only one which the Chinese government have any right to consider as violating their neutral rights, and on this they appear chiefly to have proceeded in their subsequent proceedings toward the English.

7th—The government commenced by repeated official documents addressed to the committee, stating some supposed infraction of their regulations, and requiring the immediate departure of the Doris. The charge was endeavoured to be disproved, and it was further represented, that many valuable English ships were arriving from India at all periods, and that unless the Doris was on the station to protect them, they would be exposed to great risque of capture by the American privateers.

8th.—Several of the American privateers have actually arrived; two with English prize goods on board. These vessels were immediately admitted, without a question; while the objections

objections to English ships were continued, not only against the Doris, but also on the occasion of the arrival of His Majesty's ship Theban, deputed to China in pursuit of the Jacob Jones.

9th.—To the various documents received from the Chinese government, it was endeavoured to be explained, that much danger was to be apprehended from the American vessels, that they were armed and fitted for the purposes of warfare and making captures, that in fact, their putting on the appearance of merchant vessels and not cruising off the port, was in consequence of a superior British force preventing their so doing these statements were wholly unattended to

10th.—An English ship, Arabella, Captain Price, from Calcutta, bound from Bengal to the Malay coast, was captured by the American privateer Rambler The Rambler succeeded in getting up the river, the Arabella anchored in Macao roads, and the pilot stated, that the officer reported the ship an American, bound from Bengal to Batavia, but blown by adverse winds off Cabanta Point there, said the Doris and took refuge in Macao

11th.—Finding that His Majesty's ships were at Chuempee, the officer in charge of the Arabella proceeded to Macao The governor, on ascertaining the circumstances agreeably with existing treaties, immediately ordered the ship from within the Portuguese limits, and sent a guard for the purpose of carrying the vessel without them

12th.—The Arabella was carried out accordingly, and left by the Portuguese guard, when the boats of His Majesty's ship Doris boarded her. Captain O'Brien has stated, that they found three persons (British subjects) on board.

13th.—The Chinese government seized on the occasion to make a further declaration against the Doris It was stated, that another violent act of aggression had been committed, by the capture of an American ship in Macao harbour, and in consequence the prohibition to give any supplies to His Majesty's ships (which had already been directed, and to a degree acted upon), was more vigorously enforced, and the compradors were ordered to be seized

14th.—An officer was sent from Canton, for the purpose of investigating the affair, the several circumstances relating to the Arabella, were distinctly explained The absurdity of the report that an American vessel could trade between two English settlements, as Bengal and Batavia were, that no vessel bound to Batavia could come to China, that there were six prisoners on board the Rambler at Whampoa,—a reference to the custom house books would show them, that the English ship, Arabella, Captain Black, arrived about February 1812, and sailed the end of March following, and that if all these circumstances were not sufficient, there was the statement of the Portuguese government in corroboration

15th.—Notwithstanding all these strong and clear proofs, and which appeared to remove every doubt from the officer deputed, the Canton government still affect to give credit to the story of the ship being an American, and the trade, &c remained suspended

16th.—In consequence of five American vessels, four of them known to be privateers, lying at the entrance of the Bogueer, Captain O'Brien determined on convoying two English ships up the river The Doris was fired at by the Chinese vessels of war, nine guns were discharged, the last only being shotted

17th.—Captain O'Brien has stated to us, that he fired one gun without shot, immediately anchored, and proceeded on board the vessel of the commanding officer to require explanation Some objections were made to his going on board, he however proceeded, and was very rudely received by the commanding officer, nor was any satisfactory reason given for firing It was represented, that these American vessels were lying much in the way of English ships, that they had already captured our vessels, and would do so again, and for the purpose of protecting the ships, the Doris had accompanied them to the entrance of the river, and that it appeared but just, that where the armed American vessels anchored, English ships might anchor also, and that the Doris would proceed there The Chinese officer admitted, that it was improper, that the Americans should be at anchor there, and said that they should move The next morning, the two English ships passed up, and Captain O'Brien waving further discussion, returned to Macao roads

18th.—The circumstance of the Doris proceeding to Chunper, was immediately reported by the officer commanding the war vessels, with every addition of violating regulations and exciting disturbances

19th.—These reports produced the usual official document from the different officers to the committee Frequent attempts were made to reply, but the letters invariably rejected, and sent back unopened We have been informed, that the representations of the Americans have been received, and, from the tenor of some of the Chinese papers, it appears they are grounded on American reports

20th.—On the 12th Sept an official document was transmitted by the merchants to the committee, stating that it was illegal for foreigners to engage Chinese, prohibiting all persons from entering their service, and directing all Chinese who might violate these regulations, to be apprehended and punished This was accompanied by a letter from the merchants, requesting that the committee would give directions to all English persons, prohibiting their taking into their service any Chinese

21st.—On the 15th Sept a reply was returned to the Foo-yuen and Hoppo, it stated, for above a hundred years the English had traded to Canton, that the attendants at the factory were chiefly Chinese, and that an anxious desire to prevent quarrels and disturbances had induced the English to limit the number of attendants of their own country as much as possible

22d.—The committee at the same time were desirous of complying with the regulations prescribed, and acknowledged that it would at once be more respectable and satisfactory

to have their attendants composed of persons belonging to their own country; but, it was to be observed, the factories at Canton, from their situation and extent, were neither adapted to, nor capable of, containing the requisite number of Europeans, who, including the honourable Company's establishment, could not be estimated at fewer than 300 persons

23d —It was stated, that, as the factories were entirely open to the intrusion of the populace of a large city, a continued series of riots and disturbances between Chinese and foreigners was inevitable. From the factories being unable to contain the numbers, the committee stated, that, if it were the intention of the government to enforce the regulations, the carrying on the trade as heretofore in Canton was in fact impracticable, it was submitted, therefore, to the consideration of government, provided these regulations were to be enforced, that some place might be appointed for the English to resort to, where they would be secure from the intrusion of the Chinese.

24th —This address, together with two others to the viceroy, was carried to the city gates by Mr Molony, Captains Barnard, Patterson, and Turner. The letters were delivered to an officer of some rank, and, in the course of a few hours, were brought back to the factory unopened by the linguist, accompanied by a message from the viceroy, stating that he would receive no letters written in Chinese, if letters were addressed to him, they were to be written in English. As the viceroy neither understood English himself, or has any person capable of translating it, it is evident it is little else than mere evasion. Such observations as in an English letter might chance to please, would be acknowledged. There is, however, a very serious objection to putting an English document into the hands of an officer of government, it enables the Canton government to send such representation to Pekin, as the purport of the English representation, as they may think proper.

25th —Some explanation from the government, on the subject of Chinese attendants, is absolutely necessary, for (from a wish to avoid all disturbances) the whole of the attendants of all classes, are, in fact, composed of Chinese. At the caprice of the viceroy, or any of the officers of government, with this prohibition unexplained, the English may, in an hour, be deprived of every attendant at their factories, and, if enforced in the course of the season at Canton, all business must as effectually be put a stop to, as if the English trade was prohibited

26th —To carry their insults and aggressions still further, and to prove to the English how little they had to expect from the government, of good treatment or protection, or how little they considered us as worthy of respect, the viceroy directed the police magistrate of the district (the Naw-hac-hin) to enter the honourable Company's factory, which he did suddenly, and without notice of his intentions

27th —Fortunately the officer employed on this occasion, bears a most respectable character, and it appears no violence or depredations were permitted, an officer of a different disposition might have proceeded otherwise.

28th —On the merchants coming to Macao, they were questioned as to the fact; they acknowledged it to be true, and that they were required to accompany the Naw-hic-heen; but they were ignorant for what purpose, whether to seize persons, papers or property, or only to examine.

29th —The security of our factories and dwellings from the intrusion of the officers of government, at the caprice of any person, is a point obviously necessary to be established; the insult and injury directly offered to, and received by us, under these proceedings, are too evident to require illustration.

30th —Communication between H M. ships at Chumpee and the H C. ships at Whampoa, being required on points of service, to prevent any act on the part of the Chinese, that might lead to serious consequences, and to obviate the necessity for the boats of H M. ship Doris proceeding to Whampoa, Captain Barnard was directed to send an officer from the honourable Company's ships at Whampoa to Chumpee. Application was accordingly made for the usual pass, not only through the custom house at Whampoa, but also through the Hong merchants. Permission for boats to proceed or communicate with the ships at Chumpee, was positively refused, no reason being assigned for this refusal. In any other country such a measure would be considered as direct hostility.

31st —As Captain Patterson, of the honourable Company's ship Thomas Grenville, was proceeding in his boat, with a flag that has been respected by long established custom, he was forcibly compelled to return to the Whampoa custom house

32d.—Captain Hodgson has received a statement from Captain Collier, from Chumpee, of three English vessels coming down the river being fired at by the war vessels, and that these ships anchored; they were provided with the usual port clearances.

33d.—Under a government where the representations of foreigners are treated with so little attention, this practice of firing at ships from the war vessels, may be attended with most serious consequence to both parties

34th.—The last measure of insult and hostility that the government has resorted to against the English, is the apprehending the person who was the bearer of a box having a portrait of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, and sent by the chairman of the honourable the Court of Directors to his Excellency Sung-ta-gib, who had distinguished himself when viceroy at Canton, by his attention and kindness to the English, and also on a former occasion of the embassy to Pekin.

35th —Perhaps with a desire to close every avenue of communication between Canton and Pekin, or to prevent or deter any Chinese from rendering any services to the English, the officers of the government, and the Hong merchants also, used some exertions to involve this

this person in trouble on his arrival in Canton in September 1813. Many unfounded calumnies were circulated about this person and the mission, but, probably, apprehension of the rank of Sung-ta-gin, and further, that the emperor has expressed no dissatisfaction, the officers of the Canton government did not venture to molest him openly on his first arrival, and thought it prudent to delay their proceedings

36th —It is not improbable, that the seizure of this person, by order of the viceroy, is for the purpose of extracting from him some tale of treasonable practices, and such as to give a colour to their unjust proceedings towards the English be this as it may, the honourable mission on which he was engaged, and the services he may have intended to render by undertaking the charge, demand, from motives of honour as well as policy, our best exertions in his favour. It must be proved to the Chinese, that to direct those who have rendered them service, is no part of the English character

37th —Nothing is too absurd for the officers of government to advance against the English. On digging the foundation of the buildings of the Company's factory, this reason, among the other substances found, that proved that the river formerly flowed where the factories now stand, was a quantity of decayed brimstone or sulphur. It was immediately affected to be considered as an affair of consequence. inferior officers, ever on the watch to plunder and oppress, made their report, they were ordered to examine, the workmen were seized, the owner of the factory, a Hong merchant, examined and required to produce his title deeds. Fortunately for all parties, the Nan-hac-heen already mentioned, is of a good disposition, he treated the whole as it deserved, and the affair dropped, an officer of a different character might have magnified the affair into importance, interrupted the buildings, and imprisoned the parties.

38th —We had ample experience of the injustice and oppressive disposition of the government during the last season. the viceroy set up the most unfounded objections to the gentlemen appointed by the honourable the Court of Directors to preside over their affairs in China, the committee were under the necessity of suspending the commercial proceedings of the Company for nearly three months, when at length the viceroy was induced to withdraw his interference, and gave up the point he had attempted to carry

39th —On a review of the conduct of the Canton government, every movement of His Majesty's ship Doris, distorted into an act of violent aggression, and every possible objection made to His Majesty's ships remaining on the station, while at the same time, every facility and assistance is afforded most readily to our enemies, we cannot but see partiality and injustice, whether undue influence has been practised to obtain this, remains yet to be proved

40th —The object at present of the Chinese government, is clearly to force His Majesty's ships from their station, and to permit these American privateers to sail away unmolested. It is equally clear, that this His Majesty's officers cannot comply with, it would be endangering the property of British subjects to a great extent

41st —Every attempt at vindicating the conduct of His Majesty's officers, when accused, or of explaining circumstances, is most positively refused, by all letters being rejected, provisions and supplies are withheld from His Majesty's ships, the English trade has been stopped; all communication cut off between the English ships in the river, regulations proposed for the foreign trade, under which it would be impossible to carry it on, and until explained or disavowed, at the option of government, to molest us. The entry of the officers of government into our factories and dwellings, and there no longer respected, the seizure of persons suspected of being friendly to the English. Under these concurring circumstances the committee has considered, that the only resource left to them, is to appeal to his Imperial Majesty against the unjust oppressive acts of the provincial government of Canton, and they further consider, that it is not expedient or proper, that the persons of British subjects should be exposed to the injustice and oppression of the Canton government

42d —Having communicated fully with Brian Hodgson Esq the senior officer of His Majesty's ships in China, he has concurred with the committee, that it is expedient, as well for the safety and interests of the parties concerned, as in the hope of new publishing the trade, that all persons claiming the protection of the British flag, do quit Canton in four days from this notice, and that an appeal be made to his Imperial Majesty.

43d —In coming to this resolution of suspending the commercial intercourse, and withdrawing the ships from Whampoa, the committee are fully aware of the heavy loss and disappointment that must necessarily be incurred by all persons connected with the extensive and valuable trade carried on by the English with China. These persons must bear in mind, that the honourable Company are no less sufferers, and that they have made repeated sacrifices for the general interests of the trade in China

44th —Whenever it was possible to do so, the committee have been anxious to relieve the country trade from the loss that attends the delay occasioned by resisting the oppressions of the China government, on an occasion of great importance to the general interests of the trade last season, the committee did not require the country trade to participate

45th,—On the present occasion, when the attempt is made to deprive them of the protection of their ships of war, and to expose them to the enemy, it must be evident, that their particular interests are threatened, as well as those of the honourable Company

46th —The committee will leave no exertion untried to bring their remonstrances to the notice of the imperial government, they can scarcely flatter themselves in obtaining the assistance of the officers at Canton, in forwarding their representations to Peking, and at

this period of the year, the voyage to the northward will be long and precarious; still will every attempt be made that promises a hope of success.

47th — The committee anxiously hope, that the interruption may not prove to be for a long period, at the same time the discussions may be protracted, they trust that the exposition here given, will prove satisfactory to every British subject, as such, the committee feel convinced, that however great the sacrifice to the individual may be, he will cheerfully acquiesce in the delay, rather than the trade be continued at the expense of the honour and credit of his country

Macao, }
10th October 1814 }

(Signed) J. F. Elphinstone.
Tho' Chas Pattle.
Geo. Tho' Staunton

Appendix (L.)

FORM OF COVENANT FOR PERSONS TO RESIDE IN INDIA.

Recital of the Party's
Application for leave
to go to India there to
reside

THIS INDENTURE, made the _____ day of _____ in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and _____ Between the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies of the one part, and _____ of the other part, Witnesseth, That at the request of the said United Company have given and granted, and by these presents do give and grant, full and free licence, power and authority, unto the said _____ during the pleasure of the said Company, and until this license shall be revoked by the said Company, or their Court of Directors, or the Governor General, or Governor of the presidency where the said _____ shall from time to time be found, to proceed to the principal settlement of _____ the said United Company in the East Indies, there to reside

according and subject to the provisions and restrictions contained in an Act of Parliament made and passed in the fifty-third year of the reign of His present Majesty, intituled, "An Act for continuing in the East India Company for a further term, the possession of the British territories in India, together with certain exclusive privileges, for establishing further regulations for the government of the said territories, and the better administration of justice within the same, and for regulating the trade to and from the places within the limits of the said Company's charter," and subject to all such provisions and restrictions as are or hereafter may be in force, with regard to persons residing in India, and also subject to the covenants and agreements of the said

He covenants

hereinafter mentioned Provided always, and these presents are upon this express condition, that in case of breach or non-observance of any of the provisions, restrictions, covenants, or agreements, subject to which this licence is granted, and on the part of the said _____ to be observed and performed, then and

from thenceforth the license hereby granted shall be and become absolutely null and void, and of no force or effect whatsoever, and the said _____ shall be deemed and taken to be a person residing and being in the East Indies without any licence or authority for that purpose And the said _____ for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, doth hereby covenant, promise, and agree to and with the said United Company, in manner and form following, that is to say

— To submit himself
to the regulations of
the local governments
there

(First) That he the said _____ from the time of his arrival at _____ aforesaid, shall and will behave and conduct himself, from time to time and in all respects, conformably to all such rules and regulations as now are or hereafter may be in force at the said presidency, or at any other presidency in the East Indies, where he, the said _____ may happen to be, and which shall be applicable to him or his conduct, and which he ought to obey, observe, and conform to

— Not to trade con-
trary to law

(Secondly) That he the said _____ shall not nor will, by himself, or in partnership with any other person or persons, or by the agency of any other person or persons, either as principal, factor, or agent, directly or indirectly engage, carry on, or be concerned in any trade, bank, dealings, or transactions whatsoever, contrary to law: (Thirdly) And that, in case the said _____ shall be guilty of any violence, oppression, or wrong, to any person or persons, not being an European-born subject, or European-born subjects of His Majesty, his heirs, or successors, or shall commit any offence against any king, prince, government, state, or nation, within the limits of the said Company's charter, or shall be charged with any such violence, oppression, wrong, or offence, then and in such case the said _____ shall and will submit himself therein, in all things, to the decision of the said United Company or their Court of Directors, or of the Governor-General in council, or Governor in council, of any of the presidencies of the said Company in the East Indies, if they, or any of them, shall see fit to interfere therein; and that he, the said _____ his executors or administrators, shall and will pay and make good all such sum and sums of money, and do and perform all such acts, matters, and things whatsoever, as a reparation of the injuries which

— To make satisfac-
tion to natives or fo-
reigners and native
states, for oppression,
wrong, and offences

shall be guilty of any violence, oppression, or wrong, to any person or persons, not being an European-born subject, or European-born subjects of His Majesty, his heirs, or successors, or shall commit any offence against any king, prince, government, state, or nation, within the limits of the said Company's charter, or shall be charged with any such violence, oppression, wrong, or offence, then and in such case the said _____ shall and will submit himself therein, in all things, to the decision of the said United Company or their Court of Directors, or of the Governor-General in council, or Governor in council, of any of the presidencies of the said Company in the East Indies, if they, or any of them, shall see fit to interfere therein; and that he, the said _____ his executors or administrators, shall and will pay and make good all such sum and sums of money, and do and perform all such acts, matters, and things whatsoever, as a reparation of the injuries which

therein, in all things, to the decision of the said United Company or their Court of Directors, or of the Governor-General in council, or Governor in council, of any of the presidencies of the said Company in the East Indies, if they, or any of them, shall see fit to interfere therein; and that he, the said _____ his executors or administrators, shall and will pay and make good all such sum and sums of money, and do and perform all such acts, matters, and things whatsoever, as a reparation of the injuries which

which he shall have occasioned, or the offence he shall have given, as he shall be required by any such decision to pay, make good, do, or perform, and on failure thereof, it shall be lawful to and for the said Company, or their Court of Directors, or any of their agents, to pay or cause the same to be paid, made good, done, and performed, and thereupon the said

his executors or administrators, shall and will reimburse to the said Company, their successors or assigns, all such sum and sums of money as shall be so paid, and all costs, charges, and expenses, which may be incurred thereby (Fourthly) And that, before he, the said

shall return to Europe, or remove from, quit, or leave the presidency or settlement where he shall reside or shall be found, he, the said

shall and will pay and satisfy, and perform all such debts, sums of money, duties, and engagements, as he shall owe or be liable to perform to the said Company, or any person or persons, not being an European-born subject or European-born subjects of His Majesty, his heirs, or successors, or for any injury or offence he may have done or committed, as herein-before mentioned; and that, in case of any breach of this covenant, he the said

— Not to quit India without satisfying all debts to the Company, natives, and foreigners, before departure

shall and will pay unto the said

Company and their successors, for the damages in respect of the breach thereof, such sum of money as he shall have owed, and which he shall have omitted to pay, as herein-before mentioned, or such sum of money as shall be equal to the damage actually sustained by any person or persons, by breach or non-performance of any duty or engagement which, under the covenant herein-before contained, he ought to have satisfied or performed, before such return or removal, to the end that the said Company, if they shall see fit, may pay over such damages to the creditor or creditors, or injured party or parties, for his, her, or their own benefit, or may apply them to any other purpose, or keep them for the use of the said Company, their successors or assigns In witness whereof, to one part of these indentures,

the said United Company have caused their common seal to be affixed, and to the other part thereof the said

and year above written

has set his hand and seal, the day

Sealed and delivered (being first duly stamped) in the presence of



CORRESPONDENCE

WHICH HAS RECENTLY TAKEN PLACE BETWEEN

COMMISSIONERS FOR THE AFFAIRS OF INDIA AND THE
COURT OF DIRECTORS OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY

RELATIVE TO

The Cessation of the Company's Trade.

Ordered to be printed 2d August 1833.

L I S T.

No		Page
1.	Minute of Secret Court of Directors, 5th June 1833	5
2.	Minute of Secret Committee of the Whole Court, 5th June 1833	1b
3	Minute of Secret Committee of the Whole Court, 12th June 1833	1b
4	Minute of Secret Court of Directors, 12th June 1833	1b
	Letter from the Chairman and Deputy Chairman to the Right Honourable Charles Grant, dated 12th June 1833	6
5	Minute of Court of Directors, 5th July 1833	1b
	Dissent by Henry St. George Tucker Esq, dated 2d July 1833	1b
	Dissent by Richard Jenkins Esq, dated 5th July 1833	13
6	Minute of Court of Directors, 9th July 1833	19
	Letter from the Committee of Commanders and Officers in the Company's Maritime Service, dated 9th July 1833	1b
7.	Minute of Committee of the Whole Court, 9th July 1833	20
8.	Minute of Committee of the Whole Court, 10th July 1833	1b
9	Minute of Court of Directors, 10th July 1833	1b
	Letter from the Chairman and Deputy Chairman to the Right Honourable Charles Grant	21
10	Minute of Committee of Correspondence, 10th July 1833	1b
11.	Minute of Court of Directors, 10th July 1833	1b
	Letter from the Chairman and Deputy Chairman to the Right Honourable Charles Grant, dated 11th July 1833	1b
12	Minute of Court of Directors, 17th July 1833	22
	Letter from the Right Honourable Charles Grant to the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, dated 13th July 1833	23
	Letter from the Right Honourable Charles Grant to the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, dated 13th July 1833	1b
	Letter from the Right Honourable Charles Grant to the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, dated 13th July 1833	24
	Letter from the Chairman and Deputy Chairman to the Right Honourable Charles Grant, dated 17th July 1833	1b.
13	Minute of Committee of the Whole Court, 19th July 1833	1b
14.	Minute of Court of Directors, 19th July 1833	25
	Dissent by William Wigram Esquire, Deputy Chairman, and by William Astell Esquire, dated 19th July 1833	1b.
	Paragraphs for China, dated 23d July 1833	27
	Paragraphs for Bengal, dated 23d July 1833	28
15.	Minute of Court of Directors, 23d July 1833	1b
16	Minute of Committee of the Whole Court, 23d July 1833	29
17	Minute of Court of Directors, 23d July 1833	1b.
	Letter from the Chairman and Deputy Chairman to the Right Honourable Charles Grant, dated 23d July 1833	30
	Letter from the Chairman and Deputy Chairman to the Right Honourable Charles Grant, dated 23d July 1833	1b
	Dissent by Richard Jenkins Esquire, dated 23d July 1833	1b
18.	Minute of Committee of the Whole Court, 24th July 1833	34
19	Minute of Court of Directors, 24th July 1833	1b
20.	Minute of Court of Directors, 26th July 1833	35
	Letter from the Right Honourable Charles Grant to the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, dated 25th July 1833	1b
	Letter from the Right Honourable Charles Grant to the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, dated 25th July 1833	36
	Dissent by James Rivett Carnac Esq, dated 26th July 1833	1b
21	Minute of the General Court of the East India Company, 26th July 1833	39
	The Petition from the East India Company to the Honourable House of Commons, noticed in the preceding Minute	1b
	Letter from Edward Lawford Esq (Company's Solicitor) to Peter Auber Esq, Secretary to the East India Company, dated 29th July 1833	41
22.	A Bill (as passed by the Honourable the House of Commons) for effecting an Arrangement with the East India Company, and for the better Government of His Majesty's Indian Territories	1b

CORRESPONDENCE, &c.

No. 1.

At a SECRET COURT of DIRECTORS held on Wednesday the 5th June 1833.

The Court resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole Court for the Purpose of considering a Draft of a Letter which the Chairman stated it was his Intention to submit to the Right Honourable Charles Grant, on the Subject of the Commercial Contracts and Engagements into which, following usual Practice, the Company would enter previously to April next.

No 1.
Minute of
Secret Court of
Directors,
5th June 1833.

No. 2.

At a SECRET COMMITTEE of the WHOLE COURT held on Wednesday the 5th June 1833.

The Chairman submitted the Draft of a proposed Letter to the Right Honourable Charles Grant, inviting the particular Attention of His Majesty's Ministers to the Predicament in which the Company, by the present peculiar Posture of their Affairs, are placed, with regard to Commercial Contracts and Engagements into which, following usual Practice, they would enter previously to April next, and soliciting a Communication of the Opinions and Wishes of His Majesty's Ministers upon the Question, whether the Company should decline to enter into any fresh Commercial Contracts, or should continue to make them until April 1834.

The said Draft of a Letter was read, and the further Consideration thereof adjourned.

No 2
Minute of
Select Committee
of the
Whole Court,
5th June 1833

No 3.

At a SECRET COMMITTEE of the WHOLE COURT held on Wednesday the 12th June 1833.

The Draft of a proposed Letter to the Right Honourable Charles Grant, respecting the Commercial Contracts and Engagements of the Company, which was submitted by the Chairman on the 5th Instant, was read and approved.

No 3.
Minute of
Secret Committee
of the
Whole Court,
12th June 1833.

No. 4.

At a SECRET COURT of DIRECTORS held on Wednesday the 12th June 1833.

The Chairman submitted the Draft of a Letter to the Right Honourable Charles Grant, which had been agreed to in the Committee of the Whole Court, inviting the particular Attention of His Majesty's Ministers to the Predicament in which the Company are placed with regard to Commercial Contracts and Engagements into which, following usual Practice, they would enter previously to April next; and soliciting a Communication of the Opinions and Wishes of His Majesty's Ministers upon the Question, whether the Company should decline to enter into any fresh Commercial Contracts, or should continue to make them until April 1834;

Whereupon the said Draft of a Letter was read; and, on the Question, approved.

No 4
Minute of
Secret Court of
Directors,
12th June 1833

No 4
 Minute of
 Secret Court
 of Directors,
 12th June 1833

LETTER from the CHAIRMAN and DEPUTY CHAIRMAN to the Right Honourable
 CHARLES GRANT.

Sir,

East India House, 12th June 1833.

We are requested by the Court of Directors of the East India Company to invite your particular Attention, and that of the rest of His Majesty's Ministers, to the Situation in which the Company, by the present peculiar State of their Affairs, are placed, with regard to Commercial Contracts and Engagements into which, following usual Practice, they would enter previously to April next.

We allude to Contracts with Manufacturers in England for the Supply of Cloths for the China Market; to Contracts for the Delivery in India of Silk and other Articles for Exportation to Europe, and of Cotton for Exportation to China, and to Contracts with the Tea Merchants in China, for the usual Supply of Tea for the London Market.

If, previously to the Public's taking place of the Company in the Trade, the Company decline to enter into their usual Engagements, it may be apprehended that Manufacturers will fall into Distress, Natives of India be thrown out of Employ, and the Markets Abroad greatly deranged, but, upon the other hand, if the Company pursue their usual Course, the Difficulty of speedily closing their Commercial Concerns may be increased, and the Impediments to the early Operation of a free Trade with China, which the Company's large Stock of Tea on hand presents, be aggravated.

In these peculiar Circumstances, the Court feel that it is their Duty to seek a Communication of the Opinions and Wishes of His Majesty's Ministers upon the Question, whether the Company should decline to enter into any fresh Commercial Contracts, or should continue to make them.

We have only to add, that the Court feel no other Interest in the Decision of this Question than that which arises from Consideration towards Individuals and the Public, and from a sincere Desire that in the Event of the Adoption of the Government Plan with regard to the Company no fresh Difficulty should be opposed to its Operation.

We have the Honour to be, &c.

(Signed) C. MARJORIBANKS.
 W. WIGRAM.

The Right Honourable Charles Grant,
 &c. &c. &c.

No. 5.

AT a COURT of DIRECTORS held on Wednesday the 5th July 1833.

No 5.
 Minute of
 Court of Directors,
 5th July 1833.

Henry St. George Tucker Esq. and Richard Jenkins Esq., Members of the Court, severally delivered in their Dissents from the Court's Resolution of the 1st Instant, approving the Draft of a Letter to the Right Honourable Charles Grant, in reply to his Letters of the 24th and 26th Ultimo, which relate to the Summary of the principal Provisions of the proposed Bill respecting the Company's Charter, which Dissents were read.—

DISSENT by HENRY ST. GEORGE TUCKER Esq.

I concur very generally in the Opinions expressed in the Draft of the Letter to Mr. Grant proposed by the Chairs, but as, upon particular Points, my Views differ from those adopted by my Colleagues, I think it necessary to offer some Explanations, and indeed on an Occasion of such deep Interest to us it appears to me desirable that the Members of the Court should record their individual Sentiments. I must premise some Remarks by way of Apology for not taking that comprehensive View of the Questions at issue which their Importance demands.

It was only on Tuesday last that the President of the Board of Commissioners for the Affairs of India was pleased, for the first Time, to favour the Court with a Summary of the Provisions intended to be introduced into the Bill for the future Administration of British India. But even this Summary does not profess to convey full

full Information with respect to the Bill in question ; it relates chiefly to the Organization of the Governments Abroad, and we are still ignorant of the Nature and Extent of any intended Changes in the Constitution of the Home Authorities.

The Court had also laid before it for the first Time the Minutes of the Governor General of India and of the Members of the Supreme Government on Questions relating to the future Organization of the local Governments. These Documents were recorded and transmitted to England in 1830 and 1831, and why they have been so long withheld from the Court it is not easy to discover. The Questions which they embrace are of such Importance that our Time could not have been more usefully employed than in weighing the Opinions and in examining the Projects which have been brought under Discussion. Circumstanced as we are, we must now make up our Minds, after such Reflection as a few Days or Hours may enable us to bestow, upon Questions which the ablest and boldest Statesman would scarcely approach without some degree of Hesitation. I acknowledge my own Incompetency to pronounce confidently upon the projected Changes, and although, upon particular Points, my Opinions have been long formed, I could have wished to have had Time and Opportunity allowed me to consult higher Authority, and to obtain for those Opinions the Sanction of wiser Men.

The Propositions of the Indian Minister appear to me to involve an entire Change in the Frame and Constitution of the Indian Government ; and I cannot contemplate such a Change without serious Misgivings.

To the Proposition of Mr. Grant, for the Formation of a Fourth Presidency, I have not the smallest Objection, on the contrary, the Board of Commissioners, of which I was a Member, in their Report of the Supreme Government of the 13th April 1808, were induced to recommend " that a more efficient Authority be established in the ceded and conquered Provinces," and the Grounds for this Recommendation, far from being weakened, have acquired Force, from the Extension of our Territory and Connexions, and from the unsettled State of our Western Provinces and the adjoining Country of Oude.

I consider the Imperial City of *Agra* to be particularly well adapted for the Seat of the new Government. Situated on the Jumna, it has, to some Extent, the Advantage of River Navigation ; it has a Fortress for the Protection of our Treasure and Archives, it is sufficiently near to Delhi, to Bhurtpore, Gwalior, Rajpootana, and other Points which must always be observed with Care and Vigilance, and it is not only centrically placed, with reference to the Territory likely to be assigned to the new Presidency, but it occupies an intermediate and convenient Station between Calcutta and Bombay, it is also near the principal Stations of the Bengal Army, Mutra, Meerut, &c.

But upon the Constitution of this and the other subordinate Presidencies, I differ widely from the Views entertained by the President of the Board, whose Proposition goes to degrade them into mere Lieutenancies, stripped of a Council, and deprived of all independent Authority, the Supreme Government being invested, to use the Words of Mr. Grant, with " a *precedent* and *preventive* in place of a *subsequent* and *corrective* Control." What Functions of Government are these Lieutenants intended to exercise ? We are told that they are to have a Council of " *Secretaries*," but are these Ministerial Officers to deliberate and vote under a direct Responsibility ? and are they to be remunerated with Salaries equal to those which have hitherto been received by the Members of Government ? If so, there is only a Change of *Name*, and the executive Duties of the Secretary will soon, no doubt, be consigned to some inferior Officer. If they are not to be deliberative and responsible Functionaries, in what Situation will not the Government be placed ? Some Man of Rank will be appointed Governor or Lieutenant Governor, who has never seen any thing of India, who is unacquainted with the Languages, Manners, and Feelings of the People, and who must depend upon the Advice of an irresponsible Secretary for conducting all the Affairs of his Government. The Members of Council are not only qualified in general, by their Knowledge and Experience, to give wholesome Advice to the new Governor, but they are a constant Check upon him, and by recording their Minutes, when a Difference of Opinion occurs, the Home Authorities are enabled to form a more correct Judgment on the Merits of every Case which may be brought under their Notice.

I see no Objection to the Supreme Government being invested with a general Power of Restraint on the public Expenditure at the subordinate Presidencies ; and it may be useful that the Regulations framed at those Presidencies should be submitted for Sanction to the superior Authority, in order that *Uniformity in the*

No. 5.
 Minute of
 Court of Directors,
 3th July 1833.

general Principles of Legislation may be preserved; but I am by no means of opinion, that Legislation should vest entirely and exclusively in the Supreme Government. It appears to me that Laws should be adapted to the State of the particular Society, and the local Administration must certainly be best qualified to judge of the Wants of the Community over which it presides. Absolute Uniformity in Legislation is neither necessary nor desirable, nor perhaps practicable. Nothing can be more dissimilar than the Character and Habits of different Classes of the Population of India; and no Assumption could be more fallacious, than that the same Laws would answer equally well for them all. The Natives of Bengal Proper bear no Resemblance to the Inhabitants of Upper Hindostan; and although I cannot speak from the same personal Knowledge, I have reason to believe that the Mahrattas of the Deccan, and the Nairs, Mopillas, and other Inhabitants of the Peninsula, are distinguished in a remarkable Manner from both. Why is it that the Regulations of 1795 for Benares have been found more suitable and easy of Execution than other Parts of our Code? Simply because the Benares Regulations were drafted on the Spot, upon an accurate Knowledge of the Condition and Wants of the particular Society. I contend, then, that the Power of Legislation should be continued in the subordinate Governments, although I do not object to their being required to submit their Regulations for Revision, and for the ultimate Sanction of the Supreme Authority in India.

I am of opinion that the Seat of the Supreme Government should be fixed in Calcutta, and I could assign many Reasons for this Opinion, in opposition to that of Lord William Bentinck, (who prefers "Allahabad,") if the Question were still open for Consideration. The Provinces from Benares* Eastward, including Arracan and the Settlements on the Coast of Tenasserim, would constitute, I think, the proper Limits of the superior Presidency, and as these Provinces have, with the Exception of our late Acquisitions from the Burmese, been long settled, the Superintendence of their internal Affairs would not impose upon the Supreme Government any very onerous Duties, or interfere materially with the Exercise of a general Control over the other Presidencies. The chief Functions of the Governor General in Council will no doubt be legislative and political, with a general Superintendence; but it appears to me by no means advisable to divest the Supreme Government of the immediate Management of a particular Territory. This sort of Abstraction would separate it too much from the People, and remove it too far from the Sphere of their internal Concerns. One great Evil incidental to our Rule is, that the Governors of India can rarely become acquainted with the People over whom they are placed.

The projected Change in the Construction of the Supreme Government appears to me to call for the most serious Consideration.

It is to be composed of *Seven* Members, instead of *Four*, the present Number; and the Councillors are to be appointed "by the Court, *with the Approbation of the King*," instead of being selected, as at present, by the Court, without any Interference on the Part of His Majesty's Ministers.

For the proposed Addition of Three Members I can perceive no sufficient Reason, even if no Objection occurred on the ground of Expence. With one Hand we take away the Councillors from the subordinate Presidencies, and with the other, add (unnecessarily, as I think,) to the Apparatus of the Supreme Government.

If it be intended to take the Three additional Councillors from the Service of the subordinate Presidencies, we shall remove them from the Spot where their Knowledge and Experience are likely to be most useful, and we shall bring them to a Quarter where they will find a different State of Things, and where even the Languages which they have acquired will not enable them to communicate with the People.

If it be proposed, by means of this extended Apparatus, to carry on in Calcutta all the Details of Administration, from Cape Comorn to the Himalaya Mountains, and from the Borders of China to the Indies, then, I say, the Project is visionary and impracticable. The Machine will be overloaded, and will not move; the Responsibility will be divided between the Supreme Government and its Lieutenants. The latter, divested of all independent Authority, must dwindle into Insignificance; or

* There would be a Convenience in this Division on Financial Considerations. The Furrukabad Rupee is the Currency of the Upper Provinces, from Benares Westward, the Calcutta Sicca Rupee alone circulates in the Lower Provinces, East of Benares.

if, when Differences occur, an Appeal is to be made to the Home Authorities, the Decision in the last Resort must either weaken the Influence of the controlling Power, or become altogether nugatory. The Plan, in truth, appears to me to place the Supreme Government in the Position which the Home Authorities at present occupy, but as it is not intended, I presume, to withdraw their Superintendence, an intermediate Process of Revision will have been superadded, and if it be required that the subordinate Governments should send Home their Proceedings, and that the superior Government should also transmit its Correspondence containing the Revision of those Proceedings, the public Business will be increased in a Degree likely to produce the greatest Embarrassment.

I am quite aware that much of the Good which has been done in India has been effected by the local Government, and much ought at all Times to be left to its Discretion, but I cannot think that the Check of the Home Authorities is without its Use, or that it can ever be safely dispensed with. I would strengthen the Political Power of the Supreme Government to the utmost, nor can it well be armed with an Authority too absolute over Europeans resorting to India, but I cannot perceive any Necessity for withdrawing from the subordinate Presidencies the free and independent Exercise of all the Administrative Functions of Government, whether revenue, judicial, military, commercial, or even legislative.

I apprehend, however, that in adding Three Members to the Supreme Council, it may be proposed to introduce some of the Judges of the King's Courts or Political Partisans from this Country, or perhaps some eminent Native of India. Such Projects have been contemplated, and have been advocated by particular Individuals, but I consider them to be open to the most formidable Objections. As, however, they have not yet been put forth in any tangible Shape, I shall reserve myself until they be officially announced in a Manner which may enable me to deal with them.

But I must observe upon the Proposal to subject the Appointment of "Councillors to the Approbation of the King," or, in other Words, to transfer the Patronage to His Majesty's Ministers, the best Security which we possess at present for good Government in India depends upon the judicious Exercise of the Power to select from the Service at large the Members of Council at the different Presidencies. We do not exercise the same independent Power in appointing the Governors of India, His Majesty's Ministers must, for obvious Reasons, be Parties to such Appointments. These high Functionaries have generally been Political Characters of Distinction connected with the Administration, and they must possess the Confidence of the national Government; but the Court of Directors are better acquainted with the Merits and Pretensions of their own Servants, and it is of Importance that the whole Service should look up to them for Protection and Advancement. The high Station of a Member of Council is looked to as the Reward of distinguished Service, and it operates as the great Stimulus to Exertion; but if His Majesty's Ministers be allowed to appoint their own Partisans, or Individuals not connected with the Service, this fair and legitimate Object of Ambition is at once removed, and those Motives and Feelings which have heretofore produced such Devotion to the public Service will necessarily be weakened, if not extinguished.

The Proposal to extend the Legislative Powers of the Supreme Government so far as to embrace Objects connected with His Majesty's Courts appears to me most salutary and expedient. It cannot, I presume, be intended to empower the local Government to legislate in contravention of the Laws of England, but it is quite necessary to render British Subjects amenable to the Jurisdiction of the Courts within which they may choose to reside; and although it could never be proposed to apply to them the Hindoo or Mahomedan Law, they cannot justly complain of being restrained by Regulations which, with a view to the public Good, may place in abeyance for a Time the Rights and Privileges which they might enjoy in their own Country. The local Governments cannot, I think, be too strongly armed with a repressive Power over Europeans, and it is extremely desirable also, that the Governor General in Council should be empowered to regulate and circumscribe the Jurisdiction of the King's Courts. These Courts have exercised a useful Function in overawing Europeans, and in protecting the Natives against their Violence and Extortion, and had their Powers been confined to this most important Object, they would have proved a Blessing to the Country, but they have stretched their Jurisdiction beyond all Bounds, and they have become the Source of Evil to the Natives, far more grievous, I fear, than that which they were intended to repress. I do not however possess that professional Knowledge which might qualify me to

No 5.
 Minute of
 Court of Directors,
 5th July 1833

point out the best Means of effectuating the necessary Reform in the Constitution of the King's Courts in India, nor have we yet a clear View of the Intentions of the Indian Minister on the Subject.

I cannot perceive the Advantage of legislating in this Country for the Abolition of Slavery in India* ; for if it be necessary or expedient to make so great a Change in the State of Society in that Country, it can be done most safely by the local Legislature. Domestic Slavery exists in Bengal ; but the Slave or Bondman is in reality a *Servant*, who sometimes occupies a Station of Trust, and even of Influence. Abyssinian Slaves have at different Times been introduced in small Numbers in Arab Ships, and they are much prized by the more opulent Mahomedans ; but the Existence of Slavery may be traced chiefly to those Famines with which India has unhappily been visited. The Parent, during these Seasons of Distress, is willing to part with his Child for Food, to prolong the Existence of both, and the Child becomes domesticated in the Family of the Purchaser. The Natives are not severe Masters, but although we see little of what passes in their Household, and although Cases of Maltreatment of the Slave have in the course of my own Experience been judicially established, I consider it an Act of Justice to the People to express my Belief that such Instances are rare, and that when they do occur they are not likely to obtain Impunity under our existing Laws. Predial Slavery exists on the Malabar Coast, and in some other Parts of the Country with which I am not sufficiently acquainted to be enabled to pronounce upon its Effects. But we must not forget that Slavery is expressly recognized and regulated by the Mahomedan Law † ; that it has been long tolerated by our own Government, and that it has existed in India from Time immemorial. Considering then that we have by the most formal Enactments guaranteed to our Native Subjects their Laws, Usages, Properties, and Rights, we surely ought to pause before we proceed peremptorily to supersede a State of Things which the People may regard as Part of the Compact subsisting between them and their Rulers. If it be intended only to allow the Slave to claim Manumission whenever Maltreatment can be established, the Natives would, I think, submit to such an Enactment ‡ ; for they will have little Reason to apprehend that the Slave will often avail himself of the Means of obtaining his Freedom. If, on the other hand, Slavery is to be denounced and authoritatively put an end to, a great Change will be produced in the State of Society ; the Feelings of the People will be highly excited, and our Government will be considered to act in a very unjust and arbitrary Manner. Who, let me ask, is to be charged with the Care and Maintenance of the Infant Slave, or of those who are old and infirm and incapable of Work ? And in other Cases, where the Services of the Slave are of Value, is it proposed to grant a *pecuniary Indemnification* to the Master ? If not, on what Principle do we proceed in forcibly depriving a Mahomedan of that which he has acquired and held under the Sanction of his Law and his Religion ? It cannot be urged, I imagine, that the Slave in India enjoys no Civil Rights, or that he is excluded from the Protection of the Law, or that his Condition, physical or moral, is worse than that of our Infant Manufacturers or our Paupers, upon whom neither the Loom nor the Land can bestow more than a bare Subsistence. If it were wise to legislate upon theoretical Evils, it is still unsafe to frame Laws in this Country for the People of India, without knowing how far they will harmonize with the Feelings, Habits, and Usages of those for whose Benefit they are intended, and whose Hostility may render them inoperative. If Slavery, as existing in India, be attended with real Evil, either to the Individual or to the Community, it will be quite competent to the local Legislature to apply the appropriate Remedy ; but I strongly deprecate the Idea of any premature Declaration by Parliament, requiring its peremptory Abolition. Such an Enactment may be very grateful to the Feelings

* Mr. Grant's Words are " Slavery, after a specified Period, to be abolished " By the Bill which has just been received, the Abolition takes place *absolutely* in April 1837, and no Provision is made for Indemnification

† See Hamilton's " Hedaya " The various Questions relating to Slavery are treated at great Length in that Work. Slavery is also recognized by the Hindoo Law. Menu says, ch. 8. sec. 415, " There are Servants of Seven Sorts one made captive under a Standard or in Battle, one maintained in consideration of Service, one born of a Female Slave in the House, one sold or given or inherited from Ancestors, and one enslaved by way of Punishment, on his Inability to pay a large Fine."

‡ Even an Enactment to this Effect must, however, be framed with great Caution and Delicacy. An Afghan would proceed to the most-desperate Extremities if an Attempt were made to violate his *Zunana*, by releasing a Female Slave. Are we prepared, moreover, forcibly to emancipate the Slaves of our Soubadars and other Native Officers, and without an Indemnification ?

of the Philanthropist, and may produce a momentary Popularity ; but let us not legislate in Ignorance, and let us have some Regard for the Feelings and the Interests of the People who are expected to obey our Laws.

On the Proposition to grant Europeans a general Permission to hold Lands in India, I have already recorded my Sentiments, in a Dissent bearing Date the 13th July 1829, to which I must beg to refer, observing only that my Opinions on this Subject remain unaltered. The Lands to be held on Lease are, it appears, to be treated as "Chattels," which Houses and Grounds possessed by Europeans at the different Presidencies are now, I believe, declared to be by Law, but although this Provision may facilitate the Sale and Conveyance of such Tenures, the Location of Europeans generally upon the Lands of India must tend gradually to the Supersession of the Native Landholders, and may lead ultimately to Consequences affecting the Peace of the Country and the Stability of our Dominion.

I doubt the Necessity or Expediency of appointing a Commission to inquire into the Administration of the existing Laws, with a view to the Introduction of greater Uniformity in our Judicial System. I have already observed, that there is a great Diversity in the Habits, Usages, and Religious Tenets of our Native Subjects in different Parts of the Country ; and although Uniformity in the general Principles of Legislation is highly desirable, it appears to me neither wise nor practicable to apply the same Rules and Regulations indiscriminately to all Classes of our People. The local Governments ought to be most competent to judge of their Wants, and of the Nature of the Laws which will be most suitable to them. The Expence of the proposed Commission would constitute a very great Objection to it, and I am not without Apprehension that it is intended to commit the Inquiry to English Lawyers. Now to this Project I have a decided Objection ; the Natives of India, although abundantly acute, ought to have a plain, simple, intelligible Code, divested as much as possible of Technicalities, and our Object should be to keep as closely as possible to their ancient Usages, to which they have been long familiarised, and to which they are attached. Our Acts of Parliament are so encumbered with a peculiar Phraseology*, that they are scarcely intelligible to any but professional Men, and even Lawyers of the greatest Eminence† are found frequently to differ in their Construction of them. We attempted too much, I fear, in the Code of 1793, to imitate the cumbrous and perplexed Language of our Statutes ; and we introduced Forms, after the same Model, which have the Effect of swelling our Proceedings, of creating Difficulty and Delay, and of subjecting all Litigants to a heavy Expence. It may also be apprehended that Advantage is taken of our formal Processes, our subtle Distinctions and ingenious Refinements and Devices, to shelter Fraud and to cover corrupt Evidence, and it cannot be doubted that the Natives who have been most in the habit of frequenting the King's Courts are among the most worthless of the Community. English Lawyers repair to India at too late a Period of Life to acquire a general and correct Knowledge of the Languages ; and the Consequence is, that they rarely become intimately acquainted with the People. Even the illustrious Sir William Jones, all accomplished as he was as an Oriental Scholar, never acquired the vernacular Tongue (the Hindoostani), and he was compelled to use an Interpreter to communicate with the People through the Medium of the Persian or Shanscrit, the one a foreign, the other a dead Language.‡ These Observations may appear out of place, but while I admit that Precision in Language is highly essential in all Legislative Enactments, and while I also freely acknowledge that English Lawyers usually receive a more finished Education than our own Servants, and that they possess a more extensive and accurate Knowledge of those great Principles which form the Basis of all good Laws, yet I must strongly and earnestly deprecate the Introduction of English Law among our Native Subjects, in Supersession of their own Laws, Usages, and Institutions. Scotland, although so long and so closely connected with us, has retained its own Laws and

No 5
Minute of
Court of Directors,
5th July 1833.

* I had a slight Acquaintance with Three of the Languages of India, and I should say that it is scarcely possible to translate the barbarous Jargon of our Statutes into a Language which would be intelligible to the Natives of that Country

† Contrast, for instance, the Opinions delivered in the Hyderabad Case by Lord Lyndhurst, Mr Justice Bosanquet, and the late Lord Gifford, with those subsequently submitted to the House of Lords by the Twelve Judges.

‡ I speak from personal Knowledge, as I had the Honour of being "Clerk" to Sir William ; an Honour to which, at this Day, I look back with Pride.

No 5
Minute of
Court of Directors,
5th July 1833.

Institutions, which it would not willingly exchange for our Judicial Machinery; We, as Englishmen, may have an Impression in favour of the Superiority and Perfection of our own Laws (to which, nevertheless, no wise or good Man ever willingly appeals), but the King's Courts in India are unquestionably to the Natives in the Interior the Objects of Terror and Aversion.

The Letter to Mr. Grant insists strongly on the Expence which will attend the Establishment of a Fourth Government at *Agra*; but I wish that we had urged this Objection more forcibly, in bar to the Appointment of a Law Commission, and to the Addition of Three new Members to the Supreme Government, at an Expence of 3 00 000 Rupees or 30,000*l.* per Annum. The one appears to me to be necessary, the other to be uncalled for and objectionable.

Mr. Grant seems to think that, by striking off the Council at the subordinate Presidencies, the Dispatch of public Business will be facilitated; but is it likely then to be promoted by increasing the Members of the superior Government? These Functionaries do not divide the Business among them; they read the Correspondence, deliberate, scrutinise each other's Opinions, and write Minutes. But is it not apparent that this Process for arriving at a Decision may be embarrassed and impeded by increasing the Number of the deliberating Body? I am aware that the Argument against the proposed Increase may be used in *favour of reducing the Number of our own Court*, but that Question stands upon different and very peculiar Grounds.

I have taken a cursory Review of the public Establishments in our Western Provinces, and I am disposed to think that the new Presidency of *Agra* may be formed without any material Addition to the public Expenditure. Some of the Political Residencies in the Neighbourhood will become less necessary, and the Charge may be saved altogether, or be greatly reduced. The same Number of Servants which compose the Bengal Civil Establishment will be ample for both Presidencies; and the Division may be effected, not only without Difficulty or Inconvenience, but with great Advantage. At present the public Servants are liable to be removed from the Southern Extremity of Bengal to the remote Districts of Hindoostan, a Distance of Twelve or Fifteen hundred Miles; and after having acquired Experience in one Part of the Country, the Course of Promotion may translate them to another with which they are wholly unacquainted. The Bengal Language scarcely extends as far as the Eastern Border of Bahar, and is absolutely useless in the Western Provinces; and there is not a greater Difference between the Italian and the Native of Holland than exists between the Bengallee and the martial Race of Upper Hindoostan. It is not desirable that both should be ruled in the same Manner and by the same Instruments, and I have observed that our Civilians who have been much employed in one Part of the Territory find themselves greatly at a loss when removed to Stations where the People, the Service, and the Language are all very different.

I venture to submit the following Sketch of the Salaries and Establishment which would, I think, be suitable and sufficient for the proposed Government of *Agra*; and it appears to me that the Expence may, in part at least, be provided for by Reductions in other Quarters.

Salary of Governor	-	-	Rupees	1.00.000
Ditto of Two Councillors, at 60.000 Rupees each	-	-	-	1.20.000
Secretary	-	-	-	36.000
Two Assistant Secretaries	-	-	-	36.000
Clerks and inferior Officers	-	-	-	50 000
Houses, Office Charges, and Contingencies	-	-	-	50.000
			Per Annum	<u>3.92.000 Rupees.</u>

I will not venture to offer an Opinion on the Military Branch of the Question, which will be much better treated by my professional Colleagues; but I concur in the Remark of Lord Dalhousie, that a Commander in Chief should be stationed with his Army, and I may add, from an official Attendance of Ten or Twelve Years on the Supreme Council, that the Services of that Officer are not required to aid in conducting the Civil Business of the Government.

I regret very much that it should be thought necessary to add Two Suffragan Bishops to our Ecclesiastical Establishment, while their Flock is so small, and the Clergy to be superintended so limited, I am no proper Judge of the Duties of a Prelate, or of the Extent of his Correspondence; but I do know that the Evils
of

of the Climate, and the Difficulty, Fatigue, and Inconvenience of travelling in India, have been sadly exaggerated.

I am not quite sure that I understand Mr. Grant's Intentions with respect to the Mode of nominating to the Civil Service. If it be proposed that each Director in turn should nominate Four Candidates, from whom the One found best qualified on Examination is to be selected and sent to Haileybury, the Intention (which is, I presume, to open Competition) may be easily defeated. If the Four are to be educated for the particular Service, while only One can enter it, no prudent Parent will incur a heavy Expence, misapply the Time of his Child in acquiring that which will be of no Use in any other Profession, and subject that Child to the Discredit of being ultimately rejected, when the Chances of Success will be so much against him. It would be better at once to raise the Standard or Test on the first preliminary Examination, and to reject peremptorily all those who may not reach it; but let me observe here, that there is a Disposition to attach too much Importance to Talent and literary Attainments. No Person can place a higher Value on Education than I do, and no Person can more highly appreciate Talents, but some of the best educated of our Service, from the Absence of regular Habits, have been found amongst its least efficient Members. Moral Conduct, Diligence, Application to Business, Steadiness, Temper, Prudence, and Firmness of Purpose in pursuing an upright Course, are of far more Consequence to the Natives of India, and of more real Use to the public Service, than the Possession of Genius of the highest Order. We have Work of various Kinds and Qualities for our Servants, some requiring a finer Instrument, and some to which a coarser is sufficiently well adapted; and in so large a Body a fair Proportion of the former will generally be found to supply the public Exigencies. We cannot impose too strict a Test on moral Conduct in a Service which is exposed to such Temptation; but we may exclude worthy and excellent Members by aiming at too high a Standard of Perfection.

I have brought together these hasty Remarks with little Time for Reflection and Arrangement; but as some of the Questions have been long familiar to my Mind, it has appeared to me that I should be wanting in Duty to the Court, to the Board, and to my Constituents, if I did not submit them, as I now respectfully do, to their Consideration.

(Signed) H^r ST. G. TUCKER,

East India House, }
2d July 1833, }

DISSENT by RICHARD JENKINS Esq.

The Letter to the President of the Board of Control, which passed the Court on Monday last, contains an Answer to that Gentleman's Letters of the Twenty-fourth and Twenty-sixth Instant, the former enclosing a Summary of such of the principal Provisions of the proposed Bill as relate to the Construction of the Indian Governments, to the State of the Law in India, to the Admission of Europeans into that Country, and to the Condition of the Natives.

Concurring, as I do, in the general Views and Sentiments contained in that Letter, yet seeing reason to differ from some Parts of it, and to regret in others certain Omissions on Subjects in my Judgment of great Importance, I deem it my Duty to record the following Dissent. In the course of it I shall take the Liberty of offering my own individual Impressions on the Subject-matter of our recent Correspondence, hoping that in some Things I may be able to forward a more correct and practical Consideration than seems to me to prevail on the whole Question.

In the Outset I must express my individual Sense of the undue Position in which this Court is placed, in consequence of the Documents recently printed having been so long withholden from them, and of the disjointed, and, as I may term it, ex-post-facto Mode in which they have been called upon to deliberate upon the important Changes in the Indian Administration which the Indian Minister has apparently grounded upon them.

Under such Circumstances, instead of yielding to them, and allowing ourselves to be drawn into a Discussion upon the imperfect Materials before us, whilst we had the Bill itself upon our Table, I could have wished that the present Letter had not been sent. Instead of it I should have preferred addressing a Remonstrance to the

No 5.
 Minute of
 Court of Directors,
 5th July 1833.

President, in the first instance, against proceeding with the Matters developed in the Summary during the present Session; and instead of leaving certain Parts of them open to future Arrangement between the Board and the Court, to render Discussion between the Two Authorities *precedent* and not *subsequent* to the Indication of any Opinion on the Part of the Legislature that any Change in the local Administration of India was desirable. This Course not having been adopted, I proceed to consider the Question as it stood before we had the Bill before us.

The Provisions of the Bill, as given in the Summary, involve very important Changes in the Constitution of the Government of India, and in the respective Powers of the supreme and local Authorities, directed to the Removal of certain Inconveniences, real or supposed, in the existing System. We have, then, to consider whether all the Changes proposed are necessary to obviate those Inconveniences; whether a less Degree of Change would not be sufficient for the Purpose; and whether Evils of greater Magnitude may not be expected to take the Place of those which now beset us.

One of the Evils which it is the Aim of these Changes to remedy is the Inadequacy of the Supreme Government to all the Duties imposed upon it of a local and a general Nature; the Consequence being, that both Classes of Duties are imperfectly performed; in other Words, the Bengal Presidency is considered to be worse governed than it might be, and the subordinate Presidencies left too much to themselves in Matters of Legislation, Military Arrangements, and Expenditure.

To remedy the Evil as it affects Bengal, it is proposed to divide it into Two distinct Presidencies; one to be called the Presidency of Agra, the other that of Bengal. The Details of the Arrangement are no further given than that the Governor General is to be Governor of Bengal, Agra to be under a separate Governor without a Council.

This Division of the Bengal Presidency has been long ago suggested by Persons of high Name, Talent, and local Knowledge; it is now backed by the Recommendation of several great Authorities in India: it is an obvious Mode of lightening the Labours of the Governor General, of ensuring a better Government to both Sections of the Country, and of giving to the Inhabitants of Upper Hindoostan in particular an Administration suited to their peculiar Habits and Insututions; an Advantage of which they have been hitherto deprived, owing to the Distance of the ruling Authority, and to Mismanagement arising from that and other Causes. Of the probable Expence of the Change, we are told by Mr. Bayley that it may be Seven or Eight Lacs of Rupees per Annum, which for real Improvement, if it should so turn out, would, I agree with that Gentleman and with Lord William Bentinck, be no great Price to pay.

On the other hand, great Weight ought to be attached to Lord William Bentinck's Opinion of its Inexpediency, for the various Reasons which he assigns in his Minute recently laid before the Court of Directors; and indeed, as the President's Plan provides that the Civil and Military Services are to remain undivided, though applicable to the Administration of both Presidencies, I think it more a Question of the Transposition of public Establishments than of the Creation of a new Presidency.

Lord William Bentinck proposes Allahabad as the Seat of the Supreme Government. In opposition to this Opinion, though with great Deference to so high an Authority, I must consider Calcutta as the proper Seat of a supreme Authority, emanating from a maritime Power like Great Britain, and looking to her for Support and for Orders by Sea. It is also, surely, a more convenient Position from which to superintend and assist the other Presidencies and distant Dependencies to the Eastward, whilst the Ganges affords the same Facility for Communication with the great Points of Military and Political Danger in the North and West. The Seat, too, of the Supreme Government ought to be in the most unassailable Position, and that which would be the Reserve Point in Extremity: such is Calcutta.

Allowing, at the same Time, that Hindoostan is the Scene of many of the most important Transactions, revenue, military, and political, and that the working Point, if it may be so called, of the Governor General, ought, as it is at present, to be there during certain Periods of the Year, it should still, I think, be directly a Branch of his Administration as Governor in Council of Bengal and Agra: nevertheless, I should see considerable Advantage in having a Lieutenant Governor or Resident in charge of the Upper Provinces, on the Footing of Mr. Elphinstone when Chief Commissioner in the Deccan.

With

With regard to the Powers of the Supreme Government, I am happy to observe that the President does not propose to deprive it of local Materials to employ its Activity upon; but though agreeing with Lord William Bentinck in this respect, rather than with his Lordship's Colleagues and the Finance Committee, the President still intended to vest in that Government the direct Rule of the Empire, or, in the Words of the Summary, "a more defined and efficient Control over the others, and that it shall for this Purpose have a *precedent* and *preventive* in place of a *subsequent* and *corrective* Control. No Laws to be passed, and no Expence to be incurred by the other Presidencies, without the previous Sanction of the Supreme Government, subject, as to Laws, to the Approbation of the Crown."

With regard to Laws being passed, as the Bill contemplates no Council at subordinate Presidencies, I should have presumed that this Circumstance alone would have indicated the Deprivation of legislative Powers. However, in this respect, and in Matters involving large Expenditure not previously sanctioned by the Court of Directors, I am inclined to admit the Advantage of a defined Obligation on the Part of the subordinate Governments to *obey the Orders* of the Supreme Government; but I cannot join in the Opinion that such Control should be otherwise exercised in general than in the Enforcement or Suspension of Orders from Home, for otherwise either the Home Authorities would be superseded, or their Means of Control rendered so unsatisfactory and remote in point of Time as to be nugatory.

I do not quite concur in the Arguments used by the Court against vesting the Governor General in Council with the Power of controlling the Expenditure of the subordinate Presidencies, founded upon the past Extravagance of that Authority. The President's new Supreme Government is to be formed on a different Principle of defined Responsibility for the Acts of the local Governments as well as its own. I perfectly agree, however, that the Check from Home on improper Expence, whether of the supreme or local Governments, to be efficient, must be applied directly and separately, as at present.

In Matters of War and Politics it is essential, in my Opinion, that all local Authority should be concentrated in the Hands of the Supreme Government. I confess I am not aware of any great Evils that have arisen from any Want of Control in the Supreme over the subordinate Governments in these or other respects, and if any have arisen, *the existing Law** does not seem to have been in fault, as it confers upon the Governor General in Council ample Authority for Interference in every conceivable Case. The Policy hitherto pursued, however, has been to have *one controlling Power* for Emergencies, but separate Authorities for *ordinary Circumstances*; and being satisfied that this is the true System of Administration for a Country of such vast Extent and so distant from the paramount State as India is, I should be sorry to see it materially infringed.

The Maintenance, especially, of the Principle of having a high and generally independent Authority in every great Division of the Country I consider to be indispensable for the just Protection of all Classes of our Subjects, as well as for the due Preservation of the Dignity and Power of the Nation in the remotest Parts of the Empire. It is not less essential for the Respectability and due Treatment of our Civil and Military Services, the Maintenance of their present distinctive Characters, useful for keeping up a Spirit of Emulation, Variety of Talent and Views, and, I must add, as to the Army, for ensuring a due Attention to the national Habits and Usages of the Troops, as well as a Separation of Interests and Feelings, sufficient to prevent Excitement becoming general or dangerous.

And here I cannot but refer to Mr. Elphinstone's Opinion on the Subject, in his Letter to Mr. Hyde Villiers (given in the Political Appendix to the Report from the Select Committee to the House of Commons on East India Affairs), as containing, in my Judgment, *sound and practical* Views, which I am sorry have not been allowed more Weight in framing the Bill than has apparently been granted to them.

Again, the Patronage of the chief Appointments ought, I presume, to go with the Responsibility which it is proposed to vest in the Governor General. This, besides, being a dangerous Addition to the Power and Influence of that Functionary, would go so much farther to deprive the *local Governors* of the Consideration due to their Station in the public Esteem, as, added to the proposed Submission of the local Armies to the Authority of the Commander in Chief in India, himself only

No. 5.

Minute of
Court of Directors,
5th July 1833.

subject to the Orders of the Supreme Government, would tend to make those Situations no longer Objects of Ambition to Men of high Rank and Character.

Much then, I must repeat, as I think it necessary to have a strong Supreme Government absolute in Times of Danger over every Part of India, I yet cannot concur in giving Powers for ordinary Times, so great as it is proposed to give, to any one Individual or select Body. These Powers would be efficient, in my Opinion, in so vast an Empire for nothing but Evil, whether they created an absolute Dictatorship in the Governor General, by placing him above all Control from this Country, or at any rate able to render it nugatory from being himself the sole Reporter of his Acts; or whether his Power should be found on Experience to be merely nominal, whilst the local Governments, being relieved from Home Control and that of local Councils, were left virtually unchecked, though subject to all the Degradation in the Eyes of the Communities over which they preside of being stripped of the high Prerogatives which their Predecessors had wielded.

Whether also the Governors were servile or contumacious, whether they were deprived of all public Spirit and Zeal by feeling their Dependence on the Goodwill of their subordinate Functionaries appointed by the Governor General, and on that of the Persons named to the proposed Supreme Council, formed, as I presume it would be, of Members from each Presidency, who would have the Ear of their great Chief; or whether on the other Hand they courted their Superior's Favour by lending themselves to *Jobs* for the Benefit of their mutual Friends, and to other Compliances for private instead of public Ends, I can see nothing in the Plan but public Danger and Discredit. Under such a Concentration of Power in the Governor General we might expect to see the Practice of the Mogul Times again established, when the real Governor remained at Court to swell the Pomp of the Emperor's Train at the Expence of the subject Provinces, at once a Hostage for his own Fidelity and the Payment of his Revenue, and for the Fidelity and good Conduct of his Lieutenant, who carried on the Government in his Name.

The Picture I have above drawn may appear to be overcharged; and I may be accused of Inconsistency in speculating at one Time on the great Powers given to the Governor General, and on the consequent Eclipse of the local Governments; at another, on the Inefficiency of the former, and the unchecked Authority of the latter. My Meaning is, that if the Governor General could efficiently exercise the Powers intended to be vested in him, he would be above all Control from this Country; if he could not, India would be a Prey to all the Evils of Misgovernment. The Governor General would have the Responsibility without the Power; and the local Governors, vested with irresponsible Power, without Credit for good Measures, and able to shift the Blame of their bad ones on the paramount Authority, might be expected to run into all the Vices incident to such a Position; whilst the Governor General, sensible of the false Position in which he would find himself placed, might be led into Situations derogatory to his high Station, in order to keep up the Semblance of his Power, or really yield to the Temptations which would beset him, from the Absence of those Checks which have hitherto been deemed essential in the System of Indian Administration.

But it is further proposed to have no local Councils, "because the *Supreme Government will be strengthened.*" This may appear to leave the Governors *locally* more respectable, though more strongly checked, in *theory* at least, from a Distance. I must, however, think that even the *Form* of Administration by the Governor in Council is not a Matter of Indifference to keep the Government well with a European Community, which will be likely to receive with Jealousy and Dislike the Orders of a nominally powerless but really absolute Functionary. But more especially, unless the Plan contemplates appointing to the local Governments none but Men of local Knowledge and Experience, a Council is, in my Opinion, indispensable, as well for enlightening the Governor as for arranging the public Business for him; and to enable the Governor General to exercise his Control usefully and efficiently, it must be desirable to have the Aid of the *Opinions* of independent Members of the Government appointed from Home, rather than the *Voices* of Secretaries likely to be biassed for or against the Measures of the Governor, as their Appointments might depend upon him or their common Superior.

In answer to that Part of the President's Letter of the 27th June, in which he intimates his Consent that the Question, Whether the subordinate Governments shall or shall not have Councils, shall by the Bill be reserved for the future and deliberate Decision of the Court and the Board, still, however, stating his Opinion,

that under the Changes proposed the Functions of the subordinate Governments will be performed not less satisfactorily, and certainly more economically, by a Governor acting singly than by a Governor in Council. It is stated, "to reserve to the Board and the Court the Power of reducing the Councillors at Madras and Bombay (unless indeed the Concurrence of both Authorities be required) will, we submit, be tantamount to an Adoption of the Proposal, since your Opinion, expressed in the Summary, and reiterated in your last Letter, is fixed in favour of the Reduction." I objected, and still object, to this Passage in the Letter, as liable to the Imputation of a Want of that Courtesy towards the President of the Board which I am sure it is the Desire of the Court always to preserve, and as containing an Argument which, if followed up, would leave it to be inferred that the Court is placed and has always been placed in a Position as one of the co-ordinate Members of the Home Government, rendering it utterly dependent upon the Board, which I deny it to be, either *in Law or Fact*.

But it appears to me, and I put it, though unsuccessfully, to the Committee, that we ought to have taken higher Ground; and suggested to the President that in a Matter of Imperial Policy, such as the Constitution of the Government of India, the final Decision on the Subject ought to be reserved to the Legislature, and considering the late Period at which this and other proposed Changes have been brought forward, as well as that the Necessity for such Changes was not pressing, that they ought to form the Ground of a separate Bill, allowing the other great Questions of the Trade, the Political Administration of India, as far as relates to the Home Authorities, and the Terms of the Compromise, to be settled this Session.

I cannot agree with those who think that the *immediate* Settlement of every *Question* connected with the Indian Government, abroad as well as at home, is to be considered an indispensable Condition of our being able to recommend, or not, to the Proprietors, to give effect to the Plan, or that the Compromise, of which the Basis has been accepted, would be violated by future Changes which may become necessary, or be thought by the Legislature to be necessary for the good Administration of the Empire, however inconsistent with the Form of Government now fixed. I have my Opinions very strongly as to the Impolicy and Danger of the Changes contemplated; but if, after full and mature Deliberation, the Legislature shall decide upon sanctioning them, I should bow with Submission to its Wisdom, and rely with Confidence on the Company's Interests being protected from any bad Effects that might thence arise to India.

If the local Councils are continued, as I trust they will be, I should rather prefer having no separate Supreme Council, either for Legislation or Administration. Where Legislation, as in Matters affecting Europeans and the Authority of the King's Courts, might demand the Agency of the highest Authority, the Council of Bengal, aided by the Judges of the Supreme Court and those of the Sudder, or the Chiefs of each, might act *pro hac vice* as a Supreme Legislative Council to the Governor General also, for other Questions in which the Solemnity of an Order or Declaration by the Governor General in Council would be proper. I am, however, at enmity with the Principle of general Legislation, in the view of attempting Uniformity in a Code for the Natives of the different Parts of India. The Evils, indeed, complained of in the Management of the Western Provinces of the Bengal Presidency, and of those of Madras, have in a considerable degree arisen from this Attempt.

The Natives of the several Presidencies of India are, I conceive, as different in Manners, Usages, and Feelings, in Languages and Institutions, as the Inhabitants of the different Kingdoms of Europe, and by leaving the Powers of Legislation, as at present, in the local Governments, we do more Justice to them than we can possibly do by a generalizing System. On this Subject I feel *more strongly than is expressed in the Court's Letter* the Impolicy of even *endeavouring* to eradicate the national Distinctions existing between the Natives of our different Presidencies, and which, besides contributing to the Happiness and Well-being of the People themselves, are one *main Ingredient* of our *Strength*. If we could accomplish that Uniformity in the Laws, so much talked of, which can only be operative through a similar Uniformity in the Manners and Modes of thinking of all Classes of our Indian Subjects, we should not keep the Country for a Day. Moreover, I verily believe that, under our Regulations as they now exist, but liable to be progressively amended, according to the growing Wants and Wishes of the People, which must always be best known to the local Governments and their Officers, the Natives of India enjoy a System of

No 5.

Minute of
Court of Directors,
5th July 1833.

Protection for Person and Property, their Rights, their Religion, and even their Prejudices, better suited to them, and less incumbered with Technicalities and Expences, than the Inhabitants of any Part of the known World.

At the same Time, there has been no Want of Attention on the Part of the Indian Governments to maintain Uniformity in the general Spirit of the Laws, not affecting peculiar Feelings or Prejudices, and in the Proceedings of the Courts and their Officers in the Administration of them. Those Governments have only *been backward in attempting to force Improvements*. Some of those now proposed to be made Subjects for Legislation, I humbly think, might be more properly enforced on Functionaries, as the *Spirit* in which they ought to govern, than as legal Enactments. I allude to the Admission of Natives to Offices of Trust and Emolument, which is already acted upon; the Abolition of Distinctions, from Colour, Religion, or Birth, and eventually of Slavery. The Enactment of the Two former Provisions, it seems to me, would produce Injury rather than Benefit, by raising to the Character of legal Rights what should only be moral Pretensions, allowable according to Circumstances, on which the local Governments alone can safely decide. I go *much further* than is expressed in the Letter in *pronouncing the latter Provision*, however desirable the End to which it points, to be most *dangerous*, in the actual State of Society in India, with reference to that Branch of the national Institutions; and, in fact, there is nothing in the Situation of Slaves in that Country which approaches at all to that of the same Class in the West Indies.

In the Exercise of the political and controlling Powers of the Governor General, I should consider a Council rather a Burthen than an Assistance to him, placed as he must frequently be at a Distance from it. He should, however, be assisted by Secretaries acquainted with the various Interests he has to superintend, but to whose Opinions he should only be bound to give the Weight he might think due; and his Responsibility should be absolute and personal, except where he might think proper to consult his Council of Bengal, or that of any Presidency at which he should happen to be residing.

The Power proposed to be vested in the Governor General in Council to make Laws relating to all Persons, and binding to a certain Extent on the Supreme Court, at first View would seem very desirable. Bound, however, as we are, to conduct the Indian Government as much as possible on the Principle of an *enlightened Native State*, and to admit no *privileged Caste* of our own Countrymen to ride over our native Subjects, in defiance of the local Authorities, and acknowledging no Superior but the King and his Court of Justice, I doubt whether, in practice, any local Legislation could be rendered efficient, or would work well.

Much, too, as I deprecate the Existence of a Power superior to the Government, and drawing the Natives unwarily into the *Net* of *Laws* obnoxious and foreign to their Habits and Manners, I yet consider the independent Existence of King's Courts, confined strictly in their Jurisdiction to Europeans and *bond fide* Inhabitants of the Presidencies, and to the Servants of the Company, excluding the Members of Government, for illegal Acts, to be a necessary Consequence, and a proper Memento to the Government of its Subjection to the Crown of Great Britain, as well as a wholesome Restraint upon its Measures.

It is a Pledge to all Classes of His Majesty's Subjects, placed under a delegated Authority, that He is always present, and ready to listen to and redress Grievances which the local Government might otherwise be disposed to pass over, or be *suspected of overlooking*, in order to screen its own Servants.

There is, however, nothing in the Situation and Circumstances, present or prospective, of Europeans in India, which could not at once be settled by an Act revising the present System; and whilst laying down the actual Jurisdiction of the Courts, and the Mode of bringing Europeans to Justice in the Provinces, without the Necessity of forcing Natives to the Expence of repairing, perhaps a Thousand Miles, to a Presidency, the legitimate Independence on the local Government of the King's Court, and the proper Dignity of the Judges in their own Eyes, and in the Eyes of the Community, might be maintained. Whatever might be so enacted would command a cheerful Obedience, both from them and from British Subjects, which would be denied to Acts of the local Legislature.

This, too, would not be inconsistent with giving to the Governor General a Power to stop an Act of the Court, which he might consider dangerous, pending the Result of a Reference to England.

According to my Views, therefore, a Judicial Commission and a Supreme Legislative Council are unnecessary, as the main Object of the former, viz., the Approach

to Uniformity in Legislation, is not desirable ; and that of the latter, viz., Legislation for King's Courts and Europeans on the one hand, and the subordinate Presidencies on the other, can be better performed by the Parliament of Great Britain, and by the local Governments respectively, and does not require the Creation of a new Machinery for the Purpose.

No. 5.
Minute of
Court of Directors,
5th July 1833

I cannot, moreover, agree in the Propriety of not allowing Deportation except by Sentence of a Court of Law. By the Supposition on which alone such an Exertion of Authority on the Part of the Indian Government can be justified, it must be confined to flagrant Cases, when the public Safety would be endangered by allowing the Individual to remain in India, and nothing could be more impolitic than to deny to the Supreme Power the Means of its Preservation. If Deportation has been occasionally resorted to in past Times, on Grounds of State Necessity, I must be allowed to think that in future it is more than ever likely to be required, under the unlimited Resort of Europeans to India, the Attempts making to rouse the Natives to a Sense of their Political Wrongs, and the Likelihood of the Trade of Agitation becoming one of the most lucrative Temptations to a certain Class of Writers to proceed to India, who, if acting with Skill and Dexterity, might set all India in a Blaze, without the Government being able to obtain a Conviction against them, to authorize their Removal from the Country.

I have said nothing regarding the Proposal for having One Commander in Chief for all the Armies ; which, however, I think open to Objections similar in their Nature to those which I have urged against the intended Changes in the Powers of the supreme and local Governments respectively, as well as to others of great Moment connected with the peculiar Constitution of our Indian Armies and the Situation of our Empire.

I shall only express a Hope in conclusion, that the Opinions I have expressed, very strongly, I will admit, may not be considered to be advanced in a dogmatical Spirit, and my unfeigned Confidence that the Discussions in Parliament on the momentous Topics above referred to, by Individuals who have themselves borne a Part in the higher Branches of the Indian Government, will terminate, whether in opposition to or in accordance with my Opinions, in the Manner best calculated to ensure good Government to the People of India, and consequently the Interests and Reputation of this Country, and of the Company.

(Signed) R^d JENKINS.

East India House, }
5th July 1833. }

No. 6.

AT a COURT of DIRECTORS held on Tuesday the 9th July 1833.

No. 6
Minute of
Court of Directors,
9th July 1833

A Letter from the Committee of Commanders and Officers of the Company's Maritime Service, dated this Day, requesting to be informed whether, in the Event of the Bill now before Parliament passing into a Law, the Court will be enabled to grant to any one of them Compensation under Clause 6, there being in that Clause no retrospective Provision, being read ;

Ordered, That the said Letter be referred to the Consideration of the Committee of Correspondence.

LETTER from the COMMITTEE of COMMANDERS and OFFICERS in the COMPANY'S MARITIME SERVICE.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors of the East India Company.

Honourable Sirs,

We, the Committee of Commanders and Officers of your Maritime Service, beg leave most respectfully to address you on the following important Point.

We are most anxious to ask, with all due Submission, supposing the India Bill passes into a Law as it now stands, in April 1834, most of your Maritime Servants being then at Home, and not in active Employment,

Whether your Honourable Court will be enabled to grant to any one of them Compensation under Clause 6, there being in that Clause no retrospective Provision ?

No 6
Minute of
Court of Directors,
9th July 1833.

As the India Bill goes into Committee in a few Days, after which no Alteration can take place, we respectfully but most earnestly entreat an early Answer to this very serious Question.

We have the Honour to be,
Honourable Sirs,
Your most obedient humble Servants,
(Signed)

ALEX. NAIRNE.
PATRICK H. BURT.
GEORGE PROBYN.
ROBERT LINDSAY.
HENRY GRIBBLE.
WM. YOUNGHUSBAND.
CHAS. S. TIMINS.
CLARENCE DALRYMPLE.
THOMAS BLAIR.
D. MARSHALL.

Committee Room,
Jerusalem Coffee House,
9th July 1833. }

No. 7.

No. 7

Minute of
the Committee of
the Whole Court,
9th July 1833.

At a COMMITTEE of the WHOLE COURT held on Tuesday the 9th July 1833.

The Chairman submitted the Draft of a Letter to the Right Honourable Charles Grant, stating, with reference to the Letter which the Court addressed to him on the 12th Ultimo, on the Subject of the Commercial Contracts and Engagements of the Company, and to which no Reply has yet been received, that it is their Intention to dispatch the "Elizabeth" for China on Wednesday the 17th Instant; and that by that Opportunity they will instruct the Supracargoes to provide Teas sufficient for the lading of the Company's own Ships now at Home, and of the other Ships whose Contracts are unexpired, unless the Court shall previously receive a Communication from him opposed to that Course of proceeding.

The same was read, and ordered to lie for Consideration.

No. 8.

No 8

Minute of
the Committee of
the Whole Court,
10th July 1833.

At a COMMITTEE of the WHOLE COURT held on Wednesday the 10th July 1833.

The Letter which was Yesterday submitted by the Chairman to the Right Honourable Charles Grant, respecting the Dispatch of the Ship "Elizabeth" for China, and the Instructions to be sent by her to the Supracargoes, was read and approved.

No. 9.

No. 9.

Minute of
Court of Directors,
10th July 1833

At a COURT of DIRECTORS held on Wednesday the 10th July 1833.

The Chairman from the Committee of the Whole Court submitted to the Court the Draft of a Letter to the Right Honourable Charles Grant, agreed to by the Committee, stating, with reference to the Letter which the Court addressed to him on the 12th Ultimo, respecting the Company's Commercial Contracts, &c., and to which no Reply has yet been received, that it is intended to dispatch the "Elizabeth" for China on the 17th Instant, and that by that Opportunity they will instruct the Supracargoes to provide Teas sufficient for the Lading of the Company's own Ships now at Home, and of the other Ships whose Contracts are unexpired, unless the Court shall previously receive a Communication from him opposed to that Course of proceeding;

Whereupon the said Draft of a Letter was read and approved.

LETTER from the CHAIRMAN and DEPUTY CHAIRMAN to the Right Honourable CHARLES GRANT.

No. 9.
Minute of
Court of Directors,
10th July 1833.

Sir,

East India House, 10th July 1833

In reference to the Letter which we had the Honour to address to you on the 12th Ultimo, and to which we have not been favoured with a Reply, we are requested by the Court of Directors of the East India Company to acquaint you, that as the Ship "Elizabeth," which has been kept on Demorage for some Weeks, expressly with the Expectation that the Court would be enabled to transmit Instructions for the Guidance of the Supracargoes at Canton, cannot with Propriety be longer detained, the Court intend to dispatch her on Wednesday the 17th Instant.

By that Opportunity the Court will instruct the Supracargoes to enter into Contracts in the ensuing Season for the Purchase of Teas sufficient for the Lading of the Company's own Ships now at Home, and of the other Ships whose Contracts are unexpired, unless we should previously receive a Communication from you opposed to that Course of proceeding.

We have the Honour to be,

&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) C. MARJORIBANKS,
W. WIGRAM.

The Right Honourable Charles Grant,
&c. &c. &c.

No 10

AT a COMMITTEE of CORRESPONDENCE held on Wednesday the 10th July 1833.

No 10
Minute of
Committee of
Correspondence,
10th July 1833

A Letter from the Committee of Commanders and Officers of the Company's Maritime Service, dated the 9th Instant, requesting to be informed whether, in the Event of the India Bill being passed into a Law, the Court will be enabled to grant to any one of them Compensation under Clause 6, there being in that Clause no retrospective Provision, being read,

Draft of a Letter to the Right Honourable Charles Grant, at the India Board, transmitting a Copy of the Letter above mentioned, and observing that, in the Court's Judgment, the Compensation Clause should be sufficiently comprehensive to enable them to entertain Claims from all Persons now or lately employed by the Company in the Commercial Branch of their Affairs, if the Claimants can make out clearly and satisfactorily that they have individually sustained a pecuniary Loss through the Cessation of the Company's Trade, was read and approved

No 11

AT a COURT of DIRECTORS held on Wednesday the 10th July 1833.

No. 11
Minute of
Court of Directors,
10th July 1833

The Draft of a Letter to the Right Honourable Charles Grant, at the India Board, transmitting Copy of a Letter received from the Committee of Commanders and Officers of the Company's Maritime Service, and observing that, in the Court's Judgment, the Compensation Clause should be sufficiently comprehensive to enable them to entertain Claims from all Persons now or lately employed by the Company in the Commercial Branch of their Affairs, if the Claimants can make out clearly and satisfactorily that they have individually sustained a pecuniary Loss through the Cessation of the Company's Trade, was read and approved.

LETTER from the CHAIRMAN and DEPUTY CHAIRMAN to the Right Honourable CHARLES GRANT.

Sir,

East India House, 11th July 1833

We have the Honour to transmit to you Copy of a Letter which the Court of Directors of the East India Company have received from the Committee of Commanders and Officers of the Company's Maritime Service, respecting which the Court think it only necessary to observe, that in their Judgment the Compensation Clause
(156.) D

No 11.
Minute of
Court of Directors,
10th July 1833.

Clause should be sufficiently comprehensive to enable them to entertain Claims from all Persons now or lately employed by the Company in the Commercial Branch of their Affairs, if the Claimants can make out clearly and satisfactorily that they have individually sustained a pecuniary Loss through the Cessation of the Company's Trade.

We have the Honour to be,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) C. MARJORIBANKS.
W. WIGRAM.

The Right Honourable Charles Grant,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 12.

No 12
Minute of
Court of Directors,
17th July 1833

At a COURT of DIRECTORS held on Wednesday the 17th July 1833.

The Chairman, advertng to the Letter to the Right Honourable Charles Grant of the 12th Ultimo, upon the Subject of the Company's Commercial Contracts, laid before the Court a Letter he had received from Mr. Grant, under Date the 13th Instant, which was read, recommending, as the Opinion of His Majesty's Government, that the Company should not send any more Ships to India or China, nor proceed with any more Contracts in this Country, nor send Cotton from India to China, nor give Orders for the Provision or Purchase of any more Indigo, Saltpetre, or Silk Piece Goods, for the English Market; explaining the Views of the Government in regard to the Disposal of the Silk Filatures, and the Mode of selling the Silk itself; and observing, that before any Noufication is made to the Merchants here of the Resolution to which the Court may come upon the latter Point, he shall be glad to receive such Remarks as they may consider it useful to offer.

The Chairman then submitted to the Court the Draft of a proposed Letter to Mr. Grant, requesting to be informed whether it is the Opinion of the King's Government that no Contracts for the Purchase of Tea by the Company should be entered into in China in the ensuing Season, the last of their exclusive Privilege, inquiring also whether it is intended that the Court should supersede the Intimation conveyed to Bengal in the Commercial Dispatch of the 5th September last, of the Intention to make Purchases of Indigo to the Extent of about 300,000*l*.

The said Draft of a Letter was then read and approved.

The Chairman laid before the Court another Letter from the Right Honourable Charles Grant, dated the 13th Instant, stating that the Observations and Suggestions contained in the Chairman and Deputy Chairman's Letters of the 2d and 10th Instant, upon the Clauses of the Bill now in Parliament respecting the Company's Charter and the Episcopal Establishment in India, have engaged and continue to engage his serious Attention, and that any further Communication of the like Nature which the Court may be pleased to make shall be duly weighed and considered by him during the Progress of the Bill through its future Stages; observing also, that the Law Officers of the Crown have been desired to communicate freely with the Law Officers of the Company; which Letter was read.

The Chairman also laid before the Court a further Letter from the Right Honourable Charles Grant, dated the 13th Instant, which was likewise read, stating that, in compliance with the Recommendation of the Court, the Compensation Clause of the East India Bill has been altered, so as to admit the Consideration of the Claims of the Commanders and Officers of the Company's Commercial Maritime Service.

It was then, on a Motion, resolved, That the said Letters from Mr. Grant, now read, be referred to the Consideration of a Committee of the Whole Court.

LETTER from the Right Honourable CHARLES GRANT to the CHAIRMAN and
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN.

No 12

Minute of
Court of Directors,
17th July 1833

Gentlemen,

India Board, 13th July 1833

I have to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of the 12th Ultimo, calling the Attention of His Majesty's Ministers to the Situation in which the East India Company are placed with regard to Commercial Contracts.

On a careful Consideration of all the Circumstances it appears to the Government, as at present advised, desirable to bring the Company's Commercial Transactions to a Close with all practicable Expedition. With this view I beg to recommend that the Company should not send any more Ships to India or China, nor proceed with any more Contracts in this Country, nor send Cotton from India to China, nor give Orders for the Provision or Purchase of any more Indigo, Saltpetre, or Silk Piece Goods, for the English Market.

With respect, however, to the Silk Filatures, great Caution appears to be necessary. The virtual Monopoly existing within the Range of the Company's Silk Agencies must not suddenly be broken up, such a Course might be injurious to the Producers in India, and to the Consumers in this Country. Unless, therefore, some unexpected Occasion arise, it will probably be necessary to continue the Purchase of Silk at least for 1834; but there is no Necessity for sending Ships from this Country to bring it home Freight for it may be taken up in India, or the Silk itself may be sold there. The latter is the Measure which His Majesty's Government would prefer, unless there shall be a Failure in the Demand at Calcutta, which they do not now anticipate.

The Instructions to the Bengal Government should, I submit to you, be to take Measures for the Disposal of the Factories with as much Expedition as may be consistent with Prudence, that Prudence being understood to refer less to the pecuniary Gain or Loss to the Company than to the Interests of the Producers and the Wants of the Manufacturers in this Country. Even should some Loss be incurred, the Silk Growers must not be suddenly deserted by the Company, unless there are Capitalists ready to carry on the Filatures. Till that happens the local Government must judge how far they may gradually diminish their Operations. The Mode of dealing with the Silk after it has been purchased must also be left to their Discretion, but I request you to take into Consideration, whether it may not be advisable to intimate immediately to the Merchants here, that the Company's Silk will be absolutely sold, if it can obtain any Price exceeding prime Cost and Charges, or some fixed Rate to be determined and notified by the Court.

Having thus made you acquainted with the Opinion which His Majesty's Ministers have formed on the Subject of your Letter, I beg to add that I shall be most happy to receive, before any Notification is made of the Resolution to which the Court may come, such Remarks as it may appear to them useful to offer.

I have the Honour to be, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES GRANT.

The Chairman and Deputy Chairman.

LETTER from the Right Honourable CHARLES GRANT to the CHAIRMAN and
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN.

Gentlemen,

India Board, 13th July 1833

I HAVE had the Honour to receive your Letters of the 2d and 10th Instant, the first of which contains the Observations of the Court of Directors on such of the principal Provisions of the proposed Bill as relate to the Construction of the Indian Governments, to the State of the Law in India, and the Condition of the Natives. Of your Two Letters of the 10th Instant, one transmits a Paper of Observations and Suggestions upon certain Clauses of the Bill, and the other relates to the proposed Enlargement of the Episcopal Establishment in India.

Although I could not at the present Moment, without great Inconvenience, advert in Writing to the several Points which are so ably discussed in your Letters to me, I beg to assure you, that the Observations and Suggestions contained in those Letters have engaged and continue to engage my serious Attention, and that any further Communications of the like Nature, which the Court through you may be pleased to make, shall be duly weighed and considered by me during the Progress of the Bill through its future Stages.

(156.)

D 2

Conformably

No. 12.
Minute of
Court of Directors,
17th July 1833.

Conformably to the Wish of the Court, I have desired the Law Officers employed by the Board to communicate freely with the Law Officers of the Company.
I have the Honour to be, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES GRANT.

P S.—In reference to your Letter of the 11th Instant, I have had personal Communication with Mr. Lawford, who will doubtless have submitted to you the Proceedings respecting the Bill.

The Chairman and Deputy Chairman.

LETTER from the Right Honourable CHARLES GRANT to the CHAIRMAN and DEPUTY CHAIRMAN.

Gentlemen, India Board, 13th July 1833.
I have to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of the 11th Instant, enclosing a Copy of a Letter addressed to the Court of Directors by the Committee of Commanders and Officers of the East India Company's Commercial Maritime Service, and I have to inform you, that in compliance with the Recommendation of the Court, the Compensation Clause of the East India Bill has been altered so as to admit of the Consideration of Claims of such Officers.

I have the Honour to be, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES GRANT.

The Chairman and Deputy Chairman.

LETTER from the CHAIRMAN and DEPUTY CHAIRMAN to the Right Honourable CHARLES GRANT.

Sir, East India House, 17th July 1833.
In reference to your Letter dated the 13th Instant, respecting an immediate Discontinuance of the Company's Commercial Contracts, we have the Honour to submit to you the Request of the Court of Directors, that you will be pleased to state whether it be the Opinion of the King's Government, that no Contracts for the Purchase of Tea by the Company should be entered into in China in the ensuing Season, the last of their exclusive Privilege.

We beg leave also to inquire whether, in recommending that no Orders should be given for the Purchase of any more Indigo, you intend that we should supersede the Intimation conveyed to the Bengal Government in the Commercial Dispatch of the 5th September last, of an Intention to make Purchases of that Article to the Extent of about 300,000/, which Sum has been included in the Estimate, lately rendered by the Court, of Assets expected to be realized in this Country.

As soon as the Court shall receive the Explanations of His Majesty's Ministers upon these Points, they will be prepared to consider what Instructions they should issue upon the Subject.

We have the Honour to be, &c.
(Signed) C. MARJORIBANKS.
W. WIGRAM.

The Right Honourable Charles Grant,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 13.

No. 13.
Minute of
Committee of
the Whole Court,
19th July 1833.

At a COMMITTEE of the WHOLE COURT held on Friday the 19th July 1833.

The Chairman laid before the Committee a Letter from the Right Honourable Charles Grant, dated the 13th Instant, recommending, as the Opinion of His Majesty's Government, that the Company should not send any more Ships to India or China, nor proceed with any more Contracts in this Country, nor send Cotton from India to China, nor give Orders for the Provision or Purchase of any more Indigo,

Indigo, Saltpetre, or Silk Piece Goods for the English Market; explaining the Views of the Government in regard to the Disposal of the Silk Filatures, and the Mode of selling the Silk itself; and observing, that before any Notification is made to the Merchants here of the Resolution to which the Court may come upon the latter Point, he shall be glad to receive such Remarks as they may consider it useful to offer.

The said Letter was read;

Whereupon the Chairman communicated to the Committee the Letter from the Secret Commercial Committee to the Select Committee of Supracargoes at Canton, dated the 14th May last.

The said Letter was likewise read.

The Chairman then submitted the Draft of Paragraphs for China, apprising the Supracargoes that, in the Event of the Bill now before Parliament passing into a Law, no more Ships will be sent to China for Commercial Purposes, and that no more Tea is to be contracted for or purchased by them on the Company's Account, and giving them Instructions as to the Reduction of their Establishment there, in consequence of the altered State of Affairs.

And the said Paragraphs, having been read, were on the Question approved.

The Chairman then also laid before the Committee the Draft of Paragraphs for Bengal, in the Commercial Department, adverting to the Bill now before Parliament respecting the Company's Affairs, and stating that the Court have abandoned the Intention implied in their Dispatch, dated the 5th September last, relative to a Provision of Indigo at Calcutta in 1833 and 1834, and have determined to make no further Purchases of that Article, or of Saltpetre or Silk Piece Goods, and to send no more Cotton from India to China, but observing that the Purchase of Silk in India must be continued for 1834;

Whereupon the said Paragraphs were read and approved.

No 13.
Minute of
Committee of
the Whole Court,
19th July 1833

No. 14.

At a COURT of DIRECTORS held on Friday the 19th July 1833.

The Chairman submitted the Draft of Paragraphs for China, which had been approved in the Committee of the Whole Court, apprising the Company's Supracargoes at Canton that, in the Event of the Bill now before Parliament passing into a Law, no more Ships will be sent to China for Commercial Purposes, and that no more Tea is to be contracted for or purchased by them on the Company's Account, and giving them Instructions as to the Reduction of their Establishment there, in consequence of the altered State of Affairs.

And the said Paragraphs, having been read, were on the Question approved.

The Chairman then laid before the Court the Draft of Paragraphs for Bengal, in the Commercial Department, likewise agreed upon in the said Committee, adverting to the Bill now before Parliament respecting the Company's Affairs, and stating that the Court have abandoned the Intention implied in their Dispatch, dated the 5th September last, relative to a Provision of Indigo at Calcutta in 1833 and 1834, and have determined to make no further Purchases of that Article, or of Saltpetre or Silk Piece Goods, and to send no more Cotton from India to China, but observing that the Purchase of Silk in India must be continued for 1834.

Whereupon the said Paragraphs were read and approved.

William Wigram Esq., Deputy Chairman, and William Astell Esq., a Member of the Court, delivered in their Dissents from the Paragraphs for China above recorded, which Dissents were read.

No 14
Minute of
Court of Directors
19th July 1833.

DISSENT by WILLIAM WIGRAM Esquire, Deputy Chairman, and by WILLIAM ASTELL Esquire.

When the proper Period arrives I shall be prepared, if called upon, to state my Opinion, without Reserve, on the Scheme which may be finally resolved upon by Parliament for the future Government of India through the Instrumentality of the

No. 14
 Minute of
 Court of Directors,
 19th July 1833.

East India Company; but I feel it to be my Duty, in the present Stage of the Proceedings, to place upon Record my Dissent from the Dispatch to China, which has been approved by the Court this Day, and which is based upon the Principles contained in the Letter from the Right Honourable the President of the Board of Commissioners, of the 13th Instant, and which was read in Court on Wednesday last.

The Company will undoubtedly, under the proposed Plan, cease from all Commercial Operations on their own Account; but if, by a limited Continuance of Trade, the Financial Resources of India can be benefited, I conceive it will be the wisest and most judicious Course to pursue such Trade for the Purpose of enabling Territory more readily to meet the additional pecuniary Obligations which will be charged upon that Territory under the contemplated Arrangement, which additional Charge will amount to 455,924*l.* as per Estimate laid before the House of Lords on the 4th of this Month, exclusive of Pensions and Superannuations.

In my Judgment, such Benefit would be secured to India, if, instead of disposing *instantly* of all the Commercial Assets which are to be made over to the Crown, and of immediately withdrawing from further Employ all the Company's own Ships and others now under Contract, those Ships were to be sent out to China for the Purpose of bringing Home such a reduced Quantity of Tea as might be determined upon, with reference to the Markets both at Home and Abroad, as well as to the Interests of the private Trader and the British Public.

The Ships in question, at a moderate Rate of Earning, would relieve *pro tanto* the Commercial Assets, from whence such Compensation as may be awarded must be drawn;

The Commanders and Officers of such Ships would also be employed;

The Warehouse Establishment in London, in part at least, would be retained; and

The Factory at Canton would be rendered available: all which Measures would lessen the Claims which will be preferred.

The 75,000 Pieces of Long Ells now in Warehouse would likewise be exported to China, instead of being disposed of in this Country.

The Cotton, which will have been provided in India to the Amount of nearly Half a Million Sterling, would be laden for Canton, whereby the Remittance from India (a Point I consider of very great Importance) would be secured at least for a Time; and lastly, the great Deterioration in the Out-turn of the Assets generally, by a forced Sale of the Tea now in Store in this Country, (which Tea has been provided under the Commutation Act,) as well as the serious Results to be apprehended in China from a sudden and total Withdrawal of the East India Company from the Market there, would be averted. The private Merchant would also be enabled gradually to enter into that Trade, more especially as regards Tea, and the Transfer of that valuable Branch of China Commerce would more probably be effected without any of those Convulsions which may be anticipated from a hasty, ill-digested, and ruinous Plan, involving either the throwing upon the Home Market a large Quantity of Tea in addition to that now in Warehouse, or of totally deranging the Markets in China, by occasioning a great Fall in the Price of the Article, which will have been provided by the Tea Growers and Hong Merchants in expectation of the usual Demand on the Part of the Company.

There is, moreover, another Point of considerable Moment, which appears to me not to have received sufficient Attention, and that is, the Uncertainty which will attend our future Intercourse with China. It remains to be seen how the Government of that Country will be disposed to recognise the Substitution of the new Authorities contemplated by the Trade Bill, and how far they will be disposed to allow of a Duty being levied in their Ports for the Maintenance of a Foreign Establishment, and to permit the Authorities composing such Establishment to impose and enforce Penalties and inflict Punishments as well as to institute a local Court, which, as appears to me by the 6th Clause of the Bill, is to possess Admiralty Jurisdiction within the Chinese Empire.

I must express my Satisfaction under these Circumstances, that the East India Company will have no Share in this new Order of Things in China; for I cannot contemplate the proposed Measures without being impressed with the Conviction that we are assuming a Character towards the Chinese which cannot be maintained upon Principles of Justice or Policy.

For these Reasons, and for others which I could urge if Time permitted, it is impossible for me to concur in the Views of His Majesty's Ministers, as stated in

Mr.

Mr. Grant's Letter of the 13th of this Month, and now proposed to be communicated to the Factory in China.

(Signed) W. WIGRAM.

East India House, }
19th July 1833 }

Concurring in the Reasons contained in the foregoing Dissent, I hereby affix my Signature.

(Signed) W. ASTELL.

East India House, }
19th July 1833 }

PARAGRAPHS FOR CHINA.

Our President and Select Committee of Supracargoes at Canton in China.

Para 2. In reference to the Dispatch from the Secret Commercial Committee, dated the 14th May last, we have to acquaint you that a Bill (Copy of which as amended in the Committee forms a Number in the Packet) is now in progress to effect an Arrangement for the future Government of India, which Bill provides that the Trade of Great Britain with China shall be opened from and after the 22d of April 1834, and that our Commercial Transactions shall be closed with all convenience Speed after that Date.

3. With these important Measures in prospect, it has been Matter for serious Consideration what Instructions we should issue to you regarding a Provision of Teas next Season, the last which remains of our exclusive Privilege.

4. If we could have restricted our View of this Question to Considerations affecting the Home Market, there would have been no Difficulty in the Decision, for as, consequent on the Provisions of the Commutation Act, there will in April 1834 be on hand, and expected to arrive, a Stock of Tea equal to Two Years Consumption, it is obviously desirable, with a view to an advantageous Sale of that immense Stock, that no Purchases should be made in the intervening Period.

5. But we have necessarily extended our View to Considerations affecting the Market in China, which for a long Course of Years has been accustomed to the System of retaining a large Stock of Tea in England, and the Difficulty which has presented itself to our Minds is, how the Stock can be reduced without deranging the China Market.

6. An immediate Relaxation by us of our exclusive Privilege, so as to allow private Merchants to engage in the Trade previously to April 1834, would not, we think, lessen the Difficulty, but even if it did, extensive Importations of Tea purchased during the Continuance of our Privilege would have the Effect of materially depreciating the Value of the Stock on hand, which we are bound, as far as possible, to protect for the sake of the Indian Territory, to which it will virtually belong when the Arrangements now pending are completed.

7. The Question has appeared to us to involve a Choice only of Evils, deeply affecting not merely the Interests of India, but also the Prosperity of the open Trade which it is intended shall take place between this Country and China. Under this Impression, we have considered it to be our Duty to ask the Opinion and Advice of His Majesty's Ministers, and in accordance with their Recommendations, expressed in distinct and unqualified Terms, we apprise you, that in the Event of the Bill now before Parliament meeting with the final Concurrence of the Company, and being sanctioned by Parliament, no more Ships will be sent by us to China for Commercial Purposes, and that no more Tea is to be contracted for or purchased by you on our Account.

8. We have further to acquaint you, that as a reduced Establishment will be sufficient for the Discharge of any Business that we can require in China after the Termination of the present Season, whether for the Winding-up of our Commercial Affairs there, or for the Conduct of Remittance Transactions, if any such should be entrusted to you, you have our Authority to permit any of our Servants who may wish it, and whose Services may not be required, to return to England on some of the last Ships of the Season. If necessary, you may detain One Ship for the Purpose, taking by Preference a Company's own Ship.

No 14.
Minute of
Court of Directors,
19th July 1833

9. We will only add, that we are endeavouring to obtain Authority to enable us to transfer Servants of the China Establishment to the Civil Service in India, if such a Measure should appear to be desirable.

We are your loving Friends,

(Signed)

JOHN COTTON.
H. SHANK.
H. S' G. TUCKER.
G. LYALL.
J. R. CARNAC.
J. LOCH.
G. RAIKES.
W. S. CLARKE.
J. THORNHILL.
J. FORBES.

C. MARJORIBANKS.
W. WIGRAM.
W. ASTELL.
W. YOUNG.
R. C. FERGUSSON.
R. JENKINS.
P. VANS AGNEW.
R. ELLICE.
J. L. LUSHINGTON.
H. ALEXANDER.

London, 23d July 1833

PARAGRAPHS for BENGAL.

(Commercial Department.)

Our Governor General in Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. A Bill is now in progress, which, should it meet with the final Concurrence of the Company, and be sanctioned by Parliament, will effect an Arrangement for continuing the Government of India in the Company, they ceasing, whilst they possess that Government, to carry on Trade with either India or China.

2. With this important Measure in prospect, we have abandoned the Intention implied in our Dispatch, dated the 5th September last, relative to a Provision of Indigo at Calcutta in December 1833, and January and February 1834, and have determined to make no further Purchases of that Article, or of Saltpetre, or Silk Piece Goods, and to send no more Cotton from India to China.

3. We desire that you will publicly notify this Determination for the Information of the mercantile Community.

4. It is our Intention, at an early Opportunity, to write to you upon the Subject of the Silk Filatures. In the meantime it is only necessary to state that the Purchase of Silk by you must be continued for 1834.

5. We transmit a Number in the Packet, Copy of a Dispatch which we have addressed to the Supracargoes at Canton, relative to discontinuing our Commercial Transactions there.

We are, Your affectionate Friends,

(Signed)

HY. ALEXANDER.
JOHN COTTON.
H. SHANK.
H. S. G' TUCKER.
G. LYALL.
JAMES R. CARNAC.
JOHN LOCH.
GEORGE RAIKES,
W. S. CLARKE.

C. MARJORIBANKS.
W. WIGRAM.
W. ASTELL.
W. YOUNG.
R. C. FERGUSSON
RD. JENKINS.
P. VANS AGNEW.
RUSSELL ELLICE.
J. L. LUSHINGTON.

London, 23d July 1833.

No. 15.

No. 15.

Minute of
Court of Directors,
23d July 1833

At a COURT of DIRECTORS held on Tuesday the 23d July 1833.

The Chairman laying before the Court a Copy of the Bill "for effecting an Arrangement with the India Company, and for the better Government of His Majesty's Indian Territories," as amended in the Committee of the House of Commons on the 19th Instant;

It was, on a Motion, resolved, That the said amended Bill be referred to the Consideration of a Committee of the Whole Court;

Whereupon the Court resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole Court accordingly.

No. 16.

AT a COMMITTEE of the WHOLE COURT held on Tuesday the 23d July 1833.

The Chairman submitted the Draft of a proposed Letter to the Right Honourable Charles Grant, stating, that the Court have had before them the Bill for effecting an Arrangement with the Company and for the future Government of India, as amended in the Committee of the House of Commons, requesting, on the Grounds therein stated, that sufficient Time may be allowed previously to the Third Reading of the Bill to enable the Proprietors, should they think fit, to prefer a Petition against it; and observing, that the Court will convene a General Court for Friday next, for the Consideration of so important a Subject

The said Letter was read, and, on the Question, approved.

The Committee taking into consideration the Draft of a further Letter to Mr. Grant, submitting the Opinion of the Court in reference to Clause A. of the East India Bill, which provides that Civil Servants now employed at St. Helena shall be eligible to Offices in India, that as St. Helena, with all the Stores and Property thereon, are by the Bill vested in the Crown, it will remain with His Majesty's Government, and not with the Company, to take charge of the Servants upon the Establishment.

The said Letter was likewise read and approved.

No 16

Minute of
Committee of
the Whole Court,
23d July 1833

No. 17.

AT a COURT of DIRECTORS held on Tuesday the 23d July 1833.

The Chairman submitted the Draft of a Letter to the Right Honourable Charles Grant, which had been agreed upon in the Committee of the Whole Court, requesting, in reference to certain objectionable Clauses in the amended Bill, that sufficient Time may be allowed previously to the Third Reading of the Bill to enable the Proprietors, should they think fit, to prefer a Petition to Parliament against it, and stating that the Court will convene a General Court for Friday next, the earliest Day upon which it can with Propriety be summoned to meet, for the Consideration of so important a Subject.

And the said Letter, having been read, was, on the Question, approved.

The Chairman then submitted the Draft of another Letter to the Right Honourable Charles Grant, which had been approved by the said Committee, submitting the Court's Opinion in reference to Clause A. of the East India Bill, as amended, which provides that Civil Servants now employed at St. Helena shall be eligible to Office in India; that as St. Helena, with all the Stores and Property thereon, are by the Bill vested in the Crown, it will remain with His Majesty's Government, and not with the Company, to take charge of the Servants upon that Establishment.

And the said Draft of a Letter, having been read, was likewise approved.

Richard Jenkins Esquire, a Member of the Court, delivered in his Dissent from the Opinions expressed by the Court in the Paper of Observations and Suggestions on the India Bill, approved by them on the 9th Instant, so far as the same relate to the College at Haileybury, which was read

It was on a Motion resolved, That the whole of the Proceedings relating to the Bill now before Parliament respecting the East India Company's Charter which have taken place since the last Communication to the General Court upon that Subject, as also the Proceedings respecting the Company's Commercial Contracts and Engagements, together with any Dissents recorded upon those Points, be printed for the Information of the Proprietors

Draft of an Advertisement convening a Special General Court for Friday next the 26th Instant, to take into consideration the India Charter Bill as amended in the Committee of the House of Commons, and now ordered for a Third Reading, and giving Notice that further Papers respecting the said Bill are printing, and will be ready for Delivery to the Proprietors on Friday Morning at Ten o'Clock, was then read and approved.

No 17

Minute of
Court of Directors,
23d July 1833

No 17.

Minute of
Court of Directors,
23d July 1833.

LETTER from the CHAIRMAN and DEPUTY CHAIRMAN to the Right Honourable
CHARLES GRANT.

Sir,

East India House, 23d July 1833.

The Court of Directors of the East India Company have had before them the Bill for effecting an Arrangement with the Company, and for the future Government of India, as amended in the Committee; and observing, as they do, with great Regret, that no Provision is made in the Bill for that regular Communication of the Cases of Difference between the Board and the Court to Parliament, which is necessary for the Exercise of its paramount Control, the Court request that sufficient Time may be allowed previously to the Third Reading of the Bill to enable the Proprietors, should they think fit, to prefer a Petition against it; a Course which they may probably deem it expedient to adopt for the Reason which we have given, and also because, independently of other objectionable Enactments, the Bill provides for the Creation of several new Offices at a large Expence, for a much heavier Augmentation of Charge in the Ecclesiastical Establishment than you appear yourself to have contemplated, and for the Continuance of an exclusive System of Education for the Civil Service of India, under a most exceptionable Mode of Nomination, at an Expence to the Company of Five hundred Pounds for every Writer, independently of the Charge made to his Friends.

The Court will convene a General Court for Friday next, the earliest Day upon which it can with Propriety be summoned to meet for the Consideration of so important a Subject.

We have the Honour to be, &c.

(Signed) C. MARJORIBANKS.
W. WIGRAM.

The Right Honourable Charles Grant,
&c. &c. &c.

LETTER from the CHAIRMAN and DEPUTY CHAIRMAN to the Right Honourable
CHARLES GRANT.

Sir,

East India House, 23d July 1833.

In reference to Clause A. of the East India Bill, which provides that Civil Servants now employed at St. Helena shall be eligible to Offices in India, we have the Honour to submit to you the Opinion of the Court of Directors, that as St. Helena, with all the Stores and Property thereon, are by the Bill vested in the Crown, it will remain with His Majesty's Government, and not with the Company, to take charge of the Servants upon the Establishment.

We have the Honour to be, &c.

(Signed) C. MARJORIBANKS.
W. WIGRAM.

The Right Honourable Charles Grant,
&c. &c. &c.

DISSENT by RICHARD JENKINS Esquire.

I oppose myself with much Diffidence to the Opinion expressed by the Court in the Paper of Observations and Suggestions on the India Bill, which passed on Tuesday the 9th Instant, on the Subject of the College at Haileybury.

In the first place, I can by no means bring myself to admit that an appropriate Education for the Civil Servants of the Company, even with regard to intellectual and literary Subjects, corresponding with the Amount and Quality of the Acquirements which have been pronounced to be necessary, is to be obtained elsewhere so well or so cheaply as in the College, or that any Plan of Examination can be framed for ascertaining satisfactorily the real and relative Proficiency of the young Men destined for India which will not be open to many and great Objections, if we rely upon that alone. With respect moreover to good Principles and Habits, which we ought to consider at least of equal Importance with literary and scientific Attainments, I should lament the Substitution of mere Testimonials for a probationary Course of Conduct, as at the College, under the Eye and subject to the Superintendence and Regulation of those Authorities who are directly responsible for their Appointments, and morally so for the Good or Evil which may result to the People
of

of India from their future Behaviour in the high Trusts for which they are destined.

With these Views, I entirely coincide with the Sentiments expressed in a Report of the Committee of Correspondence dated October 1804, as quoted by Dr. Batten in his very able Evidence before the public Sub-Committee of the House of Commons in July last, that the destined Civil Servants "should not be left to such Chance of Acquisition as the Routine of Public or Country Schools may, under all the Varieties of Situation, Tutorage, Example, and other Circumstances incident to Persons collected from every Part of the United Kingdom, afford them. There ought to be One Course and Standard of appropriate Education for them, and to this End One Place of Instruction."

Although, therefore, I am not disposed to deny that greater Facilities exist at present for enabling young Men to acquire both the European and Oriental Branches of Knowledge that are demanded of them than at the Period of the Establishment of the College, it must be proved to me that those Means are equal or nearly equal to those furnished by the East India College before I should think it wise to abolish the latter, which is generally acknowledged to have answered in a considerable Degree the Ends for which it was instituted.

If there are Means to be found out of the College of obtaining Education in the various prescribed Branches to the desired Point, at least there is no One Institution that combines all; and my Opinion that such an Education is not elsewhere attainable, is further strengthened by the Fact stated by Dr. Batten, that the minimum Qualification for the Examination before the London Board, as designating Fitness in the examined to go out to India, is scarcely superior to that required for Students entering Haileybury. It is true the London Board was established to meet a temporary Demand; but why was the Test not raised when the immediate Pressure was removed? There were in fact Three Degrees or Classes approaching to the Haileybury Standard, yet it appears that even after 1829 (the Board having been established in 1826) out of Thirty-four young Men that passed for India not One reached the First Class, and only Seven the Second.

I conceive then that we must either infer that the present Test at the College is too high, or that the Education out of Doors is not expected to work up to it. The general Opinion however seems to be, that even the Test at the College is not high enough; and this being admitted, I am still more persuaded that no System but one concentrated as that at the College is for all the Purposes in view, and acknowledged to be competent to Degrees of educational Efficiency greatly beyond any thing that has yet been laid down for it, can accomplish the Task.

In short, in my humble Judgment, the higher the Qualification fixed, and the fewer the Prizes, which under the increasing Introduction of the Natives of India into public Employment must be the Case, and must render necessary also that higher Qualification, the greater the Difficulty of Civil Servants being otherwise supplied than through an exclusive Establishment like the College at Haileybury.

To go farther into an Examination of this Question, however, I suppose it will hardly be denied that there must be a peculiar System of Education for the Civil Service in India; and if so, there must either be a separate Institution for it, or some of our public Schools or Colleges must be so modelled as to afford it. The Demand for Writers would not, I may venture to assert, provide Students enough to cover to any private Institution the Expence of Masters of sufficient Skill and Knowledge to impart the prescribed Quantum of the latter to the Aspirants for Indian Appointments, together with that of maintaining a System of Discipline specially suited to the nondescript Age of the young Men. If, again, Teachers only were congregated in one Place, how are the Morals and Conduct of the young Men to be directed? It may be said that they would be better under the Eye of their Parents or Friends in the latter respect; but are whole Families to migrate for the Purpose to the Point of Education, and from whence, in this Case, are the Testimonials of good Conduct to emanate? If, again, they must be placed under some Tutor for the Purpose, here would be a double Expence.

Similar Objections will apply to any Plan for modelling existing Schools or Universities to meet the Exigency, and I consider the Arguments of Mr. Robert Grant, as quoted in Dr. Batten's Evidence, against the Substitution of the latter to be unanswerable.

Haileybury then is at any rate the only Institution existing that combines both the literary Education and moral Probation deemed necessary for young Men of

No. 17

Minute of
Court of Directors,
23d July 1833.

the Age proper for entering the Civil Service of India to possess and give Proofs of to those who are responsible for their Appointments.

If the usual Degree of Knowledge attainable by Boys up to the Age of Nineteen or Twenty at Places of Education accessible to the pecuniary Means and Circumstances of the rising Youth of the Kingdom in the Rank of Gentlemen will suffice, a public Examination as proposed, with Testimonials of respectable Conduct in addition, would probably be enough. I am not sure, however, that such is the Meaning of the Court; but if it is, I am not of that Opinion; if it is not, I am satisfied that a high Test of Qualification cannot be maintained under any System but that of the East India College.

With regard to the Disadvantage supposed to arise from confining the Associations of Youth destined for Foreign Service to Companions all having the same Destination, if that Disadvantage were giving them Feelings and Prejudices exclusively connected with India, I should rather desire than deprecate such a Result. It appears, however, to be thought on the other Hand by some, and particularly by a Gentleman who has had extensive Means of forming a Judgment on the Subject, (I mean Mr. Elphinstone,) that the young Men from Haileybury have generally a Prejudice against India and every thing connected with it. I cannot conceive how the mere Circumstance of being educated at Haileybury should have the latter Effect any more than how Persons educated for any other Destination or Profession should necessarily contract similar Aversions. They must arise in this Case either from extraneous Circumstances or from something wrong in the internal Regulations of the College. I should say, however, that a young Man who was capable of taking up such a Prejudice at Haileybury would have contracted the same anywhere else, and where it is not brought with the young Men from Home, I should rather refer it to another Cause, noticed by Mr. Malthus in his Pamphlet on the Subject, published in 1813, as one of the Complaints then made against the College, "that many Students acquire such a Taste for the European Part of their Education, that they do not pay sufficient Attention to the Oriental Part, and that by their protracted Stay in England they strengthen so much the Ties which unite them to their Friends and their Native Country, that they are too unwilling to leave it."

I would further beg to quote the following Passage, which answers the Argument of Exclusiveness in a Manner in which I perfectly concur.

"In the free Constitution of this Country it is surely of great Importance that our Officers of the Army and Navy should not lose the Feelings of Citizens; but if it is imperiously necessary that their Education should finish sooner than the usual Course of School and University Discipline permits, and if they are required to know certain Branches of Science appropriate to their Professions which are not taught in the common Places of Education, we do not hesitate to separate them for a Time from other Boys; trusting, and trusting I think justly, that while they are living under the British Constitution, and seeing continually their Parents and Friends, and hearing their Conversation, they are not likely to lose the Habits and Feelings of British Citizens."

Moreover I am disposed to approve rather than deprecate the Association complained of, in another point of view. Having myself had the Honour of being brought up in the College of Fort William, as originally established by Marquess Wellesley, and which associated me with my Contemporaries of the Civil Service on the Three Establishments, I must be allowed to say that I have derived a high Degree of personal Pride and Comfort, and I will venture to add the public Service has been rather benefited than injured in the various Scenes in which we have been engaged in common, from the Effect of the Friendships I then formed. Without undervaluing, then, that more general Intercourse through an Education derived from the less exclusive Establishments of public Schools and Universities, I think that for one Ray of Happiness which such an Association might impart Abroad, and a few more scattered Rays casually relighted in intermediate Visits to this Country, or on a final Return to it in the Decline of Life after the best Part has been spent in India, the College of Haileybury may be the means of cheering the long Night of Banishment from their Native Land with the unintermitted Warmth of pure and disinterested Attachment, giving moral Strength in Dangers and Temptations, and Comfort in Sickness and Adversity, surely to be wished for rather than denied to our Servants in India. But it seems to be forgotten that the Civil Service in India is thrown into a Mass of about Five Times its Number of Military Men, King's and Company's, to whom this Exclusiveness does not apply; and

and scattered as the former are through an immense Region, I cannot but think that the slight Degree of elective Attraction generated from the Recollection of common Studies and common Pursuits at Haileybury is rather desirable than otherwise under such Circumstances.

Other Objections which in former Times were strongly urged against the College have, I believe, been greatly obviated by later Regulations, and I cannot doubt that a further Revision of the Establishment would lead to the Removal of any Imperfections that may still remain uncorrected, and that may not be inseparable from such Institutions.

The Question of Expence is doubtless one not to be overlooked, but it requires to be considered under an enlarged View of all the Exigencies of the Case. It appears by Mr. Auber's Evidence that the average Cost to the Company of each Writer from Haileybury in the Twenty-five Years from the Foundation of the College to 1830-31 has been 386*l.* 12*s.* including the Building, or 284*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* exclusive of it. Besides this the annual Expence of each Writer in Bengal until the Abolition of the College was about 660*l.* per Annum; but against this we may set the Expence to Government of each Writer in India going out at the Age usual until Haileybury was established up to their entering upon any Duty beyond that of mere Clerks.

That an equal Efficiency in the Civil Service during these Twenty-five Years could have been attained without that Establishment, or the more expensive one of Marquis Wellesley in India, is at least extremely doubtful. Indeed I may go further, and assert that the Means said to be so ready at hand in England at present of Instruction in Oriental as well as other Pursuits, scarcely yet made common as Branches of Academical Instruction elsewhere than at Haileybury, are mainly owing to the Encouragement given to them in the Two Institutions mentioned, and consequently that for a great Part of the Period an equal Education was not attainable elsewhere.

I should, however, have no Hesitation in laying down the Principle broadly, that the governing Power for British India must bear a certain Portion of the Expence of bringing up a Supply of young Men for its Service as long as the Functionaries are to be furnished from Great Britain on any thing like the present System as to their Age or Qualifications, and that the Amount so paid must cover the Difference between the Expence of an average Education for Gentlemen in England and that for British Functionaries in India. The extra Charges of a Course of Study for the different Professions in England even are not all borne by the Individuals themselves, but are defrayed in part out of the Endowments which have formed the original Funds of the Schools and Colleges where they are educated, though the Success or Failure is in most Cases rather a private than a public Concern. It is certainly so until the Aspirant reaches some high Post, which however he seldom can without giving Proofs of his Merit, and even there his Failure cannot hurt the Community so much as himself.

What, on the contrary, is the Case of young Men appointed to the Civil Service in India? Every Step of their Career is or may be of Importance to the People of India, to the British Character, and to the very Existence of our Empire.

To use the Words of Lord Wellesley, "They are required (and that frequently at a very early Period after their Arrival in India) to discharge the Functions of Magistrates, Judges, Ambassadors, and Governors of Provinces in all the complicated and extensive Relations of those sacred Trusts and exalted Stations, and under peculiar Circumstances which greatly enhance the Solemnity of every public Obligation and aggravate the Difficulty of every public Charge. Their Duties are those of Statesmen in every other Part of the World, with no other characteristic Differences than the Obstacles opposed by an unfavourable Climate, a foreign Language, the peculiar Usages and Laws of India, and the Manners of its Inhabitants."

With an Education in view directed to such Purposes, I cannot think that the Sums already expended have been disproportioned to the Object, but there seems no Reason why the Students should not be called upon to pay a greater Share of the Expence than hitherto. The present reduced State of the Numbers of Students cannot continue; but if it should, the Demand for higher Qualification under the Changes in India, both as to the unrestricted Admission of Europeans into the Country and that of the Natives into public Employments, will be in the inverse Ratio of the Numbers of the Functionaries.

Upon the whole then, when it is considered that the original Expence of the
 (156.) E 3 Buildings

No. 17.

Minute of
Court of Directors,
23d July 1833.

Buildings requisite for such an Institution has been already incurred; that we have collected under it an Assemblage of able Officers and Professors, such as perhaps cannot be found elsewhere; that it has sent out to India a Succession of young Men, qualified in a superior Degree for the arduous Duties for which they are destined; that no other Institution exists to supply its Place, and that the Prospect of a Demand for Writers is so confined as to render it very unlikely that it can generate the Foundation or supply the Expences of such an Institution without the Aid of public Funds; when, above all, the paramount Obligation of sending out Functionaries whom we know to possess the proper Degree of religious and moral as well as literary and scientific Acquirements, and the Difficulty of obtaining the requisite Proof of such Acquirements by means of Tests and Examinations, without a probationary Course of Education under the Eye of Authority in such an Institution as Haileybury, are added to this Account, I sincerely hope that the Determination of His Majesty's Ministers to give it a further Trial will be persevered in.

I should further hail with Satisfaction any Prospect of the Restoration of the College of Fort William on something like the comprehensive Plan of Marquess Wellesley, to complete, in connexion with that of Haileybury, the Education of our young Civilians in the Oriental Languages, to afford Encouragement and Support to our own Countrymen in the Cultivation of Oriental Pursuits, as well as to prove to our Native Subjects the Interest taken and the Respect felt by the Government for their National Literature, and to aid in forwarding such a Degree of Amalgamation between us and them, in Education and social Habits, as may be in consistency with that Equality in Political Rights, and eventually in Political Power, to which we are endeavouring to raise them.

(Signed) R^d JENKINS.

East India House, }
23d July 1833. }

No. 18.

No. 18.

Minute of
Committee of
the Whole Court,
24th July 1833.

AT a COMMITTEE of the WHOLE COURT held on Wednesday the 24th July 1833.

The Committee proceeding to take into Consideration the East India Bill, as the same has been amended in the Committee of the House of Commons, and the Bill having been read;

The Chairman submitted the Draft of a Petition to the House of Commons, praying that the Bill may be so modified and altered as to meet the Objections set forth in the Petition:

And the same having been read;

It was resolved, That it be recommended to the Court of Proprietors to petition Parliament respecting the Bill ordered for a Third Reading on Friday next, and that the Petition now read be approved and submitted to the General Court on Friday next, for their Adoption.

No. 19.

No. 19.

Minute of
Court of Directors,
24th July 1833.

AT a COURT of DIRECTORS held on Wednesday the 24th July 1833.

The Chairman laid before the Court the following Resolution of the Committee of the Whole Court held this Day; which was read, viz.

“ Resolved, That it be recommended to the Court of Proprietors to petition Parliament respecting the Bill ordered for a Third Reading on Friday next, and that the Petition now read be approved and submitted to the General Court on Friday next, for their Adoption.”

The Draft of a Petition to the Honourable House of Commons, therewith submitted, was likewise read, representing to the House the Objections of the Company to certain Clauses of the Bill now before Parliament, for “ effecting an Arrangement with the India Company, and for the better Government of His Majesty's

Indian

Indian Territories," and praying the House so to modify and alter the said Bill as to meet those Objections ; and stating, that if it should be the Pleasure of the House to hear Counsel in support and explanation of the Objections, Counsel are prepared to appear accordingly, at such Time as the House may be pleased to appoint.

No 19
Minute of
Court of Directors,
24th July 1833

And the Court having deliberated thereon ;

Resolved, That it be accordingly recommended to the Court of Proprietors to petition Parliament respecting the Bill ordered for a Third Reading on Friday next ; and that the Petition now read be approved, and submitted to the General Court on Friday next, for their Adoption.

No.20.

AT a COURT of DIRECTORS held on Friday the 26th July 1833

No 20
Minute of
Court of Directors,
26th July 1833

A Letter from the Right Honourable Charles Grant, dated at the India Board the 25th Instant, adverting to the Wish of the Court as expressed in the Chairman and Deputy Chairman's Letter of the 23d Instant, that the Third Reading of the East India Bill may be postponed, in order to allow sufficient Time for the Court of Proprietors, should they think fit, to prefer a Petition against it, and stating the Grounds upon which he declines to interfere with the Arrangement which has been made by the House of Commons for carrying the Bill through its ensuing Stage, being read ; also,

Another Letter from Mr. Grant, dated the 25th Instant, observing, in reply to the Letter from the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the 23d Instant, respecting Clause A. of the East India Bill, that while he agrees with them that it will remain with His Majesty's Government to take charge of the Servants upon the St. Helena Establishment, still, as the Clause is only permissive, he does not foresee that any Inconvenience is likely to arise out of the Provision of that Clause, as it will rest with the Court to act upon it, or not, at their own Discretion,

Ordered, That the said Letters be referred to the Consideration of a Committee of the Whole Court.

James Rivett Carnac Esq., a Member of the Court, delivered in his Dissent from the Court's Resolution of the 24th Instant, approving, and recommending for the Adoption of the General Court, the Draft of a Petition to the Honourable House of Commons against the Bill now before that House on the Subject of the Company's Charter, which was read.

LETTER from the Right Honourable CHARLES GRANT to the CHAIRMAN and DEPUTY CHAIRMAN.

Gentlemen,

India Board, 25th July 1833

In reference to the Wish of the Court of Directors, as expressed in your Letter of the 23d Instant, that the Third Reading of the East India Bill may be postponed, in order to allow sufficient Time for the Court of Proprietors, should they think fit, to prefer a Petition against it, I beg to assure you, that I should be well disposed to meet the Wish of the Court, if I could discern any sufficient Ground for delaying the Progress of the Bill ; but as the several Points adverted to by you have already been maturely weighed and considered, and as on the Third Reading there will be a further Opportunity of Discussion, I trust that I shall not incur the Imputation of Uncourteousness, or of a Desire to precipitate the Measure, if I decline to interfere with the Arrangement which has been made by the House of Commons for carrying the Bill through its ensuing Stage.

The Court must be aware that at this late Period of the Session, when many important Questions remain to be disposed of, the Order agreed upon by the House for the Discussion of those Questions ought not to be disturbed without urgent Cause.

I have the Honour to be, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES GRANT.

The Chairman and Deputy Chairman.

No 20,

LETTER from the Right Honourable CHARLES GRANT to the CHAIRMAN and DEPUTY CHAIRMAN.

Minute of
Court of Directors,
26th July 1833

Gentlemen,

India Board, 25th July 1833.

In reply to your Letter of the 23d Instant, respecting Clause A. of the East India Bill, I beg to observe, that while I agree with you that it will remain with His Majesty's Government to take charge of the Servants upon the St. Helena Establishment, still, as the Clause is only permissive, I do not foresee that any Inconvenience is likely to arise out of the Provision of that Clause, as it will rest with the Court of Directors to act upon it, or not, at their own Discretion.

I have the Honour to be, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES GRANT.

The Chairman and Deputy Chairman.

DISSENT by JAMES RIVETT CARNAC Esq.

I have hitherto confined the Remarks which I have felt it necessary to make on the Points that have arisen in the course of the Negotiations with His Majesty's Government on the Subject of the Company's Charter to Discussions in the Court of Directors, but I now feel the Period has arrived when it is my Duty to endeavour to put beyond Misconception the Sentiments which I entertain on this important Question, by placing them upon Record, and I do this in the Shape of a Dissent to the Resolution of Wednesday last, approving of a Petition to the House of Commons, which it is proposed to submit for the Adoption of the Court of Proprietors this Day. I do not object to the Act of petitioning, but to the Stress which I conceive to have been unnecessarily laid on some of the Points which it is proposed to urge on the Attention of Parliament against the Bill appointed for the Third Reading this Evening.

Differences of Opinion have naturally arisen in a Matter which involves so great a Departure from the System under which the Company have hitherto honourably and advantageously discharged their Part in the Government of India, and those Differences are more or less strong according to the Views which individual Members may have taken of the Principles upon which the Compromise was originally based, and is now in its Progress to Completion. I should have been glad had it been thought fit to have continued the Company in the same Position towards India and China as that in which they stood under the Act of 1813. I think their Commercial and Political Functions were united beneficially for the Interests both of India and of England, and I have never contemplated the entire Abandonment of all Trade by the Company without considering it to involve the Sacrifice of a positive Advantage to the pecuniary Interests of India.

In expressing these Opinions I would desire, however, to guard myself against being understood as maintaining that the Existence of the Company's Commercial Character is essential to the beneficial Exercise of their Political Functions. Had I thought so, I should not have concurred in recommending the Proprietors to cease from Trade, and to consent to place their Property on the Security of Indian Territory. I consider India to have benefited very largely by the Application of the surplus Commercial Profits of the Company's Trade, and I think England has derived a large and steady Revenue, whilst the Public have been supplied uninterruptedly in an almost indispensable Article of Consumption, of a Quality and at a Price which may not be secured to them under the proposed Change. I likewise most fully admit that the Members of the Court, in their individual Capacity, may have derived considerable Weight from the Influence inseparable from the Management of a Commercial Concern of vast Magnitude; but viewing the Court of Directors in their collective Capacity, and in reference to the Political Relation in which they are placed towards India, I do not believe that their Commercial Character has operated in the least degree beneficially, whilst it is my Conviction that it has not induced any Change of Opinion where a Difference may have arisen between the Board of Control and themselves on Matters of Government. Nothing, I apprehend, can better illustrate the Correctness of this View than the following Remark of the Court of Directors, in their Minute of the 15th July 1813, when they recommended the last Charter to the Acceptance of the Proprietors; "The general Powers of Superintendence and Control given (to the Board) by former Charters are in reality so large, that if they had been exercised illiberally or vexatiously, it might have been difficult for the Court of

Directors to perform their Functions; and in respect to the present Powers much will depend on the Spirit in which they are administered."

Such was the Declaration when the Company possessed the greatest Commercial Power; those Powers had no Weight politically, but calm and deliberate Remonstrance had its Influence, and frequently produced (as I have no Doubt, should Occasion arise, will in future produce) a Modification or Accordance on Points of Difference between the Two Home Authorities.

After one of the most minute and protracted Investigations in the Affairs of the East India Company, which has ever taken place, and which was instituted for the avowed Purpose of enabling Parliament to decide on the Terms of a future Agreement between the Public and the Company, His Majesty's Ministers submitted their Scheme to the Consideration of the Company, at the same Time they expressed their Readiness to weigh the Merits of any other Plan which might be suggested as an Alternative. The Court of Directors did not see fit to propose any other Plan, but they communicated unreservedly their Opinions and Objections to the Plan of the Government. To these Objections His Majesty's Ministers replied, and the Negotiation has throughout been conducted in a Spirit of Compromise by which Term I understand to mean a Compact, in which Concessions are to be made on each Side. Important Concessions have been made. One principal Feature in the Scheme was, the Abandonment of all Commercial Dealings by the Company. This has been acceded to, it has been approved by Parliament as far as the Measure has hitherto travelled, and the Question now appears to me to be, whether, under the Scheme as developed in the Bill now before the Court, we shall in our Situation of Directors recommend to our Constituents to ratify the Compromise, and place their Charter of Trade in abeyance. The Question divides itself into Two Parts; first, the pecuniary Interests of the Proprietors, and, secondly, the Government of India. With regard to the first Consideration, the Court of Directors, in their Resolution of the 7th June last, recommend to the General Court to defer to the Arrangement regarding the Guarantee Fund, and the Security of their Dividend on Indian Revenue. This Recommendation was accepted and agreed to by the Court of Proprietors on the 10th of that Month

The Value of the Stock in the Market is a good Criterion of the Opinion which is entertained of it by the Public, and as it is at the Option of the Holder to retain it or not, as he may judge most for his Advantage, I might content myself with that Remark, but I cannot hesitate from giving it as my Opinion, that I look to the ultimate Security which the Indian Territory affords, if well administered, as good and ample, certainly, for the Term during which the East India Company is to possess the Government of that Country; beyond that Period it is unnecessary for me to express any Opinion. There is one Point, however, which has been dwelt upon in the course of the Discussions, namely, the immediate pecuniary Effects which the proposed Arrangement is to have on the Finances of India, and an Account has been called for by the House of Lords, which shows an Excess of additional Charge of 455,924*l.* But it is to be borne in mind, that unless the Company had retained the Monopoly of Trade to China, India would equally have lost the Advantage of the Exchange which forms 346,026*l.* of the above Sum, to which may be added the Interest of the Home Bond Debt, viz. 88,000*l.*, making a Reduction of 434,026*l.* in the Sum of 455,924*l.* I think no one will contend, after reading the Minute of Conference between the Duke of Wellington and Lord Ellenborough, and the Chairs of that Day, that the Monopoly could have been continued.

I now proceed to the Consideration of the second Point, the Relation in which it is proposed the Company shall in future stand towards India.

Under the proposed Bill it will be found that the Company are still to be the originating intermediate Body in whom the Government of India is vested, under certain Limitations. The Company henceforth, as at present, are to originate all Orders and Instructions to the several Governments of India, excepting such Orders as may proceed through the Secret Committee relating to Peace and War, and Negotiations with Foreign States. They are to appoint the Governor General, Governor, and Commanders in Chief, subject at present to Approval by the Crown. The Councillors are to be nominated by them (with the Exception of one in Bengal) according to their own Selection, and not subject to any other Confirmation. They are to have the Power of Recall of any Functionary, high or low, free from any Veto on the Part of the Board. The Appointment of Writers, Cadets, and Assistant Surgeons remain with them, subject, as at present proposed, in the

No. 20.
 Minute of
 Court of Directors,
 26th July 1833.

Appointment of Writers. to an objectionable Mode of Nomination upon which I shall hereafter remark. The Board are still precluded from directing or desiring the Payment of any extraordinary Allowance or Gratuity, or the Increase of any established Salary or Emolument, neither can the Board originate any Expence whatever. These are Points which I consider of great Moment as regards both India and this Country.

The Bill, as originally laid before the Court, consisted of One hundred and thirteen Clauses; upon Forty-two of them the Court offered a Paper of Observations and Suggestions; Amendments have been made more or less in Twenty-two of such Clauses, concurring in the Views of the Court; the others relate to Publicity, the Appointment of Councils, of Law Commissioners, of Two additional Bishops, the consequent Increase of Charges, and also to the future Plan for appointing Students to the College of Haileybury.

With regard to the Question of Publicity, it has been brought before Parliament in the Negotiation Papers; but the Legislature does not appear to take the same View of the Importance of such a Provision as is taken by the Court. I can readily conceive that Circumstances might arise which might render it very undesirable to act upon such a Provision; but if passed into a *Law* it would be imperative on the Court to obey it. The Court of Proprietors possesses the Means within itself of enacting a Bye Law which would ensure Publicity, and at the same Time leave a Discretion which, in my Judgment, would be essential in such a Provision, from whatever Authority it may proceed. But in point of fact I conceive that Publicity can be obtained, and even more certainly effectual, by the whole Matter of serious Differences with the Board being opened to the Proprietors, than in any other Way. With respect to the Appointments of Councils (at least for the present) at the subordinate Presidencies, I concur in the Views of the Court, but I differ as to the Government proposed to be established in the Western Provinces. I consider that the Government at Agra ought to be made an efficient substantive Government, the additional Expence of which will in some Degree be provided for by the consequent Reduction of the Residency at Delhi. With respect to the Appointment of Law Commissioners, I consider that some Measure is absolutely called for, in order that the Laws which are to apply to the altered State of the Community should be clearly defined, and, as far as practicable and consistent with local Usages, made applicable to all Classes. Great Caution and Judgment will be necessary in the Discharge of these important Duties devolving on the Commission; and if their Labours should effect satisfactorily the Object of their Appointment, I should consider the Sum which it is proposed to allot to them as well applied.

Upon the proposed Addition to the Ecclesiastical Establishment, I do not entertain such strong Objections as have been urged by the Court. When the Introduction of the Episcopal Establishment was under Consideration in 1813, the distinguished Nobleman who had filled the Office of Governor General stated his Opinion that the Ecclesiastical Establishment had not been placed on a respectable Footing, and that one of a suitable Form would tend to elevate the European Character in India. Whether such an Establishment should be formed by the Appointment of a Bishop or Archdeacons Lord Wellesley did not state, though he appears to have considered the Introduction of a new Establishment a Matter of some Delicacy. The Experiment, however, has been tried; and the Apprehension of any ill Effects, with reference to the Feelings of the Natives, has been proved to be groundless. I can speak from Experience to the highly beneficial Results which have followed the Increase of the Episcopal Establishment in India, among which its zealous and successful Exertions for the Encouragement of general Education among the Natives may be enumerated to its Honour. I cannot therefore object to Two additional Bishops; One I deem indispensable, to avoid the Recurrence of the Inconvenience which has been experienced by the premature Death of at least Three of the Five Prelates who have been nominated to the See of Calcutta since its Establishment in 1814. I do not regard the small additional Expence as any Reason for opposing the Measure.

The last Point upon which I have to observe is the proposed new System of nominating Four Candidates, from whom One Student is to be selected for Admission into Haileybury College. I entirely concur in the Opinions expressed by the Court on the Subject, as I conceive that no Plan can be devised on the whole so well adapted as the present Mode of Appointment to the Civil Service, *under a defined Test*, to diffuse this Patronage amongst those Classes whose Position in Society

Society renders them best calculated to provide the Description of Servant who will be found the most desirable as well as efficient in India.

Having thus recorded the Views which I entertain on the great Question under our Consideration, considering that the Court of Directors will be possessed of all the Powers which they at present exercise, to enable them to discharge, with Honour to themselves and with Benefit to India, the great and important Trust of its Administration, and having stated that in my Judgment the pecuniary Interests of the Proprietors are amply secured in the projected Arrangement, I cannot but be prepared at the proper Season to recommend to my Constituents (under the confident Hope that some of the Modifications urged on the Attention of the Legislature will yet be conceded) to confirm the Compromise, by placing their Chartered Commercial Rights in abeyance.

(Signed) J. R. CARNAC.

East India House, }
26th July 1833 }

No 20
Minute of
Court of Directors,
26th July 1833.

No 21.

AT a GENERAL COURT of the UNITED COMPANY of MERCHANTS of ENGLAND trading to the EAST INDIES, held on Friday the 26th July 1833.

The Chairman acquainted the Court that the Papers relative to the Negotiation respecting the Company's Charter, which have been printed since the last Meeting of the Proprietors, were laid on the Table, and that, if it was the Desire of the Court, they should be read; but that, as Mr. Grant had intimated to the Court of Directors, in reply to their Letter requesting Time to consider the Amendments which have been made in the Bill, that the Third Reading will not be delayed beyond this Evening, the Court of Directors had prepared a Petition to the House of Commons against the Bill, which Petition, if approved by the General Court, should be presented at the Meeting of the House. The under-mentioned Documents were then read, viz

Letter from the Chairman and Deputy Chairman to the Right Honourable Charles Grant, dated the 23d Instant.

Letter from Mr. Grant to the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, in reply, dated the 25th Instant.

Another Letter from the Chairman and Deputy Chairman to Mr. Grant, dated the 23d Instant, and

A Letter from Mr. Grant to the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, dated the 25th Instant, in reply

The Chairman then submitted for the Approval of the Court of Proprietors the Draft of a Petition which had been prepared to the House of Commons against the Bill, which Petition was read, being as follows (See below.)

It was then, on a Motion,

Resolved, That this Court approve the said Petition, and that the Company's Seal be affixed thereto

No 21
Minute of
the General Court
of the East
India Company,
26th July 1833

The PETITION from the EAST INDIA COMPANY to the HONOURABLE HOUSE OF COMMONS, noticed in the preceding Minute.

" To the Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies,

Sheweth,

That a Bill is now before your Honourable House for continuing the Government of the British Territories in the East Indies in your Petitioners, they consenting for the Period of their holding that Government to discontinue the carrying on of any Trade for their own Profit, and that, with a view to this Arrangement, your Petitioners have acquiesced in a Plan embodied in the said Bill for adjusting all the pecuniary Claims of your Petitioners upon the Principle of Compromise

That your Petitioners being impressed with a deep Sense of the Importance of the Trust proposed to be committed to them for a further Term, are most anxious

No 21.

Minute of
the General Court
of the East
India Company,
26th July 1833.

to be placed in such a Situation as to be enabled to administer the Territorial Government of India with Advantage to the People of that Country.

That by the said Bill every Act of the Court of Directors, excepting what relates to certain Matters of Patronage and to the Details of their Home Establishment, is made subject to the Control of the Board of Commissioners for the Affairs of India, and although your Petitioners presume not to offer any Objection to this, admitting that where Two distinct Bodies have a concurrent Jurisdiction, there must rest somewhere Power to decide absolutely in Cases of Difference between them; yet your Petitioners feel it to be their Duty to suggest the Importance of providing that such Cases should be reported to both Houses of Parliament, in order that the Court of Directors, in originating Political Measures, and the Board of Commissioners in controlling them, should both act under a decided Sense of Responsibility to the Legislature; and in order to obviate an Objection that might be taken to this Suggestion, as involving the Disclosure of Matters which ought to be kept secret, your Petitioners beg leave to point out to your Honourable House, that the Bill makes Provision for entrusting such Subjects as Parliament has thought it fit should be kept secret to a Secret Committee, acting ministerially under the Direction of the said Board.

Your Petitioners further humbly represent, that the said Bill proposes to effect a serious Change in the Constitution of the local Governments in India, which in the Judgment of your Petitioners will, if adopted, place an excessive Power in the Hands of the Governor General, and prejudicially diminish the Power and Influence of the Governments of Madras and Bombay.

Your Petitioners admit that it is necessary to provide an efficient Government for the Western Provinces of Bengal; but they think that this Object would be as satisfactorily and much more economically attained by the Appointment of a Lieutenant Governor, subject to the Bengal Government, than by the Institution of a Fourth Presidency. The Proposal to vest the Executive Governments of Madras and Bombay in Governors without Councils appears to your Petitioners to be liable to very serious Objections, which are not removed by that Clause in the Bill which allows the Court of Directors, with the Approbation of the said Board, to appoint a Council in any Presidency, because, as there are Councils at present, the Effect of the Bill, if passed into a Law, will be to declare the Opinion of the Legislature against Councils, and to place the Court of Directors and the Board in the Position, should they think Councils essential, of at once exercising their Judgment in opposition to that Opinion.

If it be intended to continue the Councils, but with a Power to the Court and the Board to dispense with them, your Petitioners humbly submit that that Intention should be distinctly expressed in the said Bill.

Your Petitioners would further represent, that they cannot but contemplate with Anxiety the Increase of Expence which will be caused by the Number of new Offices proposed by the said Bill to be created; a Governor of Agra at 1.20.000 Rupees per Annum, and, as a Consequence of the Formation of a Presidency there, many expensive Establishments; Three additional Councillors in Bengal, at 96.000 Rupees a Year each, and Five Law Commissioners at 60.000 Rupees a Year each.

Your Petitioners must also regard with some Apprehension the Augmentation of Charge in the Ecclesiastical Department by means of the Arrangements provided for in the said Bill; for at present, independently of the Military Chaplains of the Church of England, Seventy-five in Number, the Establishment comprises One Bishop, Three Archdeacons, and Six Chaplains of the Church of Scotland, at an aggregate Expence of 1.66.333 Rupees per Annum; whilst, under the Proposals contained in the said Bill, the Establishment will comprise, independently of Seventy-five Military Chaplains of the Church of England, Three Bishops, Three Chaplains to discharge the Duties which the Archdeacons now perform, and Eight Chaplains of the Church of Scotland, at an aggregate Expence of 2.29.858 Rupees annually, besides which there is the contingent Expence of Episcopal Visitations, Pensions, and Passage Money.

Your Petitioners, whilst they are sincerely desirous that adequate Means should be provided for the Spiritual Instruction and Consolation of all Classes of the public Servants stationed in India, must be permitted to remark, that no Evidence has been brought before them which satisfies them of the Necessity of adding to the Establishment Two Suffragan Bishops, and Two Chaplains of the Church of Scotland, and that without such Evidence they could not consider it just to employ the Revenues of India in maintaining these Officers.

Your Petitioners beg leave respectfully to call the particular Attention of your Honourable House to those Parts of the said Bill which relate to the College at Haileybury.

Throughout the Correspondence which has passed with His Majesty's Ministers, your Petitioners have declared upon this Point, that the Arrangement "which shall most effectually provide the Means of giving good Servants to the Indian Empire is that which will assuredly meet the Views of the Court, whatever its Effect may be on their Patronage;" and it is because your Petitioners are deliberately convinced that Efficiency will be more likely to be obtained in a general System of Education, brought to the Standard of a high Test of Examination, than in any exclusive System, that the Court confidently ask your Honourable House to abolish the College, a Measure which is further strongly recommended by Considerations of Expence, as the Maintenance of that Institution has in the last Term caused a Charge upon India at the Rate of upwards of Ten thousand Pounds per Annum, when there were less than Thirty Students within its Walls, and your Petitioners would also submit the important Fact, that in the Course of the last Ten Years the College has at one Time been unequal to supply the requisite Number of Writers, and at another, as at present, is much more than adequate to the Supply.

Your Petitioners therefore most humbly pray, that your Honourable House will be pleased to take the foregoing Representations into consideration, and so to modify and alter the said Bill as to meet the Objections which your Petitioners have presumed to lay before you, and if it should be the Pleasure of your Honourable House to hear Counsel in support and Explanation of those Objections, Counsel are prepared to appear accordingly at such Time as you may be pleased to appoint.

(L. S.)

LETTER from EDWARD LAWFORD Esquire (Company's Solicitor) to PETER AUBER Esq., Secretary to the East India Company.

Sir,

Drapers Hall, 29th July 1833

I have the Honour to state to you, for the Information of the Honourable Court of Directors, that the Petition agreed to by the General Court on Friday last, which I received from you that Afternoon, was presented on the same Evening to the Honourable House of Commons by Robert Cutlar Fergusson Esq., who moved that the Company's Counsel who were in attendance should be called in. This Motion not being acceded to, the Bill, having been farther amended, was read a Third Time and passed; and I have the Honour to send you herewith a Copy of it, as so amended.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

(Signed) EDWARD LAWFORD.

Peter Auber Esq,
Secretary, &c.

No. 22

A BILL (as passed by the Honourable the House of Commons) for effecting an ARRANGEMENT with the EAST INDIA COMPANY, and for the better Government of His Majesty's Indian Territories. (27th July 1833.)

Whereas by an Act passed in the Fifty-third Year of the Reign of His Majesty King George the Third, intituled "An Act for continuing in the *East India* Company for a further Term the Possession of the *British* Territories in *India*, together with certain exclusive Privileges; for establishing further Regulations for the Government of the said Territories, and the better Administration of Justice within the same; and for regulating the Trade to and from the Places within the Limits of the said Company's Charter," the Possession and Government of the *British* Territories in *India* were continued in the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies for a Term therein mentioned:

(156.)

F 3

And

No 21

Minute of
the General Court
of the East
India Company,
26th July 1833

No 22.

Bill for effecting
an Arrangement
with the East India
Company, &c.
27th July 1833

No 22

Bill for effecting
an Arrangement
with the East India
Company, &c
27th July 1833.

And whereas the said Company are entitled to or claim the Lordships and Islands of St. Helena and Bombay, under Grants from the Crown, and other Property to a large Amount in Value, and also certain Rights and Privileges not affected by the Determination of the Term granted by the said recited Act :

And whereas the said Company have consented that all their Rights and Interests to or in the said Territories, and all their Territorial and Commercial, Real and Personal Assets and Property whatsoever, shall, subject to the Debts and Liabilities now affecting the same, be placed at the Disposal of Parliament, in consideration of certain Provisions herein-after mentioned, and have also consented that their Right to trade for their own Profit, in common with other His Majesty's Subjects, be suspended during such Time as the Government of the said Territories shall be confided to them :

And whereas it is expedient that the said Territories now under the Government of the said Company be continued under such Government, but in Trust for the Crown of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and discharged of all Claims of the said Company to any Profit therefrom to their own Use, except the Dividend herein-after secured to them, and that the Property of the said Company be continued in their Possession and at their Disposal, in Trust for the Crown, for the Service of the said Government and other Purposes in this Act mentioned :

Be it therefore enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That from and after the Twenty-second Day of April One thousand eight hundred and thirty-four the Territorial Acquisitions and Revenues mentioned or referred to in the said Act of the Fifty-third Year of His late Majesty King George the Third, together with the Port and Island of *Bombay*, and all other Territories now in the Possession and under the Government of the said Company, except the Island of *St. Helena*, shall remain and continue under such Government until the Thirtieth Day of April One thousand eight hundred and fifty-four ; and that all the Lands and Hereditaments, Revenues, Rents, and Profits of the said Company, and all the Stores, Merchandize, Chattels, Monies, Debts, and Real and Personal Estate whatsoever, except the said Island of *St. Helena*, and the Stores and Property thereon, herein-after mentioned, subject to the Debts and Liabilities now affecting the same respectively, and the Benefit of all Contracts, Covenants, and Engagements, and all Rights to Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures, and all other Emoluments whatsoever which the said Company shall be seised or possessed of or entitled unto on the said Twenty-second Day of April One thousand eight hundred and thirty-four, shall remain and be vested in, and be held, received, and exercised respectively, according to the Nature and Quality, Estate and Interest of and in the same respectively, by the said Company, in Trust for His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, for the Service of the Government of *India*, discharged of all Claims of the said Company to any Profit or Advantage therefrom to their own Use, except the Dividend on their Capital Stock secured to them as herein-after is mentioned, subject to such Powers and Authorities for the Superintendence, Direction, and Control over the Acts, Operations, and Concerns of the said Company as have been already made or provided by any Act or Acts of Parliament in that Behalf, or are made or provided by this Act. .

And be it enacted, That all and singular the Privileges, Franchises, Abilities, Capacities, Powers, Authorities, whether Military or Civil, Rights, Remedies, Methods of Suit, Penalties, Forfeitures, Disabilities, Provisions, Matters, and Things whatsoever, granted to or continued in the said United Company by the said Act of the Fifty-third Year of King George the Third, for and during the Term limited by the said Act, and all other the Enactments, Provisions, Matters, and Things contained in the said Act, or in any other Act or Acts whatsoever, which are limited or may be construed to be limited to continue for and during the Term granted to the said Company by the said Act of the Fifty-third Year of King George the Third, so far as the same or any of them are in force, and not repealed by or repugnant to the Enactments herein-after contained, and all Powers of Alienation and Disposition, Rights, Franchises, and Immunities, which the said United Company now have, shall continue and be in force, and may be exercised and enjoyed as against all Persons whomsoever, subject to the Superintendence, Direction, and Control herein-before mentioned, until the Thirtieth Day of April One thousand eight hundred and fifty-four.

Provided always, and be it enacted, That from and after the said Twenty-second Day of April One thousand eight hundred and thirty-four the exclusive Right

of trading with the Dominions of the Emperor of China, and of trading in Tea, continued to the said Company by the said Act of the Fifty-third Year of King George the Third, shall cease.

And be it enacted, That the said Company shall, with all convenient Speed after the said Twenty-second Day of April One thousand eight hundred and thirty-four, close their Commercial Business, and make Sale of all their Merchandize, Stores, and Effects, at Home and Abroad, distinguishing in their Account Books as Commercial Assets, and all their Warehouses, Lands, Tenements, Hereditaments, and Property whatsoever which may not be retained for the Purposes of the Government of the said Territories, and get in all Debts due to them on account of the Commercial Branch of their Affairs, and reduce their Commercial Establishments as the same shall become unnecessary, and discontinue and abstain from all Commercial Business which shall not be incident to the closing of their actual Concerns, and to the Conversion into Money of the Property herein-before directed to be sold, or which shall not be carried on for the Purposes of the said Government.

And be it enacted, That the Board of Commissioners for the Affairs of India shall have full Power to superintend, direct, and control the Sale of the said Merchandize, Stores, and Effects, and other Property herein-before directed to be sold, and to determine from Time to Time, until the said Property shall be converted into Money, what Parts of the said Commercial Establishments shall be continued and reduced respectively, and to control the Allowance and Payment of all Claims upon the said Company connected with the Commercial Branch of their Affairs, and generally to superintend and control all Acts and Operations whatsoever of the said Company whereby the Value of the Property of the said Company may be affected; and the said Board shall and may appoint such Officers as shall be necessary to attend upon the said Board during the Winding-up of the Commercial Business of the said Company, and that the Charge of such Salaries or Allowances as His Majesty shall, by any Warrant or Warrants under His Sign Manual, countersigned by the Chancellor of the Exchequer for the Time being, direct to be paid to such Officers, shall be defrayed by the said Company as herein-after mentioned, in addition to the ordinary Charges of the said Board

And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Company to take into consideration the Claims of any Persons now or hereafter employed by or under the said Company, or the Widows and Children of any such Persons whose Interests may be affected by the Discontinuance of the said Company's Trade, or who may be reduced from Time to Time, and under the Controul of the said Board, to grant such Compensations, Superannuations, or Allowances, (the Charge thereof to be defrayed by the said Company as herein-after mentioned,) as shall appear reasonable. Provided always, that no such Compensations, Superannuations, or Allowances shall be granted without the Consent of the Board of Commissioners for the Affairs of India, signified by a Letter from One of the Secretaries of the said Board to the Court of Directors of the said Company, and that such Consent shall not be in any Case given or signified until the Expiration of Two Calendar Months after Particulars of the Compensation, Superannuation, or Allowance proposed to be so granted shall have been laid before both Houses of Parliament

Provided always, and be it enacted, That within the first Fourteen sitting Days after the first meeting of Parliament in every Year there be laid before both Houses of Parliament the Particulars of all Compensations, Superannuations, and Allowances so granted, and of the Salaries and Allowances so granted, and of the Salaries and Allowances directed to be paid to such Officers as may be appointed by the said Board as aforesaid, during the preceding Year.

And be it enacted, That from and after the said Twenty-second Day of April One thousand eight hundred and thirty-four all the Bond Debt of the said Company in Great Britain, and all the Territorial Debt of the said Company in India, and all other Debts which shall on that Day be owing by the said Company, and all Sums of Money, Costs, Charges, and Expences which after the said Twenty-second Day of April One thousand eight hundred and thirty-four may become payable by the said Company in respect or by reason of any Covenants, Contracts, or Liabilities then existing, and all Debts, Expences, and Liabilities whatever which after the same Day shall be lawfully contracted and incurred on account of the Government of the said Territories, and all Payments by this Act directed to be made, shall be charged and chargeable upon the Revenues of the said Territories; and that neither any Stock or Effects which the said Company may hereafter have to their own Use, nor the

No. 22.

Bill for effecting
an Arrangement
with the East India
Company, &c
27th July 1833

Dividend by this Act secured to them, nor the Directors or Proprietors of the said Company, shall be liable or chargeable with any of the said Debts, Payments, or Liabilities.

Provided always, and be it enacted, That so long as the Possession and Government of the said Territories shall be continued to the said Company all Persons and Bodies Politic shall and may have and take the same Suits, Remedies, and Proceedings, legal and equitable, against the said Company, in respect of such Debts and Liabilities as aforesaid, and the Property vested in the said Company in Trust as aforesaid shall be subject and liable to the same Judgments and Executions, in the same Manner and Form respectively as if the said Property were hereby continued to the said Company to their own Use.

And be it enacted, That out of the Revenues of the said Territories there shall be paid to or retained by the said Company to their own Use a yearly Dividend after the Rate of Ten Pounds Ten Shillings per Cent. per Annum on the present Amount of their Capital Stock, the said Dividend to be payable in Great Britain by equal half-yearly Payments on the Sixth Day of January and the Sixth Day of July in every Year, the first half-yearly Payment to be made on the Sixth Day of July One thousand eight hundred and thirty-four.

Provided always, and be it enacted, That the said Dividend shall be subject to Redemption by Parliament upon and at any Time after the Thirtieth Day of April One thousand eight hundred and seventy-four, on Payment to the Company of Two hundred Pounds Sterling for every One hundred Pounds of the Capital Stock, together with a proportionate Part of the same Dividend, if the Redemption shall take place on any other Day than one of the said half-yearly Days of Payment : Provided also, that Twelve Months Notice in Writing, signified by the Speaker of the House of Commons, by the Order of the House, shall be given to the said Company of the Intention of Parliament to redeem the said Dividend.

Provided always, and be it enacted, That if on or at any Time after the said Thirtieth Day of April One thousand eight hundred and fifty-four the said Company shall, by the Expiration of the Term hereby granted, cease to retain, or shall, by the Authority of Parliament, be deprived of the Possession and Government of the said Territories, it shall be lawful for the said Company, within One Year thereafter, to demand the Redemption of the said Dividend, and Provision shall be made for redeeming the said Dividend, after the Rate aforesaid, within Three Years after such Demand.

And be it enacted, That there shall be paid by the said Company into the Bank of England, to the Account of the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, such Sums of Money as shall in the whole amount to the Sum of Two Millions Sterling, with Compound Interest after the Rate of Three Pounds Ten Shillings per Centum per Annum, computed half-yearly from the said Twenty-second Day of April One thousand eight hundred and thirty-four, on so much of the said Sums as shall from Time to Time remain unpaid ; and the Cashiers of the said Bank shall receive all such Sums of Money, and place the same to a separate Account with the said Commissioners, to be entitled "The Account of the Security Fund of the India Company ;" and that as well as Monies so paid into the said Bank, as the Dividends or Interest which shall arise therefrom, shall from Time to Time be laid out, under the Direction of the said Commissioners, in the Purchase of Capital Stock in any of the redeemable Public Annuities transferable at the Bank of England, which Capital Stock so purchased shall be invested in the Names of the said Commissioners on account of the said Security Fund, and the Dividends payable thereon shall be received by the said Cashiers and placed to the said Account until the whole of the Sums so received on such Account shall have amounted to the Sum of Twelve Millions Sterling ; and the said Monies, Stock, and Dividends or Interest, shall be a Security Fund, for better securing to the said Company the Redemption of their said Dividend, after the Rate hereinbefore appointed for such Redemption.

Provided always, and be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt from Time to Time, and they are hereby required, upon Requisition made for that Purpose by the Court of Directors of the said Company, to raise and pay to the said Company such Sums of Money as may be necessary for the Payment of the said Company's Dividend by reason of any Failure or Delay of the Remittances of the proper Funds for such Payments, such Sums of Money to be raised by Sale or Transfer or Deposit by Way of Mortgage of a competent Part of the said Security Fund, according as

the

the said Directors, with the Approbation of the said Board, shall direct to be repaid in the Bank of *England*, to the Account of the Security Fund, with Interest after such Rate as the Court of Directors, with the Approbation of the said Board, shall fix, out of the Remittances which shall be made for answering such Dividend, as and when such Remittances shall be received in *England*.

Provided always, and be it enacted, That all Dividends on the Capital Stock forming the said Security Fund, accruing after the Monies received by the said Bank to the Account of such Fund shall have amounted to the Sum of Twelve Millions Sterling, until the said Fund shall be applied to the Redemption of the said Company's Dividend, and also all the said Security Fund, or so much thereof as shall remain after the said Dividend shall be wholly redeemed after the Rate aforesaid, shall be applied in aid of the Revenues of the said Territories.

And be it enacted, That the said Dividend on the Company's Capital Stock shall be paid or retained as aforesaid out of such Part of the Revenues of the said Territories as shall be remitted to *Great Britain*, in preference to all other Charges payable thereout in *Great Britain*; and the said Sum of Two Millions Sterling shall be paid in manner aforesaid, out of any Sums which shall on the said Twenty-second Day of April One thousand eight hundred and thirty-four be due to the said Company from the Public, as and when the same shall be received, and out of any Monies which shall arise from the Sale of any Government Stock on that Day belonging to the said Company, in preference to all other Payments thereout; and that, subject to such Provisions for Priority of Charge, the Revenues of the said Territories, and all Monies which shall belong to the said Company on the said Twenty-second Day of April One thousand eight hundred and thirty-four, and all Monies which shall be thereafter received by the said Company from and in respect of the Property and Rights vested in them in Trust as aforesaid, shall be applied to the Service of the Government of the said Territories, and in defraying all Charges and Payments by this Act created or confirmed and directed to be made respectively, in such Order as the said Court of Directors, under the Control of the said Board, shall from Time to Time direct, any thing in any other Act or Acts contained to the contrary notwithstanding

And be it enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for His Majesty, by any Letters Patent, or by any Commission or Commissions to be issued under the Great Seal of *Great Britain*, from Time to Time to nominate, constitute, and appoint, during Pleasure, such Persons as His Majesty shall think fit to be and who shall accordingly be and be styled Commissioners for the Affairs of *India*, and every Enactment, Provision, Matter, and Thing relative to the Commissioners for the Affairs of *India* in any other Act or Acts contained, so far as the same are in force, and not repealed by or repugnant to this Act, shall be deemed and taken to be applicable to the Commissioners to be nominated as aforesaid

And be it enacted, That the Lord President of the Council, the Lord Privy Seal, the First Lord of the Treasury, the Principal Secretaries of State, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer for the Time being, shall by virtue of their respective Offices be and they are hereby declared to be Commissioners for the Affairs of *India*, in conjunction with the Persons to be nominated in any such Commission as aforesaid, and they shall have the same Powers respectively as if they had been expressly nominated in such Commission, in the Order in which they are herein mentioned next after the Commissioner first named therein.

And be it enacted, That any Two or more of the said Commissioners shall and may form a Board for executing the several Powers which by this Act or by any other Act or Acts are or shall be given to or vested in the Commissioners for the Affairs of *India*; and that the Commissioner first named in any such Letters Patent or Commission for the Time being shall be the President of the said Board, and that when any Board shall be formed in the Absence of the President the Commissioner next in Order of Nomination in this Act or in the said Commission of those who shall be present shall for that Turn preside at the said Board.

And be it enacted, That if the Commissioners present at any Board shall be equally divided in Opinion with respect to any Matter by them discussed, then and on every such Occasion the President, or in his Absence the Commissioner acting as such, shall have Two Voices or the casting Vote.

And be it enacted, That the said Board shall and may nominate and appoint Two Secretaries, and such other Officers as shall be necessary to attend upon the said Board, who shall be subject to Dismission at the Pleasure of the said Board, and each of the said Secretaries shall have the same Powers, Rights, and

No. 22.

Bill for effecting
an Arrangement
with the East India
Company, &c.
27th July 1833.

Privileges as by any Act or Acts now in force are vested in the Chief Secretary of the Commissioners for the Affairs of *India*, and that the President of the said Board, but no other Commissioner, as such, and the said Secretaries and other Officers, shall be paid by the said Company such fixed Salaries as His Majesty shall by any Warrant or Warrants under the Sign Manual, countersigned by the Chancellor of the Exchequer for the Time being, direct.

And be it enacted, That if at any Time the said Board shall deem it expedient to require their Secretaries and other Officers of the said Board, or any of them, to take an Oath of Secrecy, and for the Execution of the Duties of their respective Stations, it shall be lawful for the said Board to administer such Oath as they shall frame for the Purpose.

And be it enacted, That the said Board shall have and be invested with full Power and Authority to superintend, direct, and control all Acts, Operations, and Concerns of the said Company which in anywise relate to or concern the Government or Revenues of the said Territories, or the Property hereby vested in the said Company in Trust as aforesaid, and all Grants of Salaries, Gratuities, and Allowances, and all other Payments and Charges whatever, out of or upon the said Revenues and Property respectively, except as herein-after is mentioned.

And be it enacted, That if upon the Occasion of taking any Ballot on the Election of a Director or Directors of the said Company any Proprietor who shall be resident within the United Kingdom shall, by reason of Absence, Illness, or otherwise, be desirous of voting by Letter of Attorney, he shall be at liberty so to do, provided that such Letter of Attorney shall in every Case express the Name or Names of the Candidate or Candidates for whom such Proprietor shall be so desirous of voting, and shall be executed within Ten Days next before such Election; and the Attorney constituted for such Purpose shall in every Case deliver the Vote he is so directed to give openly to the Person or Persons who shall be authorized by the said Company to receive the same; and every such Vote shall be accompanied by an Affidavit or Affirmation to be made before a Justice of the Peace by the Proprietor directing the same so to be given, to the same or the like Effect as the Oath or Affirmation now taken by Proprietors voting upon Ballots at General Courts of the said Company, and in which such Proprietor shall also state the Day of the Execution of such Letter of Attorney; and any Person making a false Oath or Affirmation before a Justice of the Peace for the Purpose aforesaid shall be held to have thereby committed wilful Perjury; and if any Person do unlawfully or corruptly procure or suborn any other Person to take the said Oath or Affirmation before a Justice of the Peace as aforesaid, whereby he or she shall commit such wilful Perjury, and shall thereof be convicted, he, she, or they for every such Offence shall incur such Pains and Penalties as are or may be provided by Law against Subornation of Perjury.

And be it enacted, That so much of the Act of the Thirteenth Year of the Reign of King George the Third, intituled "An Act for establishing certain Regulations for the better Management of the Affairs of the *East India* Company, as well in *India* as in *Europe*," as enacts that no Person employed in any Civil or Military Station in the *East Indies*, or claiming or exercising any Power, Authority, or Jurisdiction therein, shall be capable of being appointed or chosen into the Office of Director until such Person shall have returned to and been resident in England for the Space of Two Years shall be and is hereby repealed: Provided that if the said Court of Directors, with the Consent of the said Board, shall declare such Person to be an Accountant with the said Company, and that his Accounts are unsettled, or that a Charge against such Person is under the Consideration of the said Court, such Person shall not be capable of being chosen into the Office of Director for the Term of Two Years after his Return to *England*, unless such Accounts shall be settled or such Charge be decided on before the Expiration of the said Term.

And be it further enacted, That the said Court of Directors shall from Time to Time deliver to the said Board Copies of all Minutes, Orders, Resolutions, and Proceedings of all Courts of Proprietors, General or Special, and of all Courts of Directors, within Eight Days after the holding of such Courts respectively, and also Copies of all Letters, Advices, and Dispatches whatever which shall at any Time or Times be received by the said Court of Directors or any Committee of Directors, and which shall be material to be communicated to the said Board, or which the said Board shall from Time to Time require.

And

And be it enacted, That no Orders, Instructions, Dispatches, official Letters or Communications whatever, relating to the said Territories or the Government thereof, or to the Property or Rights vested in the said Company in Trust as aforesaid, or to any public Matters whatever, shall be at any Time sent or given by the said Court of Directors, or any Committee of the said Directors, until the same shall have been submitted for the Consideration of and approved by the said Board; and for that Purpose that Copies of all such Orders, Instructions, Dispatches, official Letters or Communications, which the said Court of Directors, or any Committee of the said Directors, shall propose to be sent or given, shall be by them previously laid before the said Board, and that within the Space of Two Months after the Receipt of such proposed Orders, Instructions, Dispatches, official Letters or Communications, the said Board shall either return the same to the said Court of Directors or Committee of Directors, with their Approbation thereof, signified under the Hand of One of the Secretaries of the said Board by the Order of the said Board, or if the said Board shall disapprove, alter, or vary in Substance any of such proposed Orders, Instructions, Dispatches, official Letters or Communications, in every such Case the said Board shall give to the said Directors, in Writing under the Hand of One of the Secretaries of the said Board, by Order of the said Board, their Reasons in respect thereof, together with their Directions to the said Directors in relation thereto; and the said Directors shall and they are hereby required forthwith to send the said Orders, Instructions, Dispatches, official Letters or Communications, in the Form approved by the said Board, to their proper Destinations: Provided always, that it shall be lawful for the said Board, by Minutes from Time to Time to be made for that Purpose, and entered on the Records of the said Board, and to be communicated to the said Court, to allow such Classes of Orders, Instructions, Dispatches, official Letters or Communications, as shall in such Minutes be described, to be sent or given by the said Court without having been previously laid before the said Board

And be it enacted, That whenever the said Court of Directors shall omit to prepare and submit for the Consideration of the said Board any Orders, Instructions, Dispatches, official Letters or Communications, beyond the Space of Fourteen Days after Requisition made to them by Order of the said Board, it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Board to prepare and send to the said Directors any Orders, Instructions, Dispatches, official Letters or Communications, together with their Directions thereto, and the said Directors shall and they are hereby required forthwith to transmit the same to their proper Destinations,

Provided always, and be it enacted, That nothing herein contained shall extend or be construed to extend to restrict or prohibit the said Directors from expressing within Fourteen Days, by Representation in Writing to the said Board, such Remarks, Observations, or Explanations as they shall think fit, touching or concerning any Directions which they shall receive from the said Board; and that the said Board shall and they are hereby required to take every such Representation, and the several Matters therein contained or alleged, into their Consideration, and to give such further Directions thereupon as they shall think fit and expedient, which shall be final and conclusive upon the said Directors.

And be it enacted, That if it shall appear to the said Court of Directors that any Orders, Instructions, Dispatches, official Letters or Communications, upon which Directions may be so given by the said Board as aforesaid, are contrary to Law, it shall be in the Power of the said Board and the said Court of Directors to send a Special Case, to be agreed upon by and between them, and to be signed by the President of the said Board and the Chairman of the said Company, to His Majesty's Court of King's Bench, for the Opinion of the said Court, and the said Court are hereby required to certify their Opinion upon any Case so submitted to them, and to send a Certificate thereof to the said President and Chairman, which Opinion shall be final and conclusive

Provided always, and be it enacted and declared, That the said Board shall not have the Power of appointing any of the Servants of the said Company, or of directing or interfering with the Officers and Servants of the said Company employed in their Home Establishment; nor shall it be necessary for the said Court of Directors to submit for the Consideration of the said Board their Communications with the Officers or Servants employed in their said Home Establishment, or with the Legal Advisers of the said Company.

And be it enacted, That the said Court of Directors shall from Time to Time appoint a Secret Committee, to consist of any Number not exceeding Three of the

No 22.

Bill for effecting
an Arrangement
with the East India
Company, &c.
27th July 1833.

said Directors, for the particular Purposes in this Act specified; which said Directors so appointed shall, before they or any of them shall act in the Execution of the Powers and Trusts hereby reposed in them, take an Oath of the Tenor following;

(that is to say,)

‘ I (A. B.) do swear, That I will, according to the best of my Skill and Judgment, faithfully execute the several Trusts and Powers reposed in me as a Member of the Secret Committee appointed by the Court of Directors of the *India* Company; I will not disclose or make known any of the Secret Orders, Instructions, Dispatches, official Letters or Communications, which shall be sent or given to me by the Commissioners for the Affairs of *India*, save only to the other Members of the said Secret Committee, or to the Person or Persons who shall be duly nominated and employed in transcribing or preparing the same respectively, unless I shall be authorized by the said Commissioners to disclose and make known the same.

‘ So help me GOD.’

Which said Oath shall and may be administered by the several and respective Members of the said Secret Committee to each other; and, being so by them taken and subscribed, shall be recorded by the Secretary or Deputy Secretary of the said Court of Directors for the Time being amongst the Acts of the said Court.

Provided also, and be it enacted, That if the said Board shall be of Opinion that the Subject-matter of any of their Deliberations, concerning the levying War, or making Peace, or treating or negotiating with any of the Native Princes or States in *India*, or with any other Princes or States, intended to be communicated, in Orders, Dispatches, official Letters or Communications, to any of the Governments or Presidencies in *India*, or to any Officers or Servants of the said Company, shall be of a Nature to require Secrecy, it shall and may be lawful for the said Board to send their Orders, Despatches, Official Letters or Communications to the Secret Committee of the said Court of Directors, to be appointed as is by this Act directed, who shall thereupon, without disclosing the same, transmit the same, according to the Tenor thereof, or pursuant to the Directions of the said Board, to the respective Governments and Presidencies, Officers and Servants; and that the said Governments and Presidencies, Officers and Servants, shall be bound to pay a faithful Obedience thereto, in like Manner as if such Orders, Dispatches, official Letters or Communications had been sent to them by the said Court of Directors.

And be it enacted, That the said Court of Directors shall, before the Twenty-second Day of April One thousand eight hundred and thirty-four, and afterwards from Time to Time so often as Reductions of the Establishment of the said Court or other Circumstances may require, frame and submit to the said Board an Estimate of the gross Sum which will be annually required for the Salaries of the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, and Members of the said Court, and the Officers and Secretaries thereof, and all other proper Expences, fixed and contingent, thereof, and of General Courts of Proprietors; and such Estimate shall be subject to Reduction by the said Board, so that the Reasons for such Reduction be given to the said Court of Directors, and any Sum not exceeding the Sum mentioned in such Estimate, or (if the same shall be reduced) in such reduced Estimate, shall be annually applicable, at the Discretion of the Court of Directors, to the Payment of the said Salaries and Expences, and it shall not be lawful for the said Board to interfere with or control the particular Application thereof, or to direct what particular Salaries or Expences shall from Time to Time be increased or reduced: Provided always, that such and the same Accounts shall be kept and rendered of the Sums to be applied in defraying the Salaries and Expences aforesaid as of the other Branches of the Expenditure of the said Company.

And be it enacted, That the Territories now subject to the Government of the Presidency of *Fort William* in *Bengal* shall be divided into Two distinct Presidencies, one of such Presidencies, in which shall be included *Fort William* aforesaid, to be stiled the Presidency of *Fort William* in *Bengal*, and the other of such Presidencies to be stiled the Presidency of *Agra*; and that it shall be lawful for the said Court of Directors, under the Control by this Act provided, and they are hereby required, to declare and appoint what Part or Parts of any of the Territories under the Government of the said Company shall from Time to Time be subject to the Government of each of the several Presidencies now subsisting or to be established as aforesaid, and from Time to Time, as Occasion may require, to revoke or alter,

in

in the whole or in part, such Appointment, and to make such new Distribution of the same as shall be deemed expedient.

And be it enacted, That the whole Civil and Military Government of all the said Territories and Revenues in India shall be and is hereby vested in a Governor General and Councillors, to be styled "The Governor General of India in Council."

And be it enacted, That there shall be Five ordinary Members of the said Council, Four of whom shall from Time to Time be appointed by the said Court of Directors from amongst such Persons as shall be or shall have been Servants of the said Company; and each of the said Four ordinary Members of Council shall, at the Time of his Appointment, have been in the Service of the said Company for at least Ten Years, and if he shall be in the Military Service of the said Company he shall not, during his Continuance in Office as a Member of Council, hold any Military Command, or be employed in actual Military Duties, and that the Fifth ordinary Member of Council shall from Time to Time be appointed from amongst Persons who shall not be Servants of the said Company, by the said Court of Directors, subject to the Approbation of His Majesty, to be signified in Writing by His Royal Sign Manual, countersigned by the President of the said Board, and it shall be lawful for the said Court of Directors to appoint the Commander in Chief of the Company's Forces in *India*, and if there shall be no such Commander in Chief, or the Offices of such Commander in Chief and of Governor General of *India* shall be vested in the same Person, then the Commander in Chief of the Forces on the *Bengal* Establishment, to be an extraordinary Member of the said Council, and such extraordinary Member of Council shall have Rank and Precedence at the Council Board next after the Governor General.

And be it enacted, That the Person who shall be Governor General of the Presidency of *Fort William* in *Bengal* on the Twenty-second Day of *April* One thousand eight hundred and thirty-four shall be the first Governor General of *India* under this Act, and such Persons as shall be Members of Council of the same Presidency on that Day shall be respectively Members of the Council constituted by this Act.

And be it enacted, That all Vacancies happening in the Office of Governor General of *India* shall from Time to Time be filled up by the said Court of Directors, subject to the Approbation of His Majesty, to be signified in Writing by His Royal Sign Manual, countersigned by the President of the said Board.

And be it enacted, That the said Governor General in Council shall have Power to make Laws and Regulations for repealing, amending, or altering any Laws or Regulations whatever now in force or hereafter to be in force in the said Territories or any Part thereof, and to make Laws and Regulations for all Persons, whether *British* or Native, Foreigners or others, and for all Courts of Justice, whether established by His Majesty's Charters or otherwise, and the Jurisdictions thereof, and for all Places and Things whatsoever within and throughout the Whole and every Part of the said Territories, and for all Servants of the said Company within the Dominions of Princes and States in alliance with the said Company, save and except that the said Governor General in Council shall not have the Power of making any Laws or Regulations which shall in any way repeal, vary, suspend, or affect any of the Provisions of this Act, or any of the Provisions of the Acts for punishing Mutiny and Desertion of Officers and Soldiers, whether in the Service of His Majesty or the said Company, or any Provisions of any Act hereafter to be passed in anywise affecting the said Company, or the said Territories, or the Inhabitants thereof, or any Laws or Regulations which shall in any way affect any Prerogative of the Crown, or the Authority of Parliament, or the Constitution or Rights of the said Company, or any Part of the unwritten Laws or Constitution of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, whereon may depend in any Degree the Allegiance of any Person to the Crown of the United Kingdom, or the Sovereignty or Dominion of the said Crown over any Part of the said Territories

Provided always, and be it enacted, That in case the said Court of Directors, under such Controul as by this Act is provided, shall signify to the said Governor General in Council their Disallowance of any Laws or Regulations by the said Governor General in Council made, then and in every such Case, upon Receipt by the said Governor General in Council of Notice of such Disallowance, the said Governor General in Council shall forthwith repeal all Laws and Regulations so disallowed.

Provided also, and be it enacted, That all Laws and Regulations made as aforesaid, so long as they shall remain unrepealed, shall be of the same Force and Effect

No 22

Bill for effecting
an Arrangement
with the East India
Company, &c
27th July 1833.

within and throughout the said Territories as any Act of Parliament would or ought to be within the same Territories, and shall be taken notice of by all Courts of Justice whatsoever within the same Territories in the same Manner as any Public Act of Parliament would and ought to be taken notice of; and it shall not be necessary to register or publish in any Court of Justice any Laws or Regulations made by the said Governor General in Council.

Provided also, and be it enacted, That it shall not be lawful for the said Governor General in Council, without the previous Sanction of the said Court of Directors, to make any Law or Regulation whereby Power shall be given to any Courts of Justice other than the Courts of Justice established by His Majesty's Charters to sentence to the Punishment of Death any of His Majesty's natural-born Subjects born in *Europe*, or the Children of such Subject, or which shall abolish any of the Courts of Justice established by His Majesty's Charters.

And be it enacted, That the said Court of Directors shall forthwith submit for the Approbation of the said Board such Rules as they shall deem expedient for the Procedure of the Governor General in Council in the Discharge and Exercise of all Powers, Functions, and Duties imposed on or vested in him by virtue of this Act, or to be imposed or vested in him by any other Act or Acts, which Rules shall prescribe the Modes of Promulgation of any Laws or Regulations to be made by the said Governor General in Council, and of the Authentication of all Acts and Proceedings whatsoever of the said Governor General in Council; and such Rules, when approved by the said Board of Commissioners, shall be of the same Force as if they had been inserted in this Act: Provided always, that such Rules shall be laid before both Houses of Parliament in the Session next after the Approval thereof.

Provided always, and be it enacted, That all Laws and Regulations shall be made at some Meeting of the Council at which the said Governor General and at least Three of the ordinary Members of Council shall be assembled; and that all other Functions of the said Governor General in Council may be exercised by the said Governor General and One or more ordinary Member or Members of Council; and that in every Case of Difference of Opinion at Meetings of the said Council, where there shall be an Equality of Voices, the said Governor General shall have Two Votes or the casting Vote.

Provided always, and be it enacted, That when and so often as any Measure shall be proposed before the said Governor General in Council whereby the Safety or Tranquillity of the *British* Possessions in *India*, or any Part thereof, are or may be, in the Judgment of the said Governor General, essentially affected, and the said Governor General shall be of Opinion, either that the Measure so proposed ought to be adopted or carried into execution, or that the same ought to be suspended or wholly rejected, and the Majority in Council then present shall differ in and dissent from such Opinion, the said Governor General and Members of Council are hereby directed forthwith mutually to exchange with and communicate to each other, in Writing under their respective Hands, to be recorded at large on their Secret Consultations, the Grounds and Reasons of their respective Opinions, and if after considering the same the said Governor General and the Majority in Council shall still differ in Opinion, it shall be lawful for the said Governor General, of his own Authority and on his own Responsibility, to suspend or reject the Measure so proposed, in part or in whole, or to adopt and carry the Measure so proposed into execution, as the said Governor General shall think fit and expedient.

And be it enacted, That the said Council shall from Time to Time assemble at such Place or Places as shall be appointed by the said Governor General within the said Territories; and that as often as the said Council shall assemble within any of the Presidencies of *Fort Saint George*, *Bombay*, or *Agra*, the Governor of such Presidency shall act as an extraordinary Member of Council.

Provided always, and be it enacted, That nothing herein contained shall extend to affect in any way the Right of Parliament to make Laws for the said Territories, and for all the Inhabitants thereof; and it is expressly declared, that a full, complete, and constantly-existing Right and Power is intended to be reserved to Parliament to control, supersede, or prevent all Proceedings and Acts whatsoever of the said Governor General in Council, and to repeal and alter at any Time any Law or Regulation whatsoever made by the Governor General in Council, and in all respects to legislate for the said Territories and all the Inhabitants thereof, in as full and ample a Manner as if this Act had not been passed; and, the better to enable Parliament to exercise at all Times such Right and Power, all Laws and Regulations

Regulations made by the said Governor General in Council shall be transmitted to *England* and laid before both Houses of Parliament in the same Manner as is now by Law provided concerning the Rules and Regulations made by the several Governments in *India*.

And be it enacted, That all Enactments, Provisions, Matters, and Things relating to the Governor General of *Fort William* in *Bengal*, in Council, in any other Act or Acts contained, so far as the same are now in force and not repealed by or repugnant to the Provisions of this Act, shall continue and be in force and be applicable to the Governor General of *India* in Council.

And whereas it is expedient that, subject to such special Arrangements as local Circumstances may require, a general System of Judicial Establishments and Police, to which all Persons whatsoever, as well Europeans as Natives, may be subject, should be established in the said Territories at an early Period; and that such Laws as may be applicable in common to all Classes of the Inhabitants of the said Territories, due Regard being had to the Rights, Feelings, and peculiar Usages of the People, should be enacted, and that all Laws, and Customs having the Force of Law, within the same Territories, should be ascertained and consolidated, and, as Occasion may require, amended; be it therefore enacted, That the said Governor General of *India* in Council shall, as soon as conveniently may be after the passing of this Act, issue a Commission, and from Time to Time Commissions, to such Persons as the said Court of Directors, with the Approbation of the said Board of Commissioners, shall recommend for that Purpose, and to such other Persons, if necessary, as the said Governor General in Council shall think fit, all such Persons not exceeding in the whole at any One Time Five in Number, and to be styled "The Indian Law Commissioners," with all such Powers as shall be necessary for the Purposes herein-after mentioned; and the said Commissioners shall fully inquire into the Jurisdiction, Powers, and Rules of the existing Courts of Justice and Police Establishments in the said Territories, and all existing Forms of Judicial Procedure, and into the Nature and Operation of all Laws, whether civil or criminal, written or customary, prevailing and in force in any Part of the said Territories, and whereto any Inhabitants of the said Territories, whether European or others, are now subject; and the said Commissioners shall from Time to Time make Reports, in which they shall fully set forth the Result of their said Inquiries, and shall from Time to Time suggest such Alterations as may in their Opinion be beneficially made in the said Courts of Justice and Police Establishments, Forms of Judicial Procedure, and Laws, due Regard being had to the Distinction of Castes, Difference of Religion, and the Manners and Opinions prevailing among different Races and in different Parts of the said Territories.

And be it enacted, That the said Commissioners shall follow such Instructions with regard to the Researches and Inquiries to be made, and the Places to be visited by them, and all their Transactions with reference to the Objects of their Commission, as they shall from Time to Time receive from the said Governor General of *India* in Council, and they are hereby required to make to the said Governor General in Council such special Reports upon any Matters as by such Instructions may from Time to Time be required, and the said Governor General in Council shall take into consideration the Reports from Time to Time to be made by the said *Indian* Law Commissioners, and shall transmit the same, together with the Opinions or Resolutions of the said Governor General in Council thereon, to the said Court of Directors; and which said Reports, together with the said Opinions or Resolutions, shall be laid before both Houses of Parliament in the same Manner as is now by Law provided concerning the Rules and Regulations made by the several Governments in *India*.

And be it enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Governor General of *India* in Council to grant Salaries to the said *Indian* Law Commissioners and their necessary Officers and Attendants, and to defray such other Expences as may be incident to the said Commission, and that the Salaries of the said Commissioners shall be according to the highest Scale of Remuneration given to any of the Officers or Servants of the *India* Company below the Rank of Members of Council.

And be it enacted, That the executive Government of each of the several Presidencies of *Fort William* in *Bengal*, *Fort Saint George*, *Bombay*, and *Agra* shall be administered by a Governor; and that the Governor General of *India* for the Time being shall be the Governor of the Presidency of *Fort William* in *Bengal*.

No 22.

Bill for effecting
an Arrangement
with the East India
Company, &c
27th July 1833

Provided always, and be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Court of Directors to appoint a Council in any Presidency where the said Court, with the Sanction and Approbation of the said Board, shall resolve that the Governor be assisted by a Council; and in case of the Appointment of such a Council in any Presidency, the executive Government of such Presidency shall be administered by the Governor and Counsellors thereof, to be styled the Governor in Council of the said Presidencies of *Fort William* in *Bengal*, *Fort Saint George*, *Bombay*, or *Agra* respectively; and the said Governor and Counsellors respectively of each such Presidency shall have the same Rights and Voices in their Assemblies, and shall observe the same Order and Course in their Proceedings, as the Governors in Council of the Presidencies of *Fort Saint George* and *Bombay* respectively now have and observe.

And be it enacted, That the several Persons who on the said Twenty-second Day of *April* One thousand eight hundred and thirty-four shall be Governors of the respective Presidencies of *Fort Saint George* and *Bombay* shall be the first Governors of the said Presidencies respectively under this Act; and that the Office of Governor of the said Presidency of *Agra*, and all Vacancies happening in the Offices of the Governors of the said Presidencies respectively, shall be filled up by the said Court of Directors, subject to the Approbation of His Majesty, to be signified under His Royal Sign Manual, countersigned by the said President of the said Board of Commissioners.

And be it enacted, That in the Presidencies in which no Council shall be appointed under the Provision herein-before contained the Governors appointed under this Act, and in the Presidencies in which Councils shall be appointed the said Governors in their respective Councils, shall have all the Rights, Powers, Duties, Functions, and Immunities whatsoever, not in anywise repugnant to this Act, which the Governors of *Fort Saint George* and *Bombay* in their respective Councils now have within their respective Presidencies; and that the Governors and Members of Council of Presidencies appointed by or under this Act shall severally have all the Rights, Powers, and Immunities respectively, not in anywise repugnant to this Act, which the Governors and Members of Council of the Presidencies of *Fort Saint George* and *Bombay* respectively now have in their respective Presidencies; provided that no Governor or Governor in Council shall have the Power of making or suspending any Regulations or Laws in any Case whatever, unless in Cases of urgent Necessity (the Burthen of the Proof whereof shall be on such Governor or Governor in Council), and then only until the Decision of the Governor General of *India* in Council shall be signified thereon; and provided also, that no Governor or Governor in Council shall have the Power of creating any new Office, or granting any Salary, Gratuity, or Allowance, without the previous Sanction of the Governor General of *India* in Council.

Provided always, and be it enacted, That when and so often as the said Court of Directors shall neglect for the Space of Two Calendar Months, to be computed from the Day whereon the Notification of the Vacancy of any Office or Employment in *India*, in the Appointment of the said Court, shall have been received by the said Court, to supply such Vacancy, then and in every such Case it shall be lawful for His Majesty to appoint, by Writing under his Sign Manual, such Person as His Majesty shall think proper to supply such Vacancy; and that every Person so appointed shall have the same Powers, Privileges, and Authorities as if he or they had been appointed by the said Court, and shall not be subject to Removal or Dismissal without the Approbation and Consent of His Majesty.

And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Court of Directors to appoint any Person or Persons provisionally to succeed to any of the Offices aforesaid, for supplying any Vacancy or Vacancies therein when the same shall happen by the Death or Resignation of the Person or Persons holding the same Office or Offices respectively, or on his or their Departure from *India*, with Intent to return to *Europe*, or on any Event or Contingency expressed in any such provisional Appointment or Appointments to the same respectively, and such Appointments again to revoke; provided that every provisional Appointment to the several Offices of Governor General of *India*, Governor of a Presidency, and the Member of Council of *India* by this Act directed to be appointed from amongst Persons who shall not be Servants of the said Company, shall be subject to the Approbation of His Majesty, to be signified as aforesaid; but that no Person so appointed to succeed provisionally to any of the said Offices shall be entitled to
any

any Authority, Salary, or Emolument appertaining thereto, until he shall be in the actual Possession of such Office.

And be it enacted, That if any Vacancy shall happen in the Office of Governor General of *India* when no provisional or other Successor shall be upon the Spot to supply such Vacancy, then and in every such Case the ordinary Member of Council next in Rank to the said Governor General shall hold and execute the said Office of Governor General of *India* and Governor of the Presidency of *Fort William in Bengal* until a Successor shall arrive, or until some other Person on the Spot shall be duly appointed thereto; and that every such acting Governor General shall, during the Time of his continuing to act as such, have and exercise all the Rights and Powers of Governor General of *India*, and shall be entitled to receive the Emoluments and Advantages appertaining to the Office by him supplied, such acting Governor General foregoing his Salary and Allowance of a Member of Council for the same Period.

And be it enacted, That if any Vacancy shall happen in the Office of Governor of *Fort St George, Bombay, or Agra* when no provisional or other Successor shall be upon the Spot to supply such Vacancy, then and in every such Case, if there shall be a Council in the Presidency in which such Vacancy shall happen, the Member of such Council who shall be next in Rank to the Governor, and if there shall be no Council, then the Secretary of Government of the said Presidency who shall be senior in the said Office of Secretary, shall hold and execute the said Office of Governor until a Successor shall arrive, or until some other Person on the Spot shall be duly appointed thereto, and that every such acting Governor shall, during the Time of his continuing to act as such, receive and be entitled to the Emoluments and Advantages appertaining to the Office by him supplied, such acting Governor foregoing all Salaries and Allowances by him held and enjoyed at the Time of his being called to supply such Office.

And be it enacted, That if any Vacancy shall happen in the Office of an ordinary Member of Council of *India* when no Person provisionally or otherwise appointed to succeed thereto shall be then present on the Spot, then and on every such Occasion such Vacancy shall be supplied by the Appointment of the Governor General in Council, and if any Vacancy shall happen in the Office of a Member of Council of any Presidency when no Person provisionally or otherwise appointed to succeed thereto shall be then present on the Spot, then and on every such Occasion such Vacancy shall be supplied by the Appointment of the Governor in Council of the Presidency in which such Vacancy shall happen; and until a Successor shall arrive the Person so nominated shall execute the Office by him supplied, and shall have all the Powers thereof, and shall have and be entitled to the Salary and other Emoluments and Advantages appertaining to the said Office, during his Continuance therein, every such temporary Member of Council foregoing all Salaries and Allowances by him held and enjoyed at the Time of his being appointed to such Office: Provided always, that no Person shall be appointed a temporary Member of Council who might not have been appointed by the said Court of Directors to fill the Vacancy supplied by such temporary Appointment.

And be it further enacted, That the said Governor General in Council shall have and be invested, by virtue of this Act, with full Power and Authority to superintend and control the Governors and Governors in Council of *Fort William in Bengal, Fort St. George, Bombay, and Agra*, in all Points relating to the Civil or Military Administration of the said Presidencies respectively, and the said Governors and Governors in Council shall be bound to obey such Orders and Instructions of the said Governor General in Council in all Cases whatsoever.

And be it enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Governors or Governors in Council of *Fort William in Bengal, Fort St. George, Bombay, and Agra* respectively to propose to the said Governor General in Council Drafts or Projects of any Laws or Regulations which the said Governors or Governors in Council respectively may think expedient, together with their Reasons for proposing the same; and the said Governor General in Council is hereby required to take the same and such Reasons into consideration, and to communicate the Resolutions of the said Governor General in Council thereon to the Governor or Governor in Council by whom the same shall have been proposed.

And be it enacted, That when the said Governor General shall visit any of the Presidencies of *Fort St. George, Bombay, or Agra*, the Powers of the Governors of those Presidencies respectively shall not by reason of such Visit be suspended.

And be it enacted, That the said Governors and Governors in Council of the said

No 22.

Bill for effecting
an Arrangement
with the East India
Company, &c
27th July 1833.

said Presidencies of *Fort William* in *Bengal*, *Fort St. George*, *Bombay*, and *Agra* respectively shall and they are respectively required regularly to transmit to the said Governor General in Council true and exact Copies of all such Orders, Proceedings, and Acts of their respective Governments, and also Advice and Intelligence of all such Transactions and Matters as shall come to their Knowledge material to be communicated to the said Governor General in Council as aforesaid, or as the said Governor General in Council shall from Time to Time require.

And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Governor General in Council, as often as the Exigencies of the Public Service may appear to him to require, to appoint such one of the ordinary Members of the said Council of *India* as he may think fit to be Deputy Governor of the said Presidency of *Fort William* in *Bengal*; and such Deputy Governor shall be invested with all the Powers and perform all the Duties of the said Governor of the Presidency of *Fort William* in *Bengal*, but shall receive no additional Salary by reason of such Appointment.

And be it enacted, That whenever the said Governor General in Council shall declare that it is expedient that the said Governor General should visit any Part of *India*, unaccompanied by any Member or Members of the Council of *India*, it shall be lawful for the said Governor General in Council, previously to the Departure of the said Governor General, to nominate some Member of the Council of *India* to be President of the said Council, in whom, during the Absence of the said Governor General from the said Presidency of *Fort William* in *Bengal*, the Powers of the said Governor General in Assemblies of the said Council shall be reposed: Provided always, that during the Absence of the Governor General no Law or Regulation shall be made by the said President and Council without the Assent in Writing of the said Governor General.

And be it enacted, That there shall not, by reason of the Division of the Territories now subject to the Government of the Presidency of *Fort William* in *Bengal* into Two Presidencies as aforesaid, be any Separation between the Establishments and Forces thereof respectively, or any Alteration in the Course and Order of Promotion and Succession of the Company's Servants in the same Two Presidencies respectively, but that all the Servants, Civil and Military, of the *Bengal* Establishments and Forces, shall and may succeed and be appointed to all Commands and Offices within either of the said Presidencies respectively as if this Act had not been passed.

And be it enacted, That for the Purposes of an Act passed in the Fourth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Fourth, intituled "An Act to consolidate and amend the Laws for punishing Mutiny and Desertion of Officers and Soldiers in the Service of the *East India* Company, and to authorize Soldiers and Sailors in the *East Indies* to send and receive Letters at a reduced Rate of Postage," and of any Articles of War made or to be made under the same, the Presidency of *Fort William* in *Bengal* shall be taken and deemed to comprise under and within it all the Territories which by or in virtue of this Act shall be divided between the Presidencies of *Fort William* in *Bengal* and *Agra* respectively, and shall for all the Purposes aforesaid be taken to be the Presidency of *Fort William* in *Bengal* in the said Act mentioned.

And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Governor General in Council from Time to Time to make Articles of War for the Government of the Native Officers and Soldiers in the Military Service of the Company, and for the Administration of Justice by Courts-Martial to be holden on such Officers and Soldiers, and such Articles of War from Time to Time to repeal or vary and amend; and such Articles of War shall be made and taken notice of in the same Manner as all other the Laws and Regulations to be made by the said Governor General in Council under this Act, and shall prevail and be in force, and shall be of exclusive Authority over all the Native Officers and Soldiers in the said Military Service, to whatever Presidency such Officers and Soldiers may belong, or where-soever they may be serving: Provided nevertheless, that until such Articles of War shall be made by the said Governor General in Council, any Articles of War for or relating to the Government of the Company's Native Forces, which at the Time of this Act coming into operation shall be in force and use in any Part or Parts of the said Territories, shall remain in force.

And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for His Majesty, by any Writing under his Sign Manual countersigned by the President of the said Board of Commissioners, to remove or dismiss any Person holding any Office, Employment, or Com-

Commission, Civil or Military, under the said Company in India, and to vacate any Appointment or Commission of any Person to any such Office or Employment; provided that a Copy of every such Writing, attested by the said President, shall within Eight Days after the same shall be signed by His Majesty be transmitted or delivered to the Chairman or Deputy Chairman of the said Company.

Provided always, and be it enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall take away the Power of the said Court of Directors, to remove or dismiss any of the Officers or Servants of the said Company, but that the said Court shall and may at all Times have full Liberty to remove or dismiss any of such Officers or Servants at their Will and Pleasure, provided that any Servant of the said Company appointed by His Majesty through the Default of Appointment by the said Court of Directors shall not be dismissed, or removed without His Majesty's Approbation as herein-before is mentioned.

And be it enacted, That there shall be paid to the several Officers herein-after named the several Salaries set against the Names of such Officers, subject to such Reduction of the said several Salaries, respectively as the said Court of Directors, with the Sanction of the said Board, may at any Time think fit, (that is to say,)

To the Governor General of *India*, Two hundred and forty thousand Sicca Rupees:

To each ordinary Member of the Council of *India*, Ninety-six thousand Sicca Rupees:

To each Governor of the Presidencies of *Fort Saint George*, *Bombay*, and *Agra*, One hundred and twenty thousand Sicca Rupees:

To each Member of any Council to be appointed in any Presidency, Sixty thousand Sicca Rupees:

And the Salaries of the said Officers respectively shall commence from their respectively taking upon them the Execution of their respective Offices, and the said Salaries shall be the whole Profit or Advantage which the said Officers shall enjoy during their Continuance in such Offices respectively; and it shall be and it is hereby declared to be a Misdemeanor for any such Officer to accept for his own Use in the Discharge of his Office any Present, Gift, Donation, Gratuity, or Reward, pecuniary or otherwise, whatsoever, or to trade or traffic for his own Benefit, or for the Benefit of any other Person or Persons whatsoever; and the said Court of Directors are hereby required to pay to all and singular the Officers and Persons herein-after named who shall be resident in the United Kingdom at the Time of their respective Appointments, for the Purpose of defraying the Expences of their Equipment and Voyage, such Sums of Money as are set against the Names of such Officers and Persons respectively, (that is to say,)

To the Governor General, Five thousand Pounds:

To each Member of the Council of *India*, One thousand two hundred Pounds:

To each Governor of the Presidencies of *Fort Saint George*, *Bombay*, and *Agra*, Two thousand five hundred Pounds:

Provided also, that any Governor General, Governor, or Member of Council appointed by or by virtue of this Act, who shall at the Time of passing this Act hold the Office of Governor General, Governor, or Member of Council respectively, shall receive the same Salary and Allowances that he would have received if this Act had not been passed.

Provided always, and be it enacted, That if any Governor General, Governor, or ordinary Member of the Council of *India*, or any Member of the Council of any Presidency, shall hold or enjoy any Pension, Salary, or any Place, Office, or Employment of Profit under the Crown, or any Public Office, of the said Company, or any Annuity payable out of the Civil or Military Fund of the said Company, the Salary of his Office of Governor General of *India*, Governor, or Member of Council shall be reduced by the Amount of the Pension, Salary, Annuity, or Profits of Office so respectively held or enjoyed by him.

And be it enacted, That the said Court of Directors, with the Approbation of the said Board of Commissioners, shall and may from Time to Time make Regulation for the Division and Distribution of the Patronage and Power of Nomination of and to the Offices, Commands, and Employments, in the said Territories, and in all or any of the Presidencies thereof, among the said Governor General in Council, Governor General, Governors in Council, Governors, Commander in Chief, and other Commanding Officers respectively appointed or to be appointed under this Act.

And be it enacted, That the Return to *Europe*, or the Departure from *India* with Intent to return to *Europe*, of any Governor General of *India*, Governor,

No 22

Bill for effecting
an Arrangement
with the East India
Company, &c.
27th July 1833

Member of Council, or Commander in Chief, shall be deemed in Law a Resignation and Avoidance of his Office or Employment; and that no Act or Declaration of any Governor General, or Governor, or Member of Council, other than as aforesaid, excepting a Declaration in Writing under Hand and Seal, delivered to the Secretary for the Public Department of the Presidency wherein he shall be, in order to its being recorded, shall be deemed or held as a Resignation or Surrender of his said Office; and that the Salary and other Allowances of any such Governor General or other Officer respectively shall cease from the Day of such his Departure, Resignation, or Surrender; and that if any such Governor General or Member of Council in *India* shall leave the said Territories, or if any Governor or other Officer whatever in the Service of the said Company shall leave the Presidency to which he shall belong, other than in the known actual Service of the said Company, the Salary and Allowances apertaining to his Office shall not be paid or payable during his Absence to any Agent or other Person for his Use, and in the Event of his not returning, or of his coming to *Europe*, his Salary and Allowances shall be deemed to have ceased on the Day of his leaving the said Territories or the Presidency to which he may have belonged; provided that it shall be lawful for the said Company to make such Payment as is now by Law permitted to be made to the Representatives of their Officers or Servants who having left their Stations, intending to return thereto, shall die during their Absence.

And be it enacted, That every wilful disobeying, and every wilful omitting forbearing, or neglecting to execute the Orders or Instructions of the said Court of Directors by any Governor General of *India*, Governor, Member of Council, or Commander in Chief, or by any other of the Officers or Servants of the said Company, unless in Cases of Necessity (the Burthen of the Proof of which Necessity shall be on the Person so disobeying, or omitting, forbearing, or neglecting to execute such Orders or Instructions as aforesaid), and every wilful Breach of the Trust and Duty of any Office or Employment by any such Governor General, Governor, Member of Council, or Commander in Chief, or any of the Officers or Servants of the said Company, shall be deemed and taken to be a Misdemeanor at Law, and shall or may be proceeded against and punished as such by virtue of this Act.

And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for any natural-born Subjects of His Majesty to proceed by Sea to any Port or Place having a Custom-house Establishment within the said Territories, and to reside thereat, or to proceed to and reside in or pass through any Part of such of the said Territories as were under the Government of the said Company on the First Day of January One thousand eight hundred, and in any Part of the Countries ceded by the Nabob of the *Garnatic*, of the Province of *Cuttack*, and of the Settlements of *Singapore* and *Malacca*, without any Licence whatever; provided that all Subjects of His Majesty, not Natives of the said Territories, shall, on their Arrival in any Part of the said Territories from any Port or Place not within the said Territories, make known in Writing their Names, Places of Destination, and Objects of Pursuit in *India* to the Chief Officer of the Customs, or other Officer authorized for that Purpose at such Port or Place as aforesaid.

Provided always, and be it enacted, That it shall not be lawful for any Subject of His Majesty, except the Servants of the said Company, and others now lawfully authorized to reside in the said Territories, to enter the same by Land, or to proceed to or reside in any Place or Places in such Parts of the said Territories as are not herein-before in that Behalf mentioned, without Licence from the said Board of Commissioners, or the said Court of Directors, or the said Governor General in Council, or a Governor or Governor in Council of any of the said Presidencies for that Purpose first obtained: Provided always, that no Licence given to any natural-born Subject of His Majesty to reside in Parts of the Territories not open to all such Subjects shall be determined or revoked unless in accordance with the Terms of some express Clause of Revocation or Determination in such Licence contained.

Provided always, and be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Governor General in Council, with the previous Consent and Approbation of the said Court of Directors for that Purpose obtained, to declare any Place or Places whatever within the said Territories open to all His Majesty's natural-born Subjects, and it shall be thenceforth lawful for any of His Majesty's natural-born Subjects to proceed to or reside in or pass through any Place or Places declared open, without any Licence whatever.

And

And be it enacted, That the said Governor General in Council shall and he is hereby required, as soon as conveniently may be, to make Laws or Regulations providing for the Prevention or Punishment of the illicit Entrance into or Residence in the said Territories of Persons not authorized to enter or reside therein.

And whereas the Removal of Restrictions on the Intercourse of Europeans with the said Territories will render it necessary to provide against any Mischiefs or Dangers that may arise therefrom, be it therefore enacted, That the said Governor General in Council shall and he is hereby required, by Laws or Regulations, to provide with all convenient Speed for the Protection of the Natives of the said Territories from Insult and Outrage in their Persons, Religions, or Opinions

And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for any natural-born Subject of His Majesty authorized to reside in the said Territories, to acquire and hold Lands, or any Right, Interest, or Profit in or out of Lands, for any Term of Years, in such Part or Parts of the said Territories as he shall be so authorized to reside in: Provided always, that nothing herein contained shall be taken to prevent the said Governor General in Council from enabling, by any Laws or Regulations, or otherwise, any Subjects of His Majesty to acquire or hold any Lands, or Rights, Interests, or Profits in or out of Lands, in any Part of the said Territories, and for any Estates or Terms whatever.

And be it enacted, That no Native of the said Territories, nor any natural-born Subject of His Majesty resident therein, shall, by reason only of his Religion, Place of Birth, Descent, Colour, or any of them, be disabled from holding any Place, Office, or Employment under the said Company.

And whereas it is expedient that Slavery should cease throughout the said Territories; be it enacted, That the said Governor General in Council shall and he is hereby required forthwith to frame Laws and Regulations for the Extinction of Slavery, having due Regard to the Laws of Marriage, and the Rights and Authorities of Fathers and Heads of Families; and that the said Governor General in Council shall on or before the First Day of January One thousand eight hundred and thirty-five, and on every First Day of January from that Time forward, report to the Court of Directors the Progress which he shall have made in framing such Laws and Regulations, and that the Court of Directors shall, within Fourteen Days after the Receipt of such Report, if Parliament shall then be sitting, or otherwise within Fourteen Days after the next Meeting of Parliament, lay such Reports before both Houses of Parliament.

And whereas the present Diocese of the Bishoprick of Calcutta is of too great an Extent for the Incumbent thereof to perform efficiently all the Duties of the Office without endangering his Health and Life, and it is therefore expedient to diminish the Labours of the Bishop of the said Diocese, and for that Purpose to make Provision for assigning new Limits to the Diocese of the said Bishop, and for founding and constituting Two separate and distinct Bishopricks, but nevertheless the Bishops thereof to be subordinate and subject to the Bishop of *Calcutta* for the Time being, and his Successors, as their Metropolitan; be it therefore enacted, That in case it shall please His Majesty to erect, found, and constitute Two Bishopricks, one to be styled the Bishoprick of *Madras*, and the other the Bishoprick of *Bombay*, and from Time to Time to nominate and appoint Bishops to such Bishopricks under the Style and Title of Bishops of *Madras* and *Bombay* respectively, there shall be paid, from and out of the Revenues of the said Territories, to such Bishops respectively, the Sum of Twenty-four thousand Sicca Rupees by the Year.

And be it enacted, That the said Salaries shall commence from the Time at which such Persons as shall be appointed to the said Office of Bishop shall take upon them the Execution of their respective Offices; and that such Salaries shall be in lieu of all Fees of Office, Perquisites, Emoluments, or Advantages whatsoever, and that no Fees of Office, Perquisites, Emoluments, or Advantages whatsoever shall be accepted, received, or taken by such Bishop, or either of them, in any Manner, or on any Account or Pretence whatsoever, other than the Salaries aforesaid; and that such Bishops respectively shall be entitled to such Salaries so long as they shall respectively exercise the Functions of their several Offices in the *British* Territories aforesaid.

And be it enacted, That the said Court of Directors shall and they are hereby required to pay to the Bishops so from Time to Time to be appointed to the said Bishopricks of *Madras* and *Bombay*, in case they shall be resident in the United Kingdom at the Time of their respective Appointments, the Sum of Five hundred Pounds each, for the Purpose of defraying the Expences of their Equipment and Voyage.

(156.)

H 3.

Provided

No 22.

Bill for effecting
an Arrangement
with the East India
Company, &c.
27th July 1833.

No. 22

Bill for effecting
an Arrangement
with the East India
Company, &c.
27th July 1833.

Provided always, and be it enacted, That such Bishops shall not have or use any Jurisdiction or exercise any Episcopal Functions whatsoever, either in the said Territories or elsewhere, but only such Jurisdiction and Functions as shall or may from Time to Time be limited to them respectively by His Majesty, by His Royal Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the said United Kingdom.

And be it enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for His Majesty, from Time to Time, if He shall think fit, by His Royal Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the said United Kingdom, to assign Limits to the Diocese of the Bishoprick of *Calcutta*, and to the Dioceses of the said Bishopricks of *Madras* and *Bombay* respectively, and from Time to Time to alter and vary the same Limits respectively as to His Majesty shall seem fit, and to grant to such Bishops respectively, within the Limits of their respective Dioceses, the Exercise of Episcopal Functions, and of such Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction as His Majesty shall think necessary for the Superintendence and good Government of the Ministers of the United Church of *England* and *Ireland* therein.

Provided always, and be it enacted, That the Bishop of *Calcutta* for the Time being shall be deemed and taken to be the Metropolitan Bishop in India, and as such shall have, enjoy, and exercise all such Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Episcopal Functions for the Purposes aforesaid as His Majesty shall by His Royal Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the said United Kingdom think necessary to direct, subject nevertheless to the general Superintendence and Revision of the Archbishop of *Canterbury* for the Time being; and that the Bishops of *Madras* and *Bombay* for the Time being respectively shall be subject to the Bishop of *Calcutta* for the Time being as such Metropolitan, and shall at the Time of their respective Appointments to such Bishopricks, or at the Time of their respective Consecrations as Bishop, take an Oath of Obedience to the said Bishop of *Calcutta* in such Manner as His Majesty, by His said Royal Letters Patent, shall be pleased to direct.

And be it enacted, That when and as often as it shall please His Majesty to issue any Letters Patent respecting the Bishoprick of *Calcutta*, *Madras*, or *Bombay*, or for the Nomination or Appointment of any Person thereto respectively, the Warrant for the Bill in every such Case shall be countersigned by the President of the Board of Commissioners for the Affairs of India, and by no other Person.

And be it enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, by Warrant under His Royal Sign Manual, countersigned by the Chancellor of the Exchequer for the Time being, to grant to any such Bishop of *Madras* or *Bombay* respectively who shall have exercised in the British Territories aforesaid for Fifteen Years the Office of such Bishop, a Pension not exceeding Eight hundred Pounds per Annum, to be paid quarterly by the said Company.

And be it enacted, That in all Cases when it shall happen the said Person nominated and appointed to be Bishop of either of the said Bishopricks of *Madras* or *Bombay* shall depart this Life within Six Calendar Months next after the Day when he shall have arrived in India for the Purpose of taking upon him the Office of such Bishop, there shall be payable, out of the Territorial Revenues from which the Salary of such Bishop so dying shall be payable, to the legal personal Representatives of such Bishop, such Sum or Sums of Money as shall, together with the Sum or Sums paid to or drawn by such Bishop in respect of his Salary, make up the full Amount of One Year's Salary; and when and so often as it shall happen that any such Bishop shall depart this Life while in possession of such Office, and after the Expiration of Six Calendar Months from the Time of his Arrival in India for the Purpose of taking upon him such Office, then and in every such Case there shall be payable, out of the Territorial Revenues from which the Salary of the said Bishop so dying shall be payable, to his legal personal Representatives, over and above what may have been due to him at the Time of his Death, a Sum equal to the full Amount of the Salary of such Bishop for Six Calendar Months.

And be it enacted, That if it shall happen that either of the Bishops of *Madras* or *Bombay* shall be translated to the Bishoprick of *Calcutta*, the Period of Residence of such Person as Bishop of *Madras* or *Bombay* shall be accounted for and taken as a Residence as Bishop of *Calcutta*.

Provided also, and be it enacted, That if any Person under the Degree of a Bishop shall be appointed to either of the Bishopricks of *Calcutta*, *Madras*, or *Bombay*, who at the Time of such Appointment shall be resident in India, then and in such Case it shall and may be lawful for the Archbishop of *Canterbury*, when and as he shall be required so to do by His Majesty, by His Royal Letters

Patent under the Great Seal of the said United Kingdom, to issue a Commission under his Hand and Seal, to be directed to any Two of the said Bishops, authorizing and charging them to perform all such requisite Ceremonies for the Consecration of the Person so to be appointed to the Degree and Office of a Bishop.

And be it enacted, That the Expences of Visitations to be made from Time to Time by the said Bishops of Madras and Bombay respectively shall be paid by the said Company out of the Revenues of the said Territories: Provided that no greater Sum on account of such Visitations be at any Time issued than shall from Time to Time, be defined and settled by the Court of Directors of the said Company, with the Approbation of the Commissioners for the Affairs of India.

And be it enacted, That no Archdeacon hereafter to be appointed for the Archdeaconry of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, or the Archdeaconry of the Presidency of Fort Saint George, or the Archdeaconry of the Presidency and Island of Bombay, shall receive in respect of his Archdeaconry any Salary exceeding Three thousand Sicca Rupees per Annum: Provided always, that the whole Expence incurred in respect of the said Bishops and Archdeacons shall not exceed One hundred and twenty thousand Sicca Rupees per Annum.

And be it enacted, That of the Establishment of Chaplains maintained by the said Company at each of the Presidencies of the said Territories Two Chaplains shall always be Ministers of the Church of Scotland, and shall have and enjoy from the said Company such Salary as shall from Time to Time be allotted to the Military Chaplains at the several Presidencies: Provided always, that the Ministers of the Church of Scotland to be appointed Chaplains at the said Presidencies as aforesaid shall be ordained and inducted by the Presbytery of Edinburgh according to the Forms and Solemnities used in the Church of Scotland, and shall be subject to the Spiritual and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction in all Things of the Presbytery of Edinburgh, whose Judgments shall be subject to Dissent, Protest, and Appeal to the Provincial Synod of Lothian and Tweeddale, and to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland: Provided always, that nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to prevent the Governor General in Council from granting from Time to Time, with the Sanction of the Court of Directors, to any Sect, Persuasion, or Community of Christians, not being of the United Church of England and Ireland, or of the Church of Scotland, such Sums of Money as may be expedient, for the Purpose of Instruction or for the Maintenance of Places of Worship.

And whereas it is expedient to provide for the due Qualification of Persons to be employed in the Civil Service of the said Company in the said Territories; be it therefore enacted, That the said Governor General of India in Council shall, as soon as may be after the First Day of January in every Year, make and transmit to the said Court of Directors a prospective Estimate of the Number of Persons who, in the Opinion of the said Governor General in Council, will be necessary, in addition to those already in India, or likely to return from Europe, to supply the expected Vacancies in the Civil Establishments of the respective Governments in India in the Fourth following Year; and it shall be lawful for the said Board of Commissioners to reduce such Estimate, so that the Reasons for such Reduction be given to the said Court of Directors, and in the Month of June in every Year, if the said Estimate shall have been then received by the said Board, and if received, the said Board of Commissioners shall certify to the said Court of Directors what Number of Persons shall be nominated as Candidates for Admission and what Number of Students shall be admitted to the College of the said Company at Haileybury in the then current Year, but so that at least Four such Candidates, no one of whom shall be under the Age of Seventeen or above the Age of Twenty Years, be nominated, and no more than One Student admitted for every such expected Vacancy in the said Civil Establishments, according to such Estimate or reduced Estimate as aforesaid; and it shall be lawful for the said Court of Directors to nominate such a Number of Candidates for Admission to the said College as shall be mentioned in the Certificate of the said Board; and if the said Court of Directors shall not within One Month after the Receipt of such Certificate nominate the whole Number mentioned therein, it shall be lawful for the said Board of Commissioners to nominate so many as shall be necessary to supply the Deficiency.

And be it enacted, That when and so often as any Vacancy shall happen in the Number of Students in the said College, by Death, Expulsion, or Resignation, it shall be lawful for the said Board of Commissioners to add in respect of every

No 22.

Bill for effecting
an Arrangement
with the East India
Company, &c.
27th July 1833.

such Vacancy One to the Number of Students to be admitted and Four to the Number of Candidates for Admission, to be nominated by the said Court in the following Year.

And be it enacted, That the said Candidates for Admission to the said College shall be subjected to an Examination in such Branches of Knowledge and by such Examiners as the said Board shall direct, and shall be classed in a List to be prepared by the Examiners, and the Candidates whose Names shall stand highest in such List shall be admitted by the said Court as Students in the said College, until the Number to be admitted for that Year according to the Certificate of the said Board be supplied.

And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Board of Commissioners and they are hereby required forthwith after the passing of this Act to form such Rules, Regulations, and Provisions for the good Government of the said College as in their Judgment shall appear best adapted to secure fit Candidates for Admission into the same, and for the Examination and Qualifications of such Candidates, and of the Students of the said College, after they shall have completed their Residence there, and for the Appointment and Remuneration of proper Examiners; and such Plan, Rules and Regulations, and Provisions respectively shall be submitted to His Majesty in Council for His Revision and Approbation, and when the same shall have been so revised and approved by His Majesty in Council the same shall not afterwards be altered or repealed, except by the said Board of Commissioners, with the Approbation of His Majesty in Council.

And be it enacted, That at the Expiration of such Time as shall be fixed by such Rules, Regulations, and Provisions, made as aforesaid, so many of the said Students as shall have a Certificate from the said College of good Conduct during the Term of their Residence therein shall be subjected to an Examination in the Studies prosecuted in the said College, and so many of the said Students as shall appear duly qualified shall be classed according to Merit in a List to be prepared by the Examiners, and shall be nominated to supply the Vacancies in the Civil Establishments in India, and have Seniority therein according to their Priority in the said List; and if there shall be at the same Time Vacancies in the Establishments of more than One of the said Presidencies, the Students on the said List shall, according to such Priority, have the Right of electing to which of the said Establishments they will be appointed.

And be it enacted, That no Appointment of any Professor or Teacher at the said College shall be valid or effectual until the same shall have been approved by the Board of Commissioners.

And be it enacted, That every Power, Authority, and Function by this or any other Act or Acts given to and vested in the said Court of Directors shall be deemed and taken to be subject to such Control of the said Board of Commissioners as in this Act is mentioned, unless there shall be something in the Enactments conferring such Powers, Authorities, or Functions inconsistent with such Construction, and except as to any Patronage or Right of appointing to Office vested in or reserved to the said Court.

Provided always, and be it enacted, That nothing herein contained shall be construed to enable the said Board of Commissioners to give or cause to be given Directions ordering or authorizing the Payment of any extraordinary Allowance or Gratuity, or the Increase of any established Salary, Allowance, or Emolument, unless in the Cases and subject to the Provisions in and subject to which such Directions may now be given by the said Board.

And be it enacted, That whenever in this Act, or in any Act hereafter to be passed, the Term *East India* Company is or shall be used, it shall be held to apply to the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies; and that the said United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies may, in all Suits, Proceedings, and Transactions whatsoever after the passing of this Act, be called by the Name of the *East India* Company.

And be it enacted, That the Island of St. Helena, and all Forts, Factories, public Edifices, and Hereditaments whatsoever in the said Island, and all Stores and Property thereon, fit or used for the Service of the Government thereof, shall be vested in His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors; and the said Island shall be governed by such Orders as His Majesty in Council shall from Time to Time issue in that Behalf.

And be it further enacted, That every Supracargo and other Civil Servant of the said Company now employed by the said Company in the Factory at Canton,



P A P E R S

RESPECTING

THE EAST INDIA COMPANY'S CHARTER,

1833.

Ordered to be printed 2d April 1833.

LIST OF PAPERS.

I.—PRELIMINARY PAPERS.

No	Page.
1.—Minute of Secret Court of Directors, 30th March 1831 - - -	3
2.—Minute of Conference referred to in preceding Minute - - -	ib
3.—Minute of Secret Committee of Correspondence, 20th October 1830 - - -	4
4.—Minute of Secret Court of Directors, 6th April 1831 - - -	6
5.—Ditto - - - ditto - - - 20th July 1831 - - -	7
6.—Memoranda of a Conversation between the Right Honourable Charles Grant and the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the East India Company, at the India Board, 7th July 1831 - - -	ib.

II —PAPERS RESPECTING THE CHARTER.

1.—Minute of a Secret Committee of Correspondence, the 18th December 1832 - - -	9
2.—Letter from the Right Honourable Charles Grant to the Chairman, dated 17th December 1832, noticed in the preceding Minute - - -	ib.
3.—Memorandum, or Paper of Hints - - -	10
4.—Minute of Secret Committee of Correspondence, 21st December 1832 - - -	11
5.—Ditto - - - ditto - - - 28th December 1832 - - -	ib.
6.—Ditto - - - ditto - - - 2d January 1833 - - -	ib.
7.—Letter from the Chairman and Deputy Chairman to Earl Grey, dated 3d January 1833. -	14
8.—Letter from the Chairman and Deputy Chairman to the Right Honourable Charles Grant, dated 3d January 1833 - - -	ib.
9.—Minute of Secret Court of Directors, 13th February 1833 - - -	15
10.—Ditto - - - ditto - - - 15th February 1833 - - -	ib.
11.—Letter from the Right Honourable Charles Grant to the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, dated 12th February 1833 - - -	16
12.—Letter from the Chairman and Deputy Chairman to the Right Honourable Charles Grant, dated 15th February 1833 - - -	39
13.—Letter from the Right Honourable Charles Grant to the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, dated 19th February 1833 - - -	40
14.—Minute of Secret Court of Directors, 20th February 1833 - - -	41
15.—Ditto - - - ditto - - - 22d February 1833 - - -	42
16.—Ditto - - - ditto - - - 26th February 1833 - - -	ib.
17.—Ditto - - - ditto - - - same Date - - -	ib.
18.—Letter from the Chairman and Deputy Chairman to the Right Honourable Charles Grant, dated 27th February 1833 - - -	ib
19.—Minute of Secret Court of Directors, 15th March 1833 - - -	55
20.—Letter from the Right Honourable Charles Grant to the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, 14th March 1833 - - -	ib.
21.—Minute of Secret Court of Directors, 16th March 1833 - - -	61
22.—Minute of Secret Committee of the whole Court, 16th March 1833 - - -	ib.
23.—Ditto - - - ditto - - - 18th March 1833 - - -	ib.
24.—Minute of Secret Court of Directors, 18th March 1833 - - -	62
25.—Letter to the Right Honourable Charles Grant from the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, 18th March 1833 - - -	ib
26.—Minute of Secret Court of Directors, 22d March 1833 - - -	66
27.—Letter from the Right Honourable Charles Grant to the Chairman, 16th March 1833 -	67
28.—Letter from the Right Honourable Charles Grant to the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, 21st March 1833 - - -	68
29.—Letter from the Chairman and Deputy Chairman to the Right Honourable Charles Grant, 22d March 1833 - - -	70
30.—Letter from the Right Honourable Charles Grant to the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, 25th March 1833 - - -	ib.

I.

PRELIMINARY PAPERS.

No 1.

AT a SECRET COURT of DIRECTORS, held on Wednesday the 30th March 1831,

THE Chairman stated to the Court, that the Deputy Chairman and himself had, by Appointment, the Honour of an Interview at Apsley House, on the 12th October last, with the First Lord of the Treasury, at which Interview the President of the Board of Commissioners for the Affairs of India was present.

That he had communicated the Substance of what then passed to a Secret Committee of Correspondence, which Committee, on the 20th of that Month, agreed to a Minute containing their Opinions on the important Points then brought to their Notice by the Chairman; that a Copy of the said Minute was forwarded to the First Lord of the Treasury on the same Day, and that, although that Noble Personage had since retired from His Majesty's Councils, the Chairman felt it to be his Duty to lay the Minute of the Interview, and that of the Committee of Correspondence, before the Court, for their Information. The Chairman added, that a Copy had been sent to the late President of the Board.

The same were read.

No 2

MINUTE of CONFERENCE at Apsley House, on Tuesday the 12th October 1830,
noticed in the preceding Minute.

(Secret and confidential.)

THE Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the East India Company had, by Appointment, the Honour of an Interview with the Duke of Wellington and Lord Ellenborough, at Apsley House, on Tuesday Morning the 12th Instant.

The Duke of Wellington stated, that as the Period was approaching when the Parliamentary Notice must be given of the Termination of the Company's exclusive Privileges in 1834, and as it might be thought necessary to advert to that Circumstance in the King's Speech on the ensuing Meeting of Parliament, he had requested to see the Chairs, in order to ascertain what the Views and Intentions of the Company would be in the event of its being considered expedient that the Court of Directors should continue to exercise Functions similar to those now intrusted to them in the Government of India, but that the Company should no longer possess the Monopoly of the China Trade.

To these Remarks the Chairman replied, that so far as his individual Opinion went, and that also of the Deputy Chairman, they were satisfied that the Company had no view, with respect to the Government of India, beyond that of being a useful Instrument in the Execution of an important National Trust; and that they would not be indisposed to continue their Services to the Public, provided the requisite Means were insured to them by which they might be enabled to administer the Government consistently with their own Character, and for the Benefit of this Country and of India. That, financially speaking, there is now a large annual Deficit, which the Company have been enabled to provide for chiefly through the China Trade; that such Deficiency would continue to a considerable Amount, and that it was not apparent from what Means the same could be met if the China Monopoly was discontinued. That there is, moreover, an annual Sum of nearly Three Millions Sterling disbursed in this Country on account of India, the Remittance of which has been solely effected

No. 2.
 Minute of
 Conference,
 12th October 1831.

effected through the Company's Trade. If the Company abandoned their Commercial Character, the Chairs did not see how this Remittance was to be effected in future.

That under the existing System the Indian Territory had Access to all the Commercial Capital of the Company, which Assistance the Company had been willing to afford as long as their Trade had yielded a Dividend of Ten and a Half per Cent. without Risk of their Commercial Capital.

That, under any contemplated Change, the Court of Directors would feel it to be their first Duty to maintain and to secure the Interests and Property of their Constituents, who, it could scarcely be expected, would consent to any Portion of their Capital remaining at hazard without ample Guarantee and Security.

The Duke of Wellington and Lord Ellenborough considered that the Proprietors had full Security for their Capital Stock, and for the Dividend at its present Rate, in their Commercial Assets, and in the Value of the fixed Property in India, which might be adjudged to appertain to the Company in its Commercial Capacity; that the Company would retain the Right to trade as a Corporate Body; and that Parliament should reserve the Power of revising any Arrangement which might now be entered into if the Company ceased to have a Commercial Character.

Lord Ellenborough trusted that the Reductions already ordered, and those which might hereafter be made, would bring the Charges within the Revenue by the Termination of the Charter in 1834.

To this it was stated by the Chairs, that they apprehended rather a Diminution than an Increase of Revenue; upon which

The Duke of Wellington said, that should the Expectation expressed by Lord Ellenborough be disappointed, the Deficit must be made good by Loans or otherwise, as Parliament might direct; but that, by the Supposition of the Revenue of India being no longer assisted by the Profits of the China Monopoly, it would be necessary to subject the Expenditure to general and efficient Control.

Other Points of Importance were touched upon, having reference to the Conditions upon which the Court of Directors might, without Prejudice to the Interest of their Constituents, continue to be engaged in the Territorial Administration of India when divested of the Monopoly of the China Trade; but the Statement of the Discussion upon these Points is not essential, as the Object of the Interview was merely to open the whole Subject for the Consideration of the Chairs.

The Duke of Wellington observed, that what had passed was to be considered as a private Communication, and it was agreed that the Outline of the Conversation should be stated in Writing, and mutually approved.

The Chairman stated, that when such Memorandum had been agreed upon, he should make the same known to a Secret Committee of Correspondence. The Duke then expressed a Hope that when the Committee were in possession of the Communication, he should hear from the Chairs upon the Subject.

(Signed) ELLENBOROUGH.
 W. APELL.
 R. CAMPBELL.

London, 12th Oct. 1830.

(16th Oct. 1830.)

No. 3.

No. 3.

AT a SECRET COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE, the 20th October 1830,

Secret Committee
 of Correspondence,
 20th October 1830.

THE Committee proceeded to the Consideration of the Minute of what passed at an Interview which, at the Instance of the Duke of Wellington, took place between His Grace and Lord Ellenborough and the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, at Apsley House, on Tuesday Morning the 12th Instant.

The Chairs were informed by the Duke of Wellington that the Period was approaching when the Parliamentary Notice must be given of the Termination of the Company's exclusive Privileges; and as it might be thought necessary to advert to that Circumstance in the King's Speech on the ensuing Meeting
 of

of Parliament, he was desirous to ascertain what the Views and Intentions of the Company would be in the event of its being considered expedient that the Court of Directors should continue to exercise Functions similar to those now intrusted to them in the Government of India, but that the Company should no longer possess the Monopoly of the China Trade.

No. 3
 Secret Committee
 of Correspondence,
 20th October 1830.

The Committee are far from offering any Objection to an early and a full Consideration of the general Question touching such future Plan as may be proposed by His Majesty's Ministers for a further Agreement between the Public and the Company, but they did not anticipate being called on, within Fourteen Days only of the Meeting of Parliament, for an Opinion upon a supposed Plan which it might eventually be deemed expedient to propose to the Consideration of the Court of Directors

The Committee do not perceive the Necessity for connecting with the Announcement of the Three Years Notice, which may be given through the Speaker in April next, a Call upon the Company for any Statement of what their Views may be under certain supposed Circumstances, nor is there an Instance of the Subject being adverted to in the King's Speech at the Commencement of the Session in which such Notice has been given. The general Subject of an Arrangement (but not of the Parliamentary Notice) was adverted to in the King's Speech of the 13th December 1792, a few Months prior to the Renewal in 1793; and again only in January 1812, the Year preceding the last Renewal under the Act of 1813, notwithstanding that the Discussion as to an Arrangement had commenced so far back as 1808

The Committee nevertheless feel, that as the First Lord of the Treasury and the President of the Board of Commissioners have deemed it to be their Duty to ascertain what would be the Opinion of the Company under such Circumstances, they can have no Hesitation in stating most frankly and unreservedly what that Opinion is, so far as the Subject is now before them, because it may tend to prevent any Committal to Parliament on the leading Points contained in the Minute under Consideration.

The Committee entirely accord with the Declaration made by the Chairs, that the East India Company have had no view, with reference to the Government of India, beyond that of being a useful Instrument in the Administration of an important National Trust, and that the Company might be disposed to continue those Services to the Public if they can do so consistently with what is due to their own Character, and with Advantage to England and to India, in the same Spirit, however, the Committee must also most unreservedly declare, that they could not take upon themselves to recommend to the Company to be a Party to an Arrangement which, they are convinced, from a thorough Knowledge of the past, could only lead to Disappointment and Embarrassment for the future.

The Committee must remark, that this is the first Occasion since the Existence of the present System on which a Proposition has been seriously submitted to their Consideration, which, whilst it confers no one Advantage upon the Company, not only puts to hazard their Commercial Capital, but presents no Guarantee whatever beyond what the Company in their own Right possess for the large Stake which they have now embarked in the Performance of those Functions at present discharged by them in the Government of our Eastern Empire.

If the exclusive Privileges should expire in 1834, the Company will still be a Body Corporate in perpetuity, and entitled to trade upon its Joint Stock. "To whom," it may be asked in the Words of the late Lord Melville, "would the most important Seats of Trade belong? To the Company undoubtedly. Under their original and perpetual Charters they have legally purchased and acquired Fort St. George, St. Helena, Bombay, and Calcutta, long before they were in possession of Territories, or of the Dewanny. These Possessions are Patrimonial Property, and cannot be taken from them. Upon the whole, exclusive of the Dewanny, they have an inalienable Right to valuable Landed Possessions amounting at least to 250,000l per Annum, in addition to which, they have Factories and Commercial Establishments both in India and in the Eastern Seas, which undoubtedly belong to them."

Under the present System, the Indian Territory has the Use of the whole of the Company's Means, including their Capital, which has been amply secured from Deterioration by the Profits of the China Trade, as is obvious from the

No. 3.

Secret Committee
of Correspondence,
20th October 1830.

Fact, that but for the Limitation of the Dividend to Ten and a Half per Cent. the Proprietors would have divided Profits to a much larger Amount, notwithstanding the Advantage given to Territory by the Use of the Board's Rates of Exchange, and notwithstanding also the Losses on the India Trade, a Trade prosecuted by the Company as one purely of Remittance, and rendered obligatory by the Necessities of the Territorial Government.

If the Company were to be divested of the China Monopoly, there would not only be a Risk of the Capital, if it were made available, as at present, to the Use of the Territory, but there would be an absolute Certainty of Loss.

Upon an attentive Examination of the Indian Finances prospectively, it appears that, after 1834, there will be a Territorial Deficit of at least 800,000*l.* per Annum, supposing the Continuance of perfect Peace in India.

It will be clearly apparent, that if the China Monopoly is to cease, there will be no Profits available to Political Disbursements, and that if the Public are permitted to have Access to the Company's Commercial Capital, it is not difficult to foresee that such Capital would be rapidly absorbed in Indian Expenditure.

The Committee have every Disposition to meet the Views of His Majesty's Ministers, so far as the supposed Benefit to accrue to the Public from any contemplated Alteration of the existing System is concerned; but they are decidedly of opinion, that if the Company are divested of the China Monopoly, unless an ample Guarantee is formed for the Company's Capital, and Financial Means also provided upon a Basis which shall be unobjectionable in point of Principle, a Separation between Government and the Trade will be inevitable, and that a complete Abstraction must consequently take place of all the Company's Commercial Means and Property from the Indian Territory.

The Committee have confined their Observations to what they conceive to be the most material Points in the Minute now before them, purposely refraining from adverting to the other and numerous important Matters which press themselves upon their Attention with reference to the general Subjects, upon which they will be fully prepared to enter whenever His Majesty's Ministers shall see fit to submit any specific Propositions, having for their Object a future Arrangement between the Public and the East India Company.

WILLIAM ASTELL.
ROBERT CAMPBELL.
SWENY TOONE.
JOHN THORNHILL.
CAMPBELL MARJORIBANKS.

GEORGE RAIKES.
WILLIAM S. CLARKE.
GEORGE SMITH.
JOHN MORRIS.

A Draft of a Letter from the Chairman and Deputy Chairman to the Duke of Wellington, transmitting a Copy of the preceding Minute, and requesting, should any further Measure be at present intended on the general Question of a future Arrangement between the Public and the Company, the Chairman and Deputy Chairman may be informed thereof, in order that these Proceedings may be communicated to the Court of Directors, was read and approved.

A Draft of a Letter to accompany a Copy of the Minute to Lord Ellenborough was likewise approved.

No 4.

No 4

Secret Court of
Directors,
6th April 1831

AT a SECRET COURT of DIRECTORS, held on Wednesday the 6th April 1831,

Resolved unanimously,—That this Court, adverting to the Communication made to them on Wednesday last of the Minute of a Secret Committee of Correspondence of the 20th October, arising out of an Interview which the Chairman and Deputy Chairman had with the First Lord of the Treasury and the President of the Board of Commissioners for the Affairs of India, at Apsley House, on the 12th of that Month, desires to record its Concurrence in the Sentiments expressed by the Committee upon the important Subject to which such Minute has reference, and entirely approves the Course which they have taken on the present Occasion, notwithstanding the Change in His Majesty's Councils since the Date of the said Minute.

No. 5.

AT a SECRET COURT of DIRECTORS, held on Wednesday the 20th July 1831,

THE Chairman from the Committee of Correspondence laid before the Court Memoranda of a Conversation which took place at the India Board, on Thursday the 7th Instant, between the Right Honourable Charles Grant, the Deputy Chairman, and himself.

The same was read.

No. 5.

Secret Court of
Directors,
20th July 1831

No. 6.

MEMORANDA of a CONVERSATION between the Right Honourable CHARLES GRANT and the CHAIRMAN and DEPUTY CHAIRMAN of the EAST INDIA COMPANY, at the INDIA BOARD, on Thursday the 7th July 1831.

No 6

Memoranda
of Conversation,
7th July 1831

MR GRANT said that his Object in desiring the present Interview was to ascertain the Course the Company might be disposed to take regarding the Parliamentary Committee now sitting, and to know whether they had any Intention of at present petitioning Parliament for a Renewal of their exclusive Privileges.

He stated that Difficulties had occurred in proceeding satisfactorily with the Business of the Committee of the House of Commons, and that the Opponents of the Company had complained that there appeared to be an Unwillingness on the Part of the Company to give Information, or rather a Disposition to withhold it; that this Notion was very prevalent, and seemed to derive Countenance from the Circumstance of some of the Members of the last and former Committees, who happened to be Directors of the East India Company, frequently contending, in the course of the Inquiries, that as the Company were not before the House, they were not called upon, in their Corporate Capacity as a public Body, either to produce Evidence in support of their own Pretensions, or to expose the Errors and Mis-statements of their Opponents. Mr Grant added, that from these and other Causes the Public were impressed with Notions unfavourable to the Company, that the Country expected they would come forward, and that he inclined to think their doing so by Petition would be judicious.

In reply to this it was said, that during the last Committee the Company's Officers were examined on the Financial Accounts, and Evidence was also adduced to meet the Allegations on the China Trade; and that with reference to the Committee now sitting, the Members of it were quite competent to summon whom they pleased to give Evidence on any Points touching the Questions the Committee might think it right to inquire into, that whether these related to the Judicial, Revenue, or other Branches of the Company's Administration of the Government of India, the best Information on the Subjects for Inquiry would be found in the Records of the Company, or was to be obtained by the vivâ voce Evidence of well-informed Men. The Court had been and would at all Times be ready to furnish the one and to endeavour to discover the other; that as far, therefore, as the Object was to obtain Information, this might be equally well effected without the Company appearing as Petitioners, which in fact they could not do without previously consulting the Constituent Body, that if a Court of Proprietors were convened for that Purpose, which could hardly be done in such Time as to render any Conclusion at which they might arrive available during the present Session, their first Question would naturally be, whether, as had been the Case on all preceding Occasions, the Court had had any Communication with His Majesty's Ministers in order to ascertain their Views with respect to the Renewal of the Charter, and to lay a Basis on which to negotiate for that Object. It was said, that until some such Communication as was had with the First Lord of the Treasury and the President of the India Board during the late Administration (the Minute of which it was presumed Mr. Grant had seen) should take place, the Company would hardly be in a Condition to petition. The Court, it was said, might, if in possession of the Views of His Majesty's Government, be disposed to accommodate themselves to those Views so far as that could be done without compromising the Interests of their Constituents or their own Character,

No. 6

Memoranda
of Conversation,
7th July 1831,

as their Object was, as had been already stated, to be a useful Instrument for the Discharge of a great public Trust; and it was distinctly observed, that the Court would not recommend to the Proprietors to petition for or to receive any Charter, the Conditions of which should not be such as to secure the Interests of the Proprietors, and at the same Time to enable the Company to discharge all the Obligations which might be imposed on them, with Advantage to the State and with Credit to themselves.

In the course of the Conversation, the Propriety of the Court being made acquainted with the Views and Intentions of His Majesty's Government was urged on Mr. Grant.

Mr Grant admitted the Reasonableness of the Expectation of the Company, that if the Charter were renewed, they should have adequate Means of administering and fulfilling the Obligations it might impose; he also admitted (as had been in the course of Conversation urged upon him), that in any Arrangement to which the Company should consent, they must take care that the Interests of the Proprietors were sufficiently secured.

Mr. Grant stated, that the Opponents of the Company said they were prevented, in consequence of the Difficulties and Obstacles to which he had alluded, from making out their Case. They had thus declared themselves unable satisfactorily to continue the Lead in the Examination before the Committee. He thought that it now devolved on the Company to come forward and to show Grounds to entitle them to a Renewal of their Charter, and that the Country expected them to do so. In reply to this it was observed, that in reality the Case of the Company was established by the Failure of their Opponents; for as they had been unable to prove Misrule, the fair Conclusion was, that the Government of the Company had been generally good; that if any Part of their Administration were assailed, Measures might be taken by summoning proper Evidence in the Committee to vindicate it, and if Errors were discovered to exist, Measures could be taken to remedy them; and when the Company shall be Petitioners before Parliament, they will be prepared to defend their Administration, and to support the Expediency of maintaining the present India System.

While the Chairman and Deputy deprecated the Idea of the Company petitioning prematurely, and adduced the Instances of former Times to show that Negotiation had preceded Petition, they expressed their Anxiety that no Time should be needlessly lost; and they urged in the strongest Terms the Desirableness, and even the Necessity, in reference to the numerous and extensive Engagements of the Company both at Home and Abroad, and to the Means of fulfilling them, that the Court should be apprised as early as possible of the Views of His Majesty's Government; and that when the Court were in possession of such Views, they would receive their immediate and earnest Consideration, previously to their taking the Sense of their Constituents thereon.

Mr. Grant stated, that as he saw it would not be possible to accomplish the Presentation of a Petition from the Company during the present Session, there was no Alternative but for himself to take a more direct and leading Part in the Proceedings of the Committee than, under ordinary Circumstances, he should have thought it expedient for a Minister in his Situation to adopt.

The Chairman distinctly stated, that the Observations which he had made were to be considered as his individual Views on the several Matters adverted to, and that the Deputy Chairman fully concurred in them.

II.

PAPERS RESPECTING THE EAST INDIA COMPANY'S
CHARTER.

No 1.

AT a SECRET COMMITTEE of CORRESPONDENCE, held on Tuesday
the 18th December 1832,

THE Chairman acquainted the Committee that the Deputy Chairman and himself had had several confidential Interviews with Mr. Grant (at the Instance of that Gentleman), at the India Board, on and since the 24th Ultimo, at which the Subject of the Company's Affairs, more especially regarding the Renewal of the Company's Charter, had been Matter of Conversation.

That on the Morning of the 10th Instant the Chairman received a Note from Mr. Grant, stating that Earl Grey would be glad to see the Deputy and himself at Four o'Clock that Afternoon That they had accordingly met Lord Grey and Mr. Grant, when his Lordship stated, that the Reason of his wishing to see them was the near Approach of the Period when it would be necessary to consider the Company's Affairs, with the view of submitting some definite Arrangement to Parliament in the ensuing Session After some general Observations his Lordship alluded to a Paper in the Possession of Mr. Grant, which contained an Outline of the leading Points which it was thought necessary to touch upon in the first instance.

That the said Paper was then read, and after a good deal of Conversation on the several Points, the Chairs took their Leave, with an Understanding that the Paper, when ready, would be sent to them.

That on the 11th Instant, at Half past Eight in the Evening, the Chairman received the Paper in question, enclosed in an Envelope to his Address as Mr. Ravenshaw, without any Note or Intimation accompanying it; in consequence of which he wrote to Mr. Grant, to ascertain his Wish as to the Course to be adopted with the Paper; and that late Yesterday Afternoon (the 17th Instant) he had received a Letter from Mr Grant, expressing his Request that the same might be submitted to a Secret Committee of Correspondence, and if necessary ultimately to a Secret Court of Directors.

The said Letter from Mr. Grant, dated at the India Board, marked "Private," and addressed to "J. G. Ravenshaw Esq.," was read, as was also the Paper marked "Confidential," which accompanied the Letter.

The Committee, having deliberated thereon, adjourned.

No. 1
Secret Committee
of Correspondence,
18th Dec. 1832

No 2

LETTER from the Right Honourable CHARLES GRANT to the CHAIRMAN,
noticed in the preceding Minute.

(Private.)

My dear Sir,

India Board, 17th December 1832

I ADDRESS you with reference to the Memorandum or Paper of Hints on the Subject of the East India Charter, which was read to you and the Deputy at Lord Grey's, and which I have since transmitted to you.

Although it appears to the Government that the Arrangement there described is on the whole the most eligible, yet, as Lord Grey and I stated at the Time, it is open to Discussion, and is submitted to you and the Deputy, and through you to a Secret Committee of Correspondence, and, if you should so think fit, to a Secret Court of Directors, for the Purpose of being examined and considered. The Government are prepared to give a full and impartial Attention to any

(20.)

B

Observa-

No 2
Rt Hon C Grant
to
The Chairman,
17th Dec 1832

No 2.
 Rt. Hon. C. Grant
 to
 The Chairman,
 17th Dec. 1832

Observations respecting it, or to any Objections against it, which may occur to the Directors, and, in the same Spirit, to weigh the Merits of any other Plan which may be suggested as an Alternative.

I have therefore to request you will be so good as to bring that Memorandum under the Notice of a Secret Committee of Correspondence, it being understood to be at present a confidential Communication.

I am, my dear Sir,
 Yours very truly,
 (Signed) CHARLES GRANT.
 J. G. Ravenshaw Esq.

No. 3.

MEMORANDUM OR PAPER OF HINTS noticed in the preceding Minute.

(Confidential.)

No 3
 Memorandum
 or Paper of Hints.

THE China Monopoly to cease.

The East India Company to retain their Political Functions.

The Company's Assets, Commercial and Territorial, with all their Possessions and Rights, to be assigned to the Crown on behalf of the Territorial Government of India.

An Annuity of 630,000*l.* to be granted to the Proprietors, to be paid in England by half-yearly Instalments, and to be charged upon the Territorial Revenues of India exclusively, and to form Part of the Territorial Debt of that Country, not to be redeemable before the 30th of April 18—, and then at the Option of Parliament, by the Payment of 100*l.* for every 5*l.* 5*s.* of Annuity.

Such Part of the Commercial Assets as is convertible into Money to be so converted, and the Proceeds, with the Cash Balance of the Commercial Department as exhibited in the Account of Stock by Computation for the 30th April 1834, appropriated to the Discharge of an Amount of the present Territorial Debt equal to a Capital producing 630,000*l.* a Year.

The Territorial Revenue of India to be chargeable with all Expences incurred on account of that Country at Home and Abroad.

The new Annuitants to retain the Character of a Joint Stock Company.

The Qualification of the Proprietors, and the Right of voting, to remain as at present

The Number of Directors to be , One Fourth to go out by Rotation every Year, but to be immediately re-eligible.

The Patronage to remain vested in the Directors.

The Military Patronage to be exercised as at present.

The Civil Servants to be educated at Haileybury.

The Details of the Arrangement to be settled hereafter, but perhaps something of the following Nature might answer:—

The Students at the College to be considered only as Competitors for Writerships.

Their Number to be so regulated that there may be always more Candidates than Appointments.

Each Student to remain at the College no longer than Years.

Vacancies for Civil Appointments in India to be filled from the College, on public Examination, by the Students approved the most able.

The Directors to fill up the Vacancies at the College each Year, each Director to nominate in succession.

The Plans and Arrangements respecting the Course and Subjects of Study to be formed by the Board and the Professors.

The 47th Section of the 53d Geo. III. Cap. 155, to remain, but made applicable to *Removal* as well as *Appointment*, and to *Professors* as well as *Principals*.

The Governor General in Council to report annually, on his Responsibility, the Number of Writers and Cadets and Assistant Surgeons required for the Service of the next Year.

The Board of Control to have the Power of reducing, but not of augmenting, that Number.

Every

Every British Subject to have the Right of going out to the Seats of Government of the Three Presidencies of India without Licence; but his Right of visiting the Interior, or of residing there, and of acquiring and holding Property, to be subject to the Restraints and Regulations which the Local Government may impose.

The Powers of the Court and its Relations with the India Board to remain as at present, except as modified in the following Summary:

The Court, on the Board's final and conclusive Order, are to send the Dispatch by the first Ship that goes after such Order.

In the event of the Court refusing to prepare a Dispatch, or to send a Dispatch as altered by the Board, the Board to have the Power of sending it themselves.

Appointment of Governors subject, as now, to the Approbation of the King; but the Board to have a Veto on the Recal.

The same with regard to Commanders of the Forces.

The Board to have the same Power with regard to Pensions or Salaries below 200*l.* a Year, and to Gratuities below 600*l.*, that they have now with respect to Salaries, Pensions, or Gratuities above those Amounts.

Home Expenditure and Establishment to be under the Control of the Board.

No 3
—
Memorandum
or Paper of Hints.

No. 4.

AT a SECRET COMMITTEE of CORRESPONDENCE, held on Friday the
21st December 1832,

THE Committee, having further deliberated upon the Hints submitted by
Mr. Grant's Letter of the 17th Instant, adjourned

No 4
—
Secret Committee
of Correspondence,
21st Dec 1832.

No. 5.

AT a SECRET COMMITTEE of CORRESPONDENCE, held on Friday the
28th December 1832,

THE Chairman laid before the Committee a proposed Minute with reference
to the Letter from Mr. Grant, with the Paper of Hints.

The same was read, and ordered to lie for Consideration.

No 5
—
Secret Committee
of Correspondence,
28th Dec 1832

No. 6

AT a SECRET COMMITTEE of CORRESPONDENCE, held on Wednesday
the 2d January 1833,

THE Committee having fully and deliberately considered the Minute sub-
mitted by the Chairman on the 28th Ultimo, with reference to the Letter from
Mr. Grant, with the Paper of Hints respecting the Company's Charter,

The said Minute was unanimously approved, the same being as follows,
viz.—

The Chairman and Deputy Chairman, agreeably to the Wish expressed in
Mr. Grant's Note to Mr. Ravenshaw of the 17th December, have communicated
to a Secret Committee of Correspondence the Paper of Hints respecting the
Company's Charter which was read to the Chairs by Mr. Grant, in the Pre-
sence of Earl Grey, on the 10th December, and which was afterwards trans-
mitted by Mr. Grant to Mr. Ravenshaw.

That Paper of Hints has been considered by the Secret Committee of Cor-
respondence with the Respect due to His Majesty's Ministers, and with the
Deliberation which the vital Importance of the Subject demands

Upon the First Proposition which the Paper contains, viz. "the China
Monopoly to cease," the Committee beg leave to premise, that the exclusive
Privilege which the Company possess of trading with China is not used by
them

No 6
—
Secret Committee,
of Correspondence,
2d January 1833

No 6.

Secret Committee
of Correspondence,
2d January 1833.

them as a *Monopoly* in the Sense in which that Term is generally received; the Legislature having strictly restrained the Company from so using their Privilege by the Regulations, which require that the Supply brought forward shall be adequate to the Demand, and that the Price at which the Teas are put up shall be limited to the prime Cost and Charges.

With respect to a Cessation of this exclusive Privilege, whilst it will be the Duty of the Company to bow to the Wisdom of Parliament, the Committee feel it right to state, for the Consideration of the King's Ministers, that the Discontinuance of that Privilege involves a most essential Change in the Financial System upon which the Affairs of India are now administered, and since it is the exclusive Trade with China which to a great Extent furnishes the Indian Territory with a safe and very beneficial Channel of Remittance of the Funds required in England to defray Political Charges, and which has also afforded to the Territory a large Amount of direct pecuniary Aid, under the Fourth Head of Appropriation of Profits specified in the 57th Section of the Act of the 53d Geo. III. Cap. 155. If, instead of receiving these Advantages, India had been called upon from Year to Year to provide Funds to repay the full Amount disbursed by the Company, the Public Debt of India since 1814 would have been upwards of Seventeen Millions Sterling more than it is now, exclusive of the Balance due in account to the Commercial Branch, and which, with Interest, is computed at Five Millions.

When this important Fact is considered in reference to the Pressure with which the Government Demands already bear on our Native Subjects, notwithstanding the searching Measures of Economy which of late Years have been introduced into all Branches of the Indian Administration, the Committee cannot but hope that His Majesty's Ministers will pause before they consent to deprive India of the great Advantage of the China Trade as now conducted.

Nor can the Committee, invited as they have been by Mr. Grant to state their Opinions with Freedom, refrain from suggesting that the throwing open of the China Trade may be eminently detrimental to this Country, by risking our amicable Intercourse with China, or at all events by removing the concentrated Influence of the Company's Factory, under which the Dealings of the English with that Country have so long been conducted, by causing a Deterioration in the Quality of an Article which has almost become a Necessary of Life, and by seriously interfering with a large Revenue, levied under the existing System with perfect Equality to all Classes of Consumers, and with incomparable Regularity and Cheapness to the State*; whilst the supposed Advantage of an open Trade, in affording new Markets for our Manufactures, are contrary to the Facts elicited during the late Parliamentary Inquiry; viz. that the Americans take Dollars and Bills to China, in preference to British Manufactures; that such Manufactures are not taken to any considerable Extent by the Commanders and Officers of the Company's Ships, who have the Privilege of taking them free of Freight; and that although large Quantities have been sent in the Private Trade to India and the Eastern Archipelago, yet they have very rarely found their Way from thence to Canton.

Should it be argued that Tea would be somewhat cheapened to the Consumer by that Trade, which is now conducted by the Company at a Profit, becoming only one of Remittance, the Committee would submit, that that Advantage, if eventually realized by the People of England, could only be acquired at the Expence of the People of India, and would, in some Measure, be countervailed even to the People of England by the Expence of collecting the Tea Duty in an open Trade; the Amount of which Duty, moreover, if still levied *ad valorem* (but how could it be *ad valorem* if the Trade were free, and if not *ad valorem*, how could an unequal Pressure of the Tax be obviated?) would fall with every Reduction of Price to a much greater Extent than would, it is believed, be made up by Increase of Consumption.

If notwithstanding all these Considerations it should be determined to put an End to the exclusive Trade with China, the Committee beg leave to

* A Revenue of between Three and Four Millions Sterling is collected at an Expence of about 10,000*l*

suggest to the King's Ministers, that the Period that may be fixed upon for that Change to take effect should be sufficiently remote to allow of the Company's disposing of the Stock of Tea which, by the Operation of the present Law, they are compelled to have in Warehouse

With respect to the Second Proposition in the Paper of Hints, viz. "The East India Company to retain their Political Functions," it will, of course, rest with the Court of Proprietors to consider, when the Proposals matured by His Majesty's Government shall come before them, whether they be such as will justify the Company's undertaking to administer the Government of India for a further Term. It can scarcely be necessary, however, for the Committee to point out to the King's Ministers that an indispensable Preliminary to any such Arrangement would be, that the Company should be secured in the regular Supply of Funds to defray the Territorial Payments in England, amounting to between Two and Three Millions annually, a Difficulty which does not appear to be met in the Paper of Hints.

The Third and Fourth Propositions, viz. "The Company's Assets, Commercial and Territorial, with all their Possessions and Rights, to be assigned to the Crown on behalf of the Territorial Government of India,"—"An Annuity of 630,000*l* to be granted to the Proprietors, to be paid in England by half-yearly Instalments, and to be chargeable upon the Territorial Revenues of India exclusively, and to form Part of the Territorial Debt of that Country, not to be redeemable before the 30th of April 18—, and then, at the Option of Parliament, by the Payment of 100*l*. for every 5*l* 5*s* of Annuity,"—appear to the Secret Committee of Correspondence to involve in Substance the Abolition of the East India Company, and the Surrender by them (for it cannot be contemplated to deprive them) of all their Rights, Privileges, and Property, for no other Compensation than the Chance of receiving, after every other Territorial Demand shall have been satisfied, a Dividend of 10½ per Cent for a Term whose Length is not stated, and which Dividend, whatever the Term may be, there can be little Prospect that India, when deprived of the Advantage of the China Trade, will be able to pay.

With every Respect for His Majesty's Ministers, the Committee unanimously decline to recommend the before-mentioned Proposals to the Court of Directors to be offered by them for the Acceptance of the Court of Proprietors; and beg leave to record their Opinion, that no Proposition whatever for continuing the Government of India in the Hands of the Company, when deprived of the exclusive Trade with China, can be acceptable to the Company, unless the Proprietors be fully secured in the regular Payment, half-yearly, of their Dividend of 10½ per Cent. per Annum, and in the Right, whenever paid off, to such an Amount of Principal as at the present Price of Consols would produce that Rate of Dividend. The Committee submit, that this is the least to which the Company can be considered entitled, when it is remembered that they have Property amply sufficient to provide an Investment in Consols equal to the required Dividend, such Property consisting of Commercial Assets, of pecuniary Claims of large Amount on India, and of Possessions and Rights in that Country of great Value, their Title to which has never been disputed.

Indeed, when reference is had to the Facts that the Company has been the Instrument of adding nearly the whole of Hindostan to the Sovereignty of Great Britain, and that through the same Instrumentality a Trade has been opened, fostered, and preserved, yielding an immense Revenue, providing an Article essential to the Comfort of the Public, and causing beneficial Employment for a large Population and an extensive Fleet of Shipping, it might not have been unreasonable to expect that in the event of its being deemed expedient, with a view to the Public Benefit, that the Company should be broken up, some Provision would be made by the Country to compensate them for the Services which they have rendered, for the Risks which they have run, and for the Sacrifices which they are called upon to make, the Company's Claim in this respect would seem to be irresistible if they should be required to give up the Right which they possess in perpetuity to trade in common with His Majesty's Subjects. The Committee, however, abstain from pressing this Point at present. What they now urge is, the undoubted Right of the Company in their Property to the Extent before

No. 6.

Secret Committee
of Correspondence,
2d January 1833

stated, and to such further Extent as shall be sufficient to enable them to make a suitable Provision for the numerous Classes of Servants whose Interests will be seriously affected by a Change of System.

It is unnecessary in the present Stage of the Discussion to enter upon an Examination of the numerous Points of Detail comprised in the Paper of Hints. It is sufficient to observe, that when the great Principles which must form the Basis of the Scheme shall have been satisfactorily arranged, the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, and the Secret Committee of Correspondence, will lend their cordial Aid to His Majesty's Ministers in arranging such a Plan, to be recommended to the Court of Directors for Submission to the Proprietors, as may seem to be calculated to enable the Company efficiently to administer the Government of India for a further Time, with Credit to themselves, and with Advantage to that Empire.

The Committee have thought it advisable to place these their Sentiments before the King's Ministers previously to submitting the Paper of Hints to a Secret Court of Directors, but if His Majesty's Ministers should desire to obtain the Views of the Court, the Committee will take their Pleasure upon the Subject.

 No. 7.

LETTER from the CHAIRMAN and DEPUTY CHAIRMAN to the Earl GREY.

(Secret.)

No 7.

The Chairman and
Deputy Chairman
to Earl Grey,
3d January 1833

My Lord,

India House, 3d Jan 1833.

WE have the Honour to transmit to your Lordship the accompanying Copy of a Minute of a Secret Committee of Correspondence of the 2d Instant, with reference to the "Confidential Memorandum or Paper of Hints" which was read at the Interview we were honoured with by your Lordship on the 10th Ultimo, and subsequently sent to Mr. Ravenshaw by Mr. Grant on the 17th of that Month, for the Purpose of being communicated to the Committee.

We have the Honour to be, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient and faithful Servants,

(Signed)

J. G. RAVENSHAW.

C. MARJORIBANKS.

The Earl Grey, K. G.
&c. &c. &c.

 No. 8.

LETTER from the CHAIRMAN and DEPUTY CHAIRMAN to the Right Honourable CHARLES GRANT.

(Secret.)

No 8.

The Chairman and
Deputy Chairman
to the
Rt. Hon' C. Grant,
3d January 1833.

Sir,

India House, 3d January 1833

WE have the Honour to transmit to you the accompanying Copy of a Minute of a Secret Committee of Correspondence of the 2d Instant, to whom the "Confidential Memorandum or Paper of Hints" sent by you to Mr. Ravenshaw on the 17th Ultimo has been submitted.

We beg to add, that we have forwarded a Copy of that Minute to Earl Grey.

We have the Honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient and faithful Servants,

(Signed)

J. G. RAVENSHAW.

C. MARJORIBANKS.

The Right Hon. Charles Grant,
&c. &c. &c.

No 9

AT a SECRET COURT of DIRECTORS, held on Wednesday the 13th February 1833,

THE Chairman stated to the Court, that the Deputy Chairman and himself had been in communication with His Majesty's Ministers since the Month of November last on the Subject of the Renewal of the Company's Charter. That on the 17th December he received a Communication addressed to him as Mr. Ravenshaw, which he had (in consequence of a Letter from the Right Hon Charles Grant, received on the following Morning,) laid before the Secret Committee of Correspondence on the 18th December, and that on the 2d January the Committee recorded a Minute, which was in the Nature of an Answer to the secret and confidential Communication from Mr. Grant of the 17th December. The Chairman then laid before the Court the under-mentioned Documents, viz.

Minute of a Secret Committee of Correspondence of the 18th December 1832.

Letter from the Right Honourable Charles Grant to J G. Ravenshaw Esq, marked "Private," and dated at the India Board, the 17th December 1832

Memorandum or Paper of Hints transmitted to the Chairman by Mr. Grant

Minutes of Secret Committees of Correspondence of the 21st and 28th December 1832, and 2d January 1833, and

Drafts of Letters from the Chairman and Deputy Chairman to Earl Grey and the Right Honourable Charles Grant, dated the 3d January 1833.

The Chairman further stated, that he was in confident Expectation of receiving, in the course of this Day, an Answer on the Part of His Majesty's Ministers to the Secret Minute of the 2d Ultimo, which Answer he would take an early Opportunity of laying before the Court, after having communicated the same to the Committee.

And the several Papers now laid before the Court having been read, it was, on a Motion,

Resolved unanimously, —That the Committee of Correspondence be requested to continue the Negotiation with His Majesty's Ministers, and to communicate their Proceedings to the Court from Time to Time, so far as the Committee shall consider the same can be done with reference to the Welfare and Interests of the Company.

No 9.

Secret Court
of Directors,
13th Feb. 1833.

No. 10

AT a SECRET COURT of DIRECTORS, held on Friday the 15th February 1833,

THE Chairman acquainted the Court that late in the Afternoon of Wednesday the 13th Instant he received a Letter, addressed to the Deputy Chairman and himself, from the Right Honourable Charles Grant, dated at the India Board the 12th Instant, in reply to the Secret Minute of the Committee of Correspondence of the 2d Ultimo; that he immediately communicated the said Letter to a Secret Committee, and that the Court had been specially summoned in order that they might now be put in possession of the same.

And the Letter above mentioned having been read,

The Chairman further stated, that he had this Day received a private Letter from Mr. Grant, enclosing a Copy of his Letter of the 12th Instant, with some Alterations which he was desirous of having introduced.

And the several Alterations having been read,

The Court agreed that the same be introduced into the Letter received from Mr. Grant on the 13th Instant, and that the said Letter so altered be considered as Mr. Grant's Reply to the Secret Minute of the Committee of Correspondence before referred to.

It was then ordered that the Letter from Mr. Grant of the 12th Instant be referred to the Consideration of a Committee of the whole Court.

The Chairman submitted the Draft of a Letter to Mr. Grant, assuring him that no Delay which can possibly be avoided shall be permitted to occur, but

(20.)

B 4

expressing

No. 10

Secret Court
of Directors,
15th Feb 1833

No 10

Secret Court
of Directors,
15th Feb. 1833.

expressing the Trust of the Court that they shall be allowed sufficient Time for the calm and deliberate Consideration of the Subjects treated of in the Papers received from him, having reference to the new Arrangement which it is proposed to make with the Company, and requesting further Information upon certain Points, respecting which the Communications from him do not appear to be distinct.

And the same having been read,

It was resolved, That this Court approve the said Draft of a Letter to Mr. Grant.

No. 11.

LETTER from the Right Honourable CHARLES GRANT to the CHAIRMAN and DEPUTY CHAIRMAN.

No 11.

Rt. Hon. C. Grant
to
The Chairman and
Deputy Chairman,
12th Feb 1833.

Gentlemen,

India Board, 12th February 1833.

ON my Return from Scotland I found the Letter which you did me the Honour to transmit to me on the 3d of last January, with a Copy of a Minute of a Secret Committee of Correspondence of the 2d of the same Month on the Memorandum or Paper of Hints sent by me to the Chairman on the 17th of December 1832.

I much regret that I have been prevented by my Absence from returning an earlier Acknowledgment.

I have, however, lost no Time in laying the Minute before Lord Grey and the other Members of the Government. It has engaged our earnest Attention, and the Result of our Deliberations I have now the Honour to communicate to you.

I beg to return my Thanks for the candid Manner in which the Sentiments of the Secret Committee are expressed, and to assure you that it shall be my Endeavour, in my Observations on the momentous Topics under Consideration, to maintain the same Spirit.

The Memorandum which I transmitted to the Chairman was simply what it professed to be, a mere Collection of Hints, unaccompanied by Explanation or Commentary. I was sensible that the Addition of these might in some respects have been desirable; but I conceived the Deficiency to have been in a good Degree supplied by the verbal Expositions which, in the Conference between you and Lord Grey and myself, had been given of the general Considerations connected with the Propositions submitted to your Attention.

Since, however, it is the Wish of His Majesty's Government that those Propositions should be brought before the Court of Directors, and ultimately perhaps before that of the Proprietors, it seems expedient that the Considerations also by which they are recommended should at the same Time be submitted distinctly, though with as much Brevity as may be possible, to the View of those respective Bodies.

Accordingly, while I feel it necessary to advert to some of the main Topics treated or referred to in the Minute, I shall interweave my Comments on them with Statements and Observations tending to show, and as I trust to justify, the Views and Considerations that have led the King's Government to those Conclusions which are embodied in the most leading and essential of the Propositions submitted to you.

In following out this Intention it will be expedient that I should distribute what I have to offer into Two Divisions, suggested as I think by the Subject itself.

In the first place I will apply myself to that Part of the Plan proposed by Ministers which provides for the future Disposal of the Trade which the Company now conduct, and of the Political Powers and Functions which they exercise.

These are the Points referred to in the First and Second Propositions of the Memorandum.

In the second place, I will direct my Attention to the leading Principles of the Arrangement by means of which His Majesty's Government propose to carry into execution the Objects intended under the First Head; such Arrangement

ment

ment relating to the Disposition of the Company's Property, and to the Provision to be made for the Interests of the East India Proprietors, on the one hand, and for the Territorial Interests connected with India on the other

These Subjects are comprised in the Third and Fourth Propositions of the same Paper.

I must observe, that the Two Branches into which I thus divide the Topics of Inquiry are in some respects connected together, and that therefore it will not always be possible, nor as I conceive necessary, in discussing them, to maintain the Separation between them with perfect Exactness

First, We have to consider in their main Principles those Parts of the Plan which relate to the future Government of our Indian Empire, and to the future Arrangement of the Trade with India and China.

I have here named these Topics in what I consider to be the Order of their comparative Importance, but they are in fact intimately united. The Establishment of an advantageous System of Trade with the Regions of the East, though primarily to be desired on account of the Manufacturing and Commercial Interests of this Country, is hardly less material to the Well-being of our Eastern Subjects, and, on the other hand, the Establishment of a just and benignant System of Administration over the Territories of British India, an Object of the last Moment to the Nations who inhabit them, is at the same Time not only most important to our National Honour, but must in several Views reflect back on us the Benefits which we bestow, and, among other Considerations, cannot but essentially minister to the Commercial and Manufacturing Interests more immediately consulted under the former Head of Arrangement.

After a full and anxious Deliberation, it appears to His Majesty's Ministers that the System of Political Administration which has been established in India, and which is exercised through the Organ of the Company, although under the Control of the National Authority at Home, has, notwithstanding too much of past Defect and Error, and in spite of much remaining Imperfection, secured to the Inhabitants of India so considerable a Measure of those Advantages which it is the proper Object of Government to confer, and evinced so much Susceptibility of receiving the Improvements suggested by Experience and Reflection, that they would not be justified in lightly proposing to effect any Alteration or Disturbance of that System in its essential Elements.

The Preservation of the System seems at the same Time to be collaterally recommended by Considerations of some Moment to this Country in a constitutional point of view.

Under any Arrangement, a considerable Share of the Political Patronage of India must, for some Time at least, be dispensed from this Country, and, by the Arrangement actually existing, that Patronage is lodged in Hands which may possess it without exciting public or popular Jealousy.

On these Grounds His Majesty's Ministers conceive it desirable, that, subject to the Changes and Modifications suggested in the Memorandum, the East India Company should retain the Exercise of their Political Powers and Functions. The Changes and Modifications to which I refer will doubtless be dispassionately considered by the Directors and Proprietors, and so considered, I feel satisfied, that while they will appear both right and expedient in themselves, they will at the same Time be felt not to constitute any Obstacle to the Retention by the Company of their Political Capacity.

The Subject of the Company's Trade has been regarded by His Majesty's Ministers with the same anxious Attention as that of their Government.

And here, while they are ready to pay every Acknowledgment to the public Spirit and the Exertions of the Company in their Commercial Character, and while they are far from denying that there have been Periods in which the Commercial Regulations of that Body might be proper, or even necessary, they cannot but think that at the present Day a very material Change of System is advisable.

The Trade of the Company with India has, I need not observe, already much declined, or, to speak more correctly, has for some Years virtually ceased to exist, for the Transactions of a Mercantile Nature which the Company still carry on are confined to the Purposes of making Remittances to England, and of supplying Military and Political Stores to India,—Purposes wholly unconnected with the properly Commercial Interests either of the Company or of their Subjects in the East.

No. 11.

Rt. Hon. C. Grant
to
The Chairman and
Deputy Chairman,
12th Feb. 1833.

I do not now enter into the Consideration of these Objects further than by stating, that they may, in the Opinion of Government, be sufficiently consulted without involving the Necessity of persevering in a Course of Commercial Operations confessedly not recommended by any intrinsic Advantage.

His Majesty's Ministers, therefore, see no Evil in looking forward to a total Cessation of those Operations so soon as they can cease consistently with a due Regard to existing Transactions.

In so viewing this Subject, they are not swayed by any Ideas, purely theoretical, of the Incompatibility of the Functions of a Corporate Trade with those of a Government, but by a careful Observation of the practical Effects of the blended System of Trade and Government which has prevailed in India; and they are convinced that the Release of the Company, whenever this can conveniently take place, from the Peculiarities imposed on their Arrangements and Proceedings by their Dealings in the Nature of Commerce with their own Subjects, will very materially contribute to the Efficiency of their Political Administration.

The Trade of the Company, however, with India is not privileged, and it is conceived that no further Enactment regarding it is necessary. It may be left to its Fate under the Operation of a new Order of Things. Any Question, therefore, that now arises touching the Company's Trade must relate only to China.

This Question, His Majesty's Ministers are well aware, is one of great Delicacy as well as Importance. They admit that while our established System of China Trade is ably assailed, it is defended also by Arguments of no small Cogency. They are sensible that no extensive Change, however beneficial in general, can take place in a large System of Commerce without local and temporary Inconvenience.

Yet, under a full Sense of the Extent of these Admissions, they are, after much Deliberation, led to the Conclusion, that the Interests of the Nation will best be consulted by no longer making the Trade of this Country with China the Subject of exclusive Privilege.

Such generally are the Wishes and Intentions of His Majesty's Government on the Two main Questions,—the Political Administration of India, and the British Trade with China.

To both these Questions the Secret Committee have addressed themselves in their Minute, and on both it will therefore become me to offer further Comments.

With regard to the Government of India, however, since it is not proposed to deprive the Company of their Political Functions, I need not enter into any Explanation, except in reference to some Difficulties, which, if the Plan of Ministers take effect, will, in the Apprehension of the Secret Committee, embarrass the Exercise of those Functions by the Company.

The Secret Committee justly observe, that "it will, of course, rest with the Court of Directors to consider, when the Proposals matured by His Majesty's Government shall come before them, whether they will be such as will justify the Company's undertaking to administer the Government of India for a further Term."

But the Secret Committee add, "It can scarcely be necessary for the Committee to point out to the King's Ministers, that an indispensable Preliminary to any such Arrangement would be, that the Company should be secured in the regular Supply of Funds to defray the Territorial Payments in England, amounting to between Two and Three Millions annually."

The important Topic brought under view in the last Passage I shall have Occasion to discuss fully hereafter, but I am not willing to pass it without Notice in the Connexion in which it here stands. I shall, however, only remark, first, that the Funds requisite to meet the Expences of the Indian Empire must be sought, and will be found, in the Resources of that Empire itself; and secondly, that the Means of making available in England any Part of those Resources will be furnished by some of the different Modes of Remittance which are usual in the Commercial World, and which are never found wanting where Remittance is required, either for Commercial or Political Purposes.

With regard to the opening of the China Trade, the Secret Committee very fairly state the Objections which, on various Grounds, they feel to that Measure,

Measure, and the Hazards and Evils which they foresee as its inevitable Consequences.

It is due to the Secret Committee, no less than to His Majesty's Government and to the Subject itself, that I should not omit this Opportunity of adverting to some of the Observations of the Secret Committee, in the Hope that, at least, it will appear that the Government has not embarked on this Plan without having weighed it in all its Bearings and Relations, in its possible Consequences for Evil as well as for Good.

It is fortunate that, respecting the Trade with China, ample Materials of Judgment are before the Public. They are to be found in the Papers presented for the House of Commons in 1813, in the various Publications which have recently appeared on both Sides of the Question, and in the Reports of the Committees of both Houses of Parliament printed in 1830, with the accompanying Evidence. These Documents exhaust the Subject. They comprehend especially the Arguments that can be adduced in favour of the existing System, and in deprecation of any Departure from it. Of the latter Class of Arguments the Minute contains a correct Summary. It appears, however, to the Government, that of the Arguments so relied on in the Minute some have become obsolete by Lapse of Time and Change of Circumstances, and that the others, resting chiefly on Probabilities and Anticipations, are either overpowered by a fair Estimate of probable Contingencies on the opposite, or, so far as they have weight, are to be regarded in the light, not so much of Objections against the Measure, as of Warnings and Suggestions for the safe and prudent Accomplishment of it.

The opening of the China Trade could never have been considered, except as a Question of Time and Circumstance

The exclusive Privilege of the Company is not an ultimate Object; it is to be regarded as the Means to an End, as the gradual and guarded Preparation for a more diffusive Commerce; and it was not without a Reference to this View of the Subject that Parliament, by granting at successive Times the Charter for a Term of Years, provided for a periodical Revision of the Arrangement adopted.

It must be observed further, that during a Course of Years Circumstances of various Kinds have been conspiring to work a Relaxation of some of the Restrictions which existed at the Commencement of the present Charter, and to prepare the Way for the Removal of those that remain.

On both the last Occasions of the Renewal of the Charter the exclusive Privileges of the Company have been diminished.

In 1793 some Participation of the India Trade was permitted to the Nation, though certainly not to a great Extent. In 1813 the Restrictions on the India Trade were so greatly relaxed, that, so far as concerns Principle, it may be said to have been opened. Since 1813 several Laws have been passed, partly giving more Scope, on specific Points, to the British Commerce with India, partly enabling the Company to trade beyond the Limits to which they were previously restricted.

These successive Modifications of the Privileges of the Company have naturally created an Expectation that, on the Expiration of their subsisting Lease, a further Relaxation would take place. I admit that it would be equally weak and culpable in the Government to yield to this Expectation merely because it exists, still more criminal would be their Conduct if they proposed to surrender any just Principle of Commercial Policy to ignorant or interested Clamour, but the Truth is, that the Events of late Years have forced on the Majority of thinking and practical Men a Sense of the absolute Necessity of some material Mitigation of the Restrictions of our Commercial Code, and that the Improvements which have in consequence been adopted have tended to confirm and disseminate the Feelings and Opinions in which they originated. The Prepossession, therefore, if so it may be called, in favour of a more open Trade to China, though not necessarily just, has a Warrant in recent Experience, and in the Judgment of Minds conversant with the Subject of Commerce in general.

Under these Circumstances His Majesty's Ministers feel, that if the Restraints on the China Trade are to be continued, their Continuance can be justified only on the clearest and strongest Grounds.

No. 11.
 Rt Hon C. Grant
 to
 The Chairman and
 Deputy Chairman,
 12th Feb. 1833.

It must be unnecessary to argue, and yet it is not to be forgotten, that in the Case of this Trade as of every other, the Presumption is, that the Extent of the Dealings, and the National Benefit resulting from them, will be in proportion to the Opening afforded to Capital and Adventure to embark in the Trade. Unless that Presumption can in this Instance be shown to have no Place, the Circumstances of the Country undoubtedly call for a revised System.

Great Britain has now to contend, not, as during her Two last Wars, with One Competitor, but with many. The European Nations have engaged ardently, and some of them for the first Time, in the Prosecution of general Commerce, which continues also to be carried on by the United States of America with their characteristic Energy. On the other hand, new and extensive Accessions have of late Years been made to the Commercial Market of the World: our Australian Colonies, Mexico, South America, the Pacific, with its Islands; to say nothing of the Change of Circumstances, political and commercial, which have occurred in India itself, and in the Countries occupied by the Indo-Chinese Nations. The Opportunities thus afforded ought to be the most advantageous to that People which has the Pre-eminence in Capital, Credit, and Experience; but such Opportunities cannot be fully turned to account unless the Merchant is allowed to carry on his Transactions with different Parts of the World in mutual Connexion and Subserviency. The Exclusion, therefore, of the Nation at large from a particular Mart of Trade, and especially from one so situated as China, is injurious beyond the Limits of the immediate Evil, by narrowing the general Sphere of Commercial Exertion, and breaking the Continuity of the Operations essential to the full Prosperity of our Foreign Trade.

To these Observations the first Answer will be (indeed that Answer has already been given in the Minute by Anticipation), that there is no Prospect of an increased Demand in China for British Manufactures, and consequently that any Hopes of an Extension of our China Trade in that respect are wholly visionary.

In place of entering on the wide and debateable Ground of Discussion which this Argument would open, I cannot help referring to the Employment, and to the Fate, of a parallel Argument in another Instance.

When it was proposed in 1813 to open the India Trade, the Company strongly asserted the Impossibility of extending the Use of British Manufactures in India. The Argument was indeed pressed in that Case still more urgently, and greatly more in detail, than on the present Occasion. It was propounded by some of the most honest, able, and enlightened Persons that ever laboured in the Service of the Company Abroad, or guided its Councils at Home; it was supported by the Production of a vast, and in many respects valuable Body of Evidence, proving that every Effort had already been exhausted to promote the Consumption of our Manufactures in the East, and that the final Limit to such Consumption had obviously been attained.

The Representations to which I refer were not without a great Mixture of Truth. The Company clearly showed that much had been done in extending the Export Trade in question, and that no sudden or exuberant Increase of that Trade could, under any Circumstances, be expected. Their Statements, and the accompanying Evidence, probably produced a wholesome Effect, in correcting to some Extent the extravagant Hopes of Speculators, and in enforcing at least a Degree of Caution on the early Adventurers in the newly-opened Trade. But, in point of fact, their main Position, the Impossibility of an augmented Use of British Commodities in the East, has been practically refuted. The patient, thrifty, dexterous Assiduity of private and untrammelled Enterprize has actually achieved what was then pronounced impracticable. I enter here into no Particulars, the Fact being undisputed.

Among those who, in 1813, were swayed by the apparent Force of the Argument in question, and by the eminent Authority of those who urged it, I must place myself, then new to such Subjects. At this Moment I might possibly have questioned its Correctness, even under the same Circumstances. Experience and Observation have taught me never to distrust the Power of Commercial Capital, when free from artificial Impediments, to open for itself fresh Markets, and to scoop out new Channels of Operation. But from the actual Issue of the Experiment

Experiment in the Instance alluded to there can be no Appeal. It serves to render wholly inconclusive all Arguments proceeding on similar Grounds and pointing to the same Results.

I must therefore be permitted to dissent from the Opinion, that it is chimerical, under any Circumstances, to expect an augmented Demand for British Manufactures among the Chinese. It does not follow that I calculate on any prodigious or instantaneous Increase in that Demand, nor is the Plan which the Government propose founded on any Expectation of such an Event.

I proceed to the Second Topic touched on by the Secret Committee, relating to the probable Effect of the opening the Trade with China, not, indeed, on the Export, but on the Import Branch of it.

They contend,—and this also I may remark was contended in 1813,—that the Admission of private Adventure into that Trade will be followed by a Deterioration of the Quality of the Tea brought to the British Market, and in the next Stage by a Defalcation of the large Revenue now realized with singular Cheapness and Regularity from that Article.

On the first of these Points, the expected Deterioration of the Teas to be imported, I cannot altogether enter into the Apprehensions expressed by the Secret Committee. That the Company indeed have taken great Pains to ensure the Goodness of the Teas which they import, and that their Efforts for this Purpose have been very successful, I cheerfully concede. In this Instance, as in several others, the public Spirit and the Attention of the Company have prevented what might have been thought the natural Result of their exclusive Command of the Market. But the great Principle still remains, that the best Security for the Goodness of a Commodity is to be found in the Rivalry of the Dealers in it, and there seems to be no Reason for distrusting the Rule in the present Case.

I do not mean to deny that the opening of the Trade may in the first instance be attended with the Effect supposed. The Introduction into any Trade of a Number of Competitors has perhaps an immediate Tendency to augment the Quantity of the Supply at the Expence of its Quality; but the very Competition which produces this Evil corrects it in the Sequel. On no other Principle than this do we depend for the Excellence, in point of Quality, of the immense Mass of Commodities imported by our general Commerce.

The Argument drawn from the Importance of the present System of the Tea Trade to the National Revenue, and from the Jeopardy in which a Portion of our Revenue would be placed by a Change, though quite relevant, and though one of grave Importance, is perhaps Matter for the Consideration of the State, rather than for Debate between the Company and the Government.

I will only remark, therefore, that great as the Fiscal Benefit derived from the Tea Trade undoubtedly is, the Argument in question is not decisive, unless it can be shown that an open Trade is, on the whole, likely to produce less of that surplus Profit which is the only Fund out of which Revenue can for a Continuance be drawn, than a Trade managed under exclusive Privilege,—a Proposition which I should hold to be inadmissible. In touching, however, this Subject so briefly, I must not be understood to treat it as of light Moment. There is, on the contrary, no Part of the present Question to the Importance of which His Majesty's Government are more alive, or with regard to which, in the event of the opening of the Trade, they more deeply feel the Necessity of making careful Revision.

Before I quit the immediate Subject of the China Trade I must observe, that, even supposing the direct Trade between England and China not to be extended in the Degree which has been anticipated by many well-informed and enlightened Men, there is yet another very important Branch of Commerce which the opening of China is likely considerably to advance and extend, namely, the Trade between that Country and British India; and just in proportion as that Trade may be extended, and as Remittances through the Medium of it, from India to England, may be facilitated, the Prosperity of the former Country, and its Value as a Customer to the latter, must be enhanced. The Commercial Dealings of the Three Countries are indeed so closely connected, that any View of the Question relative to China which excludes the Consideration of India must be essentially defective. Now, in India, we have found an abundant Demand for British Staples. That which is wanted is a corresponding Return; and should this be more extensively furnished through

No. 11.

Rt. Hon. C. Grant
to
The Chairman and
Deputy Chairman,
12th Feb 1833

the Medium of the China Trade, the Interests of England would be materially promoted, even though the Amount of British Imports into China remained the same. Nor ought we to overlook the peculiar Nature of the Article which forms the main Export of China to England; it is one yielded exclusively by that Country, and it is one of general Consumption among the Labouring Classes of this. The extended Supply of it, therefore, while it can have little or no Tendency to interfere with the Produce of our other Customers, is singularly calculated to give new Scope and Value to the productive Industry of Great Britain.

I must now enter on another Topic suggested by the Secret Committee, and one to which the Company have certainly a very good Right to call the Attention of His Majesty's Government. It is, indeed, a Topic familiar to those who are conversant with the Controversies relating to the present System of Chinese Trade. The Secret Committee apprehend that the opening of the Trade will be productive of no small Hazard to the Continuance of our Relations with the Chinese People.

In entering on this Subject I need hardly state, that supposing the China Trade opened, it would be necessary that there should be stationed at Canton, by the Appointment of the Crown, some Officer or Officers invested by Law with adequate Powers of Supervision over all British Subjects resorting to China.

The Opinion of His Majesty's Government is, that a Chief and Council should be the Functionaries so to be appointed, under Provisions and Regulations, a Consideration of which does not belong to this Place.

The present Head of Argument, like most of those found in the Minute of the Secret Committee, was prominent during the Discussions of 1813. Opinions of weight were delivered on both Sides; and though the Determination of the Legislature to grant to the Company a fresh Term of their exclusive Privilege so far as respected China chiefly proceeded on other Grounds, I am far from contending that the Reasonings of the Company did not produce considerable Impression, or even that it may not at that Moment have been prudent to confine, in the first instance, the Measure of a Free Trade, then about to be tried, to the Ports of India.

The Government, however, are satisfied that it would now be proper to extend the Relaxation to the Commerce with China, even supposing that no Events had occurred during the Subsistence of the present Charter to throw light on the particular Question under Consideration.

Admitting, for the sake of Argument, that a freer Resort of British Adventure to the Shores of China might somewhat increase the Chance of Broils between the Adventurers and the Natives; admitting further, that the Jealousy of the Chinese might be even more sensitive under the new System than under the old; and lastly, admitting that a Representative of the British Nation might be less qualified to deal with the overt Acts or secret Workings of such Jealousy than Commercial Functionaries acting under the Company; yet the Government would by no means despair of combating these Difficulties by Regulations carefully contrived and vigilantly enforced, aided by the powerful Influence of those mutual Considerations of Interest which alone gave Birth to the Trade between the British and the Chinese, and which, in spite of all past Impediments, have fostered and promoted that Trade up to the present Hour.

In point of fact, however, a View of the present State of the British Commerce and Intercourse with Canton, and a Reference to recent Occurrences at that Port, may lead to a Doubt whether the Company justly estimate the Nature and Extent of the Dangers to which the British Interests are, even under the existing System, exposed.

On the Discussions which have unfortunately taken place between the Canton Government and the British Factory I will offer only a passing Remark. Those Discussions perhaps illustrate the Hazards which beset our Intercourse with a People so peculiar as the Chinese; but let me not be thought to draw from them an invidious Inference when I observe, that they also authorize a Question, whether the present System does indeed furnish so effectual a Safeguard against the Hazards alluded to as is sometimes contended. I do not say that the Factory did not act with all the Firmness and Wisdom which the Emergence demanded; but if, in spite of the Exertion
of

of such Qualities, the British Interests on the Spot have barely escaped Destruction, and if the actual Position of those Interests is universally felt to be most precarious, there may surely be some Room to distrust the Sufficiency of the Guardianship to which they are confided.

This is not, however, the Point to which I here principally refer. The Country Trade carried on between the principal Ports of India and that of Canton has now attained a considerable Height, and appears to be still increasing. It cannot fail to increase with the Advancement of the Commercial Resources of India. That Trade has not only brought private Ships to the Canton River, but has led to the stated Residence at that Town of a Number of British Merchants, mostly independent in Circumstances as in Character, possessed of much Capital, and distinguished by British Spirit and Enterprize. Besides these Residents, the British Society in Canton is for a great Portion of the Year increased by a fluctuating Body of Individuals connected with the Trade from India to China. The actual Tonnage engaged in this Trade is superior in Amount to that which the China Trade of the Company employs. The Value of its Imports into Canton increased from 9,897,000 Dollars in 1813-14 to 31,368,000 Dollars in 1829-30; that of the Company's Imports being in 1813-14 13,550,700 Dollars, and in 1829-30 11,665,000 Dollars. It is true that this private Trade is carried on under special Licences from the Indian Governments, and that the Individuals conducting it are bound to obey the Directions of the local Representatives of the Company; it is also true that they cannot trade beyond the Limits of the Company's Charter; but, subject to these Limitations, the Trade is conducted with the Freedom of private Adventure. It is supported by British Capital, and its Ramifications are spreading in India, and, though not ostensibly, in Great Britain.

The Subordination of this Community of Merchants to the Factory, though obligatory in point of strict Right, rests chiefly on mutual Good-will and Prudence, and it would probably be only in a very strong Case that the Supra Cargoes would attempt to deprive any one of its Members of his Licence. What even in such a Case might be the Result of the Attempt does not seem quite certain.

There is every Reason to suppose, as I have already said, that the Amount and Importance of this Trade will increase, and such an Event, supposing the exclusive Privileges of the Company in China to be continued, cannot but materially influence the relative Position of the Free Traders on the one hand, and the local Establishment of the Company on the other.

The Free Trade and the Trade of the Company now move in different Spheres, and except as respects some of the Articles of Import from India to China, there does not appear to be any Room for Competition between them. The Traders are, in fact, on good Terms with the Company's Servants, and they acted in concert with the Factory on occasion of the late Differences with the Government of Canton. But the Growth of a Body of Free Adventurers under the Wing of an exclusive Commerce is not unlikely to lead to Consequences of Moment, and the Division of the British Residents at Canton into Two Commercial Classes, so differently constituted and characterized, cannot but add to the Embarrassments incident to the Relations between the British and the Natives. The Free Traders appear to cherish high Notions of their Claims and Privileges. Under their Auspices a free Press is already maintained at Canton; and should their Commerce continue to increase, their Importance will rise also. They will regard themselves as the Depositories of the true Principles of British Commerce, and the Feeling of Submission which they now manifest towards the Authorities of the Factory may gradually be expected to give place to one of Rivalry, if not of Hostility.

I may overstate the Probability of these Results; but I can truly say, that the Anticipation of them has not been suggested to me by the pending Discussion between the Company and His Majesty's Government. On the contrary, it has repeatedly been impressed on my Mind during the Consideration especially which recent Events in China have led me to give to this important Subject, that our Position in that Country, under the present System, is very far from secure or satisfactory; that while we fix our Eyes on the Contingencies which Twenty Years ago threatened it, we are too apt to overlook

No. 11.
 Rt Hon. C. Grant
 to
 The Chairman and
 Deputy Chairman,
 12th Feb. 1833.

those new and nearer Dangers which are gathering round us from within and without; and that, in a Word, some Change and re-casting of Parts must soon become indispensable. I thought it certain that even if Parliament resolved to continue the exclusive System for a fresh Term, yet Causes were at work which must, even before the Close of the Term, supposing it of reasonable Duration, practically put an end to the System, either by silent Dissolution or by forcible Overthrow, or perhaps in succession, partly by the one Mode and partly by the other.

Under this Conviction, I felt it my Duty to entertain the Question which could not fail, in any Case, very shortly to arise, whether we ought not to station at Canton some official Authority, independent of all Parties, and unconnected with Commerce of any kind.

That Question will, of course, be disposed of by the opening of the Trade; and with it may be dismissed many Apprehensions which, without meaning to colour them too highly, I conceive to be at least as well founded as those indulged by the Company in reference to the Disorders which an open Trade may be expected to produce.

There is but one further Subject which it seems to me necessary to consider in relation to the China Question, but it is one of the greatest Importance.

Among the principal Reasons for the Continuance of the exclusive Privilege to the Company in 1813, the most effective was drawn from the peculiar Relation of the China Trade, as conducted by the Company, with the Financial System of India. This Ground is again assumed by the Secret Committee.

“With respect to the Cessation (they observe) of the exclusive Privilege, whilst it will be the Duty of the Company to bow to the Wisdom of Parliament, the Committee feel it right to state, for the Consideration of the King’s Ministers, that the Discontinuance of that Privilege involves a most essential Change in the Financial System upon which the Affairs of India are now administered, since it is the exclusive Trade with China which, to a great degree, furnishes the Indian Territory with a safe and very beneficial Channel of Remittance of the Funds required in England to defray Political Charges, and which has also afforded to the Territory a large Amount of direct pecuniary Aid, under the Fourth Head of Appropriation of Profits, specified in the 57th Section of the Act of 53d Geo. III. Cap. 155.

“If, instead of receiving these Advantages, India had been called upon from Year to Year to provide Funds to repay the full Amount disbursed by the Company, the Public Debt of India since 1814 would have been upwards of Seventeen Millions Sterling more than it now is, exclusive of the Balance due on account of the Commercial Branch, and which, with Interest, is computed at Five Millions. When this important Fact is considered in reference to the Pressure with which the Government Demands already bear on our Native Subjects, notwithstanding the searching Measures of Economy which of late Years have been introduced into all Branches of the Indian Administration, the Committee cannot but hope that His Majesty’s Ministers will pause before they consent to deprive India of the great Advantage of the China Trade as now conducted.”

On this Argument it may be observed generally, that the Weight to be given to it depends entirely on the View taken of the Possibility of supplying the Resources in question by other Means less onerous to the People of the Country. If the Principle were admitted, that the Expence of Remittance is to be saved to India, and also that the Deficiency of the Indian Revenue is to be supplied, and that all this is to be done at the Cost of England, we should then merely have to consider whether the Aid requisite for these Purposes should be afforded directly by a Grant of British Money, or as heretofore indirectly through an Enhancement in the Price of Tea.

But His Majesty’s Ministers are by no means prepared to admit that Principle; they cannot consent that India shall habitually lean on England for Financial Aid. The Nature of the Question is indeed materially altered since the Period of 1813. At that Time no Separation of Accounts had been effected; there existed no sufficient Means of solving the Problem, whether the Territorial Branch required any and what Assistance; and in order to meet a contingent and uncertain Demand, it may naturally have been thought expedient to reserve a Resource which could readily be adjusted to the Exigencies of the Moment. In 1813, further, the opening of the Trade to India was an untried

untried Experiment; and the Government and Parliament of the Time must in that Circumstance have seen a powerful Reason for not placing simultaneously in a new Position the other great Branch of Commerce on which they had to depend for the Realization of the Funds required to be remitted from India to England. They could not doubt, that if private Merchants were to conduct with Regularity and Success the Trade which had belonged to the Company, the Means of Remittance could be found through the former as surely and as advantageously as through the latter. But it was not in their Power to act on the full Assurance which His Majesty's Government now entertain, that by the entire Discontinuance of the exclusive System the general Trade would be benefited, and not injured. And further, they contemplated the possible Occurrence of uncertain Demands on the Home Treasury, which are not now to be apprehended, and which in fact touch the Question of Supply rather than that of the Transfer of existing Funds.

We are now placed in very different Circumstances. The Trade to India is no longer the Subject of Debate. On that of China, His Majesty's Government have seen abundant Reason to believe that by being opened it will be promoted rather than impaired, and ultimately they cannot doubt of its being materially increased. The Financial Condition of India has now been thoroughly examined, and while on the one hand Ministers feel persuaded that under a System of Free Trade the Means of Remittance will be facilitated, they on the other hold it to be their bounden Duty to require that India shall not be allowed to be a permanent Burthen on the Finances of England.

The Question of Remittance has no necessary Connexion with that of Deficiency of Indian Revenue. It would equally arise, howsoever large might be the surplus Revenue of India.

If our Accounts were framed on proper Principles, the Surplus or Deficit of that Country would be exhibited only after a distinct Allowance for any Loss sustained in exchange between India and England, just as on Remittance from one Part of India to another. This Principle it will be useful to maintain steadily in view, but both Questions may be kept clear of extraneous Entanglement, and I would not be understood as denying to the China Trade, as conducted by the Company, the Merit claimed for it, namely, that it has both discharged the Cost of Remittance and also supplied the Deficiency of the Revenue.

But I must remark, that in both respects this Object has been effected by the surplus Profits of the Trade, and that these surplus Profits have been drawn from the People of this Country, constituting as truly a Tax on them as any of the National Imposts properly so called. The Seventeen Millions, for example (admitting for the sake of Argument the Amount to be justly stated), by the Supply of which through the China Monopoly it is observed in the Minute that the Public Debt of India has been kept down, have been contributed out of the Resources of this Country, as certainly as if they had been appropriated by a Vote of Parliament in aid of the Indian Finances.

As to the Means of Remittance, assuming the Funds to be actually forthcoming in India, it seems to be clear, both from Experience in analogous Cases and from the Evidence taken before the Committee of the House of Commons, that no Difficulty can be anticipated in effecting a Transfer of them, by the Channels of general Trade, on Terms fully as favourable as those which the Company's Commerce can afford. The Facility will even be increased, if, as may be hoped, the general Trade should increase under the new Arrangements. The China Trade itself will become more and more available for the End in view, and the Probability is that there will be an Improvement of Exchange, though not so far as to equal the Rate now applied to the Accounts between the Two Branches of the Company's Concerns. It should however be remembered, that the Advantage given to Territory by the Adoption of an arbitrary Rate is in truth not a Gain upon the Exchange, but a Portion of Commercial Profit applied through that Medium to the Use of the Territory, and ought to be considered as a Part of those regular Charges for which India and not England is answerable.

So also with regard to the actual Deficiency of Funds in India to meet the necessary Expences of the Government. There has certainly been such a Deficiency, and it has been supplied by the Means above stated — whether to

No. 11.

Rt Hon C. Grant
to
The Chairman and
Deputy Chairman,
12th Feb 1833.

No. 11.

Rt. Hon. C. Grant
to
The Chairman and
Deputy Chairman,
12th Feb. 1833.

the Extent of Seventeen Millions or Twelve Millions (the latter is the Amount in the Appendix to the Report of 1830), or any other Sum, it is not necessary here to inquire. But the mere Fact of a Deficit having hitherto existed is no Proof that there will always be a Deficit in future; yet this is assumed in the Argument of the Secret Committee, and is more distinctly stated in a subsequent Part of the Minute. In reference to the Plan of charging the Annuity of 630,000*l.* on the Indian Revenues, they observe, that "there is little Prospect that India, when deprived of the Advantages of the China Trade, will be able to pay it."

I cannot but suggest that this Conclusion has been drawn from inadequate Premises. A floating but a regular Deficiency has hitherto been found to subsist in the Indian Revenue, and the Void has as regularly been supplied from other Sources without Difficulty and without Disturbance. The Accommodation has proved most useful; but it may be apprehended that the very Existence of a Resource so constant, so effectual, so ready and quietly applicable, has tended to create the Evil which was to be remedied. I mean no particular Reflection on any of the Local Governments of India in past Times. It was natural that they should not be very rigorous in repressing an Expenditure the Excess of which the Commerce was ever ready to feed.

The Opinion which I have here stated is now, I believe, very generally entertained, it is not indeed without some Countenance even from the Minute of the Secret Committee. If "the searching Measures of Economy" to which that Minute alludes as having "of late Years been introduced in all the Branches of Indian Administration" had earlier been applied, there can be no Question that much of the Necessity of a Resort to extraneous Succour would have been averted; and I feel as little Doubt that those Measures, or others of the same Nature, would long since have been enforced, had not the desired Succour been always at hand. In this View, the Experience of the past, though unfavourable, may sanction better Hopes as to the future. Once cut off the Resource of the surplus Profit, and the Administrators of the Indian Revenues will find themselves compelled to confine their Expenditure within the Limits of their proper Income.

In this Place it is right to mention, that the Government Plan, if carried into effect, would not, as appears to have been apprehended, involve the Augmentation of the present Indian Debt, nor impose any new Burthen on the Indian Resources.

It is proposed to invest the Proceeds of the Company's Property in the Purchase of the existing Indian Debt to the Amount necessary to secure the promised Dividend, and to place the East India Stockholders in the Room of the Creditors so purchased out. The Effect would be, not Increase, but Substitution. It is further intended to make this Substitution in a Manner peculiarly advantageous, namely, by redeeming in the first instance the remittable Debt, which is, you are aware, held by Conditions peculiarly unfavourable to India.

The proposed Annuity, therefore, is not by any means to be regarded as a fresh Burthen on the Indian Resources, for which India will receive no Financial Equivalent, but as an Out-going for which Compensation will be derived through the Medium of the Commercial Funds of the Company applicable to the Use of the Territory, and ultimately operating to the Reduction of the Indian Debt. This Plan, therefore, instead of impairing, will tend to improve the general Resources of our Eastern Empire.

With respect to the Competency of India to answer all the just Demands on her Exchequer no rational Doubt can exist. A Revenue which, notwithstanding Fluctuations, has during the last Twenty Years been steadily progressive, which, estimated according to the Parliamentary Rate of Exchange, has now reached the annual Amount of Twenty-two Millions, and which promises still to increase, a Territory almost unlimited in Extent, a Soil rich, fertile, and suited to every Variety of Produce, great Resources not yet explored, a People, generally speaking, patient, frugal, laborious, improving, and evincing both Desire and Capacity of further Improvement,—these I think are sufficient Pledges that our Treasury in the East will, under wise Management, be more than adequate to meet the current Expenditure.

These

These Anticipations may be deemed too sanguine ; but it must be observed, that in indulging them I am assuming that the System of Retrenchment now in operation throughout the different Departments of the Indian Administration shall be followed out with Wisdom and with Steadiness, and that the Resources of the Country shall be fostered both by active Encouragement and by judicious Forbearance on the Part of the governing Authorities. On these Suppositions, and considering, moreover, how greatly and even extraordinarily our Political Position in that Quarter has been improved, and our Empire consolidated, during the Currency of the present Charter, it is, I think, no extravagant Conjecture, that the Financial Condition of our Indian Dominions will gradually advance, and not with an Operation injurious to the People, but in perfect Harmony with the progressive Development of the National Powers and Capabilities. Such surely are the Results which we may hope to see realized in that Country under the Sway of a Government exclusively devoted to the Administration of its Territorial Concerns, and watched and seconded by a constituted Body, bound up in Interest with its Territorial Prosperity.

Having now given some Exposition of the Train of Thought by which the Government have been led to the Conclusions embodied in the first Two Propositions of the Paper of Hints, I proceed, secondly, to consider the particular Arrangement under which it is proposed to accomplish their Purpose.

The Third and Fourth Propositions in the Paper of Hints are as follow :

“ The Company's Assets, Commercial and Territorial, with all their Possessions and Rights, to be assigned to the Crown on behalf of the Territorial Government of India.

“ An Annuity of 630,000*l* to be granted to the Proprietors, to be paid in England by half-yearly Instalments, and to be chargeable upon the Territorial Revenues of India exclusively, and to form Part of the Territorial Debt of that Country, not to be redeemable before the 30th April 18— ; and then, at the Option of Parliament, by the Payment of 100*l*. for every 5*l*. 5*s*. of Annuity.

“ These Propositions,” it is observed in the Minute, “ appear to the Secret Committee of Correspondence to involve in Substance the Abolition of the East India Company, and the Surrender by them (for it cannot be contemplated to deprive them) of all their Rights, Privileges, and Property, for no other Compensation than the Chance of receiving, after every other Territorial Demand shall have been satisfied, a Dividend of 10½ per Cent. for a Term whose Length is not stated, and which, whatever the Term may be, there can be little Prospect that India, when deprived of the Advantage of the China Trade, will be able to pay.”

On that Part of this Passage which refers to the Security for the proposed Dividend I trust no long Discussion can be necessary. Though it be made the last Clause of the Committee's Objection, I notice it first ; because, if the Impressions of the Secret Committee should prevail with the Court of Proprietors, I regret to say that there can be little Hope of a satisfactory Settlement. But I have already expressed the Sentiments of the Government on the Subject, and I cannot doubt that the Justice of those Sentiments will, on Consideration, be generally admitted.

I must further remark, that the Secret Committee have materially misapprehended the Provisions of the Plan if they suppose it to be meant, that, when the Proprietors shall be placed on the Territory of India, their annual Dividends will be postponed to those of other Territorial Creditors. They will have the same plenary Demands on the State with all other Public Creditors, and will stand precisely upon equal Grounds. They will no more come last than they would come last in England if they had bought into the Consols. I have, indeed, before explained, that they would not constitute a new Body of Creditors, but only be substituted for Creditors already existing.

With regard to the Claims which the Secret Committee prefer on behalf of the Company, in whatever Manner they may be adjusted, yet for the Liquidation of them the Company surely cannot look beyond the Property and Revenues which they have hitherto administered. To the Continuance of a Monopoly of the China Trade, or to a Share in any Tax in which the Consumers of Tea may be subject, it will not be contended that they have any Claim on the Ground of Right.

No 11.
 Rt. Hon. C. Grant
 to
 The Chairman and
 Deputy Chairman,
 12th Feb. 1833.

As little can the Notion be entertained of casting them upon the general Revenues of England. But I have the Happiness of believing that the Security offered to them is open to no reasonable Impeachment; and, deeming it superfluous to dwell on this Topic, I shall for the present content myself with the Expression of my Regret that the Secret Committee should have admitted into their Minute the Declaration which I have quoted. I must however add, that in proportion as the Plan is advantageous to India, the Value of the Security will be enhanced. I will therefore, before I consider specifically the Points at issue, briefly advert to some of the Circumstances which recommend the Plan of the Government.

The Plan, as I have already explained, involves no Increase of Indian Debt, or of Charge on the Indian Resources, but simply the Substitution of one Set of Public Creditors for another, and that in a Manner peculiarly advantageous to India, by the Purchase, in the first instance, of the remittable Debt.

While, therefore, with regard to England, it involves no Expence, its Financial Advantages with respect to India are more than negative. It removes the Pressure of a Liability which it might be difficult to find another Opportunity of so conveniently discharging. It secures to the Proprietors of East India Stock their Dividend. It not only preserves them in a separate Character, thus continuing the Connexion between the Directors and the Constituency by whom they are elected, but it knits that Connexion more closely. It identifies their Interests with those of India by giving them a direct and immediate Money Interest in its good Government, and thus qualifies them, in a decidedly greater Degree than hitherto, for the Duties assigned to them in the System of Indian Administration. It relieves, at the same Time, the Directors from many Avocations which can scarcely fail to withdraw their Attention from the Duties which belong to them as the Rulers of a vast Empire, and thus, while it is directly beneficial to the Indian Finances, it affords new and stronger Securities for that good Government on which the Prosperity of the Finances, not less than of all the other Interests of India, must mainly depend.

Reverting to the general Scope of the Passage of the Minute under consideration, I have to observe, that the Propositions objected to cannot, in fairness, be said to involve the Abolition of the East India Company. On the contrary, the Company would stand on as firm a Basis as ever; the Proprietors receiving the same Income as heretofore, their Representatives still holding their Place in the Government of our Eastern Empire, and their Privilege of trading as a Joint Stock Company restricted, only because the Exercise of it appears to be inconsistent with the Obligations incident to the Acceptance of Political Power.

In so far as concerns the Property belonging to the Company in their Commercial Capacity, the proposed Arrangement may, indeed, unobjectionably be said to involve a Surrender, but it involves also an Equivalent, or what is so deemed.

The Sufficiency of the Equivalent is a distinct Question, to be considered as we proceed. If it be not insufficient, as I am persuaded it is not, there are assuredly abundant Reasons to recommend the Plan; and whether it be said to involve Surrender and Compensation, or, conversely, Tender and Condition (for either Expression is equally just), it is not to be forgotten that the proposed Arrangement is not compulsory. To accept or reject it rests with the East India Company.

Strongly convinced that it will be for the Advantage of the Company to accept it, His Majesty's Government cannot expect or wish that they should do so except under a similar Persuasion. On the one hand, His Majesty's Ministers, sincerely desirous of retaining the Agency of the Company in the Political Government of India, are not the less anxious to see full Justice done to all their Claims, on the other hand, they are bound to watch with a jealous Care over the general Interests of the Empire.

In the Plan proposed they have endeavoured to reconcile these several Objects, and advancing, as I shall now do, to the more detailed Consideration of the Two Particulars already specified,—the Surrender required, and the Compensation tendered,—I shall, I trust, be able to satisfy you that their Endeavour has not been unsuccessful.

First,—

First,—Let us shortly consider what it is that the Company is called upon to relinquish.

As already intimated, their China Monopoly (I may use the Word without any Strictness of Definition) ceases by the mere Operation of the Law at the Time fixed by the Act of 1813.

Here, at least, nothing is surrendered.

The Right of British Subjects to trade with India on an entire Equality with the Company cannot be denied. It cannot be pretended that the special Privileges and Property belonging to the Company in that Country would operate to the Exclusion of their Countrymen from any essential Facility of Admission or Trade.

The Dominion of the British Crown, securing equal Protection for all Classes of British Subjects throughout Hindostan, has superseded the Use and altered the Character of those Factories and Settlements which may have been necessary to Commercial Dealings in former Times.

Here, again, nothing is surrendered.

The Political Authority which the Company is to retain must be held as the pure Gift of the British Parliament, a Trust confided to a particular Body of British Subjects for the Benefit of the Indian People, and for the Good of the British Empire in general.

That which may at the Pleasure of the State be withdrawn cannot, in any just Sense, be said to be surrendered. Apart from the Exercise of Political Functions, the Relinquishment or Limitation of their Trade, on the Footing of free Competition, is indeed entirely optional with the Company, but their Trade, conducted on such a Footing, cannot, in the Judgment of His Majesty's Government, be expected to be profitable, and, finally, I must state with all Plainness, that the Interests belonging to the Company in that Property, which they appear to regard as exclusively commercial, are involved in a Multiplicity of Doubts and Entanglements, from which an Escape seems to be next to impossible, except through the Operation of some such comprehensive Scheme as that which His Majesty's Ministers propose.

The Basis on which the Arrangement rests is the Principle of a Compromise between the Two Branches of the Indian Concern, the Commercial and the Territorial, meaning to denote by the former Term the Interests permanently belonging to the Company as a Commercial Body, and by the latter those National Interests which they have administered as the Organs of the Political Government of our Indian Empire, with the Obligations attaching to each Class of Interests respectively. The Questions at issue between the Two Branches, the latter of which it is especially the Duty of His Majesty's Government to represent in the present Discussion, are, I need not say, long and intricate, consisting of reciprocal Claims, some really questionable, and nearly all in some Degree or other disputed. These Differences could be brought to a Termination only by One of Two Courses, the one amicable, the other contentious; either by an amicable Compromise, or by an actual and authorized Investigation, searchingly applied to each Head of an immense and complicated Mass of Details, with a view to an exact and final Apportionment.

Such an Investigation, however successfully we suppose it to be conducted, would be destructive of those paramount Objects which, for the Good of India and of England, the Government Arrangement contemplates. The Intention being that the Company shall be continued in their Political Capacity, and that they shall commence the Exercise of their resumed Functions in the utmost possible State of Efficiency, it would obviously be incompatible with that End that they should instantly be engaged in a sort of Self-litigation, to be prosecuted by means of a complicated, vexatious, and scarcely terminable Inquiry.

Even without reference, however, to the proposed Arrangement, it may easily be shown that an Investigation of this Nature would be productive of the most serious Inconvenience to the Company themselves.

According to the Views which have at different Times been stated on the Part of the Company, there would, indeed, be little Necessity for any Investigation at all. In conformity with those Views, the Secret Committee have recorded their Sentiments in the following Passage :

“With every Respect for His Majesty's Ministers, the Committee unanimously decline to recommend the before-mentioned Proposals to the Court of Directors, to be offered by them for the Acceptance of the Court of Proprietors ;

No. 11.
 Rt. Hon. C. Grant
 to
 The Chairman and
 Deputy Chairman,
 12th Feb. 1833.

prietors; and beg leave to record their Opinion, that no Proposition whatever for continuing the Government of India in the Hands of the Company, when deprived of the exclusive Trade with China, can be acceptable to the Company, unless the Proprietors be fully secured in the regular Payment, half-yearly, of their Dividend of Ten and a Half per Cent. per Annum, and in the Right, whenever paid off, to such an Amount of Principal as, at the present Price of Consols, would produce that Rate of Dividend. The Committee submit, that this is the least to which the Company can be considered entitled, when it is remembered that they have Property amply sufficient to provide an Investment in Consols equal to the required Dividend; such Property consisting of Commercial Assets, of pecuniary Claims of large Amount in India, and of Possession of Rights in that Country of great Value, their Title to which has never been disputed."

Supposing this Statement to be unimpeachable, and supposing all that is here enumerated to be the clear and unquestioned Property of the Company, unaffected by any Liability to any other Party, the Idea of a compromise would, of course, be inadmissible. They would then be justified in pressing their Claim to the uttermost.

But this Concession can hardly be expected.

The Property claimed as commercial by the Company is well known to be exposed to many Doubts and Questions, both as to the Amount and the Nature of its component Parts. It is further supposed to be subject to heavy Liabilities.

My only Object at present is to prove that Compromise is the far preferable Mode of proceeding. I am not, therefore, called to give an Opinion on the Disputes between the Parties, and still less on the Responsibilities of the Commercial Capital.

If it can be shown, that, in the Opinion of very competent Authorities, Doubts of the gravest kind attach to the Subjects of Altercation, and that it is questioned by such Authorities whether the most serious Liabilities do not affect that Property which the Company assume to be incontrovertibly their own, my Purpose will have been gained; for it will then appear that Adjudication cannot be attained, except through the Medium of a minute and detailed Inquiry. But in whatever Mode such an Inquiry may be conducted, whether by a Parliamentary Commission, or by Arbitration, or before a legal Tribunal, or in any other imaginable Form, the very Institution of it must give a severe Shock to the Credit of the Company.

That Blow once struck, the Sequel will be marked by increasing Mischief. Such Inquiries, it is well known, are usually protracted far beyond the estimated Time. In the given Case the Examination must extend back through the Transactions of nearly a Century, and must apply to Property, both in India, in England, and afloat, and, as to a great Portion of it, placed under very peculiar Circumstances. In the Interim the Charter expires; the China Monopoly is at an end, and in what Situation, it may be asked, are the East India Stockholders? From what Funds are the Dividends to be paid? In what Manner are the Commercial Operations of the Company, even those already in progress, to be carried forward?

Let it be supposed (what certainly cannot be assumed as Matter of course) that the final Issue, at some Period which it is impossible to anticipate, shall assign to the Company all that they claim, will it be contended that even such an Event would, in the slightest Degree, compensate for the Injury which they must in the meantime have sustained?

It is, however, incumbent on me to advert to the Grounds on which I have come to the Conclusion, that the Question between the Commerce and the Territory really involves the Difficulties supposed.

The Commercial Property claimed by the Company, exclusively of Property in India, may be thus stated:

The Commercial Capital, as computed by the Company, on the 1st May 1829	-	-	-	£21,102,182
+ Reimbursements of Wars previous to 1765	-	£3,616,000	.	.
Less, Home Bond Debt at that Time outstanding		1,616,000	.	.
				<u>2,000,000</u>
				<u>£23,102,182</u>

The Commercial Capital, computed at 21,102,182*l.* on the 1st May 1829, is thus composed :

Cash at Home and Abroad, and Property in the Public Funds	£2,186,129
Goods and Merchandize at Home and Abroad	7,383,937
Property afloat, and Freight thereon	3,531,897
Debts due to the Company at Home and Abroad for Goods sold and Investments	2,227,195
Buildings and dead Stock	1,467,967
East India Annuities	1,207,560
Due from Territory	4,631,906
	<hr/>
	22,636,585
Deduct Debts	1,534,403
	<hr/>
	<u>£21,102,182</u>

No. 11.

Rt. Hon C. Grant
to
The Chairman and
Deputy Chairman,
12th Feb 1833

It would be improper in me to assert, nor do I mean even to insinuate, that under most of these Heads an impartial Arbitrator would not adjudge to the Company that for which they take credit, but unquestionably no Arbitration could dispose of the Matter, without having first considered various Deductions which, on behalf of the Territory, might be claimed, I do not say justly, but with sufficient Reason to warrant the Demand.

Thus, for example, of the Sum stated to be due to Commerce from Territory, amounting to 4,631,906*l.*, a large Amount is open to Question, independently of the Surplus of Commercial Profits, which is liable to Appropriation under the 53d of George III

Thus also it has long been, as you well know, a Matter of Dispute whether the Home Bond Debt (amounting to 3,796,000*l.*) is chargeable to the Territorial or the Commercial Branch. On whichever of those Branches that Debt shall be determined ultimately to fall, it must, at all events, be paid in the first instance by the Commerce, and although it is probable that the Holders of the Bonds would be averse to being paid off, yet if it should be deemed expedient to discharge the Whole or any Part of their Debt, so much of the Commercial Funds as may be necessary must, of course, be applied to that Purpose

The Value of the Property which might be considered clearly to belong to the Company would also give rise to various Questions, and more especially the Rights and Privileges claimed by the Company in India, most of which have been in abeyance for a Period of nearly Seventy Years, would certainly be found involved in inextricable Doubts, both as to Amount and as to Title.

It would indeed be difficult, if not impossible, to come to any Conclusion as to any Part of the Property under Inquiry (supposing that there is no Compromise) without opening all the Questions which have been raised in regard to the Commercial Profits of the Company, and the Origin of their Debts and Assets; Questions which, as you know, comprehend the very Origin of our Territorial Acquisitions in India, and require for their Solution a Variety of Information now probably no longer to be attained.

A Moment's Reflection on the Particulars embraced by each of the several Heads above specified will, I conceive, satisfy every reasonable Mind of the Necessity of admitting the Principle of a Compromise for which I am contending. But supposing that all these Difficulties were overcome, supposing all the Facts as stated on behalf of the Company to be established, and all the Items exhibited in their Accounts to be admitted, there remain grave and perplexing Questions of Law which embrace the whole Extent of the Company's Claims, and of which the Consideration cannot be neglected or evaded.

• These I proceed to explain

The Commercial Assets of the Company, included in the Account of Stock by Computation in 1794, although not separately and distinctly exhibited, may, I presume, be stated to have been under Eight Millions Sterling.

The Commercial Assets on 1st May 1814 were computed by the Company to exceed Nineteen Millions. In that Period, therefore, that is under the Charter Act passed in the Year 1793, the Property in question was increased by a Sum of more than Eleven Millions.

We need not argue on the Supposition that this Increase arose out of an Application of the Territorial Funds in the Hands of the Company to their

No. 11.
 Rt. Hon. C. Grant
 to
 The Chairman and
 Deputy Chairman,
 12th Feb. 1833.

Commercial Occasions. The Representations which have been made on that Point would, indeed, have to be very fully and carefully considered if we were driven to a Contest between the Two Branches; and they have not been overlooked by His Majesty's Government in considering the Expediency of a Compromise. But the Liabilities to which I am now adverting attach to the Company, on the favourable Assumption that the whole of the Increase in question may be resolved into an Accumulation of so much of the Commercial Profits received during the Time. The Question is, whether any Part of the Commercial Profits could legally be thus applied.

It is admitted on all Hands, that by the Charter Act now existing no similar Application of the Commercial Profits could legally take place. But it is urged, that the Act of 1793 is no less peremptory than that of 1813 in setting apart the surplus Profits of Commerce for Territorial Purposes; and good Opinions hold it to be seriously questionable, whether, at least, at the Expiration of the Act of 1793, the Company were not bound to replace to the Credit of the Territory all that Accession to their Capital which had been formed out of the intermediate Profits of their Commerce, and whether that Obligation on them does not remain in force up to the present Moment.

The Opinions to which I have alluded I must be distinctly understood neither to impugn nor to support. Others of equal Weight may perhaps be cited in opposition to them. But the very Circumstance, that a Question so seriously affecting a Claim founded on a Matter of Account divides Authorities entitled to Respect, would form a strong Reason why the Parties concerned should resort to a Compromise, rather than contend for Rights the mere Discussion of which must occasion great Injury both to themselves and to the Public.

The Liability to which I have now referred, supposing it really to attach to the Commercial Assets, so called, of the Company, would deeply affect the Value of their Property. A Doubt, however, has been raised, and is indeed sufficiently familiar to the Company themselves, whether that Property be not liable to another Demand which would be absolutely overwhelming.

The Question which I have in view is this,—whether the whole of the Company's Commercial Property be not legally responsible for those Debts and Engagements which have been contracted in the Company's Name for Political and Territorial Purposes, and whether it will not continue so responsible, even although the Company should be wholly deprived of their Political Powers and Functions

This Question branches into a Variety of Points, which I forbear from enumerating, but which I can, on good Authority, state to be entitled to the most serious Consideration, and which, if pressed adversely, cannot fail to involve any Attempt to adjust the Company's Affairs in the utmost Embarrassment. I have felt no Difficulty in adverting to this Subject, because, as I have before intimated, it is in its general Nature not new to the Company.

Let it be observed, however, that I consider the Question referred to as likely to arise only in the event of an Adjustment being attempted on the Ground of strict Right. I will hereafter endeavour to show, that neither this nor the former Question ought to embarrass the Legislature in sanctioning an Adjustment on the Basis of the Compromise suggested by His Majesty's Government.

It will perhaps be said, that whatever may be the strictly legal Estimate of the mutual Debts and Demands of the Commerce and the Territory, Parliament may and must deal with this contested Case on enlarged Principles of Justice and Policy.

That such is both the Right and Duty of Parliament His Majesty's Ministers are convinced, and it is precisely on this Persuasion that they found their Hope of obtaining from Parliament an Approbation of the Plan which it is their Intention to recommend. It will presently, I trust, appear, that in its essential Features that Arrangement is not without a Sanction even from past Parliamentary Proceedings. Meanwhile I need scarcely remark, that Parliament can legislate on no partial View of Interests in this complicated Case, and must always lean to the Rule of confirming legal Rights where no clear Cause is shown for an Exception.

From the Tenor of some of the previous Observations it might perhaps be argued, that the Claims which the Government least consult, in proposing a
 Compromise,

Compromise, are those on the Part of the Territory; but the Truth is, that in the Judgment of the Government the Concerns of the Territory, no less than those of the Commercial Department, have a deep Interest in a compromised Settlement.

No Share which the Territory might ultimately gain of the Company's Assets alleged to be commercial could compensate for the Evils of an Inquiry of indefinite Extent, Duration, and Complexity. During the Process of that Inquiry the contested Property would be in the Hands of the adverse Party, and a good deal of Difficulty might occur in furnishing the Funds necessary for the current Home Expenditure.

There are other Considerations, however, beyond these. The most important Object for the Territory is, that it should, as soon as possible, be placed under a good and settled System of Government. Whether the Plan of His Majesty's Ministers sufficiently provides for that Object is a Question of separate Consideration, but assuming for the present this to be the Case, the Plan cannot too speedily be carried into effect, not to mention what has already been said, that if the Company, as a Commercial Body, should be placed in immediate Litigation with the Territorial Interest, the Continuance of their Political Functions, which is one material Part of the Plan, would be rendered quite impossible.

Of the Public Creditors in India, who form an important Branch of the Territorial Interests, I must observe that their Rights, (I speak not now of the Claims in dispute between the Commerce and the Territory, but of their Rights as National Creditors of India,) though undoubtedly standing on a firm Foundation of Justice and Expediency, have never yet been recognized by the Legislature, except in a temporary point of view. Their Situation is, in some respects, anomalous, for they have grown up under an anomalous System, and might subject them, if it were tried by technical Rules of Law, to Questions against which they ought to be secured. If it be said here, as in the former Instances, that the Rights of this Class of Men should be dealt with, not on the Ground of legal Exactness, but of a liberal Equity, I willingly, as before, accede to the Opinion, and it is precisely because I do so that I desire to release the Interests of these, as of all other Parties, from the Embarrassments of extreme Claims and Pretensions, and to provide for them on the common Basis of a fair and rational Compromise, sanctioned and established by the Authority of Parliament.

It cannot be expected that the several Parties concerned should relinquish their Claims without adequate Consideration

On the other hand, the Determination to maintain or resist them with unqualified Rigour would involve Consequences, the very Exemption from which is more than an Equivalent for even liberal Concession

The Expediency of acting on the Principle of a compromised Settlement will not probably be longer contested, and I shall now proceed to consider whether the Terms prescribed by the Plan of Ministers be fit and just.

The Difficulty of settling the Conditions of the Compromise between the Commercial and Territorial Interests arises chiefly from the Confusion of Functions which has hitherto, and perhaps of necessity, existed in the System of the Company. To some Extent the same Difficulty has always been felt, and has been dealt with, for even during the Pendency of the System, and while the Two Departments have continued in avowed Connexion, Parliament has found it necessary to fix a Limit between the Interests belonging to them respectively.

The Object now is to discover some practical Rule of Demarcation, some Principle, the Operation of which may be expected to satisfy both Parties, and such a Principle is not to be sought in abstract or speculative Considerations, but in Results of Experience, so far as these afford any Precedent applicable to the Case.

It appears to the Government, that by observing what has hitherto been the Feeling and Understanding as to the Relations that ought to subsist between the Two Classes of Interests in question, what Degree of beneficial Share in the common Concern has through a long Course of Years been allotted to each, and apparently with the Approbation of all Parties, an adequate Guide or Standard will be obtained for the Terms of any prospective Arrangement.

No 11.
 Rt. Hon C. Grant
 to
 The Chairman and
 Deputy Chairman,
 12th Feb. 1833.

The Difficulty, as I have observed, has already been dealt with by the Legislature, though under Circumstances, it must be owned, considerably different from those under which it now presents itself.

The Charter Acts of 1793 and 1813 carefully regulated the Order in which the Company, as a Commercial Body, that is, the Proprietors of Stock on the one hand and the Territory on the other, in respect of its Interest to relieve itself from Debt, might make use of the Company's Commercial Profits, and the Provisions laid down for this Purpose by those Two Acts, though not precisely identical, were nevertheless conformable to the same general Rule.

Both Acts directed, that after providing for certain urgent or current Payments, all the net Proceeds of the Company's Sales at Home, and the Duties and Allowances arising to them by private Trade, and all their other Profits in Great Britain, should be applied in Payment of the Dividend to the Proprietors. Both Acts afterwards directed the Application of the Profits to the Payment of the Debt in India until such Debt should have been reduced to a certain specified Amount; but that when that Debt was thus reduced, and the Home Bond Debt was also reduced to a certain Amount, the surplus Profits (and by the later Act the surplus Revenues also) should be applied to the Formation of a Guarantee Fund of 12,000,000*l*.

If the Debts, however, should afterwards exceed the specified Amount, the Appropriations were again to take place. The Limit assigned to the Indian Debt by the Act of 1793 was that of Two Millions Sterling; by that of 1813, Ten Millions Sterling, and it is hardly necessary to say that the present Debt very greatly exceeds the latter Amount.

I do not state the Provisions of these Clauses with minute Exactness, and some of them I wholly pass by, as not in the least affecting my immediate Argument. The Acts differ in some Particulars from each other, but in main Points, so far as respects the present Question, they coincide; and the Principles common to both may thus be said to have been established by Parliamentary Sanction, by general Acquiescence, and by the Experience of Forty Years.

I should however mention, that both Acts provide for the Reduction of the Home Bond Debt, and the Act of 1813 directs its Reduction indifferently with that of the Territorial Debt, at the Option of the Directors, with the Approbation of the Board. I must repeat, that if the proposed Arrangement takes effect, the Government must, out of the Commercial Funds of the Company in their Hands, make adequate Provision for the Home Bond Debt, in the event of its being expedient or requisite to discharge the whole or any part of it. This I wish should be always understood, although, for the sake of Brevity, I do not always specify the Home Bond Debt in Words when discussing of the Company's Obligations; and although, on account of the greater Importance of the Interests more immediately connected with Territory, I treat the Question before us generally as a Question between the Proprietors on the one hand and the Territorial Interest on the other.

Whether the Home Bond Debt ought in strictness to be considered as Territorial or Commercial, it is, on this Plan, quite unnecessary to determine.

It is true that during the Subsistence of these Acts the Commercial and Territorial Functions of the Company were, for many Purposes, very intimately blended together, and that the Precedent which they furnish cannot, without Modification, be adapted to the present Conjuncture.

The Connexion between Commerce and Territory was then to be continued; it is now to be dissolved. The Object then was to effect a Distribution of Profits; it is now in the Nature of a Division of Capital. Still a general Conformity to the Principle of those Acts is by no means impracticable.

It is indeed to be recollected, that the Principle in question has already been maintained under an important Change of Circumstances. The Act of 1813 implicitly, though with circumstantial Variations, followed the preceding Act. Under the Act of 1793, however, the Company retained in Substance the Monopoly of the Indian Trade. Enjoying, then, the whole Trade of the Country, which they at the same Time governed, it might have been natural to suppose, and in fact it was at that Period supposed, and supposed in some respects correctly, that their Territorial Power ministered to the Advancement of their Commerce, and it might therefore seem but a fair Return that the surplus Profits of the Commerce should contribute to the Well-being of the Territory;

Territory; but the Act of 1813 extinguished the exclusive Privileges of the Company in India. It left them the Monopoly of the China Trade only; a Trade having no natural Connexion with the Territorial Control of India, and which, at all events, could not derive from the Indian Functions or Measures of the Company the same Degree of Assistance with that which had been afforded to the exclusive Trade granted by the former Act. Still we find the former Principle of Appropriation continued. The Dividend is first secured; and then all the Commercial Receipts, with the Reservation above stated as to the Bond Debt, are directed to flow into the Territorial Exchequer until a certain Measure of Fulness is attained.

It is not my Intention, nor do I conceive it of the least Importance, to inquire into the particular Views of those at whose Recommendation, and under whose Guidance, the Legislature passed the Two Acts in question, and especially the Appropriation Clauses; but I find in those Clauses a Rule or Principle established, which has now been actually, and without Objection, in force during Two entire Terms of the Company's Trade and Sovereignty. Thus it is not only proved that Parliament has deemed itself morally as well as constitutionally competent to legislate on this Subject, but a Practice has, under its Authority, been established during Forty Years. To that Practice all subsisting Interests have conformed, or under it they have grown up, and if the Act of 1813 were now to be re-enacted for another Term of Twenty Years, or for a much longer Term, it cannot be thought that any of the Parties concerned would object, indeed there is no Doubt that all would acquiesce.

The Principle so established by the Two Acts in question may be thus stated, that the Profit accruing from the Company's Commerce should, in the first instance, be employed in securing the regular Payment of the Dividends to the Proprietors of Stock, and that it should then be applied (speaking generally) for the Benefit of the Territory, such last mentioned Application to be suspended only so long as the Burthen of the Debt on the Territory continues below a certain specified Amount.

The Position in which the Acts thus place the Proprietors is very observable. The Proprietors, being in fact the Company, are, in one Sense, undoubtedly Debtors to those who have Claims on the Company, but in another point of view they may be considered as Creditors on the common Concern; and it is rather in this light that they seem to be regarded by the Appropriation Clauses.

But the Claims of the Proprietors being provided for, the next Use of the Commercial Funds to an indefinite Amount is given to the Territory for its own Benefit, due Regard being had to the Claims of the Home Bond Creditors. I here use the Expression "the Benefit of the Territory," because the Reduction of Debt must always be presumed to be beneficial to the Territory, though to the Creditors who are paid off it may, in many Cases, be very inconvenient.

I am aware, and indeed have already stated, that by both Acts some peculiar Payments are directed to be made out of the Profits, in preference even to the Dividend. These are Payments, however, essential to the Maintenance of the System, and without which the Wheels of Government would come to an abrupt Stand. It is on the same Ground that in the Appropriation of the Territorial Revenues certain Payments of prime Necessity,—those, for example, on account of the Military Expenditure, are preferred to the Payment of the Interest of the Debt. The general Rule is not affected by such Exceptions.

I am aware also that in both Acts there are Provisions by which, after many intermediate Appropriations, and after a large Reduction of Debt, the Proprietors are assured of sharing (very scantily indeed) in the ultimate Residue of Profits. There never has been any Approach to the Realization of the Hope thus held out. The Enactment has proved a dead Letter, and the Silence of all Parties respecting it during many past Years proves that all Notion of the promised Benefit, if ever entertained, has long since been abandoned.

It is on the whole the Opinion of the Government, that, with Allowance for the Change of Circumstances, it will be both just and expedient that the pecuniary Interests of the Proprietors and the Territory should be maintained

No 11.
 Rt Hon. C Grant
 to
 The Chairman and
 Deputy Chairman,
 12th Feb. 1833.

in that relative Position towards each other in which they have so long continued under the express Authority of Parliament, and that they should be so maintained by the same Authority. They conceive that sufficient Justice will be done to the Company, commercially considered, by continuing to them the Receipt of their Dividend, and no more; and sufficient Justice to the Territory, by calling on it to relinquish all Claim to so much of the Commercial Property as will be required to form a Fund for the Payment of the Dividend, on Condition of receiving all the rest of that Property to its own Use,—the Government, on behalf of the Territory, taking upon itself, with the Commercial Property made over to it under the Arrangement, all the Obligations incident to that Property in the Hands of the Company, among which Obligations the Home Bond Debt is of course included.

Such is the Principle which essentially regulates the Terms of the Compromise proposed by the Government, and they believe that it will be for the Advantage of all Parties to accede to those Terms.

On the one hand, the Proprietors of East India Stock can offer no just Objection to the Plan; they are assured in the Receipt of all that during the last Forty Years they have been satisfied to receive, of all that they have habitually regarded as the Amount of their pecuniary Interest in the Concern, of all that they could fairly have expected, or that they would, in fact, have expected to be secured to them if the present Charter Act were to be renewed for Forty Years, or for a Century.

It may be said, however, that the Situation of the Proprietors is deteriorated; inasmuch as their future Receipts are to depend only on the Security of the Indian Revenue. The Secret Committee, as has already appeared, expect that the Indian Revenue will be permanently deficient; and they moreover think that the present Amount of Dividend ought to be secured to the Proprietors in the National Stock of this Country, the Commercial Capital of the Company being, as they allege, quite equal to purchase a Sufficiency of such Stock.

To the last Suggestion there are several Objections; but it may suffice to observe, that it could not be acted upon without allowing to the Company all, or nearly all, that they claim as their Commercial Capital, and thus, in fact, conceding to them at once, and without Investigation, all Points at issue between the Commerce and the Territory.

That Suggestion, therefore, must be dismissed from Contemplation. All that seems essential is to show that the Situation of the Proprietors, so far from being injured by their Acceptance of the new Arrangement, will be materially improved. For let it be recollected that the Arrangement is offered to them, not as an Admission of all the Claims and Pretensions which may be put forward on their Behalf, but professedly on the Footing of Compromise.

In the first place, I must once more declare the Conviction of His Majesty's Ministers, founded on Grounds which, having already stated them, I need not recapitulate, that the Territory of India is essentially solvent; that the Indian Resources will, under proper Management, be capable of answering every fair Demand on them, and that in order to call them forth into full Efficiency, one of the principal Means is to release them from the seductive and hurtful Aid of the Profits of a Foreign Trade, carried on by those who administer them. His Majesty's Ministers are not only impressed with this Persuasion, but they believe that, if the Arrangements to be proposed by them were framed on the Assumption that there must always, as a Matter of course, be a Deficiency in the Indian Revenues, the very Effect of the Arrangement would be to perpetuate that Deficiency.

In the second place, let it be considered what is the present Position of the Proprietors. Their Security rests mainly on the Profits of the China Trade—a Trade the very Existence of which the Company state to be exposed to many Dangers, and which no Man will affirm to afford an absolutely certain Resource, together with a reversionary Prospect of Help from the Surplus of the Indian Revenues; which Surplus, according to the Representations of the Secret Committee, will never exist, and which is at least not likely to be realized under a System that renders the Commerce and Territory mutually dependent. Besides this, the double Security thus given to the Proprietors, whatever its Value in other respects, is ensured to them only during a Term

of

of Years, on the Expiration of which, a Period now just at hand, their Interests are left without any Parliamentary Protection, and must stand exposed to those very Doubts, Questions, and Embarrassments from which the proposed Arrangement is tendered to them as an Escape.

The Acts of 1793 and 1813 looked forward, in some Degree, to the unprotected Situation in which the Proprietors would be placed on the Expiration of their Charter. They even endeavoured to provide a Resource for the Emergency, and what was that Resource? The Guarantee Fund of Twelve Millions, already mentioned, no Approach to the Formation of which has ever been made. Even that Guarantee Fund, however, could in no Case be formed unless the Indian and Home Bond Debt were reduced to a certain specified Amount. The intended Arrangement actually gives to the Proprietors an Income equivalent to that which the Guarantee Fund was designed to secure, and gives it, notwithstanding the Existence of a largely increased Debt. This surely is a Boon to the Proprietors, and, receiving it, they cannot reasonably complain that a liberal Appropriation is next made for the Benefit of the Territorial Creditors, or of that Territory on which the Debts of those Creditors are charged.

For these Reasons I am clearly of opinion that the Proprietors would be benefited by acceding to the projected Arrangement. If, however, any Doubt should still remain as to the Value of the Annuity which it is proposed to secure to them on the Territory of India, that Doubt will be dispelled by an Appeal to the Prices at which the Promissory Notes of the Government are actually sold in the Market. If, again, it be suspected that those Prices are enhanced in consequence of the additional Value given to the Notes by a Reliance on the Company's Commercial Assets, then this Circumstance must not be overlooked in estimating the actual Interest which the Proprietors possess in those Assets, and in lieu of which it is now proposed to assign to them a fixed Dividend.

There is another Objection which may perhaps be urged on the Part of the Proprietors. It may be said, that whereas the Charter Acts reserved to them a Chance, however distant and minute, of an ultimate Reversion of Profit, the proposed Plan cuts off that Chance, without holding out to them any Equivalent for its Loss.

I have before remarked on the extreme Smallness of the ultimate Chance so reserved, it is too remote and visionary to be taken into the Account, but I must now further observe, that if the Plan of Ministers holds out no Equivalent for the Loss of that Chance, this is not the Fault of the Plan, but of the actual State of the Company's Assets and Debts. There is no Room, therefore, to speak of a Reversion, or to complain that no Compensation is to be made for the Loss of it.

These Considerations will, I trust, satisfy the Proprietors that their Interests are duly consulted in the Plan recommended by His Majesty's Ministers.

I must however add, in reference to this Subject, that while the Government deeply feel the Obligation of providing for every fair and just Claim that can be preferred on behalf of the Proprietors, it is from other and higher Considerations that they are led to attach peculiar Value to that Part of their Plan which places the Proprietors on Indian Security. The Plan allots to the Proprietary Body important Powers and Functions in the Administration of Indian Affairs; and in order to ensure their properly exercising such Powers and Functions, His Majesty's Ministers deem it essential that they shall be linked and bound, in point of Interest, to the Country which they are to assist in governing. The Measure, therefore, of connecting them immediately with the Territory of India, is evidently not an incidental or immaterial but a vital Condition of the Arrangement, and in proportion as this Condition is dispensed with the Advantages of the Arrangement are sacrificed. If the Proprietors are to look to England rather than to India for the Security of their Dividend, their Interest in the good Government of India, and consequently their Fitness as one of the principal Organs of Indian Government, will in the same Degree be impaired; and if, according to the Suggestion of the Secret Committee, they are at once to be placed on the National Stock of this Country, it is not easy to see what greater Propriety there will be in assigning a Share in the Administration of the Indian Empire to them than to any other Body of our National Stockholders.

No 11.

Rt. Hon. C. Grant
to
the Chairman and
Deputy Chairman,
12th Feb. 1833

To return, however, from this important Topic to the Point more directly before me, I must repeat, and I trust I have proved, that all due Provision is made in the Plan of Ministers for the proper Interests of the Proprietors, considered as Holders of Stock, and without reference to the Political Powers with which they are to be invested.

But if the Proprietors ought to be content, so also, on the other hand, ought the Territorial Interests.

I have, in a former Page, shown that the Plan will lay no new Burthen on the Territory, to which, indeed, its Effect will be in some respects advantageous. The Territory is to be released from the contingent Liability which the present Act imposes on it, of contributing, in certain Events, to the Funds of the Company and to the National Exchequer. It cannot in future expect Relief from Commercial Profits, but that Relief was insured to it only during the Pendency of a Statute now expiring; and it gains, subject to the securing of the Dividend, and the providing (as explained) for the Home Bond Debt, all the Commercial Capital of the Company for its own Use, to be applied either in the Discharge of Debt, or in any other Mode that may appear more immediately beneficial. It sacrifices (this must attach to any Compromise) a Part of its own Claims; but it is released, on the other hand, from counter Claims of the Company, amounting to several Millions.

The Disputes respecting the Items of the Commercial Property are closed.

The Question regarding the Appropriation of Profits between 1793 and 1813 is set at rest.

With regard to the Territorial Creditors, they obtain specific Advantages. They obtain, for the first Time, a National Recognition of their Lien on the Indian Territory, they obtain a Release from all Doubts and Difficulties which, either in Law or in Equity, might have been raised as to the Nature of their Rights in a technical point of view.

All the Property of which the Commercial Branch surrenders the Possession, subject to the Reservations already mentioned, confirms the Obligation which the Territorial Creditor holds.

This Security, under the existing Acts, is confined to a temporary Claim on the Territorial Revenue and Commercial Profit. It will, under the new Act, consist of the General Funds and Revenues of the Indian Government, aided and augmented by the surplus Assets of the Company at Home, and by all their Commercial Property in India, which, whatever be its Amount, will merge into the general Funds and Revenues of the Indian Empire.

Besides all this, the Interest of the Territorial Creditor, when viewed on a great Scale, must be considered as identified with that of the Territory, which is his principal Security, and must be promoted by whatever promotes the Territorial Prosperity.

On the whole, I indulge the Hope that the Observations into which I have now, perhaps at too great Length, entered, will not only show the Necessity of effecting the desired Settlement of the Company's Affairs by a Compromise, but will prove that the Terms of the Compromise proposed by His Majesty's Government are such as ought to satisfy the Feelings and Expectations of all Parties.

In the Exposition which I have given you I am aware that I have stated the Case of Government (if I may so term it) more fully than is usual in public Communications. It appeared to His Majesty's Ministers that, under all the Circumstances of the present Occasion, an unreserved Disclosure of their Views and Opinions, to whatever partial Inconvenience it might expose them, was due to the Subject itself, to this Country, to India, and to those to whom the present Observations are addressed; and I cannot doubt that the Court of Directors will apply themselves to the Discussion in a corresponding Spirit of Candour and Courtesy.

The Paper of Hints which I had the Honour of transmitting to you contains Matter relating to several Points, the Consideration of which the Secret Committee have with great Propriety thought it advisable to defer till the Basis of the new System shall have been established. On those Points it may perhaps be hereafter expedient that I should address you; but in this Particular I shall think it my Duty to be guided by Circumstances. In the present Letter I have confined myself to the great and leading Topics announced at the Commencement of these Pages; Topics, the Consideration of which

which must be admitted to be most immediately if not most deeply important; and even in treating these I have found it necessary to abstain from many Observations which suggested themselves as worthy of Attention.

Whatever may be the Decision of the Company, I must repeat, that it is not the Intention of the Government to recommend to Parliament the Renewal of the Company's exclusive Privilege of Trade with China.

It is the Wish of the Government to be enabled to recommend to Parliament the Continuance in the Company of the Political Administration of India, but they can be so enabled only by the Company's Acceptance of the Terms of the proposed Compromise. His Majesty's Government are not without Hope that the Secret Committee will, on further Deliberation, and after giving due Attention to the Developments contained in this Letter of the Reasons which recommend the Plan, be induced to qualify the Opinions announced in their Minute. The Government cannot but trust, at least, that the Court of Directors will take a more favourable View of the Matter, and they beg to avail themselves of your Offer to lay the Memorandum or Paper of Hints before that Court.

It will give His Majesty's Ministers peculiar Pleasure if the Court of Directors should see fit to recommend the Arrangement to their Constituents. If this unfortunately should prove not to be the Case, His Majesty's Ministers, with every Respect for the Secret Committee and the Court of Directors, will yet feel it their Duty not to relinquish the Hope of accomplishing the Compromise until the Proprietors have an Opportunity of expressing their Opinion on a Subject so vitally affecting their Interests. It will be for that Body finally to decline or accept the Proposal. Their Acceptance of it will, I need not say, be satisfactory to the Government. But I am bound to state frankly, that His Majesty's Ministers, being, on the fullest Consideration, convinced of the Justice and Liberality of the Terms now offered, will be prepared, in the event of a Rejection of them, to propose to Parliament a Plan for the future Government of India without the Instrumentality of the Company.

I must particularly request that you will have the kindness to lay the Paper of Hints and this Letter before the Court of Directors, and afterwards, if necessary, before a Court of Proprietors, with as little Delay as the Rules of your Proceedings may permit. It is my Desire and Intention, at all events, to bring the Subject of the East India Charter under the Consideration of Parliament before Easter.

The Proprietors will before that Time have had ample Opportunity to pronounce their Judgment. But if no Decision on their Part is communicated to me by the 23d of March, I shall feel myself compelled to consider it as a declining of the Proposal.

I have the Honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient and humble Servant,

The Chairman and Deputy Chairman (Signed) CHARLES GRANT.
of the East India Company.

No 12

LETTER from the CHAIRMAN and DEPUTY CHAIRMAN to the Right Honourable CHARLES GRANT.

Sir,

East India House, 15th February 1833.

WE have the Honour to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter dated the 13th Instant, which, as well as the Paper of Hints which you transmitted to the Chairman on the 17th December last, and the Minute of the Secret Committee of Correspondence of the 2d Ultimo, we have communicated to the Court of Directors.

The Court, whilst they request us to assure you that no Delay which they can possibly avoid shall be permitted to occur, trust that they shall be allowed sufficient Time for that calm and deliberate Consideration which is due to the vast Importance of the Subjects treated of in these Papers, and upon which it must be necessary, previously to any Announcement of a new Arrangement to Parliament, that the Proprietors should be consulted.

(20.)

E 4

In

No. 11

Rt. Hon C Grant
to
The Chairman and
Deputy Chairman,
12th Feb 1833

No 12

The Chairman and
Deputy Chairman
to
Rt. Hon C. Grant,
15th Feb 1833

No 12.
 The Chairman and
 Deputy Chairman
 to
 Rt Hon. C. Grant,
 15th Feb. 1833.

In order that the Court may be enabled to form their Opinion, they are desirous of obtaining Information upon Three Points, respecting which the Communications from you do not appear to be distinct.

The Court therefore request that you will have the goodness to inform them, *First*, Whether it be the Intention of the King's Ministers to make it a Condition of the Continuance of the Territorial Government of India in the Hands of the Company that the Company should relinquish their Right to trade in perpetuity? *Secondly*, Whether it be intended to include in the proposed Assignment to the Crown of the Company's Assets that Part of the Commercial Property which consists of Monies actually subscribed by Authority of Parliament, as Capital for conducting the Company's Trade? And, *Thurdly*, The Term for which it is meant that the Annuity of 630,000*l.* shall be irredeemable?

We have the Honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servants,

(Signed) J. G. RAVENSHAW.
 C. MARJORIBANKS.

The Right Honourable Charles Grant,
 &c. &c. &c.

No. 13.

LETTER from the Right Honourable CHARLES GRANT to the CHAIRMAN and DEPUTY CHAIRMAN.

Gentlemen,

India Board, 19th February 1833.

I HAVE the Honour to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter dated the 15th of this Month.

I beg to offer my Thanks to the Court of Directors for the gratifying Assurance that no Delay which they can possibly avoid shall be permitted to occur in relation to the Subject of our present Correspondence. Relying on this Assurance, I may, in return, express the sincere Desire of the Government that every Opportunity should be afforded for the calm and dispassionate Consideration which, as you justly observe, is due to the vast Importance of the Subjects treated of in the Papers now before you.

In this Spirit I proceed to advert to Three Points on which the Court desire Information. I shall consider the Questions in the Order in which they appear in your Letter.

Your First Question is, "Whether it be the Intention of the King's Ministers to make it a Condition of the Continuance of the Territorial Government of India in the Hands of the Company that the Company should relinquish their Right to trade in perpetuity?"

The Relinquishment of the Charter of the Company as a Joint Stock Company forms no Part of the Government Plan. It appears, however, to the Government, and it will, I am persuaded, be, on Consideration, the Opinion of the Company themselves, that so long as the Company are to exercise, under the new Arrangement, the Political Powers proposed to be vested in them, it is indispensably necessary to the efficient Administration of those Powers that their Right to trade should be altogether in abeyance, due Time being of course allowed for the winding up of their Commercial Concerns. I must think indeed, that even supposing no Restriction of this kind to be laid on the Company, and supposing them to attempt to continue their Trade as a Joint Stock Company, still the opening of the China Trade would have the Effect of so lowering their Profits, as to induce them, for their own sake, to desist from the Exercise of the Right in question with respect to China, as they have already relinquished it virtually in regard to India.

The Second Question is, "Whether it be intended to include in the proposed Assignment to the Crown of the Company's Assets that Part of their Commercial Property which consists of Monies actually subscribed by Authority of Parliament, as Capital for conducting the Company's Trade?"

This Question would almost seem to imply that Part of the Company's Commercial Property which consists of Monies actually subscribed as here stated exists at this Time in some separate and definite Form. Though wholly
 unaware

No 13
 Rt Hon C Grant
 to
 The Chairman and
 Deputy Chairman,
 19th Feb. 1833

unaware of such a Fact; and, impressed with the Persuasion that the subscribed Capital of the Company is involved in their general Commercial Property, I have no Hesitation, in replying, that in the proposed Assignment the Government intend to include the whole of the Company's Commercial Capital, whether composed of Subscription or Accumulation, and whether existing in a separate Shape or mixed up and confounded with their general Assets. On this Basis, in truth, the Proposition of the Government entirely rests, as the Tenor of my Letter of the 12th of this Month plainly shows.

And, undoubtedly, all the Property to which I have referred is equally comprehended in the very serious Question to which, in that Letter, I directed your Attention, viz., "Whether the whole of the Company's Commercial Property be not legally responsible for those Debts and Engagements which have been contracted in the Company's Name for Political and Territorial Purposes; and whether it will not continue so responsible, even although the Company should be wholly deprived of their Political Powers and Functions?"

The Third Question is, "The Term for which it is meant that the Annuity of 630,000*l.* shall be irredeemable."

The Duration of the Term His Majesty's Ministers regard as a Matter open to Discussion and Arrangement. They are not indisposed to a considerable Latitude of Provision in that respect, and will be willing to take into consideration any Suggestions which the Company may wish to offer.

In conclusion, I beg to express my Readiness to supply Explanation, if required, on any other Points connected with the present Discussion.

I have the Honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your most obedient humble Servant,

The Chairman and Deputy Chairman
of the East India Company.

(Signed) CHARLES GRANT.

No 13.

Rt. Hon C. Grant
to
The Chairman and
Deputy Chairman,
19th Feb 1833

No 14

AT a SECRET COURT of DIRECTORS, held on Wednesday the 20th February 1833,

A LETTER from the Right Honourable Charles Grant, dated at the India Board the 19th Instant, being read, stating, in reply to the Letter from the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the 15th Instant, and in advertence to his Communication of the 12th Instant, that in the Arrangement which it is now proposed to make with the Company it is no Part of the Government Plan that the Company should relinquish their Charter as a Joint Stock Company, but that it appears to the Government to be indispensably necessary to the efficient Administration by the Company of their Political Powers that their Right to trade should be altogether in abeyance; that in the Assignment to the Crown of the Company's Commercial Assets the Government intend to include the whole of the Company's Commercial Capital, whether composed of Subscription or Accumulation, and whether existing in a separate Shape, or mixed up and confounded with their general Assets; and that, with respect to the Duration of the Term for which the proposed Annuity to the Proprietors of East India Stock is to be irredeemable, His Majesty's Ministers regard the Matter as open to Discussion and Arrangement, that they are not indisposed to allow a considerable Latitude of Provision in that respect, and that they will be ready to take into consideration any Suggestion which the Company may wish to offer, and expressing, further, his Readiness to supply Explanation, if required, upon any other Point connected with the pending Discussion;

It was ordered that the said Letter be referred to the Consideration of a Committee of the whole Court.

No 14.

Secret Court
of Directors,
20th Feb 1833

No. 15.

AT a SECRET COMMITTEE of the Whole COURT, held on Friday
the 22d February 1833,

No. 15.
Secret Committee
of the Whole Court,
22d Feb. 1833.

THE Committee, pursuant to the Court's References of the 15th and 20th Instant, proceeding to take into consideration Two Letters from the Right Honourable Charles Grant, dated at the India Board the 12th and 19th Instant; the former replying, on the Part of His Majesty's Ministers, to a Minute of a Secret Committee of Correspondence of the 2d Ultimo on the Memorandum or Paper of Hints respecting the Company's Charter, which was sent by Mr. Grant to the Chairman on the 17th December last; and the latter containing a Reply to certain Questions submitted by the Court in a Letter from the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the 15th Instant;

The Chairman laid before the Committee the Draft of a proposed Letter to the Right Honourable Charles Grant, submitting the Sentiments of the Court on the principal Propositions in the Paper of Hints, and on the Statements and Arguments contained in Mr. Grant's Letter of the 12th Instant.

The said Draft of a Letter was read;

And the Committee, having deliberated thereon, adjourned to Tuesday next the 26th Instant.

No. 16.

AT a SECRET COMMITTEE of the Whole COURT, held on Tuesday
the 26th February 1833,

No 16.
Secret Committee
of the Whole Court,
26th Feb. 1833.

THE Committee met by Adjournment from the 22d Instant, for the Purpose of continuing the Consideration of the Draft of a proposed Letter to the Right Honourable Charles Grant, submitting the Sentiments of the Court on the principal Propositions on the Paper of Hints respecting the Company's Charter, which was sent by Mr. Grant to the Chairman on the 17th December last, and on the Statements and Arguments contained in Mr. Grant's Letter of the 12th Instant;

And the Committee having agreed to certain Alterations therein;

It was resolved, *nemine contradicente*, That the said Draft of a Letter, as amended, be approved and submitted to the Court.

No. 17.

AT a SECRET COURT of DIRECTORS, held on Tuesday the 26th February 1833,

No 17.
Secret Court
of Directors,
26th Feb. 1833

THE Chairman laid before the Court the Draft of a Letter, which had been agreed to by a Committee of the Whole Court, to the Right Honourable Charles Grant, submitting the Court's Sentiments on the principal Propositions in the Paper of Hints respecting the Company's Charter, which was sent by Mr. Grant to the Chairman on the 17th December last, and on the Statements and Arguments contained in Mr. Grant's Letter of the 12th Instant;

And the same having been read,

It was resolved, *nemine contradicente*, That this Court approve the said Draft of a Letter to the Right Honourable Charles Grant.

No. 18.

LETTER from the CHAIRMAN and DEPUTY CHAIRMAN to the
Right Honourable CHARLES GRANT.

No 18.
The Chairman and
Deputy Chairman
to
Rt Hon. C Grant,
27th Feb 1833.

Sir,
East India House, 27th February 1833.
WE have the Honour to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter dated the 19th Instant, containing a Reply to the Questions which the Court of Directors submitted in our Communication of the 15th Instant; and we beg leave to express the Acknowledgments of the Court for your Promptitude in furnishing the Information which they wished to obtain.

We

We now proceed to submit to you, and through you to Earl Grey and the rest of His Majesty's Ministers, the Court's Sentiments on the principal Propositions contained in the Paper of Hints received from you on the 17th of December, and on the Statements and Arguments contained in your Letter of the 12th Instant.

No. 18.
The Chairman and
Deputy Chairman
to
Rt Hon. C. Grant,
27th Feb 1833.

The first Consideration which presses itself upon the Court's Attention, and that which they feel to be paramount to every other, is the Obligation under which the Company lie towards the People of India. Connected as the Company are and have so long been with that Country by Ties of the most binding Character, and requiring as they do from its Inhabitants a large Revenue to meet the necessary Expences of the State, a serious Responsibility must rest upon the Company to do all that in them lies to advance the Prosperity of the Country, and to promote the Happiness of its vast Population. From this Responsibility the Court have not the least Desire that the Company should escape. On the contrary, their first Object ever has been and must continue to be the Welfare of India, and so long as there shall appear to be the least Prospect of their being instrumental in the Promotion of that Object the Company ought not, in the Court's Opinion, to shrink from continuing their Agency in administering the Territorial Government. The same Considerations would, we believe, lead them cheerfully to resign that weighty Trust, if another Plan, the Alternative, for example, which you state the King's Ministers are prepared to adopt, can be devised better calculated to achieve the great Object of providing for the good Government of India.

The Court are, however, relieved from the Necessity of adverting to any alternative Plan by the Opinion which His Majesty's Government have decidedly expressed and reiterated in your Letter, that, subject to the Changes and Modifications suggested in the Paper of Hints, the Company should retain the Exercise of their Political Powers and Functions. Practically, therefore, the primary Question is, whether the Company can do so upon the Terms proposed, and this Question ought not, the Court think, to be embarrassed by Considerations affecting the Property and Claims of the Company as a Commercial Body. The Company would never think of relinquishing the Charge of governing India merely because they had Property to protect and Claims to prefer; neither, we are persuaded, can it be contemplated by the King's Ministers that the Company should, without adequate Compensation, relinquish either Property or Claims, in order that they may continue to administer the Government of India, for which Trust they are considered to be the fittest Instrument.

Whether the Agency of the Company in that Administration be continued or not, their separate Rights of Property must be maintained and preserved upon the same Principles as those of any other Corporation. Justice in the Decision of that Matter (whether Compromise or actual Adjudication of each Claim be resorted to) is all that the Company require, and is no more than they are entitled to expect.

Putting out of view, then, for the present, the Claims of the Company in their Commercial Capacity, which will form a distinct Subject for Consideration in the Sequel, we proceed to the primary Question, Whether the Scheme of the King's Ministers be such as to enable the Company efficiently to administer the Government of India?

It is observable from your Letter, that in deciding that the Company should continue the Exercise of their Political Functions, His Majesty's Ministers have been guided by Experience of the past, and by an Apprehension that a fundamental Change in that respect might be liable to constitutional Objections in this Country.

But the Experience of the past is the Experience of a System which the Plan of His Majesty's Ministers will, if adopted, essentially alter, for that System combines the Territorial Government of India with the Trade of the Company, and that Trade it is contemplated in the Plan shall cease.

The Court admit that the Combination of Government and Trade in India may be liable to some Objection, and that it may be desirable for the Company to relinquish that Portion of their Commercial Operations if the requisite Remittance of Territorial Funds can be otherwise effected with equal Advantage, Security, and Regularity as at present. The Plan however provides for the Cessation, not only of the Company's Indian Trade, but also of their China Trade.

No. 18.

The Chairman and
Deputy Chairman
toRt. Hon. C. Grant,
27th Feb. 1833.

Trade. It proposes, in fact, to annihilate the Company as a Commercial Body, and to restrict them to the Exercise of their Political Functions.

The Court submit for the Consideration of the King's Ministers, Whether, in one most important Respect, consequences very injurious, to say the least, to the good Government of India, might not ensue from the Adoption of this material Change in the Constitution of the Company; and whether the immediate Effect of such a Change might not be, that the Company, instead of forming as they now do an integral, independent, and important Part of the Machinery by which the Government of India is conducted, would be reduced to a State of Weakness and Dependence incompatible with the right Performance of the momentous Duty assigned to them?

The Court look upon the System of Indian Government established by the Act of 1784 as one in which the different Authorities employed in carrying it on are eminently qualified to exert a beneficial Check upon each other; and to this Circumstance the Court are disposed to attribute much of the Purity with which, since the passing of that Act, the Government has been administered. The Nature of the local Government of India, composed of Three separate Presidencies, the Governors of each of which act under the Advice, and to some Extent the Control, of their respective Councils, and the Subjection of all the Proceedings of this local Government to the Court,—this Body again subject to the Control of the Board of Commissioners instituted for that especial Purpose,—make up a System of various Powers, diverse in their Origin, and acting under mutual Influence, the Effects of which the Court are disposed to think of incalculable Value in a Government the Power of which over its Subjects is almost absolute, and upon which Public Opinion can exert but a feeble and uncertain Operation. If these Remarks are well founded, any Measure, the Tendency of which would be to remove from its Position any one of the Powers concerned in the Government of India, or materially to weaken it in the Exercise of its Functions, is greatly to be deprecated. Now, to apply this Argument to the Case immediately in view: If the East India Company (acting through the Court as their Organ) were to lose any of their present Power and Influence,—if, further, they were deprived of all effectual Voice in the Disposal of the Funds which are now at their Command,—they might indeed be suffered to retain the nominal Character of Governors of the British Territories in the East, but it is evident that all but the Shadow of their former Authority would be gone. They might indeed be charged with the same Degree of Responsibility as is now exacted from them in that Capacity, but the Grounds upon which much of this Responsibility rests, and which render it just and proper that they should be held responsible, would no longer exist, and they would probably often have to incur the Odium of resisting Measures which they might consider objectionable, without having the Weight and Independence which would suffice to obtain for their Objections a proper Consideration. The Court are also firmly of opinion that a considerable Degree of Independence should attach to the Body in whom the Patronage of British India is vested; and that, without the Possession of such a Character, the Right of making Appointments to Office might prove rather a dangerous Privilege.

Divested of their Commerce, from which the Company derive so large a Portion of their Influence and Character in England as a Body independent of the Government of the Country, the Court greatly fear lest they should become merely an Instrument for giving Effect to the Views of the Indian Minister, whose Sway over India would, under the Plan of His Majesty's Government, be almost absolute, and little exposed to the Vigilance of Parliament, in consequence of the Appearance of a Check in the Company, which, if the Apprehension of the Court be well founded, would be perfectly illusory.

The Probability of such a Result is greatly enhanced by that Part of the Plan which proposes to increase the Powers of the Board, and to restrict those of the Company. You say indeed that the Scheme allots important Powers to the Proprietors. The only Powers which it gives to them are those which they already possess; and whilst the Directors are to continue subject to all the present Limitations, the Board are to be invested with Authority themselves to send Dispatches without allowing of any Appeal, although their Contents may be opposed to the Judgment of every Member of the Court.

We

We admit, indeed, that, according to the Construction which has been put upon the Right of Appeal now possessed by the Company, that Right is valueless, except as affording some Opening for calling Public Attention to the Subject of Dispute. The Court earnestly press upon His Majesty's Ministers the Expediency, with a view to the Security of India, as well as to a constitutional Control over the Acts of the Indian Minister in this Country, of allowing an Appeal upon the Merits of important Cases arising out of the Government of India in which the Board and the Court may differ, or, at the least, of providing for giving Publicity, by the Communication to Parliament of such Cases of Difference between the Two Authorities.

The Court do not deny the Expediency of making Provision to limit the Time during which it shall be open to them to appeal against Alterations, and to secure the prompt Transmission of the Dispatch after the final Decision of the Appeal. They hope, however, that the Expedient of allowing the Board as well as the Court to send Dispatches, and thereby superseding the Authority of the Court, as the only Body from which Orders to the local Governments can constitutionally emanate, will never be adopted.

Not is it only in respect of the Transmission of Dispatches that the Board's Powers are proposed to be increased. By the Plan suggested the Court will be precluded from expending a Shilling without the Consent of the Board. That the Board should have a general Control over the Territorial Expenditure, both in India and in England, the Court fully admit, but they consider a Continuance of the independent Power which they now possess of rewarding Services and conferring pecuniary Benefits to be of essential Importance to the efficient Exercise of their Functions. The Plan further provides, that the Board shall have Power of Control over the Home Establishment, the very Officers and Servants employed by the Court.

The Court do not say that His Majesty's Ministers, in proposing this Plan, intend to convert the Court into a Government Board. If that were their Intention, the Court are persuaded that the Minister would not hesitate frankly to avow it. But the Court must candidly state, that, in their Judgment, no Scheme could be better devised to produce such an Effect than one which embraces the Propositions to which we have now adverted, and which we confidently hope that the King's Ministers will see the Propriety of modifying. We are encouraged in this Expectation by the Assurance which you have given that it is intended that the Company "shall commence the Exercise of their resumed Functions in the utmost possible State of Efficiency"

In offering these Remarks, the Court wish to be considered as speaking merely in the Character, and under the Obligations which that Character imposes, of Representatives of the People of India, as such they desire to feel and to act during the present Crises, as such, they think that their Situation entitles them to regard themselves, and their Wish is strenuously to avoid any Line of Proceeding inconsistent with the Duties which such a Character urgently demands.

It is in the same Character that the Court attach Value in a pecuniary point of view to the exclusive Privilege of Trade with China. They have not asked for, nor have they the least Pretence to a Continuance of that Privilege, for any other Financial Purpose than that of supplying Means necessary for carrying on the Indian Government. The Court would be understood as making this Admission in the most unqualified Manner.

In proceeding to notice the Effect which a Discontinuance of the Company's Trade will have upon the Finances of India, we must explain, that you have misapprehended the Statement of the Secret Committee of Correspondence, that if "India had been called upon from Year to Year to provide Funds to repay the full Amount disbursed by the Company, the Public Debt of India since 1814 would have been upwards of Seventeen Millions more than it now is." The Committee did not mean to say that the Commerce had contributed Seventeen Millions, but that India had been saved from borrowing that Sum; and you are aware that the Commerce receives only English Interest from the Territory, whilst the Territory, for Loans contracted in India, must pay Indian Interest. This Circumstance, and the Difference of Time, (the Statement in the Report of 1830 extends only to 1828-29, whereas that showing the Amount to be Seventeen Millions extends

No. 18.

The Chairman and
Deputy Chairman
to
Rt Hon C. Grant,
27th Feb 1833.

No 18.

The Chairman and
Deputy Chairman
toRt. Hon. C. Grant,
27th Feb. 1833.

to 1833-34,) explains the Variation which you have pointed out. You will perceive that the Statement of the Committee is exclusive of the Advantage which has resulted to the Territory from the Payment out of Commercial Funds of the Interest on the Home Bond Debt.

The Court observe with Satisfaction that you are fully impressed with the Fact, that the Commerce of the Company has in past Times proved a most useful Auxiliary to the Territory of India, not only by furnishing the latter with a safe and favourable Remittance of the Funds required for Political Purposes in England, but also by supplying to a great Extent direct pecuniary Aid to the Finances of that Country; but they also observe that you appear to entertain a very strong Opinion that the Territory, under proper Financial Management, is not likely to need this kind of Assistance in future. While the Court are as fully sensible as His Majesty's Ministers can be that it is not merely desirable to place India upon a solid Basis of Financial Independence, but incumbent upon those to whom the Duty of governing that Country is entrusted to adopt every prudent and practicable Method for this Purpose, they regret extremely that they cannot look forward with such sanguine Expectations as you, Sir, appear to do, to the Financial Prosperity of India when deprived of the Support hitherto afforded to it by the Company's Commerce. The only safe Test whereby to judge of the Financial Capabilities of India prospectively is past Experience, and that, as you yourself admit, is directly opposed to the hypothetical Expectations which you form of the future. So far from calculating upon any permanent Increase in the Territorial Revenues, the Court cannot, under present Circumstances, do more than hope that they will not materially decline,—a Point upon which they feel great Anxiety when they look to the actual Condition of the Land Revenue.

With respect to Charges, it seems to be the Opinion of the King's Ministers that the Expenditure of past Times has been unnecessarily high, in consequence of the Reliance placed by the local Governments on the Commercial Profits of the Company. The Court cannot altogether concur in this Opinion; they believe that the Embarrassment of the Indian Finances is to be ascribed principally to the expensive Wars in which we have at different Times been involved. But even admitting that the Argument has some Weight, it is only properly applicable to the Period since 1814. Previously to that Time it was contended by the Opponents of the Company that their Commerce was not only unproductive, but was a Clog upon the Territorial Revenues, and it was for the Purpose of settling that Controversy that the Separation of Accounts was prescribed. You are, of course, aware, that in the Term preceding the Separation of Accounts, as well as in the succeeding Period, there was a large Territorial Deficiency.

The Court would not be understood to despair of India ever becoming independent on external Financial Aid, nor can it be necessary for them to say that their most strenuous Efforts shall be joined to those of the Board of Commissioners for the Promotion of that very important Object. Still, supposing it to be achieved, and it must be some Time at least before that can be the Case, we would earnestly plead for a Continuance of the present Financial System, upon the Ground that India possesses a strong Claim to the Advantage of any surplus Fund that could be saved by Reduction of Charge. Has not India been kept poor through her Connexion with England? Has not England derived immense Wealth from that Connexion? And may not India, therefore, justly ask that she should not be deprived of the Financial Advantages resulting to her from the Company's Trade?

The Secret Committee of Correspondence were perfectly aware that, so far as respects the proposed Annuity of 630,000*l*, no additional Charge would be imposed by the Plan on the Indian Revenues, since the Plan provides for the Relief to India of an equivalent Amount of present Charge by means of an Application of a Part of the Commercial Property to the Redemption of the Territorial Debt; but the Apprehension which the Committee felt, and it is one in which the Court cannot but participate, was, that India, when she has lost those Advantages which she now possesses from the Company's Trade, might be unable to defray the present Charges.

You say, indeed, that those Advantages "have been drawn from the People of this Country, constituting as truly a Tax on them as any of the National

National Imposts properly so called." That would certainly have been the State of the Case if the Privilege which the Company possess had been used as a Monopoly; but the Secret Committee have most correctly shown that such is not the Fact. If you will refer to the Report from the Select Committee of the House of Commons of 1830, you will perceive that the Company have not received more than a fair Mercantile Profit upon the Capital employed; and it will not surely be contended that the Profit of a Merchant is to be regarded in the light of a Tax. If so, as we presume Merchants who in an open Trade import Tea will expect a Profit, the Tax will still be continued, whilst a direct Tax will be necessary to defray the Charge of collecting the Tea Duties. The great Financial Advantage which, as it appears to the Court, the present System possesses, is, that by the Concentration of a great Trade the reasonable Profits of Commercial Operations are made available to supply a Deficiency in the Indian Revenues.

It is not only as regards an Improvement in the Indian Finances that His Majesty's Ministers are sanguine, they appear also to think that no Difficulty will be experienced in effecting Remittances from India on the Territorial Account, amounting to between Two and Three Millions annually, upon Terms as favourable as at present. The Court cannot indulge any such Expectation; not that they deny, that when the Company shall have given up Trade, the Free Trade from India and China will afford an extensive Medium of Remittance, but they think that it will be necessary for the Government either to consent to a Sacrifice in the Rate of Exchange, by raising the requisite Funds, by means of Drafts upon India negotiated here, or to take the Security in India and in China of a Lien upon Cargo, thereby rendering necessary some Commercial Establishment there and in England, and in either Case they are apprehensive that the punctual Realization of the full Amount cannot be safely relied on. The Expedient of a Bullion Remittance could only be resorted to occasionally, and might, we apprehend, operate inconveniently upon India

Upon this Part of the Subject we will only further state, that it is impossible, in the Judgment of the Court, too highly to estimate the Importance of securing to the Home Government of India regularly the Funds requisite to meet all Territorial Demands. If there should be any Failure in that respect, the Consequences in paralysing the Efficiency of the Supreme Authority, and in communicating to India all the Odium and Misery of an apparently Bankrupt Government, will be inevitable; for it should never be forgotten that the vital Spring of the whole of this complex Machine for administering the Government of British India is in England, where constitutionally it can alone rest

We are persuaded, Sir, that you will do the Court the Justice to admit, that in thus pointing out the Difficulties which present themselves to the Adoption of the proposed Scheme they are only discharging their Duty to His Majesty's Government, to the Public, and to India. Need we add, that if, notwithstanding all that has been stated, it shall be finally determined to separate the Trade from the Territorial Administration, it will be the earnest Endeavour of the Court to lessen the Inconveniences which they have suggested as likely to arise from such a Measure? But they must repeat, that to enable them to do so with any good Effect, the Plan should, in their Judgment, provide much more completely than it does at present for giving Independence and Weight to the Proceedings of the Court in that Part of the Government of India which it is proposed to assign to the Company.

The Court have fully considered all that you say upon the Advantages expected to result to this Country and to India from the opening of the China Trade; most earnestly do they wish that those Advantages may be realized, and that the Apprehensions expressed by the Secret Committee of Correspondence may be proved groundless.

Far be it from the Court to say, nor did the Committee ever intend to convey the Idea, that it was chimerical, "under any Circumstances, to expect an augmented Demand for British Manufactures among the Chinese."

The Question is not, whether under any Circumstances, but whether, under the present Circumstances, and with reference, not to the Company's exclusive Privileges, but to the Commercial Policy of the Chinese, such an Expectation can be rationally entertained?

No. 18

The Chairman and
Deputy Chairman
to
Rt. Hon. C. Grant,
27th Feb 1833

The Court think not, and this Opinion is very much grounded upon the important Facts brought to your Notice by the Secret Committee of Correspondence, viz. that the Americans, second only to the British in Commercial Enterprize, have made the Experiment of taking British Manufactures to China, and have found it unsuccessful; that the Officers of the Company's Ships, possessing peculiar Advantages of Freedom from Freight and of established Connexion in China, take such Manufactures to a very limited Extent, and that, although the Way has been long open for Goods of that Description to pass from India and the Eastern Archipelago to China, British Merchants have scarcely ever availed themselves of it.

These Facts elicited during the Parliamentary Investigation, and in no respect shaken by any Evidence of a contrary Tenor, you have not noticed; but you meet the Question by an Exposition of the general Principles of Free Trade, and by a Reference to the Results of the open Trade with India.

The Court, equally with you, Sir, appreciate the Power of British Industry, Capital, and Enterprize, if allowed free Scope; but the Check to such Exertions in this Case is not, as the Court think, to be found in the Company's Privilege so much as in the Conduct and Policy of the Chinese. The Doubt which the Court entertain is, in fact, whether it be possible for private and individual Competition to withstand, much less to thrive under, the System of Trade prescribed by the Regulations of the Chinese Government, which we have no Power to alter, and which they have shown a fixed Determination to maintain, notwithstanding the Efforts which have from Time to Time been made to induce them to relax it.

Upon the Comparison which you have drawn from the open Trade with India, as proving the Efforts of Freedom in augmenting a Demand for British Manufactures, you must allow us to point out to you that the Results of the India Trade in that Particular are not such as you suppose them to be. If you will examine the Custom House Returns, you will perceive that in Value the Exports of British Manufactures to India increased in a larger Ratio during the Company's last Term, viz. from 1793 to 1814, than they have during the present. The Quantities exported have undoubtedly increased during the present Term as compared with the former, but the Increase is much more than accounted for by Abatement of Cost; whilst, both in Value and in Quantity, the Comparison is in favour of the former Term, if we except Cotton Manufactures, which to a great Extent have become a new Article of Export since 1814, and that not as the Consequence of Free Trade, but of the Power of Machinery, and of other Circumstances affecting Trade generally.

If His Majesty's Ministers should think it necessary, the Court will be prepared to establish these several Points; and being established, you, Sir, will admit that you do yourself Injustice, that you do Injustice to the eminent Persons who with you were of opinion, in 1813, that there was no Ground to expect, without a Change of Circumstances, that the Demand for British Manufactures in India would materially increase, when you assert that such Predictions have been disproved.

But were the Fact as you have supposed it to be, what Analogy is there between China, where an Englishman can plant his Foot on One Spot only, and that merely by Sufferance, and where a jealous Government imposes whatever Regulations it thinks proper for the Protection of its own Manufactures, and India, where there is resident a large and increasing Body of Europeans, and where the British Government may provide, as it has done, by Fiscal Regulations, for encouraging the Manufactures of Great Britain to the Prejudice, if not to the entire Destruction, of those of India.

The Court, therefore, cannot agree with you, that any Argument for throwing open the Trade with China can be drawn from Analogy with the working of the Trade with India.

It would seem that the King's Ministers are also impressed with a Belief, that even supposing no Increase to take place in the Exports from this Country, an open Trade would produce an Increase in the Exports from India to China; and you express an Opinion, in which the Court entirely agree, that any View of the Question of the China Trade which excludes India must be essentially defective.

We have no Hesitation in stating our Conviction, that whether the China Trade be privileged or free, it must take the Course principally of a Remittance

tance Trade from India, it being quite clear that the most advantageous Mode which can be adopted for placing Funds in China for the Purchase of Teas is by Drafts upon India. Indeed, His Majesty's Ministers must be aware that nothing but the anxious Desire which the Company have felt to uphold the Manufacturing Interests of Great Britain has prevented them from buying all their Teas with Money from India, instead of purchasing One Third, as at present, with the Proceeds of British Manufactures. It will perhaps be said that the Company, in doing this, have proved themselves to be bad Merchants. That may be true. Their Apology must be the Zeal with which, as British Subjects, they have been animated (honest, though possibly mistaken,) to promote what they conceived to be important Interests at Home.

In an open Trade Merchants will of course have no other View than their own Interests; and as those Interests will be best promoted by exchanging the Produce of India for that of China, the Court cannot but join with His Majesty's Ministers in expecting an Increase in the Exports from India to China. But this Advantage would arise, not so much from a Cessation of the Company's Privilege, as from a Discontinuance of the Practice which the Company have adopted of sending large Quantities of British Manufactures to China.

We think it right here to explain, in reference to the Comparison which you have drawn between the private Trade of India with China in 1813-14 and in 1829-30, that the Statement from which you have taken the Value in the former Year is confessedly imperfect, owing to the Want of proper Documents, as it includes the Exports to Canton from British Indian Ports only, whereas the Value given for 1829-30 includes the Imports into Canton from all the Ports in the East Indies. But not to lay much Stress upon this Circumstance, the Court must beg to remind you, that the Cause of the large Increase of the private Trade from India to China since 1813-14 is to be traced to the rapid Growth of the smuggled Trade in Opium. Out of the total Value of private Imports into Canton from India, amounting in 1829-30 to 18,447,147 Dollars, no less a Proportion than 13,468,924 Dollars was the Value of Opium. The Trade in this Article is prohibited by the Laws of China, and it is consequently one in which the Company have never engaged, had they done so, the comparative Statements of the Company's and the private Trade, to which you have referred, would have exhibited very different Results. This Explanation, the Court think, goes very far to deprive any Arguments founded upon the Growth of the private Trade of the Weight which might otherwise have attached to them. And here the Court cannot refrain from expressing their Apprehension of what may probably be one Consequence of an Alteration of the existing System of our Commerce with China. At present the Chinese Government receive regularly a large Revenue from the Company's Trade; and secured in the Possession of this Income, it is not very strict in enforcing its own Laws against the Trade in Opium, which is so important to the Indian Revenues. But if the general Trade with China, instead of being under the Management of One Body, answerable for and controlling the whole, were transferred to the Hands of private Individuals, each pursuing his Course according to his View of his particular Interests at the Time, there cannot be much Doubt that the high Notion of the Free Traders to which you have alluded, so utterly at variance with the jealous Policy of the Chinese Government, would not long be confined within the Bounds which that Policy has prescribed. Hence a Danger, by no means improbable, that the whole of the British Trade would gradually become a smuggled one; and that in such an Event the Government of that Country, finding their Revenue from the Trade no longer secure, might put an end to it altogether.

Supposing an increased Export to China of the Manufactures or Products either of England or of India, you contemplate the Increase with peculiar Satisfaction; because, as China makes her Return in an Article which is produced nowhere else, the Enlargement of such a Trade will not be at the Expence of the other Customers of Great Britain; from which we infer, that you are of opinion that the People of Great Britain, or her Customers in other Countries, will not only consume more Tea, but will expend more Money in the Purchase of that Article, when the Trade is open, than they now do; and that such Increase of Expenditure will provide the Means of paying for the augmented Quantities

No. 18.

The Chairman and
Deputy Chairman
to
Rt. Hon. C. Grant,
27th Feb. 1833

of Goods which it is assumed will be sent to China. Before this Result can be brought about (it being always, we presume, supposed that One Benefit expected from the Discontinuance of the Company's Privilege is, that Tea will be cheapened to the Consumer,) there must be a vast Increase in the Quantity of Tea brought to Market, as well as in the Demand for it; and the Court cannot but think that Deterioration of Quality would inevitably follow.

You rely upon the Effect of Rivalry among the Dealers in Tea to prevent this Consequence; but in China the Tea Trade is confined to the Hong, to which, as stated in the Report from the Select Committee of the House of Commons of 1830, "the Company's Influence has afforded a necessary and efficient Counterpoise." There can therefore be little or no Rivalry among the Persons who supply the Tea in China.

The Court submit it as their Opinion, that the Consumption of Tea depends chiefly on the Quality; and that the Inspection which the Article at present undergoes at Canton, and the Control the Company possess in the Market there, have the Effect of maintaining the general Quality of the Tea Investment. To this Circumstance may fairly be ascribed the extensive Use of Tea among the People of Great Britain, in comparison with those of any other Country, not excepting even America.

In closing their Remarks upon the Subject of the Trade in Tea, the Court trust that you will acquit the Secret Committee of any Intention to obtrude unnecessary Observations respecting the large Revenue which that Article affords to the Public Exchequer. Most entirely do the Court and their Committee feel with you, Sir, that this Part of the Question is Matter rather for the Consideration of the King's Ministers than of Debate with the Company. Still when you bear in mind this—the Revenue of between Three and Four Millions annually is regularly paid by the Court, and that the Company's System saves the Expence of Collection, you will admit that it was only natural for the Committee to state prominently Facts of such Importance, and to which they were constant Eye-witnesses.

Upon the proposed Appointment of a Chief and Council at Canton the Court beg leave to observe, that though they must not be understood as asserting that the Broils and Disputes in which British private Traders might become involved with the Chinese would in general lead to the Suspension of the whole Trade, yet they are satisfied that no Officer or Officers whom the King's Government might appoint as the British Representative would have the Influence which the Company's Select Committee possess with the Chinese Authorities in bringing such Disputes to a favourable Termination. The Influence of the Select Committee is to be traced chiefly to the Circumstance of their being the sole Managers of an extensive and valuable Trade, which they have it in their Power to suspend at any Time when pressing Considerations require such a Course of Proceeding; and there is also this Advantage resulting from the Company's being required to retain on hand a large Stock of Tea, that a Suspension of the Trade for a whole Season does not involve any Want of the Article at Home. How little Influence even a King's Ambassador would have, without such a Character as that possessed by a Select Committee, may be seen in the Failure of all former Embassies to the Government of Peking. The Court are also inclined to think, that while no Authority could be more determined than the Select Committee in resisting substantial Injustice on the Part of the Chinese Authorities, they are much more capable, from their peculiar Character, of settling Disputes in an amicable Manner than a King's Officer, even though he were invested with Power to suspend the Trade; that while they, without Loss of Honour, could concede upon smaller Points, the latter, being an immediate Representative of the British Crown, would frequently have no Resource left but one which would necessarily terminate in hostile Extremities.

In proceeding to the Question affecting the Property and Claims of the Company as a Commercial Corporation, the Court think it necessary to remove the Misapprehension under which you labour, in supposing that the Suggestion which the Secret Committee of Correspondence have made on behalf of the Proprietors could not be met without conceding all that the Company claim. What the Secret Committee suggested, viz. that the Proprietors should be considered entitled to such an Amount of the Property as, if invested in
Consols,

Consols, would be sufficient to produce the Annuity of 630,000*l.*, might be accomplished by the Outlay of Eighteen Millions Sterling.

The Statement which you have given of the Property claimed by the Company shows the Amount to be more than Twenty-three Millions, and even after deducting the unappropriated surplus Profit it would exceed Twenty Millions. This is exclusive of the Property in India, the Value of which was estimated by the Indian Minister in 1793 at 250,000*l.* per Annum, which at Twenty Years Purchase is equal to Five Millions; and although it is quite true as you state, that the Right to this Property has remained in abeyance for Seventy Years, yet the Company's Title to it, so far from having been questioned, has been distinctly recognized and expressly reserved in several Acts of Parliament by which the Term of the Company's Privileges has been from Time to Time renewed.

If, therefore, all that the Committee suggested were carried into effect, there would still remain a considerable Amount of Property to be made over (should it be so decided) to the Territorial Branch.

But you seem to think that the Accuracy of the Statements of the Company's Property may be questioned, that supposing their Accuracy to be established, Doubts may be entertained of the legal Right of the Commercial Branch to some of the Items; and that the whole of the Company's Property, whatever be its Amount, may be deemed subject to overwhelming Liabilities.

Upon the first of these Points, viz the possible Inaccuracy of the Statements, the Court wish it to be distinctly understood that they have no Desire to avoid the most searching Scrutiny into their Accounts. It may, indeed, excite some Surprise that any such Scrutiny should now be deemed necessary, during the last Three Years Committees of Parliament have been diligently employed in investigating the Company's Accounts; Information of every kind required for their Elucidation has been promptly supplied, Evidence tending to impugn their Accuracy has been freely received, and has given rise to Evidence of an opposite Character. A professional Accountant has been called upon by the Board to render Assistance in this Matter, and voluminous Details have been furnished, sufficient for the Completion of any Investigation, however minute, which the most scrupulous Objector could desire, besides all which, the Amounts of Two of the most material of the Claims, those for the Balance of War Expenditure and with regard to the Home Bond Debt, were long since vouched for by the Decision of a Committee of Parliament, yet now, within Six Weeks of the Time when His Majesty's Ministers have determined to bring the Subject of the Company's Affairs under the Consideration of Parliament, and to propose a final Dissolution of the Connexion between the Territory and the Trade, you suggest that, previously to the Company's taking to themselves any Part of the Property claimed as their own, it will be necessary to apply a searching Scrutiny to their Accounts, unless they acquiesce in such a Compromise as that which you have proposed, and you ask, "What in the meantime will be the Situation of the East India Stockholders? From what Funds are the Dividends to be paid?"

We cannot permit ourselves for an Instant to doubt, Sir, that it is your Desire that nothing should be introduced into this Discussion calculated to excite Alarm in the Breasts of the Proprietors, whose Interests are so deeply involved. Their Dividends would be paid as at present from the Proceeds of the Company's Sales, which must continue until 1836, owing to the Operation of the Commutation Act, and by that Time it might be hoped that the supposed Scrutiny would have terminated; but, on the other hand, the Court may be allowed to inquire, what would the Territorial Branch do for Funds? It can have no Right to a Farthing from the Home Treasury after April 1834, and therefore, as you justly apprehend, a good deal of Difficulty might occur in furnishing the Funds necessary for the Current Home Expenditure.

The Doubts which you suggest as to the legal Rights of the Company to some of the Commercial Property appear to refer principally to that Portion which consists of Profits of Trade accumulated between 1794 and 1813, respecting which we must observe, that the Commercial Assets of the Company in 1794 (previously to which Year the Growth of the Capital had been checked by urgent and heavy Demands of the Territorial Branch) amounted to Eleven Millions, instead of Eight Millions, as assumed by you, so that,

No. 18

The Chairman and
Deputy Chairman

to

Rt. Hon. C. Grant,
27th Feb. 1833.

adding the Balance of War Expenditure and the Value of Property in India; you will perceive that, even in 1794, and excluding all the accumulated Profits in question, there was sufficient Commercial Property to purchase the proposed Annuity in Consols.

But further, whilst Parliament, since the Acquisition of the Dewannee, has restrained the Amount of Dividends, it has imposed no Limit upon the Growth of the Trading Capital; and so far from objecting to the Company's Title to the whole of the Trading Stock as it stood at the Commencement of the present Term, made Provision in the Act of 1813 against any Diminution of its Amount, through the continued Connexion with the Territory, by requiring a Reimbursement to the Company in full of all Sums expended by them for Political Charges, and so binding is that Enactment considered, that the Court, according to the Advice of Counsel (of which you have been apprized) are at liberty, without any Control on the Part of the Board, to require the Indian Government to replace the Portion of the Company's Capital now due, as the Balance of Political Expenditure in England.

We must also remind you, that the ulterior Appropriations to which the Home Profits might have been considered applicable under the Act of 1793 were cancelled and repealed by the Act of the 53d Geo. III. Cap. 155, Sec. 61; and that the Fourth Section of that Act expressly provided for the Continuance by the Company, after 1834, of Trade "with all or any Part of their joint Stock in Trade, Goods, Merchandize, Estates, and Effects." Provision of that Nature appears to have been made in successive Enactments since the 3d Geo. II Cap 14, which in the most express Terms recognizes the Right of the Company, collectively and individually, whenever their exclusive Privilege shall cease, to any Property and Estates which they may possess beyond the subscribed Capital. You have raised a further Question,— "Whether the whole of the Company's Commercial Property be not legally responsible for those Debts and Engagements which have been contracted in the Company's Name for Political and Territorial Purposes, and whether it will not continue so responsible, even although the Company should be wholly deprived of their Political Powers and Functions?"

The Court are entirely persuaded, that if you, Sir, and His Majesty's other Ministers, had more fully reflected upon all the Bearings and Circumstances of this Case, you would at least have paused before you gave Currency, with the Sanction of such high Authority, to the Doubt propounded in the Passage which we have now quoted, and would have seen that Questions regarding the Liabilities of the Territorial and Commercial Branches respectively, when severed by such a Scheme as that which is now proposed, must be solved upon Principles of substantial Justice rather than by subtle Refinements of Law.

We appeal to you, Sir, we appeal to the King's Ministers generally, whether it can consist with common Justice that the Trading Stock of a Commercial Corporation should be held liable for the Political Debts of the British Empire in India, which Empire would, in the Case assumed, be wrested from the Company by an Act of Power; we say "wrested," because that which you characterize as "a pure Gift from the British Parliament" that Parliament has distinctly reserved as a Question never yet decided.

The Ground of the supposed Liability is, that the Territorial Debt was contracted in the Name of the Company. But, Sir, if there be any Validity in that Reasoning, what (the Court ask, and they do so with the utmost Respect,) what becomes of the Territory itself, every Inch of which has been acquired by and is held in the Name of the Company?

What becomes again of the Civil Servants of India, who are all under Covenants to the Company? Or what, lastly, becomes of the Indian Army, every Member of which is bound by Allegiance to the Company? Is it not abundantly clear, that as the Company, using but One Name, have acted in a Twofold Capacity, the mutual Engagements and Liabilities of the Territorial and Commercial Branches must possess their separate and distinctive Characters, and therefore that the Territory and the Territorial Debt must go together?

The Court remark, that after raising the Question regarding the Liabilities of the Commercial Property to the Debt of India, you suggest that the
Territorial

Territorial Creditor has no direct Lien upon India, notwithstanding that Parliament has provided that the Interest of the Debt shall be paid out of the Territorial Revenues, and that no Portion of such Interest shall be paid out of the Commercial Funds.

When we advert to those Parts of the Act of 1813 which make the Interest of the Debt a Territorial Charge exclusively, and guard against any Deterioration of the Commercial Property through the Company's Connexion with the Territory, we can scarcely conceive it possible that a Moment's Doubt should be entertained that if Parliament did not technically, it did virtually, substantially, and in good Faith, grant to the Indian Creditor a Lien upon the Territorial Revenues for his Principal.

Whilst the Court, in vindication of the Rights and Interests of their Constituents, have felt it necessary to make the foregoing Observations, they request us to assure you, that far from having any Desire that the Company should pursue their Claims "with unqualified Rigour," they see no Objection to a Settlement upon the Principle of fair and liberal Compromise. That Principle is, in fact, recognized by the Committee of Correspondence in their Minute of the 2d of January.

By acceding to the Compromise which the King's Ministers have proposed the Company would surrender every Right and all the Property that they possess; but, on the other hand, what would the Territory relinquish? Nothing, absolutely nothing. It would indeed lose, and the Court deeply regret that it should lose, the large Advantages which it derives from the Company's Trade; but, as the Result of the Compromise, the Territory would evidently relinquish nothing, the Charge of the Annuity being, as you observe, countervailed by Diminution of Debt through an Application of the Commercial Assets. Not only would the Territory be no Loser by the Arrangement, it would positively be a Gainer to the Extent of the Surplus of the Commercial Property after providing the Dividend.

To this you will probably object, that we are thus assuming the Territory to have no Right to the Commercial Assets. We are so. We take that Ground, and contend that it is perfectly substantial, and consistent with the Act of the 53d Geo. III. Cap. 155, which has subjected the Territory to all its present Charges (and they are not to be increased by the suggested Arrangements), and has guarded against any Encroachment by the Territory on the Commercial Assets.

In proposing to the Company to accept as an Equivalent for all their Property and Claims an Annuity of 630,000*l*, payable half-yearly, or, in other Words, a Dividend, at the present Rate of 10½ per Cent, secured upon India, the King's Ministers appear to have been guided by the Appropriation Clauses in the Acts of 1793 and 1813, and the Court admit that the Intention of Parliament, probably in both of those Enactments, but certainly in the latter, was to secure to the Proprietors always the Dividend of 10½ per Cent., and no more, until certain Reductions should have been effected in the Territorial Debts. It is, however, equally clear, as indeed you seem to allow, that Parliament made that Arrangement because the Proprietors were entitled to Commercial Property fully sufficient to provide for such Dividend.

The King's Ministers now propose to grant the same Annuity, but to secure it upon the Indian Territory exclusively. The Court will candidly state their Two principal Objections to this Proposal. They object to it, first, because the Plan gives the Board of Commissioners, who alone of the Three Authorities to be entrusted with the Government of India will have no personal Interest in its Welfare, a Sway almost absolute, so that whatever the Proprietors and Directors shall think essential to the Security of the Dividend may be opposed and overruled by the Controlling Board; and, secondly, because in the event of the Finances of India becoming embarrassed, either through the Cessation of the Company's Trade, through the Occurrence of War, or from any other Cause, it may not be possible for India to pay the Dividend in addition to all other Charges; and although you intend the Dividend shall have Precedence of the Territorial Charges in England, yet the Court feel that it would not be possible, neither would it be proper, for the Company, as Rulers of India, to receive from the Territorial Revenues, for their own Use, any thing until all current Obligations had been met. What would be said if India required Stores to prosecute a War, and the Company

No 18.

The Chairman and
Deputy Chairman
to
Rt. Hon C Grant,
27th Feb. 1833.

refused to send them, because there were not the Means to pay for the Stores without trenching on the Dividend? Even under the Operation of the Act of 1813 the Company have not escaped from Imputations (most unjust and unfounded, we admit,) of receiving a Dividend to the Inconvenience of the Territory. We entreat, Sir, your Attention, and that of your Colleagues, to this Fact, as strongly confirming the Objection which the Court have expressed. You will find, on reference to the Financial Despatch to Bengal, dated the 24th of September 1828, par. 259, that Lord Amherst, when Governor General, adopted as his own View the Statement of his Secretary, that the Consignment of Bullion to the Company from India, in Repayment of Territorial Expenditure at Home, would raise the popular Cry "that we had looked merely to Commercial Dividend"

The Court are indeed aware that at present Priority is given to the Dividend over Political Charges; but then the Dividend is paid out of Commercial Funds, Provision being made that, in the event of Deficiency of Means to meet Political Demands, Parliament shall supply it. You have not proposed a Continuance of this Provision, nor do the Court ask it, although they feel with their Committee, that it would "not have been unreasonable to expect that some Provision would be made by the Country to compensate the Company for the Services which they have rendered, for the Risks which they have run, and for the Sacrifices which they are called upon to make." They are most sincerely desirous that the Adjustment of the Company's Affairs should be effected without subjecting Great Britain to the remotest pecuniary Liability on account of India.

But the Court trust that His Majesty's Ministers will see the Propriety of more effectually guarding the Interests of the Proprietors. At present the Property upon which the Security for the Dividend rests is principally embarked in a Trade which centres in England, and some Parts of it are actually invested in the Public Securities of this Country, and now that the Trade is to cease, the Court submit, that if the Dividend is to be charged upon India, the least which the Proprietors are entitled to expect is, that some collateral Security for the regular Payment of the Dividend, and ultimately, if necessary, the Principal, in the Shape of an effective Sinking Fund, based upon the Investment in the National Stocks of some Portion of the Commercial Assets, should be established.

This Proposal need not interfere with the Wish which the King's Government has to bind up the Interests of the Proprietors with those of India; nor is it opposed to, on the contrary, it is perfectly consistent with, the Principle of every Parliamentary Enactment which has contemplated the Formation of a Guarantee Fund; neither would it be calculated to act prejudicially upon the Finances of India, as, upon the Fund being equal to meet the Demand of the Proprietors in full, the Interest on the accumulated Amount would belong to the Territory. If, as we can scarcely permit ourselves to doubt, you should be pleased to entertain this Suggestion, there will not, we think, be any Difficulty in adopting it upon a satisfactory Basis. But the Court are decidedly of opinion, that without some Arrangement of the sort Justice will not be done to the Rights and Interests of Proprietors.

The Court would further submit, whether, at the Expiration of the Term of the Annuity (which we are glad to find is not to be a short one), the Proprietors should not receive as much Principal as is now to be applied out of their Property to the Discharge of Territorial Debt.

In considering these Suggestions, dictated by an earnest Desire to meet as far as possible the Views of His Majesty's Ministers, we entreat, Sir, that it may be recollected that the Proprietors are asked to surrender, not only all their Property and Claims, but also their Right to trade in perpetuity. You say, indeed, that the latter Condition is not required, and that the Right to trade is to remain only in abeyance; but as the Proposals involve the Transfer to the Territory of all the Company's Trading Capital, the Arrangement must be regarded as virtually including a Surrender of the Right to trade,—a Right with which it must be remembered that the Company were originally invested for the Attainment of an important National Object, to which neither individual Enterprize nor Means were adequate, and which it is acknowledged has produced the most important and beneficial Results to India and to England.

Before

Before we conclude this Letter we deem it important to call your Attention to Two Points. First, the Period to be allowed to the Company for winding up their Commercial Concerns. We presume that that will be the Period fixed for the Commencement of the open Trade. It would, we think, be only deluding the Public and injuring the Company, or rather the Indian Territory, supposing the proposed Arrangement to be carried into effect, to sanction a Free Trade with China previously to the Disposal of the large Stock of Teas retained by the Company in obedience to the Law, and this will not be effected until June 1836. And, secondly, the Necessity of making Provision out of the Company's Property for outstanding Commercial Obligations, and for suitable Pensions to the Servants of the Company whose Interests may be affected by the Change of System.

We have only to add, that nothing which we have said now, or upon any former Occasion, is to be considered in the least Degree as committing the Proprietors to whom the Proposals of the King's Ministers when finally matured, and we trust, for the sake of all Parties, considerably modified, will be submitted.

You may be assured, Sir, that no Delay which the Court can avoid shall occur in their taking the Sense of their Constituents. You must be aware, however, that some Time must necessarily be occupied in doing so, and we are persuaded that in stating that, if no Decision of the Proprietors should be communicated to you by the 23d of March, you would feel yourself compelled to consider it as a declining of the Proposal, it could not have been your Wish or Intention to force on a premature Decision on Questions of such grave and vital Importance to the East India Company.

We have the Honour to be, Sir,
Your most obedient Servants,

(Signed) J. G. RAVENSHAW.
C. MARJORIBANKS

The Right Hon. Charles Grant M.P.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 18

The Chairman and
Deputy Chairman
to
Rt. Hon. C. Grant,
27th Feb 1833.

No. 19.

AT a SECRET COURT of DIRECTORS, held on Friday the 15th March 1833,

THE Chairman laid before the Court a Letter from the Right Honourable Charles Grant, dated at the India Board the 14th Instant, and received this Day, acknowledging the Letter from the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the 27th Ultimo which conveyed the Sentiments of the Court on the Paper of Hints respecting the Company's Charter transmitted by Mr. Grant to the Chairman on the 17th December last, and on the Statements and Arguments contained in Mr. Grant's Letter of the 12th Ultimo, and explaining the Views and Intentions of His Majesty's Ministers upon the Points in which the Court conceive the Plan to be seriously, if not conclusively, objectionable, reserving for future Discussion many of the Topics touched upon by the Court, and which do not involve the Court's Approbation or Rejection of the Plan.

The said Letter was read;
And after a Discussion of some Length,
The further Consideration thereof was adjourned until To-morrow.

No 19

Secret Court
of Directors,
15th March 1833

No. 20.

LETTER from the Right Honourable CHARLES GRANT to the Chairman and Deputy Chairman.

(Secret.)

Gentlemen,

I HAVE the Honour to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of the 27th Ultimo, expressing in detail your Sentiments on the Paper of Hints transmitted by me to the Chairman on the 17th of last December, and on the Statements and Arguments contained in my Letter to you of the 12th Ultimo;

(20.)

G 4

India Board, 14th March 1833

No. 20.

Rt. Hon. C. Grant
to
The Chairman and
Deputy Chairman,
14th March 1833.

No 20.
 Rt. Hon. C. Grant
 to
 The Chairman and
 Deputy Chairman,
 14th March 1833.

and in the Promptitude of this Communication I recognize with Pleasure a Proof of your Determination to conduct the present Discussion with all the Celerity which may consist with the serious and vital Importance of the Questions to which it relates.

Having attentively perused the Observations which you have offered, and, in connexion with them, having carefully reconsidered the Subject at large, I should have been happy to reply to your Letter with the Fulness and Minuteness to which it is entitled, and in the Course of that Reply to enter into such Defence, Explanation, or Qualification of the Opinions before stated by me as might be most agreeable to Truth and Justice; but I am, on mature Reflection, satisfied that I shall best consult both your Wishes and the Public Interests by confining my present Communication to those essential Points on which, as I understand you to intimate your Acquiescence in the Plan of Compromise tendered to you by His Majesty's Government, and your Recommendation of that Plan to your Constituents, are suspended.

Your Letter, naturally following mine into a considerable Extent of Remark and Disquisition, touches on many Topics which, whatever their intrinsic Importance, or even their Relevancy to the general Subject of the Connexion between this Country and India, are comparatively immaterial in the particular Stage which the present Discussion has attained. They do not involve your Approbation or Rejection of the Plan proposed by His Majesty's Ministers. Such Topics, therefore, I shall on this Occasion altogether avoid, not only from the Necessity of economizing Time, but from the obvious Expediency of narrowing the Field of Debate to the Matters really at issue.

In taking this Course, I need scarcely request that I may not be misunderstood, as meaning to treat with Disrespect those of your Statements and Reasonings which I leave unnoticed; and, on the other hand, I must be allowed distinctly to ask, that my Silence regarding such Statements and Reasonings may not be construed into an Admission of their Correctness.

The Discussion now opened must for some Time, and in various Shapes, occupy the Attention of His Majesty's Ministers, of the Company, and of the Nation. The Progress of it is therefore likely to afford an Abundance of Opportunities, far more convenient than the present, of elucidating, in all its Branches and Bearings, the Plan under Review, and of examining the various Opinions respecting it which may have been expressed by any of the Parties concerned.

I will therefore proceed at once to state in concise Terms the Points in which, as I collect from your Letter, the Court of Directors conceive the Plan to be seriously if not conclusively objectionable; and on each of these I shall, with the same Brevity, and with as little of Comment as possible, explain the Views and Intentions of His Majesty's Ministers.

First, The Court apprehend that the Effect, though not the Design, of the Plan will be, "that the Company, instead of forming, as they now do, an integral, independent, and important Part of the Machinery by which the Government of India is conducted, will be reduced to a State of Weakness and Dependence incompatible with the right Performance of the Duty assigned to them.

"Divested of their Commerce, from which the Company derive so large a Portion of their Influence and Character in England, as a Body independent of the Government of this Country, the Court greatly fear lest they should become merely an Instrument for giving Effect to the Views of the Indian Minister."

It is afterwards stated that the Plan may be expected, though not so intended, "to convert the Court into a Government Board."

To these, and other general Allegations of the same kind, I will here return this general Answer, that it is the Intention of His Majesty's Ministers that the Court and the Board shall, in all material Points, retain the same comparative Powers, and occupy the same relative Position as at the present Moment; and the Ministers believe that, notwithstanding the Loss of that Commerce, and the consequent Extinction of that Commercial Influence which the Company have hitherto possessed, that Body will on the whole preserve, without sensible Diminution, and in some respects with increased Effect, its present Importance and Independence as a Part of the Machinery employed in the Administration of the Government of India.

Of course it cannot be meant or anticipated that the Court shall be reduced to the Situation of a Government Board. No such Intention can fairly be inferred, nor can any such Consequence follow from that Disjunction of Commercial and Political Functions which, after the most careful Advetence to the Experience of the past, His Majesty's Ministers deem essential to the good Government of our Indian Empire.

Secondly. The Court complain that according to the Government Plan the Board is to be authorized to send Dispatches to India directly, and without admitting of any Appeal; and they recommend the Allowance of an Appeal on the Merits of important Cases, arising out of the Government of India, on which the Board and the Court may differ, or at the least some Provision for a Communication of such disputed Cases to Parliament

In answer, I request the Attention of the Court to the following explanatory Remarks and Statements:

1st The Right of Appeal by Petition to the King in Council which the Court now possess under the Act of the 33d Geo. III Cap. 52, Section 16, is applicable only to Cases in which a Question arises whether a Dispatch sent by the Board, to the Court for Transmission to India relates to Matters of Commerce on the one hand, or to those of Government or Revenue on the other. When the Company's Commerce has ceased no such Question can arise, and the Right of Appeal expires as a Matter of Course.

2dly. Cases may occur in which the Court dispute the Lawfulness of an Order or Instruction proposed by the Board to be transmitted to India, and for these some Provision must be made; but whether by referring them to any of the established Tribunals of the Country, or to some Judicature specially appointed, or in what other precise Mode, will be Matter of future Discussion. His Majesty's Ministers see no Reason to doubt that a Mode satisfactory to both Parties may without much Difficulty be found, by which, on the Court's presenting a Remonstrance against the Legality of an Order or Instruction, the Question may be brought to a final Decision, the Time to be limited within which such Remonstrance must be preferred

3dly If the Time so allowed be exhausted without any Remonstrance, or if the Matter drop by default of the Court, or be decided against the Court, the Court shall send out the Dispatch to India within a further limited Space of Time

4thly. The Dispatches hereafter transmitted by the Court to India shall not be signed by the Directors or any of them, but such Dispatches shall, as now, be drawn up in the Name of the Court, and an Officer of the Court shall be empowered to send them out, signed by him, in the Name and by the Order of the Court, first affixing to them the Company's Seal.

5thly. In the event of the Court neglecting or refusing to transmit to India, within a limited Time, any Dispatch sent to them by the Board for such Transmission, which by Law they ought so to transmit, the Board may direct the proper Officer of the Court forthwith to transmit such Dispatch with the same Formalities as if it had been delivered to him for that Purpose by Order of the Court, and such Officer shall, on pain of Forfeiture of his Situation, be bound to obey the Direction.

6thly. His Majesty's Ministers are clearly of opinion that in Cases of Difference between the Court and the Board no Appeal to any Third Party on the Merits can be allowed, nor can any new or express Provision be made for the Communication of such Cases to Parliament Even under the present System, however, Matters in dispute between the Two Authorities in question may in many Ways be brought under the Notice of Parliament, and this species of Reference will be equally practicable under the new Arrangement.

Thirdly. The Court object to that Part of the Government Plan which provides, as stated in the Paper of Hints, that the Board shall have the same Power with regard to Pensions or Salaries below 200l a Year, and to Gratuities below 600l, as they now have with regard to Pensions, Salaries, and Gratuities above these Amounts; and farther, that the Home Expenditure and Establishments shall be under the Control of the Board.

The Court consider the independent Power which they now possess of rewarding Services, and conferring pecuniary Benefits, to be of essential Importance to the efficient Exercise of their Functions. They complain also

(20.)

H.

No. 20.

Rt. Hon. C. Grant
to
The Chairman and
Deputy Chairman,
14th March 1833.

No. 20.
 Rt. Hon. C. Grant,
 to
 The Chairman and
 Deputy Chairman,
 14th March 1833.

that the Board should have power of Control over the very Officers and Servants whom they employ.

On this Part of the Subject I can truly say that nothing is more foreign from the Wish of His Majesty's Ministers than that the Court should unnecessarily be deprived of any of the Means or Opportunitites which, under the present System, they enjoy of remunerating Service, or of conferring Marks of Grace or Munificence, but the Board cannot forget that the Functions of Control and Inspection with which they themselves are invested have a special Reference to the Territorial Revenues of India, and that under the new Order of Things those Revenues will constitute the only Fund on which Pension, Salary, or Gratuity can be charged.

The Board do not therefore conceive that it will be possible to leave to the Court that discretional Application of the Revenues, for the Purpose of conferring Rewards or Favours, which the Court are desirous of possessing; nor, on the other hand, can the Board admit that the Exercise of the Control, which would constitutionally belong to themselves, over the Application of any Part of the Revenues to the Purposes in question, as well as over any other Application of them, could possibly operate to the Diminution or Disparagement of the just Dignity of the Company.

The Expenditure connected with the Home Establishment partly falls within the Scope of the same Observations, but partly also rests on different Grounds. Here also the Territory is the Source of Supply; but the Object of the Expenditure is of prime Necessity, and at the same Time of limited and ascertainable Extent; and the general Purposes of Control can be answered without a minute Inspection of Items.

The Ministers are not aware of any Objection to the Introduction of a legislative Provision by which a specified Sum to be agreed on from Time to Time between the Court and the Board should be placed in the Hands of the Court, to be applied in defraying the Charges of the Home Establishment, Care being taken that the Disposal of such Sum should be accounted for to the Board, but the Board not being invested with any Power of Interference in the Details of such Disposal, nor having any Voice, collectively or individually, in determining what Persons shall be employed as Officers or Servants in the Home Establishment, or according to what Rule or Scale they shall be promoted or remunerated.

The Fourth Objection offered by the Court, and the last which I feel it necessary to notice, relates to that fundamental Part of the Government Plan which proposes to secure the Annuity to be in future received by the Proprietors of India Stock in the Indian Territory exclusively.

On this very important Subject I should fear to do Injury to your Remarks and Suggestions by attempting to abridge them; and, on the other hand, an exact Transcript would swell this Address to an inconvenient Length. I will therefore content myself with referring to your Letter thus generally, and will proceed to request your Attention to the following Observations:

1st. His Majesty's Ministers are distinctly of opinion, that, under the Operation of the Plan, no moral or honorary Obligation will attach on the Company to postpone their Receipt of their Dividends to the Satisfaction of all other current Demands of the Territory; but, on the contrary, that those Dividends will be payable, and ought always to be paid, as the Interest of the Territorial Creditors has hitherto been paid, on the Day on which they fall due, and that the Estimates and Arrangements necessary to obviate all Risk of a Failure in the punctual Discharge of them ought to be considered as a Matter of paramount Importance in the Management of the Indian Finances.

Let it be recollected, that the Proprietors, when transferred to India, will stand precisely in the Position of the Territorial Creditors, and ought in all respects to enjoy the same Rights. Farther, it is a Matter of the utmost Concern, even to the Territory itself, that the Dividends of the Proprietors should be punctually realized. No Room exists, therefore, for subjecting the Proprietors to the supposed Obligation for which the Court contend. In order, however, to obviate any Embarrassment on the Subject, His Majesty's Ministers think that it will be proper and would not be difficult to provide, by express Enactment, against the Inconvenience which the Court apprehend.

2dly. The Government are most anxious to meet so far as they are able the Wish expressed by the Court, that the Interest of the Proprietors should be fortified by some collateral Security in the Shape of a Sinking Fund, formed by the Investment of a Portion of the Commercial Assets in the National Stocks of this Country. Their Power, however, of acceding to this Wish is necessarily limited by the Obligation under which they feel themselves to be placed of maintaining the general Principles of the proposed Arrangement.

If, by Investment in the National Stocks, a large Fund were provided, under the Condition of immediately indemnifying the Proprietors for any Failure in the current Payment of their Dividends, it must be obvious that one great Principle of the Arrangement, that is, the Principle of identifying the Interests of the Proprietors, as such, with those of the Indian Territory, would in a great measure be sacrificed. On the other hand, it seems to the Government that Security may, in a certain Form, be afforded to the Proprietors against eventual Loss, without any material Prejudice to the Principle in question, and even with some Advantage to the practical Operation of the Plan in other respects.

With this view the Government propose, —

That there shall be taken out of the Commercial Assets of the Company the Sum of 1,200,000*l.* Sterling, which shall be invested in the National Stocks or other Public Securities of this Country, and shall, with its accumulated Interest, form a Fund, as a Guarantee or collateral Security for the Capital Stock of the Company, and applicable to its future Redemption.

That this Sum shall not, nor shall any Part of it, nor of the Dividends arising from it, be applied to any other Purpose than the Formation of such Guarantee Fund for the Object just mentioned, but that it shall be suffered to accumulate until it shall be applied, as herein-after mentioned, towards the Redemption of the Annuity of 630,000*l.*, or until it shall, together with its Accumulations, amount to the Sum of Twelve Millions, after which no further Accumulation shall take place; but all the subsequent Interest or Dividends shall be applied, at the Option of the Directors and the Board, either towards the Discharge of the Principal of the general Territorial Debt of India, or in some other Manner for the Benefit of the Territory.

That at the Time which shall have been fixed by Parliament as the Period when the Annuity of 630,000*l.* payable out of the Territory to the Proprietors shall become redeemable, the whole of the Guarantee Fund as it then subsists, and whether it shall then be of the Amount of Twelve Millions or of any lower Amount, shall be applied in or towards the Redemption of that Annuity on the Terms which shall have been prescribed by Parliament

In carrying into effect this Scheme it may be convenient to the Company to avail themselves of the Debt owing to them from the Public of 1,207,559*l.* 15*s.*, which, under the Act of the 33d George III Cap 47, Section 7, they are entitled to receive on the Determination of their exclusive Privileges. The Government are ready to repay that Debt on the Part of the Public, or, should the Company prefer it, to retain the Sum of 1,200,000*l.* in their Hands as a Loan, paying such Interest for it as may hereafter be agreed upon. In the former Case the Sum would merge into the general Mass of the Commercial Assets of the Company, and would of course fall under the general Operation of the proposed Arrangement, in the latter, it would form the Nucleus of the Guarantee Fund, the accruing Interest being invested for the Purpose of Accumulation.

I should hope that the Scheme of which I have thus given the Outline will remove any Degree of Difficulty which the Court might otherwise feel in approving of the Proposition of the Government. With the sincerest Anxiety to satisfy every reasonable Wish on the Part of the Proprietors, His Majesty's Ministers are of opinion that they would not be justified in proposing further Concessions. They rest at the same Time in the Persuasion, that in modifying, so far as they have now done, their Plan as originally proposed, they do not deviate from its essential Principles.

The Dividend intended for the Proprietors remains unaltered; it is that Amount of Dividend which they now receive under the Charter Act. A Guarantee is indeed given to the Proprietors for the ultimate Security of their Capital; but while this is calculated to increase their Confidence in the general Operation of the Plan, it is, on the other hand, made their Interest and their

No. 20.

Rt. Hon. C. Grant,
to
The Chairman and
Deputy Chairman,
14th March 1833.

No. 20.
 Rt. Hon. C. Grant
 to
 The Chairman and
 Deputy Chairman,
 14th March 1833

their Duty in the meantime to co-operate with the Court and the Government in promoting the Resources and economising the Expenditure of India. Farther, the Effect of the Scheme is to collect in the Hands of the State a Fund which may, at the proper Conjunction, be applied towards the Redemption of the Annuity of the Proprietors, sparing *pro tanto* the Necessity of any particular Effort for that Purpose. At the same Time India loses no Part of the Principal Sum thus abstracted for a Season from the Fund destined to the Use of the Territory. She loses, indeed, the Difference produced in point of Interest by investing the Sum in England; but this is the Price paid for the Benefits which, if the Anticipations of Ministers be just, she will derive from the Plan in other respects.

I must add, in this Place, that it is impossible that the Court or the Company should entertain a deeper Conviction of the Importance of Economy in the Administration of our Indian Empire than that with which His Majesty's Ministers, and particularly the Members of the Indian Board, are impressed. Even the Distrust so strongly expressed by the Court of the future Competence of the Indian Revenue to sustain by its unaided Force the Burdens to be imposed on it cannot increase the Anxiety which the Government before felt to take all possible Means of obviating just Apprehension on this Subject.

Undoubtedly the Hope of a diminished Expenditure is mainly founded on the Necessity for it, that it will be felt to exist under a System which precludes all extraneous Sources of Income; but this Foundation, however good, will not of itself suffice. Much Care will be requisite in providing, and much Firmness as well as Diligence in carrying into effect, auxiliary Arrangements directed to the same End. I do not now enter into the Details of such Arrangements, as this would lead me into an extended Variety of Observation foreign to the Purpose of the present Address; but I deemed it my Duty not to lose the Opportunity of manifesting the general Sentiments of His Majesty's Government in relation to the immediate Subject of your Solicitude.

Before I conclude I feel myself called upon to advert to Two other Topics, though they belong in strictness to Matters of Detail.

To one of these you have very properly called my Attention; I mean, "the Necessity of making Provision out of the Company's Property for outstanding Commercial Obligations, and for suitable Pensions to the Servants of the Company, whose Interests may be affected by the Change of System."

On this Point I wish to observe, that the Assignment of the Company's Commercial Property must necessarily involve also a Transfer to the Government of all the Obligations, whether of a legal kind, or binding on the Ground of Equity and Liberality, which may attach to that Property; and to the Claims of both Descriptions the Government are prepared to give every fair and proper Degree of Consideration; but as the Recognition of such Claims forms no Part of the present Negotiation, you will, I trust, be satisfied with this general Assurance.

The other Point on which I must touch relates to the Mode of appointing and educating the Youths destined to the Civil Service of India.

On a full Consideration of the Provision for this Purpose contained in the Paper of Hints, the Government feel a strong Doubt whether the Principle on which that Provision proceeds ought not to be carried to a greater Extent. I make this Reservation for the sake of Caution; but it was, I conceive, fully understood that all such Provisions in the Paper of Hints as have not been brought into view by the Secret Committee or the Court of Directors, during the present Correspondence, should remain perfectly open for Consideration until those Articles which are to constitute the Basis of the Arrangement between the Government and the Company should have been definitively determined.

In respect of those fundamental Points, the Views of His Majesty's Government are now fully before you. Alterations of Detail may undoubtedly be suggested and discussed hereafter; but I must frankly state that His Majesty's Ministers feel it their Duty to call for a Decision on the Arrangement as it now stands, and that it will not be in their Power to entertain the Proposal of any Additions or Modifications in the Character of Conditions precedent to the Adoption of the Plan on the Part of the Company.

I have

I have further to add my Request, that the Subject may at your earliest Convenience be submitted to the Court of Proprietors, together with the Correspondence relating to it.

You do me no more than Justice in acquitting me of any Wish or Intention to force on a premature Decision on Questions so important to the East India Company. In proof of the Absence of any such Inclination, I beg to mention that I have no Desire to adhere to the Period specified in my last Letter as the Limit of Deliberation on the Subject. It is still, however, my anxious Wish to bring the Matter before Parliament at the earliest possible Period, and I continue to rely with Confidence on your Assurance that no unnecessary or avoidable Delay shall take place in the Course of your further Proceedings.

I have the Honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your most obedient humble Servant,
(Signed) CHARLES GRANT.

The Chairman and Deputy Chairman
of the Court of Directors.

No 20.

Rt Hon C Grant
to
The Chairman and
Deputy Chairman,
14th March 1833

No. 21.

At a SECRET COURT OF DIRECTORS, held on Saturday the 16th March 1833,

THE COURT, resuming the Consideration of the Letter from the Right Honourable Charles Grant, dated the 14th Instant, in reply to the Letter from the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the 27th Ultimo,—

It was ordered that the said Letter be referred to the Consideration of a Committee of the Whole Court

Whereupon the Court resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole Court accordingly.

No 21.

Secret Court
of Directors,
16th March 1833

No. 22.

At a SECRET COMMITTEE of the Whole COURT, held on Saturday the 16th March 1833,

THE COMMITTEE, pursuant to the Court's Reference of this Day, proceeding to the Consideration of a Letter from the Right Honourable Charles Grant, dated at the India Board the 14th Instant, explaining, in reference to the Letter from the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the 27th Ultimo, the Views and Intentions of His Majesty's Ministers upon the Points in which the Court conceive the Propositions submitted by Ministers respecting the Company's Charter to be seriously if not conclusively objectionable;

The Chairman laid before the Committee the Draft of a proposed Letter to Mr. Grant, in reply to his Communication above mentioned;

And the Committee, having deliberated thereon, adjourned to Monday the 18th Instant.

No 22

Secret Committee
of the Whole Court,
16th March 1833

No. 23.

At a SECRET COMMITTEE of the Whole COURT, held on Monday the 18th March 1833,

THE COMMITTEE resumed the Consideration of the Draft of a proposed Letter to the Right Honourable Charles Grant, which was read in the Committee on the 16th Instant, in reply to his Letter of the 14th Instant, in which he explains the Views and Intentions of His Majesty's Ministers upon the Points in which the Court conceive the Propositions submitted by His Majesty's Ministers respecting the Company's Charter to be seriously if not conclusively objectionable.

The said Draft of a Letter was again read;

And some Amendments having been agreed to therein,

(20.)

H 3

It

No 23.

Secret Committee
of the Whole Court,
18th March 1833

No. 23.

Secret Committee
of the whole Court,
18th March 1833.

It was further proposed to amend that Paragraph which relates to the Guarantee Fund by leaving out the Words, "there should be added to the 1,200,000*l.*, the Stock now standing in the Company's Name, amounting to 891,000*l.* Three per Cent. Stock," and by substituting the following, viz. "it should amount to the Sum of 3,000,000*l.*"

And the Question, "that the Words proposed to be left out stand Part of the Letter," being put by the Ballot,

It passed in the Affirmative.

The said Letter, as amended, was then approved.

No 24.

AT a SECRET COURT OF DIRECTORS, held on Monday the 18th March 1833,

No 24.

Secret Court
of Directors,
8th March 1833.

DRAFT of a Letter which had this Day been agreed to by a Committee of the Whole Court to the Right Honourable Charles Grant, in reply to his Letter of the 14th Instant, was read and approved.

No. 25.

LETTER to the Right Honourable CHARLES GRANT from the Chairman and Deputy Chairman.

No. 25.

The Chairman and
Deputy Chairman
to
Rt Hon^{ble} C Grant,
18th March 1833

Sir,

East India House, 18th March 1833.

WE have had the Honour to receive, and to lay before the Court of Directors, your Letter dated the 14th Instant.

The Court had hoped to be enabled to lay before the General Court, which is appointed to be held on Wednesday next, all the Correspondence upon the Subject of the Company's Charter, but as they are still without Information upon some Points, respecting which the Proprietors must be specifically informed before they can pass any Decision upon the Principles of the proposed Arrangement, and as there are other Points out of your Communication which seem to require Observation on the Part of the Company, it becomes the Duty of the Court to submit a further Representation to the King's Ministers previously to laying the Papers before the Proprietors.

In doing this, it will be quite unnecessary for the Court to say any thing in support of the Opinions upon the general Question which were expressed in our last Letter, as you have deemed it expedient to waive all Reply to the Arguments which were then adduced. The Court will therefore confine themselves to the Points to which you refer as really at issue, and to those upon which further Information seems requisite. First, with respect to the immediate Interests of the Proprietors, the Court must keep prominently in view what it is that the Company are called upon to surrender, and what they are to receive as an Equivalent. They are asked to surrender every thing which they possess as a Corporation; their Capital, computed at more than Twenty-one Millions Sterling, every Item of which is commercial in its Origin, and in the Character which it now bears;—their Right to trade, most valuable when considered in connexion with that Capital, and with the Position and Influence which the Company have established here and Abroad; and which Right, if they chose to exercise it, must greatly interfere with, if not altogether prevent, the Advantages which private Merchants expect to reap from a Free Trade with China;—their pecuniary Claims, some sanctioned by a Committee of Parliament, both in Principal and Amount, and all recognized either by Parliament, or in Parliament by Ministerial Statements;—their Lands, Forts, and Factories in India, for which they have as good a Title as that by which any private Property is held;—and, finally, their Claims in respect of the Territory at large, which up to the present Time Parliament has always reserved.

The Right of the Company to retain the whole of this Property, including an Equivalent for their Claims, has been questioned; and although the Court are satisfied of the Soundness of the Company's Title to all the Property,
and

and of the Validity of these Claims, yet they cannot be insensible to the Difficulties which might be opposed to their readily realizing and possessing themselves of the one, and obtaining a liberal Adjustment of the other, if the King's Government were adverse to the Company. This Consideration, pressed in your former Letter with such Force as to leave no Doubt that an adverse Disposition would arise towards the Company if they were to stand "on the Ground of strict Right," together with the Fear of Injury to India from the Transfer of the Government to other Hands, has induced the Court to entertain the Question of Compromise upon the Terms offered, viz a Surrender of the Property and Claims for an Annuity of 630,000*l*. The Adequacy of the Security for this Annuity is one of the Points at issue, and whilst the Court have no Desire to disparage the Financial Capabilities of India, they cannot shut their Eyes to the Fact, that the official prospective Estimates, as well those framed by the Authority of the Board as of the Court, all show a Deficit after 1834. With such a Prospect, and considering that the Proprietors had hitherto depended on the Security of a Property and Trade which centered in England, the Court felt it necessary to require that some collateral Security should be provided both for the Dividend and for the Capital, never intending by that Proposal to intimate that they despaired of removing the Territorial Deficit, which, on the contrary, they shall be rejoiced to be enabled to do by co-operating with you in such Measures as shall appear calculated to accomplish that Object without endangering our Tenure of India.

We observe with Satisfaction that the King's Ministers have met the Court's Suggestion so far as to propose that the Balance of that Portion of the original Subscriptions of the Proprietors which was lent to Government, and which Government must repay before the Company's exclusive Privilege can cease, amounting to 1,200,000*l*., shall be set apart to accumulate at Compound Interest until it amounts to Twelve Millions, and to form a Guarantee Fund to that Extent for the Capital, but for the Capital only.

The sole Effect of that Arrangement would be, that if at the End of Sixty or Seventy Years the Indian Territory should be enabled to redeem the Capital, it might be paid to the Extent of Twelve Millions out of this Fund; but, in the meantime, should the Territorial Revenue prove deficient in any one Year in the Remittances requisite to meet the Dividend, how is Delay in the Payment of it to be avoided unless there be some collateral Security?

We confidently submit to you, that the Guarantee Fund should apply to the Dividend as well as to the Capital, and that there should be added to the 1,200,000*l*. the Stock now standing in the Company's Name, amounting to 891,000*l*. Three per Cent Stock, whilst there cannot, we think, be the least Apprehension that this Extension of the Plan of a Fund so limited in Amount will lessen the Desire of the Company to promote the Financial Prosperity of India. The Fact of the Company's having that collateral Security for the Dividend will relieve the Court from the Imputation, to which they might otherwise be liable, of using their Political Power as Governors of India for the Purpose of extracting Dividends from that Country at all Hazards. We do not, of course, mean that any Sum which the Fund may be required to pay for Dividend should be permanently alienated, our Object is to secure the Proprietors against the Consequences of a temporary Emergency in India. Should such Consequences arise, India would be called upon, when the Emergency had ceased, to make good the Payments in which she might have proved deficient.

The Court further request that you will have the goodness to apprise them of the Term of Years during which it is intended that the Dividend shall be irredeemable. They presume that the Government of India will continue with the Company for the same Term, otherwise the Essence of the whole Plan, that which you designate "a vital Condition of the Arrangement," the linking and binding up of the Interests of the Proprietors with "the Country which they are to assist in governing," will be lost.

We fear, from your saying nothing in reply to our Suggestion as to the Rate at which the Capital is to be redeemable, that we must conclude that the Ministers are not disposed to fix a higher Rate than 100*l*. for every 5*l*. 5*s*. of Annuity, as specified in the Paper of Hints; but we rely upon the Assurance

No. 25.

The Chairman and
Deputy Chairman
toRt. Hon C. Grant,
18th March 1833.

given to us in your Letter of the 19th Ultimo, that the Term of the Annuity will be of considerable Length.

It remains for us, upon this Part of the Subject, only to express the Thanks of the Court for the Intention which you have manifested of providing by a legislative Enactment for the Payment of the Dividend with the same Punctuality as is observed towards the Territorial Bond-holders,—an Arrangement which, combined with the Security of the Guarantee Fund when made applicable to the Dividend, cannot fail of being very satisfactory to the general Court.

When furnished with specific Information upon the Points to which we have adverted, the Proprietors will probably be enabled to decide whether or not they will agree to the general Principle of the proposed Compromise. We are at the same Time persuaded, that whatever may be their Decision in that respect, the Proprietors, looking as they have always done with the most anxious Regard to the Welfare of our Native Subjects, take a lively Interest in that Part of the Plan which relates to the future Administration of the Government of India, in which the Court now act as an intermediate Body, unconnected with the King's Ministers. If this Independence should cease, the Charm of the System by which the Affairs of India have been hitherto administered would vanish, and the best, perhaps the only Security for its Continuance, when the new Plan shall have come into operation, will be in affording the Court the Opportunity of giving Publicity to their Views in important Cases of Difference from the Board. Under this Impression, the Court suggested an Appeal upon such Cases, and the Communication of them to Parliament. You state that the King's Ministers are disposed to allow of an Appeal to some Tribunal upon Questions in which the Court may dispute the *Legality* of the Board's Act. The Court apprehend that such Cases are not very likely to arise, nor does it readily occur to them that any other Tribunal can be required to decide Matters of mere Legality than the ordinary Courts of Law. The Appeal desired was upon the Merits of Cases, not indeed generally, but those of a special Nature; for it never entered into the Contemplation of the Court that there should be a System of Appeal resorted to upon every Difference of Opinion. They conceived that if the Proposal were entertained there would be little Difficulty in limiting the Right of Appeal to Cases in which long Experience has proved it to be desirable; so that, if any Indian Minister should take upon himself Acts which appeared to the Court to be unconstitutional, to militate against the Principles of good Government, to interfere with substantial Justice to our Allies, or, what will be of great Importance under the new System, to invalidate or impair the Security of the Proprietors, there should be some Appeal against such Exercise of Authority, or at least some Means of enforcing the personal Responsibility of the Act, which, as the Court think, would be best accomplished by requiring the Communication of it to Parliament.

The Court much regret that Ministers should decline to acquiesce in the latter Proposal, and although, as you say, "Matters in dispute between the Two Authorities may in many Ways be brought under the Notice of Parliament," yet you must allow us to remind you, that independently of the Reluctance which the Court must always feel to push themselves before the Legislature in the Character of Disputants, there is great practical Difficulty in bringing to the Notice of Parliament important Cases connected with the Government of India. Papers may indeed be moved for; but unless the Ministers concur in the Motion, it must generally happen, as it has happened, that the Papers are refused.

We must repeat the Conviction of the Court, that Publicity as a Rule, and not as an Exception, is the most effectual Method that can be devised for maintaining a wholesome Check upon the Exercise of Power by the Board.

Such is the Nature of the Check (and we believe it to have been most salutary) under which the Court have exercised the Power, without reference to the Board, of making pecuniary Grants of limited Amount, the Particulars of which are systematically reported to Parliament.

The Court are concerned to perceive that Ministers refuse to sanction a Continuance of this Power, and upon a Ground which is unintelligible to the Court, viz. "that under the new Order of Things the Territorial Revenues will

E A S T I N D I A

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 5 June 1857,—for,

COPIES “of a DESPATCH from the Court of Directors to the Governor in Council at *Madras*, on the Revision of the Assessment in *South Arcot*.”

“Of DESPATCH from the Court of Directors to the Governor-General of *India* in Council, on the Proceedings in connexion with the Meriah Agency in *Ganjam and Orissa*.”

“Of DESPATCH from the same to the same, on the Abolition of the Moturpha and Veesabuddy Taxes at *Madras*.”

“Of DESPATCH from the same to the same, on the *Hyderabad* Assigned Districts ”

“And, of Three DESPATCHES from the same to the same, in the Public Works Department, on the Budgets for 1855-56 and 1856-57 ”

East India House, }
2 June 1857 }

JAMES C MELVILL

(Mr Seymour)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
8 June 1857.

L I S T.

	PAGE
Letter from Court of Directors to Government of Fort St. George, dated 18 July (No 11) 1855	3
Letter from Court of Directors to Government of India, dated 17 September (No 12) 1856	- 10
Letter from Court of Directors to Government of India, dated 5 November (No 17) 1856	- 12
Letter from Court of Directors to Government of India, dated 6 May (No 6) 1857	- - 14
Letter from Court of Directors to Government of India, dated 9 July (No 16) 1856	- - 21
Letter from Court of Directors to Government of India, dated 17 April (No 8) 1857	- - 33
Letter from Court of Directors to Government of India; dated 17 April (No 9) 1857	- - 42

East India House, }
2 June 1857. }

J. S. Mill,
Examiner of India Correspondence.

CORRESPONDENCE RELATING TO EAST INDIA AFFAIRS

Revenue Department, 18 July (No 11) 1855

Our Governor in Council at Fort St George

Revision of the Assessment of South Arcot, &c

Para 1 THE letters noted in the margin* report to us the measures now in progress for revising the assessment of the district of South Arcot

2 The two southern talooks, Manargoody and Chellumbrum, the small talook of Cuddalore, and some extensive jaghires which have reverted to Government, have never been subjected to a regular survey and assessment. The other ten (Hooloos) talooks, have been regularly surveyed, and the records are considered to be sufficiently accurate and complete to render a repetition of that operation unnecessary for the due revision of the assessment

3 The arrangements proposed by you for the survey of the southern talooks appear judicious, and we doubt not that they will be efficiently carried out by Captain Priestley, whose services you are fortunately enabled to avail yourselves of at this juncture. The measures for organizing additional survey parties which have been entrusted to that officer will, it is hoped, greatly expedite the progress of the work, and will enable you at no distant period to commence proceedings in other districts where similar operations are urgently required

4 We observe that you have agreed with the Board of Revenue in approving Captain Priestley's recommendation that "where several small fields come together, constituting an area not exceeding one acre in irrigated, and two acres in unirrigated land, they may be surveyed by his ameens in one, noticing however in the register the particulars of each small included field as per curnum's account" In other words, "the proposal is, that the total area of a few small fields should be plotted in the usual manner, but the component fields plotted within the scale by dotted lines, according to the measurement shown in the village accounts."

5 The Board explain that this arrangement has reference only to the professional survey, and they postpone coming to any decision on the subject of fixing a "minimum in a revenue point of view"

6 In the passage quoted in the margin,† the Board refer to the practice in this respect under the Bombay Presidency, and, although they have correctly stated the limitation of size in regard to survey fields, we believe that they are in error in supposing that any minimum "in a revenue point of view" was fixed for fields actually occupied by ryots, although the tendency of the rules is avowedly to favour the aggregation of the small fields, and to discourage the subdivision of those larger fields, which at the time of the survey constituted one holding ‡

7 With

* Letter, dated 1 November (No 75) 1853, Letter, dated 17 October (No 55) 1854, Letter, dated 6 December (No 72) 1854

† Para 26 "The inconvenience of such minute fields was found so great in Bombay, that they actually fixed a limit to holdings, both in the revenue as well as a survey view. They would recognise no field less than what a single pair of bullocks could cultivate—(Bombay Papers, page 4, para. 15, and Rule 1)—: the minimum size for unirrigated fields was fixed at 12 acres, and for rice lands 4. Garden land, it appears from the maps, might be much less."

‡ See Rule 7, at page 5, and Rules 5 to 9, at page 21 of Bombay printed papers, on the system of Revenue Survey and Assessment

7 With regard to the question of connecting Captain Priestley's operations with the grand trigonometrical survey, which you have for the present decided in the negative, as being likely to lead to delay and additional expense, without adding to the value of the work for revenue purposes, we think that it would be well to consult the Surveyor-general of India before finally disposing of the subject

8 We shall endeavour to meet your wishes to be provided with the services of a person acquainted with geology and agricultural chemistry, to be attached to the survey, for the purpose of reporting on the soils and mineral productions of the districts undergoing that operation, and of collecting specimens of both, one set to be preserved in each district, and another set forwarded for deposit in the Museum of Economic Geology at Madras

9 With regard to the ten Hooloos talooks of South Arcot, it is observed by the Board of Revenue, that although from the year 1820, representations have been made by various Collectors as to the necessity of lowering the assessment, no decided measures have ever been taken to afford relief to the ryots.

10 The arrangements now proposed by the Collector, and sanctioned by your Government, are to be based on the existing survey classification of the lands, correction being applied to errors and frauds where they may, in the course of the revision, be ascertained to exist

11 These remedial measures are summed up by the Board as follows —

“ Nunjah 1st To introduce a general single crop teerwah for all nunjah lands, an additional 50 per cent being imposed when a second crop is raised by the aid of circar water.

“ 2d To reduce the nunjah assessment 20 per cent on the whole, as the lowest rate, which will have a sensible effect on the cultivation, the amount of reduction in individual cases being dependent on circumstances.

“ Poonjah 3d To strike off the second crop teerwah, which was included in calculating the produce of some of the lands, and to fix the circar share at 33 instead of 50 per cent of the gross produce, the reduction in individual cases varying according to circumstances, as in the case of the nunjah fields.

“ Totacal 4th To abolish the distinction of totacal, and to bring the lands under the head of poonjah, placing those that have wells in the first tarum, and the others in those classes which will make them correspond with poonjah fields of similar soil and fertility ”

12 We shall notice these proposed measures seriatim.

13 This rule* has been so far modified as to limit the imposition of the additional assessment to those nunjah lands only, which now stand on the register as “ two crop,” or “ doubtful two crop,” lands, leaving the rest of the nunjah cultivation subject only to the single assessment. We approve of this relaxation, but the question has been raised, whether it would not be expedient to extend it to all the nunjah lands without exception. The Board of Revenue observe, that the question is one requiring great consideration, both on account of the large amount of revenue involved in it, and the various forms in which a second crop is now taxed in the different districts. They admit that the system is unavoidably accompanied with some fiscal disadvantages, such as postponing and complicating the annual settlements, and rendering it necessary for the lands of the ryots to be continually scrutinized. The Board solicit that the revision of the South Arcot assessment may be allowed to proceed on the principle of levying an additional cess for a second crop, and they propose in the meantime to take the general question into their consideration

14 To this suggestion you have acceded, with the proviso, that the consideration of the subject shall not be deferred to an indefinite period, but that it shall be recurred to at an early opportunity. If the question shall not have been already settled, we desire that it may be taken into immediate consideration, and the result reported to us

15. When

* “To introduce a general single crop teerwah for all nunjah lands, an additional 50 per cent. being imposed when a second crop is raised by the aid of circar water”

15. When the question shall be again brought before you, we desire that you bear in mind that one of the main objects to be regarded in the revision and improvement of your revenue system, is the imposition of a fixed assessment on the land, with a view to the reduction within the smallest practicable limits, of the interference of the native servants with the operations of the cultivators. If the lands of a village have to be annually scrutinized with the view of ascertaining whether a second crop has or has not been raised by the application of circar water to a portion of them, it is manifest that a minute and harassing interference must be resorted to, and we would readily submit to some temporary loss of revenue for the purpose of getting rid of what we consider so great an evil. The general rules which we should lay down for your guidance in these operations are, that the assessment should be fixed on so moderate a scale, that it could be always paid in ordinary years, and that the ryots should be held liable for the revenue of all the land, for which they should engage at the commencement of the Fusly, that remissions, if they cannot be entirely discontinued, should be restricted to seasons of extraordinary adversity, and that the only scrutiny which should be permitted, or would indeed in that case be required, should take place in such extraordinary years alone, when it might be necessary to ascertain what portion of the lands engaged for had necessarily remained unsown, or had proved more or less unproductive to the cultivators, with the view of equitably adjusting the amount of remission to be granted to the circumstances of the different cases.

16 This rule* has also been modified to the extent of authorising a reduction of 25 per cent. on the ten first tarums, or classes of irrigated land, and of 20 per cent on the remaining six tarums. Sufficient reasons are assigned for this distinction, which, it is stated, will afford a greater measure of relief to the heavily assessed lands which have hitherto been least in request for cultivation, and, in its practical operation, will tend to equalize the assessment of the western with that of the coast talooks, the land-tax on the former being at present lighter than in the latter.

17. The abolition of the second crop *teerwa*† on dry lands seems to have been sanctioned by Government so far back as 1837, but never to have been carried into effect. With regard to the proposed reduction of the circar share from 50 to 33 per cent of the gross produce, it is to be observed that the term "gross produce" has no reference to the produce of any particular year, but to the estimated produce of each field as recorded in the original survey accounts, which was converted into money at a fixed commutation price, for the purpose of ascertaining the amount of the assessment leviable by Government. The effect of the measure would, therefore, simply be a proportionate reduction in the existing assessment. The remission ultimately authorised was that of 33 per cent on the eight first tarums, and of 25 per cent on the four last, and we think that the reasons given for the distinction are satisfactory.

18. *Totacal*,‡ or garden land, will, under the operation of this rule, cease to appear as a distinct head of account. Any ryot, by digging a well on his *poonjah* land, can at once convert it into *totacal*, without being called on to pay any additional assessment, and the distinction will be of no practical advantage. In future revisions of assessment, the only distinction required will be that between irrigated (*nunjah*) and unirrigated (*poonjah*) land.

19 In connexion with these reductions, it has been resolved to abolish the *minha*, or allowance of 10 per cent. on the revenue now granted to certain privileged classes of cultivators. We agree with your Government in thinking that "these peculiar advantages or privileges rarely benefit the possessor, and serve only to maintain unjust and invidious distinctions."

20 We

* "2 To reduce the *nunjah* assessment 20 per cent on the whole, as the lowest rate, which will have a sensible effect on the cultivation, the amount of reduction in individual cases being dependent on circumstances."

† "3. *Poonjah* To strike off the second crop *teerwa*, which was included in calculating the produce of some of the lands, and to fix the circar share at 33 instead of 50 per cent. of the gross produce, the reduction in individual cases varying according to circumstances, as in the case of the *nunjah* fields."

‡ "4. *Totacal* To abolish the distinction of *totacal*, and to bring the lands under the head of *poonjah*, placing those that have wells in the first tarum, and the others in those classes which will make them correspond with *poonjah* fields of similar soil and fertility."

Directions for
Collectors of land
revenue, para 336

20 We also entirely concur with you in approving the proposal of the Collector for the formation of a district road fund, by a rentcharge on the land of one anna per cawny on the actual cultivation, which, in ordinary years, will give an annual sum of 25,000 rupees. You are doubtless aware that, in the settlement of the North-West Provinces, a fund for this purpose was obtained by a contribution of one per cent on the Government jumma, which the zemindars agreed to pay in commutation of the obligation which rested upon them to keep in repair the public roads passing through their estates. The mode of collection suggested by Mr. Maltby is probably, however, better adapted to the nature of the settlements prevailing generally in the districts under your Presidency

21 We will conclude this portion of our despatch by expressing our high sense of the clear, complete, and satisfactory manner in which Mr Maltby has placed the whole question of the assessment of the Hooloos talooks of South Arcot before you, and our satisfaction that, as a member of the Board of Revenue, he will be in a position to see that his recommendations, as approved and sanctioned by your Government, are fully and faithfully carried out by his successor in the district

22 We have perused with much satisfaction the minutes recorded by your President, and especially that of the 16th June 1854, in which, with reference to the statements before him, that portions of the richest and finest lands under your Presidency have been thrown out of cultivation in consequence of the impossibility of paying the excessive assessment charged on them, his Lordship records his determination "to do his best, that not a day or an hour should be lost without endeavouring to apply a remedy to a condition of affairs so unnatural, and so hostile to the best interests of the Government, and of the entire population"

23 We fear that great and needless delay has been permitted to take place in regard to many instances of over-assessment, which have been brought to the notice of the Board of Revenue and of Government, although the existence of the evil has been admitted on all hands. We are aware that in many, and perhaps in most cases, the adjustment of the assessment of a whole district, or even of an entire talook, cannot be satisfactorily carried out without a preliminary survey. But there are also many other cases in which immediate relief might be given without the necessity of any such step. Some of these are noticed in Mr. Thomas's minute of the 23d of June 1854, in which he refers particularly to the state of the assessment of the dry grain talooks of Trichinopoly. The excessive amount and complicated nature of the assessment of these talooks are exhibited in the letter from the Collector dated the 2d December 1852 (appended to Mr Thomas's minute), and although it would appear that a complete remedy cannot be applied without "an actual survey made for fixing the extent, classification, and assessment of the fields according to the productive capability of the soil," yet it is obvious that the extra cesses enumerated in his 9th paragraph, might be at once abolished without any such operation, and that their relinquishment would relieve the people of a burden equivalent to 6½ per cent on their present payments.

24 We would suggest that orders should be immediately issued for the abolition of these cesses, and also that you should call on the Board of Revenue to submit for your decision any other cases of a similar nature, which may now remain undisposed of on their records, and in which relief may be summarily afforded without waiting for the result of a regular survey, even if such a proceeding should be ultimately requisite

Proceedings,
27 April 1854.

25 In commencing their review of the proposed measures for the adjustment of the assessment of South Arcot, the Board truly remark, that the question is, perhaps, one of the most important that has come before them for some time, inasmuch as they are definitely called on to pronounce an opinion as to its bearing on the condition of that district, and to what extent remedial measures should be afforded, the determination of which question, they observe, involves principles applicable to all districts. The remedial measures to be applied to South Arcot having been now decided on, and the general principles on which they should proceed having been in a great measure determined, there can be comparatively little difficulty in applying them to the circumstances of other districts,

districts, and we rely with confidence on your permitting no needless delay to occur in disposing of the reports which have been long before the Board in reference to revisions of assessment in any quarter. We allude particularly to such cases as that of Guntoor, which has been fully treated by Mr Walter Elliot, the late Commissioner in the Northern Circars, in 1845, and to that of Kurnool, the condition of which, together with the required remedial measures, was brought under the Board's notice, by Mr W H Bayley, when Commissioner in that district, in a report dated the 22d July 1843

26 In the former of these letters * you have acquainted us with the reasons which have led you to direct the discontinuance of the separate reports hitherto furnished, on the annual settlement of the land and extra revenues of each district, and the preparation in lieu thereof by the Board of Revenue of one general report on the revenue administration of the whole of the Presidency for the year. The first of these reports (for Fusly 1262, or A D 1852-3), is transmitted in a printed form with your letter of the 22d November last, No 66

N B—The Fusly year closes on the 11th July

27 We entirely approve of this change, by which the mode of reporting and reviewing the revenue administration of your Presidency will be assimilated, so far as the different nature of the settlement will permit, to the practice which has been for some years followed with advantage in Bengal and the North West Provinces. The desultory and unconnected manner in which the separate reports on the several districts have hitherto been submitted to your Government and to us, rendered them of little practical use, and we were altogether without any general view of the results of the revenue administration taken as a whole. In consequence of this alteration in the mode of bringing the results of the revenue management under our notice, we think it unnecessary to reply specifically to such of the separate reports on the land and extra revenues of the several collectorates, as are now before us, as we consider that a review of them in this fragmentary shape can serve no useful purpose, and as they are not of a nature to call for any definite orders, although we shall probably have occasion to refer to them hereafter for purposes of comparison.

28 The report now forwarded is incomplete, inasmuch as it does not comprise any details relating to the extra sources of revenue, and as the report of the Commissioner in the Northern Circars is given separately, the information contained in it, and its appended statements, not being incorporated with those furnished by the Board of Revenue for the remainder of the Presidency. These imperfections will, however, be removed in the report for Fusly 1263, which we trust will shortly be laid before us. We feel assured that the Board will use their best endeavours to cause the report to be regularly prepared and submitted to you at a period not later than that which you have named, viz the end of the calendar year in which the Fusly to which it relates closes, even if it cannot be supplied some months earlier, a point to which we direct your attention

Ending 11th July 1854

29 The report itself is clearly drawn up, and contains very valuable matter for our information, it does not, however, appear to call for much remark beyond the expression of our satisfaction at the results which it exhibits. The total amount of the demand and collection, both of land and extra revenues, is given in the margin, and we observe that both exhibit some increase over those of the previous year. We notice also further evidence of progress in the revenue administration. The beneficial effects of the abrogation of the rule under which lands watered by private wells became liable to additional assessment, are represented to be already apparent, and it is expected that private capital will be freely laid out in improvements. The observations of the Board in paras 16 and 17 of the report on the importance of maintaining an efficient system of irrigation, and on the means by which existing defects may be remedied, have our full concurrence, and will, we trust, be prominently kept in view

		<i>Rs</i>
Demand	—Land Revenue - -	3,73,51,625
	Extra Revenue - -	1,08,59,573
		<u>Rs 4,82,11,198</u>
Collections	—Land Current - -	3,50,05,791
	Subsequent - -	16,95,876
		<u>Rs 3,67,01,667</u>
	Extra Current - -	1,06,26,735
	Subsequent - -	- 2,28,959
		<u>Rs 1,08,55,694</u>
	Total Collections - -	<u>Rs 4,75,57,361</u>

30 You

* Letter, dated 1 September (No 51) 1854, para 2, Letter, dated 22 November (No 66) 1854

Letter, dated
1 September
(No 51) 1854

30 You inform us that with reference to paragraph 10 of our despatch of the 2d June (No 7) 1852, you have granted to the Board of Revenue general authority to reduce the assessment on lands in any individual instances in which it may be clearly shown to be excessive. We approve this arrangement, and we think that it would be desirable that the Board should submit to you periodically, an abstract statement in a tabular form, exhibiting the cases in which they had seen reason to exercise the power thus vested in them, and also of those cases in which over-assessment has been complained of, either by the Collectors or the people, and the reasons for which the Board have not thought it reasonable to accede to these demands

31 In these paragraphs* you bring to our notice certain cases in which your instructions had been solicited as to the interpretation to be put on portions of our orders, directing the exemption from additional assessment of all lands improved at the cost of the ryots themselves. The instructions issued by you are conceived in a liberal spirit, and have our entire approval. Under them, the ryot will be entitled to enjoy the benefit of all improvements, whether of a temporary or substantial character, effected by means of his own labour and capital. The sole restrictions remaining are for the purpose of preventing the ryot from claiming exemption for wells dug in lands which can already be watered by an existing public work of irrigation, or for wells dug within 100 yards of existing works of irrigation, and liable to derive their supplies from thence. The Board of Revenue have been directed to watch closely the working of these rules, in order that they may be modified in the event of their being found to operate injuriously to the ryot, and to prevent his taking full advantage of the boon conferred on him under our orders. We have already expressed to you our desire that the rule of exemption should be absolute and simple, so that there may be no pretext for interference on the part of the native servants with the proceedings of the ryots in regard to the construction of wells. The limitations above noticed are so clear and definite, that we do not apprehend that they will lead to embarrassment. At the same time, if it shall be found that they tend to restrict the advantage which we intended by our orders to confer on the ryot, and to discourage the construction of wells in particular localities, without being absolutely required for the security of the existing revenue, we shall readily give our consent to their abrogation.

Letter, dated
23d January
(No 4) 1855

32 In this letter you inform us of the measures which you have adopted with the view of abolishing the use of the Mahratta language in the provincial cutcherries, and in that of the Board of Revenue at the Presidency. Whatever may have been the causes which originally led to the adoption of Mahratta as the official language of revenue account, it appears certain that they no longer exist, and we entirely agree with you in thinking it most desirable that the use of a language which is not the vernacular of any portion of your Presidency, and the knowledge of which is confined to a small section of the public servants, should be at once abolished, especially as there do not appear to be any difficulties in the way which may not readily be surmounted. The village and district accounts must, we presume, be rendered in the vernacular of the districts to the Collector's office, but the accounts furnished by the Collector to the Board should, we conceive, be prepared in English, and the Board state that there is no obstacle to the immediate and entire substitution of English for Mahratta in their own office.

33 The simplification of the forms of account is also an object of great importance, and we are glad to see that this subject has been taken up by the Board with energy. The omission of the cumbrous details which have hitherto been inserted in the statements periodically submitted for your information, will enable the Board to furnish them shortly after the expiration of the periods to which they refer, and will thus render them of much greater practical value than they are at present.

34 There are some suggestions in your Minutes of Consultation of the 7th November last, the advantages of which we think to be somewhat open to question

* Letter, dated 22 September (No 62) 1853, paras 4 and 5, Letter, dated 24 January (No 3) 1854, paras 21 and 22, Letter, dated 8 August (No 47) 1854, paras 3 and 4, Letter, dated 22 November (No 67) 1854, paras. 9 to 11

question There can be no doubt that the substitution of English for native terms is desirable, whenever exact equivalents can be found for them, but this we apprehend is seldom the case Your object we presume to be to convey to the mere English reader a clearer idea of the nature of our administration than he can at present obtain, in consequence of his ignorance of the Indian terms which are of frequent occurrence in official documents We doubt, however, whether this end is likely to be advanced by the proposed means, and whether the use of English terms, which appear to convey an intelligible meaning, may not, in fact, have a contrary effect, for instance, you express your approval of the employment by the Board of Revenue of the English terms, wet and dry, instead of nunjah and poonjah, lands. The cultivable lands under your Presidency are generally distinguished as nunjah, poonjah, and baghayet, (in some districts different names being used), of which the ordinary English synonyms are wet, dry, and garden lands But these words, whether in their native or English form, are employed in a technical and unusual sense, and can only be rendered intelligible to an uninformed reader by means of definitions which show that the words are applied to the different descriptions of land in respect to the sources from which they derive their supplies of water, whether from public works of irrigation, from the falling rains, or from wells sunk in the fields themselves. All native terms having a limited and local currency, should be carefully explained whenever there may be occasion to use them, but we doubt whether any benefit would accrue from the disuse of such as are in general acceptance, and of constant employment in official correspondence, and are perfectly understood by all concerned or interested in the revenue administration, and we are, on the contrary, rather disposed to think that the adoption of English words, which, in their ordinary sense, are not exact equivalents of the native terms which they are intended to represent, would be more likely to mislead the reader than to give him more accurate notions of the real meaning of the documents before him

35 You have also proposed to discontinue the existing system of pointing off large sums by lacs and crores, and to introduce the English plan of notation, of pointing off the figures by hundreds of thousands and millions, at least in the reports and other papers printed by order of Government The Commissioner in the Northern Circars observes, that the English plan might be adopted without difficulty in all statements submitted to Government, but that, in transactions with the natives, who are familiar only with the existing system of numeration, and in the district accounts, it would not be advisable to make any change, and we presume the same remark is equally applicable to the other portions of your Presidency The use of one system of notation for the district accounts, and of another for the accounts prepared at the Presidency, could scarcely fail to produce confusion, and to lead to numerous errors of calculation and of transcription, and we do not see that any commensurate benefit would be gained The existing mode of notation is quite familiar to those whose duty it is to deal with Indian accounts, and it has moreover the advantage that, at the sufficiently accurate exchange of 2s the rupee, the crore represents precisely one million of pounds sterling

36 The suggestion that each Collector should be supplied with a printing or lithographic press of a simple and inexpensive construction, for the purpose of striking off official papers for circulation, and blank forms for statements, &c, appears well worthy of consideration, and we shall give our attention to any recommendation which, after further inquiry, you may think fit to submit to us, with the view of carrying it into effect.

We are, &c.

(signed) *E. Macnaughton,*
W. H. Sykes,
&c &c

London, 18 July 1856.

Revenue Department, 17 September (No. 12) 1856.

Our Governor-General of India in Council.

Meriah Agency of Ganjam and Orissa.

Para. 1. We now reply to the letters and paragraphs noted in the margin,* reporting proceedings in connexion with the Meriah Agency of Ganjam and Orissa.

2 The reports and diaries from time to time furnished by the agency officers, continue to indicate a steady progress towards the final eradication of the barbarous practice of human sacrifice. Considering the great difficulties to be encountered, we are disposed to consider this progress satisfactory and as rapid as, under the circumstances, could have been anticipated. The Meriah officers appear to have applied themselves to their duties with unremitting zeal and attention; their great experience and personal knowledge, which are of far greater weight than any theoretical rules or doctrines, led them to adopt a line of cautious and gradual inculcation of their views. Hasty measures and abrupt innovations would have been attended with considerable danger, and would rather have postponed than accelerated the attainment of the end in view, by arousing the fears and jealousies of ignorant and fanatical tribes, and combining them in hostility against the exertions of the agency officers.

3 Instead of this, it is satisfactory to find that, generally speaking, the chiefs and leading men continue to give their adhesion and co-operation to the principles and measures of the agency. The Khond chiefs have taken a leading part in pledging themselves to abstain from Meriah sacrifices, and the example thus set will, it may be confidently hoped, act beneficially on those tribes whose opposition is scarcely overcome, or whose support and co-operation are but reluctantly yielded.

4. Measures of repression and punishment, however necessary they may be, should always be held subordinate to those of prevention. One of the most powerful among the latter class of measures is education, to which, together with the improvement of communications, and increase of intercourse with civilization, we can look with hope for the rescue of the Hill Tribes from practices which have their origin in ignorance and barbarism, and for the spread of enlightened and humane principles.

5 The attention of the Meriah officers has been directed to this important point, and their exertions have met with some success. We regret, however, to observe, that the progress of education received a serious check in Goomsur, which was partly attributed to the withdrawal of magisterial jurisdiction from the Khond Agent, and its transfer to the ordinary officers of police, whereby the influence and authority of the agency officers was weakened. On the urgent representations of Colonel Campbell, the agent, and Captain M'Vicar, officiating agent, supported by the recommendation of the Madras Government, you invested the officers of the agency with joint magisterial powers within the sphere of the agency, such powers being confined to cases of Meriah sacrifice and female infanticide exclusively, and to be exercised on the same principles as regulate the jurisdiction of officers in the Thuggee department. Under this arrangement the local officers will, we imagine, have no ground of complaint, and we trust that the Khond schools, which had unfortunately been almost entirely closed, will, after

* India Public Letter, 23 December (No 95) 1853, p 66, 75 and 76, Bengal Public Letter, 4 January (No 1) 1854, p 21, 22 and 23, India Public Letter, 10 February (No 9) 1854, p 69, 70 and 78; Bengal Public Letter, 15 June (No 30) 1854, p 18; India Public Letter, 18 August (No. 67) 1854, p 99, 100 to 108, Bengal Public Letter, 28 September (No 43) 1854, p 10 to 12, India Public Letter, 27 October (No 95) 1854, p 46 to 49, Bengal Public Letter, 28 December (No 53) 1854, p 13 and 14, Fort St George Political Letter, 27 February, (No 2) 1855, p 14 and 15, Bengal Public Letter, 7 March (No 4) 1855, p 8, India Public Letter, 26 March (No 22) 1855, p 33 to 43, 27 April (No 31) 1855, p 39, 42 and 45; Bengal Public Letter, 4 July (No. 16) 1855, p 10, 11 and 18, India Public Letter, 10 August (No 66) 1855, p 16 to 18, 36 to 41; Fort St George Political Letter, 25 August (No 66) 1855, 11 September (No 13) 1855, p. 18 to 25, India Public Letter, 22 August (No 70) 1855, p 22 to 25, 31, 65 and 66.

after their reopening, have been carefully encouraged, and no means neglected for regaining the support of the people which had formerly been extended to them

6 Tours of personal inspection on the part of the agency officers are calculated to lead to very beneficial results, and should be steadfastly adhered to. Not only do they afford the agency officers adequate means of forming an opinion on the condition of the country, but, by bringing the people into direct communication with the British authorities, and thereby circulating and diffusing a correct knowledge of the benevolent intentions of the Government, they will do much to remove suspicion and hostility

7 We have perused the report of Captain M'Vicar, dated the 21st May 1855, forwarding a summary of the operations of the agency for the season of 1854-55, which is apparently the result of most careful investigation

8 The tenor of this report is satisfactory, with the exception of the part relating to Bustar and Jeypoor. The former place is described as the headquarters of the Jennah Poojah, and Captain M'Vicar affirms that "human sacrifices have never ceased to be offered, despite all orders of the Nagpore Durbar and the several Residents at the late Raja's court." The real head of this zemindary is Laull Dologongona Singh, the uncle of the Raja, who appears to be a man of turbulent character, fanatical in the highest degree, and wedded to the superstitious rite of human sacrifice. The promises which he has on various occasions made to successive Residents have never been adhered to, and Captain M'Vicar does not anticipate that much good can be effected in Bustar until he is removed from authority, a measure which does not appear likely to be found opposed to the feelings of the people. We shall be glad to be informed of the measures taken in this matter.

9. The zemindary of Jeypoor appears to be in a thoroughly disorganised condition, and the zemindar nearly imbecile. In the 43d para of his report, Captain M'Vicar observes, "In the low country of Jeypoor, I regret most unfeignedly to relate that human sacrifices prevail in almost every district. Here, as in Bustar, we have to deal with exclusively civilised and educated men, and not with semi-barbarous tribes, as in the hill tracts of Orissa. The former are not, in my opinion, deserving of the same consideration as the latter, and some sharper and severer measures should be adopted than we have ever yet employed amongst the wild tribes of the mountains."

10. Captain Owen was deputed by Mr Smollett, the Agent in Vizigapatam, to inquire into the condition of the country. The evidence collected by Captain Owen tended to disprove the present existence of human sacrifices in Jeypoor, although there seems to be little doubt that the practice prevailed extensively a few years since. Nevertheless, with a view of putting an end to the anarchy in which this hill zemindary was plunged, Mr. Smollett, following the line of policy already advocated by Captain M'Vicar, recommended that Government should assume the direct management of the estate. The consent of the Raja had been previously solicited to the measure, but it was declined, the zemindar promising to conduct the affairs of his territory and family according to the views of the Agent. The Government of Madras, however, concurred in the propriety of assuming the management of the country, and measures were accordingly taken with the view of carrying into effect the suggestion of Mr. Smollett

11 In your letter to the Government of Madras of the 18th July 1855, you express the opinion that the evidence was all against the supposition that the practice of human sacrifice by Hindoos existed in Jeypoor, that the practice of Suttee had not, until recently, been prohibited; and that the result of that prohibition should be awaited before adopting any further measures

12. While admitting that the state of anarchy which prevailed in Jeypoor was a good reason for assuming the management of the country, you are of opinion that the step is serious, being likely to involve Government in a protracted jungle war, and being one which could not be retraced

13 You therefore directed that no steps for assuming the management of the country should be taken for the present. Acting on these instructions, the Madras Government recalled their orders.

14. We trust, however, that no unnecessary delay will be allowed to take place in adopting such measures as may be necessary to suppress human sacrifice and infanticide, and to restore order in the district.

15 We observe with satisfaction that the total number of Meriahs rescued in the hill tracts of Orissa during the season 1854-55, was 46, of whom 21 were males and 25 females

16. Lieutenant MacDonal's tour through the hill tracts of Goomsur, affords another exemplification of the beneficial effects of the personal visits of European officers on the people and native officials, and we entirely approve the orders of the Madras Government that Lieutenant MacDonal, or some other officer of the agency, should make such tours annually. The progress of education in these tracts appears to be very satisfactory, and we approve the measures adopted for extending it. The measures for facilitating traffic by the construction of choultries and wells, at a cost of 1,650 rupees, have our entire approval.

17. The schools recently established in these tracts will be placed under a native superintendent entertained for that purpose, by whom an annual report will be furnished. All measures relative to education in these districts should in future be reported in the educational branch of the Public Department.

18 Vigorous measures were very properly adopted for putting a stop to depositions in the Boad country, and the energetic conduct of Lieutenant MacDonal merited praise

19. The survey operations in the tributary mehals appear to be progressing very favourably under Captain Saxton, the impediments alluded to in our despatch, dated 18th June (No. 14) 1854, being no longer in existence. The road to Sumbhulpore has been surveyed and partially opened, and it is expected to be available for traffic throughout its entire length during the hot weather of 1856

20. The country appears to possess considerable mineral resources, and to be well worth a thorough scientific investigation. We shall be glad to receive some of the mineral specimens forwarded by Captain Saxton to Dr Hunter, at Madras, as stated in the 4th para. of his letter, dated 23d September 1854.

21. In conclusion, we would express our high sense of the services of the Meriah agency officers, who appear to have shown great discretion and assiduity in the discharge of the important duties entrusted to them. It was with the deepest regret we received the account of the death of Captain Frye, an officer so earnest in this cause, and, as you remark, "whose labours have proved of such essential service to the cause of humanity."

We are, &c.

(signed) *W. H. Sykes,*
R. D. Mangles,
&c. &c.

London, 17 September 1856

Revenue Department, 5 November (No. 17) 1856.

Our Governor-General of India in Council.

Mohturfa and Veasabuddy Taxes at Madras.

Para 1. Your letter in this department, dated the 28th February last (No. 5), reports to us the final result of your deliberations on the subject of the revision or abolition of the Mohturfa and Veasabuddy (taxes on professions, trades, artificers, houses, &c), under the Presidency of Fort St. George.

2 This question has been the subject of discussion and correspondence between the Government of Madras, your Government, and ourselves, for the last 12 years; and, after an inexcusable delay on the part of the Madras authorities in furnishing the information which had been repeatedly called for, the

the case was at length put in a shape sufficiently complete for decision in the proceedings of the Madras Board of Revenue, dated the 27th March 1848.

3. In a minute dated the 12th September 1848, Mr. Daniel Elliot reviewed the whole question at considerable length, and arrived at the conclusion that the admitted evils of the system might be eradicated to a great extent by a modification of the rates, and a change in the mode of collection, and he offered various suggestions with this object. In a subsequent minute, however, under date the 5th May 1853, he states that a further consideration of the question had induced a change in his views, and he avows that, "feeling more sensibly the difficulty of the proposed reform, and, indeed, almost despairing of the possibility of success in it, and being very strongly pressed by the consideration of the disadvantage that this Presidency will lie under, if it is left subject to taxes of this nature, from which Bombay has been relieved, and which do not obtain in Bengal, his opinion is now for the entire abolition of this revenue."

4 Mr J F. Thomas (Minute dated 23d April 1853) considers that "it is not practicable to find a remedy for the abuses which exist under it," and, in the event of its abolition, does not doubt that the loss of revenue would, at no distant date, be made good to the State from the increasing numbers and prosperity of the non-agricultural classes. "Their advancing wealth," he says, "would extend the market and enhance the value of all products of the land, and better prices would then be obtained by the ryot, and greater stability be thus given to the land revenue. I should not hesitate, therefore, to counsel the entire abolition of the mohturfa taxes, in a financial point of view, as well as upon the ground of the evils and abuses inherent in them."

Para 4.

Para 20

5 Of all the members of the Madras Government, the Governor alone (Sir H Pottinger) advocates the retention of any portion of the mohturfa taxes. The admissions made in his minute of the 28th April 1853, go far, however, in our opinion, to nullify his conclusions, and the numerous modifications which he proposes would, if carried out, still leave many of the inequalities untouched, and most of the openings for abuse unclosed, as they exist under the present system.

6. These proceedings were laid before your Government, with a letter dated the 26th May 1853, but the matter was not taken into consideration till the 31st December 1855, when the Marquis of Dalhousie recorded a minute, in which, after explaining his reasons for delay in disposing of the subject, he expresses himself in the following words: "The mohturfa taxes, as a whole, are indefensible in principle. They are a direct tax upon humble industry. They press upon the poorest of the people. They press with an unequal pressure. They are felt sensibly, felt as an obnoxious burden, and they give unbounded scope to the worst of all the vexations which we see and detest, but cannot eradicate—the petty oppression of petty native officials." His Lordship accordingly came to the conclusion that "the mohturfa taxes should be abolished, wholly and unreservedly," but, looking to the actual financial condition of the Indian empire, he suggested that their abolition should be deferred until the present extraordinary pressure should be removed, so as to admit of the revenue they produce being relinquished with safety.

7. Lord Dalhousie's views were concurred in by Mr Dorn, but the three other members of Council, Mr J P Grant, Mr Peacock, and General Anson, pronounce in favour of their immediate abolition.

8. The mohturfa taxes were abolished in Bengal in 1793, and in Bombay in 1844, and even Mysore, in the heart of the Madras Presidency, is exempted from them. Their average net produce is from 11 to 12 lacs of rupees per annum.

9. The arguments in favour of the abolition of these taxes appear to us to be irresistible. They are confined to one Presidency, which is subject to at least as heavy a pressure of taxation as any other part of India; and, even there, whole districts and parts of districts, as well as particular classes of people, are entirely exempt. They are most unequally distributed over the districts subject to them, four only of the twenty collectorates into which the Presidency is divided, contribut-

ing upwards of half the total amount. The assessment is arbitrary, irregular, and undefined, resting (except as regards the veesabuddy of the Ceded Districts) on no law, but merely on ancient usage, and thus affording to the native officers employed in their collection ample opportunities of oppression and extortion, of which it is in evidence that they largely avail themselves

10 We are perfectly satisfied that no modification of the existing system can be devised which would divest it of its objectionable character, and we accordingly convey to you our authority to direct its total abolition, at such time and in such manner as may seem to you expedient

11 It has been suggested in the course of the discussion, that the mohturfa might be so regulated as to convert it into a house tax or an income tax, or into both combined. Such taxes, if fairly assessed, may be unobjectionable in principle, and, as Mr. Dorin suggests, some similar imposts may here or be found unavoidable as a measure of financial necessity throughout India. In the present case, however, any such conversion of the mohturfa taxes would be open to the fatal objection, that it would be continuing to subject the Presidency of Madras to a system of taxation, from which the rest of India would be free, but in thus relieving our native subjects from the payments of imposts which in their mode of collection under our administration have proved oppressive, you will bear in mind that, with the prospect of a reduction also in the amount of the land-tax, you will require to take into your immediate consideration the means of obtaining revenue from other sources, and to notify to those who derive advantage from the remission of the mohturpha, that such is the intention of our Government.

12 With respect to the suggestion of Mr J P Grant, to which you have called our attention, for an increase in the rates of import duty at all the Presidencies, to compensate for the loss of revenue to be occasioned by the abolition of the mohturpha, we must observe that such a measure must be considered, if at all, on its own merits, and not in connexion with the question discussed in this despatch. Mr. Grant has inadvertently stated the general rate of import duty at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent ad valorem, instead of 5 per cent, to which amount it was raised under our orders by Act IX of 1845

13 We shall communicate a copy of this despatch to the Government of Fort St George, for their information

We are, &c.

(signed) *W. H. Sykes.*
R D Mangles.

London, 5 November 1856.

Revenue Department, 6 May (No. 6) 1857.

Our Governor-General of India in Council.

Administration of the Hyderabad Assigned Districts.

1. WITH your foreign letter, dated 28 February 1856 (No. 24), you have transmitted to us a series of papers illustrative of the first year's administration of the districts assigned to us by the Nizam, under the treaty of 1853.

2. The "Memorandum" submitted by the Resident, the late Mr G. A. Bushby, is so loose in its construction, so vague and unsatisfactory in its details, and so entirely deficient in the practical information necessary to enable us to form a judgment on the measures already taken or those hereafter to be pursued in regard to the administration of the assigned districts, that we are compelled to base our observations on the lucid and comprehensive note prepared by your secretary, Mr. G. F. Edmonstone, on which, together with the Marquis of Dalhousie's minute of the 27th September 1855, your instructions to the Resident, dated the 30th January last, were founded.

3. The

3. The assigned districts were in the first instance formed into five divisions, each under the superintendence of a Deputy Commissioner, viz —

Northern Berar, Deputy Commissioner, Captain Bullock

Southern Berar, ditto, Major Johnstone

Western Districts, ditto, Captain Meadows Taylor.

Eastern Division, Raichore Deab, ditto, Major Hampton.

Western Division, ditto, ditto, Captain Balmain

4 We propose to treat of the administration of this tract of country under the heads and in the order observed in your instructions to the Resident, premising that, owing to the omission of that officer to exercise any effectual control over the proceedings of the several Deputy Commissioners, there is an entire absence of uniformity in the measures pursued by those officers, always well intended, and generally to a great extent successful, for the protection of the interests of Government, and for the amelioration of the condition of the people, in the revenue, judicial, and police administration of their districts

5. The state of anarchy and confusion in which the districts were found on their first occupation was such, as you rightly observe, as could not be "permitted to continue in any province under the administration of the British Government," and it was absolutely necessary that "some system of fiscal management should be devised, which, while it should put an end to all unlicensed exemptions and privileges, and secure a fair revenue to the State shall, by the recognition of proprietary right in those who can establish a hereditary or prescriptive title, and by the protection of the interests of other cultivators of the soil, invest tenures in land with security and permanency under certain declared conditions, and shall restrict the demand of the State within reasonable limits, which shall not be subject to variation for a fixed term of years "

6 As a preliminary step to the full attainment of these desirable objects, you propose that there shall be a khusreh survey of the lands of each village, to be conducted by native measurers, subject to the subsequent check of a professional survey of the total village areas The Resident desires to entrust the duty of measuring the village lands to the putwarries, and you appear to entertain his proposition favourably, though Captain Bullock and Captain Taylor (the only Deputy Commissioners who appear to have recorded any opinion on the subject), state that the putwarries are in general lamentably ignorant, and wholly unfitted for the duty. If this plan should be adopted, the experience of the qualified officers whom you have selected to fill the position of Deputy Commissioners, will enable them to apply usefully the services of such putwarries as may be found to possess accurate information and detailed records of accounts, and to set aside those who are really ignorant and unfit for the duties of their hereditary offices. It should be left to the discretion of Mr Maltby to appoint for the temporary service, as many ameens as he may find to be requisite, but we hope that, notwithstanding the alleged ignorance and unfitness of the putwarries, he will find that they are not altogether without the means of imparting information of a description which it is indispensable to obtain before forming an opinion of the resources of a village or determining the proper form of its management

7 The mode of settlement which you propose to introduce is the village system of the North-West Provinces, but without (at any rate in the first instance) the incident of joint and several responsibility for the revenue, and otherwise partially modified so as to adapt it to the existing state of things

8. The village communities having survived the various revolutions through which the administration of the district has passed, appear still to exist throughout these districts in an imperfect condition, but without possessing, as it would seem, any conjoint or common interest in the lands of the village, which are held by the ryots individually You propose that the lands should be classed according to the nature of the tenure on which they are held, whether by "meerasdars," "wuttundars," "moondkhurrees," (tenants having a right of hereditary occupancy, among whom you intend to include all those who shall have held the same land for twelve consecutive years), and "coprees" (or tenants at will). The assessment is then to be fixed on each holding, or, if it be found practicable, on the aggregate of the holdings of each class; the total amount on

all the cultivated lands to form the fixed demand of the Government from the village for the term of the settlement (which is not in the first instance to exceed seven years), to be liable to no increase, and, ordinarily, to no reduction. This assessment is to be made "within such limits as shall leave a margin to cover the risks of a fixed contract, as well as a fair profit to the holders, and a proportion also of the net produce to provide for the remuneration of office bearers and other village expenses." To this assessment is also to be added a charge of one per cent. to form a road fund, and possibly, although it is not so stated, an additional one per cent. for educational purposes, as is proposed in the revised settlement of the North-West Provinces.

9. The assessment being thus completed, and the particulars recorded, each class of holders will be called on to nominate one or more of their number as their head man or representative, who is to be the medium of communication between his class and the Government officials, and whose duty will be to realise the revenue, "in the recorded proportions," from each member of the class, "suing him, if need be, for arrears due." It has been already noticed that your proposal is "to fix the Government assessment on each several holding, or, if that be practicable, on the aggregate of the holdings of each class." If the latter plan be adopted, it is not shown how or by whom the demand is to be apportioned on the lands of the individual cultivators, so as to appear on the records of the settlement, or how the provision that "each cultivator is to be liable only for the demand assessed on his own land," is to be carried into effect. The collections, when made, are to be paid by certain fixed instalments into the local treasury; and an engagement for the punctual payment of the village jumma (including "an additional cess for the remuneration of the head man or representative of his class, and the village putwarree") is to be taken from the representatives jointly.

10. The next point to be considered is the disposal of the waste land, and this, as you observe, is neither a very easy nor an unimportant question. Since neither the village community as a body, nor the individual cultivators, appear to advance any claim of property in the uncultivated lands, they would seem to be at the absolute disposal of Government, in any manner which may be deemed most expedient. The only positive opinion which you express is, that "the Government shall not, within the term of the settlement, be entitled to enhance its demand upon a village, owing to the occupation and cultivation of waste," and you suggest as a desirable and fair arrangement, that the waste should be allotted to the several classes of occupants in proportion to the extent of their cultivated lands, to be held on the same tenure as those lands are held.

11. Adverting to the state of anarchy and confusion in which you describe these districts to have been when transferred to your management, we conceive that it may be practicable to establish, in some tracts of this waste land, a clear proprietary right on the part of the Government, without any infringement of the rights of any others.

12. Even in this case, however, it ought to be conceded in respect to waste lands situated contiguous to the cultivated land of a village, that such village shall possess as much as their existing stock will enable them now to break up, in addition to the area which every village community in India must have remaining waste, for the common pasture of their stock, or the quantity to be assigned, exclusive of the necessary extent of common, might be as much as the village community would engage to break up within a period of three years.

13. With regard to the remainder, we are very desirous that you should consider and report to us without unnecessary delay, on what terms the best calculated for the introduction of British capitalists, you are of opinion it might be practicable to dispose of it.

14. We should have had no objection, as an experiment, to sanction the alienation in perpetuity to any persons of substance and respectability of land belonging to the Government, upon condition of the application of a certain amount of capital to the cultivation of the most valuable products of the soil, although perhaps easy terms of long lease, such as for a period of 20 or 30 years, might at present attract British capitalists of energy and substance, but the

the districts of the Nizam, assigned to us by the treaty of 1853, do not belong to our Government, and, therefore, with respect to them we have not the power of alienation

15 • The intent and object of the proposed system appears to be (as seems indeed to be admitted by Mr Edmonstone), an attempt to combine a ryotwar assessment with a mouzahwar mode of management, with the view of getting rid of the minute and inquisitorial interference with the affairs of the cultivators which the former system is supposed to involve. It is admitted that the village communities, although traces of them are everywhere to be found, are not in a sufficient state of completeness to allow of the enforcement of the rule of joint and several responsibility for the revenue, as is provided for in the North-West Provinces. As a substitute for this, however, it is proposed that the elected head men, who are to be representatives, not of the whole village, but of separate and distinct classes of occupants, should nevertheless engage jointly for the whole jumma, but as there is no community of interest, and each occupant (including, we presume, the head men themselves) is to be "liable only for the demand assessed on his own land," and no more, it does not appear how the whole jumma of the village is to be made good in the event of default on the part of individual occupants. We are aware that defaulters are to be liable to ejectment, and to the transfer of their interest by sale or otherwise, to any one who may be willing to liquidate the balance and engage for the land, but it may often happen, especially where unoccupied land exists to so large an extent, that no one will be willing to take upon himself the liabilities of the defaulter, and in this case, there seems to be no source from which the whole jumma of the village, for which the head men have engaged jointly, can be made up

Note, para 63

16 The proposed head men would in no respect take the place of the lumberdars of the North-West Provinces, who engage for and on behalf of the whole body of ryots, the whole body being jointly and severally responsible for the payment, in certain defined proportions, of the whole village jumma. They are rather in the position of the salaried officers on the Collector's establishment in ryotwar districts, who, while they collect the revenue from the cultivators, are not held answerable for defaulters. It would be desirable, and may be practicable, to arrange with the potail or other head man of the village that all collections should be made through him, and that so long as the jumma of his village is paid by the stipulated instalments into the local treasury, no interference on the part of the revenue officers would be permitted, and the ryots would be left to manage their affairs in their own way during the term of the settlement. This course might probably lead, in the end, to the voluntary establishment of a kind of joint responsibility among the ryots themselves. But where no such joint responsibility exists, and there is no community of interest and feeling among the cultivators, it appears to us impossible that cases of default in the payment of revenue, disputes as to the occupation of waste, and many other similar questions, can be dealt with satisfactorily without calling in the aid of the revenue officer.

17 We are therefore of opinion that the proposed scheme for the revenue administration of these districts has not received sufficient consideration, and that your object in revising it should be to construct one which shall be suited to the actual condition and requirements of the people with whom you have to deal, and which can be efficiently worked with the materials which you have at command, rather than with reference to the supposed merits or defects of the systems which have been adopted in other parts of India. All the revenue settlements which have been effected of late years, or which are in contemplation, have proceeded on the principle of determining, in the first instance, the amount to be demanded from the individual cultivators, and that point being fixed, it has been left to be decided, according to the usages, wishes, and circumstances of the people, whether, as a matter of policy or convenience, the collection of the revenue should be effected by a direct demand on the ryots themselves, as in Madras and Bombay, or by employing some intermediate agency, such as the representatives of the village communities or talookdars, as in the Punjab and the North-Western Provinces.

18 We do not desire by these observations to discourage you from attempting, if you should still consider such a plan of administration best suited to the circumstances

cumstances of the people, to introduce a combined scheme of village management and ryotwar or fieldwar assessment into the assigned districts. We shall be anxious to receive the matured opinion of Mr Maltby on the subject, after he shall have had sufficient time to make himself fully acquainted with the condition and circumstances of the country under his charge. We desire that you will furnish him, for his information only, with a copy of our despatch of the 17th of December last (No 17) to the Government of Fort St. George, on the subject of the revision of the assessment about to be undertaken in the districts subject to that Presidency

19 We entirely agree with you that the execution of the revenue settlement should be confided to a separate class of officers, to be hereafter appointed, and that this duty should not be added to the labours, already sufficiently arduous, of the Deputy Commissioners

20 The next subject to which your instructions relate is the settlement of the huqs or perquisites of village and district officers, and the deh sadur, or village expenses

21. We are not prepared to admit the correctness of your conclusion that the pergunnah offices (those of Deshmook, Deshpandya, &c.) were not in their origin hereditary, although it appears that they required in all cases, when under the sway of the Mahrattas, the confirmation of the ruling power. The right of investigating claims to offices of this description, and of confirming the claimants in their possession, when they are enabled to produce valid titles, has accordingly passed to our Government. The holders may appear to have long ceased to perform any real duty, but it should be ascertained whether this has arisen from the condition of anarchy which has been described having subverted the ordinary system of administration, or from the actual incapacity of the incumbents. The sudden discontinuance of their emoluments would be a harsh measure, and would probably plunge most of those who have hitherto enjoyed them into absolute poverty. We approve, therefore, of your having authorised the grants subject to your sanction, to all such as can prove the possession of office for a series of years (from 35 to 50), or whenever there may be reasonable grounds for abstaining from immediate deprivation of a provision for life, either in land or in money, equivalent to 5 per cent on the revenue of the talooka, on which they possess a claim

22 The remuneration to be assigned to the village officers (potails and putwarrees), and the amount to be allowed as deh sadur or village expenses, are to be inquired into and determined at the time of the settlement, by the officers engaged on that duty

23 No information is afforded in these papers as to the extent or value of the lands held as jageer, enam, &c. We entirely agree with you, that all claims to exemption from the payment of revenue, as well as all claims to money allowances, should be investigated and decided with all practicable expedition. The cases of land held rent-free for service by the potails, putwarrees, and village servants, are to be reported by the settlement officers in classified lists, to be disposed of by the competent authorities, according to rules similar to those which were laid down for the guidance of the officers in the Punjab. All other claims are to be at once taken in hand by the Deputy Commissioners, and reported, with the opinion of the Resident, for your decision.

24. The instructions which you have issued for the establishment of the village and district police, on much the same system and scale as they exist in the Punjab, appear to us to be proper.

25, The immediate introduction of our police into the Surfi Khas jaghires, (estates of which the revenue management is specially reserved to the Nizam and his officers), has been properly directed, the cost of the establishment being chargeable to the revenues of the assigned districts. The importance of either inducing the Nizam to exchange these talooks for others not geographically incorporated with the assigned districts, or committing the fiscal management of them to our officers, the actual revenues being paid into his treasury, is so great, that notwithstanding the repugnance which his Highness is stated to have evinced to such a course, we agree in the propriety of your instruction to the

Resident

Resident to open a negotiation, with the view of endeavouring to settle the question on one or other of those bases

26. On the arrival of the Deputy Commissioners in their districts, it appears that they found no courts of any description for the administration of civil justice. Those officers immediately set themselves to supply this obvious and great deficiency, which was accomplished by the establishment of moonsiffs' courts. In the absence, however, of any instructions from the Resident for their guidance, the judicial powers entrusted to the moonsiffs, their mode of procedure, and even the law which they were to administer, differed in all the divisions.

27. This diversity of practice it was of course necessary to correct at once, and you have proposed to effect that object by abolishing the moonsiffs' courts, and transferring their powers to the tehseeldars, or officers holding that position in the assigned districts, to be exercised under rules similar to those which have been provided for the conduct of civil judicial proceedings in the Punjab. Before absolutely directing this change, we think it would have been well to have ascertained by local inquiry, whether the tehseeldars or other officers occupying that position in the assigned districts are, as a class, competent by their previous habits and acquirements, and by freedom from pressure of other duties, to discharge judicial functions, equally with officers of a similar rank in the Punjab.

28. The same want of uniformity has prevailed in the administration of criminal as in that of civil justice. You have defined the powers to be exercised by the Judicial Commissioner, the Deputy Commissioners, the Assistant Commissioners, and the extra Assistants, and you have directed the observance of the spirit of the Bengal Regulations, and the adoption of rules of procedure similar to those provided for the Punjab. The question of entrusting to the officers in the position of tehseeldars, authority to try criminal cases of minor importance, has been left for future determination. In finally deciding on the manner in which justice, both civil and criminal, shall be administered by the subordinate functionaries, we desire that the principles laid down in our judicial despatch of the 24th September last (No 41), may not be lost sight of, and we would particularly call your attention to paras 12 and 22 of that despatch.

29. With respect to jails, you propose that there should be one at the headquarters of each district, sufficiently commodious to receive the whole of the annual average of prisoners, and constructed in all the districts on one approved plan. We trust that in erecting these jails, care will be taken to afford to each prisoner the space stated by the Medical Board to be absolutely necessary, viz. 500 cubic feet.

30. The question as to the language to be adopted for purposes of business and record is to be determined after the receipt of a report on the subject from the Resident, the information before you as to the existing practice in the several divisions not being sufficiently complete to enable you to arrive at a decision on that point.

31. As it is probable that, for some time at least, the revenues of the assigned districts will not be sufficient to supply the means of providing for their material improvement, it will be necessary for the British Government to advance the requisite funds. Jails, cutcherries and other edifices which are necessary for the transaction of public business must be regarded as part of the ordinary expenses of management, and as such are chargeable on the ordinary revenues. Some expenditure for the formation and improvement of the means of communication, beyond what will be supplied from the one per cent road fund, will also be required. Should the British Government be called on to defray the cost of these works in the first instance, you propose that the amount should remain as a debt, to be recovered as the revenues improve, interest at 6 per cent being chargeable until its liquidation.

32. Whether a different course should be pursued, as you propose, in the case of reproductive works, such as works of irrigation, requires further consideration. This, and all other questions connected with the ultimate adjustment of accounts with the Nizam, will be disposed of hereafter in the Political Department.

33. In the meantime we desire that distinct accounts may be kept of all expenditure on public works of whatever description. In regard to works of irrigation, or others of a reproductive character, we think that, in order to prevent the possibility of cavil or dispute hereafter, the increased receipts should not be taken, as has hitherto been the practice in the Madras district, in the form of an enhanced rate of assessment on the irrigated land, but in that of a distinct water rent, as is the case in the North-West Provinces. The ordinary assessment, which the land would bear in its unimproved condition, and the amount received as water rent, subject to the charges for establishments and repairs, should be shown in separate accounts, so that no doubt can exist as to the actual advantage derived from the construction of the works in question.

34. The instructions which you have issued relative to the medical school at Hyderabad, the erection of a hospital at the Residency, and the establishment of dispensaries in the assigned districts, have our approval.

35. The talook establishments vary materially in the several districts, both in the number of persons employed and in the rates of pay assigned to them. You have properly directed the Resident to submit fresh lists for your sanction, framed, as far as practicable, on the model of those which have been found sufficient in the Punjab.

36. In our Political despatch, dated the 5th March (No 14) 1856, paras. 14 and 15, we sanctioned the appointment of a Judicial and Financial Commissioner, to control, under the general superintendence of the Resident, the civil administration of the assigned districts. You inform us, in your letter of the 17th June (No 67), that you have appointed Mr Francis N. Maltby, of the Madras Civil Service, to that office, and you transmit a copy of a resolution defining the powers to be exercised respectively by the Judicial and Revenue Commissioner and by the Resident at Hyderabad, the latter of whom must, under the terms of the treaty, superintend the administration of the assigned districts. The rules laid down for the guidance of the Commissioner appear to us to be judicious and proper.

37. The reduction of the number of Deputy Commissioners from five to four by the union of the two divisions of the Raichore Doab, at the salaries given in the margin,* so as to afford to you the means of promoting deserving officers, is approved, as is also the establishment of six Assistant Commissioners, and of 12 extra Assistant Commissioners, of which latter, six will be employed on the special duty of settlement officers.

38. We approve entirely of the abandonment (in common with all other frontier duties) of the puchetra, or frontier duty on salt. The salt thus imported has already paid the excise duty in Bombay, and ought not again to be subjected to taxation.

39. The retention of the abkaree, under improved arrangements, and the abolition of the mohturfa, are also approved. We have authorised the general abolition of the latter tax throughout the Madras Presidency (where alone it continues to be levied) in our despatch dated the 5th November last (No. 17) 1856.

40. The projected establishment of town duties for municipal purposes, and for the maintenance of a town police, in the manner which has been so eminently successful in the Punjab, is a measure which well deserves to be carried into execution.

41. The information furnished in the Resident's "Memorandum" as to the actual financial results of the first year of our occupation, and the probable results for the future, is so confused and defective, that we observe you have refrained altogether from alluding to those results in your review of that paper. Mr Edmonstone, in his "Note," paras 143 to 158, has striven to collect into one view the materials scattered over the "Memorandum" and its Appendices, from which some opinion on these points might be formed; but the materials are still

* One Deputy Commissioner at 1,500 rupees per month, two Deputy Commissioners at 1,200 rupees per month; one Deputy Commissioner at 1,000 rupees per month.

still so imperfect, that we can arrive at no more definite conclusion than that the revenues of the assigned districts will not, for some time at least, be more than sufficient to defray the charges properly debitable to them, and that no surplus applicable to the payment of the principal of the debt can for the present be expected

42. The local revenue year had commenced some days prior to the transfer of the country to our officers, and the settlement, such as it was, had been made by the servants of the Nizam, by whom also a portion of the year's revenue had been collected. The Deputy Commissioners could, therefore, only endeavour to protect the interests of Government, and to collect so much as, with a due regard to moderation and justice, could be demanded from the ryots, and this object they appear to have exerted themselves actively, and with much success, to attain

43 In conclusion, we have only to state, that we concur cordially in the thanks which you directed to be conveyed to the Deputy Commissioners (as named in para. 3), "for the zeal, the ability, and the industry with which they have laboured, under circumstances of great difficulty and of some discouragement," in the administration of the districts committed to their charge

44 We take this opportunity of acknowledging the receipt of the paragraphs noted in the margin* relative to revenue arrangements in the assigned districts, which have been transferred to this department, but which do not now call for remark.

We are, &c

(signed) *R D Mangles,*
F. Currie,
&c &c

London, 6 May 1857,

Public Works Department, 9 July (No 16) 1856

Public Branch.

Our Governor-General of India in Council

Para 1 WE now proceed to reply to the letters noted in the margin,† relating to the budgets of public works proposed for execution in the several Presidencies, and in the different divisions of territory directly subject to your Government, during the year 1855-56.

2 In your instructions to the subordinate Governments providing, in accordance with our orders on the subject, for the submission of the annual budgets, it was directed that the budgets should consist of two statements the first containing projects of new works, for which, on account of the large amount of the estimated cost, the sanction of superior authority was specially required, and showing both the total estimated expense and the sum proposed to be expended on each work during the year; the second comprising all works which had already received sanction, whether from us, from your Government, or from the local Government, and exhibiting, in successive columns, the expenditure already incurred, that proposed for the year, and that expected to remain for future years.

3 We

* Foreign Letter, dated 7 November (No 95) 1854, p 61, Foreign Letter, dated 16 March (No 20) 1855, p 60 to 62, 66 to 68, 74 to 76, Foreign Letter, dated 8 September (No. 51) 1855, p 43 and 44, Foreign Letter, dated 22 November (No 64) 1855, p 62 and 63, 67 and 68, Foreign Letter, dated 2 June (No 56) 1856, p 93 to 95, 119 and 120

† India Public Works Letters, dated 22 June (No 16) 1855; dated 6 July (No 20) 1855; dated 24 August (No 25) 1855, dated 24 August (No 27) 1855, dated 24 August (No 28) 1855; dated 14 September (No 30) 1855, dated 14 September (No 32) 1855, dated 5 October (No 34) 1855, dated 5 October (No 35) 1855, dated 12 October (No 36) 1855, dated 26 October (No 38) 1855; dated 16 November (No 40) 1855, Budgets of Public Works for execution in 1855-56.

3 We shall first review, in succession, the statements received by you under the above orders, and your proceedings on them, so far as relates to the works sanctioned, and to the amount of expenditure authorised; and shall then make such remarks as seem to be called for on the general question of the preparation and submission of these important documents.

Bengal.

4 Statement No. 1 of the Bengal Budget contained nine projects, involving an estimated cost of 33,51,298 rupees, or 28,08,298 rupees if the less expensive of the two designs which had been prepared were selected for the General Treasury building

5 Under the opinion expressed by us as to the building referred to, the item was altogether struck out of the budget, and the same course was followed on various grounds with respect to the building for the Presidency College, and for the College of Civil Engineering, and to the metalling of the Tinnak Road. You sanctioned the expenditure noted in the margin* for the works specified, and retained in the budget, pending our orders, the new Post-office building (estimated at 3,23,782 rupees), and the road from Calcutta to Jessore at an estimated cost of 4,17,204 rupees. You will have learnt from our despatch dated 26th February (No 4) 1856, that we have not sanctioned the design for the Post-office. We have provisionally approved the formation of the road from Jessore, contingent on the failure of any satisfactory railway project, and the amount may stand in the budget, subject to the revised estimate now under preparation.

4,17,204 rupees
Jessore Road,
1,00,000 rupees

Works in State-
ment No 2,
33,82,966 rupees

6 The amount proposed to be expended on the works contained in Statement No 2 was 33,82,966 rupees, but the additions of the several heads show a discrepancy of 4,862 rupees from Lieut -colonel Goodwyn's summary, which should not have been allowed to occur. This expenditure had all been provided for by previous sanction, except the 3,00,000 rupees to be spent on the Dacca and Arracan Road, of which, though the general design had been approved, no estimate had been submitted, and a large proportion of the sum of 6,67,372 rupees, the amount of proposed expenditure on the repair and extension of embankments. You very properly allowed this item to stand, and we approve your orders for the immediate preparation of estimates in the first case, and for the separation in future, as regards embankments, of the cost of repairs from that of new works.

7 The total amount to be expended in 1855-56 is thus on works newly projected, 1,97,434 rupees, and on works previously sanctioned, 33,82,966 rupees, making together 35,80,400 rupees †

North-Western
Provinces.

8 The new projects submitted for sanction in Statement No 1 of the Budget of the North Western Provinces consisted of eight works, estimated to cost 9,31,958 rupees, of which 5,24,445 rupees were proposed to be expended in 1855-56.

9 You have sanctioned, on what appear sufficient grounds, the works noted in the margin ‡. You reserved for consideration, in correspondence with the Bengal Government, the erection of new buildings for the opium agency at Ghazee-pore, amounting to 40,000 rupees, and you have submitted for our sanction proposals for the construction of a bridged and metalled road from Meerut to Roorkee, for the bridging of the portion of the Great Deccan road already metalled,

* Estimated Cost		To be Expended in 1855-56
Rs		Rs.
30,000	Custom-house sheds - - - - -	30,000
34,000	Cutcherry at Pubna - - - - -	34,000
33,434	Cutcherry at Bhaugulpore - - - - -	33,434

† Total estimated expenditure on new works in Bengal in 1855-56, 35,80,400 rupees

‡ Estimated Cost		To be Expended in 1855-56
Rs		Rs.
1,21,984	Wells on the Grand Trunk Road - - - - -	71,000
88,860	Kylas Canal in Rohilcund - - - - -	60,000
60,000	Mango Graft plantation on Ganges Canal - - - - -	20,000
43,852	Raising and bridging road from the Jubbulpore to Kuttenghee	23,852

metalled, and for the raising and metalling of the remainder of that road between Jubbulpore and Nagpore

10 We fully recognise the importance and economy of connecting Roorkee, from which the various departments in the North-Western Provinces are now supplied to so great an extent with tools and instruments, with the other districts of the Presidency, and we accordingly sanction the construction of the road projected with that object * We have, as you remark, constantly evinced our sense of the importance of the Great Deccan Road, and our readiness to sanction any well-considered measures for its improvement We authorise the construction of the bridges now proposed† on the portion of the line between Mirzapore and Jubbulpore, and we approve, under the circumstances, of the permission accorded to the Lieutenant-governor to proceed with the bridge over the Parry at Nuddee in anticipation of our orders We observe that several large rivers on this road, which do not appear, however, to present serious obstacles to traffic, will still remain unprovided with bridges We sanction the estimates for raising and metalling the portion of the Great Deccan Road‡ between Jubbulpore and Kamptee, and, in compliance with your request, we give you general authority to take measures for the bridging of this division, on the understanding that estimates are to be framed previously to the commencement of the work, and forwarded to us for final approval

11 The intended expenditure on works in Statement No 2, as per margin,§ is stated by you to amount to 24,72,308 rupees, including 8,00,000 rupees for military buildings, previously sanctioned in anticipation of the estimates, which you have requested the Lieutenant-governor to submit without delay In an examination of the totals of this statement, we find that the total amount of estimates sanctioned is 24,14,594 rupees, while the amount expended is stated at 137 lacs, the discrepancy appearing to arise in great measure from the mode in which the expenditure on the Ganges Canal is entered in the statement In the column also of "To be expended in 1855-56," eight lacs are inserted for tuccavee, and the eight lacs proposed for barracks are omitted moreover, the addition of this column should be 24,72,308 rupees, instead of 24,71,708 rupees This statement has the signature of Mr Muir, the Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces, but it never could have been properly verified.

12 The proposed expenditure in 1855-56, on works in Statement No 1, has been shown to be 4,84,444 rupees, and that on works in No 2 is taken at 24,72,308 rupees, the total amount to be expended is therefore, within the year, 29,56,752 rupees || We observe that you are of opinion that a considerable portion of the expense in constructing the wells on the Grand Trunk Road may probably be "borne by wealthy natives, who will be glad to come forward with their money for the purpose, their names being recorded on tablets on the wells constructed at their expense" It is always our desire, as you are aware, that the natives should be encouraged to co-operate in works designed for the good of the country, and we have accordingly received with much gratification the above expression of your opinion.

13 In reference to the public works carried on in the Punjab, we have read Punjab with surprise and displeasure the following extracts from a letter, dated 22d May 1855, from Lieutenant-colonel Baker, secretary to the Government of India, in the department of Public Works, to the Commissioner in the Punjab.—

"I am

- * Estimated cost 2,19,625 rupees; Roorkee Road, to be expended in 1855-56, 1,00,000 rupees
- † Estimated cost 1,16,598 rupees, bridges on 1st division of Great Deccan Road, to be expended in 1855-56, 84,592 rupees
- ‡ Estimated cost 2,50,848 rupees, raising and metalling 2d portion of Great Deccan Road, to be expended in 1855-56, 1,25,000 rupees
- § Works in Statement No 2, 24,72,308 rupees

Total sanctioned.	Expended	—	—
Rs 24,14,594	13,70,714	24,71,708	2,43,236

|| Total estimated expenditure on new works in the North-Western Provinces in 1855-56, 29,56,752 rupees

"I am directed to state, that the Honourable the President in Council is desirous of having before him a statement of the monthly expenditure at present being incurred in the construction of public works in the Punjab; his Honor in Council being under the impression that the outlay on this account is very greatly beyond what the Government has any conception of, and beyond what the chief engineer in the Punjab can have the means of properly superintending."

Also, the following, being extract from the reply to the above, dated 4th June 1855, of Mr Temple, secretary to the Chief Commissioner, to Lieutenant-colonel Baker —

"From various causes none of the monthly or annual returns prescribed by the Government resolution of the 21st April 1854, have been received. The Chief Commissioner has had some difficulty in ascertaining accurately the current expenditure for public works since the establishment of the department on its present footing. Since January last, however, the chief engineer has rendered monthly returns of the assignments issued by him on the district treasuries in favour of the executive officers. From these statements the Chief Commissioner became aware that the expenditure was becoming excessive, and after some consideration, and inquiry, he arrived at the conclusion that some positive check on existing and contemplated outlays was called for. Consequently, on the 28th May, a letter* was addressed to the chief engineer, which, for various reasons given, prescribed, that for the present no assignment or letters of credit were to be issued without the previous sanction of the Chief Commissioner. A copy of this letter is appended, and that will explain all that the Chief Commissioner can desire to submit on the subject. Abstract schedules of assignments issued during the past year, and of the probable requirements of the department in cash for the next six months, are appended. A statement of the assignments for the past three months (that is, the quarter of February, March and April), also

* No 525

	Rs	a	p
† February 1855 -	9,43,255	7	9
March " -	4,25,230	3	7
April " -	12,63,520	-	-
TOTAL -	Rs 26,32,005	11	4

accompanies †. It will be seen that during the past year, just closed, no less than 94 lakhs have been disbursed, and that the chief engineer proposes to spend 58 lakhs more during the next six months. This latter amount will now, however, it is hoped, be greatly curtailed. And in a letter from Mr Temple to Lieutenant-colonel Napier, dated 28th May 1855, he is reminded that between the 19th April 1854 and 26th May 1855, he had been called upon seven times for his estimates and monthly assignments, and that, "although a year has elapsed since the formation of your department, yet no such return has yet been received," that in regard to expenditure the Commissioner "is not able to acquire any accurate or regular acquaintance with that part of the subject," and further, that "the assignments which you have granted on your own authority have aggregated a very large sum, and their current monthly amount shows an increasing ratio. For several months past they have exceeded 10 lakhs per mensem, and risen even to 13 or 14 lakhs for works of all kinds, both civil and military. At its present rate, the expenditure of your department will be not less than a million and a half sterling per annum." It hence appears that very extensive works have been undertaken without previously well-considered estimates, and involving disbursements of so grave an amount as to entail financial difficulties, and that the chief engineer, Lieutenant-colonel Napier, has given letters of credit or assignments to his subordinates upon the local treasuries by his own authority, and when called upon by the Chief Commissioner for the returns prescribed by the Regulations, did not furnish them. In consequence, the Commissioner very properly had recourse to the stringent measure of directing the local treasuries not to pay assignments without his previous sanction, and he limited the maximum monthly disbursements to 5 lakhs, or 60 lakhs per annum.

14. We approve of the communications made by Lieutenant-colonel Baker, by order of the President in Council, to the Chief Commissioner, regarding the non-transmission of the estimates of public works in time for the budget. It is indispensably necessary that our orders on the subject should be rigidly enforced.

15. We observe that ample testimony is borne to the untiring zeal and ability of Lieutenant-colonel Napier; but a want of method in matters of account and finance, and a neglect of orders with respect to the important matters upon which

which he has been addressed, neutralise his qualifications as a public servant, and a continuance of such neglect will render it necessary for you to make other arrangements for the due discharge of the duties of his department, in conformity with the system prescribed by you. We must add, that we cannot acquit the Chief Commissioner in the Punjab from blame for allowing those irregularities in so important a branch of the local administration, and must express our surprise that the power of granting assignments on the local treasurers should have been at any time allowed to the chief engineer without control by the Chief Commissioner.

16 We now proceed to notice the proposed disbursements for 1855-56. The sum asked for by the chief engineer, Lieutenant-colonel Napier, was 1,00,49,534 rupees, and the proposed expenditure in 1855-56, on works already sanctioned or in progress, amounted to the sum of 95,79,534 rupees, classified by your secretary under the following heads—Military works, 40,00,000 rupees, road operations, 30,01,011 rupees, canal works, 22,40,000 rupees; miscellaneous, 3,38,523 rupees. For a large proportion of these works no estimates had been submitted by the chief engineer, the operations progressing under the general sanction given to the projects, and, as seems likely in some cases, without any sanction at all.

17 In passing in review the sums put down for various works, many of these, it appears to us, are not of an emergent character, and in others, the cost appears very much disproportioned to the work—

At Meean Meer, a central church, 40,000 rupees, Mooltan new fort, 2,97,496 rupees, Methan Kote viaduct, 1,00,781 rupees, Sealkote female hospital, Her Majesty's 27th Regiment, 80,000 rupees, Sealkote married barracks, 1,47,148 rupees. Sealkote permanent privies, 75,250 rupees, Peshawur school, serjeants mess, and canteen, 58,593 rupees; besides 6 lacs for barracks. Meean Meer, 12 single cesspool privies, 54,000 rupees, Kussowlie, four double-storied barracks, and one married men's barrack and hospital, 3,47,000 rupees; Dugshai prison cells, 62,324 rupees, while the new hospital is to cost only 12,929 rupees for medical staff and convicts. The total of the columns of the general abstract for estimates of works in Statement 7, is 1,91,60,570 rupees, and, as 100 lacs is asked for 1855-56, we infer that 91 lacs have already been expended on the several works. The Chief Commissioner says (4th June 1855,) that assignments upon the local treasuries by Lieutenant-colonel Napier in 1854-55 were 94 lacs, and for the months of February, March, and April, 26,32,005 rupees.

18 When the budget came before you on the 10th July 1855, its tabular form was that of 1854, which had been set aside by that of August 1854, and the number and order of the statements were irregular. You saw no reason to modify the decision previously pronounced as to the amount to be expended on public works in the Punjab, in any one year, and you accordingly fixed 60,00,000 rupees as the limit of expenditure for 1855-56.* The Baree Doab canal works, which had been sanctioned on regular estimate, were ordered to be carried on without interruption on the Lahore and Peshawur Road, whose roughly estimated cost is a crore, or 4,000 l a mile, and on any other un-estimated work it was decided that all operations, but such as might be indispensable, should be stopped till arrears of accounts of past works, and estimates for further portions, should have been completed, and the less urgent half of the military works was ordered to be postponed till the succeeding year. It was expected that by these means forty lacs of rupees would not be required, and that the total expenditure would thus be brought within the specified limit.

19 The works contained in the budget of public works for the Straits Straits Settlements. Settlements consisted of a new Protestant church, estimated at 1,20,932 rupees, or, by using convict labour, at 40,000 rupees; a new court-house, and a new Government house.

20. You

* Total intended expenditure on works in the Punjab in 1855-56, 60,00,000 rupees

20. You sanctioned the estimates for the church and the court-house; postponed, in the absence of a plan and estimate, the project for a new Government house; and authorised the erection of a new post-office (at an estimated cost of 18,288 rupees),* stated to be greatly required, and only withheld from the budget by the Governor, on account of the greater supposed urgency of the other works.

21 No expenditure on new works previously sanctioned seems to be required in the Straits Settlements in 1855-56, and the total sum to be expended in that year is limited to 40,000 rupees.†

Pegu and Mar-
taban, and Tenas-
serim.

22 You remark, that the statement forwarded by the Commissioner of Pegu "was incomplete as a mere list of works, and was useless as a financial statement, owing to numerous and important omissions." We greatly regret the impossibility of including in the general sketch of the expenditure proposed throughout India for 1855-56, the expected cost of the numerous and expensive works in progress in Pegu. We agree with you, however, that under the circumstances, a complete budget was not to have been expected; and we join in the hope that exertions will be made to introduce method and order into the department, and that full information may be supplied in next year's budget.

23 No works seem to have been in progress under the Commissioner of Mar-
taban and Tenasserim, and no matured projects were submitted for sanction; and the Commissioner seems to think they will be confined for some time to roads and the electric telegraph. We observe that you have authorised a topographical survey of the country between Mergui and Moulmein, with a view to the formation of a first-class road throughout the length of the two provinces. Estimates for this work will of course appear in a future budget, should the project on examination be found to be practicable.

Nizam's Assigned
Districts.

24 The statements submitted by the resident at Hyderabad were very imperfect, both as to substance and form, and as no engineering establishment has yet been organised for the assigned districts, complete returns were not to have been expected.

25 You very properly refused to sanction any considerable expenditure on roads, till the best lines could be selected by a competent engineer officer, and the works authorised for the year 1855-56, estimated in the aggregate to cost 1,31,432 rupees, consist for the most part of official buildings.

Madras

26 The budget submitted by the Madras Government contained in list No. 1 of new works, a proposed outlay of 26,15,381 rupees, and in list No. 2 of sanctioned works, of 75,50,165 rupees, of which 32,84,498 rupees had been already laid out. It was proposed to expend on works in this list, in 1855-56, the sum of 34,49,705 rupees, and on those in list No. 1 of new works, it was proposed to lay out 17,09,475 rupees, making a total proposed outlay in 1855-56, of 51,59,179 rupees, with a future outlay of 17,21,769 rupees, making a total, with the amount already expended, of 1,01,65,446 rupees. In statement No. 1, twenty-four new projects required the sanction of superior authority, the greater number of them being of considerable importance, and their total estimated cost 26,15,381 rupees.

27 The sanction of two of the proposed works, viz, the formation of a direct road from Madras to Cuddapah, and the construction of an annicut for purposes of irrigation on the Huggry River, in Bellary, was postponed by you on the ground, as regards the first project, of the uncertainty as to the construction of a railroad in the general direction of Cuddapah; and as regards the second, of the

* Total Estimated Cost.		To be expended in 1855-56.
Rs.		Rs.
40,000	New church	20,000
35,000	Court-house	10,000
18,288	Post-office	10,000
		(assumed)

† Total estimated expenditure on works in the Straits Settlements in 1855-56, 40,000 rupees.

the incompleteness of the information which the Madras Government had been in a position to supply. You also declined to sanction an item of 1,00,000 rupees on account of Lieutenant Haig's expedition to the Upper Godavery. The amount seems to have been applied for, under a misapprehension or forgetfulness of the immediate objects of Lieutenant Haig's deputation, which, besides the execution of the small works specifically sanctioned on the recommendation of Major Frederick Cotton, were intended to be limited to examination and inquiry, as the basis of future operations. We are desirous that these preliminary objects should be accomplished in a thoroughly efficient manner, and funds should be supplied for the purpose. When it shall have been ascertained, after complete investigation, what results may be expected from operations on the bed of the river, and what the probable expense of such operations will be, you will then be in a position to decide under the authority we have conveyed to you on the plan which may be best adapted for carrying out the important object of rendering practicable the navigation of the river. In the meantime, we approve the tenor of your instructions to the Madras Government.

28 The projects noted in the margin,* amounting in the aggregate to 12,19,242 rupees, received your sanction, either under the ordinary powers vested in you, or under the general sanction given by us to the prosecution of particular works. Of the above estimate it was proposed to expend 7,73,585 rupees in the year 1855-56. In this amount is included the cost of the Palar and Adyar Canal, to which we gave our sanction in our despatch dated 29th December (No 105) 1854, for which you seem to have approved an additional estimate, and which you directed should be added to this list of works. The projects enumerated seem likely to promote, in varying degrees, the objects proposed, and we approve the sanction given to them. We notice with peculiar satisfaction the intended improvement of the harbours of Coringa and Coconada, and we agree with Mr Grant in anticipating great benefit from the application of engineering skill and experience to this class of works.

29 The works which, under the rules in force, you necessarily reserved for our orders are estimated to cost in the aggregate 12,11,941 rupees, of which 7,65,887 rupees were to be expended in 1855-56. They are enumerated in the margin,† and to all of them we readily give our sanction.

30 The

* Total Estimated Cost.		To be expended in 1855-56
Rs.		Rs.
3,15,932	Irrigation and navigation works in central delta of the Godavery	2,00,000
1,99,930	Bridge over the Kistna Annicut, at Beywarah	1,00,000
62,838	Improvement of Coringa Harbour	62,838
84,639	Improvement of Coconada Harbour	84,639
49,060	Improvement of Palghât and Trichore Road in Malabar, with Bridges and Branches	35,000
52,083	Road from Calcut to Palghât Road	35,000
34,996	Gradual improvement of roads in Canara	34,996
50,000	Bridge over Punnar River on Southern Coast Road	25,000
30,743	Bridge over Hindree River at Kurnool, to connect the town and the cantonments	20,000
38,000	Bridge over the Coleroon on the Southern Road (estimated cost 1,30,000 rupees, contribution from Pagoda Funds, 92,000 rupees)	18,000
36,112	Repair and strengthening of Nussarum Aqueduct in Rajahmundry	36,112
43,037	Additional sea groins on beach at Madras	22,000
2,21,872	Palar and Adyar Canal	1,00,000
12,19,242		Rs. 7,73,585
		Rs.
† 2,34,304	Canal between Toonee and Samulcotta	1,50,000
1,17,339	Canal from Samulcotta to Coconada	1,17,339
1,22,857	Junction canal from Mogulcoor to Coconada	70,000
79,550	Channel from Roodoonair to Perikeed	79,550
1,34,834	Channel from Perikeed to Dendaloor	80,000
2,37,106	Prolongation of canal from Weegoor to Masulpatam	1,00,000
1,46,787	Canal from Kistna Annicut to Kurnool	80,000
1,39,664	Extension of canal from Doogoorazepatam to Kistnapatam	89,000
	Back-water	

* No. 7 on list.

30 The projects occurring first, fourth, fifth, and seventh in order, will form a continuous line of water communication 182 miles in length from Toonee, in the northern part of Rajahmundry, to Inganampadu, six miles south of Guntoor. This line will constitute a portion of the intended "East Coast Canal," the formation of which was suggested by a committee of engineer officers, to whom was entrusted, shortly after the arrival of Lord Harris at Madras, the task of selecting such public works as might seem most worthy of immediate execution in that Presidency. We reserve the expression of our opinion on this important subject till it comes before us in a more direct manner; but, in the mean time, we sanction the construction of the detached portions connected with the Kistna and Godavery works, as well as of the extension of the canal* from Doogoorauzepatam to Kistnapatam, which forms part of the same general design.

31 The second and third projects, are canals of navigation designed to connect the coast canal and the other channels in the Godavery delta with Coconada, while the prolongation of the Weegoor channel to Masulipatam, besides affording means of irrigation, will complete the water communication between Masulipatam and Ibrampatam, which we expressed our desire to see effected in our public despatch, dated 27 April (28) 1854. From the remarks of Lieutenant-colonel Baker it would appear to be doubtful, whether the double objects of irrigation and navigation can be effectually secured, to the extent hoped for by the Madras Government, in some of the channels: but there seems no reason to doubt that the respective works will prove highly valuable, even if Colonel Baker's views should be verified, and the advantages realized be limited to the primary purposes contemplated in their formation.

32 The proposed expenditure on new works already sanctioned, is shown in Statement No 2, to amount to 34,49,705 rupees.† The total amount to be expended in 1855-56 on works in list No 1, being 15,39,474 rupees, the whole anticipated expenditure of the year on public works, exclusive of repairs, would amount to 49,89,179 ‡ The Madras Government believed that the means of effective superintendence would be available for all the works proposed for execution, but we trust you will have satisfied yourselves that these anticipations have been verified, and that for such a work, for instance, as improving the tidal harbour of Coringa, the aid of an officer of ability, and possessing qualifications suited to the peculiar character of the work, has been secured, before operations are allowed to be actually commenced. You will cause the Government of Madras to have a general sketch map, adverted to by the secretary to the Government of India in his memorandum of the 7th of May 1855, constructed without delay, and not less than 40 copies sent to us as soon as practicable.

Bombay.

33. The total cost of sanctioned works and new works is 1,02,33,555 rupees, of which it is proposed to expend in 1855-56, 32,30,489 rupees. The new works comprised in statement No 1 of the Bombay budget, were fifteen in number, and their estimated cost was 18,68,580 rupees.

34. You thought it necessary to await further information regarding the opening out for cart traffic of the road from Peinth to Balsar, before submitting the project for our approval; and the same course was resolved on, with regard to the proposed construction of barracks and hospitals, for a regiment of European infantry, at Colaba. The scheme proposed by Mr Frere for a boat canal to avoid a dangerous rapid on the Indus, near Bukkur, was considered by you too immature for sanction; you postponed a decision with regard to an artillery school at Ahmednugger, pending the settlement of a standard design for schools generally, and you declined to sanction the grant of 50,000 rupees to be used at the discretion of the Commissioner in Sind, in the execution of emergent public works, which was recommended on the ground of the shortness of the working season in that province, and the distance of the controlling authority. We are of opinion that sufficient grounds were shown in the correspondence submitted by the Government of Bombay, for vesting in the Commissioner

† Works in Statement No 2, to be expended in 1855-56, 34,49,705 rupees

‡ Total estimated expenditure on new works in the Madras Presidency 1855-56, 49,89,179 rupees.

sioner in Sind some special discretion, as regards expenditure on public works. Such a delegation of authority would be by no means new as a matter of principle, as the revenue officers, at least in the Madras and Bombay Presidencies, are at present authorised to incur expenditure, within specified limits, on works of public improvement. We think, therefore, that a similar discretionary power, to an amount suited to the circumstances of the province, might be conferred on the Commissioner in Sind, who should, however, be required to submit a half-yearly statement of the manner in which the power in question may have been exercised.

35 Your sanction was given to the works enumerated in the margin,* estimated to cost in the aggregate 4,07,472 rupees, of which it was proposed to expend 2,61,461 rupees in the year 1855-56. We approve the sanction given to the expenditure required to complete the road over the Deweh Ghât, and any remarks we may have to make on the proceedings in connection with the work will be communicated to the Government of Bombay. The proceedings of that government with regard to the church at Hyderabad, do not seem to have been in accordance with our orders on the subject of church-building generally, though the Government express an intention of seeking contributions from private individuals before finally carrying out the design. It is desirable that a full understanding should be come to, as to the sources from which the funds are to be provided, before any plan is finally approved by Government, and our orders, limiting the contribution of Government to the cost of a plain substantial building, and leaving all additional expense to be defrayed from private sources, must be constantly acted on.

36 The projects to which our sanction is solicited are limited to the construction of four bridges on the Poona and Nassuck Road, and a depôt for Government timber on the coast near Colaba to be formed on ground to be reclaimed from the sea for the purpose.

37 We sanction the construction of the proposed bridges on the Poona and Nassuck Road,† which is a line of great importance, and in which improvements have been effected to a considerable extent in recent years. As regards the timber depôt, which it is proposed to form at a cost of 1,74,074 rupees, the information before us, as to the inconvenience which has resulted from the want of such a depôt, or, as to the advantages of the particular plan recommended for supplying the deficiency, is not such as to convince us of the urgency of the work. With reference, therefore, to the present great demand for an enlarged expenditure on works of undoubted public importance, we desire that the formation of the proposed depôt may be suspended till further information on the subject has been placed before us.

38 The intended expenditure on the works comprised in Statement No 2, amounts to 32,30,489 rupees, but in calculating the outlay on new works, 1,66,000 rupees may be struck off this sum, on account of "Extraordinary Repairs," which are included in the statement to an amount exceeding 2,00,000 rupees, of which it is intended to spend about five-sixths in 1855-56. The expenditure on List 2 would thus be reduced to 30,64,489 rupees, which, added to

* Total Estimated Cost		To be expended in 1855-56
<i>Rs.</i>		<i>Rs.</i>
30,686	Completion of the road from Humsour to Sassoor - - -	30,686
68,191	Improving and metalling a portion of the Agra and Bombay Road - - - - -	68,191
74,620	Road over the Koondalaree Ghât, between Surat and Mulkgaum - - - - -	10,000
39,528	New church at Hyderabad, in Sind - - - - -	25,000
28,514	New custom house at Kurrachee - - - - -	28,514
34,070	Altering European Barracks at Belgaum - - - - -	34,070
72,265	New Barracks for the married soldiers of artillery at Ahmednuggur - - - - -	35,000
59,598	Alterations in the Artillery Barracks at Ahmednuggur - -	30,000

† Total estimated cost 1,65,613 rupees, bridges on Poona and Nassuck Road, to be expended in 1855-56, 1,41,413 rupees.

to the amount in List No 1, sanctioned by us, and by your Government, makes a total sum of 33,67,363 rupees to be expended on new works in the Bombay Presidency in 1855-56 *

39. The summary given in the margin † shows the total amount of the proposed expenditure in all the Presidencies, as stated by us in the preceding paragraphs, which, except as regards the Punjab, is all on account of new works. We have not included any sum on account of Pegu in this summary, on account of the opinion expressed by you as to the character of the statements received by the Commissioner. We observe, however, that in the statement drawn up in the office of your secretary, of the probable expenditure in 1855-56, the outlay on works in progress in Pegu is assumed at 30,00,637 rupees, which will raise the total amount to 2,40,64,331 rupees ‡

40 This amount differs to a considerable extent from that (2,47,219 rupees) exhibited in the statement of the prospective expenditure on new works in 1855-56, which was forwarded in your letter, No 36, of 1855. The discrepancy may in part be accounted for by the statement in question, including all the sums recommended by you for our sanction, some of which, either under previous orders, or under those contained in this despatch, will have been struck out of the budget. We observe, however, that there is included in the statement the estimated cost of the enlargement of the opium agency buildings at Ghazee-pore, which you stated in your orders on the North-Western Provinces' budget to be still under consideration, and that among the works stated to be sanctioned in the Straits Settlements, there is apparently inserted the cost of the new Government house, which was expressly reserved by your orders for the budget of the succeeding year. The amount of the expenditure said to have been recommended for our sanction under the head of the Public Works department in the Bombay Presidency, is also stated at a much higher sum than is borne out by the budget. With these manifest inaccuracies in the statement which you have forwarded, we must assume that the result at which we have arrived from our own examination of the budgets, and your proceedings thereon, is substantially correct.

General Remarks

41 It was not practicable to observe in the preparation of the budgets which we have now reviewed, the orders on the following points, contained in our despatch, dated 20th December (96) 1854, on the new arrangement of the Public Works department for Madras, and which orders should be made applicable to all the Presidencies :

1st The assignment of a fixed annual sum within which the expenditure on public works shall be confined

2dly The submission of a full report by the controlling authority in the department of Public Works, of the capabilities and requirements of the territory under its care, as to works of public improvement.

3dly. The calculation of the cost of ordinary and extraordinary repairs of public works, a statement of which is to be submitted to the Government of India for information, each year.

42 It will, probably, be some time before a judgment can be formed as to the annual sum which should be set apart for public works in each Presidency. We

* Total estimated expenditure on new works in the Bombay Presidency in 1855-56, 33,67,363 rupees

	Rs.
† Bengal	35,80,400
North-Western Provinces	29,56,752
Punjab	60,00,000
Straits Settlements	40,000
Assigned territories of the Nizam	1,00,000
Madras	49,89,179
Bombay	33,67,363
	Rs. 2,10,33,694

‡ Pegu, 30,00,637 rupees, total estimated expenditure for all the Presidencies, 2,40,64,331 rupees,

We desire, however, that you report to us your opinion on the subject, when sufficient knowledge as to the wants of each division of territory may have been acquired

43 We desire that our orders for a report on the works required in each Presidency, founded on a comprehensive view of its "capabilities and requirements," may be complied with as soon as practicable. The Bombay Government forwarded to you a sketch map, containing a system of roads, which the chief engineer of that Presidency proposed to make the basis of his future operations, but this does not in any way meet the object in view. The subject should be seriously and deliberately considered by the officer at the head of the department of Public Works, in consultation with the other departments of the administration. The conclusions to which he may come should be brought under the review of the local government, on whose responsibility the plan, with such modifications as they may deem fit, should finally be submitted to you. When such a scheme, embracing not only the means of land communication, but all other branches of public works, shall have been approved, the labour of the several Governments in deciding on the works to be recommended for execution in each year will be materially abridged and simplified.

44 The maps which you have ordered to accompany each budget, showing the roads in various stages of progress, and those proposed for execution, will be very useful, and will of course be forwarded to us

45 There is a point of very considerable importance connected with two of the projects discussed in the foregoing paragraphs to which we desire to direct your especial attention, not only with reference to the particular works in question (those of the Great Deccan Road between Mirzapore and Kamptee, para. 10), and the road between Lahore and Peshawur (para. 18), but to all cases of a like character which may present themselves in any part of India. The point is this, before the introduction of railways into India was contemplated, or, in other instances, before the direction of the several lines was determined on, ordinary roads were planned, and more or less of progress has been made towards their completion. The great and expensive steps of metalling and bridging these roads are now in actual execution, or in immediate prospect. But the courses of some of these roads, and especially of those above mentioned, are almost identical with the lines which have been selected for railways, a means of communication far preferable, of course, even to the best ordinary road. In all such cases, it should be a matter of careful consideration, whether, with reference to the limited pecuniary resources of your Government for all public works, it be expedient to expend, to take the example of the Lahore and Peshawur Road, so large a sum as 4,000 *l* per mile, being about half the average cost of a railway, upon a work, the use and advantage of which will be in a very great measure superseded, as soon as the projected railway between these two important stations has been completed. As soon, indeed, as that has been done, the want of the country will manifestly be not a road, however good, running parallel with the railway, but roads of the best description that can be made, running at right angles with that great instrument of personal and commercial intercourse, and connecting with its stations all the most important districts on each side of its course. These considerations would seem to point to the importance in such cases of keeping the best object steadily in view, and of husbanding our resources, in order to promote it at the earliest date, and in the most effectual manner.

46. As a secondary matter, it may be well to consider, in case it be deemed expedient on sufficient grounds to build bridges of any magnitude for an ordinary road, in a part of the country which it has been determined to traverse by a railway, whether such works might not be constructed at such points and in such a manner as to embrace both the objects in view, to be used for the road until rails can be laid over them for the larger and better purpose.

47 We observe that you have ordered that the amount of estimated repairs should be included in Statement No. 2 of the annual budget. It is our wish that expenditure on new works should be kept entirely distinct from that on

works sanctioned and in progress, and on repairs; and that on repairs should be exhibited in a separate statement.

48. You very properly informed the Government of Bengal that the works included in the budgets should not be arranged according to the circle of superintendence under which they might fall, but should be classified according to their respective characters, so as to exhibit the total proposed expenditure on each general class of works. This instruction should be made general, and it would be desirable that the distinction ordered in para. 30 of our despatch No. 96 of 1854, to be made in the accounts of the department between "expenditure in the nature of investment of capital, and disbursements having no such character," should be observed in making the classification.

49. We have already noticed the irregularity committed by the Bombay Government with regard to the church proposed to be built at Hyderabad. A similar course was pursued in respect to the church at Singapore, at which flourishing and lightly-taxed settlement it could least of all be expected that the community should be provided with church accommodation at the expense of Government. It seems necessary, in order to guard against such instances of disregard of rules deliberately adopted, that before proposals for the construction of churches, or for the execution of other public works, are considered in the department of Public Works, the question whether the particular works proposed should be undertaken at all by Government, and how far existing regulations may bear on the proposals, should be considered in the department to which they may respectively belong.

50. The question of the manner in which funds are to be provided for the expenditure which we have now sanctioned, and which we may hereafter sanction on public works included in the annual budgets, does not come before us in this department. It is sufficient here to remark, that our attention has recently been given to the subject in the financial department, and that the instructions conveyed in the present despatch are to be regarded as subordinate to the orders as to the limitation of expenditure conveyed in our financial despatch, dated 17 June (No 48) 1856.

51. The orders which you have given, that the annual budgets shall be forwarded to you not later than the month of January preceding the commencement of the official year to which they relate, will secure the object of enabling you to decide on those projects which may be beyond the power of the local Government to sanction, and may come within the limits to which you are empowered to authorise expenditure on particular works. For those larger works, however, on which a reference has to be made to us, the time will be insufficient to allow of our orders reaching India till some time after the year has commenced. We refer for your consideration the mode in which any inconvenience arising from this cause may best be avoided; and we would observe that it is not, in our opinion, absolutely necessary that all references with regard to new projects should be reserved for the annual budgets, although they will necessarily be included in them when presented. In the case of roads and other works, which may form part of a general plan or system, the rule may be necessary, but in respect of buildings and other works, complete in themselves, there seems to us no objection to proposals being submitted for our orders, in anticipation of the budgets, the plans being still entered in Statement No. 1, for the year of execution.

52. We have only, in conclusion, to express our entire approval of the determination which you have evinced, in dealing with the budgets of 1855-56, not to sanction the prosecution of any work of importance till plans and estimates shall have been framed, and till all the facts which can materially affect the question of its expediency shall have been fully ascertained and considered. It is mainly from a disregard of this sound principle that the department of Public Works in the Punjab has been brought into such a state of confusion; and it is only by its future maintenance, and by securing the means of scientific supervision for all works in progress, that in the prosecution of public works on an extended scale, inefficiency of execution and wasteful expenditure can be effectually prevented.

53 We have to remark, that the collections are needlessly encumbered with elaborate specifications and measurements of works, and calculations of labour in cubic feet of earth, which can in no way assist our judgment in deciding upon the utility of the works proposed

We are, &c

London, 9 July 1856

(signed) *W. H. Sykes,*
R. D. Mangles,
&c &c

Public Works Department, dated 17 April (No 8) 1857

Our Governor-General of India in Council

Para 1 On the 3d November last we received the Madras Budget of Public Works for 1856-57, referred to in your letter, No 58, of the 9th September, having previously, at intervals, during the preceding seven weeks, received with your letters,* Nos 36, 42, 48, and 56, the budgets for the assigned provinces of Hyderabad, for Bengal, Bombay, and the North-Western Provinces. The budgets for the Punjab, Nagpore, the Straits Settlements, and Pegu had not then arrived. We were, however, unwilling on that account longer to withhold our instructions respecting such as had already reached us, and which we shall here review after making one prefatory remark

Budgets for 1856-57 of Bengal, the North-Western Provinces, the assigned Provinces of Hyderabad, Madras and Bombay

2 The budgets before us purport to exhibit, among other particulars, the expenditure authorised for the year 1856-57, both on uncompleted works sanctioned in former years, and on newly projected works sanctioned either by the subordinate governments or administrations, or by yourselves, and likewise the expenditure recommended for the year on new projects, of higher estimated cost, for which our sanction is requisite. These budgets should, conformably to prescribed rule, have been sent to you by the 1st January. The earliest of the budgets, however, that for the Hyderabad provinces, is dated 23d February, that for Bombay on the 27th February, and the other three either in March or April. Not one of those received came into our possession until the middle of September, and some are still wanting, so that the authority which we may now give for expenditure during 1856-57 cannot possibly, in most instances, reach the officers who should act upon it until the year for which the expenditure may have been authorised shall have nearly, if not entirely closed

3 The discrepancy hence resulting between actual and authorised expenditure, both for the current, and for at least one future year, is a smaller evil than the delay in the commencement of important works consequent on delayed sanction. This delay will be the more protracted, because, though what is termed the "working season" in India terminates in the spring, and about the same time as the official year, it does not recommence till the autumn, so that a road or a canal planned in 1855, and which would have been begun in September 1856, if our sanction had been received early enough, may now have to be delayed, not merely until next April or May, but until the following September or October

4 We make great allowance for the shortcomings of establishments newly organised, but it is evident that unless the delay alluded to can be prevented in future, the budgets in their present form must perplex and mislead not only those who seek in them for financial statistics, but also the executive officers, who regard them as containing programmes of the ensuing season's operations.

5. As regards ourselves more particularly, it is impossible for us, in the absence of any one budget, to take a comprehensive view of the proposed expenditure for the whole empire; or, in case the state of the finances should render imperative the postponement of some of the projected works, to determine satisfactorily what particular works in the different Presidencies should be deferred. You should carefully collate the budgets of every part of India before selecting from

* Dated respectively 8 and 31 July, 18 August and 1 September 1856

from them any schemes for recommendation to us, and you should at the same time be careful to furnish us with such a synopsis as that of the budgets for 1855-56 which was transmitted with your letter, No. 36, of the 12th October 1855.

6 With this preliminary observation we proceed to examine the budgets before us.

Bengal.

7. The first of the two statements of which, agreeably to the form prescribed, the Bengal budget consists, contains (exclusively of new projects rejected or deferred) nine new projects which have received your sanction, and four which are referred for our decision

8 Of the nine projects sanctioned by you the aggregate estimated cost is 3,43,531 rupees, of which 2,93,838 rupees were to be expended in 1856-57.*

9. Of the projects submitted for our consideration, the first for remodelling and metalling a road, or rather a system of roads, in Cuttack, consisting of three branches, 1st. From Rajghaut, on the boundary of Midnapore, to Cuttack, 131 miles 2d. From Cuttack to Poree, 50 miles. 3d From Cuttack to the frontier of the Madras territories, on the way to Ganjam, 69 miles

10 The first two branches constitute the "Pilgrims' Roads" to Juggernaut, and the third, known as the "Khoordah Road," is a main link in the communication between Calcutta and Madras; but all three must always have been in a very unsatisfactory condition. So long ago as 1848, the present chief engineer described them as from 20 to 26 feet wide, and as being raised from one to five feet above the adjoining ground, but as unmetalled, and liable, for want of sufficient waterway at the bridges, to continual breaching from floods. Nothing has since been done to supply this radical defect, and they have consequently been progressively deteriorating.

11. You now request our sanction to three estimates, amounting respectively to 6,41,655 rupees, 84,451 rupees, and 1,66,929 rupees, for the virtual reconstruction of the three roads, the first estimate prepared by Mr. Armstrong, Civil Engineer, the other two by Lieutenant Dixon, Executive Officer of the Cuttack Division.

12 Mr. Armstrong's estimate relates to the line from Rajghaut to Cuttack, of which he is in charge, and is accompanied by a minute and elaborate report. This states that the road runs for the most part through a low, level plain, bounded on one side by the sea, and on the other by ranges of hills, from which, during the rains, swollen rivers and torrents descend towards the coast. The larger rivers are unbridged, but 284 bridges, placed along 131 miles of road, open a passage to the smaller streams. The bridges, however, consisting generally of arches from two to eight feet wide, afford so inadequate an opening that the floods periodically overtop the road, covering it with several inches of water, and making numerous breaches, sometimes as much as 350 feet long, and 16 or 18 feet deep. In these circumstances it is evident that the most essential improvement, and that which must precede all others, is increased waterway, and for this Mr. Armstrong would provide by altering old bridges and by building new ones, substituting arches of 12, 16, or 20 feet span for those of two, four, or six feet.

The

	Total Estimated Cost.	Amount to be expended in 1856-57.
	Rs	Rs
New dispensary at Calcutta	26,175	26,175
Platform for crossing an unbridged river	4,691	4,691
Bridging road from Debroghur to Gola Ghaut	1,00,000	1,00,000
Road from Silehar to Asoloo	44,580	44,580
Road from Chirra Poonjee to Asoloo	25,000	25,000
New gaol at Seesangor	46,846	25,000
New Collectors' cutcherry at Mozuffurpore	29,072	18,000
Shed on customs export wharf	41,971	25,196
Inspection bungalows in the Cuttack Division of embankments	25,196	25,196
Rs	3,43,531	2,93,838

The road would next be raised and metalled, for at present its surface exhibits chiefly a very tenacious, plastic clay, cut up into deep furrows during the rains, until wheeled traffic becomes almost impossible, and hardening afterwards with the same unevenness under the influence of the sun and wind. We desire here to call your attention to para 4 of our letter of the 14th January 1857, wherein we informed you, that for the repair of roads in this country it is occasionally the practice of contractors not to bring any material for metalling, but half burn the soil, and then beat it into a macadamised road. We are desirous that an experiment of this description, on a small scale, should be made on the road now referred to. The estimate for all that is proposed, in order to make this a first-class road, suitable for traffic at all seasons, is 6,41,655 rupees, or about 5,000 rupees a mile. The rates, generally, are stated to be moderate, and those of masonry low, but what may be regarded as a fact of especial significance is, that the estimate includes a sum equal to one-fourth of its whole amount, on account of what are styled "annual repairs" for 1855-56, which must, we presume, have been executed as temporary expedients, even though no permanent improvements had been designed. These repairs relate principally to damage occasioned by floods, and if the average annual cost of such repairs may be inferred from the estimate for 1855-56, there can be little question as to the economical advantage of getting rid of the constantly recurring necessity for them by an outlay equal to four times their annual cost. We accordingly sanction that part of the project which relates to the road between Rajghaut and Cuttack. As this road, however, runs through a flat, level plain, we would suggest to you whether this might not be a good place to try laying down tram-rails. The road would still be left perfectly good for all other kinds of traffic, and the saving in draught power would be very great.

13 Our sanction must be withheld, for the present, from the two other portions of the project, embracing the road from Cuttack to Pooree, and the Khoordah road. Estimates for re-modelling these roads are furnished,* but are unaccompanied by reports, because, as is stated by Lieutenant Dixon, he could not, without making an inspection tour, in company with Lieutenant Harris of the Embankment Department, decide whether certain embankments, proposed by the former, might not supersede the necessity for renewal of certain bridges, proposed by himself. The bridges here alluded to are all on the Cuttack and Pooree road, to which alone Lieutenant Dixon's reason for not submitting a report could apply, and with respect to that road, the reason assigned by him should have equally prevented his submitting an estimate, which, with one large item left blank, is not in a state to receive our sanction.

14 On the Khoordah road Lieutenant Dixon seems to have thought that there was nothing "requiring any particular report," but there is one most important point on which information is indispensable. Upon this road, according to Colonel Goodwyn, there are 200 bridges, which it is to be feared are not in general constructed on a better principle than those on the Rajghaut and Cuttack road. If this be the case, it is essential to know, and we direct immediate inquiry, whether their deficiency in water-way does not cause similar damage from floods, and whether the expense of heightening and metalling the road, while the bridges remain unwidened, would not be money worse than thrown away, since it is obvious that a loftier embankment, which did not effectually resist an inundation, could serve only to make that inundation more violent and disastrous.

15 The second project upon which our decision is required is one for the formation of a road, 27 miles long, from Jeeagunge, in the neighbourhood of Moorshedabad, to Nulhattee, the nearest station on the line of the East Indian railway; this scheme is in partial substitution for a design previously entertained of connecting Calcutta and Moorshedabad by a direct road, the necessity for which is now of course superseded by the railway. We have already pointed out to you, on more than one occasion, how desirable it is, that, simultaneously with the railways, lateral roads, which may serve as feeders to them, should be constructed,

* Estimate for the Khoordah Road, 84,451 rupees, estimate for the road between Cuttack and Pooree, 1,66,929 rupees

constructed, and the proposed road from Jeeagunge to Nalhatty, while serving this purpose for a district of extraordinary productiveness, would at the same time connect Moorshedabad with Calcutta much more effectually than an ordinary highway in a direct line between the two cities.

16 The estimate for the short road proposed amounts to 2,15,772 rupees, or about 7,791 per mile, but this high rate provides for a line with gradients and curves adapted to the branch railway, which, it is not doubted, will hereafter be constructed upon it. Although, however, it is obviously expedient in this case to adopt such breadth of road and such curves as may afterwards serve for a railway, there would seem to be no advantage in making, in the first instance, easier gradients than may suffice for a common road. For this reason, the cost of earthwork may, as you observe, be reduced, and a reduction of one-fourth may also be expected in another item, since the width proposed to be metalled may, in your opinion, be safely reduced from 20 feet to 15. I sanction the project with such modifications as are implied in these remarks.

17. We also accord a qualified sanction to the third estimate referred to us; viz., that for constructing a new gaol of masonry at Akyab, at an expense of 1,56,948 rupees. The former gaol, a thatched wooden building, was burnt down in 1853, and since that time, the prisoners have been "huttet in miserable sheds," from which it is absolutely necessary, both for their health and their safe custody, to remove them as soon as possible. On this account it is most desirable that a new gaol should be built at once, but the plan, as now proposed, besides being probably susceptible of minor modifications, calculated to diminish its cost, is also, you inform us, designed on a larger and more elaborate scale than would otherwise be necessary, in order to fit it for the reception of "term convicts," under sentence of the Supreme Courts. These convicts are now transported to Akyab, but you are considering the policy of discontinuing transportation for terms short of life; and, in case of its abolition, a gaol for local criminals would suffice at Akyab. Pending a decision on this point, our sanction to the amount of the present estimate as a maximum is solicited, and we accord it in order to prevent further delay in providing suitable quarters for prisoners at Akyab.

18 On the questions of drainage, ventilation, and space, the opinion of the Inspector of Prisons for Bengal will necessarily have been called for.

19 The last of the projects referred to us is for remodelling the opium factory at Patna, at an estimated cost of 1,34,227 rupees. To this our sanction has already been given in a separate despatch.

20. The total estimated cost of the four works thus sanctioned is a maximum of 11,48,602 rupees, of which it was proposed to expend 5,41,114 rupees in 1856-57*. The amount to be expended during the same season on works already sanctioned, is entered in Statement No 2 of the budget, at 35,99,684 rupees, exclusively of 1,00,000 rupees † subsequently allowed for unforeseen contingencies. The aggregate amount, therefore, appropriable during the year to public works in Bengal may be stated at 45,34,636 rupees ‡

21. Three

	Total Estimated Cost.	Amount to be expended in 1856-57
	Rs	Rs
* Road from Rajghaut to Cuttack - - - - -	6,41,655	3,00,000
Road from Jeeagunge to Nulhattee - - - - -	2,15,772	1,00,000
Gaol at Akyab - - - - -	1,56,948	50,000
Patna opium factory - - - - -	1,34,227	91,114.
Rs	11,48,602	5,41,114

† See Government Letter, No 67, dated 18 September last

‡ Proposed expenditure in 1856-57, on works sanctioned by Government of India	Rs	2,93,838
" " " on works sanctioned by Court - - -		5,41,114
" " " on works previously sanctioned - - -		36,99,684
Rs		45,34,636

21. Three estimates entered in the budget for these provinces have received your sanction ; one for a road from Nuldroog to Foljapore, amounting to 5,451 rupees ; another for cleaning the fort at Nuldroog for the sum of 2,577 rupees , and a third, amounting to 1,363 rupees, for a new descent of the Foljapore Ghât . A scheme for the construction, at an estimated cost of 63,218 rupees, of a road across the Raichore Doab from Hooljee to Hoobkeree, forms part of a larger design for a continuous road from Bellary to the sea, and, having been separately referred to us, has been sanctioned by us in a separate despatch . The amount entered in Statement No 2, as proposed for expenditure on previously sanctioned works, is 40,970 rupees. The entire sum* therefore appropriated to public works in the assigned Hyderabad Provinces during the current season, may be stated at 1,13,579 rupees

Assigned provinces of Hyderabad

22 Statement No 1 of the Budget for the North-Western Provinces comprises three projects regarding which you have called for further information, seven† which you have sanctioned, and two which are referred to us

North-Western Provinces

23 Of the latter, the first is one for a metalled road between Meerut and Kurnaul, estimated to cost 5,80,744 rupees. In your correspondence in this department, both with the subordinate Governments, and with ourselves, you have on more than one occasion alluded to the importance of specially regarding in all new plans for common roads, the course likely to be selected for railways in the same vicinity . This principle would seem however to have been overlooked in your recommendation of the road under consideration . The road, when completed, would, it is said, shorten the distance between Allyghur and Kurnaul by eight miles, and would proportionably facilitate the march of troops to and from the Punjaub . But besides that such advantage would be most extravagantly purchased at an expense of nearly six lacs, it seems clear that whatever might otherwise have been the utility of the road, it would be almost entirely deserted as soon as the East Indian Railway reached the latitude of Kurnaul . The railway would then become the line of communication with the Punjaub, and whether a high road between Meerut and Kurnaul were or were not in existence, a connecting link between Meerut and the nearest point on the railway would be indispensable. It was considerations of this kind which (as noticed in a preceding paragraph) caused you to reject a proposal for a road from Calcutta to Moorshedabad, and just as in that case it was deemed preferable to make a short line from Moorshedabad to the railway leading from Calcutta, so in this instance should a short road be preferred from Meerut to the railway, which it is presumed will pass near Kurnaul.

24. We

	<i>Rs.</i>
* New Works	
Road from Nuldroog to Foljapore - - - - -	5,451
Cleaning fort at Nuldroog - - - - -	2,577
New descent of the Foljapore Ghât - - - - -	1,363
Road through the Raichore Doab - - - - -	63,218
	72,609
Works previously sanctioned - - - - -	40,970
	<i>Rs.</i> 1,13,579

	Total Estimated Cost	Amount to be expended in 1856-57
	<i>Rs</i>	<i>Rs</i>
† Agra Barracks - - - - -	4,59,977	2,50,000
Roorkee Sapper Cantonment - - - - -	1,38,078	20,000
(The estimates in both these cases are for works already far advanced, their construction having been authorised in anticipation)		
Chief Engineer's office at Agra - - - - -	33,048	33,048
Jakoor Canal - - - - -	99,651	50,000
Machwa Bridge - - - - -	27,436	27,436
Saugor and Indore Road - - - - -	71,379	41,656
		4,22,140
Exclusive of an advance in anticipation of estimates on account of the Cawnpore Barracks - - - - -		2,50,000
	<i>Rs</i>	6,72,140

24. We must, therefore, decline to sanction this project. But surveys may at once be made for a road from Meerut to the most convenient point on the line of the future railway. That point would apparently be at or near Delhi, a road from which city to Meerut is a thoroughfare so greatly used at all times.

25 The remaining entry in the budget, upon which our decision is needed, viz, an estimate amounting to 1,39,322 rupees for metalling and bridging the portion of the Agra and Bombay road, between Agra and the Chumbul, is sanctioned

26 The sum proposed for expenditure in 1856-57 on the work just mentioned was 1,00,000 rupees. The amount to be expended within the same period on the new works which you have sanctioned was 6,72,140 rupees, and the estimated outlay on works previously sanctioned was 3,33,523 rupees, exclusive of the cost of repairs which is not given, and exclusive also of a sum of 1,00,000 rupees allowed for contingencies. The total amount* applicable to public works in the North-West Provinces during 1856-57, may therefore be stated at 12,05,663 rupees

Madras

27 Of the projects entered in Statement No 1 of the Madras Budget, your sanction has been given to thirty-one,† the estimates for which are each under one

	<i>Rs</i>
* On works sanctioned by Court - - - - -	1,00,000
On works sanctioned by Supreme Government - - - - -	6,72,140
On works formerly sanctioned - - - - -	3,33,523
Contingencies - - - - -	1,00,000
<i>Rs</i>	12,05,663

	Total of Estimate.	Proposed Expenditure in 1856-57
	<i>Rs</i>	<i>Rs</i>
† Calingaroyen Channel in Coimbatore - - - - -	64,898	40,000
Improvement of Coast Canal between Madras and Ameen Covil - - - - -	72,800	40,000
Widening Palicole Canal, and making a Lock at Nursapore - Canal from the Tuddry River to Coomptah - - - - -	57,280	57,280
Raised Causeway and Bridges over the Punungardee Back- water - - - - -	36,021	36,021
Masonry Works on the Road between Covvor and the Moodee- gunda River - - - - -	33,023	33,023
Masonry Works in completion of Trunk Road No 7 - - - - -	84,580	50,000
Bridge over the Vellaur, on Trunk Road No 8 - - - - -	89,434	60,000
Additional metalling of Road between Oolundoorpet and Sa- meaverum - - - - -	37,263	18,631
Bridge over the Pennaur - - - - -	37,313	37,313
Bridge over the Guddelum - - - - -	46,901	23,450
Road from Vizagapatam to Palaprety - - - - -	25,869	12,934
Road between Masulipatam and Ibrahimpatam - - - - -	45,750	30,000
Bridge over the Boogaroo - - - - -	43,250	30,000
Bridging the Bellary and Humpsagur Road - - - - -	38,558	20,000
Bridge over the Coom, near Dacumbode - - - - -	59,250	39,500
Road from Chingleput to Tetry - - - - -	26,860	15,000
Road from Trivatoor to the Palaur Annicut - - - - -	41,130	10,000
Bridge over the Palaur at the Annicut - - - - -	38,600	15,000
Bridge over the Vallaur on the Southern Coast Road - - - - -	94,400	50,000
Road from Trichinopoly to Salem Boundary - - - - -	35,020	17,510
Road from Trichinopoly to join Trunk Road No 9 - - - - -	50,000	30,000
Bridge over the Vignry at Madura - - - - -	43,600	25,000
Pulkanooth and Nella Cottah Road - - - - -	42,200	21,100
Road from Palamcottah to Tuticorin - - - - -	25,560	25,560
Bridge over the Ambravaty - - - - -	67,361	44,000
Bridging the Guersappa Ghâr Road - - - - -	63,830	28,000
Buildings for Sappers and Miners at Dowlauswarum - - - - -	25,994	16,000
New Hospital for European Barracks at Bellary - - - - -	47,028	47,028
Improvements to Custom-house at Madras - - - - -	82,330	50,000
Civil Audit Office - - - - -	70,040	50,340
	37,350	37,350
	15,63,493	10,10,040
Kistnah Annicut Channel from Vellahbapoorum to Tide Water	1,39,700	say 50,000
Reconstruction of Barracks at Bangalore - - - - -	1,55,600	50,000
<i>Rs</i>	18,58,793	11,10,040

one lac of rupees, and to one project involving an outlay of larger amount, but not considered to require a special reference to us, as being a necessary development of the Kistnah annicut works, long since sanctioned by us

28 You have also, in anticipation of the approval now given, sanctioned a project for improving, and adopting for the reception of an European infantry regiment, the dragoon barracks at Bangalore This you did in order to save the expense of extensive temporary repairs of the roof, which must have been made immediately, unless it had been determined to commence at once on the proposed reconstruction of the whole building

29 Ten projects enumerated in the margin * still await our orders, and nine of them we readily sanction The three works of irrigation promise, according to what appear sufficiently cautious calculations, to yield abundant interest on their cost; the four roads are designed to complete the important line connecting Madras with Calcutta, and bridges in situations apparently so well selected as those over the Pennaur and on the Chittoor and Cuddapah road, are, in many parts of the Madras territories, if possible, even more indispensable than roads themselves

30 The present estimate for married soldiers' quarters at Bangalore is, however, disallowed It provides for accommodation much beyond what is authorised in our Military Despatch, No 187 of 5th November last, and a new estimate must be prepared, adopted to the limitations therein enjoined

31 The total amount required for the thirty-three projects to which your sanction has been given is estimated at 18,58,793 rupees, of which we may assume that 11,10,040 rupees were to be expended in 1856-57 According to the same proportion, the year's expenditure on the nine works sanctioned by us would be about 4,25,000 rupees, the total amount required to complete them being 13,08,611 rupees The sum entered in Statement No 2 of the budget, as about to be expended during the year on works already sanctioned, is 37,07,214 rupees, exclusive of 18,54,470 rupees for repairs, and of 1,00,000 rupees for contingencies, so that the aggregate expenditure † in the Madras territories sanctioned for the current year may be stated as 71,96,724 rupees.

32 In

	Total Estimated Cost.
	Rs.
1 Annicut over the Tambrapoory - - - - -	3,85,000
2 Construction of Southern High Level Channel from the Kistna Annicut -	3,26,100
3 Poiney Annicut Channel - - - - -	1,53,283
4, 5, 6, 7 Works on Trunk Road, No. 6 (four estimates) - - - - -	2,09,120
8. Bridge over the Pennaur - - - - -	1,06,333
9 Masonry Works on the Chittoor and Cuddapah Road - - - - -	1,28,775
	<hr/>
	13,08,611
10 Quarters for Married Soldiers at Bangalore - - - - -	90,820
	<hr/>
	Rs
† * On work by Supreme Government - - - - -	11,10,040
On work by Supreme Court - - - - -	4,25,000
On work formerly sanctioned - - - - -	37,07,214
Repairs - - - - -	18,54,470
Contingencies - - - - -	1,00,000
	<hr/>
	Rs 71,96,724

Bombay.

32. In the Bombay Budget, Statement No. 1 comprises sixteen projects * which have been sanctioned by you, and seven upon which our orders are required.

33 Of these seven, three relate to roads designed to form parts of a continuous route from Bellary to the sea, and have been sanctioned by us in a separate despatch The estimates for them amount to 1,95,042 rupees, of which the portion proposed for expenditure during the current year was 1,17,000 rupees.

34 Another is for a masonry bridge over the Quoina River at Kurar The estimate amounting to 1,24,170 rupees, replaces a smaller estimate sanctioned by us in 1854, amounting to 88,799 rupees, towards which the Punt Prithee Nidhee had engaged to contribute 25,000 rupees. The difference between the estimates is occasioned by the adoption of a new and greatly improved design, and it now appears, that the whole cost of the bridge will devolve on the State, as the Punt Prithee Nidhee has withdrawn his offer. Nevertheless, you urge us very strongly to sanction the project, which we do with satisfaction, because the bridge will connect the future Kurar and Chiploon Road with the cotton districts lying in the direction of Kolapoor, and because a toll is to be levied, which may help to compensate for what is admitted to be the more than ordinary, though apparently unavoidable, costliness of the structure We cannot let this opportunity pass without strongly impressing upon you the advantage of establishing cheap and easy communication between all the cotton districts, and the nearest or most convenient ports of shipment, or of communication with the projected railways.

35 We sanction the project for the construction, at a cost of 1,00,819 rupees, of a masonry bridge over the Bhogawa River on the Ahmedabad and Gogo road, observing that the work is pronounced to be "well considered" and "economically planned." To leave unbridged a river nearly a mile broad, having no regular banks, and periodically overflowing the neighbouring country, which becomes a muddy swamp when the water recedes, would be to render comparatively useless the very important route intersected by it On this bridge, too, a toll is to be levied, which "it is not doubted, will more than repay the cost of construction"

36 The project for a road from Hydrabad to Kotree, at an estimated cost of 1,46,267 rupees, is also sanctioned This work was included as an item in the system of roads for Sind, to which a general sanction was given by us in July 1854.

37 In your communication to the Bombay Government another project, that for a road from Surat to the Saughur River, is mentioned as being about to be referred to us, but it is not alluded to in your letter to ourselves.

38. Finally,

	Total of Estimate.	Proposed Expenditure in 1856-57
	Rs	Rs
* Road from Chiploon to Kurar - - - - -	6,52,916	2,50,000
(To which Court's conditional sanction was given by anticipation in 1853)		
Road from Waee to Sheerwul - - - - -	45,231	45,231
Diversion of main drain of the Fort at Bombay - - - - -	42,948	42,948
Bridge over the Goar River, near Seroor - - - - -	51,451	20,000
Road from the Surampoor Ghât to the confluence of the Pruwarra and Gunga, near Toka - - - - -	50,157	30,000
Seven minor bridges on the Ahmedabad and Gogo Road - - - - -	26,794	26,794
Widening the mole in Kurrachee Harbour - - - - -	39,134	20,000
Bridge over the Foolalee - - - - -	35,885	28,000
Road from Kotree to Roree - - - - -	35,020	20,000
Regulating bridge over the head of the Narra New Supply Channel at Roree - - - - -	16,548	16,548
Completing arsenal at Hyderabad - - - - -	54,208	30,000
Battery at Aden - - - - -	17,110	17,110
Battery and guard-room at Aden - - - - -	37,530	37,530
Shed for Nasmyth's hammers in Bombay Dockyard - - - - -	45,886	45,886
Amendment of road between Wassind and Khurdee - - - - -	41,422	20,000
Amendment of road between Wassind and Colsettee - - - - -	48,325	20,000
Rs	12,40,565	670,047

38 Finally, a project for a new graving dock at Bombay was left unnoticed by you, because it had already been referred to us directly by the local government. You will have learned, however, from our reply to that government that we wish the subject to be re-submitted to you, in order that we may have the aid of your opinion in coming to a conclusion regarding it.

39 The estimates for the six works which we have sanctioned, amount, in the aggregate, to 5,66,298 rupees, of which 2,85,000 rupees were to be expended in 1855-56. The year's expenditure on the works enumerated above, as sanctioned by you, was to be 6,70,047 rupees, and the expenditure on works previously sanctioned, and on repairs, exclusive of 1,00,000 rupees for contingencies, is entered in Statement No 2, as 32,96,195 rupees, so that the total expenditure* on public works in the Bombay territories, authorised for 1856-57, is 43,51,242 rupees.

40 In recapitulation, the subjoined statement shows the expenditure sanctioned for the current year on public works, so far as appears from the budgets under review

	On Works in Statement No 1, Sanctioned by Government of India.	On Works in Statement No 1, Sanctioned by Court	On Works in Statement No 2, and on Repairs and Contingencies.	TOTAL
	<i>Rs.</i>	<i>Rs</i>	<i>Rs</i>	<i>Rs</i>
Bengal - - - - -	2,92,838	5,41,114	36,99,684	45,34,636
North-West Provinces - -	6,72,140	1,00,000	4,33,523	12,05,663
Hydrabad Provinces - -	9,391	63,218	40,970	1,13,579
Madras - - - - -	11,10,040	4,25,000	56,61,684	71,96,724
Bombay - - - - -	6,70,047	2,85,000	33,96,195	43,51,242
<i>Rs</i>	27,55,456	14,14,332	1,32,32,056	1,74,01,844

41 The sanctions which you have yourselves given in the several instances enumerated in the course of this despatch, were, we observe, declared to be subject to the orders prohibiting the commencement of new works pending the result of your recent reference to us, regarding the state of the public finances. You are now in possession of our reply to that reference, and in pursuance of the views therein expressed, we attach to our present sanction of new works the following proviso

42. That the whole year's expenditure on public works throughout India must not exceed the amount applicable to such expenditure, which the ordinary revenue of the year will meet, to any greater extent than the crore of rupees which you are authorised to procure on loan, for special appropriation to public works.

43 While engaged upon the budgets here received, we could not fail to remark the defective arrangement of most of them, and had intended to suggest some improvements, but in your merited praise of the Madras budget, and in your recommendation of it as a model for general imitation, you have summed up and forestalled all we should have thought it necessary to say

44. We

On works sanctioned by Court - - - - -	<i>Rs</i>	2,85,000
On works by Supreme Government - - - - -		6,70,047
On works formerly sanctioned, and on repairs		32,96,195
Contingencies - - - - -		1,00,000
	<i>Rs</i>	43,51,242

44. We may here express our approval of your recent modification of the budget rules, as reported in your letters, Nos. 46 and 67, [dated 8th August and 18th September last.

London, 17 April 1857

We are, &c
(signed) *R. D. Mangtes*
F. Currie,
&c. &c.

Public Works Department, 17 April (No 9) 1857.

Our Governor-General of India in Council.

Budgets for 1856-57
of the Punjab, the
Straits Settlements,
the Tenasserim and
Martaban Provinces,
and Pegu

1 SINCE completing in our despatch No. 8, dated this day, our review of the budgets for 1856-57, of Bengal, the North-Western Provinces, the assigned provinces of Hyderabad, Madras, and Bombay, we have received with your letters, Nos 62 and 63 of the 13th September, No 65 of the 16th September, and No 89 of the 3d December, the budget for the Punjab, the Straits Settlements, the Tenasserim and Martaban Provinces, and Pegu

2 The contents of these documents will form the subject of the present supplementary despatch, which we must commence by repeating the expression of our dissatisfaction on account of the extremely late period at which the budget reaches us. There is the more reason for calling your attention to this point, because most of the delay takes place at Calcutta. For example, the Punjab budget was completed and laid before the Chief Commissioner on the 29th December 1855, or within a fortnight of the appointed day. It was sent to you from Lahore, with a letter dated 26th January following; but the letter in reply, containing your orders upon it, is not dated until 4th July; and two months more intervened, previously to the date of the letter communicating those orders to us. It is true that no items in the Punjab budget of such amount as to require our previous authority have been recommended to us by you for sanction, but similar, and equally avoidable, though somewhat less protracted delay was suffered to retard the transmission to us of your recommendations regarding the Madras and Bombay budgets

3 We proceed to notice the budgets now brought before us in the order in which they have been received

Punjab

4. With respect to that of the Punjab we have nothing to add to your comments on its irregularities in form, or on the more serious irregularities thereby implied in the executive operations of the department. The submission of projects without plans or estimates still continued, and so did the prosecution of works to which only "general sanction" had been given; but you, very properly, have positively forbidden for the future the commencement of any works until plans and estimates for them shall have been duly submitted and approved. You have also prohibited the suspension of any works in progress, with a view to the commencement of others thought to be of more importance, and, above all, you have insisted that annual expenditure on public works shall not exceed the prescribed limit of 60 lacs. A rigid adherence to these rules will go far towards preventing the lavish outlay which, in the Punjab, was but too much encouraged by the previous absence of all systematic check.

5. The aggregate eventual expenditure sanctioned by you on account of new projects is 12,45,050 rupees, of which the portion to be expended within the current year is 7,32,643* rupees. The estimated cost of most of these projects is separately

	Total of Estimates.	Expenditure sanctioned during the Year
	Rs	Rs
* Civil Works - - - - -	1,70,620	1,70,620
Military works - - - - -	10,74,430	5,62,023
Rs	12,45,050	7,32,643

separately inconsiderable; but, in ten instances specified in the margin,* it exceeds what any subordinate government is competent to sanction. In one of these exceptional cases, that of new barracks at Ferozepore, our previous approval was requisite, and had been conveyed to you in para 43 of our military despatch, No 46, of 27th April 1854. The other projects were within your competence, and we have no particular remark to make upon them, except with regard to their unusual costliness which, in many cases, seems greater than can be accounted for by locally high prices of labour and materials. This is, indeed, most glaringly exhibited in an item which has been disallowed for the present, viz "the permanent privies" proposed for European troops at Sealkote, at an expense of 71,191 rupees. These you have ordered to be deferred, "the present temporary arrangements being continued," but there is similar disproportion between means and end in several of the items which have been suffered to pass, and which appear to furnish additional proofs of the defective supervision so often noticed in the Public Works department in the Punjab. In your Secretary's letter to the Chief Commissioner regarding the budget, it was stated that you were in doubt, from what you had seen, whether one chief engineer can manage properly an expenditure of even 60 lacs. We do not participate in the doubt, and it is to be remarked that one such functionary suffices, in the Madras Presidency, to conduct a still larger annual outlay with method and economy.

6 Exclusively of the expenditure on new works, you have authorised on works already in progress an expenditure during the year of 46,94,241† rupees, so that the total sanctioned for the current season is 59,39,291‡ rupees, subject to the proviso that this sum must be diminished, if, with the addition of the demand for establishment and contingencies, it should exceed 60 lacs.

7 In statement No. 1, of the Budget of the Straits Settlements, are three projects to which you have given a prospective sanction, providing in each case for some modification of the original plan. The first is for a new Government house at Singapore, estimated to cost 1,20,000 rupees, reducible to 45,000 rupees by the employment of convict labour. The present residence of the Governor, built in 1820 of wood, and thatched with leaves, is represented as being scarcely safe, and a new one is, no doubt, required, but the plan and estimate should have been submitted for our previous sanction. The expected cost is not the less beyond the limit within which our authority may be dispensed with,

	Total Estimate.	Amount to be expended within the Year
	Rs	Rs
* Third coat of metal on the Beas and Lahore road - - -	88,568	88,568
Umballa Church - - - - -	45,060	45,060
Cook-rooms for single men's barracks, at Rawul Pindie - - -	28,090	28,090
Set of new barracks at Ferozepore for European infantry regiments	6,73,292	2,00,000
Congoe House, at Ferozepore - - - - -	26,777	26,777
Barracks for 80 men at the Convalescent Depot, Murree - - -	50,000	50,000
Hospital at the same place - - - - -	41,280	41,280
3,500 soldiers' boxes - - - - -	55,000	40,000
2,000 soldiers' cots - - - - -	50,000	30,000
Wall round Peshawur Cantonment - - - - -	45,921	45,921
	Rs 11,03,988	5,95,696

	Rs
† On civil works - - - - -	24,70,556
On military works - - - - -	22,23,685
	Ps. 46,94,241
	Rs
‡ On new works - - - - -	12,45,050
On works previously sanctioned - - - - -	46,94,241
	Rs. 59,39,291

with, because the amount is not to be paid wholly in cash, but will be provided for in part by convict labour. We are, besides, especially unwilling that an edifice of so much mark as a Government house should be commenced before we have had an opportunity of examining the design; and, in the present instance, the design should still be sent for our inspection, unless the work be already too far advanced to admit of any alteration of plan.

8. The other new schemes are for an arsenal, and for Commissariat godowns at Singapore, estimated at 31,347 rupees and 29,130 rupees respectively. These buildings are shown to be urgently required, but the choice of sites for them has necessarily been postponed, pending a decision on a question under discussion in the Military department as to the construction of a fort, within which, or within reach of whose guns it might be desirable to place all the military buildings at Singapore.

9. The whole estimated expense of the three projects enumerated above is 1,80,477 rupees, and the proposed expenditure upon them, during the current season, 40,000 * rupees. The amount entered in Statement No 2, for expenditure during the same period, on works previously sanctioned, is 87,917 rupees, so that the total for the year would be 1,27,917† rupees, which, however, would appear to be reducible, by the employment of convict labour, to 70,593 rupees.

Tenasserim and
Martaban
Provinces.

10. Of the new projects inserted in the budgets of the Tenasserim and Martaban provinces, six † (as specified in the margin) have received your sanction. The estimated cost of each of them is inconsiderable, but it may nevertheless be remarked, that wharfs, and similar accommodation for local commerce, ought not, in general, to be provided at the expense of the State; their cost should more properly be defrayed from port or local funds, or, if no such funds are immediately available, then by anticipation of dues, to be subsequently levied for the use of them. The new wharf sanctioned at Moulmein is distinct from a new main wharf, an estimate for which, amounting probably to 1,20,000 rupees, is, it seems, to be entered in next year's budget. When this project comes before us, we shall be disposed to ask whether the Moulmein port dues can be made to suffice for its execution, and if not, we shall infer that the commerce of the place is not sufficiently advanced to require so expensive a work.

11. The expenditure authorised for the year on new works is 7,600 rupees, and on works previously sanctioned, and repairs, 1,59,025 rupees. The total of the year's expenditure on public works, in the Tenasserim and Martaban provinces, may therefore be reckoned at 1,66,625 rupees

12 The

	Total of Estimates.	Expenditure sanctioned during the Year
	<i>Rs</i>	<i>Rs.</i>
* Government House - - - - -	1,20,000	10,000
Arsenal - - - - -	31,347	10,000
Commissariat Godowns - - - - -	29,130	20,000
<i>Rs</i>	1,80,477	40,000

† On works newly sanctioned - - - - -	<i>Rs</i>	40,000
On works previously sanctioned - - - - -		87,917
<i>Rs</i>		1,27,917

‡ New wharf at Moulmein - - - - -	<i>Rs</i>	2,500
Reconstructing wharf at ditto - - - - -		1,500
Tayat at Taory - - - - -		600
Ditto at Mergui - - - - -		1,000
Travellers' house at Rangoon - - - - -		800
Bridge over Keying Nullah - - - - -		1,200
<i>Rs</i>		7,600

12 The extraordinary delay in submitting the budget for Pegu was occasioned by the neglect, on the part of most of the executive officers, of the repeated calls made on them by the Commissioner, and you have felt yourselves under the necessity of declaring your determination "to punish all executive officers in the province who were culpably in arrears with their office work, by placing them upon half-staff allowance until the arrears, whether of accounts or plans, and estimates, are cleared off" The statements which were at last laid before you were, as you pointed out, extremely defective and informal.

13 Of the new projects entered in this budget, the only ones which appear, from the confused and imperfect documents before us, to have received your sanction are the four noted in the margin* (the proposed buildings for the station of Dalhousie being reserved for a special communication) In your letter, however, you state that you have sanctioned Rs 1,61,619 3 6 for expenditure during the year, on account of works included in Statement No 1, (the difference being, we presume, made up by the various military works which you had sanctioned at intermediate periods), and that the total estimated expenditure during the year, which has received your sanction, inclusive of repairs, is 8,68,871 rupees, of which 4,04,431 rupees are for the Tongoop and Prome roads The imperfection of the statements prevents us from distinguishing with sufficient accuracy new works from those already sanctioned

14 Our despatch, No 8, dated this day, showed the expenditure on public works sanctioned for the current year in Bengal, the North-Western Provinces, the assigned provinces of Hyderabad, Madras, and Bombay, to be 1,74,01,824 rupees, viz

	On New Works.	On Works previously sanctioned	TOTAL
	Rs	Rs	Rs
To which may be added—	41,69,768	1,32,32,056	1,74,01,824
For the Punjab - - - - -	12,45,050	46,94,241	59,39,291
„ Straits Settlements - - - - -	40,000	87,917	1,27,917
„ Tenasserim and Martaban Provinces -	7,600	1,59,025	16,66,625
„ Pegu - - - - -	-	-	8,68,871
Rs	54,62,418	18,17,239	2,45,04,528

15 We are still without the budgets for Oude and Nagpore, and are therefore still unable to compute the year's expenditure for the whole of India, or to take that comprehensive view without which we cannot satisfy ourselves that the most judicious distribution has been made of the amount

London, 17 April 1857.

We are, &c
(signed) R D Mangles,
F Currie,
&c &c

* Masonry cook-houses for the Native Infantry Regiment at Heuzada -	Rs 13,418
Cantonment roads at Rangoon (apparently) - - - - -	1,14,440
(Of which 25,000 rupees to be expended within the current year)	
Masonry privies for artillery at ditto - - - - -	1,669
Temporary gun-shed at Rangoon - - - - -	3,587
Rs	1,33,114

(True copies)

East India House, }
2 June 1857. }

J. S Mill,
Examiner of India Correspondence.

EAST INDIA.

CORRESPONDENCE relating, to the Revision of Assessment in *South Arcot*; Meriah Agency in *Ganjam* and *Orissa*; *Moturpha*, &c., Taxes at *Madagas*; Administration of the *Hyderabad* Assigned Districts, and the Public Works Department.

(*Memoir*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
8 June 1857.

[*Price 6d*]]

83—Sess. 2.

Under 8 oz