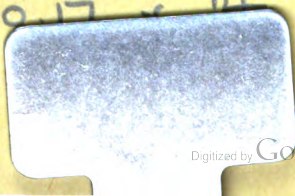


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ACCOUNT

OF

MR. PYBUS'S MISSION

TO

THE KING OF KANDY,

IN 1762.

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GOVERNMENT.

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P R E F A C E.

AFTER the surrender to Great Britain of the Dutch fortified posts of Ceylon, in 1795-1796, the British possessions thus acquired were placed under the Government of the Presidency of Madras ; and so remained until the appointment, in October 1798, of the Honorable FREDERICK NORTH, afterwards Earl of Guildford, as Governor of Ceylon.

The following account of Mr. PYBUS'S Mission to Kandy is preserved among the Records of the Madras Government.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
Report by Mr. Pybus of his Mission to Kandy, addressed to the President, &c., Fort St. George	1
Mr. Pybus's Diary of his Journey to Kandy.....	41

REPORT,

TO THE HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT, Esq., President
and Governor, and the Gentlemen of the Select
Committee at Fort St. George.

HON'BLE SIR, & SIRS,

Your Honour &c. having judged it necessary, in consequence of application made to you by the Emperor of Ceylon, soliciting our assistance against his enemies, the Dutch, to send a person from hence to that Prince's Court ; and having done me the honour of making choice of me for that purpose, and furnished me with your Instructions under date the 6th April last, for my guidance on that service, I shall now lay before you an account of my proceedings, and comply, as fully as the information I was able to obtain will admit, with what you have been pleased by those Instructions to recommend to me.

I have already advised you under date the 23rd May, with my arrival at Gunnoor,* within a few miles of Candia, the Capital of the Island of Ceylon, and where the Emperor usually resides. I did not

* Ganooroowa—close to Peradenia.

then think it necessary to enter into any particulars relating to my journey on the road, nor shall I in this place trouble you with such a recital, as it would too much interrupt the thread of the narrative I am about to lay before you touching the most important points of the Commission I have been honoured with. But your Honour, &c. will find annexed to this address, by way of Journal, all such remarks and occurrences as appeared to me deserving your notice or information, from the time of my leaving the Squadron, in Trincomalay Harbour, to my return thither, and which do not immediately relate to the execution of the business I was sent upon. I shall, therefore, without further digression, proceed to acquaint you, that the 24th of May, being the day after the dispatch of my letter above mentioned, I had the honour of being introduced to His Majesty. The ceremony attending my introduction you will find very particularly related in my Journal. I had very little reason, I must confess, to be satisfied with this visit, which proved only a visit of fatigue ; nor could I, from the distance I was situated at from Candia, the difficulty, uncertainty, and ceremony which attended getting access to His Majesty, added to the very tedious and tiresome manner in which I found it was customary to converse with him when admitted, entertain much hope of concluding any business

in time to return with the Squadron. I therefore very strenuously solicited being accommodated with a house in the town of Candia, which was accordingly promised me in two or three days; but it was the third of June before this promise was complied with. The next day, to my great satisfaction, I found the King had appointed a sort of Council composed of the principal Officers belonging to his Court, to meet and discourse with me upon business, who were to report to him the result of our conferences, to whom I was that evening, and frequently afterwards, introduced at the Palace, where an apartment was provided for our accommodation.

It would be needless to enter here into a minute detail of all that passed between us at our several meetings, relative to the Commission I was charged with, having been very circumstantial, in this particular, in my Journal. I shall only, therefore, in this place remark, that, adhering strictly to the tenour of the second Article of your Instructions, I avoided, though not without much difficulty, making any conclusive promises, engagements or agreements, subjecting every proposal of mine, and demand of theirs, to your final resolutions and determination. And notwithstanding you were pleased to recommend, in the fifteenth paragraph of your Instructions, that I should solicit being put in possession of some

part or place upon the Island, I did not think it prudent to urge that point, as I found they expected, in return for any indulgences or privileges granted to us, that we should assist them, both by sea and land, against the Dutch, which was not only contrary to your declared intention, in the second Article of those Instructions, but inconsistent likewise with the Treaties subsisting between the two Nations; and it was with pleasure I found, by a letter received from the President on my return to the Squadron, that my conduct in this particular corresponded with your intention. In answer, therefore, to the assistance they seemed to require at our hands, I pressed them to inform me what privileges His Majesty was disposed to grant us, should you determine upon affording him such assistance; but they declined explaining themselves upon this point, urging that as they had made me acquainted with what His Majesty demanded from us, on his part, it rested with me to let them know what indulgences we expected in return. This appeared but reasonable; and though I saw the very little probability there was of entering into treaty with them on such a footing, and your Honour &c. had furnished me with no directions on the subject, I had no other alternative left but of declaring my real sentiments, or of making some proposals that might carry with them the appearance of an intention, on our parts, to cultivate an alliance and

friendship with them, which last I rather chose as seeming the most consistent with the design of my expedition, declaring, however, at the time of making them, that they were not to be considered, or in any respect construed, as a treaty or agreement finally concluded or entered into, but subject to such alterations or additions as you might see proper. This being premised, I ventured to propose the following Articles to be communicated to the King, for his determination, viz. :—

ARTICLES

“1st. That the English East India Company shall have permission to establish a Settlement or Settlements in the Bay of Cottiarum, in the River of Muttu Cullapay or Batacal, or in the River Chilaun, in the Districts of Annawolandane, or at any other place on the sea-coast of the Island of Ceylon, as they shall hereafter find most convenient for carrying on their trade, which now is, or shall hereafter be in the possession of the King, giving notice to the King of their intentions of establishing such settlement, before they erect any buildings there.

2nd. That the English East India Company shall have liberty to provide, and His Majesty shall issue out orders to his subjects to furnish them with Cinnamon on the same conditions they provided it for the Dutch, and with such a quantity as they shall have occasion for, to be at such Settlements

as shall be hereafter agreed upon ; and His Majesty is requested to issue out his orders for collecting, with as much dispatch as possible, a quantity of Cinnamon, at Matucullapay, in readiness for a ship which may be sent for it in September or October.

3rd. That no Pepper, or Beetle Nut commonly called Cotah Paukoo, shall be sold by any of His Majesty's subjects to any other but the English East India Company, to whom they shall be obliged to deliver those Articles on the same terms they were delivered by them to the Dutch.

4th. That His Majesty's subjects shall have free liberty to bring their goods, from any part of His Majesty's Dominions to the English Settlements, without receiving any molestation or interruption from any person or persons whatsoever.

5th. That His Majesty's subjects shall be prohibited from carrying on any trade with, or carrying any of their commodities to, any other Settlements or places, but those of the English East India Company.

6th. That His Majesty, on application being made to him, shall issue out his Orders to his subjects to furnish, on being paid for them at reasonable rates, such Timber, Stone, or other materials, as may be wanted for erecting Forts, Warehouses, or any other buildings, at such places as the English may hereafter find it convenient, and have the

King's permission to settle at, and to supply likewise such a number of workmen as may be necessary, who shall be paid for their labour.

7th. That in case the English should find it necessary at any place or places, where they shall have His Majesty's permission to settle, to pull down, or remove any house or buildings that may be near or upon the spot which they shall think most convenient for erecting their Fortifications, Warehouses, or buildings on, the inhabitants or proprietors of such houses or buildings shall be obliged, on proper notice being given them, to pull them down, and remove the materials at their own expense, having first the grant of another spot of ground, of equal dimensions with that they shall have removed from, to erect such houses or buildings on, if they see proper.

8th. That any European belonging to any English Settlement, Ship or Vessel ; any person that shall have been guilty of any crime or offence ; any servant or slave belonging to the English, or inhabitants living under their protection and government, that shall have deserted or run away from any of their Settlements into the King's Territories, shall, on application made to His Majesty by the Governor of the Settlements from whence they shall have deserted, or run away, be delivered up as soon as possible after such applica-

tion has been made; and in like manner any of His Majesty's subjects, who have been guilty of any crime or offence, and have made their escape to an English Settlement for protection, shall, on proper application being made, be delivered up.

9th. That the English, at all places where they may have Settlements, shall have the privilege of trying and punishing, by the Laws of their own Country, (of whatever kind the nature of the offence shall be), all persons of what nations soever, who shall live within their limits and under their jurisdiction.

10th. That at any time when it shall be found necessary for the English to assist His Majesty with Troops, His Majesty shall oblige himself to furnish the necessary draft and carriage bullocks for transporting the Artillery, Stores, and Baggage of the Army, and to provide the Troops with provisions at his own charge, so long as they shall be employed in the field upon his service.

11th. That such Officers as shall be employed with the Troops in the field upon His Majesty's service, shall have the liberty of travelling either in pallankeens or on horseback to or in any part of his territories, when they shall be employed upon such service.

12th. That the same allowance of Batta shall be paid by His Majesty to the Officers of the Troops

while in the field as are allowed them on the coast of Coromandel.

13th. That all sorts of Military or other Stores, which shall be expended, broken or lost on the King's service, shall be paid for by His Majesty.

14th. That in consideration of the great expense which will attend erecting Fortifications, Warehouses and other buildings at such places as the English may settle at, and for maintaining a Military Force for taking the field whenever the King shall have occasion for their service, His Majesty shall make over to the English East India Company for their sole use and benefit, and as their property for ever, certain Countries or Districts from whence they may be enabled to reimburse themselves for such heavy charges."

I could have added some others relative to the ceremony of receiving any Ambassadors that might hereafter be sent thither, but this I rather choose to leave to be settled by you, having made it a rule at every conference to let them know, that they must not expect any Englishman coming to His Majesty's Court in that character, in future, would submit to those customs which I, who was an entire stranger, had been under the necessity of conforming to. The foregoing proposals having been explained, and the substance of them taken in the Singhalese language, were communicated to

the King, in whose name and before any answer was given to them, the Council I have before spoken of, pressed me very earnestly to declare whether or no, if the King should grant every thing I had proposed, I would take upon me to assure him, that the Governour and Council would assist him against the Dutch, to which I replied only in general terms, that His Majesty might be assured the English were very desirous of cultivating his friendship and alliance, but that I was not empowered to enter into any particular engagements with him, nor could I take upon me to say how far you might approve of the proposals I had made, or what others you might have to make. These evasive answers I found afforded very little satisfaction, and seemed to give rise to some unfavourable suspicions by the argument they made use of in reply, that as the Governor and Council of Madras, in consequence of a representation made to them by His Majesty's Vackeel, of the situation his affairs were in with the Dutch, and that he wanted our assistance, had thought proper to send me, a member of their Council, to treat with them, it appeared somewhat surprising that I was not empowered to enter into any agreement or give any positive assurances whether he might depend upon our assistance or not. This method of reasoning carrying with it some weight, was only to be answered in the

general manner I have before recited, and that you considered it as a matter of too much consequence to leave to the management of one person. Little satisfied, as they had reason to be, with such inconclusive answers, I gave them no others, which I have much reason to think was the cause of my being so long detained after having communicated my proposals, before I got my audience of leave, which, after many pressing importunities, urging the necessity of my speedy return, lest I should be too late for the Admiral, who could not answer waiting for me when his ships were repaired, I, with much difficulty, obtained of his Majesty, the twenty-third at night, and set out the 24th of June, in the morning. It may not be improper here to take notice, that a few days before my departure, the Generals desired a meeting, to communicate and explain to me the King's answers to my proposals, which was accordingly done. I thought it unnecessary entering into any discussion of the objections I found the King had made to some of them, observing only in general, that the whole was submitted to your final determination, which being now before you for that purpose, any further remarks of mine thereon in this place are needless.

Having now given a summary account of my proceedings during my residence at Candia, which are more minutely related in my Journal, I shall, in

the next place, endeavour to comply with what you have so particularly recommended to me in your Instructions, touching the Trade, Government, Manners, Customs and Produce of the Island, as far as the information I was able to obtain will admit.

But it will be first necessary to observe to you, and your Honour, &c., will readily conceive, that as no one was suffered to come near the house where I lodged, but such as had the King's permission; no person allowed to converse with my servants in the Malabar Language, but the linguist appointed by the King to attend twice a day, when the Officers paid their visits; and neither myself, or servants were permitted to go out of the House, after my removal to the town of Candia but when sent for to the palace on business; it must have been very difficult, under such circumstances, and such Government, to have procured any intelligence or information that could be depended on; such, however, as has come to my knowledge, I shall here communicate, beginning with the Trade carried on to and from this Island by the Dutch East India Company, the most important branch of which being the article of Cinnamon, deserves to be the first spoken of.

This valuable spice grows chiefly on the south end of the Island, Colombo and Matura. The people who collect and cure it are of an inferior

class, and are distinguished in the Cingalese language by the name of Shaliah. It is reckoned not only a very laborious but dangerous business, from the number of elephants, wild buffaloes, tygers, and other beasts with which the woods in those parts abound, and where those people inhabit in small villages. The Dutch keep Register Books at Colombo, Galley, and Matura, of the several villages in each District, and every man's name belonging to them. This business is superintended by one European and one head Debash, who reside constantly in the country where the Cinnamon is collected, and visit the different villages as often as they see proper. The Dutch have warehouses at several places by the sea-side adjacent to the countries where the Cinnamon is collected, and Conicopies at each to receive it from the Shaliah people as they bring it in ; and about a month before the annual despatch of the ships for Europe, the European Superintendent visits these warehouses to examine what quantity has been received at each. From hence it is transported to Galley or Colombo by sea in small crafts, where it is shipped for Europe, for which purpose it is packed in bales or bundles of about two hundred English pounds each ; and of these, their annual investment is computed to be from twelve to fourteen thousand bales. It is invoiced as well to Europe as every part of

India at twenty-five rix-dollars per bale. The terms on which they procure the Cinnamon are these. Every man is allowed seven and a half fanams (of which there are twelve to a rix-dollar) and one parrah of rice monthly, and two pieces of ordinary Salampores yearly, for which he is obliged to furnish four loads of Cinnamon, of fifty English pounds each, within the year. The Superintendent and Debash are appointed to the payment of the allowances, who issue them to the Headman of each village (whose allowances are double) for as many as his village contains, the distribution of which is left to him. It is reckoned that the Dutch employed about twelve thousand people in this business; but since the commencement of the present troubles, which broke out about the middle of the year 1760, the Shaliah people, by express orders from the King, after destroying all the Cinnamon they had collected, quitted their habitations in the woods and came up to Candia, and are now employed in the villages thereabouts as labourers in their Paddy plantations; nor could I learn that the Dutch had been able, since that time, to procure any Cinnamon, except a small quantity from a few trees which grew within three or four miles of Colombo; but these have lately been cut down and destroyed.

The article of Beetle-nut is the next most considerable export this Island affords, which not only yields a very large revenue to the Dutch Company,

but is one of the principal emoluments annexed to the Governments of Colombo, Galley, and Calpentyn, at which settlements only this trade is carried on; but at each under different duties and regulations. At the former, the Dutch Company receive from the country people at three rix-dollars per amanam which is usually reckoned twenty-four thousand; but by the measure as it is received here, an amanam will turn out from twenty-eight to thirty thousand nuts. One of the Company's servants has the charge of this business, who allows the Governor twenty-five per cent. on all he receives. It is re-sold to the Choliars* and other trading people, on the Company's account, at nine rix-dollars one fanam, or 1-12 per amanam; besides which, the Governor is allowed two dollars, and the Governor's Debash half a rupee, on every amanam. The purchaser pays likewise to the person who measures it to him, at the rate of seven and a half dollars on every hundred amanams, and he receives a surplus of half an amanam on every hundred he purchases. The measure it is sold by is called a Walley, † and is estimated at a quarter of an amanam or six thousand nuts; but seldom turns out by tale more than five thousand. It is made conical,

* Choliars,—Moormen.

† This is a rude steel-yard, made of wood, without any weight, but having the fulcrum very close to one end, to which the

and is not heaped up, but struck off in measuring. The nut which is brought to Colombo is in general reckoned the best, though I could not learn on what account. The quantity sold here annually is computed at between fifteen and twenty-thousand amanams. At Galley, the prices and fees are the same as at Colombo, but the exports from thence are limited to three thousand amanams yearly. The nut which is brought to Calpentyne (a settlement on an Island of the same name, situated on the west side of the main Island, from which it is divided only by a very narrow passage) is reckoned of an inferior quality to that sold at Colombo and Galley; and is chiefly bought by the Choliars from the natives at Putelan, who bring it thither from the Northern and Inland part, and exchange it with these Choliars either for money or cloth, at about one and a half dollars per amanam of thirty thousand, who are then obliged to carry it to the Dutch Factory at Calpentyne, where it is paid for at the rate of two dollars per amanam on the Company's account, and re-sold at six; but it is exempt from all other fees except one dollar per amanam to the Governor. The annual exports from hence are computed at six or eight thousand amanams.

substance to be weighed is suspended; a "welle" is so much as will bring the wooden bar into a horizontal position: it is now used only for cotton.

Pepper is the only other export of any consequence which the Dutch Company reserve to themselves ; and of this, the quality of late years has not been very considerable, nor can it be with any certainly depended on, as they purchase it in small parcels from the country people, as they choose to bring it to the scale, at the rate of one and half rix-dollars per maund, or 24 Dutch pounds; and what is wanted for the consumption of the inhabitants, they retail out of their warehouses again, at $1\frac{3}{4}$ fanams per pound, or $3\frac{1}{2}$ rix-dollars per maund. The remainder is sent to Europe, Bengal, China or other markets, according to the directions they receive from Batavia.

This article, a few years ago, was brought in to them on contract by a Choliar merchant, who obliged himself to furnish them yearly with two hundred and fifty candies, to be delivered at Batacolo, Colombo, and Calpentyn in equal proportions, but at what price I could not learn ; who, as an indulgence, was to be allowed to export 500 amanams of Beetle-nut yearly at the same price it was paid for by the Company. The merchant complied with his contract the first year, within ten or twelve candies, which was made a plea for denying him, the promised indulgence of beetle-nut. The next year he delivered ten candies more than his contract, but still found himself, on some pretence or other, disappointed of his beetle-

nut. Convinced by this conduct how little he could depend on their promises, he quitted Colombo in disgust and returned to Candia. Since that time, they have been only able to procure it in the manner I have before recited.

The trade carried on by the Dutch in Elephants, with which this Island abounds, may properly be considered among its exports, and is one of those, I believe, which yields a very considerable advantage to that Company. But as the King reserves to himself the sole prerogative of catching these animals, the Dutch are obliged, as a matter of form, to make application to him annually for his permission for this privilege, which is always granted by them, under a restriction not to exceed such a number, which is generally limited to between twenty and thirty. Little regard is, however, paid to it; and I am informed that at Matura, Colombo, and Jaffnapatam, where these animals only are hunted for, the Dutch do not catch less than 150, and sometimes 200, in one year. They pay the people who hunt for them, for their trouble in catching and taming them, at the rate of fifty dollars each for those with teeth, and twenty-five for those without. Such as are caught at Colombo and Matura are sent to Jaffnapatam for sale, which they find to be the best market for them over to the Coast; but at what rates they are usually sold there, I could not

learn. Indeed, that must always depend upon the size.

The foregoing articles spoken of as Exports, are those the Dutch Company reserve to themselves, but there are some which the Choliars and others are allowed to trade in. Among these, the Beetle-nut reeper, so much made use of among the natives of this country in their buildings, is by far the most considerable, of which between fifty and sixty thousand are annually exported from this Island. There are no settled prices for purchasing them, as they must ever differ according to their qualities; and I could not learn that any duty was paid on them to the Company. What are wanted for their use they choose out of those which are brought in from the country, and pay for them at the rate of one and a half dollars per hundred. They are chiefly exported from Galley and Colombo. Wax, Elephant's teeth, and wild Cardamums, are likewise sometimes to be procured, but in such small quantities as scarcely to deserve being noticed here.

Having spoken above of the information I was able to obtain relating to the Exports from this Island, I shall proceed in the same manner regarding the Imports, which consists in Silk, Teas, Sugar-candy, China-ware, and Japan Copper from Batavia; Iron and Steel from Europe; and Piece goods from Bengal and the Coast.

The China goods are chiefly for the consumption of the European inhabitants at Colombo, Galley, and other principal settlements, and for presents to the King and the Officers of distinction about his Court; for as these are the only people of substance residing at Candia, who are supplied with all they can have occasion for of such articles gratis, there is no Inland demand for them.

Japan Copper:—a small quantity goes off among the inhabitants at the principal settlements for making utensils for the service of their families.

Iron and Steel, there is a very great consumption of, as the natives make use of them for knives, mamotys, musket barrels, launces, &c. The price of iron out of the Company's warehouses at Colombo, is one pagoda per maund, and of steel, two.

Of Bengal piece goods, the ordinary sort of Cossacs are most in demand; and of those, a considerable quantity will go off to advantage. Piece goods from the Coast, such as blue cloth, moorees, long-cloth, and other white goods, both fine and ordinary, the Company reserve the importation of to themselves, for which the demand at Colombo, where the warehouse is every day open, is very considerable. The importation of ordinary goods, such as clouting, handkerchiefs, paintings, combos, &c., is not restrained, but they are liable to a duty of 15 per cent., notwithstanding which, the Choliars find a pretty good market for these assortments at

Putelan and other places on the west side of the Island, by way of barter with the country people for their beetle-nut and reepers ; for money they have but little among them.

Thus, having gone through the articles of Export and Import, I shall next speak of the Revenues, by which I mean only those that are farmed out by the Dutch Company at Colombo, consisting of the Pearl Fishery in the Bay Tuticoreen; the privilege of digging for precious Stones at Matura and Colombo; and selling Arrack at the latter.

These farms are sold by outcry to the best bidder; but the Fishery for Pearls has not been sold these last seven or eight years.

It was first farmed out about twelve years ago and sold the first year for no more than twenty thousand dollars, the farmer making a very large fortune by it. The next year, it was run up to two hundred thousand ; but the purchaser was ruined. The third year, it went for a hundred thousand dollars; but the purchaser still losing considerably, it fell, the fourth year, to thirty-two thousand, which was the last sale made of it ; and, as far as I could learn, it afforded no profit even at that rate; by which it should appear, it will not turn to account as an annual fishery.

The farms for holding the privilege of digging for precious stones at Matura and Colombo, have been represented to me as so very inconsiderable, that I

am somewhat scrupulous of mentioning them; but the reason the rent is so very small is, as I have been told, the very great expense which attends searching for them, and little chance of meeting with any other kind than the common Zeylon red and brown pebbles.

Sapphires, Topazes, and Rubies, are sometimes found, but this so very rarely happens, that the chance is hardly to be reckoned on. The Matura farm sells for between two and three thousand dollars, and that of Colombo, for about half as much. The places where these stones are dug for are within three or four miles of those settlements.

The privilege of retailing Arrack is let in two separate farms; one for selling within, the other without, the Fort. The former generally lets for about four thousand, and the latter for two thousand dollars a year. There may be, and doubtless are, other farms or revenues, as well at Colombo as other Dutch Settlements on this Island. Some, indeed, I have heard of; but as I could not get such information relating to them as I thought might be depended on, I choose rather to be silent on the subject.

Your Honour, &c., will doubtless remark, that the observations I have made relating to the Trade to and from the Island are chiefly confined to Colombo, the reason of which, is that the person I received my information from was a Choliar merchant, who

had resided seven years at that settlement, and whom I therefore considered could not but be well acquainted with the trade carried on there, and so far, I believe, his information may be depended on; but I found him as utter a stranger to what passed at any of the other settlements possessed by the Dutch as if he had been born in Pekin, and as little acquainted, indeed, with any other part of the Island, except the road he had travelled in his journey from Candia to Colombo and back again; was a brother of the Vackeel who was sent here from the King, and being appointed on my arrival at Gunnor to remain there with me as Cingalese Interpreter, I had an opportunity of learning from him the foregoing particulars, though not without some persuasion and promises of making him amends for any information he might give me, which I would have done before I left Candia; but he declined accepting of anything, advised thereto by his brother, who represented the fatal consequences which would attend them should it by any accident be known to the King. On my removal to Candia, he was not permitted to continue in the house with, or come near me at any other time than when the Officers paid their daily visits of ceremony from the King, to inquire after my health, and how I was supplied with provisions.

I come now to treat of the Government of this Island, and such other matters (as well from the

information I have been able to get, as the observations I have made,) as are deserving your notice; which I shall be under a necessity of doing in a general way, for want of opportunities of obtaining so particular a knowledge of the many points recommended by your Instructions to my enquiries as I could have wished; the reasons for which I have before hinted at, and will more fully appear by my Journal. But to proceed upon this relation, imperfect as it is, I am to acquaint you, that the Government of this Island is perhaps as absolute and despotic as any in the universe. The King's commands are subject to no controul. He has the power of life and death over all his subjects, who, on this account, treat him with the most abject submission, and approach him with a respectful kind of homage rather due to a deity than a human being. No person, of what rank soever, under his jurisdiction throughout the Island, has the privilege of wearing shoes or any other sort of covering for the feet, keep a horse, or ride in a pallankeen with an arched bamboo, but himself; and on the Candia side of the River Ganga, no one is allowed to ride even in a Dooley, except in cases of extreme illness, and when a removal is absolutely necessary; and so jealous is he of his Officers and people of distinction about his Court, that to be seen at each other's houses or talking together in the street, should they chance to meet there, or should any two of them,

when at the Palace upon publick affairs, be seen to walk apart from the rest and hold any conversation together, it is a great chance but their lives are the forfeit. The present King, who has three daughters and a son, is the first of four succeeding ones who has had any issue, in default of which the Queen's brother or nearest relation succeeds to the throne ; and as it is a custom among them to have their wives from some part of the Coast of Coromandel, and of the Gentoo caste, who are brought from the Madura, Tanjore, or Mysore countries, their Kings have ever been of Gentoo race ; but I could not trace by what means this custom came to be established. The person who at present fills the throne is from Madura country ; and when a child of four years of age, went over with his father, mother, and other relations, at the time his sister came to be married to the late King. He is between thirty and forty years of age, and has three wives, all from this Coast, whose fathers, brothers, and relations came over with them as usual ; but the brothers have since been sent back to their own countries, on the discovery of a plot laid against the King's life, by the father of one of his wives, in favour of his son.

I could only learn of one Polligar, whose country lies on the north end of the Island, but of no great extent, and his place of residence Chittiihowlampet,* who does not acknowledge himself subject to

* Chittiihowlampet, Chettykoolumpattoo in the Northern Province.

the King of Candia's jurisdiction. But he finds it for his interest to keep upon good terms with him, and, since the troubles with the Dutch, has assisted him for sovereign, Candia is divided into four distinct governments or commands, which are given in charge to four of his general officers, who are each to furnish a certain revenue, payable, part in money, and part of grain; but what this might amount to, I could by no means learn. But the inhabitants of the village I passed through in my journey up to Candia informed me, that every family paid to the General who had the charge of each District, half a pagoda, or a piece of cloth of that value, yearly.

There are several parts of the Island under the King's jurisdiction, at which guards are constantly kept, where rubies, sapphires, topazes, and other stones, are to be found; but they cannot be dug for, without the King's express orders, and all that are found are reserved for his use.

I could not by any means obtain an account to be depended on, of the number of forces the King had in his service; in what manner they were paid, or how armed. Those I saw at Candia, who did duty at and were quartered about the Palace, consisting of about seven or eight hundred men, a party of which mounted guard at the house I was lodged in, were very well provided with good European arms;

they received no pay, but were subsisted from the adjacent villages; and, as far as I could learn, the country where the Troops were at any time serving was obliged to furnish them with provisions.

There is nothing like a fortification throughout the whole Island; nor did I see any building that had either brick, stone, or tyle in it, till I came to Candia.

What artillery is with the troops in the field, I cannot pretend to say; but I saw nothing of that kind except a few harquebusses and patoraroes, which might carry a half-pound ball; and of these only eight or ten, which the General who met me upon the road had brought with him as his field train. I took notice, indeed, when I went to the palace, of two small field pieces, which were mounted on carriages large enough for twenty-four pounders, placed in verandoes on each side of the door I entered at, where I suppose they have stood ever since the palace was built.

Thus much, nevertheless, is certain, that however indifferently provided these people seemed to me to be for carrying on war against a European enemy, they have succeeded so far in the disputes with the Dutch, as to possess themselves of Matura, one of their fortified places upon the sea-coast, and of Gauley, a factory about twenty miles inland of Colombo, where the Dutch had some servants and

a small military force; both which they demolished, and put every European found in them (except two Officers, who are now prisoners in the country) to the sword. But the General who reduced the former place, thinking himself very formidable with the number of great guns he had found in it, and that he should be able to maintain his ground, posted himself on the sea-coast, within a few miles of Matura, where he was soon after surprised by a detachment of two hundred Europeans, which were landed in the night from some ships sent thither from Colombo, who possessed themselves of all his cannon, and then entrenched themselves till a convenient opportunity offered of removing them again to Matura, which they did soon after, and are now in possession of that place in the ruinous condition it was left by the Cingalese, who continue so to harass them, as well here as at Gauley and Colombo, that they are, in a manner, within their fortifications, and cut off from all kind of communication with the country.

The Cingalese manufacture powder at Candia; and I have been assured that saltpetre is produced on the Island, though I could never learn in which part; but brimstone must be imported; that which they make use of at present is from a stock collected some time ago.

Your Honour, &c., will find in my Journal, my remarks on the country as I passed along. I shall

therefore only observe here, that in its present state, for near a hundred and fifty miles from the seaside, or, more properly, of the road I travelled, it is little better than one continued wood ; so much so, that in many parts it was with difficulty my pallankeen could pass. The villages are few, poor, and miserable. The inhabitants have a few black cattle and buffaloes, but not more Paddy plantations than just sufficient to support themselves ; and not a goat or sheep through the whole country ; and the only ones I saw, the two months I was upon the Island, were two that were sent as presents during my residence at Gunnoor. The west side of the Island, I am told, is much better cultivated and inhabited ; and indeed I am inclined to believe there may be some truth in it, for as it reaps the advantage of the monsoon of this coast in November, it must be much better supplied with water than the east-side, which receives no benefit from the Malabar Coast rains, as I had an opportunity of being a witness of ; for although it rained almost night and day at Candia for a month before I set out, I had not travelled above fifty miles on my return, before I found the country so much distressed for want of rain, that there was hardly water to be got ; and the inhabitants told me that they did not expect any rainy weather till the northerly winds set in. But was the country better inhabited, and the inhabitants

encouraged to industry, the two branches of the Mavelly Ganga River which run through an extent of country of near two hundred miles, and empty themselves, one at Matucullapay or Batecalo, the other on the south side of Trincomalay Bay, and which during the rains in May, June, and July, which are blown from the Malabar coast, overflow their banks; these rivers, I say, by an industrious people, might be made as advantageous a use of, as the Coleroon River, at the same season of the year, is in the Tanjore country, which, it is well known, is the principal source of the immense revenues that country affords. But, I believe, the policy of former Princes of this Island, since the expulsion of the Portuguese, (and which seems to have been adopted by all succeeding ones,) has been to endeavour to render the interior parts as difficult of access as possible; and, therefore, they have not much encouraged either the cultivating or peopling the country at any distance from their Capital; for within forty or fifty miles of Candia, you find large and populous villages, and I may say almost as well cultivated as so mountainous a country will admit. Indeed, the villages between the hills afford the most beautiful landscapes that can be conceived. Fruits of all sorts which are to be met with on this side of India are here in great abundance, and very excellent in their kinds.

The inhabitants are a strong-bodied, active, hardy people, capable of enduring great fatigue; and when their service is at any time required on the King's business, they are obliged to attend without pay or any other consideration, and to find themselves with provisions, which was the case with those who were employed to carry me and my baggage on my journey to and from Candia.

Their religion is a mixture of the Gentoos and Siamese. Their priests wear the same habit as the latter. But there is no distinction of castes among them; neither do they wear any mark on their foreheads, as is practised by the Gentoos and Malabars on this Coast.

The manners and customs of the natives in general, I had no opportunity of seeing much into, or getting any particular knowledge of, as I was not permitted to visit their villages, or have any intercourse or conversation with them; but by what I could judge, the account, which has been published of them by one Knox, an Englishman, who was detained upon the Island near twenty years, may be depended on. I may add, in this place, that the behaviour of them about the Court, with whom only I had any transaction, was very ceremonious; that they affected much state and dignity, made many professions of friendship, goodwill, and esteem, (with, I believe, very little sincerity); seemed to be great proficient in dissimu-

lation, and a people not much to be confided in; for, although I am convinced the King himself entertains an implacable enmity against the Dutch, and would almost submit to any terms to induce us to assist him in driving them off the Island, yet I strongly suspect, they still have a powerful interest with some of the principal Officers about his Court, who would be glad to see matters accommodated, and be ready to promote it, if they durst discover their real sentiments.

The disorders most frequent among them, are fluxes, agues, and fevers; the last of which, from the very heavy rains which fell during the whole time I was at Candia, every servant I carried with me from hence was severally attacked with it; but I escaped myself.

The country abounds throughout with plenty and great variety of Timber of a very considerable size; but the Jack tree, which grows to a very immoderate height and size in this country, may be reckoned among the largest this Island affords, both as to height and circumference; indeed, so amazing appeared the growth of them to me, that had I not seen the fruit on them, I could not have believed them to be the same tree so common with us here. The natives make great use of the timber of this tree in all their buildings.

They have no carts or wheel carriages of any sort whatever, so that they are obliged either to

carry any timber they have occasion for upon their shoulders, or pull it along the ground by main strength.

Their Rivers are so full of large rocks and stones, and, in general, so very shallow, that they afford them no convenience of water carriages; nor can their small canoes go any distance up from the sea on those accounts. There are a number of small branches of fresh water rivers all over the country, which the inhabitants depend on for supplying themselves with water; for I do not remember to have seen either a well or tank in any village I passed through. But there are two of the finest natural reservoirs of water I ever saw, about six miles distant from each other, and between seventy and eighty inland, which are formed by hills that surround them, and by a little art are capable of being made to hold water sufficient to supply a vast extent of country. I have noticed them in my journal, and shall therefore say nothing further of them here.

I endeavoured to procure copies, or an explanation, of the Treaties subsisting between the King of Candia and the Dutch, and to obtain a particular account of the cause of the present troubles; but without success. I am satisfied, however, there is no other treaty existing than a treaty of exclusive commerce; and that the Dutch have never exercised any kind of authority or jurisdiction in any part of the Island,

except such limits as have been granted to them contiguous to their principal settlements; but that the King still maintains the authority of a free and independent prince, and does actually exercise such authority in the most absolute manner in every other part of his dominions, the metropolis of which, being the town of Candia, wherein I was lodged upwards of three weeks, although in a state of imprisonment, it will be expected I should give some account of.

I have therefore introduced here the following short description of it. And although in a former part of this Address I observed there is nothing throughout the whole Island which bears the least face of a fortification; yet, this being the capital, I thought it not improper, in giving this sketch of it, however imperfect it may be, to add here, that there not only is no fortification near or about it now, nor is there the least appearance of there having ever been any; although the reason of which I conclude is, that its natural situation has been thought sufficiently strong without it; which is upon an island of about twelve or fourteen miles in circumference, as nearly as I could judge, formed by the Mavelly Ganga River, which is about an hundred yards over, hardly ever fordable, and in the time of the rains runs with great rapidity. It has no bridge over it; but for the convenience of communication with

the main land, there are small canoes placed to go backwards and forwards at three passes which lead towards the Colombo, Putelan, and Matucullapay Roads, by which names they are distinguished. When I paid my visit to the King and removed to Candia, I crossed at the former, which I compute to be near seven miles from the town, tolerably good; but on my return I crossed at the Putelan Pass, not above two miles from it, but a very rocky troublesome road to pass.

The town of Candia is built in a kind of valley, formed by hills, which in a manner surround it. The two principal streets run north and south, in one of which I was lodged, and of this only I can, with much certainty, speak. It is near a mile long, but the houses are not so well or uniformly built at the extreme ends as those towards the centre, which are most of them tyled. There are some cross streets running east and west, but of no great length, which the distance between the hills will not admit of. The Palace stands in a manner detached from the rest of the houses at the south end of this valley, and is a large, lofty, spacious building, containing a number of apartments, and seemingly well constructed; but as I was never admitted there till night, I cannot be very circumstantial in my description of it. There is a large garden inclosed with a high wall in the north front of it, and close on the other side of it, to the south, are hills and

thick woods. Most of the houses are built near the foot of the declivity of the hills which surround the town, and in six or seven feet from the streets, which are spacious and clean, from whence you get up to them by a long flight of brick or stone steps. They are constructed after the manner of building in this country, but not so well finished. An excellent custom is established here for preventing disorders in the streets at night, by the ringing of a bell through every street at about eight o'clock, or so soon as business is over at the Palace, to give warning that whoever shall be found in the streets after the ringing of that bell, without a large light in their hand, shall be severely punished. The town is tolerably well inhabited, and they have plenty of good wells in it.

The Cingalese discover no inclination for trade or navigation. Indeed, as they chiefly inhabit the inland parts of the Island, they are not much in the way of either; but they have excellent artificers among them, such as gold and silver smiths, jewellers, turners, blacksmiths, and other handicrafts; and I have seen some of their performances in this way that shew them to be an ingenious people. Such trade as the Island affords, exclusive, I mean, of what the Dutch reserve to themselves, is carried on by Choliars, of whom there are great numbers at all the principal settlements belonging to the Dutch, and along the sea-coast; many at Candia,

and others interspersed in villages in different parts of the country.

Having now complied with every part of your Instructions, as far as has been within my power, I shall only further observe, that if my information touching the several points you were pleased to recommend to my notice, is not so circumstantial and particular as you may have expected, it has been owing, and I hope you will impute it, to the difficulties I labour under from the constitution of the Government with respect to procuring the intelligence I could have wished for; and although I have not, in any part of this Address, taken notice of the conduct of the King's Vackeel who accompanied me from hence, yet I cannot help here remarking to you, that it would have been greatly in his power to have assisted my enquiries, had he been so inclined, but he not only manifested every contrary disposition himself, but took all the means he could to prevent others from doing it, and behaved, after the first three or four days of my journey, with a great deal of insolence and impertinence towards my servants and the people about me, and, indeed, with very little respect or attention towards me, the whole time I was upon this service.

I have hereunto annexed an account of my disbursements during this expedition, from the money advanced for my expenses, wherein you will please

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to observe, I have made no other charge than what I paid to the Linguist who accompanied me, and to the Admiral's servants and others belonging to the ships, for landing myself, the King's Vackeel, our baggage and attendants; in which I hope you will not think I have been too profuse. For my own part, as I was provided with everything, throughout the whole course of my journey, by the King of Candia, and consequently could not be at any expense, I have made no charge; and if, after the trouble, fatigue, mortifications, and, I may say, indignities, I have gone through, and been obliged to submit to, I have the pleasure to find my conduct on this occasion has been to your satisfaction, I shall think myself amply rewarded; as I beg leave to assure you, that to obtain the approbation of your Honour, &c., has been and ever shall be my constant attention and care; convinced that I cannot otherwise hope for, or expect the favour and good opinion of my Hon'ble employers.

I am, with much respect,

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,

Your very obedient

humble Servant,

JOHN PYBUS.

Fort St. George,
October, 1762.

Dr.—John Pybus in account with the Hon'ble Company on account of the Expedition to Candia—Cr.

		Pagodas.	Pagodas
1762.			
April.	To Cash received, an advance of Current Pagodas.....	1000	
	To Batta of 4 per cent, on the Exchange of them into Negapatam Pagodas.....	40	
		1,040	
	By Expedition to Candia, for the following Disbursements, vizt:—		
	Paid the Linguist who accompanied me.....		200
	Gave Admiral Cornish's Servants on my leaving the Ship.....		30
	Gave to the Long Boat's crew carrying ashore the Vackeel, his baggage and attendants, to the south side of the Bay...		10
	Gave to the Boat's Crew carrying myself and servants to do.....		8
	Gave to the Boat's Crew carrying myself, servants and baggage aboard, on my return from Candia.....		8
	Gave to the Boat's Crew bringing the General and his attendants who accompanied me from Candia on board the Admiral, and carrying him ashore again...		18
	By balance now paid in.....		274
			766
			1,040

Fort St. George, October, 1762.
 (Errors excepted.)
 JOHN PYBUS.

DIARY of Mr. PYBUS's Journey to and from the City of Candia, the Capital of the Island of Ceylon, and place of residence of the Emperor; with an account of his proceedings and transactions at that Prince's Court, from the time of his leaving the Squadron in Trincomalay Harbour to his return.

May 5th.—Left the ships, in Trincomalay Harbour at 3 o'clock in the morning, and landed at about $\frac{1}{4}$ past 5 at a village called Moodoore, about a mile up the mouth of Cottiar River, which is the name of this District. It has sixty-four villages belonging to it. There are three headmen, who have the management; for the General, to whose government it belongs, resides at Candia. The inhabitants, Choliars and Malabars. These headmen assemble the people from the different villages to assist in any business of the King's, who are to accompany those who demand them on such service to the end of their district, where they are exchanged or relieved by others summoned by the headmen of the next district you travel through. The inhabitants at Cottiar have a few cattle belonging to them, and some ground cleared for paddy plantations, (but it has not been cultivated these three years,) of about three-fourths of a milé extent.

Here the Vackeel, who came ashore last night,

waited for me, and we set out at 40 minutes past 6, and travelled through woods till $\frac{1}{2}$ past 8, when we came to a small village named Periavelly, distant about seven miles. This village has a fine large plain to the southward of it, which used to be cultivated for paddy, but has been made no use of these three years, owing to the want of rain, and not being able to get any paddy to plant, the crops they planted having failed for want of water; this complaint is general throughout this district. Saw several antelopes in this road. About three-quarters of a mile from Periavelly, came to a village called Malledeve.* Here, too, is a plain to the southward, about half a mile or more square, uncultivated. The villages are, for this reason, almost abandoned; a few cocoanut and beetle trees in them. From Malledeve we came to the village of Meangamo,† through woods, distance four miles. From thence to Clevetty‡ about three miles, through woods, where we arrived at 11 o'clock. I found the people appointed to carry my pallankeen had never been accustomed to that business, and complained to the Vackeel of it, who assured me I should have better at the next stage, and that after to-morrow's journey, we should have no more woods, which affords me some consolation, for having been obliged to walk

* Malleative, about 5 miles from Moodoor by the present road.

† Meangānam, now a deserted valley.

‡ Kilevetty, situated at the S. W. end of the Allay Tank.

the greatest part of this day's stage, and finding the woods very troublesome, I do not much like the first appearance of my expedition, which, although I am told will not be above five or six days at farthest, I am afraid, by what I can judge from the outset of it, will be very tedious. The Vackeel this afternoon dispatched a messenger to Candia, to advise of our being landed and arrived at this place. The village of Clevetty is pleasantly situated, having a small lake to the south, which supplies it with water. It has an extensive plain to the eastward, but uncultivated; and a few plantations of paddy to the westward. Cattle they have, but a small number, and those chiefly buffaloes. Here we found some Choliar people who had brought from the country some gingely seeds; a kind of bead called by the Malabars roodarachum, (which are worn by Bramangs in a religious manner, and by Malabars and Gentoos as ornaments which they set in gold); and some dried cocoanuts, to sell among the inhabitants of the neighbouring villages. I and my attendants were furnished by the people of the village with rice, fowls, and other provisions, which I find is customary to all those who travel on the King's business; and I am told this will be the case during the whole course of my journey; and a little Malabar house, hung round with white cloth, which is a compliment always paid in this country to people of distinction

who travel, was provided for my reception. I slept here, on account of the long woods we were to pass through to our next stage.

6th.—Set out from Clevetty at 5 in the morning with fresh people, and after having travelled about a mile, we entered the woods, and saw only one little abandoned village, called Temmunglay, and some elk and wild buffaloes on the borders of the woods, till we arrived at the banks of the Mavalay Ganga River, at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10 o'clock, where we waited for people from the other side to carry over our baggage, as the Cottiar district ends here. But after waiting till 12, there came a message from the headmen to request those from Cottiar would bring us and our baggage over, as they had not been able to assemble their people from the different villages. This they complied with, and brought us by 1 o'clock to the village of Songa Valley,* on a descent all the way, through woods, about two and a half miles from the banks of the river, which at this season is fordable, but in rains must be very deep and rapid; it is here about 200 yards over, has a fine sandy bottom, and empties itself on the south side of Trincomalay Bay, within about three-fourths of a mile of that I call Cottiar. This village has only five or six houses. They have about fifty or sixty heads of cattle belonging

* Soongavilloo.

to them, small plantations of natcherry, and in the rainy season plant paddy likewise. The inhabitants are Cingalese. The country we are now in is called Tommangany,* and has sixty villages belonging to it. I have seen as yet little but woods. The inhabitants are few, poor, and miserable. There seems to be plenty of good timber. I slept at Soongavaley under a little thatched choultry, hung also with white linen, for want of people to bring us on.

7th.—At $\frac{3}{4}$ past 11 in the morning, from Soongavaley went back about a mile of the road we came yesterday, to get into the proper road for our journey; travelled through woods about three miles and a half, when a large plain opened to us, with some ground for paddy plantation, but uncultivated; of cattle grazing, chiefly buffaloes, fifty or sixty head. A very small village on the right of the road called Adambun;† four or five very mean houses in it. Woods again, about six or seven miles; the country then not so woody. Crossed some large plains, but entirely uncultivated. Saw many wild buffaloes. At 5 in the evening, passed a small village, with some of the finest paddy I ever saw; the leaf of the plant remarkably wide, and stem large and tall. It is called Ridduvily; some cattle belong to it, and it consists of six or seven houses. From

* Tamankadua.

† Now deserted.

hence we travelled through very pleasant shady lanes with cross paths, as if leading to other villages; but I could hear of none; and at sunset arrived at the village of Pangaranny,* inhabited by Choliars; it consists of about a dozen houses, has some paddy plantations, and fifty or sixty head of cattle, mostly buffaloes. It is pleasantly situated, having a small branch of a river called Cowdaly running close to it, which furnishes them with excellent water for use and their paddy grounds. This river, they tell us, broke its banks seventy or eighty years ago, and has never been repaired.† Here they weave a few pieces of ordinary cloth for their own wear, and each family is obliged to pay a tax of a piece of cloth to the Governor of the Province, who resides at Candia. They value it at half a pagoda a piece. I cannot help remarking, that I have not seen anything like a carriage yet. I slept here in the same kind of lodging as at Soongavaley. They tell us that a person setting out from hence in the morning of one day, would reach Battacola the evening of the next. Not a brick or tyle to any house or building I have yet seen. The inhabitants very ignorant of the country, and the Vackeel who is with me seems to know very little of it.

* Pangurāne.

† The allusion here is evidently to the enormous Tank, not river, of this name, the remains of which prove it to have been one of the most stupendous works of irrigation in Ceylon.

8th.—Remained here the whole day, for want of people to carry us on, those from Songavaley having returned last night.

9th.—At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7, A. M., set out from Pangaranny, through woods and water, occasioned by the freshes from the country, where there must have been heavy rain, although we have yet had none. The bounds of Pangaranny village end on crossing the branch of the Cowdaly in the woods, distant about four miles. It is the same which runs close to the village. The freshes, I am told, come from that river. Came to a fine square plain laid out in paddy fields, as on the Coast, though not now cultivated, nor do not seem to have been for some years. Here a parcel of near a hundred very fine black cattle, but small. The same reason given for not cultivating the paddy grounds here as at Cottiar; but I am of opinion, it is entirely want of industry, which in this country meets with no encouragement; the labouring people being, I am told, oppressed to a very great degree by the Governors of these districts. Here we passed another small branch of the same river, which overflowed the country so much all round us, that it was with difficulty we could pass. About a mile on the other side of it is a village called Nottombay,* consisting of

* Probably Nellembe, which is on the Kowdelle stream, and the site of a former village; now it is called Nellembe Potane or plain.

about twenty houses, but entirely abandoned. The inhabitants, for what reason I could not learn, are removed to a place about two and a half miles further in the woods. Rested here about a quarter of an hour. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 11, set out again through woods, and at $\frac{1}{4}$ past 12, met some people from the villages of Nungadamanah* and Tutolay, the latter of which, about fourteen miles distant, we intend for this evening's stage. The people joining us, we travelled through very pleasant openings of fine pasture land among the woods, which are but thinly interspersed, till 2 o'clock; distance I reckoned about six miles; then more woody for about two miles, when we came to a fine large plain, now uncultivated. A great number of buffaloes and black cattle grazing here, from the villages above-mentioned. The extent of the plain about a mile and a quarter; and breadth about half a mile. Then we entered woods again for about four miles, when we crossed a branch of a river formed by the overflowing of a lake, which is yet some distance off. Here are four beautiful cataracts, occasioned by a parcel of huge stones which lay across the bed of the river; and a small island, not above five or six yards over, which lies in the river. The principal branch lies directly north. The rocks lie across

* Nugagahadamena, or, as it would be pronounced in Tamil, Nungadavena.

north east and south-west, which give a turn to the stream, and form a bed for the river in a south-east direction. The fall is, I believe, fifteen or sixteen feet, very sudden, and excessively rapid. The people who are with me say these rocks and stones were laid across by the Portuguese, as a kind of dam to prevent the river's overflowing here; but this, by their size, must, I am sure, be fabulous. Here some of the people belonging to Pangaranny, who had been prevailed on to come so far with us, refused going further, and returned; and we were obliged to leave some people of a Choliar village of ten or a dozen houses, on the banks of the river called Nun-gadamanah, and I with my pallankeen and servants and Vackeel, pushed on for Tritolay, at 4 o'clock, as that was the stage appointed to stop at when we set out in the morning. The palankeen bearers are willing, but being little accustomed to such business, make a miserable piece of work of it, and I have been obliged to walk a good part of the way from my first setting out, and so I expect I must do to my journey's end, notwithstanding the Vackeel's fair promises; unless, when we approach the Capital, the King should furnish me with some of his bearers from hence. The country still continues woody, and my journey will not be quite so short as I at first was made to believe. Towards Tutolay, passed a few paddy plantations belonging to the above village,

on the south side of the road; very pleasant shady lanes. The name of the place, Villowanay; but no inhabitants here. Travelling this road, saw a hill distant about four miles, which is the first I have seen since I came out. I reckon myself now about four miles from the banks of the river, since passing which we have travelled up hill all the way. Passed some more paddy plantations on the north side of the road just made, and soon afterwards a fine run of water, gravelly bottom; from hence about half a mile up a very steep hill, the stones of which seem to be of a fine white marble. When you are on the top of the hill, you see Tritolay Lake* through the trees, which, when you go down on the other side, you have a very beautiful prospect of, as a fine reservoir of water formed by nature, being surrounded entirely by hills; and would, upon the Coast, where industry prevails, be a very valuable treasure. When full, I suppose it two miles and a half in length, and about a mile in breadth in the

* In Mr. Pybus' manuscript this word is written sometimes "Tutolay," and sometimes "Tritolay," as it is here. It is evident that the beautiful Tank of "Giritellai" is intended. It is on the road from Pangurāne to Minery. There is no other Tank on that road answering the description, nor is there either Tank or Village known by the names of Tutolay, or Tritolay; the latter is probably Mr. Pybus' spelling of this word, and his ear being misled by the sound, he mistook Giritellai for Tiritolay or Tritolay.

widest part of it. You travel by the side of it, about a mile and a half, to the village which is at the south-west end, where we arrived at sunset; and a miserable place it is. Here we were obliged to wait for people to carry us on.

10th.—At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4, P. M., set out from Tritolay, and having passed the lake, travelled through woods till $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5, when we came to a village called Paduputtah,* fronting Minary Tank on the north-east end, which now opens to us. Paddy plantations here, and plenty of cattle. We passed along the side of this tank, lake, or river, for I do not know which to call it; but it is of very large extent, and surrounded with hills, so that I rather suppose it to be a large body of water which runs from the hills during the rains, and lodges there, from whence several small rivers may take their rise. I saw a hill in the country about twenty or thirty miles off, which I take to be Fryar's-hood. Travelled by the side of the lake to a village called Vistugalloo, on the borders of it, where we arrived about $\frac{1}{4}$ past 6 o'clock. There is a nearer road from Tritolay to this place, but the woods being difficult to pass, they brought me this way, on account of my pallankeen; and I found it much easier

* No such village now known, but some Padua people formerly lived there, whence the place would be naturally called Padupitiya.

to walk all the way than ride, so very miserable were the pallankeen bearers. On our arrival here, we found three hircarabs, with a letter from one of the King's Secretaries, in answer to that sent from Trincomalay giving an account of our arrival; at which he expressed great satisfaction, and recommended landing at Cottiar. He assures the Vackeel, the King has not made peace with the Dutch; advises of there being Generals with some troops, waiting our arrival at Mattacullapat and Matura,* the former of which would have orders to join us on the road, as soon as he hears of our setting out. These people left Candia yesterday morning, and about two hours after they came away, met the person we dispatched from Clavety, with news of our being landed; so that, the Vackeel tells us, we may expect to meet some people from the King, to assist in carrying our baggage, &c., the day after to-morrow; and that by the 14th, in the evening, we may be able to reach Candia, which the hircarabs call thirteen Malabar leagues, which is nearly equal to one hundred and thirty English miles.

11th.—At 8 this morning, the hircarabs returned with an answer from the Vackeel to this letter. We are obliged to wait here for people all this day. This village is Choliar; plenty of cattle, but otherwise very miserable as to houses, &c., not above six

* i. e., Batticaloa and Matele.

or seven. Plenty of wild fowl on Minary Lake. Its greatest extent about seven miles, and breadth in many places two.

12th.—At $\frac{3}{4}$ past 7 in the morning, set out from Vishegalloo by the side of the lake, about half a mile; then entered woods; passed a small river—a branch from Minary—about a mile and three quarters after setting out. A little further, a fine spot of paddy plantations half grown, belonging to the village we left, about half a mile square; and another large spot, formerly cultivated, now waste, but very fine pasturage. Near this, another fine run of water from the Minary. At $\frac{3}{4}$ past 8, came to a branch of the Minary, which spreads over a good deal of low ground, and in the rains, I suppose, forms a kind of river. The road here very rocky and stony, but seems to be of a fine kind of marble. The country now begins to be very mountainous; and the hills we are now passing, I do suppose, as well as many others, would afford very fine quarries of marble, were there people who know how to work them. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 9, another branch of the Minary; and at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10, entered the bounds of Matchi District. But I find I must wait my arrival at Candia before I can get any account to be depended on, how these districts are governed; what revenues they produce; how many villages they consist of, &c.; as the Vackeel either knows nothing of

the matter, or, at least will not tell me himself, but prevents my getting any account from the country people, by not suffering them to talk Malabar to my servants; but, indeed, the people I meet with are in general excessively ignorant. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 12, stopped by the side of a small lake between hills. They tell me it communicates with Minary. Great plenty of rattans in the woods we pass through here, till $\frac{1}{2}$ past 1. We crossed a small branch of a river they call the Pollar,* which runs into the Minary Lake; its bottom gravelly, and many pieces of large rock lying in it. From hence we travelled till 3 o'clock, all the way through thick woods and over stony roads. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3 A. M.; arrived at our stage. The village is called by the Cingalese Negavatowany, and the Malabars Nautchytolum; and a vile, dirty, mean hole it is, inhabited by Choliars † There are about seven or eight little holes of houses, and they have thirty or forty head of cattle belonging to it. Here, although they must have had notice of our coming two days at least, there was no place prepared for our reception. My patience began now to be almost exhausted, being fatigued with walking in the heat of the day; and when I rode to relieve myself, it was without the pingaree of my pallankeen, the roads being so very narrow.

* Kiri Oya, in Tamil, Pālaar.

† Nikawattewenne, called by Tamils Notchykolom.

I then complained much to the Vackeel of having been deceived by him in the representations he gave me of the country before I left Madras, and the manner in which I should be accommodated on the road, who heard me with a great deal of composure; and I found it was to little purpose to remonstrate; so I took up my quarters in a wretched dirty thatched cow-house, and being very heartily tired, found that relief in sleep which too much sensibility when awake would not admit of.

13th.—Set out from hence at 2, P. M., through woods, till $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3. Then an opening, with hills on both sides and before us, with some paddy plantations on the right of the road. Here, for the first time, saw some bamboo trees. Crossed this small opening into woods again; and at about $\frac{3}{4}$ past 3, to my great surprise, I saw my pallankeen turn out of the road down a bye-path into the woods, where, being advanced about fifty or sixty yards, I found a little shed under the trees, covered with cocoanut leaves, by the side of a little brook, without the least appearance of a house or living soul near it; and here I am to take up my residence till to-morrow morning, to which I am obliged to submit. The name of this solitary retreat is Gonagey;* and here I slept all night.

14th.—As soon as I was up this morning, the Vackeel informed me he had received advice in the

* Gōnawe, a desolate little Tank.

night, that a General, who was dispatched by the King to attend us, was at a place called Caravetty, which he computed about thirty-five miles off, to whom he had sent messengers to know whether he intends coming further, or that we should come on; and at about 11, came people from the General, with the same message to us; so that I perceive I am likely to take up my lodging in the woods another night. At about 3 in the afternoon, arrived with us three chubdars, who had been dispatched express by the King, to issue out orders to all the villagers on or near the road, to furnish us with people, or whatever else we might have occasion for on our journey; and they promise us people to carry us in the morning; so that I begin now to think we shall in time reach Candia. They had been with the General, who very wisely intends to remain where he is, and we are to set out to pay our respects to him to-morrow morning.

15th.—At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 9, we set out; and I was able to travel with the pingaree on my pallankeen, as the passage through the woods is pretty clear; the country very hilly, but the roads pretty good, here and there rocky; the woods not so thick as before. About 1, crossed a fine plain of paddy plantations. They belong to a village called Wurma-valey,* by the side of the road in the woods, which we did not see. Hills on both sides at a little dis-

* Evidently Moneroowelle, a village in his route.

tance; some barren and sandy, others covered with trees. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 1, crossed a river, which seems to take its rise from the hills, and then entered woods again. Country very mountainous, but a fine stiff soil in the valleys. The wind from east to south-east blew very fresh, and weather very threatening. At 2, passed another fine run of water from the hills, and some paddy plantations on the side of the road. Plenty of iron stones along this day's road, from whence the country people extract a great deal of iron. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3, crossed a run of water, with a kind of stone-dam laid across it, in tolerable order; on the south-west side of which was a thatched choultry, with four plain square stone pillars, about twelve feet high, and eight or ten asunder, and a platform round, with stones on the outside about three feet from the ground, but gone to decay. This, I remark, as the first building I have seen, that a handful of straw would not destroy in five minutes; on the north-east of the road, paddy plantations belonging to a village called Navelly* which we did not see from $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3 to $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4; the road in some parts very muddy and dirty, and in others very stony and rocky, up and down a hill with thick wood on both sides, and on the west side of a river called Nawlundy, a very strong stream in it about up to the middle. There seems


* Nawoola.

to have been a kind of bridge across it, by the appearance of the stones on each side; a few yards below which is a natural spring in the midst of the bed of the river, which keeps constantly bubbling up like the boiling of a pot. Crossed this river; and about a mile and a half on the other side, or nearer, two miles up a stony road and lanes, is the village of Cravetty, where we arrived about $\frac{1}{4}$ before 6. I walked a good part of the way, and passed through a kind of guard which is a small inclosure with a mud wall on one side and two or three small houses on the other. Here lay an old iron three-pounder. How it came there I could not learn. I suppose it, however, some Portuguese prize. They told me two others had been lately taken away to fight the Dutch.* About 8, the General did me the honor of a visit; and upon my desiring him to sit down, he begged to be excused, having something to say to me in the name of the King; and I find no one is allowed to transact any affairs, or discourse upon any business in his name, sitting, without his particular leave. What he had to offer consisted chiefly in enquiries concerning my health, the reception I had met with on the road; how I had left the Governor and Council of Madras, the Admiral, and the

* Nawlundy, Cravetty. Mr. Pybus here evidently reached the Nalande Kadawata, or the guarded-pass of Nalande. The remains of the Bridge are still there, and the gun lies where he saw it.

Gentlemen of the Navy; and concluding with assurances how highly pleased the King his master was with the Gentlemen at Madras at the confidence they had placed in him, by sending a person into his country on the verbal representation only of a messenger of his, without any letter from him. Some compliments passed between us on this occasion; which done, he was prevailed on to sit down, and after a short conversation, he got up again and said he had something more to mention, which he hoped I would not take amiss; and upon coming to an explanation, I found it was to acquaint me that as an arched bamboo to a pallankeen was not allowed to any but the King, he was under the necessity of desiring me to take off mine, and offering to furnish me with a straight one, which he had brought with him, for to-morrow's journey, making many apologies and excuses for being obliged to propose such a thing to one who had come so far on the King's business. This, with some reluctance, I consented to, not choosing to ask of the General an indulgence which, I thought, he had no power to grant; and to have insisted on it, might either have brought him into trouble at Court, or have impeded my journey; but I hope to get this point settled on my arrival at Candia. We then parted, and he sent me soon after a present of several kinds of fruit, sweetmeats, and victuals dressed after the country

method, but not very palatable to an European taste. This village is pretty populous, but very straggling; no regular streets. It may have, I believe, a hundred houses. There are some very good paddy plantations, and plenty of cattle belonging to it, with jack, plantain, pappoyal, cocoanut, beetle and other kinds of useful trees about it.

16th.—Early this morning, the General sent me a straight bamboo for my pallankeen, with iron, &c., and people to fix it; and at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10, A. M., I went to him, who waited for me just without the town, with his cannon, consisting of eight or ten patararoes on forked swivels, and about seventy or eighty people by way of guard, armed, but indifferently and variously; and after a few compliments, we set the General in his dooly, and I in mine, he leading the way, but soon lost sight of him. We travelled a very good road, the country excessively mountainous, and overgrown much with underwood; but villages on each side, which, though not to be seen, seemed to be populous by the number of people who thronged out from them to see us pass. Plenty of cattle grazing, chiefly buffaloes. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 2, came to a stone fixed in the ground marked  with some writing underneath, which was explained to me as an exemption to the inhabitants from paying the usual duty to the General of the Province, on clearing the woods away for making plantations;

and to prohibit any persons taking more than fifty per cent. for six months for any money or grain they might lend the inhabitants for carrying on their planting. This stone was fixed up by order of the present King, about seven years ago, but from the face of the country, it does not seem to have been attended with any good effects. Along this road the most remarkable jack-trees I ever saw, for height and size. They seem also well loaded with fruit, which is small in proportion to the size of the tree. Plenty of black cattle grazing on this road, but no plantations. People from the villages still flocking near the road as we passed. At 4, came to some paddy plantations, and passed a branch of a river called Pallahput, which had a thatched wooden bridge over it, for the convenience of passengers.* On the other side of this bridge were some Choliar merchants, with twenty or thirty oxen belonging to them, loaded with double bags of grain, which they had received in the country, (and were carrying it to the sea-coast), in exchange for salt, now very scarce, at two measures for one: the usual rate, when salt is plenty, is measure for measure. All this time down hill, a fine road; hills all round us, some very near; valleys overgrown with small shrubs;

* Pallahput; *i. e.*, Palapatwelle, between Nalande and Matele. A spot near the present ford is still called *Ædanda Kadawela*; indicating, that once a foot bridge, of which all traces have disappeared, existed there.

villages on each side, and cattle plenty. No large trees, except jacks, which they plant in clusters. The sides of the hills low down in many places, set off by inclosures, but not cultivated. At 5, passed through a village of a middling size, called Punnamo;* some very fine paddy plantations belonging to it, and coconut trees about their villages; those near the hills grow to a very great height, but have a small enclosure, with beetle-nut, beetle, and pepper vines growing in them; some have plantains, jacks, limes, &c. The face of the country here has some appearance of being inhabited. Passed along the side of hills; the wind very high, and weather lowering; and at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5, came to a valley, where was a place at which they desired me to get out of my dooley and walk, pretending it to be a place of worship. I very readily complied, and as eagerly looked out for this place, expecting to see a handsome pagoda, or some such building; but to my great surprise, as we passed three or four large trees, not unlike the asp, called by the Portugueze "ravoo de galloo," which grew close to the road, I saw the people make a very respectful reverence towards them; and on enquiry, found, that a few stones piled up together under these trees was what they paid this respect to. There are platforms, faced on the outside with stone, raised round the tree about two feet from the ground.

* Pannagama; half a mile W.N.W. of the Government House at Matele.

At $\frac{3}{4}$ past 5, P. M., arrived at our stage in a village called Oulang Gamee,* where the General had been some time before us. Here I found a very convenient place made for my reception, with talipot, cocoanut, and other leaves and branches of trees; and the headman of the village, soon after my arrival, brought me plenty of different kinds of fruits. The General sent his compliments to inquire how I did after my journey, and would wait on me if I had anything particular to say to him; which not being the case, I only returned my compliments. The people were remarkably civil. It is a pretty large village, seems populous, and there is plenty of cattle belonging to it. The mountain to the eastward of our road very high, and covered with woods.

17th.—At 20 minutes past 10, set out from Oulang Gamee, the General going before, as yesterday; but I did not see him this morning. About a mile from this village, passed some very fine paddy plantations, and a branch of a river called Pulang Gamee; there was a wooden bridge across it, neatly carved with images, &c.† Villages begin now to be pretty plenty. The houses are hid by trees, but the

* Oulang Gamee; Hoolangamowa,—three-quarters of a mile W. by S. of the Government House at Matele.

† The abutments of this Bridge are still partially preserved, though the bridge itself, said to have been built in the reign of Kirtesree, by Erowawella Dissave, has disappeared. The people still talk of the carvings with which it was decorated.

inhabitants who throng to the roadside to see us pass, speak them populous. The road now up, and down steep hills, which put me to the necessity of walking. The valleys are most beautifully cultivated. We had here a prospect of a fine cascade from one of the hills to the eastward of us, about half way up, distant about ten miles. At 12 o'clock, came to a most stupendous hill, which I was obliged to walk up every step of the way; and it was so very steep and rocky, that I found it difficult to get up without crawling. It was covered with thick woods, which was indeed fortunate enough, considering the time of the day we were to pass it. At about $\frac{1}{4}$ before 1, with much difficulty, I reached the summit of it. We stopped under a great tree on the top of this hill, which they tell terminates Matele Districts, and we entered those of Hawsepup,* belonging to Candia; and at $\frac{3}{4}$ past 3, we arrived at the end of our journey for this day, to my no small satisfaction, being most heartily jaded and tired. Here my friend, the General, waited to receive me at a large square building capable of containing two hundred men, which had been erected for my reception, with different apartments for myself, attendants, and baggage. He conducted me to my apartment, with apologies for the badness of

* After climbing the Balakadua Pass,—this “most stupendous hill,”—he entered Harispattoo.

the road, and then left me to repose myself, and took his leave; having first introduced to me an inferior kind of officer, whom the King of Candia had sent to see this building completed, and who, on my application, was to supply me with whatever I might have occasion for; but there was no need of this, for I found myself furnished by the inhabitants from the neighbouring villages, with fowls, rice, fruit, &c., in abundance. On the top of the high hill I have given an account of, I got a branch of a cinnamon tree which grew in the woods, as we passed. The name of the place we halted at is Canvetty.† Some of the small hills, by the sides of which we passed, were entirely cleared of woods, and covered with a fine turf, with cattle grazing on them.

18th.—Waited here for the King's leave to proceed, (not being above fourteen miles from the river Mavali Ganga,) till 40 minutes past 11, A. M., when we set out, my friend the General going before, whom I have not seen to-day. This day's journey up and down hill, and the road so very troublesome, that it was hardly possible to travel in my dooley, especially with such wretched bearers, as I was in hopes I should have been better furnished with—as I approached the Capital, but to

† Kahawatte; north of Kandy, on the high road to Matele.

my great mortification find myself disappointed. The hills, for about ten miles, clear of woods, and covered with fine pasturage, with cattle grazing. Villages interspersed, and valleys beautifully cultivated. Several fine runs of water from the hills through the valleys. At about 2, came to the banks of the Ganga. Here the woods began to be thick again; and about 3, we came to a very steep stony hill, which having with some difficulty passed, about half a mile on the other side I found the General waiting for me, in order to introduce me to four other officers belonging to the Court, whom the King had sent to conduct me to the place intended for my reception, and who waited for us at a little distance. And upon my coming up to the General, after sending notice to the other officers, walked with me towards, and introduced me to them. Their questions consisted in general of inquiries in the King's name; how I found my health after the length of my journey; how I was treated on the road; how I left the great men at Madras and those belonging to the squadron; which having answered, we all walked together, with several people before us with different kinds of flags, through a double row of men under arms to the number of about two hundred, most of them tolerably well armed, to a large square building with mud walls covered with thatch, having a spacious area in the middle, with several different apart-

ments on the east and west side of it, and two large rooms on the right and left coming in, for putting the presents in, which the Dutch always bring with them; this being the place where they are quartered. Upon our arrival here, I was conducted by my friend the General to my apartment, accompanied by the other four, where, after many speeches made concerning the indifference of lodging, I was given to understand that the King would let me know when it would be convenient to him to see me; to which I answered I should wait his pleasure; and the General having appointed two of the four who attended us to take care I had everything I wanted, to visit me every day, told me he was going to pay his respects to the King, and asked me to accompany him to the river side, which is about one hundred yards from the house; which having complied with, I returned to my lodgings, where there is a building in the middle of the area, on purpose for placing the letters in, which may be brought for the King; where I accordingly lodged mine, folded in a piece of muslin, and laid it upon a kind of table fixed there for that purpose. In the evening, the inhabitants from the villages adjacent brought, as is customary, rice, fowls, fruit, curry stuff, &c. The Vackeel who attended me took his leave, to go to pay his respects to the King, and see his family; and a brother of his was appointed to continue with me as an interpreter. Four Cingalese were appointed

to attend, for bringing wood, water, and for other services of the house, and a guard of six men was placed at the entrance, to prevent any person's coming to me, but such as had liberty from the King.

19th.—About 10 in the morning, the two officers who had been appointed yesterday to visit me, sent me word that they waited to attend on me, if agreeable; and being told it was customary, I went out to meet them about fifty yards from my door, when they walked with me to my lodgings, where they acquainted me they were come by the General's orders to make enquiry after my health, and whether I wanted any thing; which being only matter of compliment, I answered in the same strain, and they took their leave. I attended them again as far as I went to meet them, and then returned. The inhabitants, both morning and evening, brought their supplies of provisions; but I have no message from His Majesty.

20th, 21st, and 22nd.—Nothing particular. The officers pay their visits, and inhabitants bring their supplies, as usual.

23rd.—The inhabitants bring their supplies, as usual; the officers waited on me in the morning, and having heard nothing from the King, I desired they would apply for hircarabs to carry letters for me to the Admiral, and Governour and Council at Madras, who would be impatient to hear of my arrival; which they promised to do, and in the afternoon sent to acquaint me the hircarabs are ready to set

out with my letters, which I immediately sent to them to dispatch, desiring the headman of the Cottiar district might be ordered to forward them to Admiral Cornish, and the hircarahs who were sent with them to wait for an answer. At 5 in the evening, the officers came again to let me know, that a person of distinction from the King was come to visit me, and waited for me on this side the river. I thereupon walked to meet him, as I was informed it was customary to one of his rank, which was that of General. From hence we walked together to my lodging, where he acquainted me he was ordered by the King to make enquiry after my health; the health of the Governour and Council of Madras, the Admiral and gentlemen of the fleet; and whether I was civilly treated upon the road; and the inhabitants had supplied me, since my being here, with every thing I wanted. Having satisfied all these questions, he gave to me understand, as his own opinion, not as a message from the King, that he believed I should be sent for the next day; to which I replied, the sooner the more happy I should be, and that I waited that honour with eager impatience. He then desired leave to go, having nothing further to communicate, and I attended him to the river side again, and then took my leave. It has rained very hard all this day, and blown fresh at south-west.

24th.—The people bring their supplies in the

morning, as usual; but no officers to pay their usual visits. Intelligence from the other side, by report of passengers only, that my introduction to His Majesty is intended to-day. The weather tolerably fair in the morning, but the afternoon very heavy rain; and about half past 5, P. M., the Officer came to acquaint me that one of the head Generals and others of distinction were come to the other side of the river from the King, and desired I would get myself ready to meet them as soon as they came on this side, giving me to understand that I was to be introduced to the King this evening. It still continues to rain very hard. About 6, a message being brought me, that these officers were come over the river, I went out to meet them, who accompanied me to my apartments, where, after the usual compliments of enquiring about my health, &c., they acquainted me the King had sent them to attend me to Court this evening; to which I made answer, that, notwithstanding the weather was so bad, as His Majesty had done me the honour to send persons of their distinction to introduce me to him, I was very ready to accompany them. They then asked if I had any letters, to which having answered in the affirmative, they asked whether it was for the King or the Generals, and whether from the Governour only, or all the Council. Upon my acquainting them from the Governour only, and for the King only, they asked whether it was signed and sealed

by him, and in what language it was wrote; which having answered, they made many apologies for having been so particular in their enquiries, giving for reasons, that if it had been from the Governour or the whole Council to the Generals, it was to be received by them; if from the Governour only, or the Governour and Council, to the King, it was to be delivered by me to the King. I then desired they would acquaint me whether any, and what ceremony was to be observed in carrying this letter; which readily consenting to, they conducted me into the room where the letter was lodged, and producing a silver salver, which they had brought with them for the purpose, covered with two or three pieces of fine muslin, they desired I would deliver them the letter; which having done, they laid it upon the muslin, covering it again with as many folds more, and over all a square piece of silver tissue, with large silver tassels at each corner, and then delivered the dish into my hands, which, by their directions, I carried out a few steps from the room, white cloth being spread on the ground as as far as I was to walk with it, holding it a little above my head, where a person received it from me and placed it upon his head; two people holding a canopy over it made of China silks, such as are used by the Moors. While this was doing, two drums and some country musick, which had been brought for that purpose, began to beat, and eleven guns were fired

from the other side of the river; and in this manner, they told me, it was to be carried before us all the way to Candia, where, after entering the King's house, I was to receive it and present it to His Majesty; and this, all the ceremony, which, though trifling and ridiculous as it appeared, I made no objections against complying with. Accordingly, we set out about 7 o'clock. Heavy rain still continuing, drums beating, country musick playing, and a number of lights before us, as we marched. We halted on the side of the river, and there stood, till all the people who were with us had passed over, which, as there was only one canoe or ferry boat, and a strong stream in the river, was tedious. The letter passed over with us; and a $\frac{1}{4}$ past 8, we were landed on the other side. The weather being bad, and road consequently dirty, I had given hints, before I left the house, of my intention of going in my pallankeen, or rather dooley, (for, finding many objections were made to my very frequent importunities for applying to the King for liberty to ride with my crooked bamboo, I rested satisfied as to that matter); but they made answer, as they were come from the King to attend me, and were themselves obliged to walk, they hoped I would accompany them in the same manner; with which I found I might as well comply, or I should have got nobody to have carried my pallankeen over the river, which I was very solicitous about, that I

might, if possible, get liberty to ride home. This matter being settled, we began our procession; the letter before us, with the drums and musick farther advanced, and abundance of guards, the General and I walking hand in hand through a very dirty road; and at 10 o'clock, we came to a little shed erected purposely for the occasion, where they told me I might stop and shift my shoes and stockings, if I pleased, as we were not far from the King's house, and must wait for his leave to proceed. This, as I was pretty well besmeared, I was glad to do, hoping to get permission to ride the rest of the way; but all I could say on that subject was to no purpose. After waiting here about a quarter of an hour, a messenger was dispatched to us, with leave to advance; and before I got to the King's house, which was not till $\frac{1}{2}$ past 11, I was as dirty as ever. The streets were all illuminated with lamps on each side on the *pials* before the houses, which was never known to be done before on any other occasion than when the King went abroad; and when we came within about two hundred yards of the King's house, we stopped again, till leave came from the King to proceed. The General who was with me then desired the interpreter to acquaint me, that I must kneel when I appeared with the letter before the King, which I peremptorily refused to comply with, and accused them with having dealt

very disingenuously and unhandsomely by me, as I had desired, before we set out, that they would acquaint me with the ceremony which was to be used on this occasion, when nothing of this sort was mentioned. I therefore desired some one might be sent in my name to the King, to request that I might be allowed to present the letter to him standing; but this they refused complying with, telling me it ever had been customary to kneel, and that it could not be deviated from. In vain I urged that I did not come on the footing the Dutch ambassadors do; that I came at the King's particular request, that some English gentlemen might be sent to treat with him; and that I had not been made acquainted that any such ceremony was expected of me; but all I could say had no weight; comply I must; and as I was by no means in a situation to help myself, I could do no otherwise than submit. Here we were met by another General from the King, to give us leave to advance; and when we came to the door of the King's house, we waited there some time for admittance, when the General who met me at Caravetty came out to introduce us. I should have observed, that I was desired to stand fronting the door of the house, and after passing with my hat off. We now entered the house, and after passing the second door into a square court, where were standing three state elephants, and as many horses

handsomely ornamented, I was told that the King's head General was coming out there to meet me, and that I must pull off my shoes. It was very dirty here, on account of the rain which had fallen, and therefore I told them I objected to pulling off my shoes till I came to a place where I might walk clean; upon which, I was led within three or four yards of a little veranda, from whence the head General came, and here I consented to take off my shoes, (concluding the veranda led to the room of audience,) and walked with the General, who made some complimentary speeches in the name of the King, which, fatigued, hungry, and out of humour as I was, I gave but very short answers to. From this veranda we passed into another open veranda about eighteen or twenty feet square, where we stopt, as that led directly into the hall of state, at the door of which, fronting us, was a curtain of white linen let down. In this veranda were placed twelve men, by way of guards, dressed in long white linen coats, six on each side, with weapons in their hands much like a serjeant's halberd. Here I had the silver dish with the letter given me to hold, and as it was near a quarter of an hour after we were here before His Majesty did us the honour to shew himself, I was obliged to get the linguist and some of the King's officers who were near me to hold it, for I could not. At length, the white curtain at the

door was drawn up, behind which, a few yards advanced in the hall, was a red one; this being drawn, a little further was a white one; and so on, for six different curtains, which discovered the end of the hall, where was a door with another white curtain before it. A few minutes afterwards, this was drawn, and discovered to us the King seated on a throne, which was a large chair, handsomely carved and gilt, raised about three feet from the floor. Upon the drawing up of this last curtain, I continued standing with the silver dish on my head, till I was pulled down by the skirts of my coat, and forced to kneel upon one knee on the bare ground, holding the silver dish above my head. The Generals and other officers belonging to the Court prostrated themselves on the ground at full length six several times, each time saying in the Cingalese language a few words which I have not been able to get explained, but I conclude to have been some respectful compliments. The King, I observed, two or three times during this ceremony, said something to them in very short sentences, which I could not learn the meaning of. They then got up, as I did likewise, and advancing two or three paces farther, within a few feet of the steps of the grand hall, the same ceremony was repeated. We then entered the hall; immediately upon which, I was brought down upon both knees, and the Generals repeated the same ceremony as before.

We then advanced a little farther, just to the end of a large Persian carpet with which the floor was covered, where this ceremony was again repeated ; after which, I was led by two of the Generals to the throne of state, upon the lower step of which was a little cushion. Upon this I knelt with one knee, and presented the letter, which His Majesty immediately received out of the salver, which was taken from me by one of the Generals, and I retired backwards to the end of the Persian carpet, where I was obliged to kneel again ; but His Majesty was then pleased to desire I would sit in such manner as was most easy to me, with which I very readily complied. The hall is about fifty feet long, and thirty broad ; but being very badly illuminated, I had a very indifferent view of the King, to distinguish particularly his dress ; but the upper garment seemed an open robe of gold tissue, with a close vest underneath, and a broad belt richly embroidered with gold round his waist. He had upon his head a cap of scarlet cloth embroidered with gold, much in the form of an Armenian's cap, upon the top of which was a small crown set with precious stones ; several rings on his fingers ; a short dagger in his left hand, the hilt of which was gold set with precious stones ; and on his right side was a large broad sword, not girt upon him, but resting against the chair of state ; its hilt, likewise, was of gold richly set with precious stones. His

shoes were made in the manner of the Chinese sandals, of crimson velvet embroidered with gold, and a plate of gold seemed to run round the outsides of the soles; and there was a canopy of white silk fixed four or five feet over the chair of state. The hall had five arches formed across it, with bamboo or some other kind of wood, which were covered with white muslin, intermixed with pieces of red silk spotted Bengal handkerchiefs, puffed much in the same manner as a lady's ruff for her neck. Arches were also turned on each side the length of the hall, forming a kind of veranda about seven or eight feet from the outside; and corresponding to these, close to the side, were formed arches, all ornamented in the same manner as the others. The walls, ceiling, and floor were all covered with white cloth, except where the Persian carpet was spread; and I should have been well enough pleased with the appearance it made had I been in a more agreeable situation. On each side of the hall sat three of the people belonging to the King's household, with a cloth about their heads like the head dress of an Armenian woman; and a narrow slip of cloth went from thence just under their mouths, hardly of breadth sufficient to cover their lips. Of these, some had lances, and others bows and arrows, in their hands; they are called in the Cingalese language, Rangavadum or the Golden Arm Bearers, having the charge of such

arms as are for the King's use, and when the King would make use of any of the arms held by these people, the piece of cloth I have taken notice of, is to cover their mouths with when they approach him to deliver them, that they may not defile him with their breath. On each side of the door entering into the place where the King sat in state, was a square wooden stool with each a wax candle on it; and at that on the left hand, sat a Secretary, who wrote all the time the King was asking me questions, which I suppose to have been his questions and my answers. At the foot of the throne of state knelt one of the King's Prime Ministers or Secretaries of State, to whom he communicated what he had to say to me; who, after prostrating himself on the ground when the King had done speaking, he related to one of the Generals who sat at the same end of the hall with me; who, after having prostrated himself in the manner I have before observed, explained it to a Malabar Doctor, who told it in Malabar to my Debash, and he to me. And this ceremony was repeated on asking every question, which rendered it tiresome and troublesome. They consisted only in enquiries how the Governor and the rest of the Council of Madras did when I came away; how I left the Admiral and gentlemen of the Navy when I went ashore at Cotiarum; how I found my health after my journey from Cotiarum; how the people had behaved

to me on the road; whether I was supplied with provisions and every thing I had occasion for here, or if I was in want of any thing. These being questions of mere compliment, my answers were of the same kind. The King then observed, he esteemed my being sent to his Court on the verbal representation of a private messenger from him, as a very great mark of our confidence in him; and that as he ever heard the English nation were remarkable for their good faith, he had long been desirous of their friendship; concluding with desiring my opinion whether the Governour and Council of Madras were his steady and sincere friends, or not; to which I answered, that although his messenger had brought no letter, yet, as we had no doubt of his being sent by him, we considered the representations he had made to us in the same light as if they had come from himself, and therefore did not hesitate upon dispatching a person to his Court, as he had desired; that I could take upon me to assure him he would find the English punctual to any engagements they might enter into with him; that the Governour and Council of Madras, in particular, were very heartily inclined to be his steady and sincere friends, and sent me to let him know so; and that I should be ready to wait upon him to discourse in private upon business whenever he thought proper. He then desired I might be told that he had not words to express

the joy and satisfaction he felt at what I had said to him. And, indeed, I believe in this he was sincere; for I am persuaded he would grant us any privilege to induce us to settle on the Island, and assist him in driving off the Dutch. But as I observed he had fixed no time, or given any reply with respect to entering on business, I desired he might be acquainted that, as the distance I was at from him would render our conferences upon business very tedious and troublesome, I should be glad to be accommodated with a house in Candia; and that, as walking so far in mud and dirt was what I had not been used to, I made it a particular request to His Majesty that I might have liberty to go backwards and forwards in my pallankeen. My linguist having explained this to the Doctor in Malabar, and he to the General, they talked together some time upon the subject, consulting some others who sat near them, and then desired my Dabash to acquaint me that they did not think it proper to mention those things in that public place to the King, but that, after we were gone, the General would take an opportunity of letting him know what I had desired; telling me, at the same time, that as it was very late, and I had a great way to return, I must be much fatigued, and no business could be done that night, I might ask leave to withdraw; which being a very agreeable proposal, I desired they would make it, if His

Majesty had no further commands for me; and to acquaint him, at the same time, that I should be ready to wait on him, to discourse upon business, whenever he should think proper to send for me. This being signified to him, he gave his consent immediately, and I withdrew. The General made the same respectful obeysance as on our first admittance, and they told me I must do as I had done before; but I answered, that it was so painful to me, I could not comply with it, and would sit as I did, which was admitted; and every time they paid their respects I sat down. When the outer curtain was drawn I walked with the General into the veranda where I pulled off my shoes on my introduction, and there, by the means of my interpreter, I complained much of my having been deceived in not being made acquainted by the Generals who came to attend me from Gunnoor, that such ceremonies would be expected from me; that I thought myself not handsomely treated, in finding I was obliged to comply with every form the Dutch ambassador did, who came upon a very different footing; that I came into this country an entire stranger to all their manners and customs, to comply with the King's very earnest solicitation to the English nation, that a person might be sent to him; and that therefore I did expect I should be otherwise received; that although I had complied with all these ceremonies,

because I would not give any interruption to the business I came upon, and because I was made acquainted with them at a time when I could not well avoid it, I could venture to assure them, that they were such as the English nation would never submit to a compliance with; and that had I been acquainted with them before I left Madras, they would not have seen me there; that I should take it as a favour they would let His Majesty know these my sentiments, and request I might be indulged with the use of my pallankeen; and if His Majesty intended to enter seriously into any negotiations, that, with a house, accommodations may be provided for me at Candia, for the more speedy dispatch of business; upon which, the General who met me at Caravetty assured me he would let the King know every word I had said, and acquaint me with his answer. I delivered the packages, with the present I carried, into the charge of some of the attendants; and was introduced by the General into a long veranda, just at the entrance into the Palace, where he desired I would wait his return, as he was then going to acquaint the King with all I had said. And after waiting about an hour, he returned, and told me he had acquainted His master with every thing that had passed; that he could assure me I had been more respectfully treated than any ambassadors from any other nation before;

that, however, as they had now hopes of entering into close friendship with the English, and I had informed them those ceremonies would not be complied with, they should consider the manner in which our ambassadors were to be received; that His Majesty had promised, in two or three days, to accommodate me with a house in Candia; and that, as soon as I got to the end of the street where the King lived, my pallankeen or dooley should carry me home; and that one of the Generals was appointed to conduct me to my own house. I thanked him for the trouble he had taken, and the part he had acted in my behalf; begged he would assure his master that he might depend upon finding the English nation (whose faith in the alliances and friendship with the Princes of the Carnatick he could be no stranger to) his sincere and steady friend when the terms of our alliance were once settled and established. He then presented me to the General, and we took leave of each other, to my no small satisfaction, being heartily tired, and not a little chagrined at this very troublesome and ceremonious method of visiting. We walked, I believe, about a mile and a half, or two miles, to my dooley, when the General took care, this occasion, to let me know that nobody but the King was ever allowed to be carried in a dooley, on the Candia side of the river, before, unless unable to walk by sickness. I was not in a

humour to make any reply to this observation, and getting into my dooley, they carried me on the banks of the river, where the boat being ready, the General and two other Officers, with myself and servants, got into it, and were landed on the Gunnoor side about $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 o'clock in the morning. We then walked to my lodgings, where this attendance took leave of me, and I got to bed just at sun rising, never more fatigued or disgusted with any jaunt in my life.

From 25th May to the 2nd June.—Nothing particular. The Officers pay their visits, and people bring supplies of provisions, &c., as usual. Rainy, blowing weather all this time. My linguist having taken a walk to the river side, tells me he heard from one of the passengers, that a house was preparing for me at Candia.

June 3rd.—This morning having received advice that I was to remove to Candia in the evening, I prepared accordingly, and at 5 P. M., came an Officer from the King, accompanied by the two who visit me daily, to attend me. We set out immediately for the river side; and as it rained very hard, I desired to know if I had liberty to ride, when we came to the other side; to which the Officer replied (seemingly with much reluctance) that the King his master had thought fit to grant me that indulgence, which I ought to esteem as a very great mark

of favour, and a particular honour allowed me. Being now in better humour and spirits than when I paid my visit to his master, I assured him I entertained a very just sense of the King's favour towards me; and with much satisfaction, as soon as we had crossed the river, I got into my dooley and rode till we entered the town, when the Officer sent a messenger to me desiring (as we had not far to go, and the road was clean) that I would walk with him to the house intended for my reception. This I complied with, and after walking about five or six hundred yards through two or three short streets, the houses on both sides illuminated as on my first introduction, we came to my lodging; which is a small house, built after the Malabar manner, situated in the principal street, which is very spacious, regularly built in both sides, and near a mile long. As soon as we entered the house, the Officer who attended me gave me to understand, that the more myself and servants kept within the house, the more pleasing it would be to the King; as, by walking the streets, my servants might probably get into some dispute and quarrels with the Cingalese, which would give the King much uneasiness. I took this as a hint that they were not willing I should be too well acquainted with the place and its situation, and accordingly promised that I would be careful my servants should not be seen in the streets. They

then took their leave, assuring me that I should be supplied with every thing I had occasion for. I desired my respects to the King, and that they would assure him how truly sensible I was of the favour by which he had been pleased to distinguish me. A guard of ten or twelve people from the Palace, with Europe arms, were quartered on the house, which they would have made me believe was meant as a compliment; but I am satisfied it was to prevent my having any communication with the inhabitants. And the Vackeel's brother, who had continued with me all the time I was at Gunnoor, was now forbid to come, but by particular order when sent for by the Officers who visited me daily, to act as an interpreter. About 9 o'clock at night, heard a bell ringing through the streets, which, upon inquiry, I find is to give warning, that no person is to appear there after the ringing of that bell, without a large light in their hand, on pain of their being severely punished. This is done to prevent disorders which might otherwise happen, and is practised every night about this time, unless there is business at the Palace; in which case, it does not ring till the Palace gates are shut.

4th.—People bring their supplies, and Officers pay their visits, us usual. At 10 in the morning, I was visited by the Officer who attended me from the other side, with a message from the

King, purporting, that as the business I came about would take a long time in talking over, and as the usual customs of this place, on being introduced before the King, could not be deviated from, and which I seemed unwilling to comply with, His Majesty, to shew his desire to make every thing as easy to me as possible, had appointed a Council, consisting of his Generals and other Head-men, to meet and enter upon business with me, who would acquaint him with what I might propose. I readily consented to this scheme, and returned my compliments to the King, acknowledging myself much obliged to him for the consideration he seemed to have towards me; and at 9 o'clock in the evening, came the same Officer, with two others, to attend me to the Palace, (which is not above four or five hundred yards from the street in which I am lodged), where I was met and introduced by one of the Generals; and in the outer court yard stood, in great form, all the Generals and Officers of distinction who are now at Candia, to receive me, except the Prime Minister, who was with the King; and after taking them by the hands, which is the usual ceremony on meeting, the principal one who had received me at the door of the Palace, led me into a large apartment (five other Generals attending) where, before we were seated, the General who had met me at Caravetty, who is a very sensible well-

behaved man, a great favourite of the King's, and seems well inclined towards the English, entered upon a long harangue, of the ambassadors that had been received here from different European nations, and Eastern Princes who had brought large presents, and had been introduced to the King under many more difficulties than I had gone through; that whatever business they came upon, they communicated in publick to the King, and were then dispatched; that the house they had prepared for me in Candia, the privilege which had been granted me of riding in my palkankeen into the town, were particular marks of distinction shewn to me, and me only; that the desire the King had to enter into an alliance and friendship with the English nation,—the regard which had been paid by that nation to the representation made to them by a private messenger of his only, without any letter from him,—were the reasons why I had been so particularly distinguished by these marks of favour. To which I replied, that I was very sensible of the great reputation and character of the King his master; of the many ambassadors who had been sent to pay their respects to him, and magnificent presents which they had brought him; that the English had never before sent their ambassadors, and therefore could not be acquainted with the manners, customs, and ceremonies of this Court; that I was not ignorant of the forms and ceremonies practised

at other Eastern Princes' courts, and expected to find the same in use here; that, unaccustomed to such ceremonies, I thought being obliged to conform to them the greater hardship, more particularly as I had not been acquainted with the least part of them before I left Madras, nor by the General who was sent to conduct me from Gunnoor, the first night of my introduction; and, on the other hand, as I did not consider myself on the same footing with ambassadors from the Dutch, or any other nation who came upon their own business, so I did not expect to have been considered in that light here; that I came at the King's earnest solicitations made to the Governour and Council of Fort St. George, by his messenger (whose representation they regarded in the same light as if they had come from the King himself) that a person might be sent to him; that I was sensible the trifling presents I had brought, were as unworthy of the King's acceptance, as they were, likewise, of the English nation to present; but the uncertainty the Gentlemen at Madras were in, whether I should be able to land or not, and if I did, whether I could be supplied with cooleys or people to carry me and my baggage, made them unwilling to encumber me with a number of packages; that, therefore, what I had brought with me, was to be considered more in the light of conforming to the Eastern custom of

bringing something in your hand upon an introduction to any person of rank and eminence, than as a present worthy the English to make or his master to receive. That I was fully sensible of the many marks of favour with which the King had been pleased to honour me, and which I should not fail to make known to the Governour and Council of Fort St. George, on my return. They then acquainted me, that as a further proof of the King's favour, that I might not undergo the same trouble and inconveniences I did before, and for the greater dispatch of business, he had appointed the gentlemen I saw there to talk with me upon that subject; and that therefore, if I pleased, we would sit down and begin without any further compliments or ceremony; to which I very readily assented; and being seated, they acquainted me they were directed by the King to enquire, what particular matters or business the Governour and Council of Madras had empowered me to communicate to him; to which I replied, that the Governour and Council of Madras, upon the representation made to them by the Vackeel, had sent me to hear what proposals the King had to make to the English nation, and what his expectations from them were. But they declined giving me any answer upon those points, alleging that their directions were, to hear from me what I had to propose. I then desired to know, whether

the King was willing to grant the English liberty to settle upon this Island, and upon what footing, or with what privileges. To this they replied as before, that they could make no answer to such questions; upon which, I observed to them, that till something was determined as to those points, I could not make any proposals. They then desired I would wait till they went out to acquaint the Prime Minister, who was attending the King, with what I had said, not having themselves the power of giving me any answer to the questions I had proposed. They accordingly went out, and in about half an hour returned; and being seated, the General I have before spoken of, began, by observing, that the King had sent a person to Madras to represent to the Governour and Council of Madras, that the Dutch, who had been settled upon this Island for many years, had, till very lately, behaved themselves well towards the King, and complied with whatever he had recommended to them; that within this year and a half, or two years, they had observed a very different conduct, and shewn no regard to the King's orders or advice; whereupon he had commenced a war against them, and sent his armies by land to punish them, which he was sufficiently able to do. But His Majesty wanted to know, in what manner, and how far, the English could assist him, both by sea and land, in his enterprizes

against them. My reply to this was, that I was not empowered to make any promise or engagements, and could only in general assure them, that the English were well inclined to enter into friendship and alliance with the King, and that it was necessary, before any thing was concluded, that the Governour and Council of Madras should be acquainted, what privileges the King was willing to grant them, should they determine upon sending him assistance ; which I therefore desired they would communicate to me. To this, they told me again, they could give no positive answer ; but if I had any thing to propose, they desired I would acquaint them with it, that they might make the same known to His Majesty ; upon which I observed to them, that as business of this nature was of much consequence, great care should be taken that all matters were clearly explained, that both parties might perfectly well understand each other's meaning and intentions ; that, therefore, I must again observe to them, I should not enter upon this subject with a view that anything I might propose should be considered as decisive, but be subject to any addition or alteration that the Governour and Council of Madras should think proper to make, without such alteration being considered as any breach of promise or faith ; that, upon these conditions, I would communicate to them the substance of such intelligence as I concluded the Gover-

nour and Council of Fort St. George would expect His Majesty to grant, upon their establishing a settlement, in case they should determine to assist him; which His Majesty might give such answers to as he thought proper, and likewise commit to writing what he expected the English should do in return for the indulgences he might grant them. Upon this footing, I proposed the 14 Articles inserted in my Address to the Board, which they took down in writing.

I then observed, that I much feared the adjusting the ceremony of receiving such English ambassadors as might be hereafter sent with presents or letters to the King, would be a very difficult matter, which I therefore desired they would recommend to the King's consideration. This, likewise, they made a minute of. I then further observed to them, that the little knowledge the English had of the Island, put it out of their power to form any judgment which would be the most proper place to establish a settlement at; that as I was here upon this business, I should be glad to have it in my power to give the Governour and Council of Fort St. George the best information I could obtain upon that subject; and having seen Cotiarum when I landed, I should be glad of the King's permission to return by the way of Matacullapay;* urging, again, the distress the ships were in for fresh provisions, and pressing for an order from the King for their being supplied.

* Batticaloa.

I then desired to know, what Treaties were subsisting between the King and the Dutch ; whether I might have the liberty of taking copies of them, or, at least, have them explained to me. They replied, they would acquaint the King with these my requests. It was now $\frac{1}{2}$ past 2, and the Generals being most of them near asleep, we agreed to adjourn to another opportunity, when, they said, I should know the King's answer to my proposals. We accordingly broke up. The Generals took leave of me at the King's door, and an Officer attended me home. The Vackeel who acted as interpreter, and the Linguist who accompanied me on this Embassy, were not allowed to sit down on this occasion.

5th.—Very heavy rain all day; people bring the supplies, as usual. At 10 A. M., received a letter from Admiral Cornish, dated the 30th ultimo, advising the receipt of my letter dispatched the 23rd, acquainting me that the squadron will be ready for the sea in about three weeks, and desiring I will let him know when I shall return, that he may act accordingly, promising to send the "Falmouth" to Batacah, to examine that river, and to give Captain Brereton orders to advise me by letter concerning it. The Officers pay their usual visits this evening, by whom I sent a message to the General, to request he will press the dispatch of my business, as I find, by the letter I received, my speedy return is necessary; and

that the General at Matacullapay may have orders to forward any letter that may be sent ashore there for me.

6th.—People bring their supplies, and Officers make their visits, as usual, but bring me no answer from the General to the message sent him yesterday. Very heavy rain all day.

7th.—People bring their supplies, as usual. At 7 P. M., received information from the Vackeel, that I was to meet the Generals again this evening; and about 9 o'clock, the Officers who attended me before came to accompany me to the Palace, where I was introduced, as before, to the Generals; and after the usual compliments of inquiring, in the King's name, after my health, and whether I was furnished with every thing I wanted, we sat down; when, instead of communicating to me the King's answer to the proposals I had made the last meeting, they several times pressed for a positive answer, whether, if every thing I had proposed was complied with, the English would assist them. To this I replied, that I had observed to them before, I had not come to determine any thing conclusive, but to hear what the King expected from, and what privileges he was willing to grant, the English nation; that I had, only in general, mentioned such points as seemed to me of the most consequence; that the Governour and Council would, probably, have altera-

tions to make in these proposals; that, in particular, the reception of English ambassadors was a matter that must be left to them to determine; that, for these reasons, I could not take upon me to give any positive assurances. With respect to the assistance they were to have from the English, that I could not deceive them by promising what did not depend upon me to perform; but that, in general, I was empowered to assure them the English were very well disposed to be their friends and allies. They did not seem perfectly satisfied with this answer, and observed, that it appeared strange, as the Governour and Council had thought proper to send me, they had not given me power to enter into treaty. They then asked me, if I had anything further to propose to the King, in behalf of the English; to which I answered, no; but repeated, that I could not tell what the Governour and Council of Madras might have further to offer; and that I must again observe to them, I did not mean, nor would I have them understand, that what I had said upon this subject was to be considered as conclusive or determinate; that everything must be referred to the decision of the Gentlemen at Madras; that I supposed His Majesty would send some one from hence to bring him their determination. They then told me they would acquaint the King with everything I had said, and I should know his answers soon. We then parted,

being $\frac{1}{2}$ past 11, and two Officers, as usual, attended me home. It has rained very hard all day, and blown fresh at south-west.

From 8th to 13th.—Nothing particular. People bring their supplies, and Officers pay their visits, as usual. Rainy weather continues without intermission, and with strong south-west winds. I have several times made application, since I removed to Candia, to have my pallankeen bamboo brought to the house where I lodge, as it was left at Gunnoor; but there has been always some trifling excuse made for not doing it; and I begin to suspect, that kingly prerogative of a crooked bamboo is carried to such a ridiculous length, that they will not even suffer one belonging to any other person to be brought to this side the Ganga. They assure me always, it is very safe and taken great care of.

14th.—As it is now a week ago since I last met the Generals, and having heard nothing from them since, I sent a message to them by the Officers, to acquaint them that the gentlemen at Madras would begin to be very impatient at my long stay, as well as the Admiral, who had acquainted me with the time his ships would be in readiness, and who could not wait for me any longer, that I must therefore again press my speedy dispatch; as the sooner I returned, the sooner the King's business would be finished; and that I desired I might have people to

send away with letters to the Admiral to-morrow morning. They promised to acquaint the Generals with all I had said, and took their leave.

15th.—People bring their supplies, as usual. This morning, at 9 o'clock, the Vackeel came for my letter to the Admiral, as hircarabs would be dispatched with it immediately, which I delivered him; wherein I advised the Admiral, that I imagined it would be three or four days before I should be able to leave this place; and that, as I might probably be ten or twelve on the road, on account the heavy rains which had fallen, he could scarce expect me before the end of this month. In answer to the request of returning by the way of Mathecullapay, the Vackeel acquaints me, that as there are three or four rivers to cross, which at this time of the year are sometimes impassable for ten or twelve days, the King thought my going that way would be very tedious and troublesome, and therefore had give the necessary directions for my being accommodated on the Cottiar Road; so that I begin to hope it will not be long before I receive my despatches.

16th.—People bring their supplies, and Officers pay their visits, as usual. Very heavy rain all day.

17th.—People bring their supplies, as usual. The Vackeel came about 9 o'clock. Sent a message by him to the General, pressing them to hasten my

dispatch ; for that, having wrote to the Admiral that I should set out from hence in three or four days, he would consequently expect to see me soon ; that if I was detained longer, I could not answer for his waiting for me. At about $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 in the afternoon, came the Vackeel to acquaint me, that I should be sent for this evening, which I was in hopes would have been to introduce me to the King, and that I should have received his despatches ; but when I came to the Palace, I found it was only an introduction to the Generals, who, after the usual compliments of enquiring after my health, &c., desired I would sit down, and they would read to me the answers the King had given to my proposals ; which being done, I observed that I had no other remarks to make thereon, than that in my proposals I mentioned, that the English should be allowed the same privileges of trade, in every respect, as the Dutch enjoyed ; that I had requested to be furnished with their original Treaties with the Dutch, or copies of them, which, by what they had read to me, they seemed to have mistaken or omitted. They then made a minute of this upon a separate cadjane ; and I told them, they must likewise remember, that I had observed to them every thing I had proposed must be subject to the determination of the Governour and Council of Madras ; and that I could give no answer to anything that had been now proposed on

the part of the King; to which they replied, they well remembered I did make such observations, and that they submitted every thing to the final determination of the Governour and Council of Madras. I then pressed earnestly for my dispatch, setting forth that Mr. Cornish had acquainted me his ships were all ready; that the distress he was in for fresh provisions would by no means admit of his continuing much longer at Trincomalay. That, besides, as this was the season for expecting our ships from Europe, it was necessary he should be at Madras; that I had wrote him I expected to set out on the 19th; that if I was longer detained, I could not answer whether he would wait for me or not; that the Governour and Council would begin to be uneasy at my long stay; that the sooner I returned, the sooner this business would be concluded; and that I must again repeat my earnest request to be sent away as soon as possible. They told me, the King should be acquainted with what I had said, and that they hoped, in three or four days, to procure me my dispatch. I then took my leave at about $\frac{1}{2}$ past 1 in the morning, and was accompanied home by the usual Officers. Weather moderate; light showers, rain.

18th.—People bring their supplies, as usual. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 9, came the Vackeel, to acquaint me he was going to the General, and desired to know if I had

any commands. I told him, my principal business was to request again my speedy dispatch, for the reasons I urged last night, of my having acquainted Admiral Cornish, that I imagined I should set out to-morrow morning, who would consequently expect me; that, as I saw no preparations for my going, it was necessary I should write to him again, and therefore desired people might be ordered to attend me to-morrow morning, to carry my letter; and that I might, at the same time, be acquainted, for certain, when I should set out, to give him advice accordingly. He promised to deliver this message, and then took his leave. Weather continues moderate,—now and then light showers. At 8 o'clock, the Officers who visit me daily came with an answer to the message I had sent by the Vackeel, acquainting me, to my inexpressible satisfaction, that Thursday morning, the 24th, was the time fixed for my departure. I thanked them for their information, and wrote a letter to the Admiral, to be given to the Vackeel to-morrow morning, advising him of this resolution.

19th.— People bring their supplies this morning. At 9, came the Vackeel. Sent my letter to Admiral Cornish, to be forwarded by the Generals. At 6 P. M., the Vackeel's brother came, to let me know that the Generals would meet this evening, and that I should be sent for; and, at 11, came the usual Officers to attend me. The business was,

chiefly, to explain to me again the substance of the King's letter intended to be sent to the Governour and Council of Madras. That I might be the better able to judge if it was properly translated, they dwelt a long time upon the subject of the cinnamon trade; the difficulties that attended collecting it; acquainted me with the manner in which the Dutch collected it, and with the method the King proposed he should be supplied with it. I desired they would be very particular on this subject in their letter, which, they assured me, they would. They were desirous of my opinion, which method I thought would be most acceptable; but this I declined giving, and observed, as it was a matter of consequence, the Governour and Council would well consider it and give their answer. The substance of the Articles I had proposed were then again read, with their answer; and in reply to the objection they make,—that of the King's paying all expenses of the army, such as stores, batta to Officers, &c.,—I could not help setting forth to them, that as nobody could answer for the fortune of war, should we undertake one in support of the King, it might perhaps continue as long as the war upon the Coast had done, the expenses of which had amounted to an immense sum of money; and that it was not reasonable, if we undertook it, that the Company should bear the charge of carrying it on, as it would be done at the

King's particular request; but that, however, on this, as well as the several other Articles, as I had before told them, it was to little purpose our saying much upon those subjects here, as they would be fully and finally answered by the Governour and Council of Madras. It being now past 3 in the morning, we parted, and I was attended home as usual.

20th.—People bring their supplies. Officers pay their visits, as usual. The Vackeel's brother came at 6 this evening, with a message from the Generals, to desire I would pack up every part of my baggage that I did not want with me, that it might be sent before; and the attendants in the house acquaint my debash to-day, that they have received orders to continue only three days more; so that I begin now to entertain some hopes of getting away by the time fixed. Not a drop of rain all day.

21st.— People bring their supplies, and Officers pay the visits, as usual. Light showers of rain. Very heavy clouds to the south-ward towards evening, which makes me apprehend more rainy weather.

22nd.—Hard rain, and the wind very fresh all night, and smart showers the greatest part of the day. People bring their supplies, as usual. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 in the evening, the Vackeel and his brother came to acquaint me, that I shall be sent for to the King this evening. At about 11 o'clock

at night, the Vackeel's brother came with a message from the General who met me at Caravetty, with eight bundles of cinnamon, as a present to me, weighing about 25 lbs. each; and at $\frac{3}{4}$ past 1 in the morning, the usual Officers waited on me to attend me to the King, to whom I was introduced at $\frac{1}{2}$ after 2, having stayed a considerable time at the door of the Palace and in the inner court, for leave to advance. His Majesty sent out a message, that he would grant me permission to come before him with my shoes on; but I found the ceremony of kneeling, when the Generals paid their respects, was not to be dispensed with; and as it was on the occasion of getting my despatches, I was the less inclined to make difficulties. His Majesty detained me till about 5, discoursing on the subject of the great friendship he had for the English, the indulgences he had granted them, and what he intended doing; and then presented me with a ring, a sword, a gold chain with a breast jewel hanging to it, two pieces of Bengal Mullinulls, to the amount of about two hundred pagodahs, and some other trifles; promising to give me further marks of his favour on my return, and telling me he had given orders for my dispatch this day. He then gave me leave to withdraw, which I most willingly complied with. When we were returned into the verandah, the Generals, being assembled, told me the King had

appointed the General who met me at Caravetty and another Officer, to attend me as far as Cottiarum. I expressed the sense I had of the honour done me; and after telling the General I should wait on him whenever he sent me word he was ready, I took my leave, was attended home as usual, and by 6 o'clock I got to bed.

24th.— At $\frac{3}{4}$ past 10, came an Officer with a message from the King to acquaint me, that His Majesty had given orders for my immediate dispatch; that he was come to see my things sent away, and to accompany me; and at 11, we set out through the town to the northward; at the end of which I was desired to get into my pallankeen, which, as it was very hot, and the road very rocky, narrow, and troublesome to pass, I was very glad to do. About 1, we crossed the Ganga; and at 3, came to Caravetty, where I am to remain till the General who is to accompany me to Cottiarum joins me. A fine day, but blows fresh at south-west, and frequently heavy showers. We crossed the Ganga at the Putilan Pass, which is much to the northward of Gunnoor, by which we not only avoided a very troublesome hill, but came a much nearer road.

25th.—At Caravetty. All day waiting for the General who is to accompany me.

26th.—People bring their supplies, as usual. Waited here all day for the General who, about 6

in the evening, arrived. I walked a little way to meet him, and brought him to my apartment, where, after the usual ceremonial compliments, I desired he would forward a letter I had wrote, to advise the Admiral of my being set out, which he promised to comply with directly, but begged I would add to my dispatch that, as he had something to say to the Admiral from the King, from whom he had presents for him and the Governour of Madras, and did not choose to go on board his ship in Trincomalay harbour, to request the favour of him, to give him a meeting on board one of his ships on the Cottiarum side of the bay. I promised to comply with his request, and having taken my leave of him, added what he had desired to my letter to the Admiral, and sent it him to forward. Rain all day.

27th.—Set out from Caravetty at $\frac{3}{4}$ past 9 in the morning, and travelled the same way I came. Raining very hard the whole time, which rendered the roads almost impassable. The hill we crossed in this day's journey, which I have taken notice of in a preceding part of this Journal, was become so very slippery by the constant rain which had fallen, that it was with difficulty I could keep my feet, with the assistance of a person on each side to support me. My pallankeen bearers and other servants fell several times. Walked all this stage. More paddy on the ground than when I passed before. At 3 in

the afternoon, arrived at Oulang Gamee, where we slept this night.

28th.—Set out from Oulang Gamee at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10 in the morning, having first got liberty from the General to put my arched bamboo to my pallankeen, and arrived at Caravetty at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 in the evening. Hard squalls and very heavy rain the greatest part of the journey. Here, the General being arrived before me, waited to conduct me to the place prepared for my accommodation, which I found much more commodious than in my journey up. He then entered again upon a long harangue, of the many civilities which had been shewn me by the King; of the favours I had received from him; and what further I might expect on my return, agreeably to what he had promised at taking leave. I could have answered these fine speeches of his in a very few words; but as I was still in their power, it would not have been prudent. I therefore temporized, by pretending to be perfectly sensible how much favour had been shewn me, and how happy it would make me, should the Governour and Council of Madras think proper to nominate me for a second embassy to His Majesty. I have no great reason, however, to think he gave much credit to what I said; but he left me, seemingly well satisfied; and we rested here all night.

29th.—Set out from Caravetty at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 8 in the

morning, and arrived at Gonagey, in the woods, at $\frac{1}{4}$ past 5 in the evening. The country on this side Caravetty parched up, for want of rain,—not the least appearance of a drop having fallen since I passed this way. Accommodations better than when I called here in my journey up.

30th.—Set out from Gonagey at 7 in the morning, and arrived at Vishegalloo, by the side of Minary Lake, at 3 in the afternoon. Weather very hot. All the small runs of water taken notice of in the former part of my journey on this road, dried up. The water in Minary Lake fallen since I passed; but this is only visible towards the edges, where it is shallow. Slept at Vishegalloo all night.

July 1st.—Set out from Vishegalloo at 20 minutes past 6 in the morning, and arrived at Pangaranny at a $\frac{1}{4}$ before 5 in the evening. Pallankeen boys, servants, and attendants suffered extremely in this journey from thirst, the weather being excessively hot, and not a drop of water to be met with in the road after passing that branch of Minary River which I have noticed in a former part of this Journal. I made frequent application for a dooley for my linguist, and the General as often promised to furnish him with one; but whether this was thought too great an indulgence for him, or what other reason he might have for not doing it, I cannot tell, but the poor fellow was obliged to walk every step of the way.

2nd.—Set out from Pangaranny at 7 in the morning. In this road great part of the country overflowed by the freshes from the Mavali-Ganga; but for the want of inhabitants, and of industry in the few there are, no use is made of this great advantage. At 2 P. M., we came to the banks of this River, which runs with great rapidity, and had done so, we were told, for the last six weeks. The passage was very tedious and difficult, as there was only one small boat to carry us over, with our baggage and attendants. At 4, we got to the other side, and were carried about eight miles in the woods, where three or four sheds, made of boughs of trees were prepared for our accommodation this night. Not a house within ten miles of us. We reached this place, which is called Chittaur, about 7 o'clock, and it was with great difficulty I got a little supper by 9. Indeed, I never had more occasion for refreshment in my life, not having had any since 7 in the morning; and as I had been obliged to walk a great part of this day's journey, my spirits and strength were quite exhausted; and I found myself so much indisposed, that I had little hopes of being able to proceed the next day.

3rd.—Found myself much refreshed by a good night's rest; and this being my last day's journey, set out in good spirits at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 6 in the morning. Strong south-west winds, and weather extremely

hot ; and at 3 in the afternoon, arrived at the village of Moodoor, to my very great satisfaction. Here I found an Officer belonging to the Admiral's ship, who informed me, that Mr. Cornish had hoisted his Flag on board the "Falmouth," and was at anchor on the south side of the Bay, waiting for me; and at 4, came a boat from her, with another Officer, to inquire whether I was arrived; in which case, he was directed to wait on the General, with the Admiral's compliments, and to acquaint him that, having, in compliance with his request signified to him by me, come over to that side to give him a meeting, he should be glad to see him as early as he might choose to come off. I accordingly went with the Officer, to introduce him to the General, who being made acquainted with the Admiral's message, returned a very polite answer, and that he would be ready to wait on him at sun-rise in the morning. We then took our leave, and I accompanied the Officer off, having first promised the General to come on shore again in the morning, to attend him; and at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5, got on board the "Falmouth," where I had the pleasing satisfaction of finding, by a letter delivered me by the Admiral from the President, dated the 26th June, that by having made no conclusive promises or agreements in this negotiation, I had acted consistent with the plan so strenuously recommended there unto my observance.

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2nd.—At sun-rise, went ashore to meet the General and accompany him off. He was waiting for us; and about 8 o'clock, we got on board the "Falmouth." The Admiral saluted, and received him with great politeness. The General, in the name of the King, with many compliments, presented him with a ring, a gold chain, and a few other trifles of very inconsiderable value; telling him how much the King relied on the assistance and favour of the English, and of the great expectations he had of service from him and his ships. The Admiral answered only in general terms, that, as he was going to Madras, he should hear from the Governour and Council there what I had proposed, and the King's answers, and consult with them upon the measures necessary to be taken for establishing an alliance and friendship with his master; giving him to understand, at the same time, that he thought himself not well treated, in not having been furnished with fresh provisions for his ships, which the natives were willing to have supplied him with, had they received the King's leave for so doing. He seemed somewhat perplexed how to answer this complaint; but after a short pause, he told the Admiral, that if he could stay three or four days longer, he might depend upon being supplied. This, he was answered, could not be done, as the Admiral assured him he should get under sail the instant he returned. As

he expressed an inclination to go down below and view the ship, an Officer was ordered to attend him. He was very particular in his inquiries into every thing relating to the method of fighting and navigating, and took the length and breadth of her on each deck. His curiosity on these points being satisfied, he delivered the King's letter, with three boxes, to my charge, for the Governour, and took his leave about 11 o'clock, when he was again saluted, and we got under way, and stood out of the harbour soon after.

Abstract of the computed distances of each day's stage in the Journey to Candia.

	Miles.	
From Moodoor to Clevetty (Kilevetty) ...	13	
Clevetty to the banks of the Maveli Ganga 17	}	
Banks of the River to Soongavaley		20
(Soongavilloo) ...		
Soongavaley to Pangaranny (Pangurane) ...	21	
Pangaranny to Tritoly (Giritellai) ...	30	
Tritoly to Vishegalloo ...	5	
Vishegalloo to Nautchetolum (Nickawattawenne or Notchykolun) ...	23	
Nautchetolum to Gonagy (Gonawe) ...	6	
Gonagy to Caravetty (Kadawatte) ...	30	
Caravetty to Oulang-Gamee (Hoolangamowa)	25	
Oulang-Gamee to Canvetty (Kahawatte) ...	15	
Caravetty to Gunnoor (Ganooroowa) ...	12	
Gunnoor to Candia ...	7	
	Miles 207	



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