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of

Commissioners of Trade  
& Plantations

from

January 1749-50 to December 1753

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1723. ✓ April 1704 to Jan 1708-9 (1720) - Co. 391. 17-20  
✓ Feb 1708-9 to Mar 1714-15 (1725) - " 21-24.

Note Vol I of 1 printed Journals [April 1704 - Jan 1708-9] are for CO 391. 17-20  
Previous Journals are in C.S.P. Colonial.

- ✓ Mar 1714-15 to Oct 1718 (1724) References for Co. 391 25-27.  
✓ Nov 1718 to Dec 1722 (1725) " " " 28-31.  
✓ Jan 1722-3 to Dec 1728 (1728)  
✓ Jan 1728-9 to Dec 1734 (1728)  
✓ Jan 1734-5 to Dec 1741 (1730)  
✓ Jan 1741-2 to Dec 1749 (1731)  
✓ Jan 1749-50 to Dec 1753 (1732)  
1754 - 1758. (1733)  
1759 - 1763. (1735)  
1764 - 1767. (1736)  
1768 - 1775. (1737)  
1776 - 1782. (1738) The last Volume. Board liquidated, May 1782

Journal of Year 1749/50

1749-50  
 fo. 1-4  
 [Vol 58]

Monday, January 8. Present: - Earl of Halifax, Mr Pitt, Mr Grenville, Lord Dupplin, Mr Fane, Mr Townshend.

Trade.  
 Africa.

This day was appointed for taking into consideration / said proposals laid before / Board by / Royal African Co, / merchants of London, Bristol & Liverpool trading to Africa, & / gentlemen interested in & trading to / American Colonies, by / extension, improvement & carrying on / British trade to Africa, the Lordships proceeded therein; & was informed by Mr Vaughan, Sub Governor, Mr Grammond, Deputy Governor, & each of / Directors of / Royal African Co attended w<sup>th</sup>, they were called in; & was asked what they had to offer, they acquainted the Lordships, & since / proposal now before / Board from / African Co was given in, the had been a new election of Governor, Sub Governor & Deputy Governor, & directors of / sd Co, & by they had something to offer diff<sup>r</sup> from / purport of / sd former proposal, & therefore desired a few time to attend thereunto, which was agreed to by the Lordships, & Friday next, / 12<sup>th</sup> instant, was appointed for the purpose, when they were directed to attend; after w<sup>ch</sup> / merchants of London, Bristol & Liverpool trading to Africa, together w<sup>th</sup> / gentlemen interested in & trading to / American Colonies attended, & / letter from his Grace / Duke of Bedford, inclosed / resolution of / House of Lords from an address to his Majesty that he will give direct<sup>ions</sup> to this Board to prepare a scheme for / better security, improvement & extension / trade to Africa, & to lay / same before both Houses of Parliament, & signify his Majesty's commands to this Board do comply therewith, was read, as also / said proposals, which had been laid before / Board by / afore mentioned merchants of London, Bristol & Liverpool, / Royal African Co, & / gentlemen interested in & trading to / American Colonies; after w<sup>ch</sup> the Lordships acquainted / said parties attended, & they sh<sup>d</sup> proceed in / full consideration thereof on

Wednesday next, when they sh<sup>d</sup> be ready to hear what they h<sup>d</sup> to offer in support o<sup>r</sup> their respective proposals.

1749. 50.

Trade,  
Africa,

<sup>[p. 1-10]</sup> The said parties then desired they m<sup>t</sup> respectively h<sup>e</sup> copies o<sup>f</sup> sd<sup>d</sup> said proposals, w<sup>h</sup> was agreed to by / Board, & copies were accord<sup>g</sup>ly ordered to be made & delivered to them, & then they withdrew.

[Vol. 50]

6] Trade  
Africa

Wednesday, January 10. Present: - Earl o<sup>f</sup> Halifax, Mr Grenville, Lord Dupplin, Mr Fane, Mr Townshend.

This day beg<sup>d</sup> appointed f<sup>r</sup> hearing / arguments o<sup>f</sup> gentlemen interested in a trad<sup>e</sup> to / British American Colonies, & / merchants o<sup>f</sup> London, Bristol & Liverpool in support o<sup>f</sup> their respective proposals, f<sup>r</sup> / better secur<sup>e</sup>, extend<sup>e</sup> & improv<sup>e</sup> / trade to Africa, & / said parties attend<sup>e</sup> were call<sup>d</sup> in, & beg<sup>d</sup> acquainted by the Lordships & they w<sup>h</sup> w<sup>h</sup> first hear what these gentlemen, whose proposals were f<sup>r</sup> establish<sup>e</sup> / trade to Africa in a Co w<sup>h</sup> a joint Stock, h<sup>d</sup> to offer.

Mr Martin  
Mr Whitaker  
Mr Maynard  
Mr Spooner  
Mr Southwell  
Mr Fane  
Mr Harmer  
Mr Brevint  
Mr Hardman

Mr Martin, in behalf o<sup>f</sup> gentlemen interested in a trad<sup>e</sup> to / American Colonies, represented & he sh<sup>d</sup> offer sd<sup>d</sup> reasons to the Lordships in support o<sup>f</sup> a like Stock, & 1<sup>st</sup>: & a joint Stock w<sup>h</sup> a permanent interest in / profits, as / repositories & bullwark o<sup>f</sup> the trade, where they w<sup>h</sup> always h<sup>e</sup> goods ready f<sup>r</sup> demand; & an open Co beg<sup>d</sup> w<sup>h</sup> a Stock to cement the trad<sup>e</sup> interest, c<sup>d</sup> not furnish proper goods at all seasons f<sup>r</sup> / natives; & transient persons, not beg<sup>d</sup> there at all times, / natives w<sup>h</sup> apply to / Dutch & French; & a joint Stock Co w<sup>h</sup> [L<sup>ts</sup>, 15-16, S<sup>d</sup> 58] h<sup>e</sup> a constant open shop f<sup>r</sup> / natives, who come down w<sup>h</sup> slaves at all seasons; & a regulated Co w<sup>h</sup> be weak in trade, & w<sup>h</sup> h<sup>e</sup> no interest in preserv<sup>e</sup> / profits, & & therefore, / pleas<sup>e</sup> / advic<sup>n</sup> o<sup>f</sup> them in such hands m<sup>t</sup> be prejudicial; & / regulated Co

proposed were to be under no penalties of success of the trust, wh, therefore, they mt abuse by embezzlement & partiality in trade, when a joint stock for the own sake wd about all maladministration.

2<sup>nd</sup>: A joint stock was / only means of extending inland trade, by establish<sup>g</sup> inland factories, making alliances & gett<sup>g</sup> / respect of natives, wh private traders had no fund to do, & if / natives attacked / forts in one place, another wd not assist them, whereas, if all were under one direc<sup>n</sup>, it wd be impossible for one fort to be attacked w<sup>t</sup> receiv<sup>g</sup> assist<sup>ce</sup> fm / rest; & in answer to / question how to know if a regulated co will not succeed? He wd ask, how far an inland trade may be extended? If there was a large tract of country abound<sup>g</sup> w<sup>th</sup> gold, w<sup>o</sup>ry, dye woods, cotton, &c, / trade for wh mt be g<sup>o</sup>ly included by a co, & if / open<sup>g</sup> of such a trade wd be a g<sup>o</sup> & laudable int<sup>er</sup>prize, & mt be so far extended as to produce as much gold as / Spanish West<sup>nd</sup> Indies.

3<sup>rd</sup>: If by a joint stock co, multitudes of negroes wd be procured fm inland countries, / supply wherof wd be g<sup>o</sup>er & cheaper to / Colonies than w<sup>o</sup>ry, w<sup>t</sup> lessen<sup>g</sup> / profits of / private traders, who by buy<sup>g</sup> cheaper, wd be enabled to sell cheaper, & fm 20 to 30 per cent. wd be saved by dispatch only, & if this trade to / inland country wd be open<sup>ed</sup> w<sup>t</sup> interfer<sup>g</sup> w<sup>th</sup> / separate traders in the branch,

4<sup>thly</sup>: All / objec<sup>ts</sup> of / separate traders centred in one point, viz: - / apprehen<sup>s</sup> of co rais<sup>g</sup> a competi<sup>n</sup> whereby the profits will be lessened; & if such a competi<sup>n</sup> wd be a reciprocal advantage; & indeed a competi<sup>n</sup> betw<sup>en</sup> diff<sup>erent</sup> na<sup>tions</sup> was a rivalship of trade, wealth & power, wh was / case betw<sup>en</sup> ourselves, / Dutch & French; & these na<sup>tions</sup> give all possible encourage<sup>mt</sup> to the cos; & our Colonies stand upon / same foot<sup>g</sup> as these, & if not supplied w<sup>th</sup> Gold Coast

negroes, / French must h all / sugar trade, wch wd throw / ballance o power & wealth into  
the scale.

T, however, a competi<sup>n</sup> betwixt subjects o/ same prince, was / founda<sup>n</sup> o all perfec<sup>ns</sup> in  
trade & manufactures, & t no trade cd be carried on to extent w<sup>t</sup> a competi<sup>n</sup>; & therefore  
suppos<sup>d</sup> such a competi<sup>n</sup> was to exist, & / profits o/ separate traders thereby reduced fm  
100 to 50 per cent, it wd be so much advantage to / na<sup>n</sup>.

6] 1749-50  
to, 16-19  
Trade  
Africa

M<sup>r</sup> John Sharpe, in behalf o/ gentlemen interested in & tradg to / Colonies, represented  
to the lordsheps, t ths was one point, not mentioned by M<sup>r</sup> Martin, on wh he  
shd make some brief observ<sup>ns</sup>; viz: - / Trade to / Gold Coast, / negroes o wh  
were most valuable & absolutely necessary f<sup>r</sup> our Colonies, & unless the lordsheps  
shd be o opinion t a joint Stock Co shd be established, / planters g<sup>o</sup> up t  
trade as best; t / nature o/ trade is such as cannot be carried on w<sup>t</sup> a lg<sup>q</sup>  
quantity o goods always lodged upon / coast, bec / inland na<sup>n</sup> come down at  
diff<sup>t</sup> seasons in lge bodys, perhaps 4 or 500 miles, & want various sorts o goods, & if the be  
no supply, or, if they want twenty diff<sup>t</sup> sorts, & y h but sighten, they will not trade w y,  
but go over to / French; t / ships o separate traders h not always proper assortm<sup>ts</sup> & cannot  
always be thr, whereas a joint Stock Co wd always h trade thr; t ths so not bec exclusive  
cd not be disadvantageous to separate traders; or / contrary, t ths interests wd be mutual, & t  
it wd be f<sup>r</sup> / cos benefit to supply / separate traders w negroes; t dispatch wd be a g<sup>d</sup> advantage  
to separate traders, & t / co wd always h numbers o slaves to sell, & at cheaper rates than in  
/ common course o Slavs, & t / diff<sup>t</sup> to / Colonies in havg g<sup>d</sup> plenty & at reasonable rates wd  
be prodigious

T another national considera<sup>n</sup>, was t more manufactures were carried to / Gold Coast  
o whydah than all / rest o/ Coast.

\* Refer<sup>s</sup> to whydah?

~~The~~ T / inland Trade is o gr consequence, & cannot be carried on by separate Traders, & only by a Co; & no one cd say what advantages this mt be of; & if, therefore, this Trade to / Gold Coast is o so gr imp<sup>ca</sup>, it did require time to consider wh is / most proper method o settling it; & he asserted it cd not be carried on by separate Traders; & / negroes o d parts were not serviceable in / Colonies, & & he asserted / separate Traders had not for many years sent a single cargo o Gold Coast negroes, only to / Sugar Colonies; & / reason was obvious, bec they got negroes cheaper & sooner in / Windward coast; & if, / Gold Coast Trade had b'n neglected, if it was o more consequence in w<sup>ys</sup> respect than to / Windward, as well w respect to / consump<sup>n</sup> o our own manufactures as to / inability / Sugar Colonies to supply / markets, & / only way o import<sup>g</sup> / produce o Africa into Gr Britain, it was not to be doubted, but & a Co w a joint Stock was / only method; & this Trade cd not be carried on by separate Traders; & when all / proposals were considered, it wd appear & Trade cd not be carried on, but by a Co w a joint Stock; & some o / proposals say & no goods sh be admitted into / ports, if so, how cd / Trade be carried on; & if it sh'd be considered who were / diff<sup>r</sup> parties concerned, / planters o all / Sugar Colonies, who were most essentially concerned, & some few merchants o London, w those o Bristol & Liverpool; & it was to be weighed, wh most

[7] 60. 19-22. Vol 58.

1769-50

Trade.

Africa

likely to lay & scheme before / Board, wh wd most effectually tend to / national advantage. Planters say, Trade cannot be carried on, but by a Co w a joint Stock, & set o / merchants o London concerned concerned w them except in some Minutiae; & / interest o / planters was / most national interest, & & if / negro Trade was lost, / Colonies must be lost; therefore th' cd be no doubt wh was / most eligible, / Planters beg / gr object; & he spoke / some o all / planters in gen, who saw nothing but declin<sup>n</sup> in any establish<sup>mt</sup>, but a Co w a joint Stock; & as to such a Co beg a monopoly, it was improbable; & if, / Trade was only in one hand, th' mt be a monopoly; & as to any apprehens<sup>n</sup> o / Co's not

letting the separate traders to slaves at a reasonable rate, it was impossible, because it was / interest  
o / co to get them off their hands, & not to send them to / West Indies themselves; & if / trade  
was placed in / hands o / separate traders alone, they m<sup>d</sup> demand what price they pleased,

Mr Sharpe then proceeded to call several gentlemen interested in / Sugar Colonies, to give  
an acct to the Lordships o what they knew concerning / way o a proper supply o negroes in / s<sup>d</sup>  
Colonies.

Mr Whitaker sd, & as to / asser<sup>n</sup> in / de<sup>r</sup> report represent<sup>n</sup>, & more negroes h<sup>d</sup> b<sup>e</sup>n carried fm  
Anamaboe in one year than fm all o<sup>r</sup> parts o / Gold Coast is true; they did not tell / Board  
what the numbers were, & o what kind; & he wd assent to 9/10<sup>ths</sup> o Barbadoes & / o<sup>r</sup> planta<sup>n</sup>s  
were now distressed by Gold Coast negroes; & he was agent for several gentlemen in England,  
whose estates were gr<sup>ly</sup> w<sup>o</sup> stocked by want o Gold Coast & whydah slaves, & used to be  
imported twenty-five years since, & / supply o these sorts h<sup>d</sup> continued to decrease by  
twenty years; & / separate traders indeed do give out & the ships come fm / Gold Coast, but  
if / planters go abroad, they can never purchase above a 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> part & are really Gold  
Coast slaves, & & it was fling<sup>g</sup> the money away to buy others; & he sd give in / names o six  
persons who want 300 slaves each, had cash to stock their estates, but sd not get slaves;  
& himself wd willingly purchase 300 if to be got; & he remembered a ship o Captain  
Pigott, belong<sup>g</sup> to Mr Lascelles, & did br<sup>g</sup>, he believed, 500 Gold Coast slaves, wh were all  
sold in one day; & one reason why / Gold Coast trade was neglected, was because / separate  
traders know / Windward slaves die sooner; & there was no way but planters  
scheme o hav<sup>g</sup> slaves fm / Gold Coast; & / planters had rather give £40 for a Gold  
Coast slave than £20 for a Colabar; & / ships above mentioned belong<sup>g</sup> to Mr Lascelles  
sold her cargo for abt 36/10 a slave,

Mr Maynard sd, & he has both as an agent & by himself bot slaves fm whydah

in / time o / Floats factory, but t since t time ths were none to be bot; t he  
67 fo. 22-25 had given £25 f children for Whydah, when he m<sup>t</sup> h h<sup>d</sup> slaves o  
1749-50. Calabar, Angola, &c. f £25; t he remembered a cargo o slaves brot to  
Trade Barbados when he was ths, by separate traders & given on<sup>ly</sup> to the Gold Coast  
Africa slaves; t he offered to go on board & take 1 real Gold Coast slave at £40 per  
head; t he did go on board, found a few, & bot three Gold Coast slaves, two f  
£40 each, & one f £38; t not one in thirty o slaves brot by separate slave traders are real  
Gold Coast slaves; t it was / interest o / planters to give £40 f a Gold Coast slave, rather  
than £30 f / o<sup>r</sup> sort; t he had known 500 slaves come togs & not one Gold Coast slave  
amongst them.

Mr Martin sd t he was lately come fm / West Indies, where he had b<sup>en</sup> 18 months;  
months; t he was both at / Island o Antigua & St. Christophers, where ths was / same complaints  
f want o Gold Coast negroes; t himself wd willingly purchase a hundred if he cd get them; t  
durs his stay ths he cd not get above five real Gold Coast negroes; t / reason why / traders  
fm Bristol & Liverpool rather br<sup>g</sup> Calabars, &c., is bec they give but three or four o<sup>z</sup>;  
whereas they cannot get Gold Coast slaves f less than eight or ten, & therefore chuse to  
go to Calabar, &c., f / sake o g<sup>er</sup> profit; t / Angola & Calabar slaves were insufficient  
f our Colonies; t as to / Spaniards they considered only shape & beauty; t our Plant<sup>ns</sup>  
wd be ruined by them; t Mr Morris imported more Gold Coast negroes into our Colonies  
in two or three years, abt twenty-eight years ago, than all / merchants o Bristol or Liver-  
pool. t / co were disabled fm carry<sup>ng</sup> on / trade by / g<sup>t</sup> expense o / ports, & t / argu<sup>nts</sup>  
agt them were not good agt another upon a diff<sup>t</sup> establish<sup>mt</sup> as proposed by them o a  
co w a free trade

Mr Martin bes asked if / want o Gold Coast slaves in Antigua were fm any

diff<sup>r</sup> abt / price, or fm no slaves b<sup>e</sup>g offered, sd t no Gold Coast slaves were offered; & he<sup>s</sup>  
f<sup>u</sup>r<sup>u</sup> asked wh<sup>r</sup> upon any ships com<sup>g</sup> into Antigua & g<sup>o</sup>ing out t they had Gold Coast slaves,  
he w<sup>o</sup>ld w<sup>o</sup>nt on board & examined, he sd, he did not, but examined them when they  
came ashore.

Mr Grey acquainted th<sup>r</sup> lordships t he left Jamaica in 1746; t he left orders & also  
money to / am<sup>t</sup> o £5,000 to buy Gold Coast negroes, but has not b<sup>e</sup>n able to get more  
than twenty; t in / year 1740, indeed, Mr Labadie had three ships fm / Gold Coast; t all  
/ planters in Jamaica are in want o Gold Coast slaves.

They all alleged t no ship com<sup>g</sup> to / Colony w Gold Coast slaves w<sup>o</sup>ld w<sup>o</sup>nt off w<sup>o</sup> /  
slaves b<sup>e</sup>g purchased.

Mr Maynard sd, t one reason why Gold Coast slaves were more eligible, was t they  
find in / Colonies / same kind o food & liv<sup>g</sup> as in th<sup>r</sup> own country, wh<sup>r</sup> was, he apprehended,  
a g<sup>r</sup> advantage; b<sup>e</sup>g asked, wh<sup>r</sup> it was a fact, t few or no Gold Coast slaves h<sup>o</sup> w<sup>o</sup>ld b<sup>e</sup>n  
carried away fm Barbados, he sd, t, when / price has b<sup>e</sup>n extravagant, he  
believes they may h<sup>o</sup> b<sup>e</sup>n taken away.

9] fo. 25-28.

Vol 58

1749-50

Trade.

Africa.

Mr Martin sd, t it was usual f<sup>r</sup> ships to go <sup>fm</sup> one Colony to another  
to get / best price, but not one did so while he was th<sup>r</sup>, & t he w<sup>o</sup>ld g<sup>o</sup>ve  
h<sup>o</sup> g<sup>o</sup>ven £30 st<sup>r</sup>l<sup>g</sup> f<sup>r</sup> a slave o Gold Coast.

Captain Hill, called upon by Mr Sharpe to g<sup>o</sup>ve an acct to / Board  
o what he knew concern<sup>g</sup> / trade o / Gold Coast, acquainted th<sup>r</sup> lordships, t he had b<sup>e</sup>n many  
years concern<sup>d</sup> in / trade to Africa, & was master o a sloop in / year 1716; t / negroes on /  
Gold Coast are bro<sup>t</sup> down 4 or 500 miles; t they come down at diff<sup>r</sup> times & uncertain  
times, & if they find no English to trade, must go to / French, or Dutch; t they require  
more sorts o goods, than any one private ship can carry; t he had received protect<sup>n</sup> fm

1 / ports; & when he was concerned by private Orders of London, he carried out at one time £12,000  
& traded by 2,000 ounces of gold, & 400 slaves; & when he first entered into trade, 1 French  
had none on 1 Coast; & he had full assortment, but often wanted a better; & he had on Super cargo  
of seal ships; & there were more British manufactures carried to 1 Gold Coast than any other port;  
& 1/8<sup>th</sup> of 1<sup>st</sup> of 1<sup>st</sup> factory were in gold & teeth, & it not one-fifth used by other ways by brot  
home; he's asked, if in any year of his trade to 1 Coast, he ever was w<sup>th</sup> any considerable num-  
ber of Bristol & Liverpool ships trading to 1 Gold Coast w<sup>th</sup> proper assortment, he sd, he sd not say  
he was; & he's further asked, if 1 Bristol & Liverpool ships carried any slaves from 1 Gold Coast,  
he sd, he sd not say, as he was only a transient trader; & there was no trade at Whydah;  
& 1 trade from Bristol & Liverpool was greatly increased; & 1 French carry double cargoes, or  
unless some body or men undertake 1 trade it will be lost; & 1 Dutch ports are worse sup-  
plied w<sup>th</sup> goods now than heretofore, & when they began to fail in their supplies, they  
gave leave to interlopers to trade; & in his time 1 French did not use 1 Dutch ports, &  
seldom came to 1 leeward of 1 river.

1 he had sometimes gone on board ships, & were upon 1 Gold Coast during his be<sup>g</sup> there; &  
nobody can restrain 1 natives from going off to 1 ships; & 1 separate traders went chiefly to 1  
Windward & brot a half of their cargoes from thence; & he had in 1 course of his trade, be<sup>g</sup> upon 1  
Windward coast, where slaves were to be had cheaper; he's asked, what proportion of negroes he  
brot from 1 Windward coast, he sd, sometimes more, sometimes less; & 1 Windward slaves do not  
stand so well on board, & are not so good to 1 planters; he's asked, how long since he left off  
trading to 1 coast, he sd thirteen years; he was further asked what marks or distinc<sup>ts</sup> there are between  
negroes of 1 Gold Coast & those of 1 Windward; & sd 1 leeward slaves had part<sup>er</sup> marks; but  
& he had sometimes sold Windward slaves to 1 Gold Coast, 1 planters be<sup>g</sup> often deceived.

• basic?

10] fo. 28-31  
1749-50  
Trade  
Africa

T / manufactures used on / Gold Coast were perfect, serges & sayes  
hays, long ells & some few o / like quality, to / Windward, but t / goods  
f t trade were guns, gunpowder, brass, spirits, cloaths, shirts, checks, etc.;  
t as to / differ o price betwixt slaves o / Windward & those o / leeward coast, he  
c<sup>d</sup> not say exactly what it was, as / price differs accordg to / demand; t he  
never carried any Windward slaves to / Planta<sup>ns</sup>, his cargoes be<sup>g</sup> chiefly f / Gold Coast; t / method  
o trade was buff<sup>d</sup> / slaves o black factors, who got sometimes 10/ a negro, sometimes more; be<sup>g</sup>  
asked, wh<sup>r</sup>, if proper assort<sup>mts</sup> o goods were taken ont by ships tradg to / Gold Coast, wh he  
apprehended w<sup>d</sup> be / cheapest way o trade, he sd, he c<sup>d</sup> not tell, but was o opinion t /  
African Co<sup>s</sup> forts were o gr<sup>t</sup> utility, & never obstructed him, but on / contrary saved & pro-  
tected his goods; & be<sup>g</sup> fur<sup>r</sup> asked, wh<sup>r</sup> he apprehended a Trade m<sup>t</sup> not be carried on by a  
regulated co, & w<sup>d</sup> proper assort<sup>mts</sup>, he sd, t w<sup>d</sup> a capital, / Trade w<sup>d</sup> be lost, t any people  
w<sup>d</sup> a capital lodged on / coast m<sup>t</sup> carry on / Trade to / Gold Coast w<sup>d</sup> advantage, but not  
w<sup>d</sup> some joint Stock under one direc<sup>tn</sup>; T Mr Morris's ships amounted fm 6 to £12,000;  
t / floatg factory traded to gr<sup>t</sup> advantage than any one private trader; be<sup>g</sup> asked, if he  
knew what quantities o negroes / Planta<sup>ns</sup> were supplied w<sup>d</sup> by / floatg factory, he sd, he  
did not; t / Trade fm Arenabos to whydah was lost, & t / leeward coast trade was almost  
lost, & in his time / Bristol & Liverpool did not trade th<sup>r</sup>; he<sup>g</sup> asked, if / floatg factory traded  
w<sup>d</sup> / Portuguese, he sd they did f European goods; be<sup>g</sup> fur<sup>r</sup> asked, wh<sup>r</sup>, if a joint Stock Co was  
established, he did not think he c<sup>d</sup> carry on a trade w<sup>d</sup> / natives as well as w<sup>d</sup> it; he sd, he c<sup>d</sup>  
not see what c<sup>d</sup> obstruct it, & t it w<sup>d</sup> be o advantage if negroes c<sup>d</sup> be landed f fifteen or  
sixteen days, it w<sup>d</sup> save many o th<sup>r</sup> lives; t / co must take a proper price f / negroes;  
be<sup>g</sup> fur<sup>r</sup> asked, what capital he apprehended to be necessary f this trade, he sd abt  
£150,000, but t £300,000 w<sup>d</sup> be so much / better; t a gr<sup>t</sup> advantage w<sup>d</sup> arise to / separate

traders from a joint Stock Co by / say a demerage, / diff<sup>r</sup> whereof in one month wd be 10 per cent. so also from / co's buy<sup>g</sup> the refuse cargoes; & under ~~to~~ such a co / inland trade m<sup>t</sup> be the limited, wh wd be o advantage; beg<sup>d</sup> asked, wh<sup>r</sup> goods wd not spoil in 12<sup>m</sup> or twelve months, he sd, t they wd not, & m<sup>t</sup> be preserved both on board & on shore; he fur<sup>r</sup> sd, t it wd be more b<sup>y</sup> / interest o / co to sell the slaves to / separate traders, than report them themselves t the / price o negroes at / ports wd be half an ounce more than . . . , [sic], yet it wd be worth separate traders' while to give it; & / capital on / coast shd be from 50 to £80,000; t if / co was not allowed to sell negroes to / French & Portuguese, nobody wd subscribe;

11] fo. 31-34.

Vol. 58.

1749-50

Trade

Africa

shd sell only refuse negroes to / French; & a gr<sup>t</sup> advantage m<sup>t</sup> be made from import<sup>g</sup> rum on / coast, many o / natives wd give it / preference, Mr Martin then observed to the lordships, t he wd propose, in add<sup>n</sup> to / planters' scheme, t / co shd be limited not to trade w any foreigner, but / Portuguese, & t only b<sup>y</sup> tobacco & gold, & t / same restriction shd be laid on / separate traders.

As to / proposi<sup>n</sup> t / co shd be limited not to send any slaves to / West Indies, it was unreasonable; & / co shd not borrow money upon bond.

The lordships then acquainted / sev<sup>l</sup> parties t they shd proceed fur<sup>r</sup> in / considera<sup>n</sup> o this affair to-morrow m<sup>g</sup>, & shd be ready to hear what / merchants o London, whose proposal was in favour o a co w a joint Stock, hd to offer in support thereof & then all parties were ordered to withdraw

Thursday, January 11. Present: - Earl o Halifax, Mr Pitt, Mr Grenville, Lord Dupplin, Mr Fane, Mr Townshend.

Trade

Africa.

The merchants o London, whose proposals are in favour o an open

Trade, attendg, tog<sup>r</sup> w/ merchants o Bristol & Liverpool, & gentlemen interested in a  
Trade to / American Colonies. Mr Hardman acquainted the Lords<sup>hips</sup>, t he was author-  
ized by / merchants o London, whose scheme was in favour o a co w a joint Stock under  
resol<sup>ns</sup>, to acquaint / Board, t send o them beg out o Town, & <sup>tho</sup> engaged in business, they  
submitted the proposal to / Board's consider<sup>ns</sup>, hav<sup>g</sup> noth<sup>g</sup> to offer upon it.

Mr Ord then desired leave to lay before / Board some observ<sup>ns</sup> in support o / pro-  
posal fm / merchants o London in favour o an open trade, wh, beg granted, he observed, t he  
shd not, in what he hd to offer, confine himself alone to / London scheme, but desired it mt be  
understood t he spok<sup>e</sup> equally in favour o / Bristol & Liverpool proposals, all three beg upon /  
same principle, tho perhaps, differ<sup>d</sup> in some minute points.

He then laid before / Board an acct signed by / Secretary o / Island o Jamaica, o  
negro slaves imported into t Island yearly, fm / year 1702 to 1749. observ<sup>g</sup> t when 636  
numbers o negroes were imported into Jamaica, it was / same into 2 Islands.

Whereupon, he acquainted the Lords<sup>hips</sup>, t / reason o his produc<sup>g</sup> t acct, w<sup>o</sup> to shew  
how / Trade hd increased; t when / Trade was in an exclusive co / supply was v<sup>y</sup> small;  
t when / duty o 10 per cent<sup>o</sup> was laid on, it increased & flourish<sup>d</sup> still more at / expira<sup>o</sup> o it;  
t in 1718 & 1719 it was agr<sup>d</sup> a little stopp<sup>d</sup> by a piratical war upon / Coast; t in 1720 /  
South Sea Co made an agreem<sup>t</sup> w / Assiento contractors f 3,000 negroes annually; whereupon

12] fo. 34-34. / co sent out sixty or seventy sail, but they were not able to comply w /  
1749-50 contract, furnish<sup>g</sup> not above 1,000 annually, on wh / separate traders  
Trade. supplied them; t it appear<sup>d</sup> t in 1747 upwards o 10,000 negroes were  
Africa. imported into Jamaica, & t when he came fm Jamaica, abt six months  
since, they were then well supplied; fm whence it was evident t / separate  
traders were / only support<sup>o</sup> o / Trade, t altho' / co w a joint Stock now proposed was not to

be made exclusive, yet they wd certainly becom<sup>e</sup> so upon / Gold Coast, having / disposal o all  
Public money & / appoint<sup>m<sup>t</sup></sup> o their own officers, who wd certainly promote / interest o the  
principals in oppositi<sup>n</sup> to t<sup>e</sup> o / separate traders; t<sup>e</sup> it wd be / interest o such a co to buy goods  
fm separate traders as cheap, & sell the negroes as dear as possible; whereas it was plainly / interest  
o / separate traders to sell the goods as dear as they cd, & buy as cheap. T<sup>e</sup> it was proposed t<sup>e</sup> / co  
shd carry on trade by sendg out goods in their own ships, w<sup>ch</sup> a restriction not to send any negroes to /  
West Indies, but such as they cd not sell upon / coast or a limited number; t<sup>e</sup> it must therefore  
be considered t<sup>e</sup> the ships must return empty to g<sup>t</sup> disadvantage, wh<sup>ch</sup> wd enhance / price o goods,  
/ consequ<sup>nt</sup> o wh<sup>ch</sup> wd be t<sup>e</sup> / go wd, to obviate this disadvantage, raise / price o negroes upon /  
separate traders, by whom, if refused, they wd make it a pretex<sup>t</sup> o sendg them to / West Indies  
themselves; t<sup>e</sup> goods upon / coast are also liable to spoil, & cannot be kep<sup>t</sup> above six months;  
therefore the supply must be constant, but not b<sup>g</sup>, & as it frequently happens t<sup>e</sup> trade is inter-  
rupted on / Gold Coast by wars am<sup>g</sup> / natives, / goods must spoil f<sup>r</sup> want o sale; t<sup>e</sup> /  
Bristol & Liverpool people were not ag<sup>st</sup> a co, if they were only to h<sup>ave</sup> a liberty o trade w<sup>th</sup> any  
benefit fm / public money, nomina<sup>lly</sup> o officers or liberty o puttg goods into / forts; & t<sup>e</sup> be considered  
such a co. as not disadvantageous.

Too to what had b<sup>een</sup> set on inland trade, / gentlemen had not marked out any method o  
carryg it on, ~~it~~ t<sup>e</sup> it was impracticable to carry it on in any o<sup>r</sup> way than it is now carried  
on; t<sup>e</sup> if a co w<sup>as</sup> a joint stock was established, they wd be in competi<sup>n</sup>, w<sup>th</sup> / black factors,  
who at present carry on / trade betwixt / Ashanties & / ships, w<sup>ch</sup> a profit o abt two in season,  
but if / Ashanties come & trade under / forts wd afford / slaves f<sup>r</sup> six; t<sup>e</sup> it was impos-  
sible to trade at Whydah, the b<sup>est</sup> no number o negroes to be had, or if they were, /  
Portuguese, who give better prices, wd take them.

No want o Gold Coast negroes in / Islands, proved by a number o ships callg

at Barbados & d<sup>s</sup> Islands, & not find<sup>g</sup> a market, were obliged to go down to Jamaica.

T in 1748 / Phoebe w 230 Gold Coast negroes cd not sell them at Barbados & came down to Jamaica; in 1749 / Alexander w 350 Gold Coast negroes, except abt 60 purchased to Windward, offered her negroes for £24 sterling at St.

1749-50  
Vol. 58  
1749-50  
Trade,  
Africa.

Christophers, no one wd give t<sup>e</sup> price, so she came down to Jamaica. The Jamaica Packet w 350 slaves, half Gold Coast, half Windward, offered her cargoes at St. Christophers for £24 sterlg, cd not sell them, & came down to Jamaica. The Jenny, Capt. Derbyshire, w 470 negroes, 350 at least Gold Coast, cd not sell at Barbados, & came down to Jamaica.

The Alexander o Bristol, purchased 370 negroes, all except 50, on / Gold Coast, went to St. Kitts to sell at £24 per head, but got no price, tho at / same time Calabar negroes bore a price.

T / reason why t<sup>s</sup> slaves were not so plenty to Windward, as at Jamaica, was plainly therefore, t<sup>e</sup> they wd not give a price; t<sup>e</sup> he had lived long in Jamaica, had b<sup>n</sup> long in Trade, had purchased many negroes for exporta<sup>n</sup>; t<sup>e</sup> he had never indeed bot any Gold Coast negroes, but had b<sup>n</sup> offered them at a little higher price; t<sup>e</sup> as to Mr Greys sci- dence, he had heard t<sup>e</sup> his planta<sup>n</sup> was not only well ordered, but t<sup>e</sup> / slaves were fast so well as to contract disampers; t<sup>e</sup> he believed Gold Coast negroes were best so termed, but t<sup>e</sup> Windward slaves were, w<sup>h</sup> useful in many services. T Gold Coast negroes are fitter for labour, but at / same time, are o a dangerous rebellious dispos<sup>n</sup>, & promote disturbances, & there- fore it was necessary, for sake o security, to h<sup>d</sup>.

T he had had / care o two planta<sup>n</sup>, but never purchased any Gold Coast slaves, / o<sup>th</sup> always did w<sup>l</sup> well, & did not contract any disampers; t<sup>e</sup> Gold Coast negroes were not plenty at Jamaica, where traders can h<sup>e</sup> part o th<sup>r</sup> returns in money.

M<sup>r</sup> Briscoe, in behalf o / merchants o Bristol, represented to the Lordships / allers & to be  
b<sup>n</sup> made w regard to / Trade to Africa; t if an exclusive joint Stock Co was established,  
all / w<sup>t</sup> o his Majesty's subjects wd be excluded, & o<sup>r</sup> parts o / coast opened to / French; t as  
/ people o Annamaboe are factors betwixt / Ashantee & / ships, they will prevent any port  
be<sup>g</sup> created this; t if a joint Stock Co w<sup>t</sup> an exclusive right was established, / Trade wd  
still remain at Annamaboe; t if an open Co was established w<sup>t</sup> a joint Stock, / Trade  
wd be brot to / ships by Ashantee, who by receiv<sup>g</sup> a better price, wd be encouraged  
to be<sup>g</sup> slaves, wh now they sell to / French & Dutch.

↑ / Board o Trade in 1704, as appears fm a representa<sup>n</sup> then made <sup>by</sup> them, were o  
opinion,

"An open Trade w<sup>t</sup> just regula<sup>n</sup>, like t o / Turkey Co, or such o<sup>r</sup>, w<sup>d</sup> yo<sup>r</sup> Majesty  
" in Parliam<sup>t</sup> shd judge proper & necessary, will effectually prevent those  
" confu<sup>n</sup> & abuses in Traffick, wh usually do arise fm diff<sup>t</sup> & contending  
" interests in Trade, ~~and~~ t it will establish our credit w<sup>t</sup> / natives, pre-  
" vent / Trade fm fall<sup>g</sup> into / hands o o<sup>r</sup> n<sup>a</sup>ts, & we hope, may tend to /  
" / carry<sup>g</sup> on a more extensive Trade in Africa, to / increase o our  
" export<sup>n</sup> o / woolen & o<sup>r</sup> manufactures o this Kingdom. ↑ / Portuguese  
" formerly had a joint Stock, but he had altered t method, & we h<sup>ad</sup> a  
" sufficient experie<sup>n</sup> o both a joint Stock exclusive, & a joint Stock in / method  
" now proposed"

14] fo. 39-42.  
1749-50  
Trade,  
Africa

Tas to / inland Trade, it was chimerical, it be<sup>g</sup> impossible to carry goods up into  
/ country; no pason w<sup>d</sup> go<sup>g</sup> above ten miles fm / coast; t a noble fortune was sunk in  
an attempt o this sort; t nothing o this sort was ever done by / Co; t / charge o sett<sup>l</sup>  
factories in / country, wd, under such a scheme, be impossible, & w<sup>d</sup> make negroes excessively

at Barbados & d<sup>s</sup> Islands, & not find a market, were obliged to go down to Jamaica.

T in 1748 / Phoebe w 230 Gold Coast negroes cd not sell them at Barbados & came down to Jamaica; in 1749 / Alexander w 350 Gold Coast negroes, except abt 60  
 3] for 37-39 purchased to Windward, offered her negroes for £24 sterling at St.  
 Vol. 58 Christopher's, no one wd give t price, so she came down to Jamaica. The  
 1749-50 Jamaica Packet w 350 slaves, half Gold Coast, half Windward, offered  
 Trade, her cargoes at St. Christopher's for £24 sterl, cd not sell them, & came  
 Africa. down to Jamaica. The Jenny, Capt. Derbyshire, w 470 negroes, 350 at  
 least Gold Coast, cd not sell at Barbados, & came down to Jamaica.

The Alexander o Bristol, purchased 270 negroes, all except 50, on / Gold Coast, went to St. Kitts to sell at £24 per head, but got no price, tho at / same time Calabar negroes bore a price.

T / reason why t slaves were not so plenty to Windward, as at Jamaica, was plainly therefore, t they wd not give a price; t he had lived long in Jamaica, had b<sup>n</sup> long in trade, had purchased many negroes for export<sup>n</sup>; t he had never indeed bot any Gold Coast negroes, but had b<sup>n</sup> offered them at a little higher price; t as to Mr Greys sci- dence, he had heard t his plant<sup>n</sup> was not only well stocked, but t / slaves were fed so well as to contract distempers; t he believed Gold Coast negroes were best solemmed, but t Windward slaves were v<sup>y</sup> useful in many services. T Gold Coast negroes are fatter & better for labour, but at / some time, are o a dangerous rebellious dispos<sup>n</sup>, & promote disturbances, & there- fore it was necessary, for sake o security, to h d<sup>s</sup>.

T he had had / care o two plant<sup>n</sup>s, but never purchased any Gold Coast slaves, / do always did v<sup>y</sup> well, & did not contract any distempers; t Gold Coast negroes were not plenty at Jamaica, where traders can be paid o th<sup>r</sup> returns in money.

Mr Briscoe, in behalf o / merchants o Bristol, represented to the Lordship / allers & to be made w regard to / trade to Africa; & if an exclusive joint Stock Co was established, all / rest o his Majesty's subjects wd be excluded, & o' parts o / coast opened to / French; & as / people o Annamaboe are factors betwixt / Ashantee & / ships, they will prevent any fort be'g erected tho; & if a joint Stock Co w' an exclusive right was established, / trade wd still remain at Annamaboe; & if an open Co was established w' a joint Stock, / trade wd be brot to / ships by Ashantees, who by receiv'g a better price, wd be encouraged to buy slaves, wh now they sell to / French & Dutch.

T / Board o Trade in 1704, as appears fm a representation made by them, were o opinion,

- "T an open trade w' just regula<sup>ns</sup>, like t o / Turkey Co, or such o', w' y<sup>r</sup> Majesty
- "in Parliam<sup>ts</sup> shd judge proper & necessary, with effectually prevent those
- "confus<sup>ns</sup> & abuses in traffick, wh usually do arise fm diff<sup>t</sup> & content'ds
- "interests in trade, ~~and~~ & it will establish our credit w' natives, pre-
- "vent / trade fm fall'g into / hands o o' nats, & we hope, may tend to /
- "carry'g on a more extensive trade in Africa, to / increase o our
- "export<sup>ns</sup> o / woollen & o' manufactures o this Kingdom. T / Portuguese
- "formerly had a joint Stock, but had now altered t method, T we had a
- "sufficient experience o both a joint Stock exclusive, & a joint Stock in / method
- "now proposed"

14] fo. 39-62.  
1749-50  
Trade,  
Africa

Tas to / inland trade, it was chimerical, it be'g impossible to carry goods up into / country; no pason w'd go'g abov' ten miles fm / coast; & a noble fortune was sunk in an attempt o this sort; & nothing o this sort wd ever be done by / Co; & / charge o sett'g factories in / country, wd, under such a scheme, be impossible, & w'd make negroes excessively

• Dahomey?

dear; t as to gold & produce, all t can be procured is brot down to / cost.

T as to / whydah trade, it does appear t in / year 1738, 6,000 negroes were exported fr thence, but it has decreased w<sup>y</sup> year since, occasioned by / tyranny o / King o Domo, who has destroyed & depopulated / na<sup>os</sup>; t / high duties thr m<sup>o</sup> / cost o a slave am<sup>t</sup> to £16 ster<sup>l</sup>s, & besides, / Portuguese give a higher price than t, f slaves to work in the mines.

T small quantities o British manufactures are vendd thr, except guns & gunpowder; t / principal articles o trade are tobacco, brandy, silken<sup>s</sup> & iron bars, T / Dutch had a factory thr in 1734, but h quitted it entirely, findg / trade w<sup>d</sup> disadvantageous

T as to / complaint o not beg supplied w Gold Coast negroes, they h always got as many as they cd purchase, & more ships h bn sent thither than negroes cd be had f.

T / ship St. Philip o London, & Truston o Bristol, h bn upon / Gold Coast eighteen months f 900 slaves, but / last advices say, they h not bn able to purchase near the quantity.

T / method o ships tradg to / Gold Coast is to pick up a few slaves to Windward, but t not one-fifth o / cargo is purchased thr, / rest beg purchased at Amam abor & on / Gold Coast.

T as to what h<sup>d</sup> bn sd o / little value o Windward slaves, this was w<sup>d</sup> little differ in / price given by / planters, & t in / Leeward Islands no encouragement was given to sell them.

T accordg to / best comput<sup>n</sup> t cd be made o / number o slaves necessary f / Planta<sup>os</sup>, they require as follows:-

Jamaica at a medium o 25 years	4,480	
Barbados at a medium o three years	1,700	
Antigua	1,400	
St. Christopher	1,200	
Montserrat	925	
Nevis	925	
In all	<u>8,050</u>	[365]

North America ab<sup>t</sup> 3,000.

15] fo. 42-45.  
Vol 58.  
1749-50.  
Trade.  
Africa.

It appeared by a list of ships belongg to Bristol & number of slaves brot for / Windward & Gold Coast in one year amounted to 5180, & by a like list fm Liverpool & number brot by them was 4040

Mr Hardman, in behalf of merchants of Liverpool, represented, & he considered / arguments made use of in support of a co w a joint Stock as reducible to / five followg heads, viz:—

- 1<sup>st</sup>. The extendg & improvg / trade of Gold Coast.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>. The havg supplies of goods at / ports.
- 3<sup>rd</sup>. The towns protected & paths kept open.
- 4<sup>th</sup>. The carryg on an inland trade.
- 5<sup>th</sup>. The makg alliances w / natives.

As to / first, / trade of Gold Coast was never higher than now, & number of ships belongg to Liverpool, tradg to Africa, was seventy-five, twenty-eight whereof was for / Windward & Gold Coast. Forty-seven ships traded fm Bristol to Africa, seventeen whereof were for / Windward & Gold Coast. Six traded fm Chester, Lancaster, Glasgow, Plymouth, & six, as it was supposed, fm London; & besides those, there were supposed to be abt twenty fm America, the havg, accordg to / last advices fm Sierra Leone, nine Rhode Island ships passd by & place; & above mentioned twenty-eight Liverpool ships tradg to / Windward & Gold Coast go for abt 7,340 negroes, & / seven from Bristol ships of 5,180, makg togt 12,220 negroes.

Accordg to / best computation to be made for / list of negroes imported into / Sugar Colonies or / number of hogsheds of sugar made in each Island, / number of negroes annually required of each Island was as followg, viz:—

Jamaica at a medium o saluten years ..	4,782
Barbadoes f three years last past ..	1,400
Antigua .. .. .. .. ..	1,400
St. Christophers .. .. .. ..	1,200
Nevis .. .. .. .. ..	936
Montserrat .. .. .. .. ..	936

In all .. 8,060 (sic).

Tas no Gold Coast negroes were wanted f / Northern Colonies, he shd distinguish them separately & compute them at abt 3,000.

Mr Hardman then laid before / Board / followg papers, viz: -

List o ships belongg to / port o Liverpool in / African trade, 1749.

List o ships employd in / trade to Africa fm / port o Bristol, 1749.

A comput<sup>n</sup> o negroes requir'd f / use o American Plantat<sup>ns</sup>.

T six o / aforementioned ships fm Liverpool to Africa traded at / River Gambia, Tas to

16.] 60.45-48. / purpos<sup>n</sup> o Gold Coast negroes, he must acquaint the Lordsheps t fm  
 1749-50 may to September, 1748, / Snow Phebe, Captain Lawson, purchased  
 Trade. 251 negroes, 76 whereof to Windward, 170 at Annamaboe, & 5 at  
 Africa Commenda; t in / same time / Jenny, Captain Derbyshire, pur-  
 chased 513 negroes, 60 whereof to Windward, 452 at Annamaboe,

& 1 at Cape Coast; t fm February to January 1749 [sic], / Ellis & Pickett, Captain  
 Robinson, purchased 319, 307 whereof at Annamaboe 12 at Cape Coast & none  
 to Windward; t / negroes upm / Windward Coast are better than any, except / Gold  
 Coast, may be preferred in / Plantat<sup>ns</sup> to Gold Coast f many services.

Tas to / diffe<sup>r</sup> o goods & manufactures sold on / Windward & Gold Coast, / Sold

Coast indeed required more w<sup>o</sup>ollen goods, but / Windward a g<sup>th</sup> variety, such as iron bars, buffs, callicoes, chiffons, guns, gunpowder, nissanses, etc., & / produce o / Windward coast was no less valuable, consist<sup>g</sup> o various sorts, such as beer-wax, guinea grain, etc.

As to / second point, viz: - & / forts wd be supplied w goods better by a co.

He must observe & if / scheme o / separate traders was established, more goods wd be sent out than by a joint Stock Co; & many persons wd go & settle th<sup>r</sup>, as they h already done upon / Windward coast; & settlem<sup>ts</sup> mt then be made amongst / natives, & owners o ships wd send people to settle; & it wd ~~then~~ be more eligible to / negroes, as all trade wd then be free, & & / reason why all / trade now centred at Anamaboe was bec / present Co was a monopoly, watch<sup>g</sup> / negroes to prevent th<sup>r</sup> trad<sup>g</sup> w / ships, & seiz<sup>g</sup> th<sup>r</sup> goods, if detected; & if / goods were kept upon / coast, they wd in a little time become ten per cent. worse, whereas ships wd always be ready w proper equipments; & as to / forts protect<sup>g</sup> / th<sup>r</sup>ms, it wd be better done by an open co, w / same priviledges as to / forts, & / same aids fm Parliam<sup>nt</sup> & / support o them; & complaints h bn made o / Co's pass<sup>g</sup> no acct<sup>s</sup>, wh, under / regulat<sup>ns</sup> proposed by / separate traders, mt be depended upon, & & / money wd be laid out upon / forts only.

As to argum<sup>ts</sup> & / trad<sup>g</sup> paths wd be better kept open by a joint Stock Co, experience h<sup>d</sup> already shewn & a Co h not carried on any trade; & as to alliances w / natives it was absolutely chimerical & an impossib<sup>l</sup>; & as to / settl<sup>g</sup> & an inland trade mt be extended, all trade carried on upon / coast was inland trade, & & if / coast trade was extended / inland trade wd be likewise extended; & as to settl<sup>g</sup> a trade within / land it was impracticable, & altho such an attempt h<sup>d</sup> bn made by a late noble duke, y<sup>t</sup> to his g<sup>th</sup> cost he found it impracticable.

T / scheme o a joint Stock Co, as proposed, wd not be carried into execu<sup>n</sup>, in as

much as no person sh<sup>d</sup> engage in such a co if th<sup>r</sup> was no liberty o carry<sup>g</sup> negroes to /  
17] fo. 48-50.  
Vol 58,  
1749-50.  
Trade,  
Africa,

Plantations, or only a small limited number being allow<sup>d</sup> not more than  
2,000, while / rest must be sold to / separate traders or / French.

T besides, such a co must frequently refill th<sup>r</sup> ships w<sup>th</sup> goods, & t if /  
ships they sent out for this purpose did not go to / West Indies, they must  
return empty; t it must be a joint stock w<sup>th</sup> any restric<sup>ns</sup>, or else / scheme  
impracticable; t if / co be allowed to carry negroes to / Plantations, they will

carry / best & sell / West to / separate traders; t they may also sell to / French, & so throw  
/ trade into th<sup>r</sup> hands; t when / present African Co traded, they carried / best slaves to /  
Plantations, & sold / West to / separate traders; t a joint stock Co wd also deny / use o /  
ports to / separate traders; t it wd also be a monopoly, since it was proposed t / co sh<sup>d</sup>  
buy / negroes & sell them to / separate traders; & y<sup>et</sup> must depend upon / establish<sup>mt</sup> of make,  
what<sup>r</sup> it be; t / money granted by Parliamt wd be laid out w<sup>th</sup> g<sup>tr</sup> frugality accordg to  
/ Plan o / bill brot into Parliamt last year; t as to / privileges, wh<sup>ch</sup> it h<sup>d</sup> bn sd / French  
give to th<sup>r</sup> co, / represent<sup>n</sup> o / Council o Commerce in / year 1720 plainly shew<sup>d</sup> th<sup>r</sup>  
opinion was ag<sup>st</sup> a co; t he sh<sup>d</sup> now take some notice o sev<sup>l</sup> disadvantages, wh<sup>ch</sup> he ap-  
prehended attend<sup>d</sup> th<sup>r</sup> trade to Africa; t a ninth or tenth o w<sup>th</sup> cargo consisted o  
Indian goods & o<sup>r</sup> goods, / prices o wh<sup>ch</sup> were g<sup>tr</sup> advanced; t India prices were ad-  
vanced such<sup>ly</sup> per cent<sup>o</sup>; t gun powder was 50 s. / pound in Holland & £3-10 s  
here, he wd therefore propose t, when th<sup>r</sup> was any want o these sort o goods, th<sup>r</sup> m<sup>t</sup>  
be a liberty o importg them from Holland.

T / Dutch & French h<sup>d</sup> always constant supplies, / traders in France to Africa  
hav<sup>g</sup> gr<sup>t</sup> privilidges, such as free import<sup>n</sup> & export<sup>n</sup>, whereby they were enabled  
to give a better price for th<sup>r</sup> negroes, & sell them better in / West Indies; t /

division o / French now made / ports necessary, & / best method o preventing them to / nav<sup>n</sup>  
was by / separate traders; & / if monopolies were now / ques<sup>n</sup>, it sh<sup>d</sup> be considered how gr<sup>t</sup>  
advantages / French h<sup>d</sup> over us in the Canada trade, Turkey trade, African trade, & South Sea,  
wh by us are carried on in Co<sup>s</sup>; & / French had a floatg factory at Angola; & / if any persons  
had a desire o trade w a joint Stock, he knew o no law ag<sup>t</sup> it; & / advantages o having / trade  
open will be, & / Colonies will be supplied cheaper & better; & / experience o four score years  
has shewn, & / there was no supply at all, & / therefore there was no way left open but to leave  
/ trade open; & / as to / planters, who were / proposers o a co w a joint Stock, they did  
not understand / nature o / trade; & / our ports sh<sup>d</sup> carry on / trade for ten per cent.  
cheaper than a co.

Mr Hardman beg asked wh<sup>r</sup> / people o Liverpool traded to / Gold Coast more  
18] 60, 51-53. lately than heretofore, he sd & / twenty years since they had but two  
1749-50. twenty ships in trade, but a gr<sup>t</sup> prop<sup>n</sup> o these traded to / Gold  
Trade. Coast than do now, hav<sup>g</sup> bn discouraged by / floatg factory & /  
Africa. French, who were able to give a better price,

Mr Hardman then called Captain Campbell to give an acct o /  
state o / Windward & Coast trade; who acquainted / Board, & / he had bn eight voyages to Africa  
fm Liverpool, & / first o these he went to Cape Coast & / second to / floatg factory, but met w  
discourage<sup>m<sup>t</sup></sup> there, / French, who never traded before, hav<sup>g</sup> then eight ships trad<sup>g</sup> w them;  
& / there were twenty-five English people at Bannamas & / they had driven / French fm Bissaw;  
& / African co had once a factory at Sherborough, but they deserted it, since wh /  
trade has bn gr<sup>tly</sup> extended by private adventurers; & / slaves to / northward o  
Serra Leone was as good as any, & / chose rather than o<sup>r</sup> f-porters, barrat men,  
&c.; & / Portuguese like them as well as any, & / they were often sold as Gold Coast

slaves; & thr were fifty capital places before ships went to Windward; & out o' eight voyages he made, he never missed but once o' go's upon / Gold Coast & then he sent a tender down, & t' one-third o' his cargo was gently Gold Coast slaves; & it hd bn recommended to him to brng Windward slaves to Barbados. T gently two-thirds o' cargoes o' Bristol ships consist o' Gold Coast slaves, but he cd not tell / reason o' this diff<sup>r</sup> betwixt Liverpool & Bristol; & they hd diff<sup>r</sup> cargoes b' Gold Coast; & they hd a particular aversion<sup>th</sup> as for down as Annamaboe; & thr cargoes were gently mixed, & t' half o' them upon an average were sorted b' / Gold Coast; & he never heard / planters complain o' any want o' Gold Coast slaves, but has heard traders complain o' want o' markets, & has known o' a cargo o' slaves sold at Barbados f' £16 round, tho' many Gold Coast slaves amng<sup>t</sup> them; & himself sold a cargo at £18 round in / year 1739; & / price b' Gold Coast slaves upon / spot was fm £8 to £10 & £4 b' Windward slaves upon an average; & he hd sold a cargo o' Gold Coast slaves, not w<sup>t</sup> a mixture o' Windward ones f' £38. T / limited price in time o' war was £24; & he cd not say what / price o' slaves were, never had<sup>t</sup> traded thr [sic], but t' he believed they were sold fm £22 to £25 when o<sup>th</sup> were sold f' £24.

Mr Hardman then laid before / Board / follow'g paper wh was read, viz: -

An acct o' price slaves sold f' in / Plantat<sup>n</sup> in 1748 & 1749.

Mr Campbell then proceeded to inform / Board & thr was a species o' slaves purchased [French at Annamaboe] at Annamaboe called Duncos, & some people cd distinguish these fm o<sup>th</sup> tho' not gently; & / French rather chose them than Cormantees, wh man as well as / ..... [sic] were almost exhaupted, & t' he gently gave / same price b' them if equally good, & has sold them to / French at Barbados, who came thr to purchase.

17] fo. 53-54.

Vol. 58.

1749-50

Trade.

Africa.

Tobacco

~~Windsward~~

whereupon Mr Maynard acquainted the Lordships, & / slaves sold to / French at Barbados were only refused slaves, Mr Campbell beg<sup>d</sup> asked if he was refused slaves by / float<sup>s</sup> factory; sd he never applied to them for slaves himself; & / reason o his bea<sup>g</sup> / Gold Coast trade was & / price o slaves was advanced for five to eight; & / trade was ingrossed by / float<sup>s</sup> factory, who employed small vessels & traded w<sup>th</sup> Brazil

beg<sup>d</sup> asked, if, when he had a cargo o Windsward slaves to sell in / Planta<sup>s</sup>, he did not give them out to be Gold Coast slaves, he sd, he did not, but gently declared & he came from Windsward & Gold Coast, but believes it is customary for Captains who h<sup>ave</sup> only one-third o cargo Gold Coast slaves, to advertise / whole as such, but & purchasers always knew / diff<sup>er</sup>. Mr third man then called Captain Hughes to give the Lordships an acct o this trade; who acquainted / Board, & in / year 1740 he was master o a vessel belong<sup>g</sup> to Alderman Gildart<sup>son</sup>, & went out w<sup>th</sup> a cargo, two-thirds o wh<sup>ich</sup> was assorted by / Gold Coast, & he offered / float<sup>s</sup> factory six & seven ounces of slaves, wh<sup>ich</sup> they refused, beg<sup>d</sup> in contract w<sup>th</sup> French, whom they sd gave them nine & ten ounces, wh<sup>ich</sup> was more than he cd afford to give so as to get any profit in / West Indies, but & it wd<sup>d</sup> be on a gr<sup>eat</sup> advantage to him to h<sup>ave</sup> be<sup>en</sup> supplied w<sup>th</sup> & time.

The said parties were then ordered to withdraw, & desired to attend ag<sup>ain</sup> to-morrow, when the Lordships agreed to proceed in / fu<sup>ll</sup> considera<sup>n</sup> o this affair

Friday, January 12. Present: - Earl o Halifax, Mr Pitt, Mr Grenville, Lord Dupplin, Mr Fane, Mr Townshend.

The Lordships, pursuant to yest<sup>er</sup>'s minutes, took into considera<sup>n</sup> / argum<sup>ts</sup> o / gentlemen interested in & trad<sup>g</sup> to / British Colonies in America, & o / merchants o London, Bristol & Liverpool, in support o the respective proposals for extend<sup>g</sup> & improv<sup>g</sup> / Trade to Africa.

Mr Hardman, in full support o / proposal ~~at~~ made by / merchants o Liverpool, called Captain Lugmen to give an acct o what he knew o / trade to / Gold Coast; who acquainted / Board, t he hd br nine voyages to / Gold Coast, & hd purchased abt ~~2,300~~ 2,300 slaves, 50 o wch in each voyage were Windward slaves, quantity four-fifths o cargo fm leeward; t slaves are brot down fm / inland parts to / Gold Coast; t twice when he was at Anamaboe there were no s<sup>d</sup> ships there; t / Ashantee are good slaves, but he's not upon / coast; t s<sup>d</sup> ships arrived before his departure fm Anamaboe; t negroes carry slaves where they can h. / best price; t ships give better price than / forts; t separate traders are hindered by / Cob servants fm trading on shore; t his ship lay under / guns o / forts; t he saw Mr Crichton give four or five annies f slaves each, & afterwards paid him six annies; & he hd bot them o / natives cheaper, if permitted; t he hd applied f liberty f / negroes to some off to him in 1746, & then only, & was permitted; t he began to trade in those parts in 1733; t / French before / war frequently traded w / Dutch forts; t / natives rather take five, if / forts hd assortment o just such goods as they want, than sell o / ships; t ships may be protected at Cape Coast & Accra; t ships o burthen may come near / forts o Cape Coast, or Accra & Diccove; t in / course o trade when near Gold Coast, he never met w any ships o Liverpool; gen<sup>ly</sup> met them at Accra or Diccove; t / number o ships fm Bristol is g<sup>r</sup> than t fm Liverpool; t he hd once br on / Gold Coast when there were no Bristol ships there, but some came down before he left it; t / Windward coast is dangerous & inconvenient in rainy season.

Mr (Hill) acquainted / Board, t he hd stopped three voyages at Barbados, & once in at St. Christophers; t / stated price o negroes was £19; t he got prov<sup>t</sup> fm books t he got no price f Gold Coast slaves at / leeward Islands; t if fortunes were settled.

g<sup>t</sup> advantages wd be gained on / French; t / French trade w brandy; t he hd bot slaves once at  
Whydah, but they were only / refuse o / Porteguese, who hd / entire trade thr, he g asked as to  
allies w / slaves, sd, / floatg factory hd never made any allies & hd no occa<sup>n</sup> of any; sd, t separate  
traders, if they hd / liberty o forts & sd settle under them, sd supply / Colonias w g<sup>n</sup> number o slaves;  
t / slaves he hd offered to sale at St Christopher's at £19 per head, were four-fifths taken in at /  
Gold Coast; & two-thirds right Gold Coast slaves; t in 1736 he hd offered them at Barbados at  
£20 or ~~22~~ 22, but t he sd not sell them thr, Captain Hill he g asked, what cargo Mr. Sufsumer  
carried to Whydah, sd it consisted o gun powder, India goods, Cadiz, Sileziab.

Mr Obbley lived at St. Christopher's, left / Island abt six years; since factor of merchants  
trading to Africa, sent ships consigned to him, sent sent down to Jamaica of want o price of  
negroes; price not limited; believes t sent ships consigned to d people went away of want o  
sale; never heard any complaint of want o slaves, not of want o Gold Coast slaves;  
Gold Coast slaves did not bear propor<sup>n</sup> to d<sup>s</sup>; cannot tell what propor<sup>n</sup> Gold Coast negroes  
bear, better price; planters chuse them, but do as good of sent purposes, of porters, etc., g<sup>t</sup>  
supply at St. Christopher's at / time Assiento so hd thr supply.

Mr Woodcock has a planta<sup>n</sup> in Jamaica; 250 negroes; 100 Creoles, 80 Gold Coast neg<sup>s</sup>,  
Ebors, Calabars etc.; chooses a mixture; Gold Coast negroes a dangerous people; rebellion in  
Jamaica raised by them; g<sup>n</sup> plenty in Jamaica than ever; believes planters are well  
satisfied; he sd always k Gold Coast negroes, when wanted, at a reasonable price; factors  
in Jamaica of supply of Spaniards, chuse Angola negroes. His planta<sup>n</sup> 1,500 acres,  
300 acres planted, number o negroes sufficient; never lost any Ebor slaves,  
but by old age; always treated them well.  
Question: did ever hear any planter complain of want o Gold Coast slaves?  
Has heard some; some people chuse Calabar negroes, some Gold Coast; in gun

21] to. 60-62.  
Vol. 58.  
1749-50  
Trade.  
Africa.

believes they wd rather chuse a majority o Gold Coast negroes; has heard in gen a desire o fur supply o Gold Coast negroes; hitherto believes supply equal to demand.

Question; how much o Jamaica of unculivated, & if unculivated, of want o negroes? Gt deal unculivated, but not of want o negroes; sum of trade improved.

Mr Gregory, an officer o/ cos, lived at Whydah seven years, in 1732, 6,000 slaves sent fm thence; decreased w/ year since; country depopulated; impossible to carry on any trade thr w advantage; negroes o b place sold by £22 sterlg; country depopulated 2 or 300 miles up; cos officers never allow black traders to go off to ships, if detected, goods seized; no separate traders at Whydah while he was thr; duties at Whydah excessive.

Captain Smyth traded to Africa witten voyages; at Gambia in three Governors' times; in Governor Plunkett's time was thr; offered to contract w him; Governor refused; wd not permit him to go up river to trade slave; told him he wd sink his ship, if he attempted it; did go up; shallop came up fm fort to overbid him.

King William galley o Bristol, upon apprehen<sup>n</sup> o pirates, desired protec<sup>n</sup> o Cape Coast; offered two ounces; refused protection, unless he wd give two marks; £64 sterlg; he carried slaves to leeward Islands; one cargo sold; shrs by £17, sold coast by £19.

Seven Bristol ships w a mixture o Gold Coast & Windward slaves went to Jamaica in 1736; cd not sell them; lay thr sail months; obliged to go to the parishes, & sell them to gt disadvantage.

Post meridian

Persons; - Earl o Halifax, Mr Pitt, Mr Grenville, Lord Dupplin, Mr Fame, Mr Townshend.

Trade  
Memo. The Sub Governor, Deputy Governor & sev<sup>l</sup> o/ directors o/ Royal African Co attendg, they, pursuant to / minutes o Monday last, laid before / Board a memorial containg proposals, f/ extendg, improvg & carryg on / Trade to Africa, wh have b<sup>n</sup> read;

Mr Newland, the solicitor, did, in / name o/ African Co, propose t a Joint Stock be raised f/ support o/ forts in a respectable state o defence, to carry on a sufficient inland trade & keep up / supply o negroes; he observed, t / present situa<sup>n</sup> o/ forts was not / strongest reason in favour o a Joint Stock; thence / proceedg<sup>s</sup> o / co for its estab<sup>l</sup>ish<sup>m</sup>t; t an exclusive charter had b<sup>n</sup> granted to them; t they had purchased sev<sup>l</sup> forts & built o<sup>r</sup>s; t fm / gold brot fm / Gold Coast in / first 25 years, 496,019 guineas had b<sup>n</sup> coined; before wh time this was no such denomina<sup>n</sup> as t o guineas; t upon the meetg<sup>s</sup> w interrupt<sup>n</sup> in 1689, they made applica<sup>n</sup> to Parliam<sup>t</sup>; t after sev<sup>l</sup> disputes betw<sup>n</sup> / co & / separate traders a Bill passed in 1689 f/ openg / trade, & / co were to h a considera<sup>n</sup> by duty o ten per cent<sup>o</sup> for fourteen years, but this did not answer expecta<sup>n</sup>, f/ duty amounted to £45,000 only; / expence o forts was some years 36,000, 26,000, 24,000, & since 1708 (commodibus communibus annis) 17,000, T fm 1712 to 1730 no allow<sup>ce</sup> had b<sup>n</sup> made to / co; a debt beg due to them, they applied to Parliam<sup>t</sup> in 1730, & £10,000 were granted f/ many years; in 1743 or 1744 upon applica<sup>n</sup> to Parliam<sup>t</sup> f/ £20,000, / House o Commons reported t / co derg<sup>s</sup> / time o / allow<sup>ce</sup> o £10,000 laid out only £100,000 more than they received; as to assist<sup>n</sup> g<sup>iv</sup>n to separate traders, he sd t / co had given orders f/ assist<sup>n</sup> & supply o necessaries, & t thirty-four artificers o Captains o ships assertg this had b<sup>n</sup> laid before Parliam<sup>t</sup>; then proposed an act f/ £20,000 per annum, & t a new stock o £200,000 f/ carryg on / Trade be raised, on<sup>l</sup> o / profits o wh creditors m<sup>t</sup> be satisfied

Mr Crammond then observed t if £20,000 were allowed f/ thirty-two

years, there will be credit enough to raise a joint Stock; £10,000 will be set apart by the creditors, who in hopes of future advantages will be ready to assist; he then proposed that gentlemen planters of Bristol, Liverpool & London, should be directors; £ transferable stock be £300,000; £100,000 of that stock to be subscribed in at ten per cent; those who had not at five per cent to subscribe the rest in £ stock at five per cent; he set £100,000 as sufficient at first; his opinion was 50,000 to be increased to £140,000.

Mr Paterson then acquainted the Board, that amount of debts, as yet not taken four or five months in collecting, was about £50,000, exclusive of directors of old Co; the estimate last year was £100,000.

The parties being withdrawn, the Lordships agreed to proceed further in consideration of this business on Tuesday next.

Trade. Tuesday, January 16. Present:— Earl of Halifax, Mr Pitt, Mr Grenville, Lord Dupplin, Mr Fane, Mr Townshend.

Mr Hardman has laid before the Board the following papers, viz:—

**Ships employed in African Trade, according to the index given at the Board of Trade**

75 ships from Liverpool  
 44 ships from Bristol  
 6 from Chester, Lancaster, Plymouth  
 6 supposed in London  
 134 ships

29] fo. 65-68.  
Vol 58  
1749-50  
Trade.  
Africa.

Twenty or upwards shipped for America as by our advices for Sierra Leone they had nine ships belongg to Rhode Island past by them in a little time; twenty-eight or above for Liverpool to Windward & Gold Coast, wh go by 7,040 negroes; seventeen ships o Bristol to ditto carry 5,180 negroes.

\*

proceeded to call for wider in support o / proposal made by / merchants o Liverpool; & Mr Richard Smith acquainted / Board, & he had b'n a factor at Barbados in / Guinea Trade from 1739 to 1749; sold in t time abt 30,000 negroes; beg asked at what prices;

In 1739. One cargo o Gold Coast slaves at £20 & head currency.

1740. One cargo o Calabars at £20.

1741

and

1742. One cargo o Gold Coast negroes at £22.

1743. One cargo o Angolas, 1/6., at £25, & one o Gold Coast at £24.

1744. One cargo o Bennis at £25.

1745. One cargo o Angolas at £28.

after wh slaves beg un to run to abt £30; he sent negroes for Barbados by want o market; planters never buy later than November, or earlier than March. Beg asked wh / cargo in 1739 were all Gold Coast, sd they came to him as such, but sd not till.

Quest<sup>n</sup>: were they Gormanties? Answer: no. Did ever sell any Gormanties, & at what price? Has sold them sometimes by £40; never know more than twenty in a cargo; limited price o slaves; before / war, £20 to £22, after / war, from £22 to £30; he not heard t negroes were decreased in plantat<sup>ns</sup>; believes not; but they want a gr<sup>m</sup> many

\* A gap has b'n left here in / MS.

more; no better pay in / world than planters.

Mr Harman produced a list o fourteen ships tradg to Gold Coast taken fm tradg books o Bristol merchants, distinguishg when / negroes were purchased; beg asked if these ships traded to Windward, he sd they did. Quer<sup>n</sup>: what number o slaves were purchased at Whydah, & bekinick & Anamaboe? He sd & thr were purchased at Whydah 134; bekinick & Anamaboe, 34. Quer<sup>n</sup>: were these ships taken fm tradg books / first & came, or picked out? Answer: if d<sup>r</sup> ships had bn taken, believed they wd be born / same proper<sup>n</sup>; Mr Hardman sd / trade was carried on in / some manner.

Mr Harman: Gold Coast in this list commences at Cape la Hord; he also laid before / Board an acct o / sale o negroes in Leeward Islands, taken fm fourteen books o trade, shewg & Alexander o Bristol called at Antigua & St. Kitts, & cd not sell at £24 per head; as also sent affidavits, letters & extracts o orders, 24] fo. 68-71. to shew / number o slaves purchased on / Windward & Gold Coast; 1749-50 & / prices sold f in / West Indies.

Trade. Africa. Mr Sharpe called Captain Hill as to Whydah Trade; who acquainted th<sup>r</sup> Lordships, & twinty years since depopula<sup>n</sup> a considerable trade had bn carried on by floatg factory in 1733; Trade m<sup>r</sup> now be carried on w<sup>th</sup> proper assortm<sup>ts</sup>; t w<sup>th</sup> lge capitals it m<sup>t</sup> be / most considerable trade; t lge duties were paid thr fm 15 to £500, but Trade m<sup>r</sup> bear it w<sup>th</sup> capitals o 8, 10, or 12,000 not less than £6,000; t it required lge ships, w<sup>th</sup> many men, as it wd be necessary to h a tent on shore; he remembered a factory also nine miles up in / country; beg asked how long a ship wd be making a voyage, he sd, he remembered three ships to make it in thirty-three months; beg asked when he traded thr, & wh<sup>r</sup> any altera<sup>ns</sup> since that?

Answer: in 1706, Altera<sup>n</sup> since t; & beg<sup>d</sup> asked if trade mt be carried on by separate  
traders w<sup>th</sup> l<sup>ge</sup> capitals, he sd, he apprehended it mt; & when Londoners traded th<sup>is</sup>, considerable  
trade carried on. Quest<sup>n</sup>: did we remember any Liverpool ships th<sup>is</sup>? Answer: no, re-  
membered one Bristol ship. Tas to def<sup>er</sup> in value o<sup>f</sup> whydah slaves, he remembered t in  
1724 or 28, went to West Indies w<sup>th</sup> a cargo o<sup>f</sup> whydah slaves; met w<sup>th</sup> a ship w<sup>th</sup> l<sup>ge</sup> cargo o<sup>f</sup>  
Gold Coast; kept her so fearg she mt get in before him & spoil his market; t he got in first; sold  
his whydah cargo, & / cargo o<sup>f</sup> Gold Coast slaves were refused; beg<sup>d</sup> asked, if th<sup>is</sup> were any  
Bristol & Liverpool ships upon / Gold Coast in his time, he sd, he rememb<sup>er</sup>ed some Bristol.  
Quest<sup>n</sup>: wh<sup>ich</sup> London or Bristol ships slaved soonest? Answer: wh<sup>ichever</sup> had best com-  
assortm<sup>en</sup>t slaved soonest. Quest<sup>n</sup>: any diff<sup>er</sup> in / cargoes o<sup>f</sup> London & Bristol & Liverpool?  
Answer: guns o<sup>f</sup> London ships better; India goods better & l<sup>ge</sup> quantities; goods o<sup>f</sup>  
London ships better in quality. Quest<sup>n</sup>: if he thinks goods will not spoil in five<sup>th</sup> or six  
mon th<sup>is</sup>? Answer: has bn eleven months, & suffered no loss; if care taken will not spoil,  
guns, brass, Kettles ironware, liable to be rust eaten if landed. Quest<sup>n</sup>: if a co established  
shd send out cargoes to Africa in th<sup>is</sup> own ships, such ships mt not go to . . . . [sic] &  
in cargoes o<sup>f</sup> Redwood to advantage? Answer: yes. Quest<sup>n</sup>: if ships mt not go out in  
time to go to / West Indies & br<sup>ing</sup> cargoes fm thence? Answer: yes, Mr Sharpe sd t ship  
Speedwell belong<sup>s</sup> to Mr Lascelles, was gone out w<sup>th</sup> this view. Quest<sup>n</sup>: if not advantage to  
/ separate traders to take co's goods? Answer: yes, shd think it so himself, & believes it  
has bn done. Quest<sup>n</sup>: if co wd not take off refuse goods? Answer: believes it wd  
be th<sup>is</sup> advantage to do it; himself has done it w<sup>th</sup> / floatg factory. Quest<sup>n</sup>: if negroes  
not purchased at lots some times? Answer: yes, some old & infirm ones are some-  
times misce<sup>d</sup> in / lots brot down; must take all or none. Quest<sup>n</sup>: if merchants o<sup>f</sup>  
Bristol & London w<sup>th</sup> a l<sup>ge</sup> capital o<sup>f</sup> th<sup>is</sup> own mt not carry on / whydah trade as well

25] fo. 41-44.  
Vol 58.  
1749-50  
Trade.  
Africa.

as Joint Stock Co? Answer: may, but admits o such capitals necessary  
f security to public. Ques<sup>n</sup>: if traded in capitals wd h any interrup<sup>n</sup> for  
/co? Answer: does not apprehend they wd. Ques<sup>n</sup>: if / most considerable  
trade mt not be carried on for Annamaboe to whydah? Answer: more trade  
now at Annamaboe; trade depends upon shipping by sea / Coast; if ships  
went to leeward o Annamaboe, more trade mt be carried on. Ques<sup>n</sup>: where

apprehends Gold Coast commences? Answer: for Cape Three Points. Ques<sup>n</sup>: did float's  
factory trade at whydah? Answer: cannot tell traded. Ques<sup>n</sup>: what goods are  
proper f trade? Answer: courys, silebias, gums &c. Ques<sup>n</sup>: had Mr Morris capi-  
tal o £12,000. Answer: believed not. Ques<sup>n</sup>: did apprehend negroes enough at  
whydah to supply / Colonies? Answer: no. Ques<sup>n</sup>: did Mr Morris take in goods  
in Holland? Answer: yes, ed gather get better assorted & cheaper. Ques<sup>n</sup>: if does  
not apprehend more advantage in taking in a cargo o negroes on / Coast, than go<sup>n</sup>  
to / West Indies simply? Answer: yes, doubtless. Ques<sup>n</sup>: if Colonies sealed  
refuse goods, wd not be disposed of to them to more advantage than to /co?  
Answer: ed not say; wd doubtless be disposed of to best bidder; when most  
advantage. Ques<sup>n</sup>: why London merchants, Morris, Chamberlayn, etc., left off trade?  
Answer: those & were concerned are dead; know no reason why other [s] do not  
trade. Ques<sup>n</sup>: if he knows o any ships trading for London since 1736? Answer: no.  
Ques<sup>n</sup>: if apprehends & / French & Portuguese give better prices f negroes than /  
English? Answer: yes.

Mr Shadman: sh<sup>d</sup> make a few observations on / proposal o / African Co.  
£20,000 per annum f thirty-two years alone, / foundation & dependee o the  
Subscrip<sup>n</sup>; / payment o the debts; & carry<sup>n</sup> on / Trade, & as to what Mr

Newland had sd o/gt expence they had bn at in maintain<sup>g</sup> the forts f 50 many years, w<sup>th</sup> any  
allow<sup>ce</sup> fm Parliam<sup>t</sup>, it appeard fm the own representa<sup>n</sup> t they had had fm public £243,000; t  
they had also bn exclusive f years t they had ten per cent. f fourteen years. This scheme will  
lay fifty per cent. upon separate traders; separate traders had £ 800,000 this year in trade;  
produce o trade amt<sup>s</sup> yearly to £1,200,000. It had bn represented as if Bristol & London  
Liverpool were /only places concerned on this occa<sup>n</sup>; whole nat<sup>n</sup> interested, if trade open;  
Chester, Lancaster, Glasgow & o<sup>r</sup> places, who sd enter into it five per cent. cheaper than  
either Bristol or Liverpool wd engage; t as to what Mr Crammond had sd o separate  
traders beg admitted into co, rather surpris'd t Mr Crammond shd engage in it.  
Mr Crammond & o<sup>r</sup>s unacquainted w / trade, but not w / Parliamentary allow<sup>ce</sup>  
o £20,000 a year; if co established, trade wd be thrown into new hands; price o  
negres now fm five to seven ounces; appears t float<sup>g</sup> factory sold  
26] fo. 74-78. slaves to / French f ten ounces a head; what law will present / co fm  
1749-50. sell<sup>g</sup> to / French? If French give ten ounces, separate traders must also  
Trade. give it; gt disadvantage o this to planters; co & monopoly; this scheme  
Africa. only to draw / trade fm Anamabos to / forts; by private traders scheme.  
Colonies will be established upon Coast, & trade be in fifty fifty hands  
instead o one; Gold Coast ma<sup>n</sup>s will be better civilized by Colonies than by a co. No to /  
Gold Coast had<sup>g</sup> bn neglected by / separate traders it was a misrepresentation & proved so;  
as to / inland trade none carried on, but what was carried on upon / coast; Windward  
trade was not to be neglected; better slaves than any but / Gold Coast; gt quantities o  
manufactures sent thither & valuable produce m<sup>t</sup> be bro<sup>t</sup> fm thence such as Guinea  
grain, wax, &c; t by Mr Newlands comput<sup>n</sup>, charge o forts am amountd to 30  
or £40,000 per annum; no trade can support this, may be done cheaper by separate

traders; & if so proposed anything of public advantage, it sh<sup>d</sup> be & they wd sell slaves at 900 ounces per head; whereas by this scheme / price <sup>w<sup>d</sup></sup> be raised fifty per cent; & it had bn proved & / traders had bn used ill by / co's officers, tho co <sup>sd</sup> sd it was not by the orders; & as to what had bn sd as to security to be given by separate traders of forts & trade, w respect to / first, propose to acct to Parliam<sup>t</sup> in / strictest manner; £10,000 in this way more effectual than £20,000 to co; co's establish m<sup>t</sup>s o officers, servants, etc., a gr expense; as to security of trade an impertinent inquiry; if trade laid open, experience proves it will be carried on, whereas if co was con- tinued, / Colonies wd soon want negroes; if it is not t Joint Stock necessary; let / gentlemen subscribe to it now.

This is / best;  
or else £20,000 / object.

t co's scheme propose / forts be kept in respectable cond<sup>n</sup>; no object to it; if £20,000 per annum necessary, separate traders will pay it out fifty per cent cheaper than co; a dis- advantage to h trade diffused; & / whole end o co's scheme was / £20,000 per annum & raise rais<sup>d</sup> price o negroes fifty per cent; no traders to Africa in / direct<sup>n</sup> o new co; un- acquainted w trade; method o carry<sup>g</sup> on trade by all man<sup>s</sup> was by shipping, except in Gambia River & on Gold Coast; w<sup>t</sup> any charge or impedim<sup>t</sup> o forts; better throw efforts into / sea than establish co; gen opinion o all traders; let trade be established w great economy; no more forts to be built but at Anamaboe; ships as war only true protect<sup>n</sup>; can execute any orders & may be necessary to be given by / Gov.

Mr Briscoe: not trouble / Board w operw<sup>a</sup>ms on African Co's proposal, as Mr Hardman had already done it; mention only some circumstances o w<sup>d</sup>ice;

planters wanted want a sufficient supply of negroes; gave no notice of it; sufficient  
27] fo. 48-51. supply proved; & the negroes offered at Leeward Islands for small prices  
Vol. 58. but did not get them; ships obliged to go to Jamaica; trade to  
1749-50 Windward carried on only by Gold Coast ships, who only range  
Trade. down & pick up few negroes; none but some very small ships  
Africa. trade entirely to Gold Coast; reason of slaves not being purchased by  
planters; all planters in room not purchase one single cargo; all the  
lands, if sold, not pay what was for negroes.

The Earl parted being withdrawn, the Lordships agreed to consider further of this matter tomorrow.

Wednesday, January 17. Present: Earl of Halifax, Mr Pitt, Mr Grenville, Lord  
Dolphin, Mr Fane, Mr Townshend.

Trade. Africa. Mr Sharpe, in reply to what had been said by Mr Hardman / preceeding day, observed  
that what relates to / exclusive charter, / misbehaviour of servants of African Co, & /  
discourage<sup>m</sup>s / trade in gun labours under, is out of / case, & / fixes / limits of /  
Gold Coast is not material. The question is, what are / negroes who are fittest for our  
plantations? The facts agreed on are: 1<sup>st</sup> / Trade to / Gold Coast & whydah is  
/ most valuable. 2<sup>nd</sup>. The 9<sup>th</sup> consequence of this trade & necessity of assistance  
of / legislature, 3<sup>rdly</sup>. / French are now using the utmost endeavours to get  
[French at / Gold Coast trade out of our hands. 4<sup>th</sup> / forts & settlements are  
Anamaboe] necessary to be maintained, not only as marks of possession, but in a  
defensible & respectable state, 5<sup>th</sup>. / Trade should be free & open to all his  
Majesty's subjects, 6<sup>th</sup>. / forts & settlements should be made use of for / protection  
a benefit of all his Majesty's subjects, & the trade equally. 7<sup>th</sup> / warehouses

or repositories of goods on / coast will be of gr<sup>t</sup> advantage to / trade. B<sup>th</sup> The  
necessity & utility of this trade has been carried on by a co. Planters are unanimously  
of opinion t<sup>e</sup> / trade can only be carried on by a joint Stock Co; & some merchants of  
London gr<sup>tly</sup> concerned in / African Trade agree w<sup>th</sup> them; / separate traders of Bristol &  
Liverpool & some of London connected w<sup>th</sup> them, are of opinion t<sup>e</sup> it cannot be carried  
on so; & if it sh<sup>d</sup> be attempted, / trade w<sup>d</sup> be lost. He observed t<sup>e</sup> when / India was  
considered / Board w<sup>d</sup> find, t<sup>e</sup> / planters had established what they advanced, & t<sup>e</sup> trade  
to / Gold Coast & Whydah in a manner lost, c<sup>d</sup> only be recovered by a joint Stock; t<sup>e</sup>  
they had proved / Gold Coast negroes are / best, & absolutely necessary to / Planters,  
& dearest both in buyg & sellg; t<sup>e</sup> / Windward negroes are / next best, but not so  
fit for field service; t<sup>e</sup> / planters are in gr<sup>t</sup> want of Gold Coast negroes; separate  
traders estimate the trade of Windward & Gold Coast slaves at £12,000 in a year;  
of wh<sup>ch</sup> / Gold Coast are, accordg<sup>g</sup> to one persons acct, one-third, & accordg<sup>g</sup> to another,  
four-fifths; t<sup>e</sup> none but l<sup>g</sup>e ships h<sup>ave</sup> access into / Gold Coast, & t<sup>e</sup> few ships from  
Liverpool go thither; t<sup>e</sup> / slaves from / Gold Coast are not more than one our Islands  
w<sup>d</sup> take, & t<sup>e</sup> / reason why those from Whydah found a market in / plant.  
ations, was bec<sup>use</sup> / ships w<sup>d</sup> not br<sup>ing</sup> Gold Coast slaves sufficient to sup-  
ply the wants; t<sup>e</sup> tho' it was asserted 12,000 w<sup>d</sup> be sufficient, / Board of  
Trade had stated in a Report in 1708 the wants at double t<sup>e</sup> number.

Captain Smyth owned t<sup>e</sup> Barbadoes was in want of negroes; the best an  
Asiento market kept at Jamaica & St. Christopher, t<sup>e</sup> m<sup>ost</sup> occa<sup>sionally</sup> a plenty the, tho' /  
Islands were in want. Mr Woodcock only got t<sup>e</sup> Jamaica did not want negroes,  
he himself had a gr<sup>ter</sup> number of Gold Coast slaves than any o<sup>ther</sup>, except Creoles; t<sup>e</sup> they were  
very robust, & of a temper not dangerous, if well used. T<sup>he</sup> respect to St. Christopher,

26] fo. 81-84  
1749-50  
Trade.  
Africa.

Mr Otley admitted, t / planters th<sup>r</sup> had not sold Coast slaves in / same propor<sup>n</sup> as before, & t /  
Leeward Islands were not so well supplied w<sup>th</sup> t; t it had bn proved, / separate traders R  
almost totally neglected / trade to / Gold Coast w<sup>ch</sup> whydah; t they had extended / trade to /  
Windward but not to / leeward o Annamaboe. Captain Swymmer sd, t he had not seen  
a ship at Annamaboe in two voyages thither. T neither Bristol nor Liverpool trade  
wholly to / Gold Coast; but t Bristol ships exceed those o Liverpool in number; t  
th<sup>r</sup> was a g<sup>r</sup> number o ships trad<sup>g</sup> to Annamaboe in one year than to / d<sup>r</sup> parts in ten;  
t / propor<sup>n</sup> o / best negroes th<sup>r</sup> but small, seven or eight to one true Gold Coast negro. As  
to / trade to whydah, / separate traders admit it to be neglected, & produce evide<sup>n</sup> to prove  
t it can be carried on by / Portuguese only, & Captain Swymmer sd he sd only trade w<sup>ch</sup> th<sup>r</sup>  
refuse, & t at an extravagant price; but Mr Sharpe observed, t / planters saw th<sup>r</sup>  
in a diff<sup>t</sup> light; they think / trade th<sup>r</sup> o consequence, & may be carried on, if proper means  
were used, not w<sup>ch</sup> / depopulat<sup>n</sup> twenty years ago; t / whydah negroes were better than  
all o<sup>r</sup>; t / trade had bn carried on in / country adjacent in 1738 & 1746, & by / float<sup>g</sup>  
factory w<sup>ch</sup> success in 1742; t separate traders did not care to run / risk, but t,  
by means o a joint Stock Co, / trade m<sup>t</sup> be recovered & flourish. He then pro-  
ceeded to show t this trade to / Gold Coast cannot be carried on w<sup>th</sup> factories well  
supplied w<sup>ch</sup> goods. This was sufficiently proved by / evide<sup>n</sup> o / separate traders. Captain  
Swymmer admitted, t / float<sup>g</sup> factory had g<sup>r</sup> advantage over o<sup>r</sup> only on acct o a con-  
stant supply o proper assort<sup>mts</sup>; t it wd not be o g<sup>r</sup> service to h goods lodged in  
warehouses; t it wd give / English / same advantage over / French as / float<sup>g</sup>  
factory had over / o<sup>r</sup> traders; / natives wd sell f<sup>r</sup> 5 ounces to / English rather than  
f<sup>r</sup> seven to / French, if / assort<sup>mt</sup> be not [sic] proper. Captain Campbell sd t  
float<sup>g</sup> factory had driven him fm / trade; t they did not give higher prices, but had

better assort mts, wh will draw / trade rather than / price, Captain S (w) / mmer sd t ships  
 29] fo. 84-87. on this acct give higher price than / forts, bec they h not so good assort mts.  
 Jd 58. t / separate traders shew / necessity o havg factories by the proposal  
 1749-50. o erect] were houses w proper assort mts. As to / inland trade, it can  
 Trade. only be extended by settle mts; / inference fm / above facts is clear in  
 Africa. favour o a joint Stock Co, o t / trade can only be extended by t  
 means. It had bn asserted t / private traders were / only support o  
 Trade; Mr Sharpe in answer sd, t Trade to Whydah, / principal place, was lost; t to  
 / Gold Coast in gen reduced only to Anamaboe, where / negroes are chiefly not /  
the Gold Coast negroes; t this was not only a loss to us, but a gain to / French;  
t if / French shd get possess<sup>n</sup> o it [Trade to Anamaboe?], it wd be difficult for us to  
recover it; t / private traders w<sup>o</sup> they do not go thr, bec o / French, & therefore /  
 [French o  
 Anamaboe] Trade wd be wholly lost, unless put into a channel recomended by / planters,  
 who wd recover it by / honour or interest o / na<sup>n</sup>. In answer to / alleg<sup>n</sup>, t if a joint Stock  
 Co was established, the servants wd prefer the masters' interest, he sd this wd  
 equally be / case o / servants to / Committee; it had bn sd, / Co wd raise / price to  
 / separate traders, he observed, t it wd be by / interest o / Co to sell to / private  
 traders on / cheapest terms, & t they wd be able to sell cheaper than / separate  
 traders cd buy. o / mates, as / forts wd be able to buy cheaper than / separate  
 traders by proper assort mts, or by g<sup>t</sup> numbers comg down after a war, when few ships  
 are on / coast, & separate traders will h dispatch in thr trade; then shd be obliged  
 too to carry better assort mts, as / London ships did when engaged they were engaged  
 in / trade.

Alledged: if thr was no joint Stock Co, separate traders m<sup>t</sup> buy cheaper.

• Chandos, Chandos, Duke of, 29. [Index]  
[Chandos, James Brydges, 14th Earl C. was created duke in 1719. ... Wrayman Enyel. sub nomine]

Answer: this wd be only by King's bad request; experience shews, they wd not launch out into trade w<sup>th</sup> g<sup>o</sup> capitals.

Alledged: goods wd spoil in six months, & this wd be interrupted often for five months. Answer: Captain Hill sd, t they wd keep w<sup>th</sup> care, even eleven months.

Alledged: t inland trade was a chimera & had ruined a g<sup>o</sup> fortune. Answer: t g<sup>o</sup> fortune, (1 late D [Duke] Chandos), was lost, not in trade, but in hunt<sup>g</sup> after mines, & t as g<sup>o</sup> a fortune had bn lost in / separate trade; t inhabitants were employed to go into / country w<sup>th</sup> goods & bring down / trade; t it was obvious, t forts & settlements may enter into inland trade w<sup>th</sup> success; on all former contests / separate traders always insisted t forts were not necessary, bec they saw / necessary consequences, t if they were necessary, they must be a joint Stock.

Alledged: t / Windward Coast was / best. Answer: t it may be so to / Liverpool merchants, but not to / na<sup>n</sup>; t it st<sup>d</sup> to be carried on, but / Gold Coast trade st<sup>d</sup> not to be neglected. The plant<sup>ns</sup> will take off both.

30] 1749-50. Alledged: more goods wd be taken off by / d<sup>r</sup> scheme than by a joint Stock, if any persons may settle as they h<sup>ve</sup> done on / Windward Coast. Answer: this wd not be advanced, if it had bn considered t / Africa. Liverpool traders did not go thither, & t it had bn admitted / separate traders cd not stand in competi<sup>o</sup> w<sup>th</sup> / French.

Alledged: this was no reason why / trade shd be settled at Annamaboe bec / trade st<sup>d</sup> to be free. Answer: Nothing is suggested contrary to / freedom of trade upon any part of / Coast, if traders wd go to / Leeward of Annamaboe they wd find trade.

Alledged: trade will find its way to / best market. Answer: / separate traders will not be prejudiced, but will h<sup>ve</sup> / same advantage they h<sup>ve</sup> now w<sup>th</sup> / add<sup>o</sup> / protec<sup>o</sup> of / forts.

Alledged: /scheme o joint Stock proposed impracticable; & E /co must sell to /separate traders or /French. Answer: if they must sell to /separate traders, they need not fear /raising of price; no reason to fear but t thr will be a good harmony betw them. Al-

ledged: /getting ships to carry out goods wd be a dead expence upon /co. Answer: a gr quantity o shippg wd not be wantg to carry /outset cargoes to /ports; t it wd not be /interest o /co to employ ships o thr own, as they may hire ships upon freight, wh goe three or four months sooner, may bring cargoes fm /West Indies, & they may hire a ship upon freight & send it to /Angola Coast, & take in a cargo o Red Wood w a profit o 100 per cent; separate traders may supply /co w goods, & /co supply them w negroes, & /harmony be preserved betw them.

Alledged: t /separate traders wd be deprived o /use o /ports, Answer: it is proposed t they shd h /use o them, not only f protect<sup>n</sup>, but as warehouses; if they are o no protect<sup>n</sup> to /trade, why are gentlemen under apprehens<sup>n</sup>, t they may be instrument<sup>s</sup> o destroying it; judge, what care will be taken o /ports, if intrusted in /hands o those who think them o no use.

Alledged: t /joint Stock Co must h directors & servants. Answer: upon /d<sup>r</sup> scheme thr will be committee men & servants.

Alledged: t gr expences wd be incurred by additional warehouses. Answer: advantage<sup>s</sup> vantage to /trade will be proportionable. The planters, who are unanimous on this head, h no prospect o being well supplied w /negroes they want, partly Gold Coast, but by /joint Stock Co.

Alledged: what law can prevent /co fm selling slaves to /French by ton ounces, when they can h only seven fm /separate traders. Answer: honour & interest will hinder them fm selling to /French, except in cases where /refuse o a cargo sold to /

31] Separate Traders can be sold to / French; & how does it appear to / separate Traders  
to, 90-93. will not sell to / French as well as / Co? separate Traders cannot be re-  
Sol 58, strained by law, but a Co can, whose act<sup>s</sup> must be public, & who may  
1749-50 possibly be made accountable; negroes are usually sold in lots, & / buyers  
Trade. must take all or none; if / separate Traders do not take them, what dis-  
Africa. advantage can there be in selling them to / French? How are / inconveni-  
objected to presented by / Scheme of / separate Traders?

Alledged: separate Traders & joint Stock Co cannot trade together. Answer: they  
may act together & trade be carried on to / honour & interest of / na<sup>n</sup> by both.

Alledged: 5 more ships wd go out, if assort mts cd be had. Answer: there is more occa<sup>n</sup> for  
factories resident on / coast, where stores may be laid up ag<sup>t</sup> a scarcity. when Indian goods are to be  
had, / Co will buy them up, when separate Traders cannot or will not.

Alledged: a joint Stock Co wd ruin trade by undue prefer<sup>en</sup>ce, & to a joint Stock is not opposed,  
but a Co vs a joint Stock. Answer: / proposal gives all a gen<sup>l</sup> adm<sup>n</sup> to forts & warehouses, there  
will be a supply of negroes for all ships equally; as to a monopoly it is presented by w<sup>h</sup> part of /  
planters propos<sup>n</sup>; / interest of / Co is ag<sup>t</sup> a monopoly, nor did ever purchasers & consumers  
adopt a scheme leads to a monopoly. The suspic<sup>n</sup> lies on / side, as separate Traders  
may force negroes on / planters, & tell them they sh not h whydah or Gold Coast slaves.

Alledged: / Co establishing a joint Stock Co wd be giv<sup>g</sup> up / trade to / French. Answer:  
separate Traders advance this w an ill grace, who h left / Gold Coast trade to / French &  
deserted Whydah.

Alledged: 6 seal planters h refused to subscribe / planters' scheme. Answer: / richest planters  
as well as 8<sup>th</sup> h subscribed; they must be attached to / public interest, as it is their own, & cannot  
be decanted in so plain a point, as they know the own wants, see / consequences of the not be?

supplied, & h no prospect o awards win but in / establishment o a joint Stock so: if opinions  
are o any weight, t o / planters st to h / great; if a l<sup>g</sup> capital is necessary f / support  
o / trade, this only to be h'd by a joint Stock. He then proceeded to make / follow's observations;

1. As to a regulated co, it is nonsense to talk o carrying on / African Trade by it, bec it  
tho are no houses o trade thro, & / no<sup>n</sup> is a chimera.
2. To support / opposi<sup>n</sup> to this scheme, it has b'n in 25<sup>y</sup> inst<sup>ce</sup> misrepresented; no  
necessity to enumerate any part<sup>rs</sup> here
3. If a joint Stock co be appointed, / Gold Coast Trade will be revived, why doth  
Trade recovered, / exports o manufactures w<sup>t</sup> be g<sup>tr</sup>, / imports g<sup>tr</sup>, & / Colonies o America  
92] fo. 93-96. better supplied, but / manner, in wh / separate traders proceed, must thro' /  
1749-50 trade into / hands o / French.

Thursday, January 18, Present: - Earl o Halifax, Mr Pitt, Mr Grenville, Lord  
Duplein, Mr Fane, Mr Townshend.

Trade. The lords here proceeded on / considera<sup>n</sup> o / trade to Africa, & Mr Martin, in support  
Africa, o / planters' scheme, sd, t / planters were / most impartial witnesses on this occ<sup>n</sup>, & t  
he shd endeavor to take off / imputation t h b'n thrown on them.

Alledged: t / planters were blind to th<sup>r</sup> own interests, bec they prefer buy<sup>g</sup> o a co. Answer:  
planters propose an open co, wh w<sup>t</sup> co-operate w / private traders, wh will make th<sup>r</sup> profits  
g<sup>tr</sup> & / negroes cheaper.

Alledged: t / scheme is not / result o a consulta<sup>n</sup> o / planters, but formed by o<sup>r</sup>s Answer:  
t it was debated in a society o them, & h'd b'n under th<sup>r</sup> considera<sup>n</sup> f years many years.

Alledged: planters were poor, & in distress since / duty o five per cent. on sugars;  
there, who say this now, sometimes affirm they are rich, & so contradict th<sup>m</sup> selves.

Alledged; £ / planters owe more than / Fee simple o this relates wch pay; this is not true; Bristol & Liverpool never give credit at London rates, but take security here as to / time & manner o paym<sup>t</sup>. To London merchants / Colonies are indebted, b<sup>t</sup> / London merchants pay / Bristol & Liverpool men

Alledged; £ / planters are not proper judges, bec they do not trade, Answer; this reflects upon w<sup>y</sup> gentleman o educa<sup>n</sup> not bred up to trade; men who make gen inquiries into trade know better than those confined to one branch.

Alledged; £ this is no diff<sup>y</sup> betw<sup>n</sup> Coast Trade & inland Trade, Answer; / diff<sup>y</sup> is well known.

Alledged; Inland Trade is impracticable, Answer; if it be / same th<sup>g</sup> as / coast Trade, it must be practicable, & may as well be carried on am<sup>g</sup> / African negroes as in North America am<sup>g</sup> Indians.

Alledged; £ / high price given by / French on / Gold Coast is a reason why we sh<sup>d</sup> be beat<sup>n</sup> on o / Trade, bec / co will not give / price they do, Answer; upon / establish<sup>m<sup>t</sup></sup> o / co proposed, / French will not h<sup>e</sup> / advantage they now h<sup>e</sup> by the brandy; bec / co will h<sup>e</sup> rum, wh<sup>ch</sup> is preferred in £ country. He then read some passages o / Bristol scheme; & as to £ o Bristol, he observed, £ / whole tendency o it was levelled ag<sup>t</sup> / old co & the servants; what has b<sup>e</sup> set ag<sup>t</sup> an exclusive co is not to / purpose; / planters mean only a co co-op<sup>r</sup>-erat<sup>g</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> / separate traders under control & legal restrictions.

Alledged; £ ships offer<sup>g</sup> negroes to sale at / planters h<sup>e</sup> b<sup>e</sup> refused, Answer; they may h<sup>e</sup> come when / planters h<sup>e</sup> no crops go<sup>g</sup> forward to pay or draw bills; £ sh<sup>d</sup> draughts make short crops, so £ / common expenses are as much as can be paid; £ this was a custom market at Jamaica; £ Mr Otley, who was abroad ten years, set, £ while he was at Antigua, not one single ship o Gold Coast negroes was turned away, but in / circumstances before mentioned;

22] fo. 96-99

Vol. 58.

1744-50

Trade.

Africa.

It was agreed on all hands, t/ trade to Africa shd be free & open; t this was / print / planters aim at in part<sup>l</sup>, not only to w<sup>y</sup> subject, but to a co, who may extend inland trade & buy negroes fm / fountain head, & sell them cheaper to / separate traders; t / separate traders intend a monopoly o this trade, in exclud<sup>n</sup> o / London merchants & / co, by giving a majority o votes to Liverpool & Bristol; & as nobody, upon this scheme, has a right to / use o / forts & warehouses but / committee, except in cases o need, o wh they are judges, by this means they wd favour th<sup>r</sup> own friends & exclude / Londoners.

After / fleets factory broke up, / London merchants thot / trade mt be carried on, if an open co was set up to support / inland trade; t they now pay ten or fifteen per cent. more than o<sup>r</sup>s, but if put upon another foot<sup>g</sup>, they will enter into / trade / itself; t / committee, upon / scheme o / separate traders, wd not be subject to any one penalty, nor to any jurisdic<sup>n</sup>, or wanted / fingers o money to raise a joint stock to carry on / monopoly to / best effect; t it was impossible / co on / scheme o / planters can be favourable to a monopoly. He then proposed / following resolu<sup>ns</sup> on a joint stock co trad<sup>g</sup> to / Gold Coast o Africa, viz: -

1<sup>st</sup>. T not proper for sh h a vote in / co f less or less sum than £500 capital, & th<sup>t</sup> / capital stock o any proprietor sh exceed t sum w<sup>h</sup> so much, yet he sh h but one vote.

2<sup>nd</sup>. After / first visit<sup>n</sup> o / co, no proprietor sh be entitled to a vote, unless he has possessed / qualificat<sup>n</sup> fy one year

3<sup>rd</sup>. T / co be prohibited by severe penalties fm export<sup>s</sup> more than 1,200 negroes fm Cape Coast Cast<sup>le</sup> or Whydah, & 800 negroes fm Gambia to / British Colonies in any one year, either in th<sup>r</sup> own or in hired ships or vessels in Britain.

4<sup>th</sup>. T / Co, & all private traders also, be absolutely under / severest penalties,  
for trading w all foreigners on / Coast o Guinea, except Portuguese, & w  
them only, by Tobacco or gold.

5<sup>th</sup>. T / African Co be subject to / inspect<sup>n</sup>, regula<sup>n</sup> & control o / Lords o Trade,  
to acct to t honorable Board annually, by / applica<sup>n</sup> o all aids granted  
by Parliam<sup>t</sup> for maintaining / forts; & in case o fraud or misapplica<sup>n</sup> /  
sd<sup>d</sup> Lords to h full power, by Act o Parliam<sup>t</sup>, to take / charge o /  
forts out o / company's hands, & to appoint or dismiss.

34] fo. 99-103. Under these restrictions & such o<sup>r</sup>s as are necessary to keep / trade open,  
1749-50. there can be no monopoly by compell<sup>n</sup>. 1<sup>st</sup> Bec / country is o a v<sup>ry</sup> l<sup>ge</sup>  
Trade, Africa, extent, this is room enough for all. 2<sup>nd</sup>. The co, by go<sup>g</sup> out o / way o com-  
pella<sup>n</sup> may h g<sup>d</sup> profit; t if there was a compella<sup>n</sup>, no public disadvantage  
w<sup>d</sup> ensue; besides t, separate traders get / better o cos by compella<sup>n</sup>, as they

can go cheaper to market, & t / chief advantage to a co is / inland trade, which is a distinct  
branch; t trade is best extended by a joint stock co for these reasons; 1<sup>st</sup> Bec they h a  
permanent interest in support<sup>g</sup> / forts, whereas private traders may leave off trade, 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
They w<sup>d</sup> h a constant assortm<sup>t</sup> o goods for / upland trade; if they h<sup>d</sup> not, / Dutch,  
who h more forts & a co w<sup>d</sup> g<sup>d</sup> encourage<sup>m<sup>t</sup></sup>, will h all / traders, who come down oc-  
casionally, go to them, 3<sup>rd</sup>. Profits o this trade will become more diffusive, as persons  
o rank may be subscribers, 4<sup>th</sup>. As / French give more for a negro than we by two  
prices, we must set up competitors to do / same; Co may h rum & beat out / French,  
comput<sup>g</sup> / rum at / same price as brandy, & this may open / door for / consump<sup>n</sup> o / rum  
o our Colonies, who want assist<sup>ce</sup>. 5<sup>th</sup>. W<sup>d</sup> a joint stock co / compella<sup>n</sup> w / French  
& Dutch cannot be supported. 6<sup>th</sup>. Co will always keep in the forts negroes ready  
to supply / private traders, so t they will be forced to stay three or four weeks only,  
instead o three or four months, & run less risque for / mortality o / negroes.

As to / old co, he observed t they h<sup>d</sup> erected forts at a g<sup>d</sup> expense, w<sup>d</sup> h<sup>d</sup> on

14.  
It was agreed on all hands, t/ trade to Africa shd be free & open; t/ this was / plant /  
planters aim at in part<sup>l</sup>; not only to w/ subject, but to a co, who may extend / inland  
trade & buy negroes fm / fountain head, & sell them cheaper to / separate traders; t/  
separate traders wldnt a monopoly o this trade, in wch<sup>l</sup> o / London merchants & / co,  
by givg a majority o votes to Liverpool & Bristol; & as nobody, upon the scheme, has a  
right to / use o / ports & warehouses but / committee, except in cases o need, o wh they  
are judges, by this means they wd favour thr own friends & exclude / Londoners.

After / fleets factory broke up, / London merchants shd / trade mt be carried on, if  
an open co was set up to support / inland trade; t/ they now pay ten or fifteen  
per cent. more than o<sup>rs</sup>, but if put upon another footg, they will enter into / trade  
thely; t/ committee, upon / scheme o / separate traders, wd not be subject to any  
one penalty, nor to any jurisdic<sup>n</sup>, or wntd / fingers o money to raise a joint stock  
to carry on / monopoly to / least effect; t/ it was impossible / co on / scheme o /  
planters can be favourable to a monopoly. He then proposed / followg restrict<sup>ns</sup>  
on a joint stock co tradg to / Gold Coast o Africa, viz: -

1<sup>st</sup>. That propriety sh h a vote in / co if he has a less sum than £500 capital,  
& tho / capital stock o any proprietor sh exceed t/ sum wch so much, yet  
he sh h but one vote.

2<sup>nd</sup>. After / first visit<sup>n</sup> o / co, no proprietor sh be entitled to a vote, unless he  
has possessed / qualific<sup>n</sup> for one year

3<sup>rd</sup>. T / co be prohibited by severe penalties fm exportg more than 1,200  
negroes fm Cape Coast Castl or Whydah, & 800 negroes fm Gambia to /  
British Colonies in any one year, either in thr own or in hired ships or  
vessels in Britain.

4<sup>th</sup>. T / Co, & all private traders also, be absolutely under / severest penalties,  
for trading w all foreigners on / Coast o Guinea, except Portuguese, & w  
them only, by Tobacco or gold.

5<sup>th</sup>. T / African Co be subject to / inspec<sup>n</sup>, regula<sup>n</sup> & control o / Lords o Trade,  
to acct to t honorable Board annually, by / applica<sup>n</sup> o all aids granted  
by Parliam<sup>t</sup> for maintaining / forts; & in case o fraud or mis applica<sup>n</sup> /  
sd Lords to h full power, by Act o Parliam<sup>t</sup>, to take / charge o /  
forts on o / company's hands, & to appoint or / discontinue.

34] 60. 99-103.

1749-50.

Trade,  
Africa.

Under these restrictions & such o<sup>r</sup>s as are necessary to keep / Trade open,  
there can be no monopoly by competi<sup>n</sup>. 1<sup>st</sup>. Bec / Country is o a v<sup>g</sup> C<sup>g</sup>  
extent, there is room enough for all. 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Co, by go<sup>g</sup> on o / way o com-  
peti<sup>n</sup> may h g<sup>t</sup> profit; t if there was a competi<sup>n</sup>, no public disadvantage  
wd ensue; besides t, separate traders get / better o cos by competi<sup>n</sup>, as they

can go cheaper to market, & t / chief advantage to a Co is / inland Trade, wh is a distinct  
branch; t Trade is best secured by a Joint Stock Co for these reasons; 1<sup>st</sup>. Bec they h a  
permanent interest in support<sup>g</sup> / forts, whereas private traders may leave off Trade, 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
They wd h a constant assort<sup>mt</sup> o goods fit for / upland Trade; if they had not, / Dutch,  
who h more forts & a Co w g<sup>t</sup> encourage<sup>mt</sup>, will h all / traders, who come down oc-  
casionally, go to them, 3<sup>rd</sup>. Profits o this Trade will become more diffusive, as persons  
o rank may be subscribers, 4<sup>th</sup>. As / French give more for a negro than we by two  
ounces, we must set up competitors to do / same; Co may h rum & beat out / French,  
comput<sup>g</sup> / rum at / same price as brandy, & this may open / door for / consump<sup>n</sup> o rum  
o our Colonies, who want assurance. 5<sup>th</sup>. W<sup>ch</sup> a joint Stock Co / competi<sup>n</sup> w / French  
& Dutch cannot be supported. 6<sup>th</sup>. Co will always keep in its forts negroes ready  
to supply / private traders, so t they will be forced to stay there or four weeks only,  
instead o three or four months, & rum less risque for / mortality o negroes.

As to / old Co, he observed t they had erected forts at a g<sup>t</sup> expense, wd let on

/ cause o the ruin; & they shd be set free fm all incumbrances whatso<sup>r</sup>; nobody w<sup>o</sup>  
 embark his fortune in / hands o a bankrupt; & / forts must be supported at / public  
 charge; & / legislature wd not grudge a sum o money £ at least in 1,000 fold; & it was  
 reasonable to pay / co f / expense they had bn at o erect<sup>g</sup> & maintain<sup>g</sup> the forts; & they  
 h<sup>o</sup> fgt debts incurred by means o it, wh upon a fair liquida<sup>n</sup> may come to 60, 40 or  
 80,000 pounds; & / public may get a precise estimate o what may be necessary f /  
 forts, by compar<sup>g</sup> / estimates f Gibraltar & Port Mahon; & he does not think a  
 grant f a number o years / best method.

Mr Chammond then observed to the lordships, & / separate traders were not com-  
 petent judges o / expense necessary f / support o / forts, as appears fm Mr Hard-  
 mans say<sup>g</sup>. & / sum o 10 or 12,000 pounds was more proper to be allow<sup>d</sup> f /  
 service than 15,000; & the sum w<sup>o</sup> reside / profits / negroes they carry fm / Gold  
 Coast & Whydah to be 3,000, those fm / Windward 9,000, & those fm Angola,  
 Benin, &c., 28,000; & / desire in / British Colonies to h<sup>o</sup> Gold Coast negroes  
 is an argum<sup>t</sup> f support<sup>g</sup> / trade; & if the had bn any misbehaviour o the

35] fo. 103 = 105.  
 Vol. 58.  
 1749-50.  
 Trade.  
 Africa

cos servants, it had bn contrary to / instructions given them, wh  
 require them to protect / private traders, & treat them w<sup>o</sup>  
 friendship & civility; & / co has no designs o exclude them  
 fm / trade; & tho' it has bn ~~alleged~~ alleged by / separate traders  
 & the trade am<sup>t</sup> to 800,000, yet more is wanted; & / co's only  
 view is to preserve / Gold Coast & inland trade under such regula<sup>n</sup>s

& instructions as sh<sup>d</sup> be tho<sup>t</sup> proper.

Mr Martin observed, & / stock o negroes in / Islands was 215,000 [sic]

Barbados	..	..	60,000	"
Antigua	..	..	30,000	"
O <sup>r</sup> several Islands	..	..	25,000	"
Jamaica	..	..	120,000	"

Upon a fair comput<sup>n</sup> o mortality thr are five in w<sup>d</sup> Island out o 100 list more  
than born, this makes 10,750 necessary to supply t mortality; t Antigua is not suffi-  
ciently supplied by one-third; t Barbados is in / same cond<sup>n</sup>; St Christophers  
wants negroes, as do / Islands o Nevis & Montserrat; Jamaica is not one-tenth  
settled; each one w another want a third part, 41,000 to cultivate / lands as they  
now stand, w<sup>t</sup> clearing / woods; if these wants are supplied in five years it will  
be 14,000 negroes per annum; separate traders assert they h imported abt 12,000  
Gold Coast negroes; on / comput<sup>n</sup> o / Bristol & Liverpol<sup>e</sup> Trade, if they h in stock  
800,000, this will make 6, 650 ship & cargo, thr invoice only 3,000.

All parties beg withdrawn, thr Lordships, after some time spent in / considerat<sup>n</sup>  
o this affair, ordered / draught o a report thereupon to both Houses o Parliam<sup>t</sup>, in  
pursue o thr address to his Majesty, to be prepared.

99] fo. 114-114.

Vol 58

1449-50

Trade

Africa

CO.589/50

p. 196.

Tuesday, February 6. Present:— Earl o Halifax, Mr Pitt, Mr  
Grenville, Lord Dupplin, Mr Fane, Mr Townshend.

The draught o a report to both Houses o Parliam<sup>t</sup>, in pursue o a  
letter from his Grace / Duke o Bedford, inclodg an address o / House o Lords,  
& his Majesty wd give direct<sup>n</sup> to this Board to prepare & lay before  
both Houses a scheme f / better securg, extendg & carryg on / Trade to Africa,  
havg b<sup>n</sup> prepared, pursuant to / minutes o / 18<sup>th</sup> o last month, was laid before  
/ Board, agreed to, transcribed & signed. [Copied post pp. 126-7]

[on 9<sup>th</sup> Feb 12. Order given f / return to / merchants o Bristol & Liverpol<sup>e</sup>, upon  
thr applicat<sup>n</sup> o / brokers & pps laid by them before / Board, to support thr scheme  
f a regular o / African Trade.]

91] fo. 275-278. Tuesday, August 14, Present; - Mr Grenville, Lord Duplein, Mr Townshend  
 Vol. 58 Read a letter from Captain Baird, Commander of his Majesty's ship /  
 1750 Surprise, dated at Portsmouth, 16th of August, 1750, desiring this Board wd  
 Miscellaneous impress to him a sum of money to support of a table of two young Africans he is  
 directed to take to Africa.  
 Ordered to / Secretary do write to him to acquaint him that this Board has not / disposed of  
any publick money what? they cannot comply w<sup>th</sup> his request.

94] Tuesday, October 9. Present: - Earl of Halifax, Lord Duplein

96] fo. 291-294. 1750. Read a letter from Alderman Bethel, dated 26th July, 1750,  
 Trade. acquaints / Board w<sup>th</sup> names of persons chosen by Committee men  
 Africa - of / new African Co. conformable to Act of Parliament, passed / last session

103] Friday, October 19, Present: - Earl of Halifax, Lord Duplein, Mr Fane,  
 Mr Townshend.

104] fo. 314-320. 1750. Read an extract of a letter from Mr William Husbands to John  
 Ashley, Enquire, dated at Cape Coast Castle, May 10th 1750, relatg to an  
 attempt made upon Dixcove Fort by / natives instigated by /  
Dutch, & to of want of two small ships of / security of coast,  
 [Palmer at Dixcove]  
 [copied p 170 post]

139] fo. 419-421. Tuesday, December 11, Present: - Earl o' Halifax, Mr Fans, Mr Townshend.

140] fo. 422-424.  
1750.

Trade,  
Africa.

Read a letter from Mrs Cleveland, Secretary to / Lords o' Admiralty dated / 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 1750, inclos<sup>g</sup> / follows papers relat<sup>g</sup> to / state & condition o' British forts & settlements on / Coast o' Africa, viz: -

Adm 1. 2289.  
Incl Adm 1. @ p 23.  
Capt - C. 79.

Copy o' a letter from Captain Pye, Commander o' his Majesty's ship Humber, to / Secretary o' Admiralty dated Humber, off St. Thomas, / 18<sup>th</sup> o' March, 1749-50.

141] fo. 425-427,  
Vol. 58.

1750 <sup>Incl</sup>  
Trade. <sup>Incl p 22.</sup>  
Africa.

Copy o' a letter from Captain Pye, Commander o' his Majesty's ship Humber, to / Secretary o' Admiralty, dated March 19<sup>th</sup>, 1749-50.

Copy o' a letter from / Council at Cape Coast, to Captain Pye, dated at Cape Coast Castle, / 18<sup>th</sup> January, 1749-50.

Copy o' a paper dated Cape Coast Castle, 10<sup>th</sup> February, 1749-50, signed w' / names o' principal Caboccers & inhabitants o' Town o' Cape Coast in Africa in favour o' Richard Stockwell Esquire, the late Governor.

[Original  
in  
T. 70.  
1516.  
Copied]  
Incl Adm 1.  
@ p 29

An acct o' state & condition o' Cape Coast Castle tog<sup>th</sup> w' / Castle slaves, military stores, canoes & o<sup>r</sup> vessels, thereto belong<sup>g</sup>, by order o' a survey made by order o' Captain Pye, / 14<sup>th</sup> February, 1749.

Plans o' / sev<sup>l</sup> forts & settlements on / Coast o' Africa.

147]

Journal o' / Year 1750/1.

61] fo. 36-39.  
Vol. 59.  
1750-1  
Trade.  
Africa.

Wednesday, February 12. Present; - Earl o Halifax, Mr Grenville, Lord  
Dupplin

Read a letter fm Mr. William Hollis, Secretary to / Committee o / Co  
o Merchants Trading to Africa, to / Board, dated / 8<sup>th</sup> instant, acquaintg  
them w / proceedg<sup>s</sup> & resol<sup>ns</sup> o / sd committee in conjunc<sup>on</sup> w / Court o  
Assistants o / Royal African Co.

65] fo. 47-50.  
Vol. 59.  
1750-1  
Trade.  
Africa.

Tuesday, March 5. Present; - Earl o Halifax, Mr Grenville, Lord Dupplin,  
Mr Townshend.

Several members o / Royal African Co o England attendg were called in  
& presented to / Board; -

A Memorial o / Royal African Co o England to / Lords Commissioners  
of Trade & Plantat<sup>ns</sup>, dated / 4<sup>th</sup> instant, relatg to a dispute w / new  
co concerng / appointm<sup>ts</sup> & regula<sup>ns</sup> o officers upon / Coast & desing / Board's  
determina<sup>on</sup> thereupon.

Green NBK. I p. 10

Copy o a letter sent fm / Royal African Co to / new co, dated 19<sup>th</sup> February 1750.

Copy o / new co's letter to / old co, dated 24<sup>th</sup> February, 1750.

Names o four persons was at Cape Coast.

Whereupon the Lordsships acquainted them to as / Act o Parliam<sup>t</sup> passed in / last session  
o Parliam<sup>t</sup> relative to / African Trade cd not take effect as to the part o it, wh gives this Board  
a power over / officers o / co thereby established untill / old co shd be dissolved, it was not  
possible for them to give them any advice in what manner to conduct themselves w regard to  
the officers.

Tuesday, March 12. Present: - Earl of Halifax, Mr Grenville, Lord Dupplin, Mr Fame,

1697 fo. 58-64.

Vol. 59.  
1750-1.  
Trade.  
Africa.

Read a Letter from Mr Cleland, Secretary to / Lords of Admiralty, dated 1  
y<sup>th</sup> of February, 1750, inclosg some papers (in addin to those sent in his letter of 1  
3<sup>d</sup> of December last) relaty to / ports & settlements on / coast of Africa. letter, but not  
1 since, is in  
CO. 388/45

1817 fo. 91-94.

Vol. 59.  
1751  
Trade.  
Africa.

Tuesday, April 16. Present: - Lord Dupplin, Mr Fame.

Read a letter from Mr Hollier, Secretary to / Committee of Merchants Trade to  
Africa, dated 18<sup>th</sup> of March 1750, inclosg / avis true prepared by / sd Com-  
mittee of / officers sent out this year to / Coast of Africa for Board's approba<sup>n</sup>.

217 fo. 187-188.

Vol. 59.  
1751 <sup>Sum</sup>  
Trade. <sup>Relat<sup>n</sup></sup>  
Africa. <sup>to Sardinia</sup>

Tuesday, July 9. Present: - Earl of Halifax, Mr Grenville, Mr Fame,

Read a copy of a letter from Mr Anthony Foster, master of ship Penelope, to  
Messrs Barnett & Pole, inclosg a deposi<sup>n</sup> of sd master & his ships co, dated  
January 9<sup>th</sup>, 1750-1. relaty to a settlem<sup>t</sup> of French on / coast of Africa,  
received from Mr Hollier, Secretary to / New African Co.

221 fo. 224-227.

Vol. 59.  
1751  
Trade ff. <sup>Account</sup>  
Africa. p. 14.

Wednesday, November 20. Present: - Mr Pitt, Mr Grenville, Lord Dupplin,

Read / follow's papers received from / Committee of / Co of Merchants Trade to  
Africa, viz: -

Instructions from / Committee of / Co of Merchants Trade to Africa to Thomas Melville,  
inquire, chief agent, etc., at Cape Coast Castle, 14<sup>th</sup> April 1751. CO. 388/45

... [Gambia] ...

n.f.

Total £10,608:8:2

Acct of / Co of Merchants Trade to Africa distinguishing each part of / sums of money  
received & disbursed by them since the establish<sup>t</sup>.

The Lordships upon considera<sup>n</sup> of / above acct directed that there was no part<sup>r</sup> acct of /

distrib<sup>n</sup> & applic<sup>n</sup> o/ goods sent to / parts o/ Gambia & Cape Coast nor o/ establish<sup>mt</sup>  
th<sup>r</sup>; & th<sup>r</sup> was also no acct o/ dispos<sup>n</sup> o/ £800 per annum allowed by Parliam<sup>t</sup> for  
th<sup>r</sup> home establish<sup>mt</sup>, & th<sup>r</sup> were sent articles charged separat<sup>ly</sup> for th<sup>r</sup> wh<sup>ch</sup> th<sup>r</sup> to be charged  
under th<sup>r</sup> head.

Ordered th<sup>t</sup> / Secretary do write to / sd Committee to acquaint them w<sup>th</sup> these observ<sup>ns</sup>,

192] fo. 227-229  
1751  
Trads, Red ribb p 51  
Africa.

Friday, November 22, President: - Mr Pitt, Mr Junville, Lord Dupplin.  
Mr. Hollis, Secretary to / Committee o/ Co o Merchants tradg to  
Africa, attendg, laid before / Board / following papers, viz: -

Copy o a letter from Thomas Melville, Inquire, chief agent, President o/  
Council, Treasurer & Warehouse Keeper at Cape Coast Castle to / Com-  
mittee o/ Co o Merchants tradg to Africa, dated 11<sup>th</sup> July, 1751, relatg  
to / present state o affairs upon th<sup>e</sup> coast.

Acct o/ palaver at Anamaboe betw<sup>n</sup> Captain Derbyshire & / Fantiems  
... [Gambia] ...

CO 988/45. Dd 41.  
[Palaver at Dixcove] Dd 42.  
" Dd 43

- Copy o/ President & Council's letter, 24<sup>th</sup> June, 1751, to / Commissioners o  
Ships at Anamaboe w<sup>th</sup> th<sup>r</sup> answer.

- Copy o Mr Melville's letter o/ 6<sup>th</sup> July, 1751, to / Dutch Gen., w<sup>th</sup> / answer,  
2<sup>nd</sup> July, N.S.

- Copy o / Chief o Dixcove's letter to / President & Council at Cape Coast  
Castle, 9<sup>th</sup> July, 1751.

... [Gambia] ...

Copy o Captain Derbyshire's letter o/ 24<sup>th</sup> June, 1751.

Ordered th<sup>t</sup> extracts be made o such parts o/ above-mentioned papers as relate to / be-  
haviour o/ Dutch at Dixcove, & to / conduct o/ captains o his Majesty's ships to be trans-  
mitted to / Secretary o State, & to / Lords Commissioners o/ Admiralty, & th<sup>t</sup> / draughts o  
letters therew<sup>ith</sup> be prepared.

251] fo. 15-16. Friday, January 10. Present; - Earl of Halifax, Lord Dupplin, Mr. Fane,  
Vol. 60. Mr Townshend,

1751-2 Read a letter from / Committee of / Royal African Co to / Board, dated December,  
Trade. <sup>CO 308</sup> 1751. in answer to a letter from Mr Pownall, \* contains observations upon such  
Africa. <sup>45</sup> articles of expence arising in / execution of the Trust stated in their accounts laid  
Dd. 47. before / Board. [Copied p 19 post]

Mr Hollis, Secretary to / Committee of Merchants Trade to Africa, attending, was called in  
& he laid before the Lords his / following paper: -

Dd. 48 Distrib<sup>n</sup> of £800 granted by Parliam<sup>t</sup> for / charges of / Committee of Merchants Trade to Africa.

p. 21 post The Lords hisp then acquainted Mr Hollis & as it appeared by / above-mentioned letter from  
/ Committee & / articles of charge mentioned in Mr Pownalls letter to them were not permanent ex-  
pences, they had no objection to the being placed in / acct of disposal of money granted by Par-  
liam<sup>t</sup> for / support of / forts & settlements upon / coast of Africa, but & the Lords hisp recom-  
mend to / Committee for / future to confine all expences & relative to the Trust to / £800  
allowed by Parliam<sup>t</sup> for the service.

... [Pamela] ...

252] fo. 19-21. Tuesday, January 14. Present; - Earl of Halifax, Mr Pitt, Lord Dupplin,  
Vol. 60. Mr Fane, Mr Townshend.

1751-2 The draught of a letter to / Earl of Holderness \* inclosg extracts & copies of  
Trade. such letters & papers laid before / Board by / Committee of Merchants Trade  
Africa. to Africa, has been prepared pursuant to / minutes of 22<sup>nd</sup> of November last,  
was laid before / Board & ordered to be transcribed.

206] fo. 26-29 Wednesday, January 15. Present: - Earl o Halifax, Mr Pitt, Lord Dupplin,  
1751-2 Mr. Townshend.  
Trade. The draught o a letter to / Earl o Holderness inclosg equip o extracts o  
Africa. / letters & papers laid before / Board by / Committee o Merchants tradg  
CO 989/30 to Africa havg b<sup>n</sup> transcribed pursuant to / precedg days minutes, was  
P. 268. laid before / Board & signed. [Copied P 173 page]

Thursday, January 16, Present: - Earl o Halifax, Mr Pitt, Mr Grenville,  
Lord Dupplin, Mr Fane, Mr. Townshend.  
Trade. Read a letter fm / Earl o Holderness, one o his Majesty's Secretaries o State,  
Africa. dated / 15<sup>th</sup> January, 1752, referring to / considera<sup>n</sup> o / Board / followg paper: -  
CO 989/45 Dd. 50 51. Memorial o / Committee o / Co o Merchants tradg to Africa to / King's  
most excellent Majesty concerng a fort to be at Anamaboe.  
dated / 6<sup>th</sup> o November, 1751. [Copied pp. 22 & 23 see page]

[French at Anamaboe]  
207] fo. 29-32. Resolved t / sd letter & memorial be taken into considera<sup>n</sup> on Tuesday  
Vol. 60 next & t / Secretary do write to / Committee o / Co o Merchants tradg to  
1751-2 Africa, to desire thr attendance on t day.  
Trade.  
Africa.

259] fo. 95-97. Tuesday, January 21. Present: - Earl o Halifax, Mr Grenville, Lord  
Vol. 60 Dupplin, Mr Fane, Mr. Townshend.  
1751-2 The Committee o Merchants tradg to Africa attendg pursuant to /  
Trade. minutes o / 16<sup>th</sup> instant, they were called in & / letter fm / Earl o Holders-  
Africa. ness & also / memorial o / sd Co to his Majesty, relatg to / building a fort  
at Anamaboe, havg b<sup>n</sup> read, they acquainted / Board t they appre-  
hended t / building a fort at Anamaboe at this conjuncture w<sup>d</sup> be a  
means o preservg / rights o / na<sup>n</sup> & securg & protectg / trade o his  
[Hilhow]

[French at Anamaboe]  
Mr. Bowden & London.  
Nathaniel Barnwell &  
Liverpool, Abraham James  
& Bristol

• Cf. Capt Boscawen's letter to / Admiralty dtd 17 Feb 1702

Majesty's subjects upon / Gold Coast; & as John Corranee was now 83 old they  
 apprehended his view on propos / build a fort was to secure to his family, his riches  
 & possess <sup>no</sup>, & if his offer was not accepted, <sup>there</sup> was reason to believe he m<sup>t</sup> apply to /  
 French or some o<sup>r</sup> Power; & if we neglected this opp<sup>s</sup> we m<sup>t</sup> never h another, as John  
 Corranee wd probably resent a refusal o his offer; beg asked if they hd ever heard o any  
 former applic<sup>n</sup> of buildg a fort here, they sd they never hd, & t / old African Co deserted / fort we  
 hd formerly here, they felt acquainted the lordships t / best sort o negroes are to be got at t place,  
 wh they considered as a key to / whole Trade o / Gold Coast; t most o / Eastern Trade was removed  
 for Cape Coast to Anomaboo, & if / French shd get possess<sup>n</sup> o it, we shd not be able to carry on  
any Trade at Cape Coast Castle; & as to / plan & design o buildg / fort, Mr Minors upon consult<sup>s</sup>  
 w persons best acquainted w / situat<sup>n</sup> o / place was o opinion it wd not be proper to build it  
 upon / foundat<sup>n</sup> o / old one, but to remove it a little nearer / sea, / old one beg at 100 q<sup>r</sup> a distance.  
 t they h constantly paid ground rent of / ground whereon / old fort stood & some lands abt it,  
 & t they apprehend this wd extend to / ground whereon they proposed to build / new fort;  
 t they apprehended they sd build dir as cheap, if not cheaper than in England, f although  
 they shd be obliged to send out bricks & timber, yet t wd be no q<sup>r</sup> expence, & wd be  
 counterbalanced by / q<sup>r</sup> sav<sup>g</sup> upon labors, wh they apprehended wd mit be 1/3  
 chargeable more especially as Corranee hd made offers o 50 q<sup>r</sup> assistce;  
 beg asked if / expence o buildg this fort m<sup>t</sup> not be defrayed out o / £10,000  
 granted by Parliam<sup>t</sup> of / support o / forts & protect<sup>n</sup> o / Trade, they sd they  
 apprehended it sd not, as Mr Richards hd not only expended all / goods sent out  
 w him but also run them in debt £10,000, & they sd not say how far / goods now sent out  
 wd answer t debt: t if only ~~the~~ £2,000 was granted by / present they wd begin upon / work  
 & were w<sup>l</sup>l to take / money as / work went on.

The Committee beg with drawn the lordships after consider<sup>n</sup> o this affair ordered /  
draught o a report thereupon to / Earl o Holderness to be prepared.

• Dec o / palace at Dissee?

Wednesday, January 22. Present: - Earl of Halifax, Mr. Grenville, Lord Dupplin.

Trade. The Lordships beg informed E Mr. Hollis, Secretary to / Committee of Co of Merchants Africa Trade to Africa, was attended w Mr. Crichton, who had b'n chief agent to / old African Co at Cape Coast Castle, they were called in, & Mr. Crichton beg asked if he cd give / Board any informa<sup>n</sup> relative to / ground rent pd by / Co at Anamatoe, he acquainted the Lordships E it appeared by an entry in / Journals of old Co, a copy o wh entry be produced, E they paid 12 anns beg abt £3 per month to / Braffro & Corran Fees o Fanteen of ground rent & water custom at Anamatoe & / two adjacent towns of Agga & Anasham, wh had b'n paid w<sup>r</sup> since / English had any fort th<sup>r</sup>; E he apprehended / paym<sup>t</sup> o / ground rent gave / English a right o buildg a fort in any part o / town o Anamatoe; E / water custom was of / privilege & freedom o road & use o / water. Mr. Crichton beg asked as to his opinion as to / properest spot of buildg a fort upon, he set E / spot where / old fort was built was in his opinion / most proper beg near / water side & secured fm any danger fm / sea by / surf wh is always w<sup>y</sup> gt th<sup>r</sup>, so E few shot fm a ship can take place; E / buildg a new one upon / old founda<sup>n</sup> wd however be attended w inconvenience as he was informed E / bank or cistern of / recep<sup>n</sup> o water wh is absolutely necessary in all forts th<sup>r</sup>, was so foul as to be incapable o beg cleaned so as to be made use o ag<sup>n</sup>.

262] fo. 43 = 46 Wednesday, January 29. Present: - Earl of Halifax, Mr. Pitt, Mr. Grenville, Mr. Townshend, Mr. Oswald.

Miscellaneous. A Commis<sup>n</sup> under / Gr Seal bearing date / 6th o January, 1752, appraisg George Dunt, Earl of Halifax, John Pitt, James Grenville,

Enquire, Thomas Hay, commonly Lord Viscount Dupplin, Francis Fane, Charles Townshend, Andrew Stone & James Oswald, to inquire, Commissioners of promotg / Trade o this Kingdom & inspectg & improvg / plant<sup>n</sup>s in America & elsewhere was opened & read.

Trade. The draught o a report to / Earl o Holderness upon / memorial presented to his Majesty  
Africa, by / Committee o Merchants Trade to Africa relatg to / building a fort at Anamaboe  
having b'n prepared pursuant to / minutes o / 21<sup>st</sup> instant, was laid before / Board.  
Resolved t<sup>t</sup> this report be taken into considera<sup>n</sup> on Friday next, & t<sup>t</sup> / Secretary do write  
to Admiral Knowles to desire his attend<sup>ce</sup> on / Board t<sup>t</sup> day.

263] fo. 46-48. Friday, January 31, Present; - Earl o Halifax, Mr Pitt, Mr Grenville,  
Vol. 60. Mr Fans, Mr Townshend.  
1751-2. Admiral Knowles attendg, as desired, was called in & beg asked  
Trade. wh<sup>o</sup> if it sh<sup>d</sup> be tho<sup>t</sup> advisable to build a new fort at Anamaboe upon  
Africa. / coast o Africa, / ground whereon / old fort stood was a proper situa<sup>n</sup>  
or wh<sup>o</sup> it m<sup>t</sup> be advisable to build it upon some o<sup>r</sup> spot, he acquainted th<sup>e</sup>  
lordships t<sup>t</sup> he never was ashore at t<sup>e</sup> place; t<sup>t</sup> he had lain sometime in / flood & fr<sup>m</sup> th<sup>e</sup>  
what he c<sup>d</sup> observe fr<sup>m</sup> his ship he was o<sup>p</sup>inion / ground whereon / old fort stood  
was / most proper as it commands / channell & was not within gunshot o / fort wh<sup>o</sup>  
/ Dutch h<sup>o</sup> at t<sup>e</sup> place; t<sup>t</sup> / old fort stood in a valley shut in on / landside by hills  
& t<sup>t</sup> if / new fort sh<sup>d</sup> be built upon / side o those hills it sh<sup>d</sup> be v<sup>y</sup> responsible, as on one  
side / walls must be v<sup>y</sup> high; t<sup>t</sup> as to / fortm<sup>t</sup> o / timber or w<sup>o</sup>den, if it was well cleaned &  
lined w<sup>o</sup> bricks, it m<sup>t</sup> be used ag<sup>n</sup>.

Admiral Knowles beg with drawn, th<sup>e</sup> lordships took into considera<sup>n</sup> / draught o a  
report to / Earl o Holderness upon / memorial o / Committee o / Co o Merchants Trade to  
Africa, agreed thereto & ordered it to be transcribed.

264] fo. 48-51. Tuesday, February 4, Present; - Earl o Halifax, Mr Pitt, Mr Grenville, Mr Fans,  
1751-2. Mr Oswald,  
Trade. The draught o a report to / Earl o Holderness upon / memorial o / Committee o  
Africa. Merchants Trade to Africa relatg to / building a fort at Anamaboe, having b'n  
transcribed pursuant to / minutes o / 31<sup>st</sup> o January, was laid before / Board  
& signed. [Copied post p. 174.]

58.  
[69] fo. 62-65. Wednesday, February 12. Present: - Earl of Halifax, Mr. Grenville, Mr. Townshend, Mr. Oswald.  
CO. 280/45  
1751-2. Read a letter from Mr. Stockwell to / Board, dated at Cape Coast Castle, Trade, July 23<sup>rd</sup> 1751, containing his observations upon / Act of Parliament lately passed for regu- Africa, lating / Trade to Africa.

CO. 280/45. Dd. 53.  
inc. in Reg. 1751. p. 337  
1751. Read a letter from Mr. Thomas Boteler at Cape Coast Castle to Mr. Hill dated July 23<sup>rd</sup> 1751, enclosing letter or remonstrance from Mr. Thomas Boteler, one of chief agents at Cape Coast to Thomas Melville, Esquire, President of Council etc, setting forth / hardships / cos servants w<sup>ch</sup> lye under, as well as / Trade in gen by being restrained from trading w<sup>th</sup> foreigners.

Ordered t<sup>h</sup> / above-mentioned letters be taken into consideration to-morrow morn<sup>g</sup>.  
Thursday, February 13, Present: - Earl of Halifax, Mr. Grenville, Lord Dupplin, Mr. Fane, Mr. Townshend, Mr. Oswald.

Trade. The lords hips pursuant to / preced<sup>d</sup> days minutes, took into consider<sup>g</sup> / letters from Messrs. Africa. Stockwell & Boteler mentioned therein, & Mr. Hollis, Secretary to / Committee of / African Co. attended was called in & he laid before / Board / follow<sup>g</sup> papers: -

- Copy of a letter from Mr. John Roberts to / African Co, dated at Cape Coast Castle, 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 1751. CO. 280/45. Dd. 53.
- Copy of Mr. Melville's letter to / African Co, dated at Cape Coast Castle, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1751. Dd. 51.
- Copy of / African Committee's answer to Mr. Melville's letter of 11<sup>th</sup> July, 1751. Dd. 57.
- Copy of / African Committee's answer to Mr. Melville's letter of 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 1751. Dd. 58.

[70] fo. 65-68. The sd papers having been read the lords hips agreed to take them into con- sideration to-morrow m<sup>o</sup>, & Mr. Hollis was directed to acquaint / Committee of Trade. African Co t<sup>h</sup> the lords hips desire the attendance at / Board to-morrow at Gen Africa. o'clock, & then Mr. Hollis withdrew.

Friday, February 14, Present: - Earl of Halifax, Mr. Pitt, Mr. Grenville, Lord Dupplin, Mr. Fane, Mr. Townshend, Mr. Oswald.

Trade,

Africa,

Mr. Touchitt,

Mr. Poole,

Mr. Buxcoce

Mr. Scott.

The Lords hips pursuant to / preced<sup>d</sup> minutes, took into consider<sup>n</sup> / papers  
relat<sup>g</sup> to / Trade to Africa mentioned therein & sent o / Committee o / 100 Merchants  
had<sup>g</sup> thither attend<sup>g</sup>, as desired, w<sup>th</sup> Mr. Hollis, the Secretary, they were called in.  
The Lords hips then informed them t<sup>h</sup> they hd h<sup>d</sup> under th<sup>r</sup> consider<sup>n</sup> /  
letters to / Committee fm Mr. Melville & Mr. Roberts w<sup>th</sup> th<sup>r</sup> answers thereto, & also  
two o' letters to / Board fm Messrs. Stockwell & Roberts; t<sup>h</sup> it appeared to them  
t<sup>h</sup> sent o / prints contained in Mr. Melville's letter were too lightly taken notice  
o in th<sup>r</sup> answers, & t<sup>h</sup> partly they hd signified th<sup>r</sup> approba<sup>n</sup> in / most positive manner  
o Mr. Melville's hav<sup>g</sup> introduc<sup>d</sup> / culture o cotton & indigo upon t<sup>h</sup> Coast, / was one o' w<sup>ch</sup> they  
sh<sup>d</sup> be glad to be inform<sup>d</sup> o as it appeared to be upon a new plan o commerce wh<sup>ch</sup> was a matter  
o a very doubtful nature & requir<sup>d</sup> a v<sup>ry</sup> serious consider<sup>n</sup>; t<sup>h</sup> / introduc<sup>d</sup> o culture & industry  
among<sup>t</sup> / negroes was contrary to / known policy o th<sup>is</sup> Trade; t<sup>h</sup> th<sup>is</sup> was no say<sup>g</sup> where th<sup>is</sup>  
m<sup>t</sup> stop & t<sup>h</sup> it m<sup>t</sup> extend to tobacco, sugar & v<sup>ry</sup> o' commodity wh<sup>ch</sup> we now take fm our  
Colonies; & th<sup>er</sup>by / Africans who now support themselves by w<sup>ar</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> become planters &  
th<sup>r</sup> slaves be employ<sup>d</sup> in / culture o these articles in Africa, wh<sup>ch</sup> they are now employ<sup>d</sup> in,  
in America; t<sup>h</sup> our ports<sup>ms</sup> in America were firmly secur<sup>d</sup> to us, whereas there in Africa  
were more open to / invasions o an enemy, & besides t<sup>h</sup> in Africa we were only tenants in  
/ soil wh<sup>ch</sup> we held at / good will o / natives.

Whereupon Mr. Poole acquainted / Board t<sup>h</sup> Mr. Melville hd taken th<sup>is</sup> step entirely  
upon his own judgm<sup>t</sup> & w<sup>th</sup> any instruct<sup>ns</sup> fm / Committee; t<sup>h</sup> however upon consider<sup>n</sup> o /  
measure it was approv<sup>d</sup> o by / Committee who did not think it necessary to enter into  
a detail o th<sup>r</sup> reasons in th<sup>r</sup> letter; t<sup>h</sup> th<sup>r</sup> opinion was found<sup>d</sup> upon / neces<sup>s</sup> necessity th<sup>is</sup>  
was f<sup>r</sup> these articles in our English manufactures as Mr. Touchitt, who was well acquainted  
w<sup>th</sup> / nature o / case, cd shew th<sup>r</sup> Lords hips.

Mr. Touchitt then inform<sup>d</sup> / Board t<sup>h</sup> / Committee did consider t<sup>h</sup> / introduc<sup>d</sup> /  
culture o cotton in Africa m<sup>t</sup> give some umbrage to / West Indies; t<sup>h</sup> as to indigo,  
th<sup>is</sup> was none produc<sup>d</sup> in any o / colonies except Carolina; t<sup>h</sup> however / encourage m<sup>t</sup>

211] fo. 68-71. lately given by / Parliam<sup>ts</sup> had not answered / incl<sup>d</sup> proposal, / Carolina indigo beg<sup>d</sup> bad  
Vol. 60. & but a small quantity produced; & we were therefore obliged to import our indigo from  
1751-2 France & Spain chiefly from France; & even France did not encourage / growth o<sup>f</sup> it, so  
Trade, & it sometimes happened they had not enough by themselves; & had actually threatened to  
Africa, prohibit / exportat<sup>n</sup> o<sup>f</sup> it, wh<sup>ch</sup> w<sup>d</sup> be g<sup>rt</sup>ly distress our w<sup>est</sup>ern manufacture, & / more so (as)

our trade to Spain is chiefly by blue cloths; & / price o<sup>f</sup> indigo in Spain had usually b<sup>e</sup>  
abt 3/6 per pound, but was now risen to 6/6 per pound; & as to cotton it was pretty much under  
/ some circumstances, & with h<sup>is</sup> little cotton now from / West Indies & chiefly from / Virgin Islands;  
& formerly we had cotton from Santa Lucia; & although planters do at first begin w<sup>th</sup> cotton, yet  
as soon as they are able they always fall into / growth o<sup>f</sup> sugars, wh<sup>ch</sup> was not to be wondered at  
as sugars now sold, / muscovado for 35 to 40 shillings / 100 weight, & clayed up to 50; &  
we now take our cotton at g<sup>rt</sup> disadvantage from / Turkey & o<sup>r</sup> places, whereas if we grewed cotton  
in Africa / raw materials w<sup>d</sup> be worked up here & sent out ag<sup>n</sup> in manufactures to our g<sup>rt</sup> advantage.

Mr. Briscoe then observed as to what the Lordships sd o<sup>f</sup> it's be<sup>ing</sup> impossible to know  
when [where?] this culture w<sup>d</sup> stop, he apprehended it was only intended to ~~test~~ teach / art o<sup>f</sup>  
cultivat<sup>n</sup> indigo & cotton to / negroes abt / Ports.

Mr. Poole then observed as to what had b<sup>e</sup> sd w<sup>th</sup> respect to alterat<sup>n</sup> o<sup>f</sup> policy, necessity  
m<sup>t</sup> make it right to alter / principal; & & if no indigo was produced & cotton increased  
in / colonies, it m<sup>t</sup> be right to cultivate them in Africa, & & if sugars were suffered  
to be cultivated in Africa it w<sup>d</sup> enable us to supply all / merchants in Europe; & we sh<sup>d</sup>  
by all means to distress / French navigat<sup>n</sup>; & formerly / French sugars passed through  
our colonies, by wh<sup>ch</sup> means we were / carriers o<sup>f</sup> all / produce o<sup>f</sup> America, but & now /  
French had their own shipping to import the produce.

Mr. Touchitt then observed & / whole o<sup>f</sup> quest<sup>n</sup> rested upon / point wh<sup>ch</sup> our property  
& possess<sup>n</sup> in Africa were established & secured w<sup>th</sup> respect to / natives, if our possess<sup>n</sup>  
was dependant upon / natives, & we were only tenants at will, it was clear & / introduc<sup>n</sup>  
o<sup>f</sup> culture & produce m<sup>t</sup> prove a bad consequ<sup>ce</sup>.

The Lordships upon / whole acquainted / Committee t<sup>o</sup> as / introduc'd industry & / cultivat<sup>n</sup> o such commodities as are produced in our Colonies appeared to be contrary to what had ever hitherto b<sup>e</sup>n / policy o this country, they as a Board c<sup>d</sup> not give countenance to it w<sup>o</sup> had / sense o Parliam<sup>t</sup> & therefore recommend to them to write to Mr Melville to acquaint him t<sup>h</sup> he sh<sup>d</sup> not to be interest upon such a measure w<sup>o</sup> orders for home & to direct him to suspend any fut<sup>r</sup> proceed<sup>g</sup>s in this scheme until / sense o Parliam<sup>t</sup> be known.

272) fo. 41-44. The Lordships then observed to / Committee t<sup>h</sup> it appeared from Mr Melville's letter t<sup>h</sup> he had undertaken to open / paths into / Ashantee country, but t<sup>h</sup> it Trade. seem'd for what he sh<sup>d</sup> obt<sup>n</sup> it, as if he had not consult'd / Factors in this Africa. & was not upon good terms w<sup>o</sup> John Corralee; he makes men<sup>n</sup> o draw<sup>g</sup> / Trade from Annamaboe to Cape Coast & represent'd ag<sup>t</sup> build<sup>g</sup> a fort there; t<sup>h</sup> this appeared to the Lordships to be a v<sup>y</sup> x<sup>tr</sup> conduct, totally inconsistent w<sup>o</sup> intern<sup>n</sup> & contrary to / sentiments & direct<sup>n</sup>s o / Committee themselves.

To this / Committee observ'd t<sup>h</sup> they did not think Mr Melville sh<sup>d</sup> h<sup>o</sup> undertaken / open<sup>g</sup> / paths w<sup>o</sup> / Ashantees, wh<sup>o</sup> is o g<sup>t</sup> consequence to our Trade, unless he c<sup>d</sup> carry his point; t<sup>h</sup> it appear'd by his letter t<sup>h</sup> he had consult'd / Factors upon this measure but conceal'd / method o carry<sup>g</sup> it into execut<sup>n</sup> & t<sup>h</sup> there was reason to think he plac'd more confidence in Guyoe Capoccer than in John Corralee.

Whereupon the Lordships recommend'd to / Committee to direct him for / future upon all occas<sup>n</sup>s to cultivate & improve a good understand<sup>g</sup> w<sup>o</sup> / Factors & partly John Corralee & his son William who has b<sup>e</sup>n v<sup>y</sup> serviceable to / English interest & has done all t<sup>h</sup> lay in his power to promote & secure it.

The Lordships then took notice to / Committee t<sup>h</sup> there was another point aris<sup>g</sup> from these letters wh<sup>o</sup> was / remonstrance o some o / officers ag<sup>t</sup> / restraint wh<sup>o</sup> they are laid under o not trad<sup>g</sup> w<sup>o</sup> foreigners; t<sup>h</sup> as this was a point in wh<sup>o</sup> people were o a diff<sup>t</sup> opinion, th<sup>o</sup> it was gently consider'd as a wrong th<sup>g</sup> to introduc<sup>g</sup> / French upon / Coast, the Lordships were desirous o know<sup>g</sup> / sent<sup>ts</sup> o / Committee upon it.

whereupon / Committee observed t<sup>t</sup> this trade was contrary to / intention<sup>s</sup> of / Act o<sup>r</sup> / Parliam<sup>t</sup>, as w<sup>o</sup>d appear by / preamble o<sup>r</sup> it, t<sup>t</sup> therefore they had given instruc<sup>ns</sup> to Mr. Melville to forbid the officers from carry<sup>ng</sup> it on & to endeavour to prevent it in d<sup>o</sup>: t<sup>t</sup> notwithstanding / pretence t<sup>t</sup> / French only take refuse slaves, if they are permitted to come upon / coast they w<sup>o</sup>d get / goods as well as / bad; t<sup>t</sup> this trade sh<sup>d</sup> be forbid by Act o<sup>r</sup> Parliam<sup>t</sup>

Mr. Crichton, formerly agent to / old African Co at Cape Coast attendg was called in, & he g<sup>o</sup> add<sup>d</sup> his opinion as to / advantage or disadvantage o<sup>r</sup> a trade w<sup>o</sup> / French upon / coast o<sup>r</sup> Africa, he acquainted the lordships t<sup>t</sup> it was v<sup>y</sup> often o<sup>r</sup> advantage to trade w<sup>o</sup> / French, but if it was admitted they w<sup>o</sup>d get / whole trade into their hands, o<sup>u</sup>th he rememb<sup>r</sup> hereat an inst<sup>ce</sup> when they were in sole possess<sup>n</sup> o<sup>r</sup> / trade at / Mamaboe & / English ships were obliged to go off; t<sup>t</sup> / English by / superiority o<sup>r</sup> goods h<sup>d</sup> always / upbal o<sup>r</sup> / trade if / private traders did not furnish / Dutch w<sup>o</sup> goods; t<sup>t</sup> there was no [French at Mamaboe] 1733] to. 46-47. // French trade upon / coast before 1734, & t<sup>t</sup> / English took all / best slaves Vol. 60. & / Dutch /<sup>d</sup> in order to furnish a contract they were under / sendg<sup>g</sup> 2,000 1751-2. slaves annually to Surinam.

Trade. The Committee then observed t<sup>t</sup> it was impossible to prevent / English Africa. tradg w<sup>o</sup> / French through / Dutch & / natives, but by prohibiting all trade upon / coast both w<sup>o</sup> / French & / Dutch, in w<sup>h</sup> case / Dutch c<sup>o</sup> not get English w<sup>o</sup>llen goods but at a g<sup>o</sup>t dis<sup>t</sup> advantage.

whereupon the lordships acquainted / Committee t<sup>t</sup> whenever they sh<sup>d</sup> think proper to lay before them a memorial upon this subject, they sh<sup>d</sup> take it into full consider<sup>n</sup>, & in / mean- time recommended to them to enforce / instruc<sup>ns</sup> they h<sup>d</sup> already given by restraining a trade w<sup>o</sup> / French in a more positive manner.

The Committee then withdrew.

285] Friday, March 6, Present: - Earl of Halifax, Mr. Grenville, Lord Dupplin, Mr. Townshend, Mr. Oswald.

286] fo. 111-114. Read / follows papers received from Mr. Hollis, Secretary to / Committee of Co 1751-2, of Merchants Trade to Africa, viz.: -  
Trade, Co 380/45 Africa, Dd 60. Copies of letters from Thomas Melville, Esquire, President of Council at Cape Coast Castle, dated 26<sup>th</sup> August & 16<sup>th</sup> September, 1751, to / Committee of Co of Merchants Trade to Africa relaty to / state of affairs upon t coast

[Palmer at Dixcove] Copy of a letter from Mr. Melville to / Dutch Gen at damine, dated 31<sup>st</sup> July, 1751.  
Dd 61. & of 1<sup>st</sup> Gen's answer thereto

294] Wednesday, April 15, Present: - Earl of Halifax, Mr. Grenville, Mr. Oswald.

298] fo. 146-149. Read a letter from Mr. Cleland, Secretary to / Lords Commissioners of Admiralty, 1752 Gambia dated / 14<sup>th</sup> instant, to / Secretary, in answer to his letter of 15<sup>th</sup> January Trade: Dd 62. relaty concerning / misbehaviour of captains of her Majesty's ships on / coast of Africa  
Africa

316] fo. 202-205 Thursday, May 7, Present: - Earl of Halifax, Mr. Pitt, Mr. Grenville, Mr. Townshend, Mr. Oswald,

1752 Trade, Dd 63. Africa: Dd 68. Read a letter from Mr. Amyand, Secretary to / Lords Justice, dated / 30<sup>th</sup> April, 1752, referring to this Board copy of a letter from Mr. Cleland, Secretary to / Lords of Admiralty, inclosg several papers relaty to disputes

[Palmer at Dixcove] between / English Council at Dixcove & a party of / natives therabouts.

Read a letter from Mr. Hollis, Secretary to / Co of Merchants Trade to Africa, dated 29<sup>th</sup> April, 1752, inclosg a copy of Mr. Melville's letter to / 1<sup>st</sup> Committee, dated at Cape Coast Castle, / 15<sup>th</sup> November 1751  
and transmittg: -  
Dd 69

\* Wm. LJJ. actg as Regent during an absence in Hanover of George II (1727-1760)?

• Secy's letter of 15 Jan. is not mentioned in / minutes of 6<sup>th</sup> date.

Dd. 12. 13. 14. 15  
16. 17.  
"The Originals were  
sent back to Mrs.  
Hollis to be copied."  
Read May 14<sup>th</sup> 1752  
[Commenda]

Short narra<sup>n</sup> o / Dixie's quarrell. [19<sup>th</sup> this Melville's PS on Red Book p 510?]  
Artt Articles o agree<sup>mt</sup> betw<sup>n</sup> / Council o Cape Coast & / Dutch Gen o Elmina.  
Abstract o letters betw<sup>n</sup> / President & Council at Cape Coast Castle & /  
Dutch Gen o Elmina relative to / Atchumah quarrell.  
Transac<sup>ns</sup> betw<sup>n</sup> / Council at Cape Coast Castle & / Dutch Gen at Elmina  
relative to / Commenda quarrell.  
Value<sup>n</sup> o / Cos slaves at / outports [outports?].  
Copies o letters betw<sup>n</sup> / Honourable Captain Horse & / Council at Cape Coast  
Castle.

[Paladin at Dixie's]

Ordered t these papers be taken into considera<sup>n</sup> on Tuesday next.

Tuesday, May 12, Present: - Earl o Halifax, Mr. Pitt, Mr. Grenville, Lord Dupplin,  
Mr. Oswald.

Trade. The Lordships also took into <sup>the</sup> considera<sup>n</sup> / papers relative to / dispute betw<sup>n</sup> /  
Africa. Council o Cape Coast Castle & / Dutch Gen at Elmina mentioned in / preced<sup>g</sup>  
minutes & ordered / Secretary to write to / Committee o Merchants trade to  
Africa to desire the attend<sup>ce</sup> at / Board on Thursday next at 11 o'clock in / m<sup>r</sup>.

017] Thursday, May 14. Present: - Earl o Halifax, Mr. Pitt, Mr. Grenville, Lord Dupplin,  
Mr. Fane, Mr. Oswald.

018] fo. 209-212. The Committee o / Co o Merchants trade to Africa attendg w<sup>th</sup> Mr.  
1752. Hollis, the Secretary, as desired, the Lordships took into considera<sup>n</sup> /  
Trade. present state o affairs upon / coast o Africa & / followg papers were read,  
Africa. viz: -

Copies o two letters, dated Cape Coast Castle, 20<sup>th</sup> February, 1752, from Mr.  
Melville to / Committee o / Co o Merchants trade to Africa.

Dd 19. 20. 31.  
The Originals were  
sent back to Mrs.  
Hollis to be copied  
Read May 14<sup>th</sup> 1752

Copy of a letter from Messrs. William Husbands & Elemezer Young, Two of /  
Council of Cape Coast Castle, to / Committee of / Co of Merchants trading to  
Africa. Dated at 20<sup>th</sup> February, 1752, at Annamaboe

letter from William Husbands, one of / Council of Cape Coast Castle, to /  
Committee of / Co of Merchants trading to Africa. Dated Annamaboe, 18<sup>th</sup> February 1752.

Copy of a letter from Captain Buckle, Commander of a Squadron of His Majesty's ships  
of war upon / coast of Africa, to Mr Cleland, Secretary to / Lords of Admiralty,  
dated / 20<sup>th</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> February, 1752.

letter from William Amstutz Sessara coa, son of John Corrantee, chief  
cabbocur of Annamaboe to / Earl of Halifax, dated / 20<sup>th</sup> February, 1752.

Original is in  
Adm. 1. 1485 Dd 82  
[copied]  
MS. Adm. 1. 358.

MS. Adm. 1. 358  
Dd 83.

The Lordsships then observed to / Committee & it clearly appeared from / foregoing letters  
& unless a fort was begun to be built as soon as possible, not only to place what he took, but  
was it / whole British interest upon the coast; & / late transactions confirmed / opinion which  
Committee gave to / Board some time ago of necessity of building such a fort; & therefore the  
Lordsships did recommend to them to make as early an application as possible to / Lords Justice  
laying before them / present state of affairs upon / coast of the Excellencies' direction thereupon  
& no time might be lost in taking / necessary steps to preserve & save / British interest there.

The Lordsships then observed to / Committee upon such parts of / foregoing letters as related  
to / conduct of Mr Melville, / Co's agent at Cape Coast; & it appeared to he had acted upon  
principles inconsistent with / sense of nature / opinion of this Board or / positive direction of / Co  
[19] fo. 212-215. themselves, & which could not but prove fatal to / Trade & interest of this country;  
Vol. 60. & instead of cultivating a friendship with / France it appeared to he had done  
1752. everything to set his hands to alienate the affection; & he had taken no step  
Trade. to defeat / designs of / France upon the arrival at Annamaboe, but on /  
Africa. contrary sent / France a bottle of rum in contempt, at / time / French  
were given them some hundred gallons, & it appeared to / confess that  
of encouragement. given to / French upon the coming last to Annamaboe, was Mr Melville  
They accompanied Capt Buckle on his Squadron's visit to Annamaboe.

treat<sup>m</sup> o / Families, & t<sup>e</sup> while t<sup>e</sup> god was send<sup>g</sup> out fleets o ships & measures are tak<sup>g</sup> to prevent t<sup>e</sup> place from fall<sup>g</sup> into / hands o / French, an officer o / Co contrary to the dire<sup>ns</sup> is counteract<sup>g</sup> these measures & endeavour<sup>g</sup> to render ineffectual w<sup>ch</sup> slip wh<sup>ch</sup> it has b<sup>e</sup>n that proper to take; & therefore as it appeared t<sup>e</sup> Mr Melville h<sup>d</sup> acted so improper a part & h<sup>d</sup> behaved so ill, / Board desired to know what dire<sup>ns</sup> / Committee proposed to send him.

Whereupon / Committee acquainted / Board t<sup>e</sup> they wd consider o what h<sup>d</sup> appeared w<sup>ch</sup> respect to Mr Melville's conduct & attend / Board on this day fortnight in order to lay before them the opinion thereupon, & desired they m<sup>t</sup> h<sup>e</sup> a copy o Mr William Ansahe's letter to / Earl o Halifax wh<sup>ch</sup> was ordered to be given to them & then they withdrew.

Ordered t<sup>e</sup> / Secretary do transmit copies o / letters laid before / Board by / Committee o / Co o merchants trad<sup>g</sup> to Africa, & also a copy o Mr Williams (Ansahe) letter to / Earl o Halifax, to / Secretary to / Lord's Justice to be laid before the excellen<sup>cy</sup> as soon as possible.

Ordered t<sup>e</sup> / papers relative to / state o affairs upon / coast o Africa be taken into fur consideration on Wednesday, / 24<sup>th</sup> instant.

920] fo. 215-218. The Secretary laid before / Board / two follow<sup>g</sup> papers received from Mr Hollis, 1752. Secretary to / Co of Committee o / Co trad<sup>g</sup> to Africa, viz. :-

Trade Africa

Copy o a letter from / Committee o / Co o merchants trad<sup>g</sup> to Africa to Thomas Melville, Esquire, President o / Council, etc. at Cape Coast Castle, dated London, 29<sup>th</sup> January, 1752.

Copy o a letter from / Committee o / Co o merchants trad<sup>g</sup> to Africa to Thomas Melville, Esquire, President o / Council, etc. at Cape Coast Castle, dated February 18<sup>th</sup>, 1752.

• C.S.P. Dom. 9. II. 1752 Buncle no 119, Date July 23. No. 46. Lord Halifax - enclosing John Corran's letter (want<sup>g</sup>).

321] fo. 218-221. Wednesday, May 27. Present: - Earl o Halifax, Mr Pitt, Mr Grenville, Lord Dupplin,  
Vol. 60. Mr Oswald.  
1752. The Lordships pursuant to / minutes o / 14<sup>th</sup> instant, took into consideration /  
Trade. papers mentioned therein relative to / present state o affairs upon / coast o Africa.  
Africa.

Thursday, May 28. Present: - Earl o Halifax, Mr Pitt, Mr Grenville, Lord Dupplin,  
Mr Oswald.

The Committee o / Co<sup>o</sup> Merchants Trade to Africa attendg w Mr. Hollis the Secretary, pursuant  
to / minutes o / 14<sup>th</sup> instant, were called in & they presented / following papers to / Board, viz: -

Copy o a letter from Thomas Melville, Esquire, Resident o / Council, &c, at Cape  
Coast Castle, to / Committee o / Co<sup>o</sup> Merchants Trade to Africa, dated 26<sup>th</sup> December, 1751,  
inclosg sev<sup>l</sup> papers relaty to / disputes w / Dutch.

Recd 26K p 581.

but / inclosures 1, 2, 3

are missg. See these

Observa<sup>ns</sup> o / Committee o / Co<sup>o</sup> Merchants Trade to Africa upon / conduct o Mr.  
Melville, the agent at Cape Coast Castle.

The papers having b<sup>e</sup>n read / Committee were ordered to with draw.

The Lordships then took / sd papers into the consideration & after some time spent therein  
/ Committee were ag<sup>n</sup> called in, & the Lordships observed to them & having considered the  
observations upon Mr Melville's conduct, it appeared & in some articles they did not think he  
was to be blamed, but & some parts o his conduct they are not able to acct<sup>f</sup>; & in gen<sup>l</sup>  
they thot his conduct right, & & his behaviour w respect to / disputes w / Dutch & in / dis-  
patchg o ships was much to be commended; & this was a part o his conduct wh / Board  
did not in / least complain o; & / charges arising from / sev<sup>l</sup> letters  
where, & he endeavoured to stop / Trade from go<sup>g</sup> to Annamabor & was  
upon ill terms w / Families wh was a conduct inconsistent w / principles  
wh ot to be observed by / Co<sup>o</sup> agents; & wh<sup>o</sup> he was guilty on whole, or  
in part, or wh<sup>o</sup> he acted from mistake or neglect, this circumstance made Mr  
Melville a v<sup>l</sup> improper person to carry on so gr<sup>t</sup> & important a work as t<sup>o</sup> buildg a fort

322] fo. 221-224.

1752.

Trade.  
Africa.

at Memorandum & resolves / offences o / Families wh must necessarily require his bag upon  
good terms w them, & therefore he cd not perform these services so well as a man not liable  
to these objections; & the Lordships did not wonder at / Committee's tenderness w respect to Mr.  
Melwill, themselves beg equally tender, & therefore shd be unwilling, to advise any step / step  
to mr prejudice either Mr Melwill's character or interest; & on / the hand however they had  
the duty to consider, & by Act o Parliament they were empowred to remove any officer o /  
Co wh shd be guilty o misbehaviour, & however, as / Committee themselves sd not have ac-  
knowledge, & it was impossible for Mr. Melwill to carry on / services so well as another  
person not liable to / same difficulties, & they as well as / Board must be uneasy w<sup>th</sup> any  
misfortune shd arise to / services from such conduct, it were to be wished to some expedient  
cd be fallen upon; & they had heard to Mr. Melwill had desired to come home to concert fur-  
measures for carry<sup>g</sup> on this trade & therefore the Lordships offered it to / considerat<sup>n</sup> o / Com-  
mittee wh it wd not be advisable for them to give Mr. Melwill leave to come home, when he  
m<sup>t</sup> be emp<sup>d</sup> o answering all complaints ag<sup>t</sup> him, & / services m<sup>t</sup> be entrusted to a person  
who wd be more agreeable to / Families.

The Committee then observed to the Lordships to Mr. Melwill had indeed in some o  
his letters mentioned a desire o coming home, & however ill consequences m<sup>t</sup> attend / too  
frequent chang<sup>g</sup> o agents & they apprehended / services o building a fort m<sup>t</sup> be carried  
on by some other person; & however it was impossible for them to give any positive opinion  
or answer at present & therefore they hoped / Board wd indulge them w a few days  
to consider / affair when they wd wait upon / Board w the determination. This and  
then / Committee withdrew.

389] fo. 226-228.

Vol. 60.  
1752.

Thursday, June 4. Present; — Earl o Halifax, Mr. Pitt, Mr. Grenville,  
Mr. Townshend.

924] fo. 228-231.

1752.  
Trade.  
Africa.

The lords hips took into consideration / letter from Mr Amyand, Secretary  
to / lords Justice, inclos<sup>g</sup> seal papers relat<sup>g</sup> to a dispute betw<sup>n</sup> / agents o  
/ African Co at Cape Coast & those o / Dutch West India Co at Elmina upon  
/ Coast o Africa, mentioned in / minutes o / 4<sup>th</sup> o May last, & also /  
letter & papers wh<sup>ch</sup> h<sup>ad</sup> b<sup>een</sup> laid before / Board by / Committee o / Co o Mer-  
chant's Trade to Africa relative thereto, ordered a state o / points in dispute to be prepared.

926] fo. 234-237.

1752.  
Trade.  
Africa.

Thursday, June 11. Present: — Earl o Halifax, Mr. Grenville, Lord Dupplin,  
Mr. Fane, Mr. Townshend, Mr. Oswald.  
The Committee o / Co o Merchant's Trade to Africa attend<sup>g</sup>, were called in  
& Mr Poole, one o / sd Committee, acquainted the lords hips & they h<sup>ad</sup> seriously  
considered what h<sup>ad</sup> appeared w<sup>ith</sup> respect to / conduct o Mr. Melville, the agent at  
Cape Coast, & were v<sup>ery</sup> sensible o & concerned f<sup>or</sup> his conduct in some cases; & however he sh<sup>ould</sup> beg  
leave to lay before / Board / all consequ<sup>ent</sup> wh<sup>ich</sup> w<sup>ould</sup> attend / call<sup>ing</sup> him home at this juncture, & first  
to Mr. Hubbards & Mr. Boteler who were joined w<sup>ith</sup> him h<sup>ad</sup> behaved in such a manner, & / Committee  
sd hardly consider them as the officers; & if he was to come home, / disputes w<sup>ith</sup> / Dutch wh<sup>ich</sup> he h<sup>ad</sup> so  
prudently put an end to, & / Hantah affair w<sup>ould</sup> probably break out agn, & / whole coast m<sup>ight</sup> be  
in a flame; & / Committee h<sup>ad</sup> thro<sup>ugh</sup> o putting Mr. Young into / Council & till t<sup>hat</sup> was done & such  
a Council settled as m<sup>ight</sup> encourage / officers in the duty it w<sup>ould</sup> be imprudent to recall Mr.  
Melville, but when this was done they sh<sup>ould</sup> submit to what<sup>ever</sup> m<sup>ight</sup> be thro<sup>ugh</sup> expedient; & as to Mr.  
Melville's draw<sup>ing</sup> / Trade to Cape Coast by / Act o Parliam<sup>ent</sup> / Trade was free to all, & t<sup>hat</sup> he apprehend<sup>ed</sup>  
Mr. Melville h<sup>ad</sup> a right to do so.

Mr. Townshend then observed to / Board t<sup>hat</sup> the were d<sup>ifferent</sup> reasons besides those urged by Mr.  
Poole f<sup>or</sup> not call<sup>ing</sup> home Mr. Melville; & he h<sup>ad</sup> an old acct<sup>ion</sup> to settle w<sup>ith</sup> Mr. Roberts; & he was  
at present employed in giv<sup>ing</sup> direc<sup>tion</sup> concern<sup>ing</sup> / repairs o / forts & makin<sup>g</sup> out an establish<sup>ment</sup>,  
f<sup>or</sup> / want<sup>ing</sup> o wh<sup>ich</sup> / Committee were under g<sup>reat</sup> difficulties; & as to / build<sup>ing</sup> / fort at Anamaboe  
/ Committee propos<sup>ed</sup> to appoint Mr. Young, who they apprehend<sup>ed</sup> w<sup>ould</sup> be agreeable to /

Fantess, agent of buildg (fort) to be sent out as / engineer & to give direc<sup>ns</sup> to Mr Melville to assist him in surveyg / to / utmost o his power.

27] fo. 234-240.  
Vol. 60.  
1762,  
Trade.  
Africa.

The Committee then acquainted / Board w / steps they had taken w respect to buildg a fort at Anemaboe & desired / Board's opinion & direc<sup>ns</sup> as to / establishm<sup>t</sup> o / sd fort, wh<sup>o</sup> it sh<sup>d</sup> be wholly a military one, or a fort of trade, wh<sup>o</sup> / chief o it sh<sup>d</sup> be independent o / chief at Cape Coast or if not how far he sh<sup>d</sup> be dependent upon him.

The Lords then ordered / Committee to withdraw & after some long time spent in / considerat<sup>n</sup> o this affair they were agn called in & the Lords then acquainted them w they had considered / reasons t had bn offered f no<sup>t</sup> callg home Mr Melville at this juncture; & / Committee had expressed an uneasiness & concern f Mr Melville's conduct; & such a conduct at this crisis wd not be v<sup>y</sup> alarming to / Board, since if any fatal accident was to happen for it, a g<sup>d</sup> deal o natural blame must fall either upon / Board or upon / Committee; & it was their considerat<sup>n</sup> wh made / Board think it proper t Mr Melville sh<sup>d</sup> be removed; on<sup>t</sup> o leniency however to his fortune & character, they declined exercisg / power vested in them by Act o Parliam<sup>t</sup>, & were satisfied w proposg an expedient wh they apprehended wd answer / end proposd, & wh they thot wd be accepted; & perhaps some o reasons urged by / Committee f not acceptg it may h some weight in themselves, but wd h none where / publick<sup>t</sup> publick safety was at stake; & however such was / Board's regard to / Committee & they were wily to submit to the opinion wh they wd do it w<sup>t</sup> respect to / publick, & they hoped they wd do it w safety in / present case & therefore sh<sup>d</sup> not insist upon Mr Melville's be<sup>g</sup> called home, provided such orders are given him f / security o / publick interest & safety as / Board sh<sup>d</sup> appear o, & t they hoped this inst<sup>ce</sup> o regard to / Committee wd not be attended w any ill consequ<sup>s</sup>, but if any accident sh<sup>d</sup> happen, if / French got sh<sup>d</sup> get possess<sup>n</sup>, / Committee must take / blame upon themselves & none wd lie w<sup>t</sup> / Board upon / Board.

The Committee then acknowledged / gr<sup>o</sup> obligat<sup>ns</sup> they were under to / Board & / indul-  
gence shewn them in this affair & acquainted them t<sup>t</sup> they sh<sup>d</sup> w<sup>th</sup> gr<sup>o</sup> readiness give Mr.  
Melville what<sup>r</sup> orders / Board sh<sup>d</sup> think proper; whereupon they were told t<sup>t</sup> / Board w<sup>o</sup>  
consider o<sup>o</sup> what orders m<sup>t</sup> be proper to be given to Mr. Melville & also what<sup>r</sup> he  
h<sup>d</sup> b<sup>e</sup>n got w<sup>th</sup> respect to / establishm<sup>t</sup> o<sup>o</sup> / fort, & they were desired to attend ag<sup>n</sup> on Tuesday next;

The Committee then laid before / Board / following paper & withdrew, viz:—

Copy o<sup>o</sup> a letter from Thomas Melville, Esquire, President o<sup>o</sup> Council, etc., at Cape Coast  
Castle, to / Committee o<sup>o</sup> / Co o<sup>o</sup> Merchants tradg to Africa, dated 19<sup>th</sup> November 1751,  
& o<sup>o</sup> / copy o<sup>o</sup> a letter, dated 8<sup>th</sup> January, 1752, / original o<sup>o</sup> wh<sup>ic</sup>h is not yet received.

328] fo. 241-244.

1752.

Trade.

Africa

o<sup>o</sup> Merchants tradg

Tuesday, June, 16. Present:— Genl o<sup>o</sup> Halifax, Mr. Grenville, Lord Dupplin, Mr.  
Fane, Mr. Townshend, Mr. Oswald.

The Lordships pursuant to / minutes o<sup>o</sup> Tuesday [sic, meaning Thursday, the  
no minutes on Trade, Africa & Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup>], ~~last~~ last, took into considerat<sup>n</sup> /  
papers relat<sup>g</sup> to Mr. Melville's conduct upon / coast o<sup>o</sup> Africa, & / Committee o<sup>o</sup> / Co  
o<sup>o</sup> Merchants tradg to Africa attendg as desired they were called in & presented to / Board.

A letter from Mr. Melville to / Committee, dated at Cape Coast Castle /  
14<sup>th</sup> March 1752, containing an acct o<sup>o</sup> / present state o<sup>o</sup> affairs upon / coast, &  
includg sev<sup>l</sup> papers relat<sup>g</sup> to his proceedg<sup>s</sup> w<sup>th</sup> / Commanders o<sup>o</sup> his Majesty's  
ships o<sup>o</sup> war at / time / French Squadron was at Anamaboe.

? contain Melville's  
copy of Mr. Buckle's  
letter to / Committee  
from 1750-1752.

The sev<sup>l</sup> letters & papers h<sup>av</sup>g b<sup>e</sup>n read / Committee were ordered to w<sup>it</sup>h draw & after some time  
spent in / considerat<sup>n</sup> thereof they were ag<sup>n</sup> called in, when they were told t<sup>t</sup> the Lordships sh<sup>d</sup>  
take this affair into f<sup>o</sup>r<sup>o</sup> considerat<sup>n</sup> to-morrow morn<sup>g</sup> when they were desired to attend  
at 11 o'clock.

• Vide Capt<sup>n</sup> Buckle's letter to / Admiralty dd, Anamaboe 19. Feb. 1752.

Wednesday, June 17. Present: — Earl of Halifax, Mr Pitt, Mr Grenville, Lord  
Dunblin, Mr Foxe, Mr Townshend, Mr Oswald.

Trade. The Lordships took into considera<sup>n</sup> / letters & papers mentioned in y<sup>e</sup> last<sup>s</sup>  
Africa, minutes relative to / present state o affairs upon / coast o Africa, & / Committee  
o / Co o Merchants trade to Africa attendg as desired they were called in, &  
the Lordships acquainted them t in / considera<sup>n</sup> o / variety o matters before them relative  
to / state o affairs in Africa they had given all possible dispatch & had prepared such  
instruc<sup>n</sup>s to Mr Melville, / Co's agent th<sup>r</sup>, as appeared to them to be necessary & proper; t as  
/ Committee however had since received a letter from Mr Melville / Board thot it proper t /  
letter shd be read & considered before th<sup>r</sup> instruc<sup>n</sup>s were delivered to them; t it appeared  
upon considera<sup>n</sup> o letter t some part o / sd instruc<sup>n</sup>s were either improper or unnecessary,  
as Mr Melville gives a diff<sup>t</sup> acct o / state o chgs to t wh appeared fm /<sup>d</sup> letter &  
endeavour to justify his conduct; t part o these however were still proper to be  
g<sup>v</sup>en as Mr Melville does not take notice o / parents to wh they relate; t therefore

29] fo. 244-248. / Board apprehended t / Committee wd think it advisable if th<sup>r</sup> was  
Jul 60. no o<sup>r</sup> object than t o justify to Mr Melville t / articles o charge agst  
1752. him as they appeared fm / former letter shd be transmitted w<sup>d</sup> direc<sup>n</sup>s to  
Trade. Mr Melville to transmit full proof o allegac<sup>n</sup>s in his letter wh tend to justify  
Africa, his conduct in some points, & also forthwith to transmit his answers to such  
parts as are not taken notice o in his letter; t w<sup>d</sup> th<sup>r</sup> view / Board wd as  
soon as possible draw out / articles agst him, attended w<sup>d</sup> such observations & direc<sup>n</sup>s as they  
shd think proper; t in / meantime, however, as a sloop o war was to sail in a day or two the  
Lordships recommend to / Committee to write to Mr Melville to acquaint him w<sup>d</sup> what has  
passed here relative to himself & to recommend to him to do all t lay in his power  
to fort & promote / imp<sup>t</sup> service o building a fort at Anamaboe,

599] fo. 275-278.  
Vol. 60.  
1752.  
Trade.  
Africa.

Tuesday, June 30. Present: - Earl of Halifax, Lord Dupplin, Mr. Townshend, Mr. Oswald.

The Lordships took into consideration a sketch of orders<sup>ms</sup> & instructions of / use & inform<sup>n</sup> of / Committee of merchant's trade to Africa, containing the Lordships' sentiments w<sup>ch</sup> respect to / late transac<sup>ns</sup> of Mr. Melville & / some, having b<sup>n</sup> agreed to, was ordered to be transcribed & committed to / Committee.

Wednesday, July 1. Present: - Earl of Halifax, Lord Dupplin, Mr. Townshend, Mr. Oswald.  
Trade. The Lordships took into consideration a state of / dispute betw<sup>n</sup> agents of African Co & Africa, those of Dutch West India Co upon / coast of Africa prepared pursuant to / the minutes of / 4th June last, & ordered / Secretary to write to / Committee & also to Mr. Crighton, formerly agent at Cape Coast Castle, to desire the attendance thereupon at / Board on Tuesday next.

542] fo. 286-287.  
1752.  
Trade.  
Africa.

Tuesday, July 4. Present: - Earl of Halifax, Lord Dupplin, Mr. Townshend, Mr. Oswald.

The Committee of Co of Merchant's Trade to Africa attended, as desired by / minutes of Wednesday last, w<sup>ch</sup> Mr. Crighton & Mr. Craik, agents to / old African Co, they were called in & the Lordships had some conversation w<sup>th</sup> them upon / subject of / papers relative to / dispute w<sup>th</sup> / Dutch upon / coast of Africa. And then they wish'd read.

543] fo. 287-289.  
Vol. 60.  
1752.

Wednesday, July 8. Present: - Earl of Halifax, Lord Dupplin, Mr. Townshend, Mr. Oswald.

Read a letter from Mr. Laroche to / Board, dated Merchant's Hall, Bristol July 3<sup>rd</sup> 1752, returns / thanks of / members of / African Co in E<sup>st</sup> city to the Lordships for the gr<sup>at</sup> care & kind prote<sup>ct</sup>ion of / African Trade.

548] fo. 301-304.  
1752.  
Trade.  
Africa.

Thursday, July 16. Present: - Earl of Halifax, Mr. Pitt, Mr. Townshend, Mr. Oswald.  
The Lordships took into consideration / papers relative to / disputes w<sup>th</sup> / Dutch upon / coast of Africa & ordered / draught of a representa<sup>n</sup> thereupon to the Excellencies, / Lords Justice, to be prepared.

050] fo. 307-310. The Secretary laid before / Board / John's paper received from / Committee of 1752. Co o Merchants tradg to Africa, viz:

Trade, Co. 988 / Copies o letters from / Committee o / Co o Merchants tradg to Africa sent to Africa. Dd 105 Thomas McNeill, Esquire, President o / Council, etc., at Cape Coast Castle [Togeth w a copy o a Sketch o observations & instructions drawn up by / Lords Commissioners o Trade & Plantations f / use o / sd Committee),

Tuesday, July 21, Present: - Earl o Halifax, Mr. Townshend, Mr. Stone, Mr. Oswald.

Trade, Commodore Buxite, late Commander o a squadron o his Majesty's ships Africa upon / coast o Africa, attendg was called in & the Lordships had some conference w him upon / subject o his transac<sup>ns</sup> while upon the coast & heg desired by the Lordships to lay before them a narrative thereof in writg, he acquainted the Lordships t he had already prepared a narrative f / use o / Lords Commissioners o / Admiralty to wh he begged to refer.

Mr Buxite beg with drawn the Lordships ordered / Secretary to apply to / Secretary o / Lords o / Admiralty f a copy o / sd narrative.

051] fo. 310-313.

Vol. 60. The draught o a representa<sup>n</sup> to / Lords Justice relative to / disputes w / 1752. Dutch upon / coast o Africa hasg b<sup>n</sup> prepared pursuant to / preced<sup>s</sup> minutes, Trade, was laid before / Board, agreed to & ordered to be transcribed. Africa.

052] fo. 313-316 Thursday, July 23. Present: - Earl o Halifax, Mr. Townshend, Mr. Stone, 1752. Mr Oswald.

Africa. The draught o a representa<sup>n</sup> to the excellencies, / Lords Justice, upon / papers relative to / disputes w / Dutch upon / coast o Africa hasg b<sup>n</sup> transcribed pursuant to / minutes o / 21<sup>st</sup> instant was laid before / Board & signed.

955] fo. 322-325. Wednesday, November 8. Present: - Earl of Halifax, Lord Dupplin, Mr. Fane,  
Vol. 60. The Secretary laid before / Board / copy o a letter fm / Committee o / Co o Mer-  
1752. chants tradg to Africa to its agent Mr. Melville at Cape Coast Castle, dated  
Dd 107. Trade. November ... 1752, wh copy had bn delivered to him by Mr Hollier, Secretary  
Africa. to / sd Committee.

The lordships upon considera<sup>n</sup> o / sd letter were pleased to make some addit<sup>o</sup>  
direc<sup>t</sup>o & directed / Secretary to acquaint Mr Hollier therewith & / inform<sup>n</sup> o / Committee.

p. 356] Read / following Orders o / His Excellencies, / Lords Justices in Council, viz: -

357] fo. 328-330  
1752. Vol. 60. Copy o an Order o / Lords Justices in Council, dated / 28<sup>th</sup> o / May, 1752,  
1752. Dd 108. approv<sup>g</sup> a memorial o / Committee o / Merchants tradg to Africa relat<sup>g</sup>  
Trade, <sup>from</sup> notab<sup>l</sup> to the proposal o build<sup>g</sup> a new fort at Amamaboe.  
Africa. II. P. 1

966] Wednesday, November 22, Present: - Lord Dupplin, Mr. Fane, Mr. Stone.

367] fo. 356-359 Read / following papers received fm Mr Hollier, Secretary to / Committee o /  
Vol. 60. Co o Merchants tradg to Africa, viz: -

1752. Dd 113 Names o / committee men chosen by / Co o Merchants tradg to Africa f / year 1752.

Trade, Copy o a letter fm William Ansaah Sessaracoo to / Committee o / Co o Merchants tradg  
Africa. to Africa, w<sup>t</sup> date, received / 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 1752.

... [Gambia] ...

368] Dd 115 Copy o a letter fm Thomas Melville, Esquire, Governor o Cape Coast Castle, to /  
Committee o / Merchants tradg to Africa, dated / 11<sup>th</sup> June, 1752

... [Gambia] ...

Journal of 1 Year 1752/3

07] fo. 19-22. Friday, March 23. Present: - Earl of Halifax, Mr. Grenville, Lord Dupplin, Vol. 61. The Secretary laid before Board / follow'g paper received from / Committee 1752-3, of Co of Merchants tradg to Africa, viz: -

Trade, Africa, Dd 122 Copy of a letter, dated 12<sup>th</sup> September, 1752, from Thomas Melville, Esquire, Governor of Cape Coast Castle, etc., to / Committee of Co of Merchants tradg to Africa, acquaintg them w his havg concluded a treaty w / Fantees

Ordered t an extract be made of so much of sd letter as relates to / Treaty w / Fantees to be transmitted to / Earl of Holderness & t a draught of a letter to his lordship thereupon be prepared.

1753 Wednesday, March 28. Present: Earl of Halifax, Mr. Pitt, Mr. Grenville, Lord Dupplin, Mr. Fane, Mr. Townshend, Mr. Oswald.

08] fo. 22-25. The draught of a letter to Lord Holderness w an / extract of one from 1753. Mr Melville to / Committee of Co of Merchants tradg to Africa, hadg Trade. bn prepared pursuant to / minutes of Friday last, was laid before / Africa. Board, agreed to, transcribed & signed.

Thursday, March 29. Present: - Earl of Halifax, Mr Grenville, Lord Dupplin, Mr. Townshend, Mr. Oswald.

09] fo. 25-28. The Secretary laid before / Board / follow'g papers received from / Committee Vol. 61. of Co of Merchants tradg to Africa, viz: -

1753. Copy of a letter dated 30<sup>th</sup> of October. from Thomas Melville Esquire, Governor of Cape Coast Castle, etc., to / Committee of Co of Merchants tradg to Africa, relatg to / Treaty he has concluded w / Fantees na<sup>n</sup>.

Dd 123

- 414] Wednesday, May 2, Present; - Earl o Halifax, Mr Grenville, Lord Dupplin, Mr Fane,  
 418] fo. 113-116. Read a letter fm his Grace / Duke o Newcastle, dated / 5<sup>th</sup> April, 1753,  
 Dd 124 1753, referring to this Board by the considera<sup>n</sup> & report a copy & extract o two letters  
 Dd 125 Trade fm Colonel York, / Kings Minister at / Hague, w a paper inclosed in  
 Dd 126 Africa them relat<sup>g</sup> to disputes betw<sup>n</sup> / African Co o England & / Dutch West India Co.  
 Dd 127 Resolved t<sup>h</sup> this affair be taken into considera<sup>n</sup> on Wednesday next, / 9<sup>th</sup> instant,  
 & t<sup>h</sup> Secretary do write to / Committee o / Co o Merchants tradg to Africa to desire the attendance.  
 420] fo. 120-122. 1753. Wednesday, May 9, Present; - Earl o Halifax, Mr Grenville, Lord Dupplin, Mr Fane,  
 Trade. Mr Oswald,  
 Africa. Read a letter fm Mr Cleveland, Secretary to / Lords Commissioners o Admiralty dated  
 / 3<sup>rd</sup> instant, inclosg copies o all such papers relatg to / British forts & castles, w<sup>th</sup>  
 on / Coast o Africa as h<sup>er</sup> b<sup>een</sup> sackt out o / wreckt o his Majesty's late ship / Assurance, viz: -  
 State & cond<sup>n</sup> o Winnebah Fort etc., at date.  
 Copy o a letter fm Captain Howse o / Glory, in Cape Coast Road, to / Captain o a foreign ship,  
 dated 15<sup>th</sup> o October 1751. } note bk  
 State & cond<sup>n</sup> o Cape Coast Castle, dated November 6<sup>th</sup>, 1751. } Adm 1. (2). 48. seq  
 Report o / state o Dixcove Fort, / 18<sup>th</sup> February, 1751-2.  
 133. Report o / state o Secondee Fort, / 9<sup>th</sup> o March 1752.  
 Dd 134 Report o / state o Commenda Fort, / 10<sup>th</sup> o March, 1752.  
 Copy o a letter fm / agents at Cape Coast Castle to Captain Daniel o his Majesty's ship  
 / Assurance, dated / 19<sup>th</sup> March, 1752. nBK Adm 1. (2) 52  
 Copy o a letter fm Mr Melville to Captain Daniel o his Majesty's ship Assurance dated - 53  
 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 1752. (1) 35  
 Dd 137. Copy o Captain Daniel's letter to Mr Van Voerst at da Mine, dated / 24<sup>th</sup> o March 1752 /  
 138 Transla<sup>n</sup> o a letter fm Captain Daniel o Assurance to / Commander o / Dutch Fort at  
 Acquadah, dated 24<sup>th</sup> o March, 1752. (1) 36

139 letter from Mr. Melville to Captain Daniel o / Assurance dated Cape Coast Castle, 28<sup>th</sup> March, 1752.

421] fo. 129-126. Dd 140 Mr Van Vorst's letter to Captain Daniel o his Majesty's ship Assurance, dated 16<sup>th</sup> o April, 1752. (138)

Vol. 6,  
1753.  
Trade.  
Africa,

141. State & condi<sup>n</sup> o Tantumquery Fort, 18<sup>th</sup> o April, 1752.

142. State & condi<sup>n</sup> o James Fort at Accra, 15<sup>th</sup> o April, 1752.

The Secretary laid before / Board / two following papers received from / Committee o / Co o Merchants trading to Africa, viz: -

Copy o a letter from Thomas Melville, Inquire, Governor o Cape Coast Castle, to / Committee o / Co o Merchants trading to Africa, dated 14<sup>th</sup> o January, 1753.

Dd 143.

Copy o a letter from Thomas Melville, Inquire, Governor o Cape Coast Castle, to / Committee o / Co o Merchants trading to Africa, dated 25<sup>th</sup> January, 1753.

Dd 144.

The Lordsships pursuant to / minutes o / 2<sup>d</sup> instant, took into consideration a letter from / Duke o Newcastle, referring copies o two letters from Mr. Yorke, his Majesty's Minister at / Hague relative to his negotia<sup>n</sup> w / Ministers o / States Gen concern<sup>g</sup> / disputes upon / coast o Africa, w / Committee o / Co o Merchants trading to Africa attending, as desired, / copies o / letters from Mr Yorke having been read to them & / following points were referred to them, viz: -

1<sup>st</sup>. To give / Board all such additional wid<sup>e</sup> o our right w respect to / two prints in dispute, as they can furnish, & part<sup>ly</sup> in answer to what / Dutch h alleged,

2<sup>nd</sup>. To lay before / Board the sentiments upon / expedients proposed for an accomoda<sup>n</sup>;

3<sup>rd</sup>. To lay before / Board copies o / Conven<sup>t</sup> in 1704, 1708 & 1728, if they can be found,

4<sup>th</sup>. To lay before / Board such full informa<sup>n</sup> & opinion upon / sent prints as they sh think proper.

Ordered t a copy o / certificate o Monsieur Van Stackenburgh relative to / Fott upon fish referred w / Duke o Newcastle's letter, be referred to / Committee.

The Lordsships then took notice to them o / defenses state o sent o / ports, & copies o / states o sent ports received from / Lords Commissioners o / Admiralty were ordered to be given to them.

\* Copies are in T. 70. 1516.

427] fo. 141-144, Friday, May 25. Present: - Earl o' Halifax, Mr. Pitt, Mr. Jenning, Mr. Fane, Mr. Oswald.  
Vol. 61. The Committee o' Co o' Merchants tradg to Africa attendg were called in, & they presented  
1763, to the Lordships / followg papers, as the report upon / seal points referred to them w respect  
Trade. B / disputes w / Dutch upon / Coast o' Africa, viz: -

Africa. State o' English right o' landg place o' Commenda & Towns o' Busha & Alchua  
Dd. 145 upon / Sold Coast o' Africa

Dd. 146. Evidence o' English right to Commenda landg place, Busha & Alchua referred to by  
Committee o' Co o' Merchants tradg to Africa, no 1 to no 4

Dd. 147. Copies o' treaties made betw<sup>n</sup> English & Dutch African Cos in 1704, 1708, & 1728.

The 3d papers have bn read / Committee desired to Messrs. Roberts & Chalmers who had bn formerly  
agents & officers o' Co upon / Coast o' Africa mt be admitted to give the personal evidence w respect to our  
right to Alchua, & Mr Chalmers & Mr Roberts beg called in, Mr Chalmers acquainted the Lordships to  
he was at Drossa at diff times fm / year 1744 to 1749; & it was / Dutch, durg t time did not dispute  
our right to Alchua; & it was usual f / English to cut wood & gather lime, stones etc, & when / Dutch  
went thither to get palm wine, it was usual f / English sawyers the to take toll o' them; & / Dutch  
while he was the sent a party o' the people to Panjara to get prov<sup>ns</sup>, etc., at Alchua, wh occasioned  
our people to complain, whereupon he gave orders to seize such Dutch as mt come the f t purpose, & sent  
notice o' it to / Dutch commander who made no complaint, nor did / Dutch come the agr; & one  
Abyantia [Aheyantia?] who was a dependant upon / Dutch, came to settle at Alchua, &  
expressg apprehen<sup>ns</sup> o' resentm<sup>t</sup> o' Dutch, f leav<sup>s</sup> them, he, Mr Chalmers, gave him a note to  
show t he was settled under / English authority; & it was / custom the when / paths through / woods  
or bushes are grown up f, each nat<sup>n</sup> to clear within the own territory, & t / Dutch always cleared to  
428] fo. 144-147. to a little river to / windward o' Alchua Bay, & desired us w<sup>ch</sup> clear all / rest o' our territory;  
1763, wh was accordg done as far as a hill betw<sup>t</sup> Alchua Bay; & / English is always cut timber  
Trade. w<sup>ch</sup> since / year 1708 in / Alchua country, to / extent o' three leagues [9 miles] fm / Coast  
Africa. Most o' / things past<sup>ed</sup> have bn confirmed by Mr Roberts the Lordships acquainted / Committee to they  
shd forthwith take this affair into considera<sup>tn</sup>; & then they with draw.

139 letter fm Mr. Melville to Captain Daniel o / Assurance dated Cape Coast Castle, 28<sup>th</sup> March, 1752.

421] fo. 129-126. Dd 140 Mr Van Vorst's letter to Captain Daniel o his Majesty's ship Assurance, dated 16<sup>th</sup> o April, 1752. 138

Vol. 61,  
1753.  
Trade.  
Africa.

141. State & condi<sup>o</sup> o Tantumquery Fort, 18<sup>th</sup> o April, 1752.

142. State & condi<sup>o</sup> o James Fort at Accra, 15<sup>th</sup> o April, 1752.

The Secretary laid before / Board / two following papers received fm / Committee o / Co o Merchants tradg to Africa, viz: -

Copy o a letter fm Thomas Melville, Inquire, Governor o Cape Coast Castle, to / Committee o / Co o Merchants tradg to Africa, dated 14<sup>th</sup> o January, 1753.

Dd 143.

Copy o a letter fm Thomas Melville, Inquire, Governor o Cape Coast Castle, to / Committee o / Co o Merchants tradg to Africa, dated 25<sup>th</sup> January, 1753.

Dd 144.

The Lordships pursuant to / minutes o / 2<sup>d</sup> instant, took into consider<sup>o</sup> a letter fm / Dutch o Newcastle, referring copies o two letters fm Mr. Yorke, his Majesty's Minister at / Hague relative to his negotia<sup>o</sup> w / Ministers o / States Gen concerng / disputes upon / Coast o Africa, & / Committee o / Co o Merchants tradg to Africa attendg, as desired, / copies o / letters fm Mr. Yorke havg bn read to them & / followg points were referred to them, viz: -

1<sup>st</sup>. To give / Board all such additional ideas o our right w respect to / two points in dispute, as they sh furnish & part<sup>ly</sup> in answer to what / Dutch h alleged,

2<sup>nd</sup>. To lay before / Board the sentiments upon / expedients prepared f an accomoda<sup>o</sup>,

3<sup>rd</sup>. To lay before / Board copies o / Conven<sup>ts</sup> in 1701, 1708 & 1728, if they can be found,

4<sup>th</sup>. To lay before / Board such fact informa<sup>o</sup> & opinion upon / several points as they sh think proper.

Ordered T a copy o / certificates o Monsieur Van Stackenburch relative to / Toll upon fish referred w / Dutch o Newcastles letter, be referred to / Committee.

The Lordships then took notice to them o / defences state o several / forts, & copies o / states o / several / forts received fm / lords Commissioners o / Admiralty were ordered to be given to them.

• Copies are in T. 70. 1516.

427] fo. 141-144. Friday, May 25. Present: - Earl o' Halifax, Mr. Pitt, Mr. Grenville, Mr. Fane, Mr. Oswald.  
Vol. 61. The Committee o' Co o' Merchants Trade to Africa attendg were called in, & they presented  
1753, to the Lordships / followg papers, as the report upon / such points referred to them w' respect  
Trade. to / disputes w' Dutch upon / Coast o' Africa, viz: -

Africa. State o' English right o' lands place o' Commenda & Towns o' Busha & Alchua  
upon / Gold Coast o' Africa

Dd 145. Evidence o' English right to Commenda lands place, Busha & Alchua referred to by  
Dd 146. / Committee o' Co o' Merchants Trade to Africa, n<sup>o</sup> 1 to n<sup>o</sup> 4

Dd 147. Copies o' treaties made betw<sup>n</sup> English & Dutch African Cos in 1707, 1708, & 1728.

The sd papers had b<sup>n</sup> read / Committee desired t<sup>e</sup> Messrs. Roberts & Chalmers who had b<sup>n</sup> formerly  
agents & officers o' Co upon / Coast o' Africa m<sup>t</sup> be admitted to give the personal evidence w' respect to our  
right to Alchua, & Mr Chalmers & Mr Roberts beg called in, Mr Chalmers acquainted the Lordships t<sup>e</sup>  
he was at Dacca at diff times fm / year 1744 to 1749; t<sup>e</sup> times / Dutch durg t<sup>e</sup> time did not dispute  
our right to Alchua; t<sup>e</sup> it was usual f<sup>r</sup> / English to cut wood & gather some stones etc, & t<sup>e</sup> when / Dutch  
went thither to get palm wine, it was usual f<sup>r</sup> / English sailors etc to take toll o' them; t<sup>e</sup> / Dutch  
while he was the sent a party o' the people to Panjara to get pepper, etc, at Alchua, wh occasioned  
our people to complain, whereupon he gave orders to seize such Dutch as m<sup>t</sup> come the f<sup>r</sup> t<sup>e</sup> purpose, & sent  
notice o' it to / Dutch commander who made no complaint, nor did / Dutch come the agr; t<sup>e</sup> one  
Abyantia [Aheyantia?] who was a dependant upon / Dutch, came to settle at Alchua, &  
expressed apprehen<sup>s</sup> o' resentm<sup>t</sup> o' Dutch, f<sup>r</sup> leav<sup>g</sup> them, he, Mr Chalmers, gave him a note to  
show t<sup>e</sup> he was settled under / English authority; t<sup>e</sup> it was / custom the when / paths through / woods  
or bushes are grown up f<sup>r</sup> each nat<sup>n</sup> to clear within the own territory, & t<sup>e</sup> / Dutch always cleared to  
428] fo. 144-147. to a little river to Windward o' Alchua Bay, & desired w<sup>e</sup> w<sup>d</sup> clear all / just as our territory;  
1753, wh was accordg by done as far as a hill beyond Alchua Bay; t<sup>e</sup> / English t<sup>e</sup> always cut timber  
Trade. w<sup>e</sup> since / year 1708 in / Alchua country, to extent o' three leagues [9 miles] fm / Coast.  
Africa. M<sup>ost</sup> o' / foreign part<sup>s</sup> had b<sup>n</sup> confirmed by Mr Roberts the Lordships acquainted / Committee t<sup>e</sup> they  
shd forthwith take this affair into considerat<sup>n</sup>; & then they wish draw.

30]. Wednesday, June 6. Present: - Earl of Halifax, Mr. Pitt, Mr. Grenville, Mr. Oswald.

31]. fo. 153-156. The Secretary laid before / Board / following papers received for / Committee of Co o

Vol 61. Merchants tradg to Africa, viz: -

1753, Dd 148 An acct of money received & expended by / Committee of Co o Merchants tradg to Africa  
Trade. f / support & improvmt<sup>r</sup> o / ports & settle<sup>mts</sup> upon / sd coast.

Africa. ... [Sambia] ...

Dd 150. Copy o a letter dated 27<sup>th</sup> June, 1752, from Thomas Melville, Esquire, Govern<sup>r</sup> o Cape Coast

Dd 151. Castle, to / Committee of Co o Merchants tradg to Africa

↳ Copy o a letter dated / 20<sup>th</sup> August, 1752, from Thomas Melville, Esquire, Govern<sup>r</sup> o Cape Coast Castle, to / Committee of Co o Merchants tradg to Africa.

Mr Hollis, Secretary to the Committee of Co o Merchants tradg to Africa, attendg was called in, & he presented to / Board / following papers, viz: -

32]. fo. 156-159.

1753, Dd 152

Trade,  
Africa,

Dd 153

letter from / Committee of Co o Africa Merchants tradg to Africa, dated

30<sup>th</sup> May 1753, includg copy o two represent<sup>ns</sup> from / merchants o

Bristol & Liverpool complaing o / trade carried on by / officers o /

Co at / sev<sup>l</sup> ports f negroes, & o d<sup>r</sup> irregular proceedgs by / sd officers.

Subst<sup>ce</sup> o instruc<sup>ns</sup> intended to be sent by / Committee of Co o Merchants tradg to Africa to / Govern<sup>r</sup> o Cape Coast Castle & d<sup>r</sup> officers upon / coast.

The sd papers havg bn read, / Secretary acquainted / Board & Mr Wansley who signed / above-mentioned represent<sup>ns</sup> from Bristol was attendg w<sup>th</sup> a<sup>n</sup> other gentleman, & t<sup>h</sup> they hd somethg to offer to the lordships upon it; whereupon they were called in & Mr Wansley moved the lordships to appoint a day f hearg what / merchants hd to offer in support o / allega<sup>ns</sup> o / sd represent<sup>ns</sup>; wh<sup>ch</sup> havg bn agreed to, Wednesday / 20<sup>th</sup> instant was appointed f takg / same into fur<sup>st</sup> considera<sup>ns</sup>, o wh<sup>ch</sup> Mr Hollis was desired to acquaint / Committee, & Mr Wansley was directed to give notice thereof to / agent or d<sup>r</sup> person properly authorized to represent / merchants o Liverpool; & then they shall draw.

434] fo. 174-177. Wednesday, June 20. Present; — Earl of Halifax, Mr Pitt, Mr Grenville, Mr Osborn  
Vol. 61. The lordships pursuant to minutes of 6th instant took into consideration / letter from /  
1753. Committee of Co of Merchants trading to Africa, inclos<sup>g</sup> copies of two representat<sup>ns</sup> of /  
Trade, merchants of Bristol & Liverpool complaining of Trade carried on by / officers  
Africa, of Co at / sev<sup>l</sup> ports by negroes & of irregular proceed<sup>gs</sup> of / sd officers; & Mr Wansley,  
agent in behalf of / merchants of Bristol, & Mr Chalmers, agent in behalf of / merchants  
of Liverpool, in support of / allegat<sup>ns</sup> of / sd representat<sup>ns</sup>, & also / Committee of Co of Merchants trading to  
Africa, attend<sup>g</sup> as desired, they were called in, & Mr Wansley & Mr Chalmers severally produced  
letters from sev<sup>l</sup> merchants of Bristol & Liverpool, desir<sup>g</sup> they wd attend / Board upon this affair, & /  
letter from / Committee of Co inclos<sup>g</sup> / afore-mentioned representat<sup>ns</sup> have b<sup>n</sup> read, Mr Wansley  
said before / Board / follow<sup>g</sup> papers in support of / allegat<sup>ns</sup> of / representat<sup>ns</sup> from / merchants of  
Bristol, viz: —

Id 154. Depositi<sup>o</sup> of William Brown taken before D. Pelouin, alderman of Bristol, / 16<sup>th</sup> day of June, 1753.

Id 155. Depositi<sup>o</sup> of David Hamilton taken before John Clements, mayor of Bristol, / 16<sup>th</sup> day of June, 1753.

435] fo. 177-181. Extracts of a letter from Thomas Westgate to John Russell, dated at Cape Coast Castle,

1753. Id 156. 14<sup>th</sup> December, 1752.

Trade. Id 157. Depositi<sup>o</sup> of Abraham Graham taken before John Clements, mayor of Bristol, / 16<sup>th</sup> June, 1753.

Africa. Id 158. Certificate of John Stokes, dated Gold Coast of Africa, 14<sup>th</sup> March, 1753.

Id 159. Copy of a letter from sev<sup>l</sup> merchants of Liverpool to Mr Thomas Chalmers, dated at Liverpool, / 15<sup>th</sup> June 1753, desir<sup>g</sup> him to attend this Board on the behalf upon / subject of / complaints ag<sup>st</sup> / officers of / Co upon / coast of Africa.

Id 160. Copy of a letter from sev<sup>l</sup> merchants of Bristol to Mr William Wansley, dated Bristol, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 1753, desir<sup>g</sup> him to attend this Board on the behalf upon / subject of the complaints ag<sup>st</sup> / officers of / Co upon / coast of Africa.

The sd papers have b<sup>n</sup> read the lordships at / request of Mr Wansley & Mr Chalmers proceeded to examine sever<sup>l</sup> / allegat<sup>ns</sup> of / sd representat<sup>ns</sup> & Messrs Roberts, John Russell, John Smallman, Archibald & Alexander Graham have b<sup>n</sup> examined, the lordships heard what

/ Committee o / Co o Merchants hd to offer why they thot a total restric<sup>n</sup> upon th<sup>r</sup> officers  
fm tradg & negoes wot be improper, & it beg late, / parties were ordered to wch draw,  
& th<sup>r</sup> Lordships agreed fut<sup>r</sup> to consider o this affair on Tuesday next, 126<sup>th</sup> instant.

440] fo. 185-188. [438] Thursday, June 21, Present: - Earl o Halifax, Mr Pitt, Mr Grenville, Mr  
1789 Oswald,

Trade. The Secretary laid before / Board / following papers received fm / Committee o /  
Africa. Co o Merchants tradg to Africa, viz: -

Dd 161.

Copy o a letter fm Thomas Melville, Esquire, Govern<sup>r</sup> o Cape Coast Castle, et.,  
to / Committee o / Co o Merchants tradg to Africa. Dated / 13<sup>th</sup> December 1752.

... [Sambia] ...

441] fo. 188-191. Tuesday, June 26. Present: - Earl o Halifax, Mr Pitt, Mr Grenville, Mr  
1789 Townshend, Mr Oswald.

Trade. Th<sup>r</sup> Lordships beg informed E Mr Wansley & Mr Chalmers, agents in behalf  
Africa. o / merchants o Bristol & Liverpool, & also Mr Hollier, Secretary to / Committee o / Co  
o merchants tradg to Africa were attendg w<sup>t</sup> pursuant to / minutes o Wednesday last,  
they were called in & Mr Wansley & Mr Chalmers presented / following papers to /  
Board as / subst<sup>e</sup> o what they hd fut<sup>r</sup> to offer w respect to / complaints under th<sup>r</sup> Lord-  
ships consider<sup>n</sup>, viz: -

Dd 163 Memorial o Messrs Wansley & Chalmers in behalf o / merchants o Bristol & Liverpool  
w respect to / complaints exhibited by / sd merchants ag<sup>s</sup> / officers & servants o  
/ Committee o / Co o Merchants tradg to Africa.

Dd 164 The affidavit o John Roberts, merchant.

The forego<sup>s</sup> papers havg bn read, th<sup>r</sup> Lordships heard what Mr Wansley & Mr  
Chalmers hd to offer thereupon, & / parties beg withdrawn th<sup>r</sup> Lordships, upon  
consider<sup>n</sup> o what hd bn laid before them by / merchants & by / Committee o / Co

o Merchants trade to Africa, & also upon consideration o/ spirit & intent<sup>n</sup> o/ Act o/ Parliam<sup>t</sup> lately passed for extending & improving / trade to Africa came to / following opinion, viz: -

1/ officers & servants employed by / Committee o/ Co o Merchants trade to Africa at / sev<sup>l</sup> forts & settlements upon / coast o Africa sh<sup>d</sup> not to be allowed to trade w<sup>th</sup> negro slaves for them to / amount<sup>n</sup> o/ salaries allowed them by / Committee, & t<sup>h</sup> such slaves sh<sup>d</sup> be disposed o/ w<sup>th</sup> w<sup>o</sup>ry, gold, bills o exchange, or / proper returns to Gr<sup>t</sup> Britain, or sent on acct<sup>n</sup> o such officers & servants to America, & t<sup>h</sup> on no acct they sh<sup>d</sup> be sold or disposed o in barter for goods w<sup>th</sup> any ships, or in any o<sup>r</sup> manner what<sup>er</sup>, but t<sup>h</sup> a proper time sh<sup>d</sup> be allowed to / sd officers & servants to dispose o<sup>r</sup> the present stock o goods wh<sup>ch</sup> will be recommended to / consideration o/ Committee.

The parties beg called in, / foregoing minutes were read to them, & Mr<sup>r</sup> Hollis, in / name o/ Committee moved the lordship of a copy thereof & also o/ foregoing memorial o Messrs. Wansley & Chalmers, & then they withdrew.

442] Ordered t<sup>h</sup> Secretary do transmit a copy o/ foregoing minutes & also a copy o/ memorial o Messrs. Wansley & Chalmers to / Committee o/ Co o Merchants trade to Africa.

444] fo. 199-203 [445] Wednesday, July 4, Present: - Earl o Holderness [sic - Holdfast?], Mr<sup>r</sup> Grenville.

1763. Mr<sup>r</sup> Townshend, Mr<sup>r</sup> Oswald.

Trade. The Secretary laid before / Board / following papers received from / Committee o/ Co o Africa, Merchants trade to Africa, viz: -

Copy o a letter from Mr. Christopher Whyte. Secretary o Cape Coast Castle, to / Committee o/ Co o Merchants trade to Africa, dated at Cape Coast Castle, 11<sup>th</sup> March, 1753.

... [Gambia] ...

... [Gambia] ...

Fantee Law of excludg / French (1<sup>st</sup>).

Fantee Law of excludg / French (2<sup>nd</sup>).

45] fo. 203-204. The lordships took into consideration / papers relative to / disputes w/ Dutch  
Vol. 61. upon / coast o Africa, mentioned in / minutes o / 2nd & 25th o May last,  
1753 & ordered / draught o a letter to / Duke o Newcastle thereupon to be prepared.

Trade.  
Africa. Thursday, July 5, Present: - Earl o Halifax, Mr. Townshend, Mr. Oswald,  
Trade. The draught o a letter to / Duke o Newcastle concerning / disputes w/ Dutch upon /  
Africa. coast o Africa having been prepared pursuant to / minutes o yeety, was agreed to  
& ordered to be transcribed

Trade. Monday, July 9. Present: - Earl o Halifax, Mr. Townshend, Mr. Oswald  
Africa. The draught o a letter to / Duke o Newcastle concerning / disputes w/ Dutch upon /  
coast o Africa, having been transcribed, was signed.

448] Tuesday, July 14, Present: - Earl o Halifax, Mr. Sewville, Mr. Oswald.  
150] fo. 221-225. The lordships took into consideration / copy o a letter from Mr. Whytall, Sec-  
1753 rary o Cape Coast Castle to / Committee o / Co o Merchants trading to Africa,  
Trade laid before / Board by / sd Committee, & ordered / Secretary to write to /  
Africa Committee to desire the attendance at / Board to-morrow m9.

Trade. Wednesday July 16. Present: - Earl o Halifax, Mr. Sewville, Mr. Oswald  
Africa. The Committee o / Co o Merchants trading to Africa attending as desired, they  
were called in, & they informed the lordships t they had not received any o  
acct<sup>ts</sup> what's relative to / proceed<sup>gs</sup> o a French fleet at Annamaboe, than  
what is contained in Mr. Whytalls letter & then they withdrew.

455], Friday, November 16, Present: - Lord Dupplin, Mr Fane, Mr Stone, Mr Oswald,  
456] Read a letter fm Mr Milnes, dated 22nd August, 1753. Transmittg by order o/ Lords  
457] fo. 246-250. Commissioners o/ Admiralty / following papers relatg to / forts or settlements on / coast o  
Vol. 61, Guinea, viz:-

- 1753. Extract o a letter fm Captain Cokburne to Mr Cleland, dated 19<sup>th</sup> o August, 1753.
- Trade. The state o Secondee Fort.
- Africa. The state o Dixcove & Secondee Forts.

Ordered t/ Secretary do transmit copies o/papers to / Committee o/ Co o Merchants  
Readg to Africa,

Trade. Read a letter fm / merchants o Bristol, dated Merchants Hall, July 18<sup>th</sup>, 1753,  
Africa, containg ths thanks f/ Boards determination upon ths applicatn t/ officers o/ Co m<sup>r</sup>  
be restrained fm trade in slaves,

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[End o extracts fm / Journal, - last minute dated December 19 1753]

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p 98]

At / Council Chamber Whitehall

128<sup>th</sup> day of May 1752.

Present

The Excellencies / Lords Justices.

Arch Bishop of Canterbury.	Lord Chamberlain.	Lord Anson.
Lord Chancellor.	Duke of Argyle.	{ Mr Chancellor of
Lord Privy Seal.	Marquis of Blandford.	{ / Exchequer.
Lord Steward.	Earl of Holderness.	
Lord President.	Horatio Walpole Esq <sup>r</sup> .	
Duke of Devonshire.	Sir William Yonge.	
Earl of Halifax.	Sir John Rushout.	
Lord Berkeley of Stratton.	George Dodington Esq <sup>r</sup> .	
Lord Edgcumbe.		

17. Africa

Order appears / proposal  
of African Co for  
Building a Fort at  
Ann am aboe

Whereas it was this day read at / Board a Memorial of  
 a Committee of / Co of Merchants Trading to Africa Setting forth  
 That in November last they presented a Memorial to His Majesty,  
 by His Grace / Duke of Newcastle: Representing, That for  
 Consequence of a Fort at Annam aboe to / whole Gold Coast  
 Trade of Africa (upon which / Support of His Majesty's American  
 Colonys greatly depends) - That the said Duke desires of / Council to Build a Fort there, or for  
 the constant Practice of usurping to themselves an exclusive Trade where they  
 settle, it appeared to / Memorialists not only prudent but greatly important to /  
 Trading Interest of this Nation, to Build a Fort at the Place, in Consequence of an Offer then  
 lately made by John Corranice one of / Principal Cabbocours of Fantee People.

in a letter to / Right Hon<sup>ble</sup> / Earl o Halifax, - T by Advice lately received fm / Coast  
by / Memorialists h b<sup>n</sup> informed t / French h a Second time attempted to  
erect a Fort at Annamaboe in such a powerful manner as evidently Shew<sup>t</sup>  
/ Sense t Na<sup>n</sup> has o its gt use & imp<sup>ca</sup>: T w many costly Presents they hd so far  
gained / Affec<sup>n</sup> o some o / Natives as to Obtain Liberty to mark out a Piece o Ground f t  
Purpose, & must undoubtedly h b<sup>n</sup> successfull had not / Squadron o Men o War, under /  
Command o Captain Buckle happily presented them fm Carry<sup>g</sup> the Scheme into  
Execu<sup>n</sup> - T fm / same Advice / Memorialists h reason to Apprehend t / Natives are  
determined, at all Wnts to h a Fort Built f the Protec<sup>n</sup> by some European Power, t they  
were heartily inclined to give a Preference to / English, but t hav<sup>g</sup> b<sup>n</sup> so often  
deceived by the Promises to rebuild the Old one some o them hd had gu<sup>en</sup>  
Encourage<sup>mt</sup> to / French wh induced Captain Buckle to remove all Doubts & to  
Convince them o / Sincerity o / English Inten<sup>ns</sup> to Consent to one o / Chief Agents  
90] o Cape Coast Castle shd be left at Annamaboe as a Pledge till this Work  
sh be performed w / Agent complied w & / Natives readily accepted - T /  
Memorialists are fur<sup>r</sup> informed t / French h promised some o / Natives whose  
Friendship they hd obtained t they will return in Ten or Twelve Months w  
/ Sum o 8,000 / Piece fixed f leave to build & w a Squadron o Men o War  
able to Protect them whilst / Works are Carry<sup>g</sup> on - T as it appears to /  
Memorialists t / Trade to Africa & America g<sup>tly</sup> depends upon / most Expeditions  
use o / favourable Disposi<sup>n</sup> Captain Buckle has left / Natives in, by his  
Majesty's Presents & his own Prudent Conduct, they think it the indis-  
pensable Duty to represent, T as / English by / Confes<sup>n</sup> o / Natives them-  
selves h b<sup>n</sup> time ont o mind in Posses<sup>n</sup> o / Country where / French propose  
to Build, & h paid an Annual Ground Rent f / same, they h most  
certainly a Right exclusive o all o<sup>r</sup> Na<sup>ns</sup> to / Advantages aris<sup>g</sup> fm /  
Trade thereof. T if / French are permitted to build a Fort the, all these

86.  
Advantages will be instantly wrested from us, since from West Part's Customshouse  
they are able to give a great Price for Slaves & consequently must Engrave all  
Trade of the Country, & by Degrees of whole Coast, & in all Probability /  
immediate Erect<sup>n</sup> of a Fort may renew & secure / Affection & Good Will of  
Natives, as they declare to us, We will build the utmost Ambition is to Continue  
English - The Memorialists therefore most humbly beseech the Excellency to  
take / Premises into the most serious Consideration, & to give such Orders therein  
as to the great Wisdom sh<sup>d</sup> seem meet - The Excellency's / Lords Justices this day  
took into Consideration / sd Memorial together w<sup>th</sup> several Letters of Advice received  
from Cape Coast Castle which were likewise this day laid before / Board, & in  
regard to / Imp<sup>t</sup> of African Trade to this Kingdom & His Majesty's  
American Colonies are hereby pleased w<sup>th</sup> / Advice of His Majesty's Privy  
Council to Approve of / Memorialists' Proposal of Building a new Fort  
at Annamaboe in / same place where / Old one stood, & The Excellency's  
do also hereby recommend it to them to lose no time in Carry on / sd Work.

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At / Council Chamber Whitehall  
/ 11<sup>th</sup> o December 1750

[Dd 2]

By a Committee o / Lords o His Majesty's most Hon. Privy Council

This Majesty having been pleased by His Order in Council o 6<sup>th</sup> o this Instant, to refer unto this Committee, an Act o said Trade o Growth Product or Manufacture o Kingdom o Gr Britain as also o Gr Goods & Merchandize exported from / Port o London f / Act o limited Co o Merchants Trade o England Trading to / East Indies between / 29<sup>th</sup> o Sep 1749 or / 29<sup>th</sup> o Sep. 1750. The Lords o / Committee this day took / sd Act into their Consideration, & are hereby pleased to refer / same to / Lords Commissioners f Trade & Plantations, who are to examine & compare / sd Act w / Returns o 5<sup>th</sup> Years & make Report thereof to this Committee  
W. Sharpe.

A Comput<sup>n</sup> o Negroes required f / use o / American Plantations. [Dd 3]

— Jamaica, Barbadoes, Antigua, St Kitts, Nevis, Montserrat, Virginia & Maryland, Carolina. —

"Total f / use o all America" 16,000.

A List o Ships Employ'd in / Trade to Africa from / Port o Bristol / Year 1749 [Dd 4]

Totals	Ships	Number o Slaves.	Value o Ships & Cargoes
Gold Coast	17	5180	103,100
Benin, Benin & } Calabere	23	8110	110,800
Angola	7	3350	46,900
	<u>47</u>	<u>16,640</u>	<u>260,800</u>

List o Ships belongg to / Port o Liverpool Trading to Africa in / Year 1749 [Dd 5]

[75 Ships . 23200 Negroes]

My Lords // The Committee of Co<sup>o</sup> Merchants tradg to Africa, be<sup>g</sup> sensible o<sup>f</sup> g<sup>t</sup> Delay in  
 sendg out / Goods to / Coast, think it a Duty they owe themselves to endeavour to justify the  
 Conduct to yr Lordships. They h therefore ordered me to lay before y / enclosed Narrative o the  
 Proceed<sup>g</sup>s, fm / Time they were elected, in wh yr Lordships may observe t / necessary Connec<sup>n</sup>  
 of Committee w / old African Co, hath occasioned g<sup>t</sup> loss o Trade; first in / joint Applica<sup>n</sup> b /  
 Many, & then in / Difficulty wh / old Co made, & indeed do still make, o grant<sup>g</sup> such Powers, to / Person  
 to be intrusted by / Committee, as are tho<sup>t</sup> absolutely necessary. b / Security & Disposol o Goods, in  
 / Manner intended, & prescribed by Parliam<sup>t</sup>

The Committee are now prepar<sup>g</sup> Instruc<sup>t</sup>s b / Conduct o Officers & Agents who are to be sent  
 to / Coast, & will take / Liberty o lay<sup>g</sup> them before yr Lordships f yr Approba<sup>n</sup>

By Order o Committee o / Co<sup>o</sup> Merchants tradg to Africa

New Broad Street

I have — — —

26<sup>th</sup> January 1750

W<sup>m</sup> Holtier Secretary

To / Right. Honble / Lords Commissioners o Trade & Plantac<sup>ns</sup>

The Committee o / Co<sup>o</sup> Merchants tradg to Africa met by Direc<sup>n</sup> o / Act o Parliam<sup>t</sup> on /  
 first Monday be<sup>g</sup> / 6<sup>th</sup> o August last; at wh Meet<sup>g</sup> they chose a Secretary, & directed him to  
 wait upon / Court o Assistants o Royal African Co o England, to know wh<sup>o</sup> & when they  
 wd appoint a Time to meet & communicate to / Committee / State o / Forts & Factories upon /  
 Coast o Africa by / last Advice fm thence; & Messrs Boddicott Biscoe, & Pole were appointed  
 a Committee f t Purpose, who reported to / next Committee on / 16<sup>th</sup> August; t. / African Co  
 rather chose to receive in writing any Ques<sup>ns</sup> / Committee m<sup>t</sup> h to ask them to attend  
 a personal Confer<sup>ce</sup>.

In Consequence o wh / Letter annexed was wrote to / Co on / same Day, soon after

wh Messrs Scott, Dickes & Pole waited upon / Night Hon<sup>ble</sup> Henry Pelham Esq<sup>r</sup> to know in  
what Method / Committee sh<sup>d</sup> apply f<sup>r</sup> / £10,000 granted by Parla<sup>mt</sup> f<sup>r</sup> / Support o<sup>f</sup> Forts,  
Factories & Settlements upon / Coast o<sup>f</sup> Africa, & were told by him, t<sup>h</sup> it must be by a Joint Applica<sup>on</sup> to /  
Treasury fm / Co & Committee.

It was, therefore resolved on / 30<sup>th</sup> August to take into Considera<sup>on</sup> (at / next Committee) an applica<sup>on</sup>  
to / Co f<sup>r</sup> t<sup>e</sup> Purpose & accordingly on ... [form] / Letter annexed No 2 was sent to / Co & / Committee  
adjourned to / 14<sup>th</sup> when / Secretary having informed them t<sup>h</sup> / Co had not sent any Answer to t<sup>h</sup>  
Letter o<sup>f</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> it was resolved, T<sup>h</sup> a Memorial, sh<sup>d</sup> be drawn up & laid before / next Committee,  
wh was accordingly done on / 13<sup>th</sup> & / same was <sup>by / Committee</sup> presented to / Board o<sup>f</sup> Treasury, wh informed them  
t<sup>h</sup> a Memorial had b<sup>e</sup>n likewise presented by / Co, th<sup>o</sup> Lordships had considered them both & would  
send a Copy o<sup>f</sup> t<sup>h</sup> a Minute o<sup>f</sup> t<sup>h</sup> Board to / Co in order to induce them to consent t<sup>h</sup> / Money  
sh<sup>d</sup> be issued to / Committee.

On / 17<sup>th</sup> October / Co did at last comply w<sup>th</sup> / Request o<sup>f</sup> / Committee t<sup>h</sup> / Money m<sup>t</sup> be issued to  
them & on / 20<sup>th</sup> they wrote to / Committee f<sup>r</sup> a Confer<sup>ce</sup> wh was fixed f<sup>r</sup> / 26<sup>th</sup> on / same Day  
and<sup>r</sup> Memorial was drawn up by / Committee & w<sup>th</sup> / Co's Letter o<sup>f</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> annexed, were presented  
to / Treasury on / 31<sup>st</sup> October, but / Forms o<sup>f</sup> diff<sup>t</sup> Officers not permit<sup>t</sup>g / Money to be paid  
until / 22<sup>d</sup> November / Committee was forced to stop t<sup>h</sup> Proceed<sup>gs</sup> dur<sup>g</sup> t<sup>e</sup> Time.

On / 28<sup>th</sup> Novem<sup>r</sup> / Committee wrote to M<sup>r</sup> Lascelles f<sup>r</sup> such Informa<sup>on</sup> as he c<sup>d</sup> furnish  
them w<sup>th</sup>, he having had / Investment o<sup>f</sup> / £10,000 granted / year before, wh Request he w<sup>d</sup> readily  
complied w<sup>th</sup> & on / same Day, they informed / Co t<sup>h</sup> they had rec<sup>d</sup> / £10,000 fm / Treasury  
& desired they w<sup>d</sup> furnish them w<sup>th</sup> a list o<sup>f</sup> such Recruits, Goods Stores & Provi<sup>ns</sup> as were  
wanted f<sup>r</sup> / Support o<sup>f</sup> Forts & Settlements, to wh Letter / Co did not send any Answer till /  
8<sup>th</sup> Decem<sup>r</sup>, when they gave a list o<sup>f</sup> Goods proper f<sup>r</sup> / Coast & a list o<sup>f</sup> People wanted  
t<sup>h</sup>; / last o<sup>f</sup> wh was so imperfect t<sup>h</sup> / Committee found themselves under / necessity o

writg agn to / Co for a list o all / white Persons upon / Coast + the Stams in / sev<sup>l</sup> Forts,  
to wh / Co h<sup>ad</sup> not yet sent them any answers, tho' they promised it in a few Days after  
/ 20<sup>th</sup> December.

The Committee beg<sup>g</sup> tired o waitg so long f<sup>r</sup> the Answers wrote to them ag<sup>n</sup> on / 16<sup>th</sup>  
January, wh letter is still unanswered, so t<sup>h</sup> it has b<sup>een</sup> impossible to take any steps in procur<sup>g</sup>  
proper People to send out to / Coast except in / Appointm<sup>t</sup> o Thomas Melvil Esq<sup>r</sup> f<sup>r</sup> / Care  
o / Goods.

As to / Goods + Stores they are all ordered + in g<sup>o</sup>d Forwardness + / Committee hav<sup>g</sup> ad-  
vised f<sup>r</sup> / Hire o a Ship will dispatch them w<sup>ith</sup> all / Speed t<sup>h</sup> / Nature o / Business will admit.

To / Court o Assistants o / Royal African Co o England  
Letter no 1.

Gentlemen // I am directed by / Committee o / Co o Merchants tradg to Africa to acquaint  
y<sup>e</sup> t<sup>h</sup> / Reason o the desir<sup>g</sup> a Confer<sup>ence</sup> w<sup>h</sup> y<sup>e</sup> was to be informed - How far + in what  
manner y<sup>e</sup> will consent to / Exec<sup>u</sup>tion o Power granted in t<sup>h</sup> Part o / Clause in / Act o Parliam<sup>t</sup>  
f<sup>r</sup> / Establishm<sup>t</sup> o / sd Committee (Page 549) wh recites " + / Committee Men f<sup>r</sup> / Time beg<sup>g</sup> on  
" any five or more o them or / Major major Part o them so assembled, sh<sup>all</sup> f<sup>r</sup> + after /  
" passg<sup>g</sup> such Act o Parliam<sup>t</sup>, or directg<sup>g</sup> / African Co o the Charter, Forts, Castles, + Military  
" Stores, Cameramen, Castle Slaves, + all o<sup>th</sup>er Property on / Coast o Africa as afores<sup>d</sup> or before  
" / passg<sup>g</sup> such Act so far as / sd African Co sh<sup>all</sup> consent thereto, h<sup>ave</sup> full Power f<sup>r</sup> Time  
" to Time to make Orders f<sup>r</sup> / Govern<sup>g</sup>, maintain<sup>g</sup>, preserv<sup>g</sup> + improv<sup>g</sup> / Forts + Factories  
" already built or wh sh<sup>all</sup> hereafter be built within / Limits aforesaid + to appoint Gover-  
" nors, Deputy Governours, or any o<sup>th</sup>er Officers, civil or military o or f<sup>r</sup> / sd Forts + Settlements  
" + them to remove + displace when they sh<sup>all</sup> see fit, + to make Orders + Regula<sup>ns</sup> f<sup>r</sup> /

"Letter Gov<sup>r</sup> o/ <sup>sd</sup> Officers & Servants abroad."

And as it may be / great Advantage to / Trade, they wd be glad to know by yr latest Address  
/ State & Condi<sup>o</sup> o/ Forts & Settlements on / Coast<sup>s</sup> o Africa, & w<sup>h</sup> any & what Stores & Necessaries  
are want<sup>g</sup> thr, & / proper Care may be taken f<sup>r</sup> ch<sup>r</sup> Supply.

As / Committee are convinc<sup>d</sup> o yr Readiness to concur w<sup>th</sup> them in promot<sup>g</sup> / Inter<sup>o</sup>  
/ Act, they h<sup>e</sup> committed to ~~writing~~ writ<sup>g</sup> (agreeable to yr Message by me) what was designed  
to h<sup>e</sup> bn / Subject o ch<sup>r</sup> Confer<sup>s</sup> & they doubt not but y will favor them w<sup>an</sup> Answer thereto  
New Broad Street  
By Order o/ Committee &c.

16 ~~th~~ August 1750

Letter No 2.

Gentlemen // We h<sup>e</sup> this Day received yr letter o/ 29<sup>th</sup> August & as we find y re-  
serve yr Answer to our letter o/ 16<sup>th</sup> o/ same Month, till y know to whom / £10000  
granted by Parliam<sup>t</sup> will be paid, We think it proper to inform y<sup>e</sup> we sh<sup>al</sup> apply by  
Memorial to / Lords o/ Treasur<sup>y</sup> on the first Board Day f<sup>r</sup> £ Money, & we desire  
to know if y will join w<sup>us</sup> in an Applic<sup>o</sup> f<sup>r</sup> obtain<sup>g</sup> / same.

New Broad Street

By Order &c

6<sup>th</sup> September

To/ Right Hon<sup>ble</sup> / Lords Commissioners o Trade & Plantat<sup>o</sup>s

[Dd 4]

My Lords // Since I had / Honor, by order o/ Committee o/ Co o Merchants Trad<sup>g</sup> to Africa, to  
lay before y<sup>e</sup> Lordships a Narrative o the Proceed<sup>g</sup>s, they h<sup>e</sup> not only received an Answer to ch<sup>r</sup>  
letter, but h<sup>e</sup> had a Confer<sup>s</sup> w<sup>th</sup> / Court<sup>s</sup> o Assistants o Royal African Co, at w<sup>h</sup> / Appointment  
o some Officers was agreed to, & / Resol<sup>o</sup> o/ Committee to send ab<sup>o</sup> Ninety People o  
diff<sup>t</sup> Professi<sup>o</sup>s, Tradesmen & Soldiers, in / Power<sup>o</sup> o whom / Committee are now employed.

They he likewise hired two Ships to carry out / sd Officers & ca; toge w / Goods, one to Gambia, & / o<sup>r</sup> to Cape Coast & doubt not but they sh be able to dispatch them in a Month.

The Committee he by a letter to / Right Honble / Lords of Admiralty, requested the Lordships to send out such a naval Force as they sh think proper f / Protec<sup>n</sup> of Trade, & to prevent / Inroad into o Foreigners, on any Parts of Coast; & if yr Lordships are apprehensive t any Circumstances make it necessary to increase / usual Force, / Committee beg / Favor o yr Lordships to order them to be communicated to t board.

New Broad Street  
8<sup>th</sup> February 1750 }

I have — —  
W<sup>m</sup> Hollier Secretary

To / Right Honble / Lords Commissioners of Trade & Planta<sup>ns</sup>

[Dd 18]

The humble Memorial o / Royal African Co o England.

My Lords // As We are not moved to give yr Lordships this trouble fm any private or personal Views, but merely to crave yr Lordships' Advice & Direc<sup>n</sup> in an Affair in which wher wherein We apprehend / Interest o / Publick is gre<sup>tly</sup> concerned, We humbly rely upon yr Lordships' Goodness to excuse / Same.

In / year 1749 the Right Honble / Lords Commissioners o His Majesty's Treasury were pleased pursuant to a Clause in an Act o Parliam<sup>t</sup> f t purpose to issue unto Henry Hascelles o London Esquire / Sum o Ten thousand pounds to be applied towards / Support o this Co's Forts & Settlements in Africa & f / Paym<sup>t</sup> & Subsistence o the Servants ther fm / time o Arrival o such Supplies at James Fort in / River Gambia, & at Cape Coast Castle on / South Coast o Africa respectively; And thereupon / Co did by & w /

Consent & upon Recommendation of /sd Henry dascelles appointed John Roberts, William Husband, & Thomas Boteler to be the Agents at Cape Coast Castle. . . to h / power o dispos<sup>l</sup> & apply<sup>l</sup> o such /sd Suppliers as shd be swlly consign'd to them as aforesaid. And / Co as well as /sd Henry dascelles took Security o /sd Agents by / faithfull discharge othr sevl & respective Trusts.

In / Act wh passed / last Ses<sup>n</sup> o Parliam<sup>t</sup> f Establish<sup>g</sup> a New Co by / Name o / Co o Merchants Tradg to Africa. It is Enacted. That a evy o British Forts, Settlements & Factories on / Coast o Africa wh are now claim'd by or in / Posses<sup>n</sup> o yr Memorialists shd fm & after / pass<sup>g</sup> o an Act o Parliam<sup>t</sup> f divid<sup>g</sup> yr Memorialists o same Chartr, be absolutely vested in /sd New Co. who fm & after / pass<sup>g</sup> such Act o Parliam<sup>t</sup> f divid<sup>g</sup> yr Memorialists (or before / pass<sup>g</sup> such Act so far as /sd African Co shd consent thereto) shd h full Power fm time to time to appoint Governours, remove or displace them, & to make Orders, & Regula<sup>ns</sup> &c.

Yr Memorialists humbly apprehend t it was not / Intent<sup>n</sup> & Meant<sup>n</sup> o /sd Act, t they shd be oblig'd to give / New Co or thir Agents immediat Posses<sup>n</sup> o thir Forts & Settlements, or to remove or displace any o thir Servants; But only t they shd concur w / New Co in all such Measures as shd be found necessary f / Support & Preserv<sup>n</sup> o thir sd Forts & Settlements in / mean time & until such Act f divid<sup>g</sup> yr Memorialists shd take place.

In this View when / New Co applied in October last to / Lords o / Treasury f / Ten thousand pounds granted / last Ses<sup>n</sup> o Parliam<sup>t</sup> this Co gave thir Consent t / same shd be issued to & invest'd by them f / intnded Service; And /sd New Co hav<sup>g</sup> also by letter o / 4<sup>th</sup> o December last inform'd yr Memorialists t they hd appointed Mr Thomas Melvil thir Chief Agent, Pay Master, & Warehouse Keeper, Yr Memorialists on / 8<sup>th</sup> o / same Month by letter inform'd /sd New Co t they shd appoint /sd Mr Melvil an additional Chief Agent, Treasurer, & Warehouse Keeper in thir Service at Cape Coast Castle to act jointly w thir John Roberts & William Husband

who then were there, but such Appoint<sup>mt</sup> be<sup>g</sup> not satisfactory to /sd New Co, for Memorialists do admit t<sup>t</sup> by th<sup>r</sup> letters o/ 20<sup>th</sup> o December last they did agree t/ /sd Thomas Melvil sh<sup>d</sup> h/ sole Possess<sup>n</sup> & Power o dispos<sup>l</sup> o/ /sd New Co's Consign<sup>mt</sup> but fm/ Perusal o/ letters sent over by Capt. Pye wh<sup>o</sup> they but w<sup>g</sup> lately came to / Knowledge & obtained Copies o, & fm/ Informa<sup>n</sup> they h<sup>e</sup> received by o<sup>r</sup> letters t<sup>t</sup> h<sup>e</sup> since come fm/ Coast fm Mr Roberts giv<sup>g</sup> an Acct o one our Forts (called Dixcove) be<sup>g</sup> now besieged by / Natives, thro / Instiga<sup>n</sup> & w/ Assist<sup>ce</sup> o/ Dutch, & fm/ Cau<sup>n</sup> given to /s Memorialists on behalf o/ /sd Henry Lascelles, t<sup>t</sup> he cd by no means consent to / removal /sd Mr Roberts or Mr husband, they h<sup>e</sup> thro<sup>t</sup> themselves under a necessity o review<sup>g</sup> what h<sup>d</sup> passed betw<sup>n</sup> / two Cos & to propose to them / follow<sup>g</sup> Regula<sup>ns</sup> as well f/ Dispos<sup>n</sup> & Regula<sup>ns</sup> applica<sup>n</sup> o/ last mentioned as f/ former Ten thousand pounds sent out by Mr Lascelles, viz<sup>t</sup>:

1<sup>st</sup> 1 such part o/ Supply granted last Year as sh<sup>d</sup> be allotted to Cape Coast Castle be consigned to Mr Thomas Melvil recommended by Y, who sh<sup>d</sup> give security to Y & this Co f/ true & faithful disposal & applica<sup>n</sup> o/ Same as hereafter mentioned.

2<sup>d</sup> Such part o/ /sd Supply as sh<sup>d</sup> be allotted f/ Gambia be consigned to such persons as sh<sup>d</sup> be agreed on, who sh<sup>d</sup> give / like security.

3<sup>d</sup> 1 / Co sh<sup>d</sup> appoint /sd Mr Thomas Melvil to be one o thr three Chief Agents & Warehousekeeper at Cape Coast Castle. . . [he] giv<sup>g</sup> such security & entering into such Covenants as h<sup>e</sup> be<sup>g</sup> Customary in / like Cases.

4<sup>th</sup> 1 this Co sh<sup>d</sup> make out new Comis<sup>ns</sup> appoint<sup>g</sup> and tog<sup>e</sup> w/ /sd Thomas Melvil to be / three Chief Agents at Cape Coast Castle . . . until fur<sup>th</sup> Orders.

5<sup>th</sup> Upon / Arrival o/ Agents w/ / Goods, Stores &c at Cape Coast Castle . . . this Co's then Agents . . . sh<sup>d</sup> in Conjun<sup>n</sup> w such Agents as aforesaid forthwith

Take true Inventories o all Goods, Merchandize, Stores, Castle Slaves, Cannonm<sup>n</sup> & all  
o Effects whatso<sup>r</sup> belong<sup>g</sup> to this Co exclusive o what may be remain<sup>g</sup> o Goods &  
Merchandize &c sent out by Mr dascelles.

6<sup>th</sup> I this Co's Chief Agents then at each o/sd places [C.C.C. Gambia] sh im-  
mediately upon / Arrival o / Agents as afores<sup>d</sup> make out a true & part<sup>l</sup> Acct o/  
Sale, Disposal & Applica<sup>m</sup> o all such Goods & Merchandize as were consigned by  
/above named Mr dascelles, & also o all / Charges & Expences incurred under / head  
o Castle Charges fm / day o / Arrival o such Goods & Merchandize thro, to / day o /  
Arrival o / Agents as aforesaid.

7<sup>th</sup> I in case any o / Goods & Merchandize sent out by Mr dascelles or o / pro-  
duce thereof sh then be remain<sup>g</sup> over & above / Charges incurred & over & above  
all arrears since Mr Roberts's Arrival at Cape Coast Castle... as may be then  
remain<sup>g</sup> due & unpaid, / same sh be delivered over into / Custody & Posses<sup>m</sup> o / sd  
respective Agents now go<sup>g</sup> out & to be by them applic<sup>d</sup> f<sup>r</sup> & toward<sup>s</sup> / Support<sup>r</sup> o /  
respective Forts & Settlements as hereafter mentioned, but in case such Goods & Mer-  
chandize sent out by Mr dascelles sh not be b<sup>n</sup> sufficient to defray all such Charges  
[such deficiency sh be made good & paid out o / produce o / Goods & Merchandize  
wh are now to be sent out under / care o / sd respective Agents.

8<sup>th</sup> I such Goods & Merchandize as sh be now sent out as well as / Remainder (if any)  
o Goods & Merchandize sent out by Mr dascelles at Cape Coast & Gambia sh be lodg<sup>d</sup>  
under / Care o / respective Warehousekeepers recommended by Y. But t<sup>r</sup> / sd Goods & Merch-  
andize sh be sold disposed o & applic<sup>d</sup> toward<sup>s</sup> / mainten<sup>ce</sup> & Support<sup>r</sup> o / sd respective Forts  
& Settlements in such manner & ways only, as / sd three Chief Agents or any two o  
them (whereof / Warehousekeeper at each respective place to be one) sh fm time to

time agree upon & not otherwise

9<sup>th</sup> All Gold wh shall be taken in / way o Barter f any o / sd Goods + Merchandise sh be kept in an Iron Chest under three locks & keys whereof each o / sd Agents to keep one & t all Payments & Disbursements in Gold or Silver be made pursuant to / Order & Direc<sup>n</sup> o / sd three Chief Agents or / major part o them whereof / sd Warehousekeeper to be one & not otherwise

10<sup>th</sup> I / New Co may (if they see fit) appoint an Assistant Warehouse-keeper at each place, to succeed in t Office in case o / Death o either o / Warehousekeepers to be now appointed, but to h no Power in / mean time or before such Vacancy or Vacancies sh happen.

11<sup>th</sup> I in case any Diff<sup>y</sup> sh arise betw / sd three Agents it be left to / Captains o / first Man o War t sh come upon / Coast to settle & make up / same

These Regulat<sup>ns</sup> appeared to us so reasonable & necessary both w regard to yr Memorialists Property & / due Applicat<sup>n</sup> o / Publick Money f / Service intended t yr Memorialists did not in / least doubt o / Concurre<sup>nc</sup> o / New Co therein; but as it appears by the Answer a Copy o wh is hereto annexed t they refuse to consent thereto. And as yr Memorialists are Trustees f / Proprietors & also f / other Creditors they humbly conceived themselves under / necessity o Represent<sup>g</sup> / true State o this Affairs to yr Lordships & to submit / same intirely to yr Lordships' Determinat<sup>n</sup>

African House

March 4<sup>th</sup> 1750

all wh is humbly submitted

By Order o / Court o Assistants  
o / Royal African Co o England

P. Spence

Sec<sup>ry</sup>

A Copy of a letter from / Committee of Co<sup>o</sup> Merchants trading to Africa to / Court of Assistants  
of / Royal African Co<sup>o</sup> England Dated 24<sup>th</sup> February 1750

Gentlemen / The Committee of Co<sup>o</sup> Merchants trading to Africa h directed me to acknowledge / receipt of yr letter of 19<sup>th</sup> Inst & are sorry to find it contains no answer to their letter of 30<sup>th</sup> January wh obliges them to request it ag<sup>n</sup> as also a Copy of Proceed<sup>gs</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> Mr dascelles & / Instructions given by Y to Mr Roberts when he was sent out to Cape Coast, wh Y agreed to give at / last Confer<sup>ce</sup> on / 5<sup>th</sup> Inst.

The Committee agree w<sup>th</sup> Y<sup>r</sup> Opinion t<sup>h</sup> it behoves them to take care t<sup>h</sup> / Money granted by Parliam<sup>nt</sup> & paid to them be properly invested & applied to / Uses f<sup>or</sup> wh it was intended, & as Mr<sup>r</sup> dascelles last Year nominated / Persons he thot proper to intrust w<sup>th</sup> / Goods & Y approved o them, they expect t<sup>h</sup> Y will pay / same regard to the nomin<sup>at</sup> this Year.

The Committee apprehend t<sup>h</sup> / Minutes of / last Confer<sup>ce</sup> are a full Answer to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>d</sup> & 3<sup>d</sup> Proposals in yr letter & a flat Contradic<sup>ti</sup>on to yr 4<sup>th</sup> f<sup>or</sup> Y<sup>r</sup> propos<sup>al</sup> Mr<sup>r</sup> Melvil to be / last of three chief Agents; whereas by / Minutes it was agreed t<sup>h</sup> he sh<sup>d</sup> be visited by Y w<sup>th</sup> / same Comm<sup>is</sup>ns. Title & Power wh Mr Roberts then had, or wh they apprehend were Superior to any o<sup>th</sup>r<sup>s</sup> Agents

The Appoint<sup>mt</sup>s of an Assistant Warehousekeeper & Success<sup>or</sup> to / Chief Agent was agreed at / last Confer<sup>ce</sup> on / 5<sup>th</sup> Instant when Mr Ebenezer Young was nominated in t<sup>h</sup> Sta<sup>ti</sup>on

The Committee are not authorized to concern themselves w<sup>th</sup> any Effects already sent out to / Coast or to pay any Arrears due or contracted thro<sup>ugh</sup> / Arrival of the Agents upon / Coast agreeable to yr letter of 20<sup>th</sup> December Dec<sup>re</sup> relaty partly to / Appoint<sup>mt</sup> of Mr Melvil; but sh<sup>d</sup> give Instruc<sup>ti</sup>ons to the Agents to dispose of / Goods f<sup>or</sup> / Purposes mentioned by / Act of Parliam<sup>nt</sup>, & f<sup>or</sup> wh it was agreed at / Confer<sup>ce</sup> on / 26<sup>th</sup> October t<sup>h</sup> Security

17.  
shd be taken by / Committee fm / sd Res Melb. C.

The Committee are o opinion w<sup>y</sup> t a Naval Force is necessary f / Protec<sup>n</sup> o /  
Trade, & before / Receipt o / Yr Letter had applied to / Lords o / Admiralty upon t Acct  
fm whom they h received a v<sup>y</sup> Satisfactory Answer.

The Committee apprehend t / forego<sup>s</sup> is a Sufficient Answer to w<sup>y</sup>thg material  
in Yr Letter

Yare not insensible what Delays h already happened on Yr Side in / Correspond<sup>ce</sup>  
& therefore they h only to add t as / 20<sup>th</sup> March is / Time limited f / Departure o / Ships,  
when w<sup>y</sup>thg will be complicated by / Committee f / Yr Despatches they hope Y will expedite  
w<sup>y</sup>thg to be done on Yr Part to prevent ~~hemorrhage~~ hemorrhage or any o<sup>r</sup> inconveni<sup>en</sup>ces  
t may happen by farther Obstruc<sup>ns</sup>

By Order o / Committee o / Co o Merchants, Traders to Africa  
I am - &c -

New Broad Street  
27<sup>th</sup> February 1750

Wm Hollis  
Secretary

To / Committee o / Co o Merchants Trading to Africa.

[Dd 17.]

Gentlemen \*

We believe t y will do us Justice to say we h hitherto conversed in way thg y h desired o us to dispatch & facilitate / sendg out / 10,000 <sup>l</sup> granted by Parliam<sup>t</sup> / last Session f / Support o / Forts & Settlements belongg to this Co But sev<sup>l</sup> letters relaty to / present Circumstas o / Co's Affairs in Africa beg now before / House o Commons (oath y no doubt h Copies) We h found it necessary to review our Proceedgs & think it incumbent upon us to offer to yr Considera<sup>n</sup> what has occurred or we apprehend to be fut<sup>r</sup> necessary f / due Applicam<sup>n</sup> o / Publick Money & / Preservation o / Trade

Upon / Parliam<sup>t</sup> grantg / Session before last 10,000 <sup>l</sup> wh / Lords o / Treasury sh<sup>d</sup> first to in- trust Mr Henry Hascelles w / Disposi<sup>n</sup> o, proper Officers were named & recommended to / Co by Mr Hascelles & upon th<sup>r</sup> givg good & sufficient Security were accordgly appointed by / Co & / three Persons named in t Commission were Mr Roberts, Mr Husband & Mr Bollen who are now at Cape Coast & are answerable to / Publick f t £10,000 & to / Co f th<sup>r</sup> Behaviour

As / £10,000 sent out by Mr Hascelles & / 10,000 <sup>l</sup> granted last Session & paid to y were each f / same purpose Viz<sup>t</sup> / Support & Maintenance o / Forts & Settlements It is therefore in- cumbent on Mr Hascelles & on y & also on this Co to take Care t / same be duly applied, As to Mr Hascelles, t he may be able to pass his Accts & discharge / Security he has given, As to yr Co t they may see / last / 10,000 <sup>l</sup> properly applied. And as to this Co t while th<sup>r</sup> Affairs are in this State o suspense t / Establishm<sup>t</sup> be fully answered out o / Supplies sent over & t / same may be applyd to t purpose least [cash] new Debts sh<sup>d</sup> be incurred wch under / present Situa<sup>n</sup> must fall on this Co.

In this View & under these Considera<sup>n</sup>s We think it incumbent on us to recom- mend / followg Plan f / Gen Security t / Money granted sh<sup>d</sup> be duly & duly

applied, & with Method seems Necessary till this Co sh be directed

That such part of Supply granted last Year as sh be allotted to Cape Coast Castle be ~~all~~ consigned to Mr Thos Melvil recommended by y, who sh give Security to y & this Co f / true & faithful Disposal & Applic<sup>n</sup> o / same as here after mentioned

That such part of sd Supply as sh be allotted f Gambia be consigned to such Person as sh be agreed on who sh give / like Security.

That this Co sh appoint ye sd Mr Thos Melvil to be one o the three Chief Agents & Warehouse Keeper at Cape Coast Castle and / Person who sh be so agreed on f Gambia to be one o the three Chief Agents & Warehouse Keeper at James Fort in / River Gambia: they give such Security & enterg into such Covenants as be bn Customary in / like Cases.

4.

5

6<sup>th</sup>7<sup>th</sup>

8

9<sup>th</sup>10<sup>th</sup>

11.

[Vide pp 9-11 supra]

As one o our most dangerous Rivals is now labouring to supplant / British Interest is [in<sup>g</sup>] one o / most Essential Branches of African Trade by usg o the utmost Efforts to obtain Settlement at Bonnamaboe in / V Center of Gold Coast, we apprehend [nothing] next to a proper Force at sea can under / present un-

fortunate Circumstances of Trade more effectually contribute to render such Dangerous Schemes abortive than Harmony & unanimity among / Officers & Servants settled & appointed to be on / Coast, And as it appears from / Letters transmitted by Capt<sup>n</sup> Pye to / Lords of Admiralty that Inconveniences were like to arise & may still grow worse from / frequent appointing of new Governors there, we cannot but be of Opinion that till such time as / Parliam<sup>t</sup> sh be pleased to put / Finishing Hand to this Affair, / Orders & Regulations hereinbefore mentioned may be necessary & conducive to / Ends desired & do therefore propose them to yr Consideration for yr concurrence, & if y<sup>e</sup> any Doubts or Diff<sup>er</sup> Difficulties ~~about~~ concerning / same, will vry readily submit / whole to / immediate Determination of / Right Honourable / Lords Commissioners of Trade & Plantations & will attend / Honourable Board as y<sup>e</sup> on / Subject Matter thereof  
 Thus may Act in Council in an Affair of such g<sup>o</sup> Consequence to / Trade of this Kingdom

[no date nor sig<sup>s</sup>]

Enclosed

- " Trade Africa
- " Copy letters sent from / Royal
- " African Co to / New
- " Co. Dated
- " 19<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>r</sup>y 1750
- " Recd w/ African Co's
- " Mem<sup>o</sup> dated y<sup>e</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> March 1750
- " Recd March 5 } 1750
- " Recd do } 1
- " Dd 19."

A list o Persons now at Cape Coast Castle Out o wh [Dd 21]  
 the Lordships are humbly desired to Name two to  
 be joined w Mr Melvil who is named by / New  
 Comp<sup>t</sup> to go o ver w<sup>th</sup> / 10,000 last granted.

Mr Stockwell who was Displaced & in his Room were appointed  
 Mr Jno Roberts } who are now / three Chiefs thr.  
 Mr Hubbards }  
 Mr Boteler }

Endorsed

Recd March 12<sup>th</sup> }  
 Recd April 16<sup>th</sup> } 1750/1  
 Dd 24.

To / Right Honorable / Lords Commissioners o Trade & Plant<sup>ns</sup>  
 My Lords

The Committee o / Co o Merchants tradg to Africa take / Liberty o layg  
 before yr Lordships a Copy o / Instruments intended f / Chief Agents & Officers upon /  
 Coast, & hope they will meet w yr Lordships' Approba<sup>ns</sup>

If the stat be any<sup>th</sup> deficient or it requires any Altera<sup>ns</sup> they hope  
 y will please to honor<sup>e</sup> them w yr Sentin<sup>ts</sup>, wh sh be immediately complied w.

They wd h done this before had not the Time bn so much taken up by / Oth

African Co, who to this Hour thurst all the Proceeds in / Nomina<sup>n</sup> o Officers &c a  
h<sup>o</sup> m so extremely troublesome t / Committee hope this will be / last year they  
sh h any Concern w them.

As / Ships are now ready to depart, / Committee hope y<sup>r</sup> Lordships will be  
pleased to take these Instruc<sup>ns</sup> into y<sup>r</sup> immediate Considera<sup>n</sup>

By Order of Committee of Comp<sup>o</sup> Merchants tradg to  
Africa. 9 h - 22 -  
Wm Holtier Secy.

Newbroad Street  
18<sup>th</sup> March 1750.

Instruc<sup>ns</sup> fm / Committee of Co o Merchants tradg to Africa to the Chief Agents upon  
/ Coast.

Enclosed

Recd as a letter fm y<sup>r</sup> Committee  
o y<sup>r</sup> Comp<sup>o</sup> o Merchants tradg to Africa

Recd March y<sup>r</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> } 1750  
Recd April 16<sup>th</sup> } /

Dec 25 "

[Vide / Instruc<sup>ns</sup> f Melvil in Cooks. p 14]

Copy Instructions given by / Committee o / Co o Merchants Trading to Africa to Thomas Melvil Esq. nominated by / sd Committee & confirmed by / Royal African Co o England. Chief Agent, President of Council, Treasurer & Warehouse-keeper at Cape Coast Castle on / Gold Coast o Africa.

Endorsed

Recd Novbr 18<sup>th</sup> }  
Recd 20 } 1751  
Dec. 34."

[vide Credits p. 14]

Endorsed

Trade Africa  
Letter fm / Comm<sup>ee</sup>  
o / Royal African  
Co to / Board  
dated Decem<sup>r</sup> 1751 in  
answer to a letter fm Mrs Pownall  
contains Observations upon sev<sup>l</sup>  
Articles o Expense arising in  
/ Executi<sup>o</sup> o the Trust  
State in the Accts laid  
before / Board.  
Recd Decem<sup>r</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> }  
Recd Januy 10 } 1752  
Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> "

has Broad Street December 1/51

My Lords

By a letter received from Mr Pownall of 22<sup>nd</sup> November We understand yr Lord-  
ships on look<sup>g</sup> over / African Committee's Accts o last year object to / Method o charg<sup>s</sup> / £800  
pr Ann allowed / Committee f defray<sup>g</sup> / Salaries o the Clerks & Agents & o<sup>r</sup> Charges o Man-  
age<sup>mt</sup> in England, & t<sup>h</sup> seven next preced<sup>g</sup> Articles o<sup>r</sup> to be paid out o / sd £800 as be<sup>g</sup>  
Charges properly belong<sup>g</sup> to / Management.

In Answer to wh<sup>ch</sup> We beg leave to lay before yr Lordships / follow<sup>g</sup> Reasons in Support  
o/ Charges as they now stand in / sd Accts. The 1<sup>st</sup> o wh<sup>ch</sup> in point o Order is £19.19.00  
f Charges at Gravesend, dispartit<sup>g</sup> / Ships.

The 2<sup>d</sup> is £80.1.9 f Charges at / House o Commons in pass<sup>g</sup> / Act . . . . .  
The 3<sup>d</sup> Article is £6.6.0 f copy<sup>g</sup> / Plans o Forts, / Originals o wh<sup>ch</sup> / Lords o / Admiralty  
were pleased to lend us . . . . . [? where are they]

The 4<sup>th</sup> is £6 f survey<sup>g</sup> / Ships & attend<sup>ce</sup> upon / Pwrs<sup>ns</sup> when they were salt<sup>g</sup> . . . . .

The 5<sup>th</sup> is £29.4.11 f all / sundry Expenses attend<sup>g</sup> / House o Commons, /  
Boards o Treasury, Admiralty & Trade &c.

Almost all our Attendances upon / House o Commons & / board o Trade h<sup>ve</sup> b<sup>en</sup> owing  
to / Oppos<sup>ns</sup> given us by / old African Co & will continue till they are dissolved &  
new Co perfectly established, after wh<sup>ch</sup> it is hoped these x<sup>tra</sup> attend<sup>ces</sup> will cease &  
o course w<sup>th</sup> them / Expenses, till then we think / loss o our Time a v<sup>ry</sup> yr Lord-  
ship upon us, as we h<sup>ve</sup> no Compensa<sup>ns</sup> what<sup>ev</sup> f this extra Trouble & Service, it  
will therefore be necessary w<sup>ch</sup> unavoidable to make our Lordships still / g<sup>o</sup>  
by lay<sup>g</sup> these Expenses upon us.

The 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Articles are f engrav<sup>g</sup> two Seals . . . . .

In answer to yr Ldps Observ<sup>ns</sup> upon / Gross Charge o £800 f Manag<sup>mt</sup>, We apprehend / same to be regular & agreeable to / Clause o Act (Page 556) where after having paid / Salaries o our Clerks & Agents / Rent o our Office & all o<sup>r</sup> Charges o Manag<sup>mt</sup>, we are empowered to share & divide / Residue am<sup>g</sup> ourselves as we sh judge proper, as a Compens<sup>n</sup> f our Trouble & Attend<sup>ce</sup> in / Office o Committee-men; all o which has bin done to / Satisfac<sup>n</sup> o all Parties concerned.

Our Establish<sup>mt</sup> in London is Nine Committee-men, a Secretary, & messengers. At Bristol & Liverpool, each an Agent.

The diff<sup>t</sup> Establish<sup>mt</sup>s sent upon / Coast, we h ordered to be sent ~~by~~ us as soon as possible. / Distrib<sup>n</sup> o Goods we h ordered to be sent w<sup>y</sup> Six Months, & when<sup>r</sup> either o them comes to our Hands they sh be immediately layed before yr Lordships

We now beg leave to acquaint yr Lordships t<sup>e</sup> / Residue to be divided am<sup>g</sup> / Committee f / Trouble & Attend<sup>ce</sup> necessarily required in / Manag<sup>mt</sup> o / Co's Affairs is not at all adequate to / Loss o the Time, exclusive o all / publick attend<sup>ces</sup> before ment<sup>ion</sup>ed, & We are v<sup>y</sup> apprehensive t<sup>u</sup> unless / Allow<sup>ce</sup> to / Committee be increased, it will be diff<sup>clt</sup> f possible to keep / Manag<sup>mt</sup> in / Hands o such Persons as are worthy o be<sup>ing</sup> entrusted w<sup>th</sup> or capable o conduct<sup>g</sup> an Affair o this Consequ<sup>e</sup> in / manner it o<sup>u</sup> to be

We h - ac -

Chas Poles	Joseph Champion	R Boddicott
Nath Bassnett	R Giddartign	Robert Scold
Vincent Bescoe	Sam <sup>l</sup> Turner	

Endorsed

"Trade Africa  
Distribution of £800  
granted by Parliamt  
of Charges of  
Committee of Merchants  
Trade to Africa  
Passed for Mr Hollis

Passed }  
Read } Janry 10 1752

"Dd. 48"

Secretary of Salary	£100
to of house rent allowance a few <sup>s</sup> re	50
to of a present of his xBoy Trouble	10 - 10 -
to of Stationary & o <sup>r</sup> business mts	14 - 9 - 10
to of Coach hire re a	4 - - - 2
9 Committee men £69 each	621
	<u>£800 - - -</u>

Endorsed . . . " Read January 15<sup>th</sup> } 1752  
Read - 16 }  
Dd 50 "

Whitehall 15<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> 1752.

My Lords

Has<sup>y</sup> laid before / King / enclosed Memorial o / Committee o / Co o Merchants  
trad<sup>y</sup> to Africa, sett<sup>y</sup> forth t<sup>y</sup> John Corraute one o / Ambassadors o / Kingdom o  
Fanti, upon / Gold Coast, had refused Permis<sup>n</sup> to / French to build a Fort at Annamaboe,  
& had at / same time given Assurance o His Majesty's Subjects  
in rebuild<sup>y</sup> / old Fort, or in erect<sup>y</sup> a new One at t<sup>e</sup> Place, / do<sup>y</sup> o wh may be o /  
highest Imp<sup>t</sup> to / Interest o His Majesty's trad<sup>y</sup> Subjects in those Parts; And / Com-  
mittee has<sup>y</sup> represented, t<sup>y</sup> for / last Ye<sup>rs</sup>, they h<sup>av</sup> bn able to procure, they apprehend  
/ Expence o Build<sup>y</sup> or Complet<sup>y</sup> a proper & sufficient Fort, f<sup>r</sup> / Service o t<sup>e</sup>  
Coast will not exceed / Sum o £6,000. His Majesty has commanded me to signify  
His Pleasure to y<sup>r</sup> Lordships, t<sup>y</sup> y<sup>e</sup> sh<sup>d</sup> take / sd Memorial into y<sup>r</sup> immediate Considera<sup>n</sup>  
& report to me y<sup>r</sup> Opinion thereon f<sup>r</sup> His Majesty's Informa<sup>n</sup>

I am - &c -  
Holderness

Board o Trade

Entered

Trade Africa

November 1751

Memorial o/ Committee o

/ Co o Merchants trad<sup>g</sup>

To Africa to / King's most

excellent Majesty concern<sup>g</sup>

a Fort at Annamahoe

Reced w/ Earl o

Helderness's letter o/ 15

o Jan<sup>y</sup> 1752

Reced Jan<sup>y</sup> 15

Read 16 } 1752

Dd. 51

To / King's most excellent Majesty

The Memorial o/ Committee o/ Co o Merchants trad<sup>g</sup> to Africa

Humbly Sheweth

T<sup>h</sup> yr Memorialists h<sup>av</sup> bn duly chosen. Committee men in Pursu<sup>t</sup> o an Act passed  
w/ 23<sup>d</sup> Year o yr Majesty's Reign entitled "An Act f extend<sup>g</sup> & improv<sup>g</sup> / Trade  
to Africa" in Consequ<sup>e</sup> o wh<sup>o</sup> Choice o o/ Power given them by / sd Act, / Forts  
Factories & Settlements upon / Coast o Africa are committed to / Care & Manage<sup>mt</sup> o  
yr Memorialists f / gen Benefit o a free & open Trade to all yr Majesty's Subjects

T / Right Honorable / Earl o Halifax havg bn pleased to communicate

to yr Memorialists / Contents o a letter wh his Lordship had received fm John Corranice  
 one o/ Cobboers o/ Kingdom o Fanti upon / Gold Coast o Africa in wh he ~~assures~~  
 assures his Lordship t he had refused leave to / French to build a Fort at  
 Annamahoe one o/ principal tradg. Places in /sd Kingdom but was ready to  
 assist yr Majesty's Subjects in rebuildg / old English Fort or in erectg a new  
 one at t Place, yr Memorialists therefore think it thr Duty humbly to represent  
 represent to yr Majesty

T fm / g<sup>th</sup> Consequence o a Fort at Annamahoe to / whole Gold Coast  
 Trade o yr Majesty's Subjects, upon wh / Support o yr American Colonies  
 g<sup>ly</sup> depends, fm / eager Desires o / French to build a fort thre, & fm  
 thir constant Practice o usurpg to themselves an exclusive Trade where<sup>er</sup> they  
 settle, it appears to yr Memorialists not only prudent but g<sup>ly</sup> important to  
 accept / sd offer & immediately to erect such a Fort as sh procure Respect &  
 Safety to yr Majesty's Subjects fm / Natives upon t Part o / Coast & Protec<sup>on</sup> ag<sup>st</sup>  
 any Attempts wh may be made by any o<sup>r</sup> Power to dispossess them o a Place  
 where by a prior Posses<sup>on</sup> they h a right to an exclusive Trade

T fm / best Accts yr Memorialists h b<sup>n</sup> able to obtain, they apprehend  
 / Expence o buildg such a Fort as is desired will not exceed Six thousand Pounds

T yr Memorialists are highly sensible o yr Majesty's paternal Care &  
 Concern f / Prosperity & Increase o Trade o these Kingdoms & therefore most  
 humbly beseech yr Majesty will be pleased to take / Premises into yr most gracious  
 Consider<sup>on</sup> & give such Orders therein as to yr Majesty's g<sup>th</sup> Wisdom sh seem meet

And yr M<sup>ys</sup> Memorialists sh humbly pray yr  
 London, 8<sup>th</sup> November 1751.

Signed, & sealed

By order o yr Majesty's most dutiful & loyal Subjects / Committee o / co  
 o Africa Merchants tradg to Africa

Wm Hallie's Secretary

AS  
 Co/CoA

Endorsed

" Trade Africa  
Letter from Mrs Stockwell  
to / Board, dated at Cape  
Cape Coast Castle July  
23<sup>d</sup> 1751, contains his  
Observations upon / Act  
o Parliam<sup>t</sup> lately passed  
for regulatg / Trade  
to Africa.  
Read Jan<sup>y</sup> 31<sup>st</sup> } 1752  
Read Febr<sup>y</sup> 12 }  
Dd. 52."

Cape Coast Castle 23<sup>d</sup> July 1751

My Lords

The 18<sup>th</sup> o June arriv'd here / Fly'd Flamborough John Dod Bonell  
Master, w<sup>th</sup> a Cargo from / Gov<sup>t</sup> f<sup>r</sup> / support<sup>r</sup> o / British Forts & Settlements upon this Coast  
w<sup>th</sup> Mr Melvil as principal Officer & many o<sup>r</sup>s, in order I find to execute a scheme o a  
new regulated Co; but before I left England did write a small treatise concerng /  
Trade to Africa, & principally agst this w<sup>th</sup> scheme, I h<sup>ave</sup> often heard it urg'd t<sup>hat</sup> / Forts  
& Settlements upon this Coast were o no manner o service & protec<sup>tion</sup> to / Ships tradg  
here, therefore o<sup>ught</sup> to be kept as marks o protec<sup>tion</sup> only, - as to / Forts beg<sup>ing</sup> o service &  
protec<sup>tion</sup> to Ships tradg, is notorious, & has b<sup>een</sup> sufficiently prov'd, & as to keepg them as  
marks o protec<sup>tion</sup> possib<sup>ly</sup> only must amaze anyone who is concern'd w<sup>ith</sup>, & has a  
Knowledge o this Trade, however I find t<sup>hat</sup> such steps are taken t<sup>owards</sup> border w<sup>ith</sup> near upon  
it; / mischiefs & destruct<sup>ion</sup> t<sup>o</sup> w<sup>ith</sup>, & must arise by this most ridiculous & ill concerted

Scheme ~~is~~ is very evident, w<sup>th</sup> / Spirit o' Profecy, it has already began to show /  
 misery t must ensue upon this Coast, altho scarce one Month is past; / natives  
 are v<sup>y</sup> sensible o' Power thrown into the hands, & will make the advantage ther o',  
 / Forts h no longer any Power or Authority here; w<sup>ch</sup> Man is his own Master, & will  
 act as he thinks proper, / natives not excepted; f / white Men h already taken  
 Houses Warehouses &c<sup>a</sup> in / Town o' Cape Coast, as they will under all / Forts  
 o' Forts where they think Trade is; fm a false no<sup>n</sup> o' protec<sup>n</sup> fm / Forts, who  
 cannot nor dare they protect them, or can they well enter upon any Palaver  
 w / natives, fm / following reason, / white Men a<sup>t</sup> the Effects are w<sup>ch</sup> in the  
 Power, <sup>so</sup> t upon any diffe<sup>n</sup>ce w / Towns people & these Traders so settled, what  
 can be done, a Gun fm / Fort cannot be fired, as by t / whites may be in-  
 volved in / some destruct<sup>n</sup> w / Blacks, & wh will induce / white Traders  
 to join w / natives ag<sup>t</sup> / Forts f thei own Safety, besides, when / natives  
 find t / Fort shd dare too much to interpose in thei diffe<sup>n</sup>ces, or more than  
 they chuse, they can easily move. at a dist<sup>n</sup> w<sup>th</sup> a Gun shot, / white  
 Traders consequently will follow them, & then / Forts indeed may be sh<sup>d</sup>.  
 to stand as marks o' Posses<sup>n</sup> only;

I know it will be sh<sup>d</sup> / Inhabitants livg under a Castle will not care to  
 move thei habitans fm a protec<sup>n</sup> they may receive by / Invasion o' / Inland  
 natives, to wh I answer, little is to be feared upon / Gold Coast fm any  
 such invasions, w<sup>ch</sup> / many Towns will be peopled by / Seaside, & far  
 distant fm any Fort, wh h no uneasiness o' this sort, such as Anpona,  
 Anamaboa, Amissa &c<sup>a</sup> & then / Gentlemen who h laboured so  
 hard to brg abt this Wicked scheme, will h the ends, t is / Destruct<sup>n</sup>

o all / Settlements upon / Gold Coast, if it manifestly appears to me nothing less  
cd ever be intended, if hd they consulted w either / French or Dutch, who are  
both utter & known enemies to our Trade upon this Coast, these enemies I say  
to our Trade, cd never h fell upon a better method, where / destruct<sup>n</sup> is inevitable  
& by wh they must Profit so much, as I sd in my treatise, & wh I dread will  
come to pass; when by mak<sup>g</sup> so bad an Altera<sup>n</sup> upon / Coast, & / Yls I h & sh  
mention be verified, how can / Lives & fortunes o those Men who h bn /  
means o carry I into execu<sup>n</sup> this short<sup>g</sup> scheme; I say t thr lives & fortunes  
are a poor recompense f / Injury done thr Country, now my lords I beg leave  
to show / manifest hurt this scheme will do to / British Ships trad<sup>g</sup> upon  
this Coast, hitherto they h bot thr Slaves fm / natives, sometimes a few at /  
Forts, but now as white people will be settled upon evy part o / Coast who  
will be trad<sup>g</sup> men wh they will trust w Goods to go up into / Country, in order  
to buy slaves Gold, Teeth &c & will intercept most o trade comm<sup>g</sup> to / Sea-  
side in its usual manner, therefore its plain t / Ships must buy at second hand,  
by wh it will enhance / price o Slaves, as / white traders shoon by t means wll  
will ever keep a better assortment o Goods than it is possible f any ship to  
have, by wh they will ever h / refusal o what Slaves escapes them in / Country,  
these things t h bn well considered before they hd gone / length they h, f evn  
suppose an Altera<sup>n</sup> shd soon be made, it will not be found an easy a v<sup>y</sup>  
easy matter to br<sup>g</sup> / natives to thr former Obedie. The next thing my lords to be  
considered is ye Plantations wh wholly & entirely depend upon a supply o Negroes,  
a gr part fm this Coast, wh in / Colonies are esteemed / best, & suppose t  
they shd be supply'd w an Equal number, wh I am far fm think<sup>g</sup> they will,

bee / white traders as well as / Blacks will wait w<sup>y</sup> oppy to dispose o the Slaves  
to french Ships, as they can afford to give a much lg<sup>r</sup> price than / English,  
as / encourage<sup>m</sup> they meet w<sup>th</sup> fm the Country put them in cond<sup>n</sup> so to do;

The last Paragraph may in a g<sup>t</sup> measure be prevented, by / Station<sup>g</sup>  
two small Men o w<sup>ar</sup> upon / Coast, tho I can see many inconveniencys  
w<sup>ch</sup> wd attend, add to what I h<sup>ve</sup> sd t / Murthers Robberys &c<sup>a</sup>, wh at  
times, & under various pretices will be committed upon / white traders, o wh  
nobody, has it in the Power to take any cognizance, this w<sup>as</sup> scheme  
was try'd in King Williams Reign but found impracticable, therefore  
a joint Stock Comp<sup>y</sup> again renewed, what Blackman (Cabocheer) is the  
at Cape Coast who carries any Authority, Cudjoe is / first, who has not  
power to Command a Canoe to go anywhere, unless they please, its  
true he is a good Linguister, but a bad Cabocheer, as he is too  
timorous f such a Sta<sup>n</sup>, indeed John Curizantee deserves / name o  
Cabocheer, & a w<sup>g</sup> one he is, / latter can command a g<sup>t</sup> number o Men in Arms  
wh<sup>en</sup> he thinks proper, & w<sup>ill</sup> o his subjects, if I may so call them, dare disobey  
him, such is his Power he exercised over Cape Coast town t he forced Cudjoe much  
ag<sup>st</sup> his will to go w<sup>th</sup> him to Wars, & / Castle cd not, nor did not protect him,  
how<sup>ev</sup> Cudjoe like a prudent Man, soon convinced ~~him~~ John t fight<sup>g</sup> was not  
what he chose, f my Part yr lordships will find t I h<sup>ve</sup> no manner o Interest  
in w<sup>at</sup>g this letter, as I am determin'd to fly a Place w<sup>here</sup> [where] nothg  
is to be seen but Confu<sup>s</sup> & Distur<sup>s</sup> & w<sup>ill</sup> Man / o<sup>r</sup> Enemy, I h<sup>ve</sup> therefore  
already sent such o my Effects as I cd get paid me here, to Cape Appolonia  
w<sup>here</sup> I intend to settle, / People are esteem'd / most civiliz'd upon /

whole Coast, & a place by all Inform<sup>n</sup> I h<sup>o</sup> h<sup>o</sup>, a good Trade, thus much my Lords it  
will do, t<sup>o</sup> it will prevent either / French or / Dutch from making a settlement there, & will be a  
g<sup>o</sup> protect<sup>n</sup> from / insults given / English at / Discover by / Dutch, as / Cabo Verde o / Cape  
Appollonia is / great in / whole Country, & in a Days time can Command upwards o  
ten thousand Men in Arms, all his own Slaves & Dependants; I intend building a  
small Fort at t<sup>e</sup> Place, & when compleated will do myself / honour to inform yr  
Lordships thereof, w<sup>o</sup> a Plan o / Fort.

W<sup>d</sup> it not astonish any Man t<sup>o</sup> h<sup>o</sup> truly a regard f<sup>r</sup> his Country, to think o /  
l<sup>o</sup>g<sup>o</sup> Sum<sup>s</sup> o money laid out upon new Settlements such as Georgia sea w<sup>o</sup>, & so much  
reluctancy to guard & secure / Fountain head, from whence all our Plantans receive th<sup>o</sup>  
support, since then it is manifest beyond contradic<sup>n</sup> either o party or fac<sup>n</sup>, t<sup>o</sup> all our  
Colonies h<sup>o</sup> an absolute dependency upon this trade, how carefull th<sup>o</sup> o<sup>r</sup> we then to  
be o introducing new Schemes, whereby / whole is in danger o beg lost f / Exist<sup>n</sup> o  
all our Plantans will be w<sup>o</sup>g<sup>o</sup> t<sup>o</sup> / good or bad conduct pursued on this Coast, & our  
Vigilant neighbours will ever be watchfull to take advantage o any false measures  
we may take, so t<sup>o</sup> if by neglect or otherwise, / Gold Coast sh<sup>d</sup> be lost as keepg / Forts  
only as Mark<sup>s</sup> o Poss<sup>n</sup> seems to indicate, & indeed by this scheme they are rendered little better,  
who then till / fatal time comes ~~we~~ can tell what farther lengths our enemy may go. The  
French are a powerfull nat<sup>n</sup>, indefatigable in Trade, wh<sup>o</sup> they g<sup>o</sup>ly encourage. They h<sup>o</sup>  
already ingroed more o yr Trade to Angola by keepg at this time floatg factories at t<sup>e</sup>  
Place. How has t<sup>e</sup> Coast b<sup>o</sup>n in a manner lost to / English but by / poverty or perhaps  
some<sup>o</sup> worse o / Co, who by an Officers they sent th<sup>o</sup> h<sup>o</sup> procured a settlement at  
Cabenda & did build a Fort<sup>x</sup> but he never received from / Co any supplies sufficient f  
\* I was a Factor th<sup>o</sup> at t<sup>e</sup> time, but some time before / Fort was taken / Fort ordered me on  
board a Co's Vessel as Supercargoe to proceed to Thomas's, a Portuguese Island.

its protec<sup>n</sup> & so low were we fallen t<sup>t</sup> the despicable Na<sup>n</sup> of Warr, / Portuguese, came before it w<sup>as</sup> a Man o<sup>f</sup> Warre o<sup>f</sup> 50 Guns assisted by thousands o<sup>f</sup> Blacks by land, they took / Fort or demolished it & altho repeated Complaints were made by / Co, neither they ~~not~~ / ma<sup>n</sup> t<sup>o</sup> ever I heard received / least Satisfac<sup>n</sup> f<sup>r</sup> so open an Injury & Affront done our Commerce. Had we attended properly to / necessary support o<sup>f</sup> / Co at t<sup>he</sup> time / French wd never h<sup>ave</sup> bin able to h<sup>ave</sup> made / Figure or progress they now do upon t<sup>he</sup> Coast. If such Injuries & Insults were overlooked fm t<sup>he</sup> Na<sup>n</sup>, how much more are we to fear fm / French & if this trade is ever lost to Britain, how fatal w<sup>ill</sup> such a loss be. I'll leave / fear & Terror thereof to our British Subject, partly to those who h<sup>ave</sup> any connec<sup>n</sup> w<sup>ith</sup> our Plantans.

Ten thousand Pounds p<sup>er</sup> Ann: hath & is thot sufficient f<sup>r</sup> this Coast, f<sup>r</sup> / protec<sup>n</sup>, advanc<sup>mt</sup> & honour o<sup>f</sup> / first & most beneficial Trade to / Kingdom. Every part, my Lords, if this Trade is to be carried on accord<sup>g</sup> to this new System, I can't see any Occa<sup>n</sup> f<sup>r</sup> / sum o<sup>f</sup> ten Thousand Pounds, f<sup>r</sup> as I sd before they cannot be o<sup>f</sup> / least protec<sup>n</sup> to / trad<sup>g</sup> Ships, or / private traders Settled in / Country, therefore it appears to me t<sup>hat</sup> one thousand Pounds p<sup>er</sup> Ann: is fully sufficient f<sup>r</sup> Jamaica, all / Forts upon / Gold Coast, & whydah, f<sup>r</sup> two or three Men in each will be as good protec<sup>n</sup> as three hundred, were [where] / Gov<sup>r</sup> o<sup>f</sup> Coast is thrown into such disorder & confus<sup>n</sup>, & / Officer at / head o<sup>f</sup> so confused a Raskal has no Power; indeed I take this to be what is meant by those who formed this execrable Scheme t<sup>hat</sup> it may gradually & by degrees dwindle down to noth<sup>g</sup>. I will not, nor cannot suppose t<sup>hat</sup> either / French or Dutch be thrown, as / Common say<sup>g</sup> is, dust into anybody's Eyes, but what is / diff<sup>r</sup> if a man is to be undone, wh<sup>ether</sup> it happen by a Knave or a fool, fm any consolac<sup>n</sup> t<sup>hat</sup> may arise to ~~the~~ him by wh<sup>om</sup> o<sup>f</sup> them it was executed. Every part

I really think not less than Twenty Thousand Pounds P. Ann: can or will support  
these Forts properly to keep them in proper repair & pay<sup>d</sup> / servants & Slaves in such  
a manner as is both just & honest, wh has hardly ever bn / case in this country, &  
wh has bn a g<sup>t</sup> cause o / best & most valuable slaves belong<sup>d</sup> to / Co desert<sup>d</sup> its service,  
instead o wh I cd give many.

Most o Captains o his Majesty's Ships as well as d<sup>o</sup>, h<sup>d</sup> orders to inspect &  
survey all / Forts upon / Coast, & to make a report o the Condi<sup>o</sup>, wh doubtless they h<sup>d</sup> done.  
The regard t has bn paid to / repeated reports, / Forts, if such a name they deserve,  
stand a shew<sup>d</sup> witness thereof. Is it not surpriz<sup>d</sup> t Surveyors, Artificers, Soldiers  
&c<sup>a</sup> sh<sup>d</sup> be sent over to guard & secure Places scarcely habitable. w<sup>o</sup>d not any Man  
by / Annual Steps taken f / Informa<sup>o</sup> mentioned, h<sup>d</sup> supposed t the first care w<sup>o</sup>d  
h<sup>d</sup> bn immediately to h<sup>d</sup> put these Skeletons o Forts into a defensible condi<sup>o</sup>, all  
sh<sup>d</sup> first h<sup>d</sup> join'd therein & directly carried it into execu<sup>o</sup>.

I beg leave to inform y<sup>r</sup> Lordships concern<sup>d</sup> / money advanced by me f / Support o  
/ Forts & settle<sup>mts</sup> upon this Coast, wh upon my dismiss<sup>o</sup> sh<sup>d</sup> to h<sup>d</sup> bn paid here, but to  
my g<sup>t</sup> surprize I found was order'd not to be done, & much more to my surprize am  
inform'd t / Gov<sup>t</sup> refus'd / Paym<sup>t</sup> in England, & give f reasons t we h<sup>d</sup> traded f  
our selves. Our Condi<sup>o</sup> were so w / Co, or how was it possible we cd h<sup>d</sup> supported so  
many People, not bring<sup>d</sup> out, or receive<sup>d</sup> from / Gov<sup>t</sup> or Co any Supplies supplies dur<sup>d</sup> /  
time I h<sup>d</sup> / chief Dirac<sup>o</sup> o / Co's Affairs here, & find<sup>d</sup> noth<sup>d</sup> in Cape Coast Castle  
but some old Rusty trad<sup>d</sup> Guns not worth half a Crown each; Many o them are  
now ~~upon~~ wh we took & allow'd / Co ten shill<sup>gs</sup> each, many o them are now  
upon our hands wh never can be sold f anyth<sup>d</sup>. The chance o trade is so pre-  
carious t we m<sup>t</sup> h<sup>d</sup> ~~be~~ lost money as well as got, & did lose a Considerable deal

by / vs Voyages in wh we sent part o these Gunts. Some merit sure thro it in sauz /  
 Forts fm ruin & / People both whites & blacks, fm starv<sup>n</sup>. I hope yr Lordships will  
 therefore be pleased to take it into considera<sup>n</sup> & I may be paid my money. I sh  
 not trouble yr Lordships further on this head as Mr Roberts intends tak<sup>n</sup> his  
 Passage by / first opp<sup>t</sup>, beg leave to refer yr Lordships to him in regard to /  
 publick Affairs upon this Coast, as well as my own.

I am, My Lords, - &c -

R Stockwell [orig sig<sup>h</sup>]

Dd 41

n.B. The following 3 papers [Dd 42 & Dd 43] are inserted here as they h not apparently  
 been copied elsewhere.

Dd 41. Copy o a letter fm / President & Council at Cape Coast to / Commanders  
 o / Ships at Annamahoc, & the Answer.

Gent: Inclosed is / Deck given us by / Fantens o / Balawa w Captain  
 Derbyshire & his Answer to it. On / Receipt o Capt Derbyshire's letter we agn sent f  
 / Fantens & acquainted them w / Contents, point<sup>n</sup> out to them / Difus o / two Relat<sup>n</sup>s  
 as we went on; they insisted the Narr<sup>n</sup> was / True & consequently denied what Capt  
 Derbyshire recited. When we came to t Part o Capt Derbyshire's letter wherein he says  
 he will run / Hazard o / Law in England & actually sell / Prisoners at Papa, they  
 seem'd not at all shocked or mov'd at it; but immediately replied in as peremptory  
 a manner as he had writ, & if they did not get the Friends agn, 't was indiff<sup>r</sup>.  
 to them what Capt Derbyshire did w them, sell them, or kill them, f the Best

they should look upon it as a Commerce<sup>nt</sup> o a War w/ English, & t they shd look so many  
People in Battl<sup>e</sup> & woud endeavour to get the Satis<sup>fac</sup><sup>n</sup> or Revenge. We used all Arguments  
we possibly cou<sup>d</sup> to persuade them to make some Advanc<sup>es</sup> towards settl<sup>g</sup> this Affair, by giv<sup>g</sup>  
up what they had extorted fr<sup>m</sup> Capt Derkysheine, partly / Money he paid on Capt Lawson's  
Acct, w<sup>ch</sup> we endeavoured to convince them he had no manner o Concern or Connec<sup>n</sup> w/  
more than ourselves, likewise / extravagant Price they had made him pay f/ Cassamen  
Canoe<sup>man</sup> he had carried off, f<sup>r</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> he had accord<sup>g</sup> to the Laws a v<sup>ry</sup> reasonable excuse  
& whom by his Letter he sd he had offered them f<sup>r</sup> a Boy 3 foot & a half high. We  
next represented to them how much it was th<sup>er</sup> Interest to his in Friendship w/  
English partly now t/ Parliam<sup>nt</sup> o England had laid this Trade open, & t therefore w<sup>th</sup>  
Ships & w<sup>th</sup> private man was at full Liberty to trade or settle under any o these  
Forts, or in any o/ Towns, t as our People cou<sup>d</sup> now trade as openly & freely as  
Neerday, so / loss o/ Port o Annamaboe to th<sup>is</sup> / English, while this Patow<sup>n</sup>  
subsisted w<sup>ou</sup>ld be much less to them than it w<sup>ou</sup>ld h<sup>ave</sup> b<sup>een</sup> at any o<sup>r</sup> Time & in / End  
they w<sup>ou</sup>ld find it terminate in th<sup>is</sup> own Ruin, by turn<sup>g</sup> / Channel o Trade fr<sup>m</sup>  
Annamaboe to th<sup>is</sup> & / o<sup>r</sup> Forts. We further told them t as we shortly ex-  
pected two men o War who were to be station<sup>d</sup> here till relieved by o<sup>th</sup>rs, th<sup>er</sup>fore  
if they had any Scheme f<sup>r</sup> introduc<sup>g</sup> Foreigners they w<sup>ou</sup>ld find themselves mistaken  
& concluded w<sup>e</sup> say<sup>g</sup> f<sup>r</sup> since they now found t/ English, f<sup>r</sup> / Encouragem<sup>nt</sup> o this  
Trade & / Safety o/ Natives, had imposed a Fine o £100 in Gold to be paid by/  
Cap<sup>t</sup> o any Ship who shd forcibly take on board or carry off any free Negro, it was  
but reasonable to expect<sup>t</sup> fr<sup>m</sup> them some wholesome Law to prevent / white Men  
fr<sup>m</sup> receiv<sup>g</sup> any Injury fr<sup>m</sup> the People, f<sup>r</sup> if they did not, th<sup>is</sup> w<sup>th</sup> Affair w<sup>ou</sup>ld convince  
them t no Barrier on / side o/ white Men w<sup>ou</sup>ld ever prevent them fr<sup>m</sup> gett<sup>g</sup> the

Revenge for any Injury they sh<sup>d</sup> do them.

Thus y will see / Obstinacy o both Parties & how little ground ther is to hope  
 for an Accomoda<sup>n</sup>, as y h y<sup>r</sup> white People in / hands o / Fantens, we recommend  
 it to y. to think o some speedy Method o recovering them, f w<sup>h</sup> Purpose each Ship  
 sh<sup>d</sup> contribute accordg to / Circumstances they are under to satisfy Cap<sup>t</sup> Derbyshire.  
 Let us h y<sup>r</sup> Answer as soon as possible. We are Gent<sup>l</sup> - &c -

Thos Melvill  
 Willm Husbands  
 Thos Boteler  
 Stephen Young.

To / Commanders of Ships at Annamaboe to / President & Council at  
 Cape Coast Castle. 29<sup>th</sup> June 1751

Gentlemen. We h received y<sup>r</sup> letter & observe w<sup>th</sup> concern, / Confu<sup>s</sup> t Cap<sup>t</sup>  
 Derbyshire's Disputis w<sup>th</sup> / Fanten People is like to occ<sup>ur</sup>. We much approve o y<sup>r</sup>  
 becoming a Principal & mediator in adjustg t<sup>h</sup> Matters. To shew our Willingness to  
 prot / defend Int<sup>er</sup>est o our Country to rescue / English now in the Posses<sup>n</sup> f<sup>m</sup>  
 / Barbarity t<sup>h</sup> Cap<sup>t</sup> Derbyshire's Obstinacy; [sic] to prevent / Destruct<sup>n</sup>  
 o / chief Place o Trade on / Gold Coast, & in fine to hinder such Irregularities  
 f<sup>m</sup> / Future, by puttg / Law in force ag<sup>t</sup> / Aggressors; we are willg each o us  
 to contribute 10 Ounces o Goods in Trade in hopes y will advance / rest f<sup>m</sup>  
 national Goods & to recover our losses as / Law will put y in a Capacity o do g<sup>t</sup> it.  
 We expect t<sup>h</sup> Cap<sup>t</sup> Carpenter will do / same, & we desire t<sup>h</sup> when y send down  
 a Canoe or boat f<sup>m</sup> this Continuum, t<sup>h</sup> y will send an Assur<sup>ance</sup> in writg o y<sup>r</sup> usg y<sup>r</sup>  
 best Endeavour to refund what we sh<sup>d</sup> advance. We woud observe to y t<sup>h</sup> it  
 will be necessary upon / regaing o these People, wh Derbyshire holds now

in Confirmation of the notice for us o our Peoples be I at Liberty & what<sup>r</sup> effects they  
may be o ours may be restored, beg Gentlemen - &c -

Henry Ellis  
Abraham Galley  
John Jepson  
James Keith

Dd 42. Copy o a Letter from Thomas Melvil Esq<sup>r</sup> President of Council at Cape Coast  
Castle to John Van Voorst Esq<sup>r</sup> Director Gen at Elmina, & his Answer  
Cape Coast Castle 6 July 1751

Monsieur

Je vous envoie par la presente la boete dehes mess, Muidman, que  
vous recevrez j'espere en Sureté

Je ne puis vous dire que j'ai eu jusq<sup>a</sup> present assez de loisir pour examiner a  
fond l'estat de la Dispute de Harla, mais selon mon humble Opinion, les Principes qui  
doivent nous regler, comme Sujets de deux Puissances allies, sont ceux-ci de  
restituer ce qui a été saisi par force de part et d'autre; de terminer tous  
les Difens aubant qu'il nous est possible sur la Côte; de renvoyer a nos Maîtres  
ceux de nous ne pouvons nous accorder; et en meme temps de suspendre toutes  
Hostilités jusq<sup>a</sup> ce que nos Compagnies respectives nous aient envoye leurs  
Decisions. Si vos Sentiments la dessus sont tels que les miens Je suis prêt  
de commencer des qu'il vous plaira, en attendant.

J'ai - &c -

Thos Melvil

Monsieur, J'ay l'honneur de vous remercier de l'envoy de la boëtte dont vous avez eu la Bonté de vous charger; le recue de laquelle Je vous renvoye par la présente. Il n'est surprenant que vous n'ayez eu le tems d'examiner ce fond l'origine de la Dispute survenue avec les habitans d'Anta, puisque les papiers et lettres inutiles écrits a cet egard sont nombreux, a cause que Monsieur votre Predecesseur ~~vouloit~~ vouloit faire d'une mauvaise Affaire une bonne.

Je suis fort d'accord pour les principes qui doivent nous inspirer pour prevenir tout desordre, et regler les querelles passées, mais auparavant il me semble juste que la Partie offensée comme sont les Natifs d'Anta reconnoissent Satisfac<sup>ns</sup> des leurs offenseurs, et alors la Restitut<sup>on</sup> suivra bientôt de ce que de Roi d'Anta et les Sujets ont été forcés et obligés de prendre par Revenge et en Dedommagem<sup>nt</sup> de l'injustice faite frais et pertes qui ils ont essuies.

Pour les autres differences Je suis pret de m'y trouver a l'amiable autant qu'il sera en mon pouvoir, des que l'origine de la Dispute sera reglée; ne desirant rien plus ardemment que de hier et entretenir avec vous une Harmonie et amiable Correspond<sup>ce</sup> pour la reste de mes jours que Je conte a séjourner a cette Côte, tant pour la bien des Intérêts de nos respectives Compagnies, que pour mon propre Repos et Satisfac<sup>on</sup>.

Belon Je vous salue de tout mon coeur et suis avec Respect  
A la Mine ce 2<sup>d</sup> Juillet 1751

Monsieur - &c -

John Van Vorst

To / President & Council for Nassau Senior Chief o Dixons  
Dd 43] Humble Gentlemen Dixons Fort 9 July 1751

Yest<sup>y</sup> I received Advice t Acainyah hd stopped all / Bush  
Paths, the Sen o Elmina havg sent him / follow<sup>d</sup> message - t he under-  
stood his People came down here to buy Cloth, but advised him to keep them  
in / Bush till such Time as / Palaver was made up. f / Gentlemen t were  
lately come out for / English Co knew nothg abt Palavers & they wd be glad  
to make him g<sup>t</sup> Satisfac<sup>n</sup> in order to induce him to settle his Town - accordgly  
I dispatched a messenger to Quow Cabloceer o Malona to know if / same was  
true & to advise him not to trust to what / Dutchman sd; he returned me  
f answers, Acainyah hd stopped his Path & hd sent to him to do / same, f as  
my People cut such a Quantity o Palm Wine Trees, they did not chuse to let them  
come down, lest they shd quarrel, get drunk, & begin fresh Disturbes; & they  
imagined it was much better to wait in / Bush till / Gentlemen o Cape Coast &  
/ Sen made up / Palaver & / latter gave them to / English (some o Quow's  
People t were w him added) & / English made them Satisfac<sup>n</sup>. I remain -- &c  
Nassau Senior

Enclosed

" Trade Africa  
Letter from Mr Tho's  
Boteler at Cape Coast  
Castle to Mr Hill dated  
July 23<sup>d</sup> 1751 inclos<sup>d</sup> [sic]  
Recd Jany 31<sup>st</sup>  
Recd Feby 12<sup>th</sup> } 1752  
Dd 53"

Cape Coast Castle in Africa July 23<sup>d</sup> 1751.

Sir As / Contents o/ Inclosed are o a Public Nature I am to beg / favour  
o y to lay it before / Lords o Trade & Planta<sup>nts</sup> at the first meetg, and  
As what gave rise thereto is sufficiently sett forth therein it will  
be needless to trouble y therewith here, my reason f troubleg the Lordships  
& yourself as it is, t the 'ntr Melvil cd not help Assentg to / truth thereof  
Yet that it not sufficient Warrant to be f him to brake his ~~Orders~~ Orders, & therefore  
propoed to refer it home, & to prevent any Misrepresent<sup>ns</sup> I tho't it best to send it  
to the Lordships at once. It stands in need o/ great Apologys f/ Roughness o/  
Style, was I capable o making such Apologys I mt also h put it into better  
language. But alas! Sir A Man bred from his Infancy to / Sea & resident  
13 Years in Africa can rest his hopes in nothg but plain Truth as such I  
presume to offer it to the Lordships Considera<sup>m</sup> have no Excuse to offer f its  
dress. If / Invece complained o be such as Merits the Atten<sup>m</sup> & Inter-  
posi<sup>m</sup> I am perswaded my bad Express<sup>m</sup> will not prevent it. As a partner

in / first, & indeed only house yet settled by Virtue of Act o Parliament I may  
claim some small prettice to / privilege o Appealg to the Lordships  
chiefly bec ~~I~~ if I did not the was none to do it. These I hope Sir will  
be sufficient Excuses to the Lordships & Yourself of my presump<sup>n</sup>. I promise to abide  
by the Decim w all due Obedience & wh I must pray y to assure the Lordships &  
permit me to subscribe myself Sir - &c -

Thomas Hill Esquire

Thomas Boteler [orig sig]

Engraved

Trade Africa  
Letter of Remonstrance  
from Mr Tho Boteler one  
of Chief Agents at Cape  
Cottin Castle to the Honble Secy<sup>r</sup>  
President of Council to  
the King w<sup>ch</sup> / Lordships  
handships / Co's  
Servts<sup>s</sup> ~~the~~ will lye under, as w<sup>ch</sup>  
as / Trade in gen by  
beig restrained from  
trading w Foreigners to  
Dated July 23<sup>d</sup> 1751  
Recd w Mr Botelers  
Letter to Mr Hill dated at Cape  
Cottin Castle July 23<sup>d</sup> 1751  
Recd January 31 1752  
Recd Feb 12<sup>d</sup> 1752  
Dd 54

• • • [vide Red Notebooks p. 53] • • •

Endorsed

" Trade Africa

Copy o a letter fm  
Mr John Roberts to/  
African Committee dated  
at Cape Coast Castle  
23<sup>d</sup> July 1751.  
Recd fm Mr Hollis  
Recd } Feby 6 1752  
Recd } — 13.  
Dd 55."

Copy o a letter fm Mr John  
Roberts to / African Committee  
dated Cape Coast Castle 23<sup>d</sup> July 1751

Gentlemen

I cannot omit present<sup>g</sup> my most humble Respects to ye p. Letter, especially  
as it empowers me by / same Opp<sup>t</sup> to assure ye my Superces<sup>n</sup> rather gave me  
Pleasure than Concern concern, & t hd ye honoured me w/ Manage<sup>m</sup> o / present  
Supplies instead o Mr Melvil under / Present Plan, I shd h bn far fm accept<sup>g</sup> /  
Same, neither Honour nor Profit be<sup>g</sup> justly & fairly to be obtained thereby; And  
whoever attempts / latter will never affect it w<sup>t</sup> destroy<sup>g</sup> / former & prejudic<sup>g</sup>  
/ Trade o / British Subjects & f numerous Reasons winder<sup>t</sup> to ev<sup>y</sup> Traders on  
/ Coast, Tonic & / Space o a letter will not permit me to elucidate, but f /

• Botlers ?

present submit w<sup>ch</sup> well Wishes to his Country, inclined to hear Truths, to / Declam<sup>ns</sup>  
o / Commanders o Vessels who h a little experienced / new Scheme. Manifest in reality  
are / Reasons ag<sup>st</sup> it, & w<sup>ch</sup> figure as particularly, too few & trifflg / Circumstances in its  
Favours.

As I design, Gentlemen, to leave this Coast in two Months, shd I be so fortunate  
to get Safe to Europe, I flatter my Self to be able to convince / Publick & Yrselves  
t<sup>h</sup> dur<sup>g</sup> my Administration I did my Duty, studied to promote / Trade & Commerce o  
/ British Na<sup>n</sup>, serv'd no private Ends, overturn'd / 1<sup>st</sup> Run o f French Traffick I found  
carried on on / Coast & supported / Honour & Property o my Constituents, wh my  
Countrymen who h bn Eye Witnesses thereof I doubt not will do me / Justice  
to certifie. Cape Coast Road was free fm French Vessels on Mr Melvil's  
Arrival. I sincerely pray it may continue so, tho' doubt it, hav<sup>g</sup> bn solicited  
already to sign a Proviso respect<sup>g</sup> / Advantage o such Traffick, a th<sup>g</sup> drew up  
here & intended to be transmitted to / Gentlemen, wh I rejected fm a Knowledge /  
same is founded upon false Facts, & on a Confidie on my Arrival in England, I  
sh be able to prove / same destructive, and / Reasons advanced to gloss it over,  
Weak, false, & ill judged

Mr Melvil has informed ye h bn pleas'd to give some Orders respect<sup>g</sup> / Pay<sup>mt</sup>  
o my own & Colleagues advance<sup>mts</sup>, permit me Gentlemen to return ye my  
Thanks f yr kind Considera<sup>n</sup>, & to advise t<sup>h</sup> before I resign'd command I  
deriv'd a Copy or Perusal o such part<sup>r</sup> / Instruct<sup>ns</sup>, but f what Reason I  
cant say, was refus deny'd. I beg'd Informa<sup>n</sup> what his Orders were &  
tended to. Mr Melvil was pleas'd to answer he had Order<sup>s</sup> to pay /  
grow<sup>g</sup> Salaries at least fm / 1<sup>st</sup> o February, be<sup>g</sup> / Commenc<sup>mt</sup> o / year after /

Arrival o/ Supplies sent hither by Mr Lascelles who he shd punctually perform.  
 In Consequence o such Promise / Pay Bills o / Servants Salaries were made out  
 fm / sd 15<sup>th</sup> o February to / 20<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>o</sup> amount<sup>g</sup> to £2392-16-10 Gold Value &  
 £1070-2-6 Trade Money, & laid before him, wh as he did not think o Consequence to take  
 Notice o f sev<sup>l</sup> days Applic<sup>n</sup> was a second time made to desire Mr Melvill's Determin<sup>n</sup>  
 who in / End signified f Answer t he wd pay no more than £1000 in Goods at Gold Value  
 in part o ~~the~~ Our Claim wh was / utmost length he was able to run, I take / Liberty  
 Gentlemen, to say yr President by such Measures acts vry ungenerous & Deceitfull, f  
 in Confidence o his Promise We directly paid all Salaries t were in Arrear, o<sup>r</sup> w<sup>is</sup> / Cas  
 Servants &c. who Mr Melvill turned out o the Employ<sup>mt</sup>s f no Reason but to  
 make way f his Favorites, must be staid f the Money till We cd h received it.  
 The Consequence o wh must be b<sup>n</sup> t be<sup>g</sup> turned out o Business they must be perished  
 am<sup>g</sup> / Natives f Want o Subsistence. But, Gentlemen, / Truth o / Premises are, soon  
 as Mr Melvill perceived We hd discharged all Arrears o f us & thereby disturbed  
 / Remainder o / little Circum<sup>st</sup>es we were Masters o & discover<sup>d</sup> / vry Natives  
 dissatisfied w his Proceed<sup>g</sup>s & / new Plans & determin<sup>d</sup> to b<sup>g</sup> all the Trade  
 to my self & o<sup>r</sup> Quondam Servants, took / unjust Method o not repay<sup>g</sup> us  
 such Advanc<sup>mt</sup>s, in Order by distress<sup>g</sup> us in our Circumstances to render<sup>e</sup>  
 us incapable o partak<sup>g</sup> / Trade, & become feeble Competitors w himself, Young,  
 & Mackiel who, perhaps Gentlemen ye may be sensible, bro<sup>t</sup> out a considerable  
 Cargo in / same Ship w / Supplies, wh gives no small uneasiness to / free  
 Traders settled here, especially us / above Gentlemen are mak<sup>g</sup> Contracts w /  
 Chiefs o / ~~Fort~~ o Our Forts to ingress / Trade f them, part<sup>l</sup> / Governor,  
 Mr Melvill, intends send<sup>g</sup> to Whydah, he has<sup>d</sup> now found out the are

Advantages to be made by / Trade o t. Fort, tho he formerly exclaim'd so much ag<sup>t</sup> it  
in Europe.

As I expect no Favours fm any man nor Value nor / Frowns o / in considerate  
& partial, I will point out / Advantages o this valuable Branch o Commerce in Duty  
to my Country, & fm / like Motive expose & detect / Methods t he fm & are daily  
practis'd in Consequ<sup>ce</sup> o former to render / same Destructive, & permit me, Gentlemen,  
to advance a Certainty to ye in this private Manner, whis, t / present Plan will  
overturn all publick Emulment hence & at / same time enrich enrich only / few  
People in / Manage<sup>mt</sup> o Affairs at / Expense & Sacrifice o / few Adventurers  
who are lull'd or under / No<sup>n</sup> o a free Trade, to try & experice / same. Can  
any o ye Conjecture, Gentlemen, t myself, or / many discarded Servants  
settled under / Forts or any Commanders Factor who may be put on shore  
fm on Board a Ship, & pays Freight f / Goods, house & Warehouse Rent  
in / Towns, Customs to / Inhabitants, Dashes to Cobs cheers & Trading Men,  
w a number o o<sup>r</sup> Contingencies incident to private Traders, can possibly buy  
& sell so Cheap, or stand any Chance in Trade w ye Servants who brot on  
thz Goods freight free, h / Command o / Gov Supplies to absorb themselves out o,  
togeth w / use o / Forts & Settlements f nothing. The Cob Slaves Cassinon Canoes re,  
w a g<sup>t</sup> certain Salary & good Maintenance, what Hardships attend us already  
think ye fm becoming Subservants in a Manner & Brother Citizens w / negroes?  
'Tis a Joke to think we can make use o / Forts to lodge or defend our Properties  
& Persons / w<sup>ch</sup> People who ye may guess ~~are~~ to be our Defenders h & will  
take w<sup>th</sup> measure in Propor<sup>n</sup> as we curtail thz Trade to oppress oppress &  
render us obnoxious to / w<sup>ch</sup> Natives, & suppose upon Experice they shd not h

Interest enough to effect the Desires, the Malice & <sup>ill</sup> Nature will lead them to  
 beg Palavers or Quarrels upon / Natives in wh<sup>o</sup> ev<sup>er</sup> private Trader settled among  
 them must bear a Part if no Man settles in a Negro Town w<sup>o</sup> pay<sup>g</sup> his Freedom &  
 enter<sup>g</sup> into League to become a Native & partake o<sup>t</sup> Townships Misfortunes, Advantages  
 & Customs. Is the<sup>r</sup> any diff<sup>er</sup> then between an European Trader & an African? None, One  
 is a Native Black Negro & / o<sup>r</sup> become white one. And wh<sup>o</sup> a Palaver is bro<sup>t</sup> by  
 Y<sup>r</sup> Officers ag<sup>st</sup>, must join his Fellow Townsmen ag<sup>st</sup> his Countrymen & Fort t<sup>o</sup>/  
 British Na<sup>m</sup> intended his Refuge & Preservation. But to return to / Affairs o<sup>f</sup> Mr  
 Melvil's Instrum<sup>ts</sup>, 'tis w<sup>o</sup> Concern I say it, / same are to this Day secret as / Book  
 o<sup>f</sup> Fate, no Man knoweth / Direc<sup>ts</sup> o<sup>f</sup> Committee, / Success he may Solicit f<sup>o</sup> to  
 promote & carry on his Trade. 'Tis a Contradic<sup>ts</sup> to Y<sup>r</sup> Instrum<sup>ts</sup>, supposed to be  
 / v<sup>o</sup> Vital<sup>s</sup> t<sup>o</sup> are to support & corroborate this free open Trade sh<sup>d</sup> be envel-  
 oped in Obscurity & dedicated to / Knowledge & Perusal only o<sup>f</sup> ingenious  
 Schemer & his Colleagues, Imposters or [sic] / Publick. It has bin /  
 Custom, Gentlemen, hitherto, when / Co's Agents took Command o<sup>f</sup> Affairs,  
 to read the Papers Instrum<sup>ts</sup> & Credentials before / Body o<sup>f</sup> Servants & De-  
 pendants. A Factor took / Liberty o<sup>f</sup> be<sup>g</sup> inquisitive thereon & w<sup>o</sup> Justice  
 if he thereby fathom'd / Depth o<sup>f</sup> his Principals' Command & thence knew  
 / Limits o<sup>f</sup> his own Obedience & Duty.

Pray Gentlemen do but reflect - Mr Melvil as before observed will pay  
 us no more than £1000 in Goods at Gold Price. Is not / same oppressive? but  
 observe his Reason (i.e.) bec he declares he suspect<sup>s</sup> / Remainder will not be  
 sufficient to hold out / Remainder o<sup>f</sup> year. We h<sup>o</sup> maintained / Forts  
 four Months bin / Experim<sup>ts</sup> o<sup>f</sup> year after my Arrival & Y<sup>r</sup> Long headed

Projector refuses to pay us one 3<sup>d</sup> o/ Supplies for a Suspension / Remainder will  
not last or serve / o<sup>r</sup> 1/12<sup>th</sup> Good God t a Man shd be 5 years in London  
imposg upon / ha<sup>n</sup> much less than / Sum he brot out wd be sufficient to support  
/ Settlements, & as soon as he put his foot upon / Place o Ac<sup>n</sup>, alter his Opinion,

I depend Gentlemen on yr Goodness as Directors o so Publick an Affairs  
well wishers & strenuous Endeavourers to cultivate / Traffick under yr Direc<sup>n</sup>, to ~~improve~~  
# excuse / Liberty I h taken bec to yr Gentlemen I h a Right to offer my  
Sentiments & submit all / Trusts I am Master o, & till I h / opp<sup>t</sup> o appear  
Personally to submit my Endeavours & late Behaviour to yr selves & my  
Country w<sup>th</sup> singular Respect & Defer<sup>ce</sup> beg / Favour to subscribe my self

Gentlemen — &c —

Jo<sup>n</sup> Roberts

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Copy o Mrs Melvils letter o/ 23<sup>d</sup> July 1751 to / African Committee

Dd 56

[Vide Act Melvils p

]

Endorsed 1752. Trade Africa

Copy of African Committee's

Answer to Mr Melville's

Letter o / 11<sup>th</sup> July 1751

Recd from Mrs Hollen

Recd Feb<sup>ry</sup> 17<sup>th</sup>

Recd — 13<sup>th</sup> } 1752

Dd 57"

8

Copysum

Sir / The Acct o yr Arrival at Cape Coast Castle on / 20<sup>th</sup> June wh we received by yr Letter o / 11<sup>th</sup> July was v<sup>y</sup> agreeable to us & we heartily wish y / Continu<sup>ce</sup> o t Health y then enjoyd. Yr Behaviour in Cap<sup>t</sup>. Derbyshires Palavers is v<sup>y</sup> much to our Satisfac<sup>n</sup>, & we doubt not but y will accomodate yr self to / Natives so as to engage them in / gen Interest o / English even tho' they mt differ w an Individual, upon wh Occa<sup>n</sup> y will endeavour to place / Expences, as y h done in this Inst<sup>ce</sup>, upon those who o<sup>t</sup> to pay it.

We hope y h put a Stop to / Dutch Dispute at Dix Cove by a proper Explana<sup>n</sup> w Gen Van Voorst, but as yr Letters by Cap<sup>t</sup> Bonell are not yet come to Hand, tho' he is arriv'd at Jamaica, we are still unacquainted w / Cause & Nature o t Quarrel, if they shd continue ths Endeavours to prejudice / English w / Natives we expect y will furnish us w an Acct o Facts, so attested as to induce / Ministry to remonstrate in Holland ag<sup>t</sup> such Measures; as we h laid yr Letter before / Lords o Admiralty, we doubt not but they h given proper Instructions to / Captains o men o War upon t Head.

41.

We are afraid y will h had a second Visit fm / French w<sup>a</sup> Power more than equal to any Thg y cd oppose to it unless by yr prudent Conduct y hd so secured / good will o / Natives as to Keep them at Bay till / Arrival o a superiour naval Power wh is sailed fm hence <sup>w</sup> Orders (we apprehend) to preserve / British Property & Interest upon / Gold Coast ag<sup>t</sup> any Power who sh attempt / Disturbce o either

We h sent y a broad Sword of John Carrantie & make no Doubt fm his late gallant Behaviour t he will be always ready to use it in / Service o / English Na<sup>o</sup>, when y present it to him y will give him our Thanks f his Attachmt to this Co

We are pleased to hear t his Son William is so well considered on / Coast, / use y make o him at Anamaboe is a v<sup>y</sup> satisfactory Mark to us o yr Prudence in endeavouring to secure / Interest o / Natives, a Thg t we can never enough recommend to yr Atten<sup>n</sup>

The Arguments y make here o ag<sup>t</sup> / Neccessity o buildg a Fort at Anamaboe seem to us to operate strongly to / contrary, Surely a Fort th<sup>r</sup> will furnish y w more certain means o securg / Gov in Carrantie's Family or o puttg it into such hands as upon a future Elec<sup>n</sup> sh be found most proper to preserve / British Interest, & will it not likewise be / most effectual means to prevent / French fm givg us any fut<sup>r</sup> Trouble upon t Coast. However, / Affair is under / Considera<sup>n</sup> o / Gov, & until we h th<sup>r</sup> Opinion we sh say no more upon / Subject.

We are glad / Cargo sent last year proves so advantageous, yr Direc<sup>n</sup>s are followed v<sup>y</sup> closely in evy Thg relatg to t now sent y, &

Endorsed "1752. Trade Africa

Copy o/ African Committee

Answer to Mr Melville's

letter o/ 11<sup>th</sup> July 1751

Recd from Mr Hollen

Recd Feb<sup>ry</sup> 4<sup>th</sup>

Recd — 13<sup>th</sup> } 1752

"Dd 54"

8

Copyservam

Sir / The acct o/ yr Arrival at Cape Coast Castle on/20<sup>th</sup> June wh we received by yr letter o/ 11<sup>th</sup> July was w<sup>y</sup> agreeable to us & we heartily wish y / Contin<sup>ce</sup> o/ health y then enjoyd. Yr Behaviour in Cap<sup>t</sup> Derbyshires Palavers is w<sup>y</sup> much to our Satisfac<sup>n</sup>, & we doubt not but y will accomodate yr self, to / Natives so as to engage them in / gen Interest o/ English even tho' they mt differ w<sup>an</sup> Individual, upon wh Occa<sup>n</sup> y will endeavour to place / Experiences, as y h done in this Postce, upon those who o<sup>t</sup> to pay it.

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We are afraid y will h hd a second Visit fm / French w a Power more than equal to any Thg y cd oppose to it unless by yr prudent Conduct y hd so secured / good will o / Natives as to Keep them at Bay till / Arrival o a superior naval Power wh is sailed fm hence <sup>w</sup> Orders (we apprehend) to preserve / British Property & Interest upon / Gold Coast ag<sup>st</sup> any Power who sh attempt / Disturbce o either

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We are glad / Cargo sent last year proves so advantageous, yr Directions are followed vry closely in evy Thg relatg to t now sent y, &

except / advanced Price upon / East India Goods & such as cd not be had  
we think y will find say Thg in this equal to / former.

Yr Indulge to / Factors & Writers in admittg them to / Table durg / yr  
Scarcity o Provis<sup>ns</sup> is v<sup>y</sup> Commendable, we hope it is only a temporary  
Thg & t by <sup>th<sup>y</sup></sup> Time they are returned to the usual Custom, but till  
we h<sup>ve</sup> form y / Estimate wh is required by yr Instruc<sup>ns</sup>, it is impossible  
f us to Judge o a proper Allowce f / Diet o / Officers &c.

We think y was right in retaining a Sum sufficient in yr Hands to  
subsist / People y carried on<sup>t</sup> & those y bound in / Service & before y  
pay t l<sup>g</sup>e Demand o Arrears we hope y will examine it v<sup>y</sup> carefully  
to see t none o it arises upon Acct o / Old Co or before / 2<sup>d</sup> o

February last; as / Parliam<sup>nt</sup> has h<sup>ve</sup> voted £10,000 y may Depend upon a  
regular Supply

In regard to yr Trade w / French, we refer y to yr former Instruc<sup>ns</sup>  
wh we expect y to comply w minutely till we sh<sup>ld</sup> think proper to make  
any Alter<sup>an</sup>.

I will supply / Ships w Wood Water & Ballast & Dispatch her w all  
Expedi<sup>m</sup> agreeable to yr Instruc<sup>ns</sup>.

[no date or sig<sup>ns</sup>]

Endorsed

" 1752 Trade Africa  
Copy o/ African Committee's  
Answer to Mr Melvil's  
letter o/ 23<sup>d</sup> July 1751  
Recd from Mrs Holtier  
Rec<sup>d</sup> Feb<sup>y</sup> 4<sup>th</sup>  
Recd - 13<sup>th</sup> } 1752  
Dd 58 "

Copy o an Answer to Mr Melvil's second letter

Sir / Since we wrote our Answer to y<sup>r</sup> letter o/ 11<sup>th</sup> July, we h<sup>e</sup> received one from y<sup>e</sup> o/ 23<sup>d</sup> inclosg Copies o y<sup>r</sup> last o o/ Prefers therein, a Certificate o/ Loss o a Cask o Cowries, / Bills o Lad<sup>s</sup> endorsed by y<sup>e</sup> o a Remonstrance from Messrs Boteler & Husbands, to all wh<sup>ch</sup> we give y<sup>e</sup> / follow<sup>g</sup> Answers.

As / Trade is laid open by Act o Parliament it is impossible f<sup>r</sup> / Committee to induce / separate Traders to order their Ships to this or t<sup>h</sup> Place - it is to be hoped a Fort will afford / some Protec<sup>n</sup> to / Boats at Annamaboe as at Cape Coast.

We cannot alter our Instru<sup>ts</sup> in regard to / French Trade till they h<sup>e</sup> b<sup>e</sup> more fully considered, in / mean Time if y<sup>e</sup> could beg abt an Agreement w<sup>th</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> Van Voorst to forbear trade w<sup>th</sup> them, it will at once put an End to all / Incon-  
veni<sup>es</sup> y<sup>e</sup> complain o & we are told / Gen<sup>l</sup> himself made such a Proposal in 1749 to Messrs Storkwell & Husbands; neither can we authorize y<sup>e</sup> to seize / Goods o Free Traders upon t<sup>h</sup> Act, but we expect y<sup>e</sup> should to y<sup>r</sup> utmost discourage & embarrass such Traffick & suffer no French Ship to lie longer at / Forts than a

proper Time for Supply of Wood & Water if in Distress

It gives us great Pleasure to hear that Woolen Goods & Manchester Checks  
~~Cloths~~ [?] are so much in Demand, we hope you will endeavor to increase  
 / Consumption of them & say of Manufacture of this Country, as well as we  
 applaud your Attempt to open / Ashantee Trade & heartily wish / soon you  
 men may be sufficient to do it. If your Allowance will not permit you to go great lengths  
 in purchasing an Extension of Commerce, you must continue your Endeavors to engage /  
 Assistance of Kings & Princes of Country to establish new or revive / old  
 Channels of Trade upon / Coast.

We had a Letter from Mr Roberts complaining of your Refusal to pay him more than  
 £1000 of Accounts & other matters not worth Notice - We had already approved your Conduct in this  
 Head but hope / Supplies now sent will enable you to discharge / Remainder of what  
 of the Fund Due with / Danger of showing your Poverty before / Arrival of next Supplies  
 which shall be sent as early in / year as these.

The Reasons given for your Appointment of Mr Symonds at Commenda & Mr Hippisley  
 at Succodee justly entitle them to our Confirmation, & we recommend to you upon all future  
 Occasions to have Regard to Merit only.

We hope / Surveyor is so far recovered as to enable you to furnish us with  
 exact State of Forts & Establishments necessary for the future Support which we & the  
 much want.

Your Encouragement of Natives to plant Indigo Trees & Cotton Trees is very  
 commendable, may tend much to / Advantage of our Manufactures, & we  
 apprehend may be all imported Duty free.

[No Sign nor date]

Endorsed

Trade Africa

Copy of letters from Thomas  
Melville Esq<sup>r</sup> President of  
Council at Cape Coast  
Castle dated 26<sup>th</sup> August  
& 15 Septem<sup>r</sup> 1751 to /  
Committee of Comp<sup>y</sup> of  
Merchants trading to Africa  
relatg to / State of Affairs  
upon t Coast

Recd from Mrs Hollis }  
Recd Feb<sup>ry</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> 21<sup>th</sup> } 1752  
Recd - March 6

Dd 60.

[ Vide Red Notebks pp 554 & 561. ]

Endorsed

Trade Africa

Copy of a letter from Mrs  
Melville to / Dutch Gen at  
Lamina dated 31 July 1751 &  
of sd Gen's Answer dated  
14 August 1751

Recd from Mrs Hollis

Received  
Recd - March 6 1752

Dd 61

[ Vide Red Notebks p. 526 ]

52.  
Endorsed

Trade Africa

Letter from Mr. Amyand Secy  
to / Lords Justices dated / 30<sup>th</sup>  
o April 1752, referring to this  
Board Copy o a letter from Mr  
Cleveland Secy to / Lords o /  
Admiralty inclos<sup>g</sup> sev<sup>l</sup> Papers  
relat<sup>g</sup> to Disputes between /  
English Council at Dixcove o a  
Party o / natives inhab<sup>g</sup>

Recd May ye 1<sup>st</sup> } 1752  
Recd - 7 }

Dd 64.

Whitehall 30<sup>th</sup> April 1752.

My Lords / The Lords Justices h<sup>e</sup> commanded me to transmit to y<sup>r</sup> Lordships  
a Copy o a letter from Mr Cleveland to / w<sup>ch</sup> w<sup>as</sup> w<sup>ith</sup> its Inclosures, relat<sup>g</sup> to certain Disputes  
w<sup>ch</sup> h<sup>e</sup> happened between / English Council at Dixcove o a Party o / natives inhab<sup>g</sup>  
/ Country inhab<sup>g</sup>; and I am to signify to y<sup>r</sup> Lordships the Excellencies' Pleasure t<sup>y</sup> sh<sup>d</sup>  
take this Matter into y<sup>r</sup> Considera<sup>m</sup> o report y<sup>r</sup> Opinion thereupon f<sup>r</sup> the Excellencies'  
Informa<sup>m</sup> I have - &c -

Claudio Amyand

Lords o Trade

Copy.

[Dd 65]

Admt<sup>y</sup> Office 24<sup>th</sup> April 1752

Gen<sup>l</sup> / Captain Howe, who commands His Majesty's Ship / Glory lately returned from / Coast o' Africa, has transmitted to my Lords Commissioners o' Admiralty an Acc<sup>t</sup> o' his Proceed<sup>g</sup> while he continued th<sup>r</sup>, part<sup>ly</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> regard to a Dispute betw<sup>n</sup> / English Cos Council at Duxovon & a Party o' Natives inhabit<sup>g</sup> / Country thereabout, who had acted contrary to / Obedi<sup>nc</sup> due from them, in wh<sup>ch</sup> / Dutch Gen. Mr Van Voorst had interfered on pret<sup>se</sup> t<sup>h</sup> / People concerned were Subject to / Dutch Co, & under his Protec<sup>ti</sup>on declar<sup>d</sup> t<sup>h</sup> he sh<sup>d</sup> take all Occa<sup>si</sup>o<sup>n</sup>s o' distress<sup>g</sup> / Trade o' English in t<sup>e</sup> Country, whilst they sh<sup>d</sup> persist in assert<sup>g</sup> any Right o' Authority over these Natives, & accord<sup>g</sup>ly had aided & encouraged / sd Natives in sev<sup>l</sup> Attempts upon Duxovon Fort, & seiz<sup>d</sup> some Canoes wh<sup>ch</sup> he detain<sup>d</sup> w<sup>th</sup> Men & Goods, refus<sup>g</sup> to restore them till / sd Natives b<sup>e</sup> receiv<sup>d</sup> Satisfac<sup>ti</sup>o<sup>n</sup>.

↑ Captain Howe find<sup>g</sup> this Matter too diffic<sup>l</sup> to be determin<sup>d</sup> Abroad, did w<sup>th</sup> / Advice o' Council at Cape Coast propose to Mr Van Voorst t<sup>h</sup> an Exchange sh<sup>d</sup> be made o' Prisoners taken on both Sides, all claims refer<sup>d</sup>, & a Cess<sup>io</sup>n o' Arms establish<sup>d</sup>, till th<sup>r</sup> sev<sup>l</sup> Preten<sup>ti</sup>o<sup>n</sup>s sh<sup>d</sup> be settl<sup>d</sup> in Europ<sup>e</sup>, wh<sup>ch</sup> was accept<sup>d</sup>, & Engagem<sup>ts</sup> sign<sup>d</sup> & exchang<sup>d</sup> accord<sup>g</sup>ly.

I am command<sup>d</sup> by th<sup>r</sup> Lordships <sup>LDAS.</sup> to send y<sup>e</sup> / inclos<sup>d</sup> Extract o' Cap<sup>tn</sup> Howes letter relat<sup>g</sup> thereto, w<sup>ch</sup> w<sup>th</sup> Copies o' / sd Engagem<sup>ts</sup>, in order to y<sup>e</sup> Lay<sup>g</sup> / Same before th<sup>r</sup> Exec<sup>ti</sup>o<sup>n</sup> / Lds Justices f<sup>o</sup> th<sup>r</sup> Informa<sup>ti</sup>o<sup>n</sup> I am &c

J Cleveland

Secretaries to th<sup>r</sup> Exec<sup>ti</sup>o<sup>n</sup> / Lds Justices

Endorsed

Trade Africa  
 Extract of a letter from  
 Cap<sup>t</sup> Howe to Mr Cleveland  
 Spithead 22<sup>d</sup> April 1752  
 in Mr Cleveland's of April 27<sup>th</sup>  
 Recd w Mr Amyand's letter  
 dated ye 30<sup>th</sup> of April 1752.  
 Recd May 15<sup>th</sup> } 1752  
 Recd }  
 Dd 66 "

... [Vide Notam Notebook Adm. 1. (2) P 14] ...

Endorsed

Trade Africa  
 Copy of Articles of Agreement  
 between English Council at  
 Cape Coast Castle & Mr Van Voort  
 / Dutch Gen<sup>l</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> of October 1751 O.S.  
 Dd 67

... [Vide Notam, Adm. 1. (2) P 17] ...

Endorsed

Trade Africa  
 Copy of Articles of Agreement  
 between English Council at  
 Cape Coast Castle & Mr Van Voort  
 / 21<sup>st</sup> of October 1751  
 Dd 68

... [Vide Notam P 19] ...

[Dd 69]

African House, 29<sup>th</sup> April 1752

My Lords,

The Committee of Co<sup>o</sup> Merchants Trade to Africa has directed me to lay before yr Lordships a Copy of Mr Melvils letter w/ Papers wh came in / Original; & to beg yr Opinion o / Method they shd use to procure a proper Satisfac<sup>o</sup> from / Dutch.

Ih - 22 -

Wm Hollies Secretary

To / Right<sup>o</sup> Honorable / Lords Commissioners o Trade & Plantac<sup>o</sup>s

Copy o a letter from Thomas Melvil Esq<sup>r</sup> President o / Council o Cape Coast Castle to / Committee o / Co<sup>o</sup> Merchants Trade to Africa dated 5<sup>th</sup> November 1751  
... [Vide Red Notebks. p 568] ...

Endorsed

Extracts o a letter from /  
Royal African Co o  
England to / Dutch West  
India Co dated London  
27<sup>th</sup> May 1704 Melvils  
Articles o a Treaty agreed  
to betw<sup>o</sup> 15d Cos

Dd. 70

We h<sup>e</sup> received / Honour o yr acceptable letter o / 10<sup>th</sup> December past w/ Draft o Articles y Judge proposes to be agreed to, f<sup>r</sup> promot<sup>o</sup> / Interest o both Cos on / Coast o Guinea;

\* Vide Red Notebks p 743.



3.

It sh<sup>d</sup> ~~be~~ not be lawfull to assist / Natives o / Coast, directly nor indirectly by any Person or Persons in / Service o either Co on any Pretic what<sup>r</sup>, even if they sh<sup>d</sup> be Pretens<sup>ns</sup> o Cause o War, but we will mutually & jointly endeavour to terminate all such Diffes f / Interest o both Cos

4.

No Merchant, nor Native o / Coast is to be hindered directly or indirectly by any Person or Persons in / Service o either Co f<sup>r</sup> passg & repassg to any Fort or Settlement; provided they carry no Goods proper f / Trade o / Coast, wh<sup>ch</sup> neither Man<sup>n</sup> suffers to be carried or passed within / Reach o / Cannon o the Forts

5.

No Dutch Interlopers sh<sup>d</sup> be suffered to ride under any English Fort, & in Case any Dutch Cos Ship be<sup>d</sup> in Chase, o an Interloper who may fly f Shelter under / Cannon o an English Fort, such Fort sh<sup>d</sup> by Virtue o this Article be obliged to fire upon / Interloper, & if he doth not quit / Road directly it sh<sup>d</sup> be lawfull f / Commanders of / Dutch Cos Ship to deal w<sup>th</sup> / Interloper as he sh<sup>d</sup> think proper

6.

In Case any Ship or Ships o either Co sh<sup>d</sup> be obliged to come to an Anchor in / Road o / o<sup>r</sup> Co, such Ship or Ships sh<sup>d</sup> h<sup>ave</sup> no Liberty to trade directly or indirectly - And if not w<sup>th</sup> this Agree<sup>mt</sup> any such Ship or Ships sh<sup>d</sup> be found trading, it sh<sup>d</sup> be lawfull f either o / Cos to confiscate all such Goods

4

To shew how much / Dutch Co is inclined to live in Harmony w/ Royal English Co they give leave for a sincere Friendship t/ small Ships or Vessels o/ Royal Co may come into / Dutch Co's Rivers to be caulked & cleaned, also to buy the necessary Canvas; reciprocal Leave beg likewise granted to / Dutch Co in / Settlements o/ Royal Co aforesaid. This is on Condition t/ respective principal Officers o/ one Factory make a decent Request to /o<sup>r</sup> & give notice as often as / Case may happen.

8.

T strict Orders sh be sent by each Co to their Chief Officers to fix upon a convenient Place for them to meet at, once w<sup>y</sup> six Months at furthest, in a friendly Manner to deliberate & to concert such Measures as may tend to / Common Interest o both Cos & to they Commit to writing & sign such Resolutions as they sh agree on, send g thereof authentick Copies by / first Oppy to / respective Cos for their Approbation

9.

All these Articles sh be punctually observed by / chief Officers o each Co & their Successors on / Coast o Guinea.

Agreed upon (bonafide) & signed by each Co to be sent to the respective Governors o Cabo Corso Castle & d'Elmina, these Articles o/ Dutch Co beg dated at \_\_\_\_\_ in / Year.

Trade Africa

Dd. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77.

The Originals were sent back to Mr Hollier to be copied

Read May 7<sup>th</sup> 1752

Trade Africa

Dd 79, 80, 81.

The Originals were sent back to Mr Hollis to be copied

Read May 14<sup>th</sup> 1752.

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Endorsed

Trade Africa

Copy of a letter from  
Cap<sup>t</sup> Buckle Commander  
of a Squadron of His  
Majesty's Ships of War  
upon / Coast of Africa  
to Mr Cleveland Secy  
to / Lords of  
Admiralty dated /  
19 February 1752  
Recd from L<sup>d</sup> Halifax

Recd }  
Read } May 14. 1752

Dd. 82.

... [Vide notebook Adm 1. ③ 58] ...

Endorsed

" Trade Africa  
Letter fm Will<sup>m</sup> Musch  
Sessara coa Son o John Corantee  
Chief Cabbouer o Anamahoe  
to / Earl o Halifax dated  
20<sup>th</sup> Februy 1752  
Recd 14 May 1752  
Dd 83.

My Dear Lord

I gladly imbrac'd this Opp<sup>y</sup> to inform y<sup>e</sup> we h<sup>ad</sup> had three French Men  
o War here & no sooner did they Arive (wh<sup>o</sup> was on / 31<sup>st</sup> o Janu<sup>ry</sup> last) but my  
Brother who has been at France instantly went on Board them (wh<sup>o</sup> was nigh 2  
O'Clock in / Afternoon) & gladly Receiv'd them & well com'd them here, / French  
Commodore inquired o him Concern'd me & whether I was here or still in England,  
my Brother inform'd him I was here, accordg<sup>y</sup> he Desir'd his Compliments both  
to my Father & me, hopg<sup>y</sup> my Father wd let one o his Gentlemen come a Shore  
to procure him a Sea-stock, & t<sup>hat</sup> he h<sup>ad</sup> a Messenger on Board fm / King o  
France who h<sup>ad</sup> Busines o g<sup>o</sup> imp<sup>er</sup> to inform my Father o Provided he wd  
grant him Admittance to acquaint him o / same: at 7 O'Clock in / Evg<sup>g</sup>  
my Brother came a Shore & acquainted my Father o / same, who readily  
Answer'd he sh<sup>d</sup> be v<sup>ry</sup> Glad to Receive him & accordg<sup>y</sup> / next Morn<sup>g</sup> sent a  
Conce to inform / French Commodore o / same, who sent two Lieut<sup>s</sup> & / French  
Messenger a Shore in the Barge; & when they Saw my Father they inform'd him

they came from / French King, who Return'd him Thanks for all his ffavour's done him.  
and of taking Care of the Merchant Ships, But per<sup>ty</sup> / Care taken of French Gentlemen  
who was here in / Wars, and not deliverg him into / Hands of English; and at / same time  
they acquainted my Father that they had Considerable Presents of him from / French King,  
who desired to know whether / whole Coast and Kingdom of Phanties was / Property of  
/ English, for the / English acquainted them it was and that they had Bot it and them with all  
/ Cattle re thereon, for which Reason they sd / English wd not lett them Trade here;  
at / same time they desired my Father wd inform them to / Truth thereof? who  
considered that they was not Slaves to / English but to him, his Fore-ffathers and his  
present Genera<sup>n</sup> ~~were~~ English; and my Father likewise inform'd them that / English  
do and always has paid him Annually for / Rent of Land, besides sendg him of  
Considerable Presents; so that / English live by us and we by them

The before-mentioned Gentlemen by my Fathers Order was Entertain'd by my  
Brother in my apartm<sup>t</sup> (he had no Place capable of the Receipt) of three Days, at / Expiration  
of wh / two dient<sup>s</sup> went on Board, w no d<sup>r</sup> Answer from my Father than / above, but /  
Messenger stay'd under Pret<sup>ce</sup> of ~~buyg~~ buyg a Sea Stock. The 5<sup>th</sup> Day he desired  
desired my Father would cond<sup>o</sup> of all / Chief Capashires in / Kingdom, for that he had  
something to Relate and likewise something to Present them from / King of France. accordingly  
my Father assembled them tog<sup>r</sup> and / French Messengers Divided among them 60  
Hanchers of Brandy each containg 14 Gallons, at / same time acquaintg them that he  
had something Considerable to present them w besides / Brandy; at wh / Capashires  
told him before my ffather that they wd meet on / Morrow and hear Concerng what  
he had farther to say from / King of France, and so / assembly broke up and at  
9 O'Clock / same Evng / above Messenger Presented my Father w 4 w<sup>l</sup> Rich Pieces of

Brocade (Voz<sup>t</sup>) one Red & two Green trim'd w<sup>th</sup> Gold, /<sup>d</sup> a Pink Colour trim'd w<sup>th</sup> Silver lace; each Containg ab<sup>t</sup> 18 Yards in length &  $\frac{3}{4}$  in Breadth; & likewise w a Brace o Pistols Richly mounted w<sup>th</sup> Gold & Silver, two Rich Gold daced Hatts w<sup>th</sup> fine feathers in each & two Rich Scarlett Cloakes unbroider'd w<sup>th</sup> Gold; f all wch my ffather thanked him, not in / least Suspectg (at t time) any o the Designs in endeavourg to Settle a Trade & build a Fort here, but t / Present was sent him in Gratiuity f TAKG Care o the Merch<sup>t</sup> Ship's &c as mention'd before; But to his g<sup>d</sup> Surprise / next Day, when / Capashires & o<sup>r</sup> Chiefs o / Kingdom was assembled tog<sup>e</sup>r, / messenger Presented them w<sup>th</sup> 40 blanchets o Brandy Containg as before, & had<sup>g</sup> got / Principal Capashires down in a Piece o Paper, (wch I Presume he bro<sup>t</sup> w<sup>th</sup> him fm France) to ab<sup>t</sup> / number o 40 or 50 he Called them up in his Room (my ffather beg Present) & presented each w a daced Hatt & a feather (some lace beg Gold & some Silver) & w a Piece o Rich Brocade (some o a Red, & some o a Green, & o<sup>r</sup> o a Pink Colour) each unbroider'd either w<sup>th</sup> Silver or Gold; (tho not so Rich as those presented to my ffather) & lastly Presented them each w<sup>th</sup> a Kearn mounted w<sup>th</sup> Gold, & still Continues to give trifled Presents to them & / People ev<sup>ry</sup> Day such as Brandy & Cloth so t he may Exhite / Phantees in his Favour, acquaintg them at / same time t he bro<sup>t</sup> t fm / King o France who he sd desired to know o them whether they w<sup>o</sup>d / French as well as / English, & if they did he wd acquaint / King o France who wd build a Fort & Trade w them; to wch they Reply'd t they lik'd / French w<sup>l</sup> well & if they wd give them Five Thousand Poundes (each beg Sixteen Shillg<sup>s</sup> Sterl<sup>g</sup>) f Ground Rent they wd lbt them build a Fort & Trade w them & assist them as much as Possible; (but they are afterwards to Pay Annually a Sum as yet Undetermin'd).

My Father surpriz'd at this ask'd / French Messenger why he had ~~Deer~~ Deceiv'd  
him so far & not told him his inten<sup>n</sup> before; he Answer'd t as twas a  
matter o wisps he thot it Proper to make it Known at once before / whole  
Country; my ffather Reply'd (Angry) to him, why had not y brot a Pole-  
Ax & Cutt off my dead sooner than serve me so!

The next Day they assembled toge agn (by my ffathers leave) as / French  
Man sd he had somethg more to relate to them; at wch time / above Messenger presented  
them w<sup>th</sup> Brandy as before, desir'd to know a farther Answer fm them, t he mt  
acquaint / French Commodore; The Phanties told him they wd show him /  
Place they intended to give them & accordgly they did (wch is betw. Annamaboe  
& Agga) & / French Man sd he Hop'd they'd let him h a G<sup>o</sup> Spot o Ground,  
wh mt serve them to build a Castle & for o<sup>r</sup> uses, accordgly / Capashires w<sup>th</sup> a  
g<sup>r</sup> number o People went & show'd / French Man / Place intended for him, at  
wch / Messenger was well Pleas'd, it beg o<sup>r</sup> Convenient, & Situated betw  
two Hills so t they mt Build a ffort in / Valley (wch is o itself a Ridg Ground)  
& one on each Hill, as / French Man propos'd to them at Viewg / same, abt  
200 Yards fm this Place is a narrow lake wh comes down 2 Miles or more  
fm / Country (but / Water thereof is not good by Reason / Salt Water in  
Ruff weather beats into it) & / Phanties told him as they was ingenious  
People they mt enlarge 't to a River or Creek by joinng it to / Sea, wh wd  
be Convenient for them in Landg the Goods in / Country, & for o<sup>r</sup> uses; wh  
/ French Man approv'd o & was well Pleas'd at, & ask'd / Phanties  
whither he mt not Pitch his Flag thn & immediately begin Buildg; /  
Phanties Reply'd w<sup>ll</sup> first Consult John Curranie, accordgly they came

home & inform'd my Father o all the Proceeds & asked him whether / French w<sup>d</sup>  
 Pitch the flag & begin Buildg; my ffather Reply'd, no, why are y f going up / Place  
 f wch / English Pay Ground Rent. The Phantees Reply'd they was ready to give  
 it up f t / English sends a fflag w<sup>y</sup> Year to Hoist on / ruined Forts o Annamaboe,  
 Agga & Innocint (wh accordgly they Hoist) but h not allow'd them f this seven  
 Years Past / Privants & o<sup>r</sup> Privalegis they formerly enjoy'd; & t accordg to Custom  
 sevl Capashires. went to Cape Coast Castle last Christmas, & as usual presented  
 / Governour w Sheep & o<sup>r</sup> Trifles, at / same time Enquirg o him why he w<sup>d</sup> not allow  
 them / Rights wh the forefathers & present Generall h enjoy'd, & t they Hoist an English  
 Flag at Annamaboe bec they are English in order f English Merch<sup>t</sup> Ships to come & Deal  
 w them (they Respectg us / same as when we had a Fort) but contrary to Custom they stop  
 them at Cape Coast & not Admit them to come to Annamaboe to Trade as usual,  
 wch (they told him) is / Support o our Kingdome & by wh we Ship off our Gold,  
 Elephants-Teeth & Poor Peoples Wool, Yams, Corn &c, wch was / only Support &  
 Maintenance o us; & they Demand'd o / Governour t Service he had Depriv'd them o,  
 he w<sup>d</sup> lett them Know / Reason: The Governour Answer'd them, are not y Sham'd  
 to come w yr Comp<sup>t</sup> abt this, f I must Trade as well as y w them; & t if they w<sup>d</sup>  
 come to him abt Buildg a Fort he w<sup>d</sup> give them an Answer: The Phantees repliy'd  
 y know we Trade w y to load yr Co's Ships & Sell y Slaves f t Purpose, & after  
 we h laden them y stop w<sup>y</sup> merch<sup>t</sup> Ship & Trade w them likewise (not Sufferg  
 them to come to Annamaboe) by wh y Ruin us; f our Poor People cannot sell  
 off thir Wool, Yams, &c on t Coast, & f them to Travel w such a heavy Burthen  
 by land off Day to Cape Coast to Trade (bag Nine Miles or more) they c<sup>d</sup> not,  
 & t therie a Canoe to come by Water, they c<sup>d</sup> not afforde it; The Governour reply'd

t he must Trade as well as them & Dismiss'd them w<sup>o</sup> only Four Gallons o Brandy & after wd not look on them nor make them / Presents / Capashires always use to h<sup>e</sup> tellg them to go home & Plant Cotton Trees & when it Bore to beg it to him & he wd send it over to England & Order it to be made up Convenient f<sup>r</sup> them as they shd Direct; & likewise told them t say one wd them know / Bounds o th<sup>r</sup> own Land; - The Phanties Reply'd, we never yet Planted Cotton but h<sup>e</sup> always hd Cloth & all o<sup>r</sup> Necessarys by our Trade w<sup>o</sup> them in Slaves Gold Elephants teeth &c; & likewise told / Governor t fm hence forward they wd never come to Cape Coast more, nor accept o any favours fm them whilst they divid, f<sup>r</sup> t they was Considerable men & hd Money & Slaves to Trade w<sup>o</sup> th<sup>e</sup> o<sup>r</sup> hands wh<sup>o</sup> wd maintain them.

After / Phanties hd made this Speech (w<sup>h</sup>ch is all too True) they told my Father t t was / Reason o<sup>r</sup> th<sup>e</sup> givg / French liberty to Build & Trade w<sup>o</sup> them & t t<sup>r</sup>wise they must Starve & t / English hd Used them Ill fm Age to Age past w<sup>h</sup> (they sd) they Patiently Bore w<sup>o</sup>, as w<sup>o</sup>ng themselves English & did assist them not Sufferg any o<sup>r</sup> man to use them Ill on this Coast; & (they sd) after all, we are soon now willg f<sup>r</sup> / English to Trade w<sup>o</sup> us & Build a Fort; & t / French shd likewise do / same; All / Capashires & / Majority o<sup>r</sup> Common People in / Kingdom do Unanimously (at Presant) approve o<sup>r</sup> them more than o<sup>r</sup> English.

My Father Answer'd them, t he hd bin used w<sup>o</sup> well by / English in Educat<sup>o</sup> me (his Son) in England & by showg me g<sup>r</sup> respect; & told / Capashires Punctually t he wd not let / French Hoys<sup>t</sup> a fflag or lay any Foundat<sup>o</sup> f<sup>r</sup> Buildg a Fort here till such time as I hd writ to England to g<sup>r</sup> o<sup>r</sup> all t hd Pass'd; wh<sup>o</sup> I dont Doubt will acquaint his Royal Mag<sup>y</sup> Maj. o<sup>r</sup> same t / French m<sup>t</sup> be timely Defeated in th<sup>r</sup> Attempt o<sup>r</sup> Buildg a Fort by sendg a Fleet o<sup>r</sup> his Mag<sup>y</sup> Ships

to prevent the Design, they have Promis'd to come ag<sup>n</sup> in 16 Months time, or less with the proper Store Ships & Ships o' War to defend them in Buildg the intended Castle; & they have carry'd with them over to France 6 or 7 o' Chief Capashires Sons ( / Capashires have consented ) in Order to Educate them & at the com<sup>g</sup> here ag<sup>n</sup> are to bring them Back; Promis<sup>g</sup> at / same time to bring gr<sup>t</sup> Presents f<sup>r</sup> / whole Country, Besides / before-mention'd Money to pay f<sup>r</sup> / Ground Rent.

My noble Lord / French Messenger (before mention'd) who was here so long bro<sup>t</sup> with him all Necessarys f<sup>r</sup> Stay<sup>g</sup> here till / Ships Return fm France, was Defeated in t<sup>e</sup> Design o' his, my Father having by my Persua<sup>n</sup> sent him on Board just as they was ready to Sail, at / same time promis<sup>g</sup> me t<sup>e</sup> / French sh<sup>d</sup> never settle here or go to Build a ffort<sup>r</sup>, Provided t<sup>e</sup> was English Ships out to keep them Off by Sea; wh<sup>o</sup> if it is not ( / Phantees Country has<sup>g</sup> v<sup>y</sup> Considerable Capashires ) they may let them settle here & my Father in Vain Strive to Resist them.

My Dear Lord, when I first understand / Designs o' / French I made my utmost Endeavour to Defeat / same & wait to / Governor o' Cape Coast to send me some Leguor to gain / Affec<sup>n</sup>s o' Phantees Stronger to / English & likewise f<sup>r</sup> Powder (t<sup>e</sup> after having won / Phantees Affec<sup>n</sup>s) to hinder / French fm com<sup>g</sup> a Shore by fire<sup>g</sup> on them, having eight Pieces o' Cannon here, w<sup>ch</sup> my Father made use o' last Year & driv'd / French off; But my Request was to little Purpose f<sup>r</sup> they only sent me a Bottle o' Brandy contain<sup>g</sup> abt Three Gallons, wh<sup>o</sup> was too little to gain / Affec<sup>n</sup>s o' People at this Time, & at wh<sup>o</sup> my Father & Self was surpris'd at, & he Order'd it to be sent back ag<sup>n</sup> (w<sup>o</sup> abt a Quarter a Barrel o' Powder they likewise sent ~~to~~ wh<sup>o</sup> was not Enough to load all / Guns) to Cape Coast & to tell / Governor

t 'twas a Shame to use / English ha<sup>n</sup> so, especially at this Time, when / French was  
overpower<sup>g</sup> / Phantees w<sup>th</sup> Brandy & d<sup>r</sup> Presents in order to alienate the Affec<sup>ns</sup> fm  
them: But my Lord I tho<sup>t</sup> it not convenient to send it back ag<sup>n</sup> to Cape Coast Coast  
/ Phantees shd See / same & so last they reproachful Lookies on / English, But I  
dismiss'd / messenger w<sup>th</sup> a letter to / Govern<sup>r</sup> t' it was a Shame, & too little to Send;  
& my Lord to gain / Peoples' Affec<sup>ns</sup> I instantly Sold two Slaves (wh<sup>ch</sup> was given  
me am<sup>g</sup> d<sup>r</sup> presents at my arrival on this Coast o<sup>f</sup> Africa) to Cap<sup>t</sup>. Studd o<sup>f</sup>  
Angola fm Newfoundland f<sup>r</sup> two Pipes o<sup>f</sup> Rum, one contain<sup>d</sup> 115, & / o<sup>r</sup> 113 Gallons  
wh<sup>ch</sup> I took care to distribute am<sup>g</sup> / Phantees daily in order to Quell as much as  
Possible the Tumultuous Ryett; beg<sup>g</sup> Griev'd to think / English shd be like to  
lose the Right: The Fatigue I took, & beg<sup>g</sup> troubled much to see / Peoples' Affec-  
tions draw<sup>g</sup> to / French, threw me f<sup>r</sup> 5 Days into a Violent Feavour, in w<sup>th</sup>  
time my good Friend Mr Roberts came to See me & Stay'd two Days admin-  
ister<sup>g</sup> Consolam<sup>n</sup> to me, & my Father often sent to me & desired I wd Comfort  
myself f<sup>r</sup> t he wd Act a True English Mans Part, & as soon as / Phantees was  
a little Appeas'd wd Endeavour to send / French Ships away, wh<sup>ch</sup> was a gr<sup>t</sup>  
Consolam<sup>n</sup> to me in my Sickness, & I bless God am now perfectly Recover'd: in my  
Illness / French Commodore often sent to know how I did & when I was a little  
Recover'd desired my Comp<sup>n</sup> on Board, I acquainted / Govern<sup>r</sup> at Cape Coast o<sup>f</sup>  
/ same, who Advise'd me by no means to go on Board, neither wd my Conscience  
let me; however he sent a Shore Two Rich Coates Gold lace'd, & a Hat &  
Feather, wh<sup>ch</sup> / French messenger Presented to me, but I told him I did not want  
to Buy it, hav<sup>g</sup> already sent to England f<sup>r</sup> Clothes & d<sup>r</sup> necessaries f<sup>r</sup> my use; to  
wh<sup>ch</sup> he Reply'd he did not want to sell it to me but desired I wd accept o<sup>f</sup> it as

a Present<sup>n</sup> fm / King o France; I Reply'd (only by see<sup>g</sup> them) they was to Big f me; to wch he sd he wd send on Board f a Taylor & h them alter'd. I thank'd him (but Refus'd them) tellg him I expected some fm England t wd fitt me & t I hd Sufficient to last me till they came; But my Brother accepted o them a Scarlett Coatt trim'd w Gold, & a Brown Silk Coatt & Waistcoat trim'd w<sup>th</sup> Silver; a Gold haird starr & Feather, w a Sword Silver mounted & Gold Belt, & likewise sevl Shirts, Handkerchiefs & Pairs o Shoes all v<sup>ry</sup> Rich & he Pro-  
~~miss~~ miss'd to br<sup>g</sup> him more at his com<sup>g</sup> ag<sup>m</sup>, & sd I shd see what a Present / King wd send me next Year tho' I did not like / French; some ~~of~~ <sup>of</sup> Lieut<sup>s</sup> sd / same to me who h <sup>ben</sup> a Shore here, but the Briskers sh never Belov'd me; tho' all / Phanties call me a g<sup>t</sup> Fool f not accept<sup>g</sup> / Presents & sd I never shd get so Rich ones by / English.

I was g<sup>l</sup>y overjoy'd to see three English Men o War come here, wch I hope will be / Means o Defeat<sup>g</sup> the Attempts; I h ben v<sup>ry</sup> well Entertain'd on Board Capt. Buckle o / Assistance two or three times (by w<sup>ch</sup> Ship this Present<sup>n</sup> Writ<sup>g</sup> will be convey'd) who Saluted me w<sup>th</sup> Guns at my Return; likewise I h ben Honour'd w<sup>th</sup> his & / o<sup>r</sup> ~~two~~ two English Captains Comp<sup>d</sup> a Shore & Drank his Maj: Health in Palm Wine on<sup>l</sup> o a Silver Cup (w<sup>ch</sup> my Father hd Presented him fm his Maj by Capt Buckle) accord<sup>g</sup> to my Father's desire, in / mean time fire<sup>d</sup> w<sup>th</sup> Cannon.

My Father gives his Duty to his Royal Maj: & desires he wd send ~~him~~ w all Possable Dispatch Ships w<sup>th</sup> Proper Officers to Build a fort here by w<sup>ch</sup> means / French King's Scheme will be ffrustrated; & my Father will use his utmost Endeavours & assist in Build<sup>g</sup> / sd Work &

will likewise give Orders for gett<sup>g</sup> Shells Ready to Burn for some by / time / English  
Ships can arrive on / Coast, as likewise Stone & so<sup>o</sup> else<sup>s</sup> it is necessary for build<sup>g</sup> / ffort:  
with I hope his Majesty Maj: will Consider o & send Ships or otherwise we cannot  
Prevent / French King's design as he will rhas in a g<sup>t</sup> measure gain<sup>d</sup> / Affe<sup>ns</sup> o /  
Phanties by Bribe<sup>s</sup> them.

Thus my Lord I have done my Duty to y<sup>e</sup> & he given all / Intelligence I possibly cd  
concern<sup>g</sup> / French & always sh<sup>l</sup> be Proud to serve his Royal Maj: as a Loyal Subject  
& do wish it had bin in my Power to Averted / first Design o / French in com<sup>g</sup> here  
& hinder<sup>d</sup> them even for a Possibility o attempt<sup>g</sup> to Build a ffort<sup>t</sup> wh<sup>o</sup> do a Shure  
y<sup>r</sup> Lordship wd give me / g<sup>t</sup> Pleasure.

My Lord Please to send by / first Oppy Two Suits o / Clothes (each Coat having a  
Shoulder Knott with is my Present Ware) One Gold & / o<sup>r</sup> Silver lace, & agreeable for this  
Country, / Colour o wh<sup>o</sup> sh<sup>l</sup> leave to y<sup>r</sup> own Taste, & likewise a few Shirts, Stock<sup>s</sup>, Shoes &  
Table Linen, & a Gold daced Hatt; Direct them to me here or Mr<sup>r</sup> Mellwin present Govern<sup>r</sup>  
o Cape Coast whom I sh<sup>l</sup> pay for / same.

My Father gives his Compliments to y<sup>e</sup> & assures y<sup>e</sup> hell still be true to / English, hope<sup>g</sup> not  
to be made a Shame<sup>d</sup> thereof, Please my Lord to give my Compts to y<sup>e</sup> worthy lady & / Young  
lady<sup>s</sup> & likewise to / Black lady, to Doctor Kream & Doctor Creation & all my good Friends &  
Believe me to be what I Subscribe my Self

my Dear Lord

His Maj: Dutifull & Loyal  
Subject & y<sup>r</sup> Lordship<sup>s</sup>  
ry Humble Servant

William Ansa Sessaracoo.

Mmamaboe

20<sup>th</sup> february 1752

PS. My Compliments to Mr<sup>r</sup> James to whom I am indebted for my writ<sup>g</sup> who I hope  
you'll be Mindfull o

Trade Africa

Dd. 84. 85

The originals were sent back to Mr Tollier to be copied

Read May 14<sup>th</sup> 1752.

Indorsed.

Trade Africa

Copies o letters fm /  
Committee o / Co o

Merchants tradg to Africa  
sent to Thomas Melvil Esq<sup>r</sup>

President o / Council & ca  
at Cape Coast Castle tog<sup>r</sup>

w a Copy o a Sketch o  
Observans & Instr<sup>ns</sup>

drawn up by / Lords Commis-  
sioners o Trade & Planta<sup>ns</sup>

f / Use o / sd Committee

Recd fm / Committee o / Co o Merchants

Recd July  
Read - 16<sup>th</sup> 1752

Dd. 105.

• Not here. Vide Red Notables p. 707.

The Committee's Observat<sup>ns</sup> on Melville's Conduct - 9th p 689.

Melville's Defence. 9th p 616.

Copies o Letters fr / Committee o / Co o Merchants tradg to Africa to Thomas Melville Esq<sup>r</sup> President o / Council at Cape Coast Castle by his Majesty's Ship Glory, dated 1<sup>st</sup> July 1752.

Before we received yr long Letter o / 14<sup>th</sup> March last, we had fr Capt<sup>m</sup> Buckles Letter to / Admiralty & fr Mr Williams to / Earl o Halifax, th<sup>r</sup> appeared Charges ag<sup>st</sup> yr Conduct o / utmost Consequence, & accordgly we drew up / Letters annexed No. 1; & tho' yr Letter contradicts some o / Facts alludged ag<sup>st</sup> y<sup>e</sup>, yet we do not think it so full a Justific<sup>n</sup> as / Imp<sup>n</sup> o / Charge requires.

We therefore wrote y<sup>e</sup> / short Letter No. 2 in wh<sup>ch</sup> we recommended y<sup>e</sup> to authenticate / Facts y<sup>e</sup> had asserted to acquit y<sup>e</sup> self o some Articles, & to answer such o<sup>rs</sup> specifically, explicitly as we sh<sup>d</sup> hereafter send y<sup>e</sup>, wh<sup>ch</sup> Letter not be<sup>g</sup> in Time f / Badger, y<sup>e</sup> will receive w<sup>ch</sup> by / Glory.

Yr Letter hath since be<sup>n</sup> laid before / Lords o Trade who h<sup>av</sup> th<sup>at</sup> proper to send us / enclosed Sketch No. 3 containg<sup>g</sup> th<sup>e</sup> Sentiments upon yr past & Instrum<sup>ts</sup> f yr future Conduct.

We now insist upon yr go<sup>g</sup> thro' / Sketch & both these Letters in a vsy minute part<sup>r</sup> Manner & furnisg<sup>g</sup> us w<sup>ch</sup> such authenticated Facts or substantial Reasons as sh<sup>d</sup> give / Lords Comm<sup>rs</sup> f Trade & Plant<sup>ns</sup> & ourselves ample Satisfac<sup>n</sup> Reason<sup>g</sup>. The Disputes betw<sup>n</sup> / English & / Dutch are referred by / Regency to / Board o Trade & we h<sup>av</sup> likewise laid before them y<sup>e</sup> Letter containg<sup>g</sup> yr Request & Reasons f establishg<sup>g</sup> a civil Power upon / Coast.

We h<sup>av</sup> this Day ordered a Sloop o 50 Tons to be built & fitted f Sea w<sup>ch</sup> utmost Expedi<sup>n</sup> & sh<sup>d</sup> send her round by Fambia to purchase 40 Slaves f / Use o / Settlements upon / Gold Coast, but must part<sup>ly</sup> f respectg<sup>g</sup> / Exec<sup>n</sup> o a Fort at

Anna-matsoe.

Capt<sup>m</sup> Rosseter who sails in 14 days will br<sup>g</sup> of 20 ctt Piricks, wh<sup>o</sup> y will take proper Care o till they are wanted.

In yr letter o / 11<sup>th</sup> July, y attribute John Corrantee's Desire o hav<sup>g</sup> a Fort built to / protect<sup>n</sup> he expects his Family may receive fm it, after his Death, & y add, t upon t event, they may be v<sup>y</sup> destitute as / Post o Captain o Anna-matsoe is elective & in all Probability may go out o t Family w<sup>o</sup> our Assis<sup>t</sup>ce. If this is / Case we wd h<sup>o</sup> y immediately propose to John Corrantee in Considera<sup>n</sup> o his Attach<sup>m<sup>t</sup></sup> to us & his prevent<sup>g</sup> / French fm settl<sup>g</sup> upon / Fantee Coast, t we will undertake as far as lies in our Power to secure to his Posterity all / Advantages & Honors he at present possesses.

Letter referred to No. 1.

How<sup>o</sup> will we may think o yr Conduct immediately at Cape Coast, & in / Disputes betw<sup>n</sup> / Dutch & / Hantahs, wh<sup>o</sup> we readily allow y<sup>o</sup> q<sup>t</sup> merit in, yet we cannot let yr Behavior to / Fantees pass w<sup>o</sup> / severest Censure, at / same Time we assure y / False Facts & malicious Representa<sup>n</sup>s o yr Conduct wh<sup>o</sup> you hint Suspicions o, make not / least Part o our Charge ag<sup>st</sup> y. We ground ourselves upon Proofs wh<sup>o</sup> y cannot contradict w<sup>o</sup> deny<sup>g</sup> what y h<sup>o</sup> written, or such as we must believe till y h<sup>o</sup> disproved them.

We are sensible t / Scheme o a free trade upon / Coast must furnish Matter o Uneasiness & Discontent to / Fantees, since they must naturally be deprived by it o Part o t trade wh<sup>o</sup> / Inability o / old Co in trade, & th<sup>o</sup> exclusive Power at th<sup>o</sup> Forts h<sup>o</sup> thrown entirely into th<sup>o</sup> Hands of some years past.

What then shd h bn yr Conduct in this Case? especially when y saw / French attempt<sup>g</sup>  
to get a Foot<sup>g</sup> am<sup>g</sup> them at a critical Juncture, & saw / Natives at / same Time (fm some Cause  
or o<sup>r</sup> no matter what, for to us it was meritorious) stand by the old Friends & prevent those  
invidious Rivalts fm becom<sup>g</sup> yr troublesome Neighbours.

Shd y not then h used yr utmost Skill to h soothed / Minds o these los<sup>g</sup> Traders  
by a proper Behaviour - Situated as y were, was / Trade o all yr Ships at Cape Coast equal  
to / Risk o los<sup>g</sup> / Affec<sup>ns</sup> o / Families - Suppose / Admiralty fm early & well founded  
Intellig<sup>e</sup> had not supported y w a Squadron, superior to / French, in whose Hands wd h  
Mannabos bn now, & how soon after, in yr own Suspicions, must even Cape Coast & / o<sup>r</sup>  
Fort<sup>s</sup> h gone / same Way - Sensible o all these th<sup>gs</sup> how cd y irritate / People who  
surely shd h bn blattered & courted to serve yr present Purpose - b<sup>y</sup> national as /  
Object o t Coast may be, y shd consider how much it wd lessen its Consequence if no  
less than a Squadron o Men o War is constantly required to protect it.

It may be true if we had / secure & unmolested Possess<sup>n</sup> o / Gold Coast, t it wd be / same th<sup>g</sup>  
to England upon what Part o it / Trade was carried on, but y who knew / Attempts / French  
had made, & knew fm / Value o it, t it was probable they wd repeat those Attempts, surely cd  
distinguish t at such a Time it required yr utmost Attem<sup>n</sup>, Care & Thot to preserve in / Families  
such a Regard f / English as not induce them to continue / same Dispos<sup>n</sup> they had so lately  
shewn to give us / Preference.

But when / French came upon / Coast w Two Men o War & were buy<sup>g</sup> / Natives w  
liquor, w Cloths, & w promises, to neglect them there was surely / highest Degree o Infatua<sup>n</sup>  
Was a Bottle o Rum & a little Gunpowder (wh we are informed was all y sent) a proper  
Present to be made at such a Time? Cd y h contrived a Scheme more likely to offend  
/ Natives & to give Success to / French, if / Committee had not liquor upon /

Coast, doubtless they had Goods to purchase it, & had they not, wd it h. bn much b<sup>r</sup> y<sup>e</sup> to h. risked yr own Credit b<sup>y</sup> it at ~~such~~ so ticklish a Crisis. What monstrous Policy to put Contempt upon those for whom y<sup>e</sup> expected Favor.

This Sort o Behavior has bn / Cause o gr Uneasiness to us, & if our Tenderness b<sup>y</sup> yr Character & our Unwillingness to punish y<sup>e</sup> w<sup>o</sup> allow y<sup>e</sup> Time to vindicate yourself were not supported by some o<sup>r</sup> prudential Reasons, we sh<sup>d</sup> think ourselves sufficiently warrant<sup>d</sup> to suspend y<sup>e</sup> immediately; but as we hope t<sup>h</sup> what we h. heretofore written y<sup>e</sup> to<sup>g</sup> w<sup>o</sup> this Remonstrance, will produce a total Alter<sup>m</sup> in yr Behavior to / Fartems, & an absolute Obedience to all our Orders, We h. endeavored to obtain / Consent o<sup>r</sup> / Lords Commissioners b<sup>y</sup> Trade & Plantings (who were equally Surprised w<sup>o</sup> us at this Part o<sup>r</sup> yr Conduct) t<sup>h</sup> y<sup>e</sup> may continue b<sup>y</sup> / present in yr Command upon / Coast.

We h. now received an Order o<sup>r</sup> Council to build a new Fort at Annamahoe in / Place where / old one stood, but b<sup>y</sup> Fear yr late Behavior to / People o<sup>r</sup> t<sup>h</sup> Place may h. rendered y<sup>e</sup> unpopular am<sup>o</sup> them, y<sup>e</sup> must immediately send down Mr Young or who<sup>r</sup> else sh<sup>d</sup> be most agreeable to them to inform them o<sup>r</sup> it, & to endeavor they be quiet, & w<sup>o</sup> kind o<sup>r</sup> Civility to induce them to furnish / Engineers we sh<sup>d</sup> send w<sup>o</sup> us their assist<sup>ce</sup>

We sh<sup>d</sup> take w<sup>o</sup> Oppy o<sup>r</sup> send y<sup>e</sup> Bricks & Lime, & w<sup>o</sup> Engineers we sh<sup>d</sup> send Timber, Iron work, & Ordnance Stores, in / mean time let Mr Slater yr Engineer be sent to prepare such Stores as / Coast will furnish, to clear away / Rubbish, clean / Tank & do w<sup>o</sup> sh<sup>d</sup> in his Power to forward / Work.

It will be proper to provide a Place at Annamahoe b<sup>y</sup> / Rec<sup>n</sup> o<sup>r</sup> Engineer & Chief & a Warehouse b<sup>y</sup> / Stores, & least / French sh<sup>d</sup> be w<sup>o</sup> before / Fort

can be built, all possible Influence must be used w<sup>th</sup> John Corrairie to draw off such  
o / Cabbovers as are most attached to them, to engage / Natives to prevent the Land?  
& by those means to enable us to carry on / Work in Security.

When / Engineer Chief & Engineer are thro, we strictly enjoin y<sup>e</sup> to comply w<sup>th</sup>  
so<sup>o</sup> Request they sh<sup>d</sup> make to / utmost o<sup>f</sup> yr Power, w<sup>h</sup> it be f<sup>r</sup> Men, Stores, Presents,  
dequo, Countin<sup>ce</sup> or Protec<sup>o</sup>, & when y<sup>e</sup> remember t<sup>h</sup> any miscarriage in / Progress o<sup>f</sup>  
this Affair, aris<sup>g</sup> fm / Disaffec<sup>o</sup> o / Natives, will be attributed to yr former neglect o<sup>f</sup>  
them, y<sup>e</sup> will see / necessity y<sup>e</sup> are under o<sup>f</sup> exert<sup>g</sup> yr utmost Endeavors to regain  
the goodwill & prevent the giv<sup>g</sup> any Encouragem<sup>nt</sup> to / French if they sh<sup>d</sup> come  
upon / Coast, in wh<sup>ch</sup> case tho y<sup>e</sup> sh<sup>d</sup> not be able to make equal Presents. y<sup>e</sup> must use  
/ gtes<sup>t</sup> Liberality yr Circumst<sup>es</sup> will permit

Let / Ground Rents be punctually paid & let / Natives know t<sup>h</sup> they sh<sup>d</sup>  
be constantly so, & persuade them t<sup>h</sup> / English are not only determined to pre-  
serve the Forts &c<sup>a</sup>, but to encourage a gen<sup>l</sup> Trade w<sup>th</sup> all / Natives.

Letter referred to No 2.

In Capt<sup>n</sup> Buckles letter & some o<sup>o</sup>s fm / Coast the are sev<sup>l</sup> Th<sup>gs</sup> bro<sup>t</sup> as  
[charges ag<sup>st</sup> yr Conduct thro, some o<sup>o</sup> wh<sup>ch</sup> indeed y<sup>e</sup> h<sup>av</sup> answered in yr letter by  
Capt<sup>n</sup> Buckle, but o<sup>o</sup>s y<sup>e</sup> h<sup>av</sup> not taken Notice o<sup>f</sup>; we therefore expect t<sup>h</sup> y<sup>e</sup> will  
authenticate such Facts as y<sup>e</sup> assert to acquit yrself o<sup>f</sup> former, & t<sup>h</sup> y<sup>e</sup> give us  
clear Answers to such o<sup>o</sup>s as we sh<sup>d</sup> send y<sup>e</sup> hereafter, f<sup>r</sup> at present we h<sup>av</sup> not time  
to enter into / Considera<sup>o</sup>, so long a letter

We h<sup>av</sup> now received an Order o<sup>f</sup> Council to build a Fort at Annamaboe in /  
Place where / old one stood, y<sup>e</sup> must therefore f<sup>r</sup> / present send down Mr Young,

or whomever else may be agreeable to / Natives to inform them of it, & to endeavor by  
 by degrees, o<sup>r</sup> Presents, & all kinds o<sup>f</sup> Civility to induce John Corraantee & / o<sup>r</sup>  
 Cabboons to assist y<sup>e</sup> in this work so necessary to us now to satisfy /  
 Natives & if possible to forestall / French.

It will be proper to send y<sup>e</sup> Engineer Mr Slater to provide such  
 Stores as / Wash vice furnishes, to clear away / Rubbish, clean / Tank & do  
 w<sup>th</sup> t<sup>h</sup>e in his Power to forward / work

We sh<sup>l</sup> v<sup>l</sup> soon send y<sup>e</sup> Bricks, Limes, Timber, Ironwork & Ordnance  
 Stores & w<sup>l</sup> therefore be secure & proper Plans provided f<sup>r</sup> them as well as f<sup>r</sup> /  
 Recep<sup>ts</sup> o<sup>f</sup> / Chief & / Engineer.

as ~~far as~~ let it be / principal Object o<sup>f</sup> Person y<sup>e</sup> send down to alternate  
 as far as possible / Affections o<sup>f</sup> Natives f<sup>r</sup> / French & to secure John  
 Corraantee & / o<sup>r</sup> Cabboons in y<sup>e</sup> Interest, so as w<sup>l</sup> thro<sup>u</sup>g<sup>h</sup> Assistee to carry  
 on y<sup>e</sup> Works w<sup>th</sup> Security & w<sup>l</sup> not fear if / French sh<sup>d</sup> ~~they~~ thro<sup>u</sup>g<sup>h</sup> Luck once  
 more, & arrive before our Ship o<sup>r</sup> War wh<sup>l</sup> is to sail in ten Days, & by wh<sup>l</sup>  
 we sh<sup>l</sup> write y<sup>e</sup> parts.

Enclosed

Trade Africa  
 Copy o<sup>f</sup> a Letter f<sup>r</sup> /  
 Committee o<sup>f</sup> Co  
 o<sup>f</sup> Merchants trady to  
 Africa to Thomas Melish Esq  
 Govern<sup>r</sup> o<sup>f</sup> Cape Coast  
 Castle Dated November 1752  
 Recd Int<sup>r</sup>com<sup>t</sup>  
 Read do 8<sup>th</sup> 3 1752

Dd 104.

A Copy of a Letter from / Committee of Comp<sup>y</sup> of Merchts trading to Africa  
to Thomas Melville Esq<sup>r</sup> Governour of Cape Coast Castle, dated November 1750  
~~the enclosed~~

We have recd<sup>d</sup> yr Letter of 11<sup>th</sup> of June by Cap<sup>t</sup> Jabber but / Box contain<sup>d</sup> / Books  
& Papers refer'd to in it, We must wait his Arrival of.

Yr Letter by Cap<sup>t</sup> Buckle was answer'd by his Majesty's ship Glory Cap<sup>t</sup>  
Cockburn, & by Cap<sup>t</sup> Daniel we do not expect till he comes from Jamaica.

The Papers formerly sent relatg to / Disputes w<sup>th</sup> / Dutch ab<sup>t</sup> Success<sup>n</sup> &c<sup>a</sup>  
were refer'd by / Regency to / Lords of Trade who return'd them w<sup>th</sup> the Report & we  
hope / Secretary of State has since made a proper Representa<sup>n</sup> to / Dutch Ministry  
upon those Heads.

We commend yr Cau<sup>n</sup> in dissembling / Knowledge of John's Practices as y<sup>e</sup> h  
not Power to prevent them, & as it m<sup>t</sup> be unprecedent to exert such Power if  
y<sup>e</sup> cd & we must recommend to y<sup>e</sup> as gr<sup>t</sup> Circumspec<sup>n</sup> in / Assist<sup>n</sup> y<sup>e</sup> intend to give  
George Banisher to obtain / Success<sup>n</sup> of Cap<sup>t</sup> of Annamaboe, f<sup>r</sup> tho' it deserves  
yr utmost Endeavour to put in one of our Friends whose natural Interest &  
Character will give him Weight & Influence w<sup>th</sup> / People & it is of g<sup>r</sup>est Consequ<sup>e</sup>  
to prevent any one in / French Interest from fillg<sup>n</sup> t<sup>e</sup> Post. <sup>x</sup> yet it is a Matter

x / words underlined  
were added by / Board.

of some Delicacy to interfere in / Success<sup>n</sup> of / Natives  
to the own Governm<sup>t</sup>: And as on / one hand y<sup>e</sup> shd  
be v<sup>y</sup> sure of / Character, Dispos<sup>n</sup>, & natural Pretens<sup>n</sup>

of / Person y<sup>e</sup> support, so y<sup>e</sup> shd likewise be cautious of making an unreluctant Enemy  
of any of<sup>r</sup> Competitors who may be likely to succeed.

As we sh be able to judge better when yr Books arrive of Table & dr Affairs relatg to Coast, We sh be silent upon those Subjects b / present, but as Mr Roberts is propos<sup>d</sup> prepar<sup>d</sup> his Accts, & intends to solicit / Pay<sup>mt</sup> o his Balce here, we direct y not to pay any more Money upon t Acct w<sup>t</sup> fut<sup>r</sup> Orders.

Yr Proposal abt Gambia Slaves we h begun to carry into Exec<sup>u</sup>n & we therefore h y prepare an Estimate of Expence o each Fort upon t Plan, F / Value o Goods y must substitute / Medium where thr is a gr Vari<sup>n</sup> in / European Price, & as to / french leave thr Conduct entirely out o / Ques<sup>n</sup> as an Incident wh must always be partly provided b. In this Estimate we w<sup>t</sup> h y insert / Names a Sta<sup>n</sup>s o such white People as sh be ab t time employ<sup>d</sup>.

We are so much pleas<sup>d</sup> w & wish so much b / Continu<sup>n</sup>ce o / healthy State of Coast t we sh never object to yr clear<sup>d</sup> Ground in order to contribute to it x but y are to adhere to our former Principles in rel<sup>n</sup> to / Plant<sup>d</sup> Indigo, Cotton &c<sup>a</sup>

x / words underlined were added by / Board

The Coast Prices o Goods we sh always leave to yr Self & / Council - Humanity will induce y to settle them as much as possible in favour o / inferior Servants.

We are perfectly satisfi<sup>d</sup> w / Appoint<sup>mt</sup> o yr Rela<sup>n</sup> as account<sup>ant</sup> dur<sup>d</sup> his Stay & doubt not but y will remember yr Promise to form / Accts in / most clear & distinct Method.

We h ~~always~~ thro<sup>o</sup> propos<sup>d</sup> to alter / Number & Titles o / Offices established by / old Co as the Appoint<sup>mt</sup> regard<sup>d</sup> thr Trade as much as / Preserv<sup>n</sup> o / Forts.

We sh<sup>d</sup> let / diff<sup>r</sup> Traders know yr Objec<sup>ns</sup> to / Quality, Weight or Package o<sup>r</sup> the Goods, & insist upon the best more exact.

Y<sup>e</sup> h<sup>e</sup> enclosed a Copy o<sup>f</sup> Contract w<sup>th</sup> / Captains o<sup>f</sup> these Ships to take such Cables at Prime Cost as y<sup>e</sup> can deliver properly coopered, & wh<sup>ch</sup> y<sup>e</sup> are to take the Bills upon the Owners.

In any Disputes betw<sup>en</sup> / diff<sup>r</sup> States or People o<sup>f</sup> Coast, we depend upon y<sup>r</sup> exert<sup>ng</sup> all y<sup>r</sup> Prud<sup>ic</sup> to make them as usefull as possible to / Trade o<sup>f</sup> this Country & in / present Quarrel betw<sup>en</sup> / Ashantees & Intuffero, we hope y<sup>r</sup> Skill may furnish y<sup>e</sup> w<sup>th</sup> an Oppy o<sup>f</sup> opening those Paths fr<sup>om</sup> whence so much Trade may be expected.

Tho' in all our Letters we h<sup>e</sup> so strongly insisted upon y<sup>r</sup> utmost Endeavours to secure / Affec<sup>ion</sup> & good Will o<sup>f</sup> Natives we doubt not but all y<sup>r</sup> Act<sup>ns</sup> h<sup>e</sup> a Tendency to t<sup>he</sup> imp<sup>ro</sup>ve Good, y<sup>et</sup> We cannot cease to inculcate it upon y<sup>e</sup> as a ch<sup>ief</sup> o<sup>f</sup> utmost Consequ<sup>ence</sup>.

Endorsed

Trade Africa

Copy o<sup>f</sup> an Order o<sup>f</sup> Lords Justices in Council

dated 12<sup>th</sup> o<sup>f</sup> May 1752

Recd July 4<sup>th</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> } 1752

Recd Nov<sup>r</sup> 8 }

Dd 108

... [Vide Green Notebook II p1] ...

Endorsed

Trade Africa

Copy o a Letter fm William  
Ansoh Sessarakoo to /  
Committee o / Co  
o Merchants tradg to  
Africa wt Date

received / 2<sup>d</sup> October 1752

Recd fm Mrs Hollis

Recd Oct 6 }  
Recd Nov 22<sup>d</sup> } 1752

Dd 113.

Gentleman

I embrace this Oppy by / Princess o Wales Capt<sup>t</sup> Lukker o Congratulatg upon / Forts & Settlements upon / Coast beg put into yr hands. & do return y mine & my Fathers Sincere thanks f / most distinguishing Marks o yr fav<sup>r</sup> shown us since yr Establishe<sup>mt</sup> as these h for us exceeded any thg o / like kind in this Country so I hope we sh show by our Behaviour how we are not unworthy o them.

Upon Mrs Melvils arrival he sent me to Annamakoe where I h done evy thg in my Power f / Interest o / English na<sup>n</sup> & do assure y t Gentleman has bin exceed<sup>d</sup> kind to our family & is takg / most effectual steps to preserve peace in this Country & to promote / Trade & Interest o / English na<sup>n</sup>

I am Gentleman - r -

William Ansoh Sessarakoo

Endorsed

Trade Africa

Copy of a letter from  
Thomas Melvil Esq  
Gov<sup>r</sup> of Cape Coast Castle  
to / Committee of  
Co of Merchants Trading  
to Africa dated 11<sup>th</sup> June  
1752. recd / 2<sup>d</sup> October

1752

Recd from Mrs Hollier

Recd Oct 6

Recd Nov 22<sup>d</sup> } 1752.

Dd 115

... [Vide Recd Notebooks p. 630] ...

Endorsed

Trade Africa

Copy of a letter dated 1<sup>st</sup>  
23<sup>rd</sup> September 1752 from  
Thomas Melvil Esq Gov<sup>r</sup>  
of Cape Coast Castle sea to  
/ Committee of Co  
of Merchants Trading to  
Africa acquainting them  
w<sup>th</sup> his having concluded  
a Treaty w<sup>th</sup> / from Abantees

Recd March 22 } 1753  
Recd 23

Dd 122

... [Vide Recd Notebooks p. 681] ...

Endorsed

Trade Africa

Copy of a letter Dated 30<sup>th</sup>  
 October 1752, from Thomas  
 Melvil Esq. Governor of Cape  
 Coast Castle to a Committee  
 of Co of Merchants  
 trading to Africa, relative to  
 Treaty he has concluded  
 w<sup>th</sup> / Abanice Nam.

Recd } March 29 1753  
 Read }

Dd 123

... [vide Red Notebook p. 683] ...

Endorsed.

Trade Africa

One from His Grace / Duke  
 of Newcastle Dated 15<sup>th</sup> April  
 1753, referring to this Board of  
 the Consideration of a Report  
 a Copy & Extract of two Letters  
 from Col<sup>l</sup> York / King's  
 Minister at / Hague, w<sup>th</sup>  
 a Paper enclosed in them relative  
 to disputes betw<sup>en</sup> / African  
 Co of England & / Dutch  
 West India Co

Dd 124

Recd April 6 } 1753  
 Read May 20 }

Whitehall, April 5<sup>th</sup> 1753.

My Lords,

I send yr Lordships, herewith, a Copy, & Extract, o two late Letters wh I h received  
from Colonel Yorke, The Kings Minister at The Hague, To<sup>g</sup> w a Paper therein inclosed, relat<sup>g</sup>  
to The Disputes wh h arisen between The Royal African Co o England, & The Dutch West  
India Co; And I am commanded to signify to Y His Majesty's Pleasure, T<sup>y</sup> sh<sup>d</sup> take these  
Papers into Y<sup>r</sup> Considera<sup>m</sup>; & report Y<sup>r</sup> Opinion, what Orders may be proper to be sent  
to Mr Yorke. Thereupon.

I am, My Lords — &c —

John (?) Newcastle

Lords Commissioners of Trade & Plantations.

Inclosed

Trade Africa  
Copy o a Letter from  
Colonel Yorke to / Duke  
o Newcastle  
Hague March 13<sup>th</sup> 1753  
(Separate)  
Dd 125

Recd April 6 } 1753.  
Recd May 2 }

Copy  
(Separate)  
My Lord,

Hague. March 13<sup>th</sup> 1753.

I h, at last, w much Difficulty, obtained a Confer<sup>s</sup> upon The Disputes wh  
h arisen between The Royal African Co o England o / Dutch West India Co, Mr Hop.

Burgomaster o Amsterdam, having appointed Vesty f t Purpose; We accordingly met; And he brot w<sup>th</sup> him Messrs Pranger & Pieterzen, who had ben successively Governours f / Dutch upon / Coast o Guiney; The latter having left it at / End o / Year 1746 only. I laid before these Gentlemen / Grounds o Our Complaints, & produced / Proofs, wh<sup>ch</sup> I had ben furnished w<sup>th</sup> fm / Board o Trade, to corroborate my Arguments. I assured Mr Vlop in part<sup>s</sup> t / King had commanded me, to finish these Disputes in an amicable Manner w<sup>th</sup> / Co if possible; & t<sup>h</sup> His Majesty was desirous to live in / g<sup>l</sup>st Harmony w<sup>th</sup> / Republick as well on<sup>l</sup> o, as in Europe.

I will not tire Yr Grace w<sup>th</sup> a Detail o / Conversat<sup>ion</sup>, as 't is o little Consequ<sup>ence</sup> fm / few Arguments / Dutch Commissaries were able to br<sup>ing</sup> in Support o<sup>r</sup> the Pretended Rights; but sh<sup>d</sup> content myself w<sup>th</sup> inform<sup>ing</sup> Y<sup>ou</sup> o / Result o Our Confer<sup>ence</sup>.

With regard to / two Villages o Atchumah, & Busha, / two Dutch Governours sd, 't it was impossible to make / Natives carry on a Trade where they had not a Mind f<sup>or</sup> it; 't / Trade in t Part o / World was most advantageous to those who cd please / Natives most, & tempt them by / most agreeable Presents; 't 't was therefore v<sup>ery</sup> little worth / disput<sup>ing</sup> abt / Propriety o two miserable Villages t were really o no Consequ<sup>ence</sup> to either o / Cos; 't Sometimes they & sometimes / English had had / most Credit o<sup>ne</sup> in these Places; But t, as they had ben settled thr longer than We, they had certainly a prior Right to / English Co; But as they were desirous to live well w<sup>th</sup> us, & to act as Allies sh<sup>d</sup> do in / Neighbourhood o One An<sup>o</sup>, they proposed to me / follow<sup>ing</sup> Expedient to cut / Affair short, " 't Orders sh<sup>d</sup> be reciprocally sent to / Governours o Both Parts, to appoint Commissaries upon / Spot who sh<sup>d</sup> assemble / Chiefs o these Villages or Clans; And t in / Pres<sup>ence</sup> o

"Both / Chiefs shd be left to chuse, wher they wd live under / Protec<sup>n</sup> o / English or Dutch;  
" ~~They~~ / they wd abide by t<sup>e</sup> Dec<sup>n</sup> & be v<sup>y</sup> well contented if / Natives shd chuse /  
" English": I told them I hd no Power to accept o such an Expedient; but t<sup>e</sup> I wd not  
fail to inform Y<sup>r</sup> Grace; & communicate / Orders I shd receive in Consequence.

The 2<sup>d</sup> Point, insisted upon by us, is / Common Use o / Bay o Com<sup>m</sup>enda. The  
Proofs, I alledged, were so strong in our favour, t<sup>e</sup> M<sup>o</sup>: H<sup>o</sup>p was surpris'd; & th<sup>o</sup>  
tho' / two Govern<sup>rs</sup> were unwilling to own th<sup>o</sup> they never th<sup>o</sup> o molest<sup>d</sup> us in / free  
Use o / Land<sup>d</sup> Place, & wd be fix'd / Boundary upon / Bank o / River to / West o /  
Bay; yet upon my press<sup>d</sup> them to declare wh<sup>o</sup>, before 1746, when / Disputes arose,  
they hd ever given any Orders f<sup>r</sup> Interrupt<sup>d</sup> us in Land<sup>d</sup>. They were oblig'd to  
confess they hd not; & t<sup>e</sup> in effect, it wd be unreasonable to deprive us o a  
free Access in a commodious Bay, when / Land<sup>d</sup> Place nearer / English Fort  
was often unaccessible.

Find<sup>d</sup> / Govern<sup>rs</sup> cd make so little Use o' it, M<sup>o</sup>: H<sup>o</sup>p desired to know  
wh<sup>o</sup> they remember'd any Toll be<sup>g</sup> collected in / Bay, f<sup>r</sup> / Act<sup>o</sup> o / Dutch Co,  
wh<sup>o</sup> they did not remember; & He charg'd them to make part<sup>r</sup> Enquiry  
upon t<sup>e</sup> Head. He then desired me to propose to Y<sup>r</sup> Grace, I send<sup>d</sup> over a  
Project o a Conven<sup>n</sup> betw<sup>n</sup> / Two Cos, wh<sup>o</sup> mt<sup>g</sup> put an amicable End to  
these Disputes, w<sup>t</sup> Prejudice to / Right<sup>s</sup> o either nan; I Care m<sup>t</sup> be taken, by  
some Article in it, to prevent / Carry<sup>d</sup> on a Contraband Trade, by th<sup>o</sup> People's  
Shift<sup>d</sup> Goods out o Dutch Canoes into English Ones; wh<sup>o</sup> was / Consequence o a Common  
Land<sup>d</sup> Place; I they hd no Inten<sup>n</sup> to deprive us o / Use o / Bay, provided we did  
not attempt to make any Inno<sup>u</sup>s in Prejudice to th<sup>o</sup> Right; wh<sup>o</sup> he sd was /  
Consequence o Civility they hd shew'd hitherto.

Upon/whole, I must do Justice ~~to~~ to Mr. Hop, to own, & He was as reasonable as possible, & w<sup>d</sup> desirous to act a friendly & amicable Part in / Affairs; But the often repeated / Disputes were not o Consequence enough to wrangle abt; & provided We were will<sup>g</sup> to act openly & reasonably, We m<sup>t</sup> conclude w<sup>t</sup> loss o Time.

I sh<sup>d</sup> be obliged to Yr Grace (if they are to be found) & Y<sup>r</sup> wd order Copies o / Contem<sup>s</sup> made betw<sup>n</sup> / Two Cos, in / Years 1707, 1708 & 1728, to be sent me  
9h - 9c -

Joseph Yorke

His Grace / Duke o Newcastle

Endorsed

Trade Africa  
Extract o a letter fm  
Col<sup>o</sup> Yorke to / Duke  
o Newcastle  
Hague March 23<sup>d</sup> 1753  
Dd 126.  
Recd April 6<sup>th</sup> }  
Recd May 2<sup>d</sup> } 1753

Extract o a letter fm Col<sup>o</sup> Yorke to / Duke o Newcastle  
Hague, March / 23<sup>d</sup> 1753

Burgomaster Hop came to me by Appoint<sup>ur</sup> This Morn<sup>g</sup> & delivered into my hands a Paper, o w<sup>h</sup> / inclosed is a Transla<sup>n</sup>. It is a Declara<sup>n</sup> o a Person who commanded formerly in The Dutch Fort at Commenda, in rela<sup>n</sup> to / free use o t Bay. The

Vices o giving me this Paper is, to shew, T / Dutch are used to raise a Small Toll upon / Fishers t land in t Bay, wh The West India Co desire may not be annulled, in / Consen<sup>n</sup> proposed to be made w / Royal African Co o England, as they apprehend, such a Conces<sup>n</sup> on the Part wd be giving up entirely the Right

Mons<sup>r</sup> Hop repeated his Assur<sup>us</sup> in / strongest manner, T They were ready to terminate any Th<sup>g</sup> amicably, & they wd willegly receive any Propos<sup>n</sup> from England f<sup>r</sup> t Purpose

Enclosed.

Trade Africa  
~~Subsistence~~  
Certificate de M. Van Starckenborg  
cy devant Chef de dans la  
Baye de Commenda en Afrique  
Utrecht le 19 Mars 1753

M Col<sup>o</sup> Yorkis o March 23<sup>d</sup> 1753

Recd April 6 } 1753  
Recd May 2<sup>d</sup> }

Del. 127

... [Vide Red Nobiles. p. 435] ...

... [Reports on Forts. Howe. Glory 1751-2. All in Adm 1. (2) p 48 seq.] ...

Copy letter. Melvil to Committee 7 Jan 1753. Red Nobiles 807  
" " " " 25 Jan " " 809.

Endorsed

Trade Africa  
 State o/ English  
 Right o/ Land  
 Place o Commenda  
 & / Towns o Bushra  
 & Atchua upon /  
 Gold Coast o Africa  
 Recd May 25 }  
 Read do } 1753  
 Dec. 145

... [ Vide Red Notebooks p 728 ] ...

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Endorsed

Trade Africa  
 State o/ English  
 Right to Commenda Land  
 Place, Bushra & Atchua  
 referred to by / Committee  
 o/ Co. o Merchants  
 tradg to Africa  
 no 1. to no 7  
 Recd May 28<sup>th</sup> }  
 Read do } 1753  
 Dec. 146.

Examination of Quakerio Bricklayer & Comp Slave Sworn upon / holy  
warrant to answer / truth to such questions as sh<sup>d</sup> be asked him.

Q. How long is it since he first knew Dixcove

A. He knew Dixcove in Gen Dalby Thomas's time

Q. Whom did Cape Three Points belong to at t<sup>e</sup> time?

A. To / Brandenburgers.

Q. How does he know it belonged to / Brandenburgers?

A. This Dep<sup>t</sup> carried letters backwards & forwards from Dixcove to Cape Three Points.

Q. Where did he carry / letters to?

A. To / Brandenburgers at Cape 3 points to Gen Owey.

Q. Was there any Fort at Accoda?

A. Yes, there was

Q. Who did Accoda belong to at t<sup>e</sup> time?

A. Three White Men, Brandenburgers, lived at Accoda.

Q. Does / Dep<sup>t</sup> know any such place as Atchua?

A. Yes, he always went thro Atchua to Cape 3 points

Q. Who did it belong to then?

A. The English Slaves Cut Timber & Boards there.

Q. Did this Dep<sup>t</sup> used to go to Atchua to work?

A. He went there to be g Timber & Lime Stone down f / English

Q. When he first went to Atchua did he find any o / English Slaves at work there?

A. When this Dep<sup>t</sup> first went there they went to Atchwee to pick shells, & afterwards they found domestic stone at Atchua & came there to pick those domestic stones, & upon Royal got lime out o them, & sent / same down to Gen Dalby Thomas to try it. When he first came

first to Atchua, / Cabbocce Accroo lived at Accoda, & his ground reached  
from thence to Atchevee.

Q. When he first went to Atchua were there any English Co Slaves at work there?

A. Yes, this Depon<sup>r</sup> saw / English Co Slaves at work there, & they left off [off] at  
Atchua & went behind it to gather Shells.

Q. How does he know they were English Slaves?

A. The time when he worked at Atchevee [Atchawz] / Cabbocce Accroo lived at Accoda.  
he never Claim'd t ground or sd it belonged to him. Neither did / Brandenburgers  
who lived there ever Claim t Ground or wrote to his Masters abt it, t he found  
his fellow Slaves at work there.

Q. Was there any Croom at Atchua at t time?

A. Yes, there was a Croom there & Buoy Cartern lived at Dixione, & had a Croom  
there & lived there.

Q. Did / Cabbocce & Atchua people use to work f / Co at t time?

A. When they had Pge Timber or Joists. too hard f / Co's Slaves to hale, Borries  
people & Atchua people helped to bring them down.

Q. How long (to / best o his remembrance) had / Brandenburgers Cape three  
points & Accoda, before / Dutch had those Forts?

A. This Depon<sup>r</sup> was there when / Dutch & English joined togt ag<sup>st</sup> John Coney -  
but / last time / Dutch got / Phantas & all / Country to fight John  
Coney, this Depon<sup>r</sup> was at Cape Coast Castle.

Q. How long was it for / time he went first to Dixione to / time he came  
away?

A. This Depon<sup>r</sup> knows not - a long - long - time

Q. All / time he staid at Duxiove, did he hear o any Palavers betw<sup>n</sup> / English  
& / Brandenburgers ?

A. No, he never heard o any.

Q. Had / Cabboceur Buoy Contern a house in Duxiove ?

A. Yes, he had.

Q. in what Town was his House ?

A. In Bossu's Town.

Q. Were thr any Crooms in Atchua Bush when he first went thr ?

A. Thr was a little sort o a Croom made, to get Palm Wine & Oil, this Dep<sup>n</sup>  
used to go thr to get Palm Wine, & thr were Fowls thr, & o Course a  
Settlem<sup>n</sup>.

Q. Does he know Tye's Croom ?

A. He does.

Q. In what Bush is it ?

A. In Atchua Bush.

Q. O Gen. Vizt, where was he born ?

A. He is a right whydah man.

Q. If he is a whydah man, who told him / ground o Atchua belonged to /  
English ?

A. All / time this Depo<sup>n</sup> was thr, they ( / English & Cos' Slaves) worked fm  
Atchevee to Atchua, he never heard any body ag<sup>n</sup> it, therefore he knows  
it to belong to his Masters.

no 2.  
David Lamb. Saith

... [Vide Red noteks. p 445] ...  
no 3.

William Dacres. Deposeth.

... [Vide Red noteks p. 447] ...  
no 4.

Nassau Senior Chief o Dixcove saith,

... [Vide Red, p 204] ...  
no 5.

John Roberts Esqr. Governr o Cape Coast Castle, Deposeth.

... [Vide Red, p 198] ...  
no 6.

John Roberts Esqr. Governr o Cape Coast Castle, Deposeth

... [Vide Red, p 191] ...  
no 7.

Cape Coast Castle March 2<sup>d</sup> 1738

Honourable Sir

We were lately informed by our Chief at Dixcove t<sup>h</sup> yr Honour's Chief at Aquadab has molested some o/ Royal African Co's Servants in Town belongg to Dixcove called Itchua under pretce t/ sd Town is under Jurisdiction o/ Dutch wh pretce we Apprehend yr Honour will find ill Grounded after Considerg / followg Reasons t we h to alledge to / Contrary (1<sup>st</sup>) / Dutch can h no Colour o Preten<sup>ts</sup> to t Town unless it be in right o/ Fort o Aquadab, wh must be observed was allowed to be built by a Concesion o / English Co & since such Buildg shd h bin an Infringe<sup>mt</sup> o/ 10<sup>th</sup> Article o/ Convern<sup>ment</sup> betwix / two Cos, made by Sir Dalby Thomas & Gen Peter Nugt, where it is expressly

provided t neither party sh make any new Settlement on this Coast betw Ancohy  
& Whydah inclusive, but t each may repair & alter any o/ present Settlements as  
they sh think Convenient, fm wh it plainly appears t/ Buildg/ sd fort was by/  
Concess<sup>n</sup>, at least Concess<sup>n</sup>, o/ English, & how Improbable it is t/ English in making t  
Grant t/ Dutch wd give up a place just in the Neighbour hood, & by wh they h a  
gt part o the Wood. (2) Its abt double / Distce fm Aquadah t it is fm Dixcove.  
1 & all or most o/ Inhabitants belong to / English Cabovers Bossu at Dixcove, &  
all / Natives Acknowledge t they h bn always under / Protec<sup>n</sup> o/ English. (3d)  
In / time o yr Honours Predecessor Gen Pranger / same Claim was made by  
/ Dutch upon / Town o Atumah, wh Gen Pranger gave up to / English f/  
Forego<sup>r</sup> Reason. Andrew Lewis Dettmar was then Chief o Dixcove, to  
whom Gen Pranger made a Verbal Renuncia<sup>n</sup> o all Right t/ Dutch  
cd pretend to t place, & as he Dettmar is now upon / Coast, can attest / same  
f yr Honours.

As we are o Opinion t this is a step taken by yr Chief at Aquadah w<sup>th</sup> yr  
Honours Participa<sup>n</sup> we deemed it our Duty to inform yr Honour before we made  
any Advancess in / Affairs, as it is our Settled Purpos<sup>e</sup> to improve / Friendship &  
good Harmony betw us, to Chuse always to Act in Concert w yr Honour so  
t no Ground o diff<sup>ce</sup> or Disson<sup>ce</sup> may Arise betw us fm any mistake or  
Blunder in our respective out Chiefs.

The Knowledge o yr Honours Mind & Opinion o/ Forego<sup>r</sup> Affairs  
soon will be w<sup>th</sup> Acceptable to Honoured Sir

Yr most obedient & most humble Servant

John Cope

Jas Slope

W<sup>m</sup> Lee

D'Elmina 17<sup>th</sup> March 1739.

High Esteemed Gentlemen

We h/ good Fortune to Receive / Letter where with yr Honours h<sup>ve</sup> b<sup>een</sup> pleased to oblige us o/ 2<sup>d</sup> Cur<sup>r</sup> O.S. & by / Contents perceive t<sup>hat</sup> yr Honours Complain o our Chief o Niguadah. We take / Freedom to assure yr Honours t<sup>hat</sup> we do in no wise approve o his Behaviour & are Concerned t<sup>hat</sup> his Rashness & Ignor<sup>ance</sup> h<sup>as</sup> occasioned what hath happened. We sh<sup>ould</sup> not fail to make him Sensible o his Blunder & likewise to give him orders Immediately to release yr Honours Subjects who are Panyard

We hope t<sup>hat</sup> yr Honours will not impute this or any o<sup>r</sup> Blunder o our out Chiefs t<sup>hat</sup> hath or sh<sup>ould</sup> happen to us, on / Contrary we always to prevent any Misunderstand<sup>ing</sup> Encourage a good Harmony & Friendships between our officers & those o yr Honours, wh<sup>ich</sup> we make no doubt will be maintained upon yr Honours' part.

As to / three Articles in yr Letter we sh<sup>ould</sup> not trouble yr Honours w<sup>ith</sup> any Answer Part<sup>ic</sup>ular, but must say t<sup>hat</sup> / Affair is Strained too far, however we sh<sup>ould</sup> take notice to yr Honours briefly o what is w<sup>ell</sup> known, / thing o Prussia hath a g<sup>ood</sup> many years ago Surrendered to / Dutch Fredericks burge (now Hollandia), Taverado & Accada w<sup>ith</sup> respective Jurisdiction<sup>s</sup>.

We had also a long War w<sup>ith</sup> Brandenburg Cabocers named John Comy. Dur<sup>ing</sup> wh<sup>ich</sup> time / place was w<sup>as</sup> a Garrison & a little better than a heap o Rubbish, in wh<sup>ich</sup> Condi<sup>tion</sup> it remained till / time o Gen Walkoniv in / year 1726 when John Comy was totally routed & fled f<sup>or</sup> refuge to Ashantee, & f<sup>or</sup> Azim / Negroes who formerly possessed t<sup>he</sup> place came back & settled in t<sup>he</sup> ancient Habita<sup>tion</sup>.

These th<sup>ings</sup> moved Gen Pranger in / Year 1732 to undertake / Revival o / Trade at Accata as beg<sup>ing</sup> beneficial to our Co &

Accordingly He repaired / Fort so as to make it proper for a white man to live & Carry on Trade thro.

From whence yr Honours will perceive that / Fort o Accada was not built by / Conscience o / English, as yr Honours have been wrong informed but that it is only repaired & brot back to its former State.

The Convention makes a nice Distinction betw / Building o a new Fort & / Reparation o an old one, wh last is made allowable.

After all we cannot be Surprised at / Singular Expressions Concerning our right to Accada if it is not so long since it was repaired as our Chief o Succowee was upon / Coast & was Chief o Accada & Overseer o / Reparation & saw it Completed, neither doubt we o Mr Dettmers being Chief o Division at / same time.

In fine we Esteem ourselves very much obliged to yr Honours for / Sincere Testimony you are pleased to make towards Cherishing mutual Friendship, & we beseech yr Honours firmly to believe that from our part we have nothing more at heart than to Support / Good Friendship betw us, a thing highly necessary & Advantageous to both Cols & we add that we shall be always willing to make that Tye firmer.

Gods Blessing w health &

Prosperity to yr Honours is / Heartily wish o

High Esteemed Sirs

Yr Honours most Obedient & Humble Servant

Martin Francis De Bordes

P.S. I humbly beg Excuse for being so long in Answering yr Honours Letter, but / Delay was Occasioned by my Indisposition

Endorsed

Trade Africa

Copies o Treaties made  
between / English &  
Dutch African Cos  
in 1707, 1708, & 1728

Recd May 25<sup>th</sup>  
Read to } 1753

Dd\_147

### Articles o Agreement

made & concluded upon between us Sr Dalby Thomas  
Knight Captain Gen & Chief Director & / rest o /  
Council f / Royal African Co o England, now called  
Gr Britain, over all / South part o Guinea, in behalf o  
/ ofsd Royal African Co o England, now called Gr  
Britain, & on / one part, And Mr Peter Nuys  
Director Gen & / rest o / Council f / Gen Netherlands  
Authorized West India Co on / same Coast

Done & transacted at Fctue River by J & beg between  
Cape Coast Castle & Fort St. George D'Elmina this  
30<sup>th</sup> Day o June Old Style & 11<sup>th</sup> Day o July New Style  
Mmo 1708.

### Article 1<sup>st</sup>

Thenceforth a firm Friendship & Unity be kept & established between each party  
on this Coast f / Honour & Interest o both Cos & t all Difus, Quarrels, Disputes,  
or pretences on any Acct whatso<sup>r</sup> wh has happened before / date o these presents  
betw / Servants o either Co or / Natives o / Country now in the Service or

within the Respective Jurisdiction sh not be from hence forward Remembred or  
mentioned to Interrupt frustrate or Invalidate this followg Friendship, Unity  
& agree<sup>mt</sup>.

2<sup>d</sup>

I no Soldiers or o<sup>rs</sup> o either Side t sh Deserv be Entertaind, Exceptg such o / Majesty  
o Gr Britain's Natural born Subjects, or such o / Natural born Subjects o States Gen  
o United Netherlands as sh offer the Service to either Party respectively. But t they  
(namely all o<sup>rs</sup>) upon / first Demand in Writg be sent back in Irons to the respective  
Forts or Factories & t timely & Publick Notice be given by / Gen<sup>ls</sup> o both Cos o  
this Article

3<sup>d</sup>

I no King, Cabbover, Country or Town o Guinea, either Sevvly or Jointly tog<sup>s</sup>, sh  
be aided or assisted either directly or Indirectly by either party in making War  
amg themselves or ag<sup>st</sup> either Party in any pret<sup>ce</sup> whatso<sup>ev</sup> & t when any Quarrels  
sh be betwix any o / sd Natives o / Country, we tog<sup>s</sup> will endeavour to Compose  
all such difes, or if either party sh f / future be engaged in a War or  
Quarrel w any o / Natives as aforesaid then / o<sup>r</sup> party sh not directly nor Indirectly  
abett Aid or Assist / sd Natives but sh Interspo as Mediator & give the best Assistance  
towards Adjustg all such difes in such manner as sh be f / Interest o both Cos, & in  
case either party or both Parties o / sd Contendg Natives or any o / Natives at  
Unity w either Co sh refuse to accept our Joint Mediat<sup>on</sup> & terms o Accomo-  
da<sup>on</sup> we agree upon, then we both sh Jointly consult tog<sup>s</sup> & resolve upon /  
most effectual means to Compell / sd Dissentg party or parties to agree to  
what we sh Jointly determine & be aidg & assistg to those who sh accept  
our terms.

If any Native or Natives o/ Country sh run away fm either party f. Debts Contracted or upon / Acc<sup>t</sup> o any Misdemeanors Committed after sign<sup>g</sup> & Seal<sup>g</sup> these Presents, then / o<sup>r</sup> party sh upon Demand use all Endeavours to Oblige / sd run away Native or his or th<sup>r</sup> Relats to make Satisfac<sup>n</sup> to / Injured party, also all run away Slaves & Paunts to either party sh be upon Demand Seized & delivered up to th<sup>r</sup> respective Masters.

5th

No Traders or any o/ Natives or o<sup>th</sup>rs o this Country be any way hindered or Molested, Interrupted or Disturbed Directly or Indirectly by any Person or Persons in / immediate Service or under / Jurisdiction o either Co fm bring<sup>g</sup> / Commodities o th<sup>r</sup> Country to, or Carry<sup>g</sup> / Goods o either Co fm any Fort or Factory belong<sup>g</sup> to either Party as they are com<sup>g</sup> or go<sup>g</sup> or pass<sup>g</sup> thro' any Part or parts o/ Country. And t it sh be lawful to, & f / sd Traders to pass thro' / Towns belong<sup>g</sup> to Either Co w th<sup>r</sup> Native Commodities or / Goods o either Co Publickly in / Day time w<sup>o</sup> mak<sup>g</sup> any stay longer than to rest & refresh themselves, & not to sell or dispose o either Co's Goods in / sd Towns, upon Penalty o Forfeit<sup>g</sup> / sd Goods, upon due proof made thereof to / Satisfac<sup>n</sup> o both parties

6th

No Dutch Interlopers be suffered to Anchor in any o/ Roads belong<sup>g</sup> to / English Forts on this Coast, & in case any o/ sd Interlopers sh presume to such protec<sup>n</sup> under our Guns fm any o our [sic] Ships belong<sup>g</sup> to / Dutch West India Co, we oblige Ourselves by these Articles to fire at them & in case they do not then immediately leave / Road it sh be allowed / sd Co's Ship or Ships to do w them as they sh think fit.

Such Portuguese Ship or Ships as sh come to Anchor in any o/ Roads belongg to / English Forts or Factories sh not be molested by any Dutch Ship or Ships belongg to /sd Co. Nor be blocked up by them in /sd English Roads, nor attacked or Seized as they go out o/sd Roads, neither sh they offer to seize any such Ship or Ships t<sup>h</sup> first put themselves under / Protec<sup>n</sup> o any English Fort, or beg in Posses<sup>n</sup> o any English Ship, they have one o/ Royal African Co's Servants on Board Certifyg / same

T on /d<sup>e</sup> Side none o/ English Forts or Co's Ships sh protect or Seize any Portuguese wh were first in Posses<sup>n</sup> o any Dutch West India Co's Ship, neither sh / English Gov or Chief Director f / time beg Grant Passports to any Portuguese Ship gog to & fm Brazil or any o<sup>r</sup> o / Portuguese Islands

8th

We do hereby fur<sup>r</sup> agree in / behalf o both Cos upon any Occa<sup>n</sup> o any Ship or Ships belongg to either Co comg into each o/sd Roads o any Forts or Factories on / Gold Coast, not to trade directly or Indirectly & in case o any such tradg it sh ~~be~~ & may be Lawful f both parties to seize & Confiscate / same.

9th

T to demonstrate how intirely / Dutch West India Co is superseded to h<sup>e</sup> & live in a good understandg w/ Royal African Co o England, they do out o Sincere Friendship permit t / aforesaid Royal African Co may bring the Vessels into / River o S<sup>e</sup>nnar to Careen & Clean them as often as Occa<sup>n</sup> requires. Also t when they want Cannoes they sh h Liberty to Buy them in any place belongg to / West India Co as sh likewise be permitted to /sd Dutch Co to do / same in any place belongg to / English, a Civil Heare beg first asked fm / Chiefs o either Side

10th

T / Dutch West India Co's Servants Europeans or Natives sh not directly or Indirectly Disturb or hinder / English fm gatherg takg or Buyg what Oyster Shells

they may h<sup>e</sup> Occa<sup>n</sup> f<sup>r</sup>om Tackherador. And t<sup>h</sup> neither party sh<sup>o</sup> make any  
new Settlement<sup>s</sup> on this Coast<sup>s</sup> between Ancobree & Whydah Inclusive, but t<sup>h</sup>  
each may repair & alter any o<sup>r</sup> present Settlement<sup>s</sup> as they sh<sup>o</sup> think convenient.  
11<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup>

Eleventhly & lastly t<sup>h</sup> all / afores<sup>d</sup> Articles sh<sup>o</sup> punctually be observed. And t<sup>h</sup> / Gens  
or as many o<sup>f</sup> both Councils as conveniently can sh<sup>o</sup> meet at least once in Six months  
or oftner if Occa<sup>n</sup> requires, to Consult o<sup>r</sup> best means f<sup>r</sup> / advanc<sup>d</sup> o<sup>r</sup> Common Good o<sup>f</sup>  
both Cos or to take away any diff<sup>e</sup> t<sup>h</sup> may happen to arise upon any o<sup>r</sup> afores<sup>d</sup>  
Articles. And what resolu<sup>t</sup>ions they sh<sup>o</sup> come to sh<sup>o</sup> be fairly wrote out & signed by them &  
Authentick Copies transmitted to the principals by / first Opp<sup>y</sup>. to be approved o<sup>r</sup> by them.  
And in case any o<sup>f</sup> these Articles sh<sup>o</sup> not be approved o<sup>r</sup> by either Co t<sup>h</sup> then immediate  
Notice thereof sh<sup>o</sup> be given on both Sides. And t<sup>h</sup> till such time all & ev<sup>ry</sup> o<sup>f</sup> afores<sup>d</sup>  
Articles sh<sup>o</sup> be o<sup>f</sup> full force & Virtue at Cape Coast & / Mine f<sup>r</sup> / Date o<sup>f</sup> these presents,  
or over all o<sup>r</sup> parts o<sup>f</sup> Coast<sup>s</sup> f<sup>r</sup>om & after / third Day o<sup>f</sup> July next (OS) & / 14<sup>th</sup> Do (NS)  
1708.

This severally & w<sup>it</sup> any manner o<sup>f</sup> Equivo<sup>c</sup>ca<sup>n</sup> both parties h<sup>o</sup> here-  
unto set the Hands & Seals / Day & Year above-mentioned  
Dalby Thomas

Cha. Hayes  
John Chaigneau  
Wm Hicks

We do hereby Ratifie & Confirm all / above-written Articles o<sup>f</sup> Agreem<sup>t</sup> made heretofore  
upon this Coast<sup>s</sup> by / respective Gens f<sup>r</sup> / Royal African Co o<sup>f</sup> England & / Authorized West  
India Co o<sup>f</sup> Holland

In Witness whereof we h<sup>o</sup> herewith set our Hands, & / Seal o<sup>f</sup> Co  
The 30<sup>th</sup> Day o<sup>f</sup> January 1728

Brathwaite  
John Brathwaite h  
Robert Cruickshank

By Order o<sup>f</sup> Chief Agents  
Thomas Threlkeld Secretary (Co. S)

Additional & explanatory Articles of Agreement made & concluded  
between Messrs Seth Grant James Phipps, & Robert Bleau Chief  
Directors of Royal African Co of England on the one part South Coast  
of Guinea in behalf of sd Co on / one part, & Mr Theobaldus  
Haring Director Gen & Council of Gen Netherlandish  
Authorized West India Co done & transacted in Cape  
Coast & Castle this 5<sup>th</sup> Day of May. O.S. & 16<sup>th</sup> May. N.S. Anno 1713.

Article 1<sup>st</sup>

That Contract or agreement made between Sr Dalkey Thomas Director Gen of Royal African  
Co of England & Mr Peter Mylles Director Gen of Dutch West India Co dated 30<sup>th</sup> June  
O.S. & 11<sup>th</sup> July N.S. at Fictive River between / Forts of Cape Coast & Castle & St George  
& S'Elmina are hereby confirmed & to remain in full force except wherein it is  
Contradictory to what's hereafter mentioned Vizt.

2<sup>d</sup>

That whereas in / second Article of aforesaid Agreement no provision is made for / payment of Just  
& lawful Debts of such persons as may Desert / service of either Co as beg natural born  
Subjects of either Na<sup>n</sup>, as in / second Article Express<sup>d</sup>, we do hereby agree & Oblige ourselves  
to see such Debts paid as are contracted in this Country or return / person of / Deserter

3<sup>d</sup>

Whereas in / third Article of sd Agreement it is Express<sup>d</sup> that we are mutually obliged to  
Compel / Natives to agree to what we sh<sup>d</sup> jointly determine for / Compass<sup>g</sup> the Dif<sup>er</sup>  
It is now agreed that neither Co sh<sup>d</sup> be obliged thereto by engag<sup>g</sup> themselves in a  
War, but to use all sd effectual means as mentioned in / sd Article

4<sup>th</sup>

That / latter part of / fifth Article in / sd Contract is to be understood in this  
manner. That no Natives sh<sup>d</sup> pass by any Forts or Castles w<sup>th</sup> any Merchandizes w<sup>th</sup>  
a Note or small sufficient Proof that / sd Merchandizes are Assuredly bot in one of

10  
/ Cos Castles or Factories, & if so proved yet they sh not h / ~~Liberty~~ Liberty to  
stay all Night (unless on urgent Occa<sup>ns</sup>) excede any Fort where / Goods  
are not Bot And then not to expose them to Sale, on penalty o the Goods be<sup>g</sup>  
forfeited or Confiscated, to prevent if possible / Native private Trade wh  
they Exercise to / Prejudice o both Cos.

5<sup>th</sup>

I whereas / 6<sup>th</sup> Article Relates only to Dutch Interlopers it is hereby agreed t no  
Interlopers o either Na<sup>n</sup> sh be permitted to Anchor in any o our Rivers or  
Receiving any protec<sup>n</sup> thro. But t each Na<sup>n</sup> sh be allowed to seize or Surprise  
such Interloper or Interlopers as they sh think most Convenient

6<sup>th</sup>

As it is not mentioned in / Dutch Original o / 7<sup>th</sup> Article t / Royal  
African Cos Servants put on Board any Portuguese Vessel f his protec<sup>n</sup>  
shd h a Certificate o same, it is hereby fur<sup>r</sup> Agreed t / Portuguese sh not  
be molested by / Dutch Cos Servts Riding here o what Degree or Quality  
soreer or by any o the Ships. The sd Portuguese, having on Board one o /  
Royal African Cos Servts either fm the Ships or Factories, w a Certificate  
Signifyg fm whom or where he comes.

7<sup>th</sup>

And lastly t all a way / forego<sup>g</sup> Additions & Altera<sup>ns</sup> are to remain in full  
force & Virtue until Countermanded by either Co

This Sincerely or w<sup>t</sup> any manner o Equivoca<sup>n</sup> both parties h  
hereunto Interchangably set the Hands & Seals / Day & Year above written

Sech Governoz

James Phipps d<sup>s</sup>  
Rob<sup>t</sup>. Bleau (o/Com.)

In presce o  
Thomas Matthews Sec<sup>ry</sup>

We do hereby Ratify & Confirm all / above-written Articles o agreem<sup>t</sup> made heretofore upon this Coast by / Agents o / Royal African Co o England & / Gen l / Authorized West<sup>t</sup> India Co o Holland

In Witness whereof we h<sup>e</sup> herunto set our hands & seals o / Co  
John Braithwaite  
Rob<sup>t</sup> Cruikshank (dS)

By Order o / Chief Agents  
Thos Threip Land, Secty.

Additional Articles o Agree<sup>m<sup>t</sup></sup> made & Confirmed on Board his Britannick Majesty's Ship Saphira Commanded by Capt. John Smit, at Anchor in / Road o Cape Coast, Betw<sup>n</sup> / Royal African Co o England & / Honourable Dutch West<sup>t</sup> India Co by the Deputies the Treat<sup>y</sup> & whose Names are herunto subscribed

### Article 1<sup>st</sup>

T all past<sup>t</sup> differ<sup>s</sup> betw<sup>n</sup> / above-mentioned Cos on / Coast are Adjusted & Satisfac<sup>d</sup> mutually made in sev<sup>l</sup> Part<sup>s</sup> (except Restit<sup>n</sup> f / Damages Sustained by / Royal African Co in Charg<sup>e</sup> of [off] / Coast the Ship Clarendon, & / Detim<sup>n</sup> o & Damage done the Ship Bonetta while in / Custody o / Honourable Dutch West<sup>t</sup> India Co & sev<sup>l</sup> o<sup>r</sup> Treasures referred to / ~~Dec<sup>n</sup>~~ Dec<sup>n</sup> o / sd Co in Europe & except<sup>y</sup> also sev<sup>l</sup> Grievances on / part o / Hon<sup>ble</sup> Dutch West<sup>t</sup> India Co to be decided in Europe as aforesaid

2<sup>d</sup>

T fm hereafter a firm & last<sup>y</sup> Friendship Peace & Unity sh<sup>d</sup> Subsist & be maintained betw<sup>n</sup> all / servants o both Cos on / Coast. And t<sup>f</sup> if any <sup>[f<sup>or</sup>]</sup> misfortune or unforeseen Accidents any dispute or diff<sup>er</sup> sh<sup>d</sup> arise betw<sup>n</sup> / servants o either Co t<sup>f</sup>

they sh<sup>d</sup> them respectively interpose in / most Friendly manner towards accomodat<sup>g</sup> such  
diffe<sup>r</sup> or Dispute. And sh<sup>d</sup> not proceed to make<sup>r</sup> Reprizal or any ways molest<sup>g</sup> /  
offend<sup>g</sup> party till Justice is denyd on him or them by his or the Principals, & t<sup>h</sup>  
in such Case it sh<sup>d</sup> be only lawful to take Just Satisfac<sup>n</sup>. This only relat<sup>g</sup> to / Blacks  
gd

T<sup>o</sup> prevent Effectually all diffes<sup>r</sup> o what nature soever, It is mutually agreed t<sup>h</sup> all  
Articles o Agreem<sup>ts</sup> & Contracts heretofore made & Confirmed by our predecessors & /  
respective Cos sh<sup>d</sup> remain in full force & Virtue, & be Inviolably kept & observed by our  
respective Principals & the<sup>r</sup> Successors

Done & passed on Board / above mentioned Ship this  
twenty Eight day o January 1728 O.S.

B. Peake (LS) <sup>9</sup>

Dun Campbell (LS).

In pres<sup>nc</sup> o

Jn<sup>o</sup> Smit.

We do hereby Ratify & Confirm all / above-mentioned Articles o Agreem<sup>ts</sup> betw<sup>n</sup>  
/ Royal African Co o England & / Authorized West India Co o Holland made  
& Concluded by Messrs Benjamin Peake & Duncan Campbell on / part o / Royal  
African Comp<sup>y</sup> o England & Messrs Jacob De la Planque & Joann Everhard  
~~Bitterdrop~~ Bitterdrop on / part o / Authorized West India Co o Holland.

Done on Board his Britannick Majestys Ship Saphire in Cape Coast Road  
in pres<sup>nc</sup> o Cap<sup>t</sup> Jn<sup>o</sup> Smit Mediator.

In Witness whereof we h<sup>ereunto</sup> set our Hands  
& seals / Cos Seal this Thirteenth o January 1728 <sup>9</sup>

By Order o Chief Agents  
Tho<sup>s</sup> Threpland  
Secretary

John Brathwaite (LS)  
Robert Cruikshank

Endorsed Trade Africa  
An acct of money  
received & expended by / Committee  
of Co<sup>s</sup> Merchants trad<sup>g</sup>  
to Africa f / Support & Improve<sup>mt</sup>  
of Forts & Settlements upon / sd  
Coast.

Recd from / Commee  
of Co<sup>s</sup> Merchts  
trad<sup>g</sup> to Africa  
Received Jany } 1753  
Recd June 6 }  
Dec 148.

anno 1751  
[- Amts paid to "Persons Names" of "Commodities" supplied  
Total of Gambia [except of small biskett cmts] 1722. 13. 2  
" of Cape Coast " 6655 0. 5  
of Charges of Managem<sup>t</sup> by Act of Parliam<sup>t</sup> 800

Total 9864. 14. 6  
Bale due to / Committee f/52 28  
9892. 15. 1

]

106.  
Endorsed

Trade Africa

Copy of a letter dated 12<sup>th</sup>  
August 1752 from Thomas  
Melvil Esq<sup>r</sup> Gov<sup>r</sup> of Cape  
Coast Castle to / Committee  
of Co<sup>s</sup> of Merchants  
trading to Africa  
Read June 6 1753  
Dd. 151.

... [Vide Red Notebooks p. 674] ...

Endorsed Trade Africa

Copy of a letter dated 27<sup>th</sup>  
June 1752 from Thomas  
Melvil Esq<sup>r</sup> Gov<sup>r</sup> of Cape  
Coast Castle to / Committee  
of Co<sup>s</sup> of Merchants  
trading to Africa  
Read June 6 1753  
Dd. 150

... [Vide Red Notebooks p. 670] ...

Endorsed

Trade Africa

Letter from / Committee  
of Comp<sup>s</sup> of Merchants  
trading to Africa dated  
30 May 1753 inclos<sup>g</sup>  
Copy of 2 Reports from Merch<sup>ts</sup>  
of Bristol & Liverpool  
complaining of Trade  
carried on by / Officers  
of Co<sup>s</sup> at / sd<sup>s</sup> ~~the~~  
ports of Negroes &  
of sd<sup>s</sup> irregular proceed<sup>g</sup>s  
by / sd<sup>s</sup> Officers  
Read June 6 1753

Dd. 152

... [Vide Red Notebooks p. 738]

734

790

Indorsed Trade Africa

Subst<sup>ns</sup> o Instruc<sup>ns</sup>  
intendd to be sent by /  
Committee o Co o  
Merchants tradg to Africa  
to / Gov<sup>r</sup> o Cape Coast  
Castle & d<sup>r</sup> Officers upon  
/ Coast.

Proceed } June 6 1753  
Read }

Dd 153

At a Committee 10<sup>th</sup> May 1753.

The Committee proceeded to / Consider<sup>ns</sup> o / Complaints o Merchants o Bristol o g<sup>t</sup>  
Injury done to the Trade upon / Gold Coast o Africa by / Liberty ~~allowd~~ allowed / Servants  
o Comp<sup>y</sup> to trade in Slaves, & to wh Cause they impute / high Priests wh h<sup>ve</sup> been lately given  
f / same; & havg gone thro / Examina<sup>ns</sup> o / Evidence brot by Messrs Wansley & Harris, & taken  
it into Considera<sup>ns</sup> w<sup>th</sup> the letter containg Observa<sup>ns</sup> upon / sd Evidence & Proposals f  
remedy; / Inconveni<sup>es</sup> complaind o & also a letter f<sup>m</sup> a Committee o / African Merchants  
in Liverpool w<sup>th</sup> like Proposals.

Resolved T Instruc<sup>ns</sup> to / followg Effect be sent to / Governour & d<sup>r</sup> Officers upon /  
Gold Coast

T f / Future no joint Trade sh be carried on by / Servants o /  
Co residg at dift Forts upon any Partee what<sup>so</sup>.

T no Servant o / Co do presume to send out any Servant or  
Slave up / Paths or Country to intercept or prevent / Slave Trade f<sup>m</sup>  
comg freely down to / Shippg.

T none o / Warehouses, Vessels, Canoes or d<sup>r</sup> Craft belongg to / Co sh  
be made use o f / dodge<sup>mt</sup> or Convey<sup>ce</sup> o any Goods except such as

are sent on by / Committee f / Pay<sup>mt</sup> o Salaries +  
/ Support o / Forts + Settlements, but in such Cases as /  
Act o Parliament directs

That no Servant o / Co be permitted to lodge any  
Slaves in any o / Castles, or to export any Slaves  
purchased upon <sup>the</sup> own Accts fm any Part o / Coast  
T / Chief ~~of~~ <sup>of</sup> Out Fort, as well as / Governour  
o Cape Coast Castle be directed not only to prevent w<sup>y</sup>  
Obstruc<sup>n</sup> to / free Exercise o / Trade o Settlers in the  
Neighbors<sup>g</sup> Towns, but to encourage + protect them as  
much as possible.

That like Instructions be sent them to assist to /  
utmost / Commanders + Cos o w<sup>y</sup> British Ship  
in / Prosecu<sup>n</sup> o the Trade, + in wood<sup>g</sup> + water<sup>g</sup>  
the Ship<sup>s</sup>

Endorsed

Trade Africa  
Copy o / Deposition  
o William Brown 16  
June 1753, Commanders  
o / Ship Bristol

Received } June 20 1753  
Read

Dd 154

City of Bristol  
(to wit)

William Brown, Master or Commander of Ship or Vessel called / Bristol, & belongs to / Port of Bristol & lately arrived thro' from / Coast of Africa & Jamaica, maketh Oath & Saith, That during / time he this Deponent was on / Coast of Africa, carry'g on his Trade on his late voyage, he was informed by Mr Brew Chief or Commander of Tantomquery Fort & Mr Withers then Chief or Commander of / Fort at Winnebah, & they / sd Brew & Withers were engaged in a partnership in / Slave Trade w<sup>th</sup> Mr Melville Governor of Cape Coast Castle, Mr Young then second Officer in / sd Castle at Cape Coast & one MacKie then a Surgeon of / sd Castle. And this Deponent fur<sup>th</sup> saith, & / sd Mr Melville & Mr Young in convers<sup>ation</sup> w<sup>th</sup> this Deponent likewise told him this Deponent that they expected to receive shortly from / Holland laden w<sup>th</sup> a Dutch Cargo, a Ship or Vessel wh<sup>ich</sup> they / sd Melville & Young had some time before sent to Jamaica w<sup>as</sup> a Cargo of Slaves. And this Deponent fur<sup>th</sup> saith & dur'g such his Trade on / Coast of Africa he was in company w<sup>th</sup> Mr William Daves Chief or Governor of / Fort at Accra, & that he / sd Daves acquainted acquainted him this Deponent in convers<sup>ation</sup> that he apprehended Mr Young above-mentioned & who was then come from Cape Coast Castle afores<sup>aid</sup> to Accra, was come w<sup>ith</sup> an Inten<sup>tion</sup> to turn him / sd Daves out of his Office or Place of Chief or Governor of / sd Fort at Accra, & that / Reason why Mr Melville & Mr Young wanted to remove him / sd Daves was bec<sup>ause</sup> he / sd Daves wd <sup>not</sup> come into / partnership afores<sup>aid</sup> w<sup>th</sup> Mr Melville & his Copartners. And this Deponent fur<sup>th</sup> saith & / sd Daves likewise added that he sh<sup>ould</sup> h<sup>ave</sup> b<sup>een</sup> v<sup>ery</sup> glad to h<sup>ave</sup> continued his Employ<sup>ment</sup> but rather than live uneasy he was determined to quit it in case they / sd Melville & Young sh<sup>ould</sup> insist on it, or words to that / like effect. And this Deponent fur<sup>th</sup> saith that before he left / Coast he / sd Daves did quit his sd Employ<sup>ment</sup> of Governor or Chief of / sd Fort at Accra. And this Deponent fur<sup>th</sup> saith that in / course of Trade carried on by him this Deponent on / sd Coast of Africa in his sd late Voyage, he this

Deponent sd not purchase o / Chiefs o / Forts any Slaves under one Ounce & a half,  
a generally two Ounces a head more than he gave f Slaves o equal Goodness to /  
Negro Traders, & constantly paid them such an advanced Price. And this Deponent  
saith t it is his real Opinion t / high Price o Negroes when he this Deponent was  
on / Coast was principally occasioned by / Trade t was then carried on by / Chiefs  
o / sd Forts. And this Deponent fur saith t when he was at Annamaboo he was  
tho informed by / Natives t if he went to trade under any o / Forts it wd be  
proper f him to take w him Canoes & Canvoemen f t / Canvoemen under / Forts  
were so overawed by / Chiefs t they durst not assist this Deponent in carryg on his  
Trade. And he this Deponent accordingly did take w him fm Annamaboo Canoes &  
Canvoemen. And this Deponent saith t he verily believes t he shd h bin under  
gt & if this in carryg on his Trade if he had not so as aforesd provided himself  
w Canoes & Canvoemen fm Annamaboo. And this Deponent fur saith t at / sd Forts  
where he came to trade he found / Negroe Traders cautious & fearful o dealg w  
him, lest it shd come to / Knowledge o / Chiefs o / sd Forts; & t / sd Traders fre-  
quently sent to him this Deponent in a private & secret Manner when they had  
a Slave or Slaves to dispose o. And this Deponent fur saith t at / time he was  
on / Coast o Africa in his late Voyage / Forts or Castles at Cape Coast, Tantumquerry,  
Winnibah & Accra were used by / Chiefs o / sd Forts or Castles as Repositories f the  
Market Slaves, & t he this Deponent saw such Slaves lodged in / sd Forts or Castles,  
And lastly this Deponent saith, t he is verily persuaded t / Negroes will always bear a v<sup>y</sup> high  
price which any o / Chiefs or o<sup>r</sup> Persons belongg to / Forts are permitted to trade f them, & t  
such high Price will so affect / separate Traders as to endanger / loss o / Trade to them & all  
Persons but such as are concerned w / Chiefs & o<sup>r</sup> Persons settled at / Forts & Castles on / Coast.

at / City o Bristol / sixteenth day o June  
in / Year o our Lord one thousand  
seven hundred & fifty three

(signed) Will<sup>m</sup> Brown

(signed) D. Pelouquin, Alderman  
Reford

Undowed

Trade Africa  
Copy o an Affidavit  
o David Hamilton  
taken before  
Mayor o Bristol  
16th o June  
1753.

Received by June 20. 1753  
Read.

Do. 155

Copy  
City o Bristol (to wit).

David Hamilton o / City o Bristol Mariner late Chief Mate o / Ship or Vessel Called / Polly  
belong'g to / Port o Bristol durg her late Voyage to / Coast o Africa, maketh Oath & Saith T  
durg such Voyage he was informed by Mr Richard Brews Chief or Commander o Tantum-  
query ffort & also by Mr Withers then Chief or Commander o ffort at Winnebah & also by  
Mr Ebenezer Young belong'g to Cape Coast Castle as he this Deponent was in conversa<sup>on</sup> w<sup>th</sup> them  
swelly, T they /sd Brews, Withers & Young & also Mr Melvill Governour o Cape Coast Castle  
& one Mr Mackeile. Surgeon at Cape Coast Castle, were Concerned in a Partnership in /  
Slave Trade, & /sd Brews fu<sup>r</sup> added t they hd sent off a Larges o Slaves to Jamaica & shortly  
expected an Assortm<sup>t</sup> o Dutch Goods partly Knives & Gunpowder, wh<sup>ch</sup> wd enable them to  
Carry on the sd Joint Trade to a better Advantage. And he this Deponent saith t he  
actually saw /sd Brews in / Course o his Trade barter Dutch Guns, Knives & Gunpowders  
f Slaves. And this Deponent fu<sup>r</sup> saith t durg such Voyage he was in Co w<sup>th</sup> Mr William  
Dacres who then was Chief or Commander o ffort at Accra & in conversa<sup>on</sup> w<sup>th</sup> him  
heard him Complain o hardships o beg superseded f<sup>r</sup> his sd Command by Mr Melvill  
who he sd intended to do it bec he /sd Dacres was not in Partnership w<sup>th</sup> him /sd  
Melvill & /<sup>o</sup>r Persons above mentioned, or Words to t or t like effect; & this Deponent  
saith t before he left / Coast /sd Dacres was superseded f<sup>r</sup> his sd Command. And  
this Deponent fu<sup>r</sup> saith t durg such Voyage he this Deponent was obliged to give  
/sd Brews f what Slaves he hd occa<sup>on</sup> to purchase o him two Guineas a head

more than what he gave to / Negro Traders f what Slaves he was able to get  
o them, although / Negro Traders' Slaves were o equal goodness as those he  
purchased o / sd Brew. And t / high Price o Slaves durg this Depont's beq  
on / Coast was entirely occasioned as he this Depont verily believeth by / Trade t  
was then Carried on by / Governours or Chiefs o / sd fforts. And this Depont fur  
saith t durg such Voyage he this Depont rented or hired a ffactory at Lagoo  
o the endeavoured to purchase what Slaves he cd, t thereupon he / sd Brew sent  
his Negro Traders o goods fm Tantomquery to Lagoo o also to Mumford wh  
is to seaward o Lagoo, in order to oppose this Depont in his trade. And / sd  
Brew in Conversa<sup>n</sup> w this Depont, told him t it was impossible f him this Depont  
to trade w him or to / some advantage as he / sd Brew cd when he / sd Brew hd so  
good an Assortm<sup>t</sup> o Goods, o fur<sup>r</sup> added t if he this Depont gave Eight Ounces  
a head f Slaves, he / sd Brew wd give Eight o half, o in order fur to intimidate  
this Depont fm Settly at Lagoo af<sup>r</sup> he / sd Brew sd likewise to this Depont  
t he hd and<sup>r</sup> g<sup>t</sup> advantage over him this Depont t he wd send / Servants belongg  
to / ffort up / Paths o prevent / Trade comg down to this Depont, and this De-  
pont saith t / sd Brew did actually send some Servants o / ffort up / paths leadg  
down to Lagoo w desire who thereby prevented sev<sup>l</sup> Traders fm comg down to him  
this Depont, o carried them to / ffort at Tantomquery af<sup>r</sup>; and this  
Depont fur<sup>r</sup> saith t in convers<sup>n</sup> w / sd Brew, he this Depont, askd / sd  
Brew wh<sup>r</sup> it answered his ends to send his Goods to ffactorys at Lagoo o  
Mumford by Black Servants o wh<sup>r</sup> they did not imbezle it, to wh / sd Brew  
replied t it did answer his ends, but not so well as before it hd done when  
he sent his Sergeant to Mumford who, as he / sd Brew fur<sup>r</sup> added, hd bot him  
a good many good Slaves the, but who was at t time gone fm him. And  
this Depont fur<sup>r</sup> saith t durg / time he was on / Coast he this Depont  
applied to / sd Brew o desired to purchase some Slaves o him, to wh / sd



144.  
fearfull o be<sup>g</sup> seen by /sd Chiefs to trade w him or be employed by him.  
And fur this Depont<sup>t</sup> saith t at /time he was on / Coast / fforts or Castles  
at Tantomquerry, Winnebah & Mera were used by /sd Chiefs o /sd fforts or  
Repositories f the Market Staves, And t he this Depont<sup>t</sup> saw such Slaves  
lodged in /sd fforts or Castles. And lastly this Depont<sup>t</sup> saith t he is verily  
persuaded t Negroes will always bear a v<sup>y</sup> high Price whols<sup>r</sup> any o / Chiefs  
or o<sup>r</sup> persons belong<sup>d</sup> to / fforts are permitted to trade f them, & t such high price  
will so affect / separate traders as to endanger / loss o / trade to them & all persons  
but such as are Concerned w / Chiefs or o<sup>r</sup> persons settled at / fforts & Castles on /  
Coast.

Signed David Hamilton

Sworn at / City o Bristol  
/ Sixteenth day o June  
in / Year o Our Lord one  
thousand Seven hundred &  
fifty three Before John Clements, Mayor.

Entered

Trade Africa  
Extract o a letter  
fr<sup>m</sup> Tho. Westgate to  
John Russell dated  
at Cape Coast Castle  
/ 14<sup>th</sup> Decr 1752.

Recd } June 20<sup>th</sup> 1753  
Read }

Dd 156



it, upon wh they enquired o the Gold takers or Brokers, what was / Occa<sup>n</sup> o it, & were informed by them t / Price was raised at / Forts or Castles in / Neighbourhood, wh this deponent doth verily believe was / fact, t thereupon he this deponent & / sd Richard Jenkins were Obliged to give & actually did give an advanced Price before they cd procure any more Slaves, & this Deponent saith t he is verily Persuaded t Negroes will always bear a v<sup>y</sup> high Price whilst any o / Chiefs or o<sup>r</sup> Persons belong<sup>d</sup> to / Forts are permitted to trade f<sup>r</sup> them, & t such high Price will so affect / separate Traders as to endanger / Loss o / Trade to them & all Persons but such as are concerned w / Chiefs & o<sup>r</sup> Persons settled at / Forts & on / Coast: And lastly this Deponent saith t in such his Voyage he was at Cape Coast Castle, & then saw betw<sup>n</sup> forty & fifty Negroes f<sup>r</sup> sale belong<sup>d</sup> to / Servants o / Co o Merchants Trad<sup>g</sup> to Africa, wh were lodged & kept f<sup>r</sup> Sale in / sd Fort.

Signed Alex<sup>r</sup> Graham

Sworn at / City o Bristol /  
 sixteenth day o June in / Year o Lord One  
 thousand Seven hundred & fifty three.  
 Before John Clements Mayor

Endorsed

Trade Africa  
 Copy o John Stokes  
 Certificate dated  
 Gold Coast o Africa  
 Mars 14<sup>th</sup> 1752  
 Received 7 June 20. 1753  
 Read

Guinea

Gold Coast of Africa

14<sup>th</sup> March 1752.

These are to Certifye t<sup>t</sup> I John Stokes upon / Arrival o<sup>o</sup> Tho<sup>o</sup> Melvil Esq<sup>r</sup>  
President o<sup>o</sup> Council at Cape Coast Castle, he<sup>e</sup>g dismissed my employ<sup>mt</sup> o<sup>o</sup> a Factor in /  
Royal Africa Co<sup>s</sup> Service, & it he<sup>e</sup>g declared free & lawfull by / s<sup>ct</sup> Melvil, as also set  
forth by / Act<sup>o</sup> o<sup>o</sup> Parliam<sup>nt</sup> t<sup>t</sup> any o<sup>o</sup> His Majesty's Subjects m<sup>ay</sup> establish Factories  
& carry on a free, open, uninterrupted Trade under any o<sup>o</sup> British Castles & Forts  
on this Coast, Repaired to English Commda as a Quantity o<sup>o</sup> Dry & S<sup>t</sup> English  
Merchandize & set up a Factory th<sup>er</sup>, where hav<sup>g</sup> continued / space o<sup>o</sup> three Monchs  
I experienced no Service fm / For<sup>t</sup>, nor encouragem<sup>nt</sup> to continue th<sup>er</sup>, The Chief  
William Turnswell tak<sup>g</sup> all undue means to ingross / Trade & Relay all / Trad<sup>g</sup>  
Part<sup>ys</sup> to / Town aforesaid to / g<sup>t</sup> Detrim<sup>nt</sup> o<sup>o</sup> myself, at / same time / Negroes he<sup>e</sup>g  
encouraged to Trade (& supplied f<sup>r</sup> t<sup>e</sup> purpose w<sup>th</sup> Brangors, Dutch Liquor,  
Tobacco &c) in opposi<sup>on</sup> to me. I was obliged to quit my s<sup>ct</sup> Factory, hav<sup>g</sup>  
purchased neither Slave or Tooth in all t<sup>e</sup> time, nor Gold to / value o<sup>o</sup> One Ounce  
th<sup>o</sup> / Chief William Turnswell made g<sup>t</sup> Purchases o<sup>o</sup> such sort as Fur Goods,  
wh<sup>ch</sup> he replaced w<sup>th</sup> Dutch Commodities as Mr<sup>r</sup> John Smallman Gardener,  
another Free Trader, can well depose

Witness my hand

Signed J<sup>n</sup><sup>o</sup> Stokes

Witness

R. Stokwell

Endorsed

Trade Africa  
 Copy o letter fm  
 said Merchants o  
 Liverpool to Mr Tho<sup>s</sup> Chalmers dated at  
 Liverpool June 15<sup>th</sup>

desiring <sup>1753</sup> him to attend this  
 Board on their behalf upon  
 / Subject o / Compts.  
 agst / Officers o  
 Co upon / Coast

Received } June 20 1753  
 Read }

Dd. 159.

Copy, Mr Tho<sup>s</sup> Chalmers.

Sir

Mr Manesty shoud us yr letter 12 Cur<sup>t</sup> & We desire y woud wait  
 upon Mr Wansey to / Board o Trade again whin in / Representa<sup>ns</sup> as regard to /  
 Governors & o<sup>r</sup> Servants o / Co tradg in / Coast, & y Knowl / Sentim<sup>ts</sup> o / Traders  
 here on this head. We are o opinion the Trade in Negroes should be stop<sup>d</sup> as far  
 as possible, but we do not see how they can be restrained fm layg out / money they  
 receive o Salaries in / best manner they can, tho' we are o opinion they shoud not send  
 any Negroes to America, but be obliged to sell em on / Coast.

We sh refer / Affairs to yr Managem<sup>t</sup> & We are - 10 -

John Hardman  
 James Paradise  
 Tho<sup>s</sup> Chalmers  
 Job Manesty

The African  
 Committee  
 appointed by /  
 Liverpool Merch<sup>ts</sup>  
 6<sup>th</sup> Mo<sup>o</sup> 1753

John Hardman  
 Joseph Manesty  
 James Paradise  
 J Knight is not in Town

Condensed

Trade Africa  
 Copy of letter from  
 Seal Merchants of  
 Bristol to Mr William  
 Wansley dated Bristol  
 June 16th 1753 desiring  
 him to attend this Board  
 on the behalf upon  
 Subject of the Complaints  
 ag<sup>t</sup> / Officers of  
 Co upon / Coast  
 Recd June 20  
 Read }  
 Dd 160

Copies.

Bristol June 16 1753

Sir.

In favour of y<sup>rs</sup> (to us / African Committee of Correspondence here) came  
 in due course of time, by wh we discover t / Committee of London appear inclinable to carry /  
 matter of our Complaints (touch<sup>g</sup> / Trade in Negroes t is carried on by / Servants of Co  
 at / forts & Settlements on / Gold Coast of Africa) before / Lords Comrs of Trade & Plantations.

Shd / Committee refuse to redress our Grievances wh are so notorious, & continue  
 to Countenance / Servants of Co in the present Trade, to / prejudice of free & open Trader,  
 We must desire y<sup>e</sup> to attend the Lordships on / part & behalf of Merchants of this City touch<sup>g</sup>  
 to Africa, & lay before them / State of our Complaints & endeavour to obtain a total restraint  
 upon / Servants of Co touch<sup>g</sup> in Negroes. For w<sup>th</sup> some such restre<sup>m</sup> we are apprehensive  
 (for what we already felt) t<sup>e</sup> branch of Trade will soon be lost to this place.

We sh<sup>d</sup> forward to y<sup>e</sup> by / Post / Affidavits of Commanders Gasham, Hamilton  
 Jenkins & Brereton We are - 2 - signed w<sup>th</sup> these // James Harroche // Mich<sup>d</sup> Beecher //  
 Geo<sup>r</sup> W<sup>ill</sup> Wansley. Rich<sup>d</sup> Farr // Jona<sup>s</sup> // Thos Harris // Jno<sup>s</sup> Kitchin //  
 Walter Longley // Mich<sup>d</sup> Miller // Dan<sup>l</sup> Cheston.

Endorsed

Trade Africa.  
 Copy of a letter from  
 Thomas Melvil Esq<sup>r</sup>  
 Governor of Cape Coast Castle  
 &c to / Committee of /  
 Co of Merchants  
 trading to Africa Dated  
 13<sup>th</sup> Decr 1752  
 Rec<sup>d</sup> from Mrs Hollis  
 Rec<sup>d</sup> June 20<sup>th</sup> } 1753  
 Read 21 }  
 Dd 161.

... [vide Red Notables p 687] ...

Endorsed

Trade Africa  
 Messrs Wm & J. Wemyss &  
 Chalmers in Behalf of /  
 Merchants of Bristol &  
 Liverpool w<sup>th</sup> respect to  
 / Complaints exhibited  
 by / sd Merchants  
 agst / Officers & Servts  
 of / Committee of /  
 Co of Merchants  
 trading to Africa  
 Rec<sup>d</sup> } June 20 1753  
 Read }

Dd 163

... [vide copy in Red Notables p 792] ...  
 Some parts omitted

Endorsed

Trade Africa  
The Affairs of  
John Roberts  
Merchant

Recd } June 20<sup>th</sup> 1753  
Read }  
Dd. 16<sup>th</sup>.

[Original]

[3 "v. Penn" Stamps]

John Roberts of Parish of Saint James Parishes London Merchant  
Deponent

I Thomas Melvil Esquire on Supersedg of this Deponent in Dirc<sup>ns</sup> of Affairs at Cape Coast Castle in Africa on or abt<sup>ly</sup> twentieth June One thousand Seven hundred & fifty One refused to read / Instruc<sup>ns</sup> given him by / Committee in Publick the entreated thereto & established a Joint Stock Coy to Ingress / Trade on / Gold Coast & whydah w<sup>th</sup> Sewell & / Servants under his Command to / g<sup>t</sup> disadvantage of this Deponent & o<sup>r</sup> free Traders

Tom on or abt<sup>ly</sup> twenty Sixth July One thousand Seven hundred & fifty One / Smecon Pinnia Edward Arrived at Cape Coast Castle w<sup>th</sup> a Cargo declared to be Consignid & belong to sd Melvil & Co wh<sup>ch</sup> beg in a g<sup>t</sup> part Dutch Manufacture was deposited in / Warehouse of Cape Coast Castle & / Slaves for time to time purchased therewith, lodged & dieted, in sd Castle.

This Deponent first Saith t<sup>hat</sup> in July One thousand Seven hundred & fifty One / King of Cape Coast Sent an Informa<sup>tn</sup> to sd Melvil purportg, t<sup>hat</sup> if any of his Castle Slaves came into / Town to Panycare, or Seize Sheep, Goats or o<sup>r</sup> live Stock, / Natives wd not suffer them to do it, therefore it was no Act, to this Deponents Knowledge, of sd Melvils to prevent seizg Stock but a necessity he was obliged to bear Occasioned fr<sup>om</sup> / disrespect / Natives bore him inasmuch t<sup>hat</sup> they drove the Cattle &c out of Town to prevent sd Melvil enjoyg / priviledges his predecessors had, it beg not usual for them to do so before / Arrival of sd Melvil, as his Letter untruly Setts forth.

This Depo<sup>nt</sup> fur<sup>t</sup> Sixth E<sup>n</sup> or ab<sup>o</sup> / Ninth August One thousand Seven hundred & fifty One / sd Thomas Melvil draughted a Considerable Quantity o Goods out o / National Supplies & therein asserted those belong<sup>g</sup> to himself & Co more ef- fectually to Engrass / Trade f / Benefit o himself & Co as this Depo<sup>nt</sup> was Informed & Verily believes

T twenty Eighth September One thousand Seven hundred & fifty One Captain How & Digges o his Majesty's Ship's Glory & Swam, sd Melvil & Depo<sup>nt</sup> dined at / House o Cudjo Cabochers, where soon as sd Melvil was departed / Town's people Asssembled & brot Mr Gardner a free Trader & th<sup>r</sup> tried, insulted & abused sd Gardner, & Demanded Merchandize to / Am<sup>t</sup> o Thirty Six pounds fm him before / sd Negroes wd let him know / reason or Occa<sup>n</sup> o such treat<sup>mt</sup>. T Depo<sup>nt</sup> thro Compas<sup>n</sup> interfered in / Matter & hd / sd ffine o thirty Six pounds moderated. Whereupon / sd Negroes Alledged t sd Gardner did not pay twenty Shill<sup>g</sup> p. head f each Slave he purchased, & t he o<sup>r</sup> not to h Complain<sup>d</sup> bec some Sheep o his hd b<sup>n</sup> panyard w<sup>r</sup> seized by / Governors Cooks, signify<sup>g</sup> t he, sd Melvil, must h provi<sup>n</sup> f / Captains o his Majesty's Ship's o War who came th<sup>r</sup> f th<sup>r</sup> protec<sup>n</sup>, but did not say or insinuate t sd Gardner was a troublesome Man or words to any such effect as sd letter o Melvil's unjustly set forth. Tsd Negroes in Gen<sup>l</sup> informed sd Depo<sup>nt</sup> sd Palaver or Cause was Commenced & Carried on by order & Contriv<sup>ce</sup> o Mr Melvil, wh this Depo<sup>nt</sup> verily believes to be true, it beg / received Opinion o / Europeans present.

T / Seventh November One Thousand Seven hundred & fifty One Cudjo do Bay, h<sup>r</sup> to Cudjo Cabochers informed Depo<sup>nt</sup> t sd Melvil hd given Seal Trad<sup>g</sup> Men Fet<sup>t</sup>ish or Solemn Oaths to Trade only w<sup>th</sup> sd Melvil & Co to / q<sup>t</sup> prejudice o / free Traders in gen.

T on ffourteenth November One Thousand Seven hundred & ffifty One sd Melvil proposed Sell<sup>g</sup> fforty Slaves wh he hd purchased on Board / sd Smea Prince Edward to a Dames Captain, & actually did make a barter w

9d Name & Sell him Slaves to / prejudice o Scot American Vessels in / road o Cape Coast Castle & Annamaboa. And t this Depon<sup>t</sup> has bin informed o<sup>r</sup> Barter<sup>s</sup> were made by / Officers o sd Melvil w foreign Ships f / benefit o sd Melvil & Co, but this Depon<sup>t</sup> demys t he w<sup>er</sup> proposed join<sup>g</sup> w sd Melvil in a Contract to Slave off any Danes Vessel or o<sup>r</sup> Foreigner as sd Melvil's letter falsely sets forth.

T in / Months o October & November One thousand Seven hundred & fifty One Mathew Mackeel Surgeon o Cape Coast Castle, & White his Mate went to Annamaboa & Tantumquery, t in / road o Annamaboa / sd Mackeel traded in / Prince Edward Sneau, f Slaves, in Oppos<sup>it</sup>ion to Cap<sup>t</sup> Taylor o Rhode Island & o<sup>th</sup>rs, who Complained t sd Mackeel raised / price o Slaves.

Tom or abt Sixth January One Thousand Seven hundred & fifty two this Depon<sup>t</sup> hav<sup>g</sup> made a Barter w Cap<sup>t</sup>n Yewark o Liverpool f Slaves, / sd Melvil declared he w<sup>o</sup>d prejudice Mr William Husbands, this Depon<sup>t</sup>'s Partner, as much as he possibly c<sup>o</sup> in Trade, bec in part o paym<sup>t</sup> f / Barter w<sup>th</sup> aforesaid he hd received a Long Boat from sd Yewark.

T on / Twelfth January One Thousand Seven hundred & fifty two, this Depon<sup>t</sup> hav<sup>g</sup> w much diff<sup>ic</sup>ulty prevailed on a Portuguese to trade w him on / Mate's Com<sup>g</sup> to this Depon<sup>t</sup>'s ffactory & a bargain beg near Agreed upon, sd Portuguese was sent f by sd Melvil & induced to make / Traffic he wanted w sd Melvil & Partners t / prejudice o Depon<sup>t</sup>.

~~T~~ T this Depon<sup>t</sup> hav<sup>g</sup> put an Assortm<sup>t</sup> o Merchandize on Board a Vessel to trade w am<sup>g</sup> / fforts & Settlements to Leeward o Cape Coast on or abt / Seventeenth January, proceeded on / Voyage, & on his Arrival at Tantumquery, ffort was informed by Mrs Braws / Chief t he hd bin informed o this Depon<sup>t</sup>'s Exped<sup>it</sup>ion & hd Orders from Mr Melvil to Overbid this Depon<sup>t</sup>'s Dep<sup>t</sup> in / price o Slaves, & to give an Assortm<sup>t</sup> out o / Good Foods / better to frustrate this Depon<sup>t</sup>'s design, t on / Twenty Second day o January follow<sup>g</sup> this Depon<sup>t</sup> saw / Public Supplies paid

on / purchase o Slaves, wh Slaves Orwise wd h bn Sold to this Dep<sup>t</sup>.

On Twenty fourth sd January Mr Withers Chief o Wrinnebah informed this Dep<sup>t</sup> he sd Withers had Orders fm sd Melvil to Overbid this Dep<sup>t</sup> on / price o Slaves And t<sup>o</sup> enable sd Withers effectually to Command / Trade fm Dep<sup>t</sup> had bn Sent by sd Melvil fforty Casks o / Gun's Turn powder & o<sup>r</sup> Choice Goods - T sd Chiefs Bessw & Withers informed this Dep<sup>t</sup> assured Dep<sup>t</sup> Customary Price o Slaves was Seldom more than Six Ounces & a half or Seven Ounces on those parts o / Coast till Melvil & Co gave Orders to advance & raise / price.

T Mr Dares Chief o Neve informed this Dep<sup>t</sup> he sd Dares had bn made to understand by sd Melvil he shd be discharged / Service, was obliged, in Order to prevent such ~~Dismiss~~ to take fforty Slaves worth o Goods fm sd Melvil & Co at most exorbitant Prices & t sd Dares in part had bn sent Beads at / rate o Three Ackies / or ffifteen Shill<sup>ds</sup> two Bunches wh he cd not dispose o f more than one Ackie p. Bunch by wh sd Dares lost ffifty p Cent

J<sup>n</sup>. Roberts [long sign]

London

Sworra this 26<sup>th</sup> day o June 1753

before me

Rob<sup>t</sup> hadbrooke

Endorsed

Trade Africa

Copy of a letter from  
Mrs Christopher Whyte  
Secretary of Cape Coast  
Castle, To / Committee of  
/ Co of Merchants  
Frags to Africa, Dated  
11th March 1753 at  
Cape Coast Castle

Recd June 1 28<sup>th</sup>

Recd July 4<sup>th</sup>

Dd 165.

} 1753

... [Vide Red Notebooks p. 906] ...

Endorsed

Trade Africa

Fantia Law

& Excludg / French

<sup>1<sup>st</sup></sup>  
Recd June 1 28<sup>th</sup>

Recd July 4

Dd 168

} 1753

... [Vide notebook Adm 1. (4) 90] ...

Endorsed.

Trade Africa

Fantia Law

& Excludg / French

<sup>2<sup>d</sup></sup>  
Dd 169

... [Vide notebook Adm 1. (4) 93.] ...

[Dissolve + Succession]

-173  
Dec. 170

Dr Com Admiralty Council, Cockburns Ls 19 Augr 1753 w/ Acct of Forts except Cape Coast  
vide Admiralty Notebooks.

End of CO 388/45

date doc = 174

CO. 389 / 30

pg 6.

Trade

1749/50  
Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>

Report to /  
Rt Honble / Lords  
Spiritual & Tem-  
poral in Parlia-  
ment Assembled  
relating to /  
better securg.  
improvg &  
extendg /  
Trade to Africa

To / Rt Honble / Lords Spiritual & Temporal in Parliam<sup>t</sup> assembled  
May it please Yr Lordships

This Majesty havg b<sup>n</sup> pleas'd by a letter from His Grace  
/ Duke o' Bedford one o' His Majesty's Principal Secretaries o'  
State, dd / 30<sup>th</sup> June last in consequence o' Yr Lordships' address o'  
/ 19<sup>th</sup> o' same Month to direct us to prepare a Scheme f' / better securg,  
improvg & extendg / Trade to Africa & to lay / same before both Houses  
o' Parliam<sup>t</sup> at / beginng o' present Sess<sup>n</sup>: We did in obedie<sup>n</sup>ce to His  
Majesty's Commands immediately take this matter into our considerat<sup>n</sup>, & t

We m<sup>t</sup> be / better enabled to answer / inter<sup>n</sup> o' Parliam<sup>t</sup> We wrote to / Royal African  
Co, / Merchants o' London, Bristol & Liverpool, tradg to Africa, & / Gentlemen interested  
in & tradg to / British Colonies in America, desirg they wd State in Writg, in as  
full & explicit a manner as possible, & as soon as they conveniently c<sup>d</sup>, what wd,  
in th<sup>r</sup> sevl opinions, be / best method o' securg, improvg & extendg / Trade to  
Africa, tog<sup>e</sup> w<sup>th</sup> th<sup>r</sup> Reasons f' such Opinions.

After much delay, dift proposals were laid before us by / sevl Parties

We h<sup>ve</sup> b<sup>n</sup> attend'd by them, & h<sup>ve</sup> heard / Arguments they hd to offer in  
support o' th<sup>r</sup> respective Schemes, tog<sup>e</sup> w<sup>th</sup> all such Evid<sup>n</sup>ce & Inform<sup>n</sup> as they thot  
proper to lay before us

Trade Bundle.  
51, 52, 53, 54  
58, 60, 59.

whereupon we humbly beg leave to Represent, t<sup>h</sup> we havg considered  
each Scheme w<sup>th</sup> / utmost atten<sup>n</sup>, w<sup>th</sup> beg able to choose, or to form  
any one, wh may not be liable to gr<sup>t</sup> Difficultis & Objec<sup>t</sup>s; We  
beg

beg leave to annex / seal Plans laid before us, & Submit them to /  
Judge<sup>mt</sup> & Wisdom o Parliam<sup>t</sup>.

Whitehall

Feb<sup>y</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> 1749/50

Dunk Halifax

J. Pitt

J. Grenville

Dupplin

C. Townshend

Fran: Fane

1749/50

February 6<sup>th</sup>

199] Report to /

Hon<sup>ble</sup> ye Commons

o 9<sup>th</sup> Parliam<sup>t</sup>

in Parliam<sup>t</sup>

Assembled, rela-

ting to / better

securing improv-

ing & extendg

/ Trade to Affri-

ca.

To / Hon<sup>ourable</sup> / Commons o 9 Britain in Parliam<sup>t</sup>  
Assembled.

His Majesty has b<sup>e</sup>n pleased by a letter fm his Grace  
/ Duke o Bedford one o His Majesty's Principal Secretaries o  
State, dated / 30<sup>th</sup> o June last, in Consequ<sup>e</sup> o an Address o /  
House o Lords o / 8<sup>th</sup> o / same Month, to direct us to prepare a  
Scheme f / better securing, improvg & extendg / Trade to Africa,  
... [This address is in identical terms w<sup>t</sup> t<sup>o</sup> / House o  
Lords, supra, & bears / same ~~add~~ address, date, & signatures] ...

202] 1749/50

February 6<sup>th</sup>

Trade

List o Papers laid before / Hon<sup>ble</sup> House o Commons by /  
Commissioners f Trade & Plantam<sup>ts</sup>, pursuant to an Address o /  
House o Lords to His Majesty / 8<sup>th</sup> o June 1749, f / better securing,  
improvg & extendg / Trade to Africa.

1.

Copy o a Representa<sup>tn</sup> & proposals o / Royal African Co to /  
Commissioners f Trade & Plantam<sup>ts</sup> f securing, improvg & extendg / Trade to Africa

Trade bun:

CC 51.

2.

Copy o a Memorial o / Royal African Co to / Commissioners f Trade & Plantations w an Estimate o / Charges o a Military Force f supporting the Forts & Settlements in Africa

ib. 52.

3.

Copy o a Plan fm sev Merchants o London to / Commissioners f Trade & Plantations f / better Regulat<sup>n</sup> & carry<sup>n</sup> on / Trade to Africa.

Trade bundle  
Cc 53.

4.

Copy o Scheme fm sev African Merchants & Traders o / City o London to / Commissioners f Trade & Plantations f secur<sup>n</sup>, improv<sup>n</sup> & extend<sup>n</sup> / Trade to Africa

ib. 60

5.

Copy o a Scheme fm / Merchants o Bristol to / Commissioners f Trade & Plantations f secur<sup>n</sup>, improv<sup>n</sup> & extend<sup>n</sup> / Trade to Africa.

ib. 58

6.

Copy o a Representat<sup>n</sup> fm / Merchants trad<sup>n</sup> to Africa fm / Port o Liverpool to / Commissioners f Trade & Plantations f carry<sup>n</sup> on, extend<sup>n</sup> & secur<sup>n</sup> / Trade to Africa

ib. 54

7.

Copy o a Representat<sup>n</sup> fm / Sugar Planters & o<sup>r</sup>s to / Commissioners f Trade & Plantations f retriev<sup>n</sup>, extend<sup>n</sup> & preserv<sup>n</sup> / Trade to Africa

Trade bundle  
Cc 59

C.O. 388/44

Indorsed.

Trade Africa  
 The Represent<sup>ns</sup>  
 + Proposals o / Royal  
 African Co o England  
 to  
 The Right Honourable /  
 Lords Commissioners of  
 Trade + Plantations  
 Dated / 12<sup>th</sup> o Octob<sup>r</sup> 1749  
 Recd w Mrs Spence's letters  
 dated y<sup>e</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> o Octob<sup>r</sup> 1749  
 Recd Octob<sup>r</sup> 14<sup>th</sup>  
 Recd Nov<sup>r</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> } 1749

Cc 51.

To / Right Honourable / Lords Comm<sup>rs</sup> of Trade + Plantations  
 The Represent<sup>ns</sup> + Proposals o  
 / Royal African Co o England

May it please y<sup>r</sup> Lordships,

In pursuance o a letter o / 14<sup>th</sup> July last fm Mrs Hill y<sup>e</sup> Lordships Secretary,  
 we h taken into Consider<sup>ns</sup> what we apprehend will be / best Method o secur<sup>g</sup>, improv<sup>g</sup>  
 + extend<sup>g</sup> / African Trade, & h given our Opinion in as full & explicit a Manner as  
 we are able w our Reasons of such Opinion.

We h in / first Place taken secur<sup>e</sup> to offer some Consider<sup>ns</sup> + Remarks on /  
 late Proposal<sup>s</sup> of preserv<sup>g</sup> + extend<sup>g</sup> / Trade to Africa by an open Co w<sup>th</sup> a Joint Stock,  
 + on an exclusive Joint-Stock Co, w a View o remov<sup>g</sup> all Obstruc<sup>ns</sup>; so t this intricate &  
 imp<sup>t</sup> Affair may be cleared up + determin<sup>d</sup> in ex<sup>h</sup> Sed<sup>ns</sup> o Parliam<sup>t</sup>.

We are will<sup>g</sup> to give up all our Rights + Property in Africa if a reasonable  
 o whose, & where is it?

[ Indorsed Trade Africa  
 Letter fm Mrs Spence  
 Secretary to / Royal African  
 Co dated y<sup>e</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> o Octob<sup>r</sup>  
 1749 in Answer to me fm /  
 Secretary o this Board, dated  
 y<sup>e</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> o July last trans-  
 mitted [sic - Doc 51]  
 Recd Octob<sup>r</sup> 14<sup>th</sup>  
 Recd Nov<sup>r</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> } 1749  
 Cc. 50 ]

Compensa<sup>on</sup>, or in case no Subscrip<sup>on</sup> can be filled of a moderate Joint-Stock w<sup>th</sup> a  
free & open Trade, or no o<sup>r</sup> certain Method sh<sup>d</sup> be agreed on to secure to this  
Na<sup>n</sup> / Trade to / Gold Coast, Whydah & Gambia, we are w<sup>ill</sup>g to engraft us  
our Creditors upon a reasonable Reimburse<sup>ment</sup> fm / Publick to enable us to  
carry on / African Trade, & part<sup>ly</sup> to secure those Branches wh<sup>ch</sup> are o /  
utmost Consequ<sup>ence</sup> to / British Planta<sup>ns</sup> in America, & consequently to / Well  
beg o / British Na<sup>n</sup>, f<sup>or</sup> wh<sup>ose</sup> Purpose we refer y<sup>r</sup> hardships to / follow<sup>ing</sup> Part<sup>rs</sup>  
13<sup>r</sup>

Considerans on / Late Proposal of preserv<sup>ing</sup> & extend<sup>ing</sup> /  
Trade to Africa by an open Co w<sup>th</sup> a Joint Stock.

It is submitted, wh<sup>en</sup> any Person sh<sup>d</sup> be made a Freeman o such an  
open Co w<sup>th</sup> Power to elect Committee-men, unless they sh<sup>d</sup> prove they h<sup>ave</sup>  
actually traded to or fm Africa, within 1 Year, f<sup>or</sup> £100, or some limited  
Sum, & not to be a Freeman upon only say<sup>ing</sup> he intends to trade to Africa,  
& pay<sup>ing</sup> Forty Shill<sup>ings</sup>; wh<sup>ich</sup> in all Probability wd be but an insignificant  
Aid towards / Maintenance, Support & Improve<sup>ment</sup> of Forts & Settlements, & f<sup>or</sup>  
~~provid<sup>ing</sup>~~ provid<sup>ing</sup> Ammunition & o<sup>r</sup> Stores & Officers & Soldiers to defend / Same.

The Committee-men sh<sup>d</sup> be under some Checks t they will be true &  
faithful to / Trust ~~reposed~~ reposed in them, accord<sup>ing</sup> to / true Intent<sup>ions</sup> & Mean<sup>ing</sup>  
o / intended Act, & part<sup>ly</sup>, t they will keep up / Number o Men, G<sup>uns</sup>,  
Castle-Slaves & o<sup>r</sup> Necessaries f / Support & Defe<sup>nce</sup> o Each o / Forts &  
Settlements in Africa, accord<sup>ing</sup> to some certain Estimate; & to h<sup>ave</sup> an Allow<sup>ance</sup>  
fm / Publick, f<sup>or</sup> a certain Term o Years to answer / s<sup>d</sup> Purposes, wh<sup>ich</sup>, w<sup>ith</sup>  
some Rules o Gov<sup>ernment</sup> as well Civil as Military, as it now stands in / present<sup>ly</sup>  
Charter o / African Co, or in some o<sup>r</sup> Shape, sh<sup>d</sup> be establish<sup>d</sup> by / s<sup>d</sup> intended  
Act. And / Committee-men sh<sup>d</sup> be oblig<sup>d</sup> to acc<sup>ount</sup> f / Disposal o / Publick  
Money in Africa, as / present<sup>ly</sup> African Co h<sup>as</sup> done till within these few Years,  
/ Acts not beg<sup>ing</sup> come home.

It is to be feared how<sup>t</sup> t / Committee-men will soon find / g<sup>t</sup> Care & Weight t will lay on them by tak<sup>g</sup> / Charge, dispos<sup>g</sup> o, & account<sup>g</sup> f / Publick Money t sh be granted f / Support<sup>r</sup> o / Forts & Settlements in Africa, wh Acts R usually taken up ab<sup>t</sup> 40 Sheets o 19<sup>th</sup> Paper, f one Year only, close wrote & often copied, & concerns / Employ<sup>mt</sup> & Maintenance o many Hundreds o People, Whites & Blacks, & / Direc<sup>ion</sup> o a Civil & Military For, & / Dispos<sup>al</sup> o Goods, & therefore it is apprehended t it will be difficult if not impracticable to find proper Persons o sufficient Ability; t will or can undertake an Affair t must be attended w so much Trouble & so little Advantage; besides / fatal Consequ<sup>ts</sup> t may attend this Tran<sup>sm</sup> fm / Loss o British Influence, & consequently / British Rights, Dominion & Trade on / Gold Coast & at Gambia & Whyddah f Want<sup>r</sup> o a sufficient Allowce fm / Publick & a proper Manage<sup>mt</sup> w a permanent trad<sup>g</sup> Stock.

And moreover, / Committee-men or / Majority o Freemen t are to chuse such Committee-men, may, per adventure find it the Interest to trade chiefly to Angola, Calabar & o<sup>r</sup> Parts o Africa where / worst Sort o Negroes may be had at lower Prices than / best sort on / Gold Coast: May not self-Interest prevail in this Case as in o<sup>r</sup> Cases, & encourage such Neglect or Misconduct as may hazard / whole Gold Coast, & oblige / British Planters to give as much f / worst Sort o Negroes as they may o<sup>r</sup> wise get / best Sort o Negroes f, wh better Sort o Negroes will then go to / Plantat<sup>ns</sup> o our Rivals in Trade, who will thereby increase the Sugar Plantat<sup>ns</sup> upon our Downfall?

Some special Provi<sup>on</sup> therefore sh<sup>d</sup> be made to secure a constant & sufficient Resid<sup>ue</sup> & Supply o Goods at all / British Forts & Settlements on / Gold Coast to carry on / Inland Trade, & thereby support Alliance w / Natives o / adjoining populous Towns & the Neighbour<sup>g</sup> Allies, & t sh be

132  
sufficient united Forces in Cases of Insults; This mt be done by rais<sup>g</sup>  
Money by Subscri<sup>ptn</sup> to afford a constant Supply of Goods at such Forts  
& Factories on / Gold Coast & also at Whyddah & Gambia, as may  
not be otherwise supplied by separate Traders. But such a Pro<sup>vis</sup>ion is  
no ways made by / sd Proposal, since no Money is to be taken up on /  
Common Seal, nor can any Money be raised up on a Common Seal to be  
expended, where there are no Effects or Security to answer a Reimburse<sup>mt</sup>.  
And / Co sh<sup>d</sup> be enabled to secure a Balance of Power on / Gold Coast  
& at Gambia ag<sup>st</sup> / Encroach<sup>mts</sup> of / Dutch & French, or / Insults of / Natives,  
& in Case of an Insufficiency of Publick Money, on any Emergencies, to be  
Power to take up Money, & also a Security t<sup>o</sup> / same sh<sup>d</sup> be afterwards  
repaid by / Publick, wh<sup>ch</sup> is no ways provided for. And it can't be sug-  
gested t<sup>h</sup> any separate Trader or Traders will advance any Considerable  
Sum upon / most Urgent Occas<sup>ns</sup>, as in Cases of Sudden Wars, or Wars,  
necessary Repairs or otherwise upon / Forts of / sd Proposal, whilst there is  
no Joint Oblig<sup>tm</sup> or any Security for a Reimburse<sup>mt</sup>. From hence it is  
evident t<sup>h</sup> these Th<sup>gs</sup> are not to be done w<sup>th</sup> a Joint Stock in some  
Shape or o<sup>r</sup>, tog<sup>th</sup> w<sup>th</sup> a sufficient & certain Allow<sup>ce</sup> & Security for / Publick  
for some certain Term of Years to enable a Co to answer all these Purposes.

2<sup>d</sup>. Remarks on a Proposal of an exclusive Co, to carry  
on / African Trade to / Gold Coast & Gambia

Such a Co to be those two Branches of Trade, e<sup>ven</sup> if be exclusive of  
Dutch & French, mt indeed prove of National Advantage, & as it now  
stands they may find it somewhat beneficial to themselves as they will  
buy Negroes cheaper in Africa than a g<sup>d</sup> Variety of British Separate  
Traders bidd<sup>g</sup> upon upon one ano<sup>r</sup>, but this cannot be any g<sup>d</sup> Diff<sup>er</sup>  
as / Dutch & French will always be ready to buy such Negroes as /

[C. 51] English refuse, or bid a low Price of, since / Dutch are interspersed w / English throughout / whole Gold Coast, & in some Parts within Gun Shot o our Settlements, & / French are in / Neighbourhood o Gambia & now trade lqly on / Gold Coast. And if such a Co shd undertake this Trade, w<sup>t</sup> any Publick Aid, whilst / French & Dutch grant lge Bounties, Exemp<sup>ns</sup> fm Duties & d<sup>r</sup> Immunities to support the African Trade, / whole Charge o maintaing / British Forts & Settlements wd be in g<sup>t</sup> measure on / American Planta<sup>ns</sup>, since such a Charge must be made up by an x<sup>tr</sup> Price upon / Sale o Negroes in / British Planta<sup>ns</sup>, as well as to Foreigners, or these two Branches o / African Trade must be flung up to our Rivals just mentioned. And moreover it is to be observed t / private Interest o such an exclusive Co will never be opposite to / Prosperity & Increase o our Colonies: It will be too much such a Co's Interest to keep them thinly supplied w / best Sort o Negroes, as t is / surest Means to preserve & augment the Profit.

And fur<sup>r</sup>, if this Trade is put into / Hands o an opulent Co, whose Stock shd amt to Millions, then / Profits thereof will be so insignificant to w<sup>y</sup> Individual as not to be felt, wh may prove a Tempt<sup>n</sup> to those in / Direc<sup>n</sup> to make / African Coast a Receptacle of such as may be altho<sup>g</sup> unfit for / Trust & may be reposed in them; & besides / Competi<sup>n</sup> will be too powerful for / Separate Traders, wh may in Time weary them out & so leave / Trade a Monopoly to / Prejudice o sevl populous tradg Towns & o / American Planta<sup>ns</sup>, & consequently to / Prejudice o / Trade & Naviga<sup>n</sup> o this Kingdom.

3d A well regulated Co w a Joint-Stock & a free & open Trade seems to be / most eligible for / following Reasons. - Because it is apprehended t such a Co w a moderate Joint-Stock & a sufficient Allow<sup>ce</sup>

134  
for / Publick of a certain Term o Years, to support / British Honour, Dominion  
& Jurisdiction in Africa & to maintain / Forts & Castles in a defensible & respect-  
able Condi<sup>o</sup>n & to h a constant Supply o Goods at / sevl Forts & Settlements  
in Africa, partly to be sent for England by / Co & / Remainder to be  
purchased in Africa o / British Separate Traders in Exchange of Negroes  
& o<sup>r</sup> African Products or f Bills o Exchange, will be able to afford gr<sup>t</sup>  
Advantages to all Separate Traders as well as to / Planters in America,  
by means o a quick Dispatch for / Coast so as to save in Demurrage &  
to avoid Distempers in / Negroes, usually contracted by means o being  
too long confined on board / tradg Ships wh carry them off, as well  
after they are purchased by / Planters as before such Purchase; And  
such<sup>o</sup> such a Co & the Agents & Factors in Africa, may be  
encouraged to avoid carryg it w a high Hand to / Prejudice o /  
British Separate Traders, & to be guarded ag<sup>t</sup> a Monopoly by being  
encouraged to trade w such separate Traders in Negroes & o<sup>r</sup> Merchandize;  
so t each Party may apply themselves to those Branches o Trade t suit them  
best. — And for full promot<sup>o</sup> & an Harmony & good Understandg between such  
a Co & all British separate Traders, there may be a Bounty\* granted

\* The French separate Traders take Licenses for the India & African Co  
& pay 10 livres, wh is abt 9. 2<sup>d</sup> Stirling p. Head f w<sup>h</sup> Negro they carry off / Coast;  
& / French exempt one half o the Duties in France on Sugar & all o<sup>r</sup>  
American Products taken in Exchange of Negroes carried to the Plantat<sup>o</sup>s for  
Africa (wh is for 40<sup>s</sup> to £3 per Head) besides many o<sup>r</sup> Immunities to  
encourage the African Trade.

by / Publish to all such separate Traders f. 204 Negro they sh buy of Co at Cape Coast  
Castle on / Gold Coast & at James Fort in River Gambia, to be regularly entered in /  
Council Books at / sd two Settlements, & then to be carried to / British Plantations in  
America & sold there; Such Bounty to be paid upon proper Certificates being produced  
in London & such Negroes were bought & sold as aforesaid; And further / Co's Agents  
& Factors in Africa may be permitted to Charge / Co w<sup>th</sup> any Commission on all  
Negroes they sh sell to such separate Traders at / sd two Settlements, And in Gen  
& / sd Co & the Constituents give such separate Traders a friendly Rec<sup>n</sup> &  
Relief at / sd Forts & Castles under proper Penalties on such as sh act & twist

There are many trivial Objections to a Joint-Stock Co founded upon  
Prejudice & Misinform<sup>n</sup>, But / Security o / Trade to / Gold Coast, Whyddah  
& Gambia is / main Point to be considered; & in Case / Objections to / before  
mentioned open Co & exclusive Co cannot be answered or provided for, & it  
neither o those Proposals nor any o<sup>r</sup> sh be that preferable to a Joint-Stock Co  
as here proposed, We do, in pursuance o y<sup>r</sup> Lordships Commands, offer / following Plan  
or Proposal of a Subscription

4<sup>th</sup>

But nothing, however, can be done to secure this Trade until /  
Incumbrances & new Lay on / African Co are cleared off in order to  
encourage Adventurers in this Trade, & when all Circumstances are duly  
weighed, It is apprehended & no less than £150,000 can be judged a reasonable  
Compensat<sup>n</sup> to / Co & the Creditors, especially when it is considered & after / Co  
were deprived o the exclusive Privilege, granted by Charter, they h<sup>ve</sup> b<sup>een</sup> burthened  
w<sup>th</sup> / Charge o / Forts & Settlements whil<sup>st</sup> / Private Traders & / Part<sup>ies</sup> h<sup>ve</sup> b<sup>een</sup> reap<sup>ing</sup> / Advantage  
Advantage, & partly from 1 Year 1713 to 1730 w<sup>th</sup> any Allowance from / Publish  
to / Co; & from 1730 to 1746 w<sup>th</sup> only an Allowance o £10,000 p. Annum to / Co, &  
since & Time no Allowance at all. Admitt<sup>ing</sup> / Co expended or advanced only  
£10,000 p. Annum for / Support & Maintenance o / Forts & Castles from 1713 to 1730

(although t is far short of real Expence) t alone at 5 p. Cent p. Annum, com-  
pound Interest, to this Time, wd am<sup>t</sup> to upwards o £600,000, & / Sum  
proposed f<sup>r</sup> as a Compensa<sup>n</sup> f all th<sup>r</sup> sd Expences, & also f / first Cost o th<sup>r</sup> Forts  
& Castles, purchas'd & built at a vast Expence, & f th<sup>r</sup> Negroes & o<sup>r</sup> Property in  
Africa, is but one Quarter Part o t Sum, or five Shill<sup>gs</sup> in / Pound, & bring<sup>g</sup>  
all th<sup>r</sup> sd Property into / Bargain.

Proposals f a Subscrip<sup>n</sup> to secure, improve & extend / African  
Trade w<sup>th</sup> a moderate Joint-Stock & proper Encourage<sup>mt</sup>s to all  
British Separate Traders.

1<sup>st</sup> ↑ th<sup>r</sup> be forthwith a Subscrip<sup>n</sup> to raise / Sum o £150,000, f a trad<sup>g</sup>  
Stock to be paid in as sh hereafter be agreed on, & in Case / Inland  
Trade sh increase then to raise an Addi<sup>n</sup> to such Capital in Propor<sup>n</sup> to such  
Increase, but special Care to be taken t such a Capital be extended no fur<sup>r</sup>  
than to what may be necessary to carry on / Inland Trade in Africa  
effectually, whereby w<sup>y</sup> Proprietors will feel / Profit t may arise ~~therefrom~~  
thereupon, wh<sup>ch</sup> will naturally encourage them to be watchful t / Trade be  
carried on f / common Good o all Parties interested, accord<sup>g</sup> to / Inten<sup>n</sup> o /  
legislature.

2<sup>d</sup> ↑ / sd Subscribers, after / Royal African Co sh be dissolved o th<sup>r</sup> Property,  
accord<sup>g</sup> to / Resol<sup>n</sup> o Parliam<sup>nt</sup> o / Thirtieth o May last, be adjudg'd &  
Deemed / same Body Politick, as was incorporated by King Charles / Second,  
& to h<sup>av</sup> proper Powers & be under such Regula<sup>mt</sup>s as sh answer / Purposes above  
mentioned, & also to h<sup>av</sup> / Care o / British Forts & Castles in Africa f / Benefit  
o a free & open Trade, w<sup>th</sup> all due Encourage<sup>mt</sup>s fr<sup>m</sup> / Publick to secure /  
British Rights & Trade & to promote <sup>an</sup> Harmony & good Understand<sup>g</sup> betw<sup>n</sup> /  
Co & all British separate Traders. And par<sup>ty</sup> w<sup>th</sup> t / Publick grant  
to all British separate Traders a Bounty o 20<sup>s</sup> p. Head f w<sup>y</sup> Negro

they sh buy o/ Co at Cape Coast Castle, or at James Fort in Gambia, to be regularly interch'd in / Council Books at / sd two Settlements, & to be carried to / British Plantations in America, & sold thro: such Bounties to be paid upon proper Certificat<sup>s</sup> be<sup>g</sup> produced in London & such Negroes were bot & sold as aforesaid; & t/ Co permit th<sup>r</sup> Agents to Charge 3 p Cent x tray Commiss<sup>ns</sup> on all such Negroes as they sh sell to British separate Traders at / sd two Settlements

3<sup>d</sup>. T/ New Co keep up / Number o Men, 9<sup>t</sup> Guns, Cable-blaves & o<sup>r</sup> Necessaries f/ Support & Defe<sup>n</sup> o each o Forts & Settlements in Africa accordg to some certain Estimate, w a Provi<sup>n</sup> fm / Publick f Years, whereof £18,000 p Annum to answer / African Charges, & £2,000 p Annum f Salaries, House Rent, & all o<sup>r</sup> Charges o Manage<sup>mt</sup> in England & some Provi<sup>n</sup> sh<sup>d</sup> be made to rebuild / Fort at Annamaboe & where else our Privals sh attempt any exclusive Settlements.

4<sup>th</sup>. T/ whole be under a proper Survey & Inspect<sup>n</sup> attend<sup>d</sup> w Powers to see & enforce / due Execut<sup>n</sup> o / Services intended.

We / Subscribers do severly agree, to / Proposals above written, & to fulfill our respective Subscrip<sup>ns</sup> accordg to / Sums annexed to our Names

But if such Subscrip<sup>n</sup> cannot be obtained or in Case new Adventurers sh not care to engage in a permanent Joint Stock, / followg Proposals are offer'd by Lordships Considera<sup>n</sup>

1<sup>st</sup>. T/ present Rights & Property o / Royal African Co o England be valued at £150,000 - £125,000 thereof, more or less, accordg to what sh appear to be due to belong to th<sup>r</sup> Creditors, & / Remainder to / Proprietors o th<sup>r</sup> Stock, & t/ whole be engrafted into 15,000 Shares at £10 p. Share.

2<sup>d</sup>. T/ Publick, in Considera<sup>n</sup> o / Expenses o / sd Co in maintaing / Forts & Castles f many Years w<sup>t</sup> any Allow<sup>nc</sup> at all, grant to / sd Co £150,000

f a trad<sup>g</sup> Stock & no Dividends to be made upon any Acc<sup>t</sup> whatso<sup>ev</sup>; but fm /  
Profits o/ Trade.

3<sup>d</sup> There be / same Provin<sup>s</sup> made fm / Publick to secure / British  
Rights & Trade in Africa, & to promote an Harmony & good Understand<sup>g</sup>  
betw<sup>n</sup> / sd Old Co & all British separte Traders & / same Survey & Inspect<sup>n</sup>  
as are propos<sup>d</sup> in / forego<sup>g</sup> Proposals f a Subscrip<sup>n</sup> by a new Co.

All wh<sup>ch</sup> is most<sup>ly</sup> humbly Submitted

By Order o/ Court o Assistants

R<sup>d</sup> Spence

Sec<sup>ys</sup>

Africans House

October 12<sup>th</sup> 1749.

Enclosed

An Estimate o/ Charges  
o a military Force f / Forts &  
Settlements belong<sup>g</sup> to / Royal  
African Co o England.

Cc 52.

To / Right<sup>h</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> / Lords Commrs f Trade & Plantat<sup>ns</sup>  
The Memorial o/ Royal African Co o England

Sheweth

To a new Sub & Deputy Governors & most<sup>ly</sup> o/ Court<sup>t</sup> o Assistants, who never  
were in / Direc<sup>n</sup> o this Co before, hav<sup>g</sup> been Elected on / 5<sup>th</sup> Instant they immedi-  
ately orderd a Gen Court<sup>t</sup> to be called this day & in pursu<sup>ce</sup> o/ letter w<sup>ch</sup> Your  
Lordships were pleased to honour them, / Favour whereof they acknowledge w<sup>th</sup>  
much Gratitude, do w<sup>th</sup> all Submis<sup>n</sup> presume to lay / follow<sup>g</sup> Thot<sup>s</sup> before You  
Lordships as / more effectual means to retrieve, extend & preserve / Commerce  
o/ British In<sup>ns</sup> to Africa.

To enter

[Cc 52]

To enter on / one Hand into a Detail o / Consequ<sup>es</sup> o / Trade 199.  
 to Africa, endeavours to make it appear / Support o / Sugar Colonies, & demonstrate  
 how nearly North America is connect<sup>ed</sup> w<sup>th</sup>, & depend<sup>s</sup> upon / Prosperity o / those  
 Colonies, or on / o<sup>r</sup> to Shew / vast Improvements made by France in the African  
 Trade & consequently / gr<sup>eat</sup> Increase o / other Sugar Colonies, / Inroads into t<sup>he</sup> West  
 are duly mark<sup>ing</sup> upon / Coast o / Africa, having already excluded us fr<sup>om</sup> / Gum Coast,  
 & / Endeavours they are us<sup>ing</sup> to interfere w<sup>th</sup> us on / Gold Coast; at which a<sup>n</sup> &  
 Gambia where if they are once permitted to get a foot<sup>ing</sup> & fortify themselves they  
 will soon prevent / Traffick o / His Majesty's Subjects; w<sup>h</sup> in our humble  
 Opinions be tak<sup>ing</sup> up too much time in explain<sup>ing</sup> what must be so well known  
 to your<sup>ships</sup>, & therefore tak<sup>ing</sup> / above b<sup>e</sup> granted we sh<sup>ould</sup> proceed humbly to offer  
 what we think / most proper means to retrieve extend & preserve / Trade o /  
 British Subjects to Africa & render / same more beneficial to / Colonies & Separate  
 Traders.

1<sup>st</sup>

We presume t<sup>hat</sup> this can never be accomplish<sup>ed</sup> but by maintain<sup>ing</sup> / Co<sup>ast</sup>  
 Forts & Settlements upon / Coast in a proper & respectable State o / Defence.

This is v<sup>ery</sup> evident fr<sup>om</sup> / many Resolutions o / Honble House o / Commons  
 shew<sup>ing</sup> / Necessity o / Support<sup>ing</sup> / Forts & Castles o / Co<sup>ast</sup> w<sup>h</sup> h<sup>ave</sup> cost a Million at least,  
 as it is by / Strength o / them alone t<sup>hat</sup> this Na<sup>tion</sup> can maintain the Weight & Dignity  
 upon t<sup>he</sup> Coast, or be able to prevent / Inroads into o / French & o<sup>r</sup> Spaniards notwithstanding  
 has b<sup>een</sup> reported by some t<sup>hat</sup> they are o / no Utility, but t<sup>hat</sup> this ed not proceed fr<sup>om</sup>  
 Sentiments confin<sup>ed</sup> to a present momentary Advantage w<sup>ith</sup> any Regard to /  
 Honour o / Na<sup>tion</sup>, / publick Welfare, or / secure this Trade to Posterity.

2<sup>dly</sup>

As this cannot be done effectually w<sup>ith</sup> a sufficient Aid o / Parliam<sup>ent</sup>  
 We conceive t<sup>hat</sup> what<sup>ever</sup> Sum they are pleased to give will be more  
 usefully apply<sup>ed</sup> by an incorporated body o / Men w<sup>ith</sup> a Joint Stock. & Support<sup>ing</sup>  
 / Directors o / such a Co<sup>mp</sup> to be Men o / Cam<sup>er</sup> & Property, & such whose Interest  
 it is to support / Trade to Africa, w<sup>ith</sup> a view in part to / Welfare o / Colonies  
 as well as / Inland Trade, they must appear more adapted b<sup>e</sup> this Trust  
 than any Committee o / Separate Traders whose immediate Profits may  
 reasonably be supposed to be the principal Object & who cannot be made  
 answerable to / Publick (be<sup>ing</sup> so subject to change & give up the Trust) as  
 an incorporated Body o / Men who act upon more ret<sup>er</sup> & beneficial  
 Principles b<sup>e</sup> / Publick. And we beg leave to say t<sup>hat</sup> if such a Body o / Men sh<sup>ould</sup>

not be enabled by the Charter to build Forts & Castles upon / Coast o Africa, we shd probably by this time be obliged to apply to our Pleasrs f Negroes, or perhaps to take our Sugar fm Them, as we h, f many Years past, & still do Indigo.

3<sup>thly</sup> As / proposed Joint Stock Co we not to enjoy / benefit o an Exclusive Charter we think it will be vry easily made appear t they can be rendered vtreamey useful to seperate Traders in the Slavey upon / Coast.

The Co has Factors continually residg thro whic be able not only to purchase Slaves & sell them to Traders at a much cheaper Rate than is usually done by Captains o Ships but dispatch them in a quarter part o time they are commonly obliged to lay upon / Coast, wh will enable them to carry a gter Number o healthie Slaves to our Colonies & to sell them cheaper w a more certain Profit to themselves, f wh Slavey / Co will take / Cargoes carried abroad in Payment, & by keepg Journals open to / Inspe<sup>n</sup> o all Captains o prime Cost o the Negroes it may be mutually agreed betw / seperate Traders & / Co how much per Cent is to be allowed f Profits on such Parters.

4<sup>thly</sup> To prevent / Co fm beg obliged to keep too gr a Number o Slaves & provided f / seperate Traders upon hand we presume we shd to h Liberty o sendg a certain Number annually to our Colonies after hasg kept them at least thirty days w<sup>t</sup> an Opp<sup>y</sup> o Sale.

This may meet w<sup>g</sup> Opposi<sup>n</sup> fm many o seperate Traders, but we esteem it / only means to establish a good understandg betw them & / Co, & o providg / Colonies w prosper & cheap Negroes, as w<sup>t</sup> it, / seperate Traders wd h a Monopoly dangerous in its consequence to / Colonies, & / Co be undone by / seperate Traders refusg to purchase the Slaves f some time, or be obliged to sell them at gr loss, all wh this Liberty may be a means o preventg.

5<sup>thly</sup> We propose t / Transac<sup>n</sup>s o this Joint Stock Co sh be subject to such annual Parliamentary Inquiry, Penalties & Regulat<sup>n</sup>s in regard o / Applican o / Money given by Parliamt as to / Legislature sh seem fit t / good Ends proposed may be fully answered, & / British Negroe & Inland Trade on / Coast o Africa, be retrieved retinded & preserved to all His Majesty's Subjects seperate Traders as well as to / Co.

[Cc 52]

To recapitulate / many expenses incurred & losses sustained by /  
Royal African Co in Purchas<sup>g</sup> / Building Buildings & Maintaining the Forts & Castles, &c  
Examine into / Causes wh<sup>ch</sup> reduced them to the present low Situation while / separate  
Traders h<sup>ave</sup> bin raising gr<sup>eat</sup> Fortunes upon the Ruins, tho it mt be an Apology to / loss  
o the original Capital yet it mt be made use o as an Argum<sup>nt</sup> agst the Management,  
but at / same time it wd plainly demonstrate t under proper Dire<sup>ct</sup>on, Prudence & Economy  
a Co may carry on this Commerce if enabled to support the Forts & Castles by Aid  
fm Parliam<sup>t</sup> at least w<sup>ith</sup> equal or superior Advantage to any separate Traders in point  
o purchas<sup>g</sup> Slaves upon / Coast, & w<sup>ith</sup> far gr<sup>eat</sup> Opp<sup>o</sup>rt<sup>unities</sup> o extending / Inland Trade o  
Africa in Elephants Teeth, Gum, Dye Woods, Drugs, Beeswax, Gold &c wh<sup>ich</sup> is known  
to be v<sup>ery</sup> considerable.

It is upon these Considerat<sup>ions</sup>, my Lords, t we h<sup>ave</sup> resolved upon a Change o  
Measures in / future Managem<sup>nt</sup> o our Affairs & h<sup>ave</sup> maturely weighed on / one  
hand all / Disadvantages we labour under w<sup>ith</sup> a debt o ab<sup>ove</sup> one hundred & twenty  
thousand Pounds Debt, / ruinous Condit<sup>ion</sup> o our Forts & Castles, / lost Credit &  
Reputam<sup>nt</sup> o / Co, & impartially considered on / o<sup>ther</sup> hand t as / such Demands upon  
/ Co o<sup>ught</sup> to be discharged, the Forts & Castles by some body o men or Joint-Stock  
Co supported, & proper means used to reestablish / Credit o / Co, that<sup>ing</sup> all /  
Difficult<sup>ies</sup> we h<sup>ave</sup> to encounter w<sup>ith</sup>, wee flatter ourselves by a sufficient Parliam<sup>entary</sup>  
Aid & a proper Dire<sup>ct</sup>ion & Economy The Royal African Co may yet  
be saved & brot back to a flourishing Situat<sup>ion</sup> to / gr<sup>eat</sup> benefit o separate Traders  
& Colonies. We wd not be too sanguine in our Promises but / most heartily  
& disinterested Endeavour<sup>s</sup> sh<sup>ould</sup> not be want<sup>ing</sup>.

It is humbly conceiv<sup>ed</sup> t an annual Allowance accord<sup>ing</sup> to / annexed  
Estimate f / Term o Thirty two Years, & no less w<sup>ith</sup> gr<sup>eat</sup> Economy will be  
necessary to enable / present Royal African Co to restore the Forts & Settlement<sup>s</sup>  
on / Coast & support them in a proper & respectable State o Defence & raise a  
sufficient Joint-Stock to carry on a v<sup>ery</sup> beneficial Inland Trade & keep a  
continual Supply o best Negroes f separate Traders. At / same  
time it will be requisite t / Parliam<sup>ent</sup> sh<sup>ould</sup> enable / Co to agree w<sup>ith</sup> the  
Creditors by pass<sup>ing</sup> a Bill to make effectual such Agree<sup>ment</sup> as sh<sup>ould</sup> be signed  
& consented to by two thirds o the Creditors in Number & Value by a time  
to be limited & in / mean time all Proceedings agst / Co to be stayed.

If upon grant<sup>ing</sup> / above Parliam<sup>entary</sup> Aid / Credit o / Co sh<sup>ould</sup>  
be so far recovered as to induce Gentlemen to subscribe a Joint Stock &

depend upon / Profits o the Trade of the Diuends, they will then submit to what Regulations or Penalties sh be thot proper by Parliam<sup>t</sup> f / faith full Application o / whole Sum they receive to reestablish & support the Forts & Settlements.

Sh<sup>d</sup> / Co's present Situation make Men o Fortune diffident & unwilling to subscribe / Sum requisite f carryg on the Trade. We must then most humbly implore / Permission o Parliam<sup>t</sup> to deposit / annual Sum o three thousand pounds o / above said in / Bank o England as a Security upon wh a Tradg Stock may be raised, t they may not be put under a Necessity o giving exorbitant Interest or obliged to accept o a Subscrip<sup>n</sup> upon too disadvantageous Terms, / Co in t Case obligg themselves to apply such annual Sum o three thousand pounds in Africa (mt o / Profits o the Trade) as directed by Parliam<sup>t</sup> f / support o the sd Forts & Settlements in lieu o / sd annual Sum o three thousand pounds so to be deposited.

These, my lords, are / obvious Reasons wh occur to us.

- 1<sup>st</sup> For / necessity o supportg our Forts & Settlements,
2. F / Grant o sufficient Parliamentary Aid f Thirty two Years & intrustg / Application o same rather to a Joint Stock Co than any sd private Men.
3. To shew / Means by wh such a Joint Stock Co under proper Regulations may be made vry useful to separate Traders & / Colonies.
4. To point out a Method by wh / Co will not be subject to / Distresses they mt otherwise be laid under by / separate Traders declining to purchase Slaves o them.
5. The Inten<sup>t</sup> o / Co to lay themselves under such Restrictions in / Application o money granted as to make it answer / good End f wh it is intended.

We make no Doubt they will be the proper Weight w<sup>ch</sup> yr Lordships as we offer / foreign<sup>e</sup> Plan f / easiest, most certain, effectual, & lastg Method o retriev<sup>g</sup> extendg & preserv<sup>g</sup> / Trade to Africa & supportg / Dignity & Weight o British Nam<sup>e</sup> upon t Coast.

We therefore humbly desire yr Lordships wd be pleased to accept o this as / present Sense o the Gen<sup>l</sup> Court.

We sh conclude w<sup>ch</sup> acquaintg yr Lordships t as we cannot help thinkg this our Memorial consistent w<sup>ch</sup> / Views o British Planters We sh readily concur in such Measures as may convince them t this our Plan is calculated not only partly f their encourage<sup>mt</sup>, but also f t encourage<sup>mt</sup> a gen<sup>l</sup> Benefit o British Nam<sup>e</sup>.

African House  
Jan. 11. 1749

By Order o / Gen<sup>l</sup> Court  
o / Royal African  
Co o England

Rd Spence

All wh is most humbly submitted

Secy

L<sup>d</sup>.  
o / RAC.

An Estimate of Charges of a Military Force  
 Maintaining & Supporting / respective Forts & Settlements belonging to the Royal African Co  
 of England on / Coast of Africa

African House. Jan 11. 1749  
 to be Established

1 James Fort on / River Gambia ... 36 Junts

[Total £4242 - 2-6

2. Annamaboe Fort

being a place of gr Trade where / French are attempting to settle

	per diem	per Annum			
1 Lieutenant	5	91 5			
1 Sergeant	2 6	45 12 6			
1 Corporal	2	36 10			
1 Drummer	2	36 10			
12 Soldiers	6	109 10			
1 Sergeants mate	4	73			
24 Blacks Soldiers includg Black Artificers & laborers	6	219			
Requirg 24 Blacks at 1 man in 100 Ann + £15 p. man		36			
Medicines & Surgeons Instruments		20			
Provis of 12 Soldiers at 12 <sup>s</sup> p. man p. day		219	886	7 6	
Officers & Men under / head of Ordnance Service					
1 Gunner	3	54 15			
1 Mate	2	36 10			
4 Artificers vizt. a Smith a Carpenter & a Mason & an Armourer	3	219	910	5	1196 12 6

And whereas / Fort of Annamaboe above mentioned is not in a Condition to receive a Garrison, / Amt of this Estimate of £ Fort is intended to be applied towards repairing / same

See: ? Surgeons

144.

13 Guns.

### 3. Tanteura quarry Fort

beg situated betw<sup>n</sup> 2 dutch Forts at Commanline + Appong

1 Sergeant	2	6	45	12	6		
1 Drummer	2		36	10			
8 Soldiers		6	73				
20 Blacks Soldiers includg Black Artificers } + labourers		6	182	10			

Recruiting 20 Blacks / man in 10 p<sup>m</sup> ann + £15 p man

Provis<sup>n</sup> f 8 Soldiers at 12<sup>d</sup> p man p. day

Officers + men under / head o

Ordin<sup>e</sup> Service

1 Gunners Mate

2 Artificers viz<sup>t</sup> a Smith + a Carpenter

2 36 10

3 109 10

30

146

513 12 6

Carried over

16 Guns.

146 659 12 6

6098 7 6

### 4. Wunnebah Fort

beg betw<sup>n</sup> / Dutch Forts at Appong + Barracoe

1 Sergeant	per dum	2	6	45	12	6	
1 Corporal		2		36	10		
1 Drummer		2		36	10		
10 Soldiers		6		91	5		
1 Surgeons Mate		4		49			
20 Blacks Soldiers includg Black } Artificers + Labourers		6		182	10		

Recruiting 20 Blacks / man in 10 p<sup>m</sup> ann + £15 p man

Medicines + Surgeons Instruments

Provis<sup>n</sup> f 10 Soldiers at 12<sup>d</sup> p man p. day

Officers + men under / head o

Ordin<sup>e</sup> Service

1 Gunners Mate

3 Artificers viz<sup>t</sup> a Carpenter, a Brick layer }  
+ an Armourer

2 36 10

3 164 5

30

20

182 10

697 17 6

200 15

898 12 6







148. African House Jan 11<sup>th</sup> 1749

An Abstract of Number of People proposed to Keep up / Estimate made by / Royal African Co w<sup>th</sup> an Acc<sup>t</sup> of the Pay per diem

Pay per diem Sterl <sup>g</sup>		James Fort at Fambur	Cape Coast &c.	Dixcove	Succoradee	Commenda	Annamaboe	Fortinque w <sup>th</sup> y <sup>e</sup> Islande	James Fort at Accra	William Fort at Ashadede	Total.
5	Secretaries	1	1								2
6	Engineers & Surveyors	1	1								2
4	Deputy Surveyors			1							1
10	Captains	1	1								2
5	Lieutenants	1	1			1	1		1	1	6
4	Ensigns	1	1								2
6	Surgeons	1	1								2
4	Surgeons Males	1	1		1	1		1	1	1	7
2	Serjeants	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
2	Corporals	2	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
4	Gunners	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	8
2	Gunner Males	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
3	Militiars, such as Carpenters, Sawyers, Coopers, Black Smiths, Masons Bricklayers & Armourers	10	16	8	4	4	4	2	3	4	59
3	Commissary of Stores & Provisions	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
2	Drummers	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
6	Soldiers	30	50	12	10	12	12	8	10	16	176
		54	86	25	20	22	23	18	21	27	251
6	Black Soldiers included 3 black Militiars & Labourers	60	150	30	20	20	24	20	20	30	404
		114	236	55	40	42	47	39	39	57	720

N.B. Nothing is charged in / Estimate of any Military Officers beyond / Degree of a Captain; nor of Governors, Accountants, Factors or Writers, who occasionally supply / Places of Military Officers. Nor of any Soldiers, House-keepers or any of Charge, or Management in England. Nor is anything charged for / the Settlement of Mombasa.

The par's amt o / Estimate at each  
 Settlement include all Charges

	£	s	d
Cape Coast Castle	7.779		
Anamaboe	1.196	12	6
Tantum quarry	659	12	6
Winebakh	898	12	6
Accra	1.369	17	6
Whidah	1.369	17	6
Commenda	1.071	2	6
Succordee	1.008	2	6
Dixcovs	1.305	2	6
Prampram			
James Fort Gambia	4.242	2	6
Sterling	£	20,900	2 6

Endorsed

Trade Africa  
 letter from Mr Alderman Bethell, dd ye  
 yth Dec<sup>ber</sup> 1749, returned / Plan of  
 / better regulatg & carryg on ye Trade  
 on / Coast of Africa, signed by, sevl  
 Merchants of London concerned in t  
 Trade

Cc 53.

Recd Dec<sup>ber</sup> ye yth  
 Recd — 8th 1749.

My Lords I h<sup>ave</sup> bn much concerned t<sup>hat</sup> I cd not sooner send Y<sup>our</sup> Lord-  
 ships / Enclosed Plan signed; but as Time has bn so far spent,  
 I was determin'd to keep Y<sup>our</sup> Lords hepts no longer in suspense,  
 therefore I hope y<sup>ou</sup> will excuse / rough dress it now appears in.  
 I am - &c -  
 S. Bethell

y<sup>th</sup> Decem<sup>ber</sup> 1749.

[note. The edge of page of this doc is badly torn, nearly 2 inches missing in one part.]

The Right Honourable / Lords Commissioners of Trade & Plantations have  
 called upon Merchants & Traders of City of London as well as those residing at Bristol &  
 Liverpool to prepare & give into the Lordships the sevl Plans in order to form such a Scheme as  
 the Lordships may Judge most proper to be laid before / Parliament for better  
 regulatg & carryg on / Trade on / Coast of Africa, & as Merchants of London  
 are thoroughly satisfied / legislature will be always ready & desirous to  
 give all possible encouragement to Commerce in gen & particularly to those  
 Branches of it wh<sup>ich</sup> take a most o / British Manufactures, & at / same time  
 furnish this Nation in return w<sup>ith</sup> useful Commodities no ways Interferg w<sup>ith</sup>  
 our own such as gold, Ivory, Gum, Bees Wax, Dye Woods &c from Africa, &  
 Sugar, Tobacco, Rice, Indigo, Cotton, Ginger & o<sup>ther</sup> valuable Traffick for /

British Colonies, besides findg Employ<sup>mt</sup> f a g<sup>t</sup> number o Ships & Seamen,

And as these latter produc<sup>ts</sup> depend absolutely on / African Trade f ... labourers & if t Trade shd be lost or longer neglected all / rest must fall or in propor... neglect divide w<sup>th</sup>, so / Merchants o London h<sup>o</sup> / fullest Confidence t<sup>o</sup> / parliam... effectually Interpose th<sup>r</sup> authority & assistance f / Revival o this once Valuable but now... more partly on / Gold Coast & Whidah, where not only / most useful Slaves f /... are to be had, but where more Woolens o British Manufacture are vendd than on ... Coast part tog<sup>s</sup>.

And / Underwritten Merchants o / City o London have deliberately considered / state & ... / sd Trade in all its Branches, & Circumstances, do beg leave to offer to th<sup>r</sup> Lordships wh... .. as / most eligible Plan & means, whereby / same may & in in th<sup>r</sup> Opinion can be Recovered ... properly extended

First - They Recommend it as essentially necessary t<sup>o</sup> / present number o Forts & Castles ... / Gold Coast & at Whidah shd be kept up & supported besides buildg a Fort at Annamab... .. in / River Surra Lion) not as marks o possession only but in such defensible state & Condition... .. at least an equal if not a Superior Degree o Power w<sup>th</sup> those in / hands o / British Rivals in / Trade on / same Coast, as it will not only encourage / Natives to give / British Subjects a Preference in Trade, but they will be sure to be protected in th<sup>r</sup> Inland Commerce, thereby & it will at / same time Command fm them all t<sup>o</sup> proper defer<sup>ce</sup> & respect heretofore shewn to / English Residents th<sup>r</sup>, when / sd Strongholds were kept in a defensible state, & in this first & principal step, / Honour o / British Nam<sup>e</sup> as well as / Interest o it is Immediately & deeply concerned.

2<sup>d</sup>. It is recommended as equally necessary t<sup>o</sup> / sd Forts & Castles be fm time to time supplied w<sup>th</sup> a sufficient quantity o well assorted Goods, so t<sup>o</sup> when / Inland Traders sh<sup>d</sup> h<sup>o</sup> travelled one, two, three hundred Miles

152  
down fm / Country, they may be sure o a March f the Slaves + o<sup>r</sup> Com-  
odities, meet us a civil encourage<sup>mt</sup> & not return w<sup>t</sup> / goods they want.

3<sup>dly</sup>. The Under-written Merchants give it as th<sup>r</sup> opinion t this Trade  
may be v<sup>y</sup> well secured, improved & Extended by a Joint Stock  
Co as an Extensive Capital to be restricted in / manner hereinafter  
mentioned, or in such o<sup>r</sup> like manner as / Legislature sh think fit

And sh<sup>d</sup> th<sup>r</sup> Lordships be o / same opinion, t this is / safest & most  
eligible Scheme this Trade can be settled upon, ~~As Merchants~~ The Mer-  
chants o London are Convinced

4. T by / Encourage<sup>mt</sup> o Twenty Thousand pounds per annum  
fm Parliam<sup>t</sup> to enable . . . to Erect, Maintain, & Support th<sup>r</sup>  
Fortifications;

5. And by his Majesties order<sup>g</sup> Two Men o War to be always  
Stationed on / Coast o Africa f / protect<sup>o</sup> o t Trade; It is  
supposed

T Merchants & o<sup>r</sup> Monied Men o Credit & Reputa<sup>o</sup> may be found  
who will Raise 3... .. Capital as sh not only be Deemed a sufficient  
Pledge & Security to / Publick t / sd . . . Castles sh always be Sup-  
ported & Kept up in a proper & Respectable Condi<sup>o</sup>n but also ~~in~~  
in su... .. manner as sh be found necessary f / extend<sup>g</sup> & Improv<sup>g</sup>  
/ sd Trade to / Utmost, & ... especially to / Rich & populous Inland  
parts o Africa wh never can be attempted w<sup>t</sup> . . . o Success upon  
any o<sup>r</sup> Foot.

The Restraints / Merc... .. are these

...at all his Majestys Subjects sh . . . .. entry o Trade upon /  
whole Co... at / Co<sup>s</sup> Forts & Castles & sh be assisted & supplied by  
/ Agents at / sd Forts & Castles when<sup>d</sup> applied to by them

2. T / New Joint Co be restrained fm Trade<sup>g</sup> to / British Planta<sup>o</sup>s on  
th<sup>r</sup> own Acct.

3. T / Governors Directors & their Servants or Agents at Home be restrained also fm Trade Traffiq on / Coast o Africa in the private Capacity.
4. T / Co be not permitted to sell any Slaves to Foreigners unless It be in Exchange f Gold or Brazil Tobacco - But / Co may ship directly or otherwise to g<sup>r</sup> Britain all the Gold, Elephants Teeth, Wood, Wax &c.
5. T / Traders also in Merchants Ships be in like manner debarred fm Sellg any Slaves upon / Coast to Foreigners but f Gold & Brazil Tobacco.
6. T / Co be restrained fm making any Contracts here f / sale o Negroes on / Coast
7. T / Co's Agents be Tied up fm giving any undue preference to any Ships upon / Coast & be obliged to use the Endeavours t<sup>t</sup> Ships t<sup>t</sup> arrives first be first dispatched
8. T / Co lay annually before Parliamt an Exact acct o all Sums they have expended to support the Fortifications Agents & Servants upon / Coast Separately & Distinct fm what they have sent out on acct o Trade
9. T / Commanders o / Men o Wars stationed on / Coast o Africa f / protect<sup>n</sup> o / Trade be required to transmit once in 6 Months to ye Lords o ye Admiralty a full acct o y<sup>r</sup> State & Condition o / Co's Forts & Settlements

All wh Wee / Subscribers humbly Submit to the Lordsships Consider<sup>n</sup>

Thos Truman  
Row<sup>d</sup> Buge  
Sam<sup>l</sup> Turner  
James Johnson  
Roger Drake  
Beeston Long  
Geo Heith  
Rich<sup>d</sup> Maitland

14. Endorsed. Trade Africa

Representam to this Board of Merchants

Trade to Africa from / Port of

Liverpool. Dated ye 24<sup>th</sup> October 1749.

Recd. Octob<sup>r</sup> ye 30<sup>th</sup> } 1749  
Recd. Nov<sup>r</sup> ye 1<sup>st</sup> } 3

Cc. 546.

Liverpool October 27 1749.

Thos Hill Esqre

Sir I wrote y<sup>e</sup> last Post & I now enclose y<sup>e</sup> our Representam<sup>n</sup>  
to / Board of Trade abt / African Trade. I hope th<sup>r</sup> Lordships  
will soon receive one from Bristol & I hear they h<sup>e</sup> already  
got one from London but w<sup>th</sup> any names to it

I sh<sup>d</sup> be glad to hear y<sup>e</sup> h<sup>e</sup> received this & if th<sup>r</sup>  
Lordships desire anyth<sup>g</sup> more from us we'll be v<sup>y</sup> glad to  
do all in our Power f<sup>r</sup> th<sup>r</sup> Lordships but satisfac<sup>n</sup>

I remain etc -

John Hardman.

[C. 54]

Liverpool 24 Oct<sup>r</sup> 1749.

To R<sup>t</sup>: Hon<sup>ble</sup> / Lords Commissioners o Trade & Plant<sup>ns</sup>.  
The humble Represent<sup>n</sup> o / Merchants tradg to Africa fm / Port o Liverpool.

May it please y<sup>r</sup> Lordships.

In Ob<sup>ed</sup>ience to y<sup>r</sup> Lordships Direcs<sup>n</sup> signified to us by Mr Hill we beg  
Leave to lay before y<sup>r</sup> our Sentiments w<sup>ch</sup> Regard to / best Method o carryg on & ex-  
tendg this Trade, or in what Manner / Forts & Settlements on / Coast may be most usefull  
f<sup>r</sup> this Purpose.

We need not men<sup>n</sup> to y<sup>r</sup> Lordships, t<sup>h</sup> Fact & long Experie<sup>n</sup> h<sup>av</sup> sufficiently proved,  
t<sup>h</sup> this Branch o Commerce never did flourish in / Hands o / Co, notwithstanding h<sup>av</sup>  
enjoyed many Advantages & exclusive Privileges as well as lge Grants fm / Publick  
& on in Possess<sup>n</sup> o all / Forts & Settlements f<sup>r</sup> a long Term o Years.

Fm / first Grant o th<sup>r</sup> Charter in 1642 to 1699, they had an exclusive  
Trade, but durg this Period, y<sup>r</sup> Lordships will find th<sup>r</sup> were frequent Complaints  
made fm / Plantans, t<sup>h</sup> they must be entirely given up, if / African Trade was  
not put on some o<sup>r</sup> Footg, & / Trade extended so as to give them a better Supply o  
Negroes. And in y<sup>r</sup> 1699 / Trade beg lost to / Nam<sup>o</sup> & / Plantans beg reduced to  
a low Ebb, it was th<sup>o</sup> necessary to make an Alter<sup>n</sup>, & a liberty was then given  
to / Subjects in gen to trade on / African Coast payg / Co 10 p. Ct. f<sup>r</sup> 14 Years;  
Durg this Period / Trade increased f<sup>r</sup> three or four Years at / first, but /  
Burden o 10 p. Ct. was soon found too g<sup>t</sup> f<sup>r</sup> / Trade to bear, & before / End o  
this Term, this valuable Branch was agn almost entirely lost to / Nam<sup>o</sup> & /  
Plantans were in a miserable Condit<sup>n</sup> f<sup>r</sup> want o a proper Supply o Negroes,  
w<sup>ch</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> they ~~can~~ never can be supported. Hence a Necessity appeared o a fur<sup>r</sup>  
Alter<sup>n</sup> o fm 1712 / Trade was carried on by / Seperate Traders w<sup>ch</sup> payg ~~any~~  
anythg to / Co; fm wh<sup>ch</sup> Period it g<sup>tly</sup> increased, or / Plantans were supplied  
better than they had ever on before, but principally by / seperate Traders,  
Fth<sup>o</sup> / Co were in Possess<sup>n</sup> o / Forts & Settlements, & all / Advantages t<sup>h</sup> cd be derived  
fm thence, y<sup>t</sup> th<sup>r</sup> Trade gradually decreased, & was so far totally lost, t<sup>h</sup> in /  
1 Year 1727, beg reduced to / low<sup>est</sup> Ebb, they were obliged to represent  
represent to y<sup>r</sup> Honourable Board t<sup>h</sup> they were no longer able to carry on  
/ Trade or to maintain / Forts w<sup>th</sup> some Duty fm / seperate Traders, or

some Publick Aid. This occasioned / separate Traders to oppose the Attempts,  
& it ended at last in a Grant o Parliament o £10,000 p. Annum, wh they  
h enjoyed so long as to h received £170,000 fm / Publick since t Time.  
But / Event has shewed 'twas to vry little Purpose, as they h now in a  
Manner (by the own acct) suffered / Forts to be quite ruinous, & they  
must be deserted unless / Publick maintain em.

We need not be more parts to yr Lordships, as y h these Facts  
fully stated in yr own Possessn, we only hint them to shew yr Lordships,  
t it is in vain f this Gran<sup>n</sup> ever to attempt / Prosecu<sup>n</sup> o / Trade by any Co  
whatso<sup>r</sup>, since y h hd already sufficient Experi<sup>n</sup> t a Co w an exclusive  
Trade in one Period, & w ten p. Cent<sup>r</sup> fm all / Traders o Gt Britain durg  
ano<sup>r</sup>, & w a lge Grant fm / Crown durg ano<sup>r</sup>, & always in Possessn o  
all / Forts & Settlements on / Coast, & layg / separate Traders under all /  
Hardships they cd, yet at all Times in / same Condi<sup>n</sup>, unable to sup-  
port themselves, much less to maintain a Trade suitable to / Wants o  
our Plantans, or to be o any real Service to / Gran<sup>n</sup>.

And we need not hint to yr Lordships, t this is not peculiar  
to this Trade only, but will hold good w Respect to / o<sup>r</sup> Branches, f in  
Purposn as Trade is confined it must languish & decay, & / Prejudice to /  
Gran<sup>n</sup> be in a g<sup>t</sup> Measure lost.

Yr Lordships will also allow us to observe the is g<sup>t</sup> Reason  
now than / at any former Period to be watchful o this ~~is~~ beneficial  
Branch o Commerce, as our g<sup>t</sup> Rivals, / French, are pursing it w  
/ g<sup>t</sup>est Care, & h not only laid it open to all / Subjects o France, but give  
vry g<sup>t</sup> Encouragem<sup>t</sup> to it above any o<sup>r</sup> Branch o Commerce, well knowg t  
/ Extendg o it is what alone can make the Sugar Plantans beneficial; And  
they h already so far prevaild as to supply almost all Europe w Sugars,

[C. 54] & will be still able to out-do us, for / Advantages they h at home, & / Ege  
Price they sell the Negroes for, who is much more than / British Subjects can get  
for thro.

We know vry well yr Lordships are convinced w / Impce o this Trade & /  
necessity o puttg it on some proper Foot. And we are vry glad we h this Opp<sup>n</sup>  
given us o layg our Sentiments before y, & we doubt not but yr Lordships own Senti-  
ments will convince us what we h / Honour to represent; Viz<sup>t</sup>; t there is no o<sup>r</sup> method  
to be found out of settg this Trade on a proper Foundam<sup>n</sup> to answer / Purposes  
o / Publick, to support & enlarge our Plantat<sup>n</sup>s, & in some measure enable us  
to vie w<sup>o</sup> d<sup>r</sup> rival<sup>n</sup>s; but t it remain entirely open & free to all his Majesties  
Subjects, w<sup>o</sup> any Charge whatso<sup>r</sup>; or rather (if possible) t some few Advantages  
shd be annexed to it. This method has by / Experi<sup>e</sup> o former Time, bn found  
/ best, & by this only has it bn extended to such a height, as not this nor any  
d<sup>r</sup> ha<sup>n</sup> ever saw it before.

And yr Lordships will permit us to hint, t / Representatives last Year in  
favour o this Scheme, at / Bar o / House o Commons, procured / unanimous  
Resolutions o t House to this Purpose, to wh we beg leave to refer y.

We h therefore nothing fur to trouble yr Lordships w on this Subject, but  
to recommend what we think / best Schemes for preservg / British Forts & Settlements  
on t Coast, & renderg them more usefull to / Trade & o more Service to / Publick,  
& we cannot do this more agreeably to our own Sentiments than by recommendg  
/ Scheme on wh / Bill was founded t passed / House o Commons last Sezm

t / Gov<sup>r</sup> shd take them into thei own hands & support them at a Publick  
Expence, for / impartial & undistinguished Benefit o sev<sup>r</sup> Trader (wh we hope / Trade  
well deserves) & t / Dispos<sup>n</sup> o Money wh sh be granted by Parliam<sup>t</sup> for this Pur-  
pose may be put into / Hands o a Committee o three Persons tradg to / Coast from  
London, three from Bristol, & three from Liverpool, liable to acct evy Year in  
such Manner as was pointed out by / sd Bill. And we propose t / sd Committee  
shd consist o Persons from these three Ports only, bec / Trade in a g<sup>t</sup> measure is  
now carried on from ~~London~~ Bristol & Liverpool, & it is natural to suppose they  
are most likely to execute this Trust in / best Manner, who h most Concern w /

Success or it. And we propose three in London, as it is / Capital, thro' Trade  
from thence is not (90 to this Coast.

And we apprehend / Wisdom o Parliamt wd always pursue / Same  
Steps, t as Trade is fluctuating when<sup>r</sup> this Branch is removed to d<sup>r</sup> Places. /  
Committee may also go w it.

And as we take this to be / only Method o fixing / Forts & Settlements on t  
Coast, to answer / high Purposes to Trade, or to be useful to / Publick, so we beg  
Leave first to lay before yr Lordships / bad Consequ<sup>s</sup> o having them in / Hands  
o any Tradg Co, / Experience o former Times shews t such a Co h always  
done all in this Power to prevent / Natives fm go<sup>g</sup> off to or tradg w / Ships at  
Sea or any one else on Shore but themselves; And th<sup>r</sup> own Advantage will always  
incline thm to do / same, whereby / Trade has bin & must be in a gr<sup>d</sup> Measure  
removed fm / Settlements to Anamaboe & d<sup>r</sup> Places o free Trade in / Neighbourhood o  
them. Im Proof o this we may venture to assert, t more Negroes h bin carried  
fm Anamaboe alone in one Year, to our American Plantations, than h bin in ten Years  
fm all our Gold Coast Settlements ~~to be~~ put to gr; f w h no Cause can be assigned  
but / Freedom o Trade thro' & / Want o it at / Forts. Besides all / Negroes wh /  
Co can purchase wd be sold to Foreign hands, our Privals in Trade, & our own  
Plantations hereby be ill supplied w Gold Coast Negroes, / best o all d<sup>s</sup>; F / separate  
Traders cannot give / Prices / Co will always put upon them, wh Prices they may get fm  
/ Dutch, French & Portuguese Ships, as they can sell them in th<sup>r</sup> American Settlements  
f near double o what / British Subjects can get in any o ours.

The Consequ<sup>s</sup> will therefore certainly be, t ~~these~~ these Foreigners  
will be admitted to / Forts by / Co & carry off / whole Trade.

By / above Regulations, these & many o<sup>r</sup> bad Consequ<sup>s</sup> will be effectually  
prevented & if it be established w t Equality o Power in / Execution to each o / three Principal  
Ports o Kingdom (wh was d<sup>r</sup> to be necessary by all Parties when / Bill was formed last  
Sept<sup>r</sup> or wh we hope fm / State o / Trade o / two Out-Ports, will appear to be th<sup>r</sup> due) We doubt not  
it will produce all / valuable Effects, fm our African Forts & Settlements wh / No<sup>n</sup> can desire or  
expect, & will give w<sup>t</sup> British Subject an equal Share in / Benefit o them; wh is all we propose or  
can aim at, in this Representation. To yr Lordships

Hereby they may be rendered grly useful & well worth preserving; But in / Hands o a Co they will be  
as they lither to h bin) a Burden & Nuisance, a detriment rather than some our Foreign Trade & Navigation.  
We sh<sup>d</sup> trouble yr Lordships no fur on this Head at present, but to assure of we think ourselves under / gr<sup>d</sup>  
obligations to yr Lordships, to give us this Opp<sup>y</sup> o explaining our Sentiments on this im<sup>p</sup> Affairs, in wh we h so gr<sup>d</sup> a  
Concern. And we assure t it is to be laid before a Board so well acquainted w / true Interest o Trade, we  
doubt not but a Report will be made to yr Lordships t will answer / most valuable Purposes o / Publick  
And in this Confidence we remain. Thy Lords - 92 -

[64 Signatures]

Endorsed

Trade Africa

159.

Letter fm Merchants o Bristol  
ye 15<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1749 inclos<sup>d</sup> a Scheme of  
extending & improving Trade  
to Africa  
Recd Nov<sup>r</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> ye 3<sup>d</sup> } 1749  
Recd Dec<sup>r</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> }  
Cc. 58

5

My Lords

In pursuance to yr Lordships direct<sup>ns</sup> wh I received fm Mr Hill. I summoned  
our Merchants together, out o whom were selected a Committee, & h considered o / seel  
matters recommended to us, & herewith I transmit to yr Lordships a Scheme wh we  
apprehend most beneficial f / Publick, & also our Alterations on / Bill wh passd /  
House o Commons / last Se<sup>ss</sup><sup>ns</sup>

We cannot pretend to say t / Scheme differs in any v<sup>t</sup> material point fm  
what hath fm already proposed, but / Alterations in / Bill, wch we gr submit we  
recommend to yr Lordships. We humbly presume, if approved o, wch more certainly  
secure / Advantages thereby intended.

It is w<sup>th</sup> utmost pleasure t we perceive yr Lordships inclined to hear /  
Arguments o all such as are concerned in this most valuable Branch o British  
Commerce, & doubt not but yr will distinguish betw<sup>n</sup> & preferre / true Interest o yr  
British Subject before / Views o a few design<sup>d</sup> Monopolizers whose Schemes are  
destructive to all but themselves.

In gr confid<sup>nc</sup> o this so laudable a design we rest ourselves fully satisfied  
o / went, & beg leave to return yr Lordships our most sincere thanks f this opp<sup>ty</sup>  
giving us o lay<sup>d</sup> before yr Lordships our Sentiments, wh we hope will meet w<sup>th</sup> yr  
approbation. I am My Lords - &c -

John Foy

Merch<sup>s</sup> Hall Bristol

Nov<sup>r</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> 1749

To / Right Hon<sup>ble</sup> / Lords Commissioners f Trade & Plantac<sup>ns</sup>

A Scheme of Securing, Improving & extending Trade to Africa for  
Benefit of all his Majesty's Subjects.

- 1<sup>st</sup> That all his Majesty's Subjects sh<sup>d</sup> h<sup>ave</sup> full & free Liberty of trading to & from / Coast of Africa.
- 2<sup>d</sup> That in order for / Management & Support of Forts & Settlements on / Coast, an open Co be established, & wh<sup>o</sup> soev<sup>r</sup> British Subject trading to Africa sh<sup>d</sup> h<sup>ave</sup> a right to become free, on paym<sup>nt</sup> of forty Shillings.
- 3<sup>d</sup> That / sd Co sh<sup>d</sup> be a Body Corporate & Politic, but sh<sup>d</sup> h<sup>ave</sup> no Joint Stock, or any power to trade as a Corporation.
- 4<sup>th</sup> That / sd Co sh<sup>d</sup> be managed by a Committee of nine Persons Members thereof, three of wh<sup>o</sup> to be chosen by / Merchants of London, three by / Merchants of Bristol, & three by / Merchants of Liverpool, Freeman of / sd Co.
- 5<sup>th</sup> That a proper Annual Sum be granted by Parliam<sup>nt</sup> for / Maintenance & Support of / Forts & Settlements, wh<sup>o</sup> sh<sup>d</sup> be disposed of to purpose by / sd Committee only.
- 6<sup>th</sup> That out of / sd money granted by Parliam<sup>nt</sup> an allowance be made to / sd Committee for the trouble & expences & attendance.
- 7<sup>th</sup> That / Committee sh<sup>d</sup> h<sup>ave</sup> power from time to time to make Rules & Orders & to appoint Governours & o<sup>th</sup>r Officers &c for / better management of / sd Forts & Settlements & to displace & remove them as they sh<sup>d</sup> think proper.
- 8<sup>th</sup> That / Forts &c sh<sup>d</sup> be made use of for / protect<sup>ion</sup> of all his Majesty's Subjects & the Trade, but not as Repositories of Goods & Merchandize in gen<sup>er</sup>al except in case of need & emergency. But t<sup>hat</sup> it sh<sup>d</sup> be lawful for any of his Majesty's Subjects to erect Houses, & Warehouses under / protect<sup>ion</sup> of / Forts or in any o<sup>th</sup>r part of Africa to / convenience of carrying on the Trade ther.
- 9<sup>th</sup> That / sd Committee do annually lay before / Curator Baron of Exchequer or such o<sup>th</sup>r person or persons as / Parliam<sup>nt</sup> sh<sup>d</sup> be pleased to appoint, an Acct of applic<sup>ation</sup> of Public money & of all Orders & Transac<sup>tions</sup> relating to / Forts & Settlements.

The Committee have thoroughly examined & considered / Bill bro't into Parliament / last Sezsms Entitled a Bill of Extendg & Improv'g / Trade to Africa. Do give it as the Opinion t / gen Tendency o / sd Bill is calculated to prevent a Monopoly o / sd Trade, & / pernicious Consequences o / its, beg carry'd on by a Joint Stock. But as they humbly apprehend, t / said Clauses therein are not sufficiently explain'd, & do may give in arrange'm't to designg Men to pervert / laudable purposes & intentions o / sd Bill's Nature of / Public Advantage, beg leave to lay before / followg Alterations a Amendment, w<sup>ch</sup> Reasons of / same, wh<sup>ch</sup> if admitted & approv'd o, They in this Case recommend / sd Bill as / most effectual means o Supportg / Forts of / benefit & protection of Trade & preservg / same free & open to all his Majesty's Subjects.

2<sup>d</sup> Clause It is therein declared t all his Majesty's Subjects, who sh<sup>l</sup> Trade to or fm any o / Ports or Places o Africa sh<sup>l</sup> f<sup>r</sup> ever hereafter be a Body Corporate & Politic &c.

Observa<sup>n</sup> It is our Opinion t / sd Clause shd not be construed so far as to prevent any Person or Persons not free o / sd Co fm tradg to & fm / Coast o Africa, but t such who are not free o / sd Co sh<sup>l</sup> only be exempted fm a right o / Vote of a Committee Man, to be chosen of / Management o / Forts & Disposi<sup>n</sup> of Public Money granted for the Support.

Reasons. Our Reasons for this are t many Persons residg in America & o<sup>r</sup> places, wd not w<sup>th</sup> Convenience make themselves free o / sd Co & as many o<sup>r</sup> in G<sup>t</sup> Britain wd rather chuse to drop the Concerns in this Trade than be obliged to come into / sd Co. We think this Restriction wd tend to lessen / Trade, & by t means destroy in some Measure / Intents o / Bill wh<sup>ch</sup> is to lay / same free & open to all his Majesty's Subjects.

4<sup>th</sup> Clause It is herein Enacted t / Direc<sup>n</sup> & Management o / Affairs o / sd Co sh<sup>l</sup> be in & by a Committee o Eight persons &c.

Observa<sup>n</sup> It is our Opinion t / Committee shd consist o Nine persons

Reason

Bec this Number will admit o an Equality in / Divi<sup>n</sup> o Committee Men to be chosen of London, Bristol & Liverpool. wh<sup>ch</sup> We think necessary to be preserved in order / better to prevent either Place fm having a Superiority in / Management to / prejudice o / o<sup>r</sup>s

5<sup>th</sup> Clause. It is herein Enacted t four Persons sh<sup>l</sup> be chosen by / Traders o London, Two by / Traders o Bristol, & Two by / Traders o Liverpool, to constitute / Committee o eight persons mentioned in / precedg Clause.

Observa<sup>n</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> We humbly presume t as / Trade to Africa fm Bristol & Liverpool respectively is, & hath bin for many Years past, considerably gr<sup>er</sup> than fm London, therefore / Traders fm each o those Places sh<sup>l</sup> to h<sup>ve</sup> / Choice o at

162 least an equal number o Committee men w / Teachers o London, & f a Proof o this  
Fact as to / Port o Bristol, We are ready to produce a list o Ships employed fm this  
Port to / Coast o Africa f many Years past, by wh w<sup>ch</sup> will appear / reasonableness o this  
proposal. It is also presumed t those persons who h / great Share in / Trade, & whose  
Interest most immediately depends on its Preservation, are / most likely to exert themselves  
in / Care & Support o / Forts.

2d Bristol & Liverpool are no ways concerned in Trade tog<sup>th</sup>, & upon all occasions ~~shall~~ <sup>shall</sup> & usual  
each st on any beneficial Proposal. Whereas on / Contrary each o these places are in  
Some Degree connected w London, fm whence may justly be inferred t no persons  
who wish well to a free & open Trade, can desire t one part shd chose a Majority  
o / whole Committee wh may be so prejudicial t in its Consequences.

3d Besides it may be farther observed t as / Committee men will in all likelihood be  
resident in London no ill consequences can be apprehended fm even an improbable  
Support o an Union betw. Bristol & Liverpool ag<sup>st</sup> London, f certainly In-  
habitants & Merchants o t City, altho Agents f Bristol & Liverpool must be  
supposed to h at least as gr a regard f / Welfare o their own City, as any o<sup>r</sup>,  
& will o Course oppose any Schemes t may be proposed to its prejudice

19<sup>th</sup> Clause. Wherein it is enacted t no Officer or any o Person to be employed by /  
Committee at any o / Forts or Settlements built or to be built in Africa  
sh at any time hereafter in any manner or on any pretence obstruct or  
hinder any o his Majesty's Subjects in Trade.

Observe<sup>m</sup>.

We highly approve o this Clause so far as above expressed but f  
several Reasons undermentioned, wd recommend t / Remainder thereof  
shd be altered in / following manner.

And t / Forts, Warehouses & Buildings already erected or wh here-  
after sh be erected by / sd Co, sh & may at all Times hereafter be free  
& open to all his Majesty's Subjects f / safety o the persons & Security

o the Effects in Case o need o Emergency, but not to be made use o by any persons  
or Traders whatsoever as Repositories f Negroes, Goods or Merchandises, except Gold, Elephants  
Teeth & Gunpowder. And t'it sh<sup>d</sup> or may be lawful f any o his Majesty's Subjects tradg to  
Africa, f / Security o the Goods or Slaves, to erect ~~to~~ Houses & Warehouses under / Pro-  
tec<sup>n</sup> o / sd Forts or elsewhere in any o part o Africa within / limits afo<sup>d</sup>. f / better  
carryg on o his or the Trade ther, wh<sup>ch</sup> Houses or Warehouses sh<sup>d</sup> be / property o / Persons or  
Persons who sh<sup>d</sup> build / same, but sh<sup>d</sup> not be disposed o or let to any Foreigner whatso<sup>r</sup>.

Reasons. In Case / above Clause sh<sup>d</sup> stand as express'd in / Bill, / same may be  
attended w/ followg Inconveniences.

1<sup>st</sup>. It may occa<sup>n</sup> gr<sup>t</sup> Confus<sup>n</sup> & endless disputes as to / Quantity o Goods each Trader  
may h<sup>ave</sup> a Right to deposite in / Forts.

2<sup>d</sup>. Undue Prefer<sup>ence</sup> may be given by / Agents at / Forts, to such Goods as may be sent  
over by the immediate Employers at Home, One o whom may be o Committee, & by  
this means / Goods o undist<sup>d</sup> persons may at all times be excluded under some  
pret<sup>ence</sup> or d<sup>e</sup>.

3<sup>d</sup>. In Case o an Attack in Time o War, or Pirates be g on / Coast / Forts be g always  
kept full o Goods, the tradg Ships may f Want o Room be prevented fr  
lodg<sup>ing</sup> the Cargoes, & lodg<sup>ing</sup> them in / sd Forts & Warehouses d<sup>o</sup> belong<sup>ing</sup> to  
this immediate Security.

4<sup>th</sup>. The Reason wh<sup>ch</sup> argu<sup>ment</sup> f / above Except<sup>ions</sup> in regard to Gold Elephants Teeth &  
Gunpowder be g lodged in / Forts is bec<sup>ause</sup> / whole Quantity o Gold & Teeth wh<sup>ch</sup>  
We apprehend will at any time be purchased, may w<sup>ith</sup> in commod<sup>ity</sup> / Forts be  
lodg<sup>ed</sup> therein. And as to Gunpowder, bec<sup>ause</sup> all / Warehouses w<sup>ith</sup> / Walls o / Forts  
are usually thatch'd, or may be w<sup>ith</sup> liable to danger fr lightning & many  
or accidents by Fire &c.

19<sup>th</sup> Clause It is presumed this Clause is v<sup>ery</sup> just, except in / Penalty be g fix'd to One  
Hundred Pounds, w<sup>ith</sup> any power o mitigat<sup>ing</sup> / same, wh<sup>ch</sup> may make an Office  
o leas<sup>er</sup> nature altho' attended w/ most favourable Cas<sup>es</sup> Cas<sup>es</sup> circumstances liable  
to an equal Forfeiture w/ most culpable, or therefore We wd propose t<sup>hat</sup> these  
Words (A Sum not exceedg Five Hundred Pounds) may be inserted in  
lieu o One Hundred Pounds, by wh<sup>ch</sup> alterat<sup>ion</sup> / inconveniences may be pre-  
vented or / Offender meet w<sup>ith</sup> a Punishm<sup>ent</sup> adeq<sup>uate</sup> to / Crime

Endorsed

Trade Africa  
The Represent<sup>m</sup>  
o/Sugar Planters &c  
To  
The Right Hon<sup>ble</sup> / Lords  
Commissioners o Trade &  
Plant<sup>ns</sup>

Recd fm Mr Gordon

Recd 7 Dec<sup>br</sup> y<sup>r</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> 1749

C.C. 59.

To/ Right Hon<sup>orable</sup> / Lords Commissioners o Trade & Plant<sup>ns</sup>  
The Represent<sup>m</sup> o/Sugar Planters &c.

Most humbly sheweth

I doe think it allg<sup>r</sup> unnecessary to men<sup>m</sup> to y<sup>r</sup> Lordships / vast imp<sup>o</sup> our  
Trade to Africa since / w<sup>ch</sup> weat<sup>r</sup> & preserv<sup>m</sup> o/ British Sugar Colonies depend on it;  
& as most o all our Forties are in / Sugar Colonies, we beg leave to lay our throts  
before y<sup>r</sup> Lordships w<sup>ch</sup> regard to preserv<sup>g</sup> t<sup>e</sup> valuable branch o Commerce, in wh<sup>ch</sup> / gen  
Trade & Navig<sup>m</sup> is so essentially interested.

I<sup>f</sup> it is w<sup>th</sup> deeper<sup>r</sup> concern we see our dangerous Rivals / French carry<sup>g</sup> on suc-  
cessfully this Branch o Trade to / Coast o Guinea, by wh<sup>ch</sup> they are enabled to improve  
& extend to an incredible height the Commerce to & fm their Sugar Colonies. And  
notw<sup>g</sup> / Crown o Gr Britain has bin in possess<sup>n</sup> o t<sup>e</sup> Trade, partly on / Gold Coast,  
Whidah & Gambia, above fourscore years, yet / French are daily encroach<sup>g</sup> on our  
Rights ther<sup>e</sup>: wherefore, unless some immediate care is taken to preserve / Forts & Fortifica<sup>ns</sup>  
on t<sup>e</sup> Coast, / French will soon become masters thereof, & consequently o / most valuable branches  
branch<sup>es</sup> o Trade on / Coast o Africa; as they will erect new Forts & Fortifica<sup>ns</sup> where<sup>r</sup>  
there is Trade, & thereby soon exclude / Subjects o Gr Britain fm ~~some~~ <sup>any</sup> o<sup>r</sup> part o  
t<sup>e</sup> Coast, as they h already done f/ Ginn Coast. To preserve & secure this Trade therefore  
to / British Subjects & to render it beneficial to our Colonies; we are humbly o Opinion

1. Four Forts & Fortifications etc. to be put into, & constantly kept, not only in a defensible, but in a respectable Condition
2. As / and a Parliam<sup>t</sup> is absolutely necessary for the purpose, / and a grant of such Aid will be much better answered by committing the Trust & applic<sup>n</sup> of money / Parliam<sup>t</sup> sh grant, to an incorporated Body of men w a Joint Stock (made answerable under penalties of / due execution thereof) than to any temporary, unstable & transitory set of men what so<sup>r</sup>, who m<sup>t</sup> renounce it at pleasure, & who wd be answerable each of his own acts only, & not one of / acts of and<sup>r</sup>.
3. That this Trade will be carried on most beneficially to / British<sup>n</sup> tra<sup>m</sup> & our Colonies by a Co w a Joint Trade Stock, w<sup>t</sup> any exclusive Privileges, but under such Regulat<sup>n</sup>s & Restrict<sup>n</sup>s as will leave / Trade free & open to all his Majesty's Subjects; w<sup>t</sup> this part<sup>n</sup> Condition, t<sup>h</sup> such a Co h liberty of carrying annually to / British Colonies a certain number of Negroes to be limited by Parliam<sup>t</sup>; as, w<sup>t</sup> the liberty, it is extremely doubtful wh<sup>r</sup> / Co will be able to employ the Capital to advantage; & if this is not a reasonable prospect of it, it cannot be expected t<sup>h</sup> such Capital can ever be raised.

As to / First Point, it is well known t<sup>h</sup> Trade is now considered by almost every State in Europe as / source of Wealth, & Wealth as / measure of Power, & therefore as eagerly contended for as Territory; & as no one thinks t<sup>h</sup> he is longer secure in any Territory than whilst he is able to defend it, it wd be in vain, as we conceive, for / British<sup>n</sup> tra<sup>m</sup> to think itself secure in / possess<sup>n</sup> of a branch of Commerce so very valuable as this, w<sup>t</sup> nothing to protect it but Forts kept up as mere marks of Possess<sup>n</sup>, & so defenceless t<sup>h</sup> any rival in Trade may kick down w<sup>t</sup> his foot when<sup>r</sup> he pleases; t<sup>h</sup> is, when<sup>r</sup> / bait sh prove a sufficient temptam<sup>t</sup> to begin a quarrel.

W<sup>t</sup> regard to / Second Point, our Reasons for thinking t<sup>h</sup> this Trust wd be better & more faithfully executed by a Joint Stock Co than by private men, are

1. As such a Co wd be more interested in / durat<sup>n</sup> & condition of these Forts than any private man, or number of private men, wd be. For care of latter wd extend no further than to make such reparat<sup>n</sup>s as m<sup>t</sup> last during the own time, w<sup>t</sup> having any / least concern if / buildg were to drop at / end thereof; whereas / care of a Co wd be not only to make a present, but a lastg reparat<sup>n</sup>; it be<sup>g</sup> much more reasonable to respect t<sup>h</sup> a Tenant who has / inherit<sup>n</sup> of a house, wd repair it in a more durable manner, & make better provis<sup>n</sup> for upholding it; than a Tenant who has only a lease of a small number of years.

- 166.
2. Rec / Publick will h a much better security f / due applic<sup>on</sup> o / money so granted by Parliam<sup>t</sup> for a Co w a Joyn<sup>t</sup> Stock, made answerable f<sup>r</sup> it than they can h for any private persons ~~whatso<sup>ev</sup>~~ <sup>whatso<sup>ev</sup></sup>.
  3. Rec such a Co wd naturally be, <sup>much</sup> more cautious not to take any step to pre- judice / future Trade, & much more capable & sollicitous to extend / Inland Trade, hitherto golly neglected, than any private man, or number o private men; whose only view wd be present profit, w<sup>t</sup> / least regard to consequ<sup>ts</sup>.
- W respect to / Third Point, we believe

1. T all agree it is / Injust<sup>ice</sup> o this Tra<sup>de</sup> t / British Colonies be supplied w a Number o Negroes equal to the wants; & t / more money is employed in this Trade / more Negroes will be imported into our Colonies, & / more the are im- ported, / less work<sup>shant</sup> will the price be; And as it is evident t more money will be employed in it when it is divided between a Co & private Traders, than if it were confined to private Traders only, We cannot help thinkg, as / separate Traders are v<sup>y</sup> sensible o this, but they at present<sup>ly</sup> will strongly oppose a Co's having / Liberty o carryg any Negroes from Africa to / British Col- onies, well knowg t if none can supply those Colonies but themselves, they will then h it much in the power to buy fm / Co on / Coast o Africa, at such prices only as they sh think proper; & on the arrival at / Colonies, to impose the own prices on / Planters. Besides those separate Traders will also h it in the option to introduce into our Colonies none but / worst Kind o Negroes, t can be purchased cheap at Calabar, Congo, Angola & o<sup>r</sup> parts o Africa, & thereby neglect / Gold Coast & whydah where our Forts & Castles are situated. Not w<sup>th</sup> / only proper Negroes f / preserv<sup>an</sup> o our Sugar Colonies are to be purchased nowhere but on t part o / Coast o Africa.

Our Reason f<sup>r</sup> doubting wh<sup>ether</sup> a Co will be able to employ the Capital to advantage if they are not permitted to carry a certain number o Negroes to our Colonies is, t if they h t Liberty, a good part o the Capital may be thus employed, & the chief profit will arise fm buyg Negroes on / Coast; all wh<sup>ich</sup>, were they restrained fm exportg, they must sell to private Traders the, who wd soon know how to make the advantage o this prohibition, & turn it to / utter ruin o / Co.

If / Co shd at any time buy up a g<sup>r</sup> number o Negroes wh they cd not sell but to / separate Traders on / Coast, as neg debarred / Liberty o carry<sup>g</sup> them to our Colonies, it is but too probable t these Traders wd force / Co to sell the Negroes wnder forme cost, or leave them on the hands. So t if w<sup>r</sup> / Co shd find themselves in this circumstance (wh they must often be, or else let a good part o the Capital lye dead & unemploy'd) it will be much more eligible to sell such Negroes, tho' at a loss price, than to keep them - F Negroes, like Horses bot f sale, will soon eat off the heads

For, since these Negroes must be confin'd within / Walls o the Forts (as it will not be safe rather to work them or give them / Liberty o working abt) if they are long kept on hand in such numbers, & wnder such Confinem<sup>t</sup>, the w<sup>r</sup> will be a g<sup>r</sup> risque o introducing some infectious distemper amg them: So t, what w<sup>r</sup> / hazard o mortality, & / expence o maintenance, / Co must be under / necessity o selling them at / private Traders price.

2. T such a Co w<sup>r</sup> proper encourage<sup>mts</sup> & directs to promote a good understand<sup>g</sup> & harmony w<sup>r</sup> all British separate Traders, may become v<sup>r</sup>ceedly advantageous to all parties concern'd. F thereby such Traders may be induc'd to purchase part o the Negroes o / Co, & thus dispatch the Ships in three or four weeks insted o three or four months; whereby they will be considerable gainers in Demurrage partly, besides sundry o<sup>r</sup> head o<sup>r</sup> charges; but above all in / health & soundness o the Negroes before sale; And finally, by means o such dispatch on / Coast, / separate Traders will be enabled to afford Negroes much healthier & cheaper to / Planters, wh are consider<sup>ab</sup>l o<sup>r</sup> g<sup>r</sup>est consequ<sup>ts</sup> & moment.

As to / Obje<sup>ct</sup> wh / separate Traders may make; T if a Joint Stock Co has a power to send Negroes fm Jamaica, / Gold Coast, & whydah directly to our Colonies, they will be thereby enabled to monopolize t Trade entirely to themselves. It is answer'd, t / extensiveness o Coast & / restrain<sup>g</sup> / Co as to / number o Negroes they sh<sup>d</sup> be permitted to send to our Colonies, will prevent t all possibility o any consequ<sup>ts</sup> o this nature; especially as / separate Traders may at all times purchase Negroes on those Coast<sup>s</sup> fm / Natives, in case / Co's Factors shd refuse to supply them w<sup>r</sup> Negroes at reasonable prices; wh they never can be supposed to do; as it will always be / Co's Interest to supply / separate Traders at such prices as they can afford to give. And thus by having / one a cheque upon / Co, this most valuable branch o Commerce will, in our Opinion, be retriev'd & extend'd, to / Honour & Interest o this na<sup>n</sup>; & / British Colonies be better & cheaper supplied

T, in add<sup>n</sup> to / above Represent<sup>ns</sup>, we are humbly o<sup>r</sup> opinion, it will be indisp<sup>ens</sup>ably necessary to h<sup>ave</sup> some Ships o war constantly station'd on / Coast o Africa, w<sup>r</sup> proper Power & full Instru<sup>ct</sup>ns to preserve inviolable / Rights o Crown & St Britain & o<sup>r</sup> Trading British Subje<sup>ct</sup>s; & to prevent / Private<sup>rs</sup> fm carrying on any Trade to / Gold Coast & Jamaica; w<sup>r</sup> wh all t Endeavour<sup>s</sup> o preserving this Trade will be fruitless; & therefore we beg leave earnestly to recommend this to y<sup>r</sup> Lordships' most serious att<sup>ent</sup>n.

We cannot conclude w<sup>t</sup> beg<sup>g</sup>, y<sup>r</sup> Lordships' permission to return y<sup>r</sup> most sincere thanks f t Regard wh y<sup>r</sup> R<sup>oy</sup>l m<sup>aj</sup>ty is pleas'd to shew us, in consult<sup>g</sup> us upon this occas<sup>n</sup>; & most humbly submit what we have offer'd to y<sup>r</sup> Lordships' Consider<sup>at</sup>on. [40 signatures Read by, / Hon<sup>ble</sup>, M<sup>rs</sup> Montfort. O<sup>f</sup> y<sup>r</sup> Plaint.]

Endorsed

Trade Africa

The Opinion of diverse Merchants  
of London & others gely interested  
in / Establishing / African Trade  
humbly offered to / Consideration  
/ Honourable Board of Trade

Cc. 60

Recd 7 January 8<sup>th</sup> 1749/50  
Read

4.

To / Right Honourable / Lords Commissioners of Trade & Plantations

We / Underwritten African Merchants & Traders of City of London, having been informed  
& it is yr Lordships Pleasure We shd prepare a Scheme for / Securing Improv<sup>d</sup> & extendg /  
Trade to Africa, or more especially to part thereof on / Gold Coast. Do most humbly beg  
leave to lay before yr Lordships / following Part<sup>s</sup>, wh<sup>ch</sup> as they are Calculated upon  
a Plan conformable to / Purport of / Bill pass'd / Honourable House of Commons  
last Session, We hope they may Deserve yr Lordships Approbation; if it is yr  
Apparent / Pleasure & the Honourable House were, as our Intention is now,  
to establish / whole African Trade upon Principles most conducive to / gen  
Advantage of our Commerce, / benefit of our Navigat<sup>n</sup> & / Increase of his  
Majesty's Revenue. We therefore humbly propose as our Opinion

- 1<sup>st</sup>. That his Majesty's Subjects sh<sup>ld</sup> have full & free Liberty of Trade to, on, & from / Several Parts of /  
Coast of Africa.
- 2<sup>dly</sup> That it is absolutely necessary to Fortify & Garrison the / Coast of Africa shd be kept up &  
maintain'd not only as Marks of Sovereignty & Possession, but likewise to prevent all  
Intrusions on our Trade from any Rival what<sup>so</sup>ever.
- 3<sup>d</sup>. That in Order to Support / Forts & Garrisons, an Annual Sum be granted by Par-  
liament for that Purpose, and that an Open Co be established, of wh<sup>ch</sup> every British  
Subject Trading or Intending to Trade to Africa sh<sup>ld</sup> or may become Free on Payment  
of Forty Shillings, wh<sup>ch</sup> sh<sup>ld</sup> be Applied towards / Current Expences of sd Co.

- 4<sup>th</sup> T / sd Co sh be a Body Corporate & Politick, but sh h no Joint Stock or power o Trading as a Corporation.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Town o / sd Co sh be Chosen a Committee. We submit to y<sup>r</sup> Lordships better Judgment, / Propos<sup>n</sup> proper to be Allotted to London, Bristol & Liverpool to Compose this Committee, but humbly propose t out o / sd Co a Committee o nine Persons residg in London may be Chosen; Three owh by / Merchants o London, Three by / Merchants o Bristol, & Three by / Merchants o Liverpool.
- 6<sup>th</sup> T / sd Committee be Chosen Annually, & at ev<sup>ry</sup> such Elec<sup>n</sup>g Choice be made o Three new Members Freeman o / sd Co, One o each o sd Tradg Pla<sup>ce</sup>, in Lieu o like Members o Oed Ones who are to be Discharg'd by Ballot<sup>y</sup> to prevent Partiality &c. It is also humbly proposed t not any one o / sd nine Committee Men sh be Chosen or Empowr'd to Act f<sup>r</sup> more than three Years successively
- 7<sup>th</sup> T / Money granted by Parliam<sup>t</sup> f / Annual Support & Maintenance o / Forts & Garrison<sup>s</sup> sh be Dispos'd o f t Purpose by / sd Committee Only, & t / sd Committee sh Annually lay before / Curia<sup>te</sup> Baron o / Exchequer or such o<sup>r</sup> Person or Persons as / Parliam<sup>t</sup> sh be pleas'd to Appoint, a State o thr Fortifications, & an acc<sup>t</sup> o applic<sup>n</sup> o Publick Money, and / sd Committee so acc<sup>t</sup>d upon Oath, sh be Discharg'd f<sup>r</sup> all future Claims & Inquiries whatsoever.
- 8<sup>th</sup> T / sd Money granted by Parliam<sup>t</sup> an Allowance be made to each Member o / sd Committee o p. Annum f<sup>r</sup> the Trouble, Expens<sup>e</sup> & Attendance on / Affairs o / Co.
- 9<sup>th</sup> T / sd Committee sh h Power f<sup>r</sup> time to time to make Rules & Orders & to Appoint Governours & o<sup>r</sup> Officers f / better Managem<sup>t</sup> o / sd Forts & Garrison<sup>s</sup> & to Displace & Remove them as they sh think Proper.
- 10<sup>th</sup> T / Forts &c sh be made Use o f / Protec<sup>n</sup> o all his Majesty's Subjects & th<sup>r</sup> Trade, But not as Repositories f<sup>r</sup> Goods & Merchandises in Gen<sup>l</sup> except in Cases o Need & Emergency. But it sh be lawful f<sup>r</sup> any o his Majesty's Subjects (First havg Licens<sup>e</sup> f<sup>r</sup> / sd Committee) to erect Dwelling Houses, & Warehouses under / Protec<sup>n</sup> o any o / sd Forts, or in any Part o / Africa f / Convenience o Carry<sup>n</sup> on th<sup>r</sup> Trade th<sup>r</sup>.
- 11<sup>th</sup> T It havg ben found by long Experience t / Str<sup>o</sup> Security we can h<sup>e</sup> f<sup>r</sup> our African Trade on f<sup>r</sup> our selves agst<sup>st</sup> intruding Private<sup>r</sup> or Private<sup>r</sup> f<sup>r</sup> / Private<sup>r</sup>, It by a Success<sup>r</sup> o his Majesty's Ships o Warre Cruisg along / Coast, therefore it is hoped his Majesty will be Pleas'd to Order such Cruisers f<sup>r</sup> time to time as sh be deem'd Necessary f<sup>r</sup> th<sup>r</sup> Service

[End o docs. presented to / House o Commons by / Board o Trade]

[31 Signatures]

Trade Africa  
Extract o a letter fm Mrs Wm HusbandsTo  
John Ashley Esq<sup>r</sup>

Dated at Cape Coast Castle, May 10, 1750

relatg to an attempt made upon

Dixcove Fort by / Natives

instigated by / Dutch, or to

/ destroy o 2 Small Ships

f / Security o / Coast

Recd fm Mrs Ashley

Recd Octob<sup>r</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> } 1750

Recd Do ye 19

Lc. 70.

Extract o a letter fm Mrs Wm Husbands to Tho Ashley Esq<sup>r</sup>

Dated at Cape Coast Castle, May 10, 1750.

I cant omit this Oppy to acquaint y as a Director to / Comdr o assistants  
 E we are at present employed in an Affaire o wh / Conseques hd like to h bn  
 fatal, The Dutch who wish f a gain at all Opp<sup>s</sup> To inroach upon / Rights o Privileges o / Co on  
 this Coast, h endeavored to invade / some at / Co's Fort at Dixcove, f wh Purpose they h  
 engaged / whole Ahanah Combr agt us at t Fort, & wh after many fruitous Disputes  
 a hiff<sup>g</sup> Palawer's they openly attempted in a Body to take / Place by Storm, & as we look'd upon  
 it t / last Supply was sent us out to protect these Rights & Properties, so we got Mrs Roberts to  
 go up ths, & by his vigilant Behaviour, & by rais<sup>g</sup> sundry Works (wh were before omitted in /  
 Reparation o / Fort to h bn raised) before they came on, gave them such a Recep<sup>n</sup> t I believe  
 they will h no gr Inclina<sup>n</sup> to a second Repasr o / same kind, they have bn repulsed w / less  
 o many o ths Men killed upon / Spot, & a gr many wounded. The Dutch openly own  
 themselves to be / protectors o these People, wherefore I do not know but before it be bro't to  
 a Concl<sup>n</sup> it may draw / two Hous, to some Exterminat<sup>n</sup> wh perhaps may be pernicious to  
 one Side or o<sup>r</sup>, f we are determin'd what<sup>s</sup> Inroachm<sup>ts</sup> they make upon us, they sh make  
 them (if any at all) w / less o more than perhaps / Matter in Dispute may be word<sup>s</sup> to  
 them, but we hope f / best & t they will not put us to / Trial o our mettle, f Peace is

1 The Jewish f, as it is much wanted on this Coast & we may be able by a gentle mild Deportment  
 & good Usage to ure Inhabitants to reunite into the Minds to good Opinion & Love wh they for-  
 merly always had f / English, or wh we h met y<sup>t</sup> had sufficient Time to do. We shd h<sup>t</sup> sent /  
 Acc<sup>t</sup> o this Affairs at lge fm / Council to / Court o Assistants, but / Notice we h had o this Vessels  
 sailg has bin so short t, it will not permit us to put / same into t Forum & Orders wh is necessary  
 f an Affairs o t Sort to be laid before such a Board in. Therefore I wis t I sent y this short  
 Sketch o same t y may be so kind to make / same known to t Board, not hat I imagine  
 t Mr Roberts / who is now here & intends soon to set on<sup>t</sup> f Discove agn I hope to put a finish<sup>y</sup>  
 Stroke to / Affairs by Treaty w / Dutch.) will send a full & ample Acct thereof to / Honourable  
 John Vaughan Esq<sup>r</sup> our present Sub Governor. So far I think my Duty calls upon me to  
 do however, & at / same Time I beg y to make known to those Gentlemen t it is my humble Opinion  
 t we shd never to be ut too small men o leas, or 20 Gun ships upon this Coast, but more espec-  
 ally at this Time & f some Years y<sup>t</sup> to come, not only to keep / French Ships intirely off / Gold  
 Coast, to gain wh y may depend they will use some, strong Efforts, but also to prevent / Dutch  
 fm endeavoring t at those Inroads upon us. f I assure y Sir t / gr<sup>t</sup> S<sup>t</sup>ib wh has bin  
 made in London abt / re-establishing this to pretty much alarms them & sets them at Work  
 to get us all / trouble they can, however I beg y to be assured we shd always be upon  
 our Guard, & will live w<sup>t</sup> our Lives w our Liberties, but o this more hereafter, in / mean  
 Time give me leave to subscribe myself.

In Africa

In / Country o Aahunta to / Eastward [sic] o Cape Coast Castle are situated  
 / several undermentioned Forts & Settlements

Discove

where there is a Fort w 30 Guns belongg to  
 1 English.

Dutch Settlements to /  
 (sic) East o Discove  
 Fredericksburg ... leagues  
 Axim ...  $\frac{8}{2}$   
 $\frac{2}{12}$

Dutch Settlements to /  
 West (sic) o Discove leagues  
 Batteroe ... 3  
 Tacquerado ...  $\frac{3}{3}$   
 Secunder ...  $\frac{3}{9}$

All to / Eastward [sic] o Del Mena & Cape Coast Castle

The Complement o Officers, Artificers & Soldiers to support & maintain these Settlements  
 is estimated at 25 Whites & 30 Blacks

Discove is / principal Place on / Gold Coast for furnishing Timber & Lime  
 f Repairs, Wood & Water, & Manna f Negroes on Board Slave Ships & it is  
 22 leagues Dist<sup>ce</sup> fm Del Mena & 25 leagues Dist<sup>ce</sup> fm Cape Coast Castle

172. Endorsed

Trade Africa

Letter from Mr Cleveland. Secy  
to / Lords of Admiralty dated  
13<sup>d</sup> of Dec<sup>r</sup> 1750. in Leg Observa-  
tions on / State & Condition of  
British Forts & Settlements on /  
Coast of Africa, together w<sup>th</sup> Plans  
of each Fort; Communicated to the  
Lords by Capt<sup>n</sup> Pye Commander of  
His Majesty's Ship Hummer. And  
transmitt<sup>g</sup> Copies of same for  
Information of this Board viz [sic]

[Where are  
Plans?]

Recd Dec<sup>r</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> } 1750  
Read do 11<sup>th</sup> }

C. 42

... [Cleveland's letter m.c.] ...  
[Plans. not here]

Trade Africa

Copy of a letter from Capt<sup>n</sup> Pye  
Commander of His Majesty's Ship  
Hummer to / Secretary of  
Admiralty dated Hummer off St  
Thomas ye 18<sup>th</sup> of March 1749  
Recd w<sup>th</sup> Mr Cleveland's letter  
dated ye 3<sup>d</sup> of Decem<sup>r</sup> 1750

Recd. Dec<sup>r</sup> ye 3<sup>d</sup> } 1750  
Read do 11<sup>th</sup> }

Cc 43

... [Copied from / Original in Adm 1. 2289.] ...  
vide MS Adm 1. 2 p 23.

[Send of Extracts from CO 388/44]

CO 380/30  
[Out letter from Bot + P.]

pl 68.

1752

January 15<sup>th</sup>

Letter to / Earl  
o / Holderness inclos<sup>d</sup>  
Copies o / Extracts  
o / Letters + Papers  
fr / Committee  
o / Merchants trad<sup>s</sup>  
to Africa

To/ Rt Hon<sup>ble</sup> Earl o / Holderness  
One o / His Majesty's Principal Secretaries o / State

My Lord The Committee o / Co o / Merchants trad<sup>s</sup> to  
Africa have laid before Us Copies o / Letters + o<sup>r</sup>  
Papers wh they h lately received fr the Agents +  
Officers at Cape Coast Castle + James Fort in /  
Rivers Gambia upon / Coast o / Africa, relat<sup>g</sup> am<sup>g</sup>  
o the<sup>s</sup> to / Proceed<sup>gs</sup> + Conduct o / Captains o  
His Majesty's Ships o Wars upon t Coast + likewise  
contain<sup>g</sup> an Acc<sup>t</sup> o / Behaviour o / Governor o  
/ Dutch Fort at Diccove [sic] upon / sd Coast. We  
beg leave to inclose to Yr Lordship Extracts o  
such Parts o these Letters as relate thereto, tog<sup>th</sup>  
w Copies o / se<sup>l</sup> Papers therein referred to  
We are &c

Dunk. Halifax  
J Pitt  
Dupplin

Bundle

Dd. 38

39.

40

41

42

43

44

45

Whitehall

January 15<sup>th</sup> 1752

p 269. - Similar letter o same date w same incs. to John Cleaveland, Sec o / Admiralty,  
for / inform<sup>tn</sup> o / Lords Comm<sup>rs</sup> o / Admiralty.

174  
[227] 1752

To / R<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> Earl o Holderness

One o his maj<sup>ty</sup>s Principal Secretaries o State.

February 4<sup>th</sup>  
letter to / Earl  
o Holderness  
upon / memo  
presented to his  
majesty by /  
Comm<sup>rs</sup> o / Comp  
o merch<sup>ts</sup> trad<sup>g</sup>  
to Africa.

My Lord,

In Obedience to his Majesty's Commands signified to us by  
y<sup>e</sup> Lordship's letter o/ 15<sup>th</sup> Instant We h taken into Our Consider<sup>on</sup>  
/ Memorial presented to his Majesty by / Committee o/ Co o Merchants  
trad<sup>g</sup> to Africa sett<sup>g</sup> forth t<sup>e</sup> John Corrantee one o/ "Bundle Dd.  
Cabovers o/ Kingdom o Fanti upon / Gold Coast h<sup>d</sup> "No 50"

refused Permission to / French to build a Fort at Annamaboe & h<sup>d</sup> at / same time given  
Assurances o his Readiness to assist His Majesty's Subjects in rebuild<sup>g</sup> / old Fort or  
in erect<sup>g</sup> a new one at t<sup>e</sup> Place, / dog wh w<sup>o</sup> be o / highest Imp<sup>t</sup> to / Interest o  
His Majesty's trad<sup>g</sup> Subjects in those Parts, & t<sup>e</sup> fm / best Acc<sup>ts</sup> they are able to  
procure they apprehend / Expense o build<sup>g</sup> or compleat<sup>g</sup> a proper & sufficient Fort  
t<sup>e</sup> / Service o t<sup>e</sup> Coast will not exceed / Sum o £6000.

T We m<sup>t</sup> be / better enabled to execute His Majesty's Orders & to report  
Our Opinions more fully to y<sup>e</sup> Lordships We thot it necessary to call before us /  
Committee o/ Co o Merchants trad<sup>g</sup> to Africa & h<sup>av</sup>g bn attended by Mr William  
Bosden, Mr Nathaniel Basnet, & Mr Abraham James Hillhouse, Members o  
/ sd Committee t<sup>e</sup> / Citys o London Bristol & Liverpool & heard what they h<sup>d</sup>  
to offer in support o / Memorial We beg leave to acquaint y<sup>e</sup> Lordship

T they h<sup>av</sup> given it as th<sup>er</sup> Opinion t<sup>e</sup> / build<sup>g</sup> a Fort at Annamaboe at  
this Conjunction will be a means o preserv<sup>g</sup> / Rights o / Fran<sup>ce</sup> & secur<sup>g</sup> & protect<sup>g</sup>  
/ Trade o His Majesty's Subjects upon / Gold Coast; T as John Corrantee is now  
o/ old they apprehend his view in propos<sup>g</sup> / build<sup>g</sup> o a Fort is to secure his  
Riches & Possess<sup>ts</sup> to his Family, & t<sup>e</sup> if his Offer be not accepted he will  
resent / Refusal & probably apply to / French or some o<sup>r</sup> Power.

The sd Committee fur<sup>th</sup> acquainted us t<sup>e</sup> they considerd Annamaboe  
as / Key to / whole Trade o / Gold Coast; T / Fanti Trade wh furnishes /

Best Sort o Negroes is removed from Cape Coast Castle to Annamaboe, And t if / French shd get Possesyon o Annamaboe, We sh not be able to carry on any Trade at Cape Coast Castle.

W respect to / Situation o / Fort proposed to be built they represented to us t Persons best acquainted w matters o this kind & w / Situation o / Coast were o Opinion t it wd not be so proper to build this Fort upon / Foundation o / old one as they apprehend t stood at too gr a Distance fm / Sea. A Ground Rent had bn constantly paid by / Old Co o / former Fort but they cd not be certain wh this gives them a Right o building a Fort upon / Spot t mt be now proposed; tho they believe it does, as they apprehend t / Ground Rent was pd not only o / part o Spot upon wh / old Fort stood, but o some land abt it.

This appears to us to be a Fact w necessary o Yr Lordships Informa<sup>n</sup> to be ascertained, We thot it Our Duty to get / best Acc<sup>t</sup> o it t We were able o have bn attended by M<sup>r</sup> David Crichton formerly Chief Agent o / Old Co at Cape Coast Castle & a Person well acquainted w / Situation & Circumstances o / Place, he represented to us t it appears fm an Entry in / Journals o / old Co in / Year 1743. a Copy o wh he produced to us, t they paid 12 Atties or abt £3. Sterling per month to / Brafford & Guarantees o Furniture o Ground Rent & Water Customs not only at Annamaboe but also at / two adjacent Towns o Amasheen & Aggah; These had bn paid w<sup>o</sup> since / English had any Fort thro, & t it gav<sup>e</sup> them a Right o building a Fort in any part o / Town o Annamaboe t shd be most proper: As to / Situation o / Fort, he was o Opinion t / Spot upon wh / old Fort was built was / properest o building a new one, beg near to / Shore & secured fm any Danger fm Ships by / Surf wh is always w<sup>o</sup> gr thro: t / building upon / old Foundation mt however be attended w Inconvenience as he had bn informed / Tank or Cistern o / Water wh is absolutely necessary in all Forts, was so foul t it wd be impossible to cleanse it o / use.

176. We must first beg leave to acquaint yr Lordship t/ sd Committee  
having laid before us a Plan of a new Fort wh they informed us had bin  
drawn by Admiral Knowles who had bin ~~on~~ upon this Coast & was well  
acquainted w/ Situation thereof, We thot it Our Duty to take his Opinions as to  
/ properst Place of / Situation o a Fort, & having bin attended by him he has re-  
presented to us t he is o Opinion t / Ground whereon / Old Fort stood is / most  
proper for buildg a new one upon as it Commands / Channel & is not within Gun  
Shot o / Fort wh / Dutch be at this Place - T / Old Fort stood in a Valley shut  
in on / land Side by Hills & t if / Fort was built upon / Side o these Hills &  
wd be vry expensive as / Walls on one side must be vry high - Tarts / Tanks  
or Cistern, if it was well cleand & kind w Brick it m<sup>t</sup> be used agn.

As to / Expense o buildg a Fort / sd Committee represented to us t  
they were o Opinion t they cd build this as cheap if not cheaper than in  
England, f altho' they shd be obliged to send out Bricks & Timber for hence yet  
t Expense wd be more than ballanced by / Cheapness o labours wh they appreh-  
ended wd not be expensive especially as John Coramtee had made Offers o  
so good gr Assistance. T they did not believe t / Expense o Buildg this Fort  
cd be defrayed out o / £10,000 granted by Parliamt of / Support & Pro-  
tectn o this Trade. As Mr Roberts who went out / last Year had not only  
expended all / Goods sent out w him but run them in Debt £3000  
& they cd not say how far / Goods now sent out wd answer t Debt;  
T if only £2000 shd be granted to them of / present they wd begin upon  
/ Work, & are wllg to take the money as / Work went on

Upon / whole, my Lord, having attentively weighed & considered /  
Facts & Reasons set forth in / Memorial of Committee o / African Co, &  
also / Informa<sup>n</sup> We h received fm / Persons who h attended us, We are  
clearly o Opinion t / Buildg a Fort at Pomamaboe will gthly promote  
/ Commercial Interests o this Kingdom by preservg & improvg / imp<sup>t</sup>  
Trade o this Majesty's Subjects to those Parts, & thereby preservg / seal o

Branches o Trade wh are supported by it, & by security / Friendship & assistance o  
John Corralee & his Family upon wh this Trade so gely depends. T / present  
Opp<sup>n</sup> is / most favourable we can ever hope to h o buildg such a Fort - t if  
We shd not accept / Advantageous Offer now made to us by John Corralee  
Our Refusal wd probably provoke him to make / some Proposal to / French or  
some o<sup>r</sup> Power who will certainly accept w Readiness so desirable Command over  
/ Chief Trade to / Gold Coast & wch probably when in Possession o such a Post  
make use o it to / Exclusion o us & / Ruin o our Trade.

As to / Situation o a new Fort & / Expence o buildg it, We are [o] Opinion  
o / Reasons assigned by Admiral Knowles t it ot to be buil upon / Ground  
where / Old Fort stood. T / Sum required by / sd Committee f this Service  
is a reasonable one & t / method wh they h proposed o receiving / Money as /  
Work sh go on seems to us to be unexceptionable. We are - &c -

Whitehall

February 4<sup>th</sup>. 1752.

Dunk Halifax  
J. Grenville  
Chas Townsend  
J. Pitt

266] 1752

May 18<sup>th</sup> letter  
letter to Claudius Amyand  
Esq. Secretary to /  
Lords Justice inclo-  
ding Copies o 4  
Papers relating to  
/ Design o /  
French m /  
Coast o Annamaboh.

To Claudius Amyand Esq. Secretary to / Lords Justice

S<sup>r</sup> The Earl o Halifax hasg communicated to my Lords Commissioners  
of Trade & Plantations, a letter wh his Lordship has lately received from  
William Anrah Sizaracoa, Son o John Corralee Chief Cabotier o  
Annamaboh upon / Coast o Africa, containing an Acc<sup>t</sup> o / Arrival & Proceedg  
tho<sup>r</sup> o a Fleet o French Ships o o / Transgac<sup>n</sup> o / Command o / sd Fleet  
during this stay thro<sup>u</sup> as well w / Natives as w Capt Buckle, Commander o a  
Squadron o his Majesty's Ships in those Parts, & / Committee o Go<sup>v</sup> m<sup>r</sup> -  
chants hasg likewise laid before my Lords Commissioners / letters wh  
they h received from the Agents & Officers at Cape Coast Caythe upon /  
these letters, wh appear to them to contain matters o g<sup>t</sup> National Imp<sup>t</sup> & to desire t if  
will be pleased to lay them before the<sup>r</sup> Excellencies / Lords Justice f the<sup>r</sup> Excellencies

same Subject, I am directed by the Lordships to transmit to y, / in closed Copies o  
Direc<sup>n</sup>s thereupon. I am - &c - Thos Hill

Whitehall  
May 18.

178. 1752

297] July 1. To/ Gentlemen of Committee of Co<sup>o</sup> Merchants tradg to Africa

Letter to / Gentle-  
men of Committee  
of Merchants tradg  
to Africa  
inclosg Sketch of  
Observans pre-  
pared by this Board  
of / use &  
Informa<sup>n</sup> of sd  
Committee or

Gentlemen

I am directed by my Lords Commissioners of Trade & Planta<sup>n</sup>s  
to send y / inclosed Sketch of Observans & Instruct<sup>n</sup>s prepared by the  
Lordships of yr use & Informa<sup>n</sup>, containing the Lordships Sentiments  
upon / late Transact<sup>n</sup>s of Mr Melvill & / Natives Complaints of his  
conduct, wh<sup>ch</sup> h<sup>as</sup> bn transmitted; to wh<sup>ch</sup> they desire y will make such  
Acti<sup>n</sup>s as sh<sup>all</sup> appear to y to be necessary & proper in / present  
Situ<sup>n</sup> of Affairs, I am - &c -  
Whitehall  
July 1. 1752

John Pownall

1752.

292-313]

July 1.

Sketch of Observans & Instruct<sup>n</sup>s . . . [ut supra "of use & Informa<sup>n</sup>  
of Committee of Co<sup>o</sup> Merchants tradg to Africa" - viz "y<sup>r</sup>"] . . .  
. . . . . [Copied in Red Notebooks p 707. 399. fm 1070. Zelatchet p 6] . . .

314] 1752

July 4.

To/ Gentlemen of Committee of Co<sup>o</sup> Merchants tradg to Africa.

Letter to / Commit-  
tee of Co<sup>o</sup> or  
of Merchants trad-  
g to Africa

Gentlemen My Lords Commissioners of Trade & Planta<sup>n</sup>s have under  
the Considera<sup>n</sup>s / Papers relative to / Disputes betw<sup>en</sup> yr Agents & those  
of Dutch West India Co upon / Coast of Africa, I am directed by the  
Lordships to desire / favour of yr Attendance thereon at the Board on Tuesday next /  
y<sup>r</sup> Instant, & the Lordships desire t<sup>hat</sup> y will bring w<sup>ith</sup> y all such f<sup>ull</sup> Evidence as y can  
procure either fm / Books of Old Co or otherwise, relative to / Points in Disputes  
& partly, t<sup>hat</sup> y wd enquire, wh<sup>ether</sup> any Acknowledgements h<sup>ave</sup> at any time bn paid to  
/ Natives of Comenda or Petchumah; & if any, upon what Act these Acknow-  
ledgements h<sup>ave</sup> bn paid, I am - &c -

John Pownall

Whitehall

July 4 1752

1752

July 29.

To the Excellencies / Lords Justice

May it please yr Excellencies

Representat<sup>n</sup>  
to / Lords Justi-  
ces relative to /  
Disputes w/  
Dutch upon /  
Coast o Africa.

Presentat<sup>n</sup>  
to / Lords Justi-  
ces relative to /  
Disputes w/  
Dutch upon /  
Coast o Africa.

In Obedience to yr Excellencies Commands signified to Us by a  
Letter from yr Army and dated / 30<sup>th</sup> April last We h<sup>e</sup> Taken into Our  
Considerat<sup>n</sup> / Copy o a Letter to Yr Excellencies Secretaries from yr<sup>e</sup>  
Clerk Secretary to / Lords o / Admiralty dated / 24<sup>o</sup> / same month,  
transmitting to them / Copy o a Letter to him from / Honble Cap<sup>t</sup> Howse  
o His Majesty's Ship / Glory, inclosg certain Articles o Agreement entered  
into or signed by / Agents & Officers o / Committee o / Co o Merchants tradg to Africa, & / Directors  
Gen<sup>l</sup> o / Dutch West India Co at Elmina, upon t Coast; by wh Agreement some disputes wh  
had arisen w respect to Jurisdict<sup>n</sup> & Sovereignty over / Natives & / Privilege o Landg &  
Waterg at certain Places near / Forts belongg to both Nations, are referred to  
/ dec<sup>n</sup> o two Cos in Europe.

As / Papers referred to Us by yr Excellencies did not explain what  
were / Points o dispute wh had given rise to / afore-mentioned Agreement We thought it our  
Duty to call upon / Committee o / African Co to lay before Us all such Papers as they  
m<sup>t</sup> h<sup>e</sup> recd from their Agents relative to this Affair, to / end t yr Excellencies m<sup>t</sup>  
h<sup>e</sup> / fullest Informat<sup>n</sup> in a matter o so gr<sup>t</sup> National Imp<sup>o</sup> & h<sup>e</sup>av<sup>y</sup> need from / sd Co  
a gr<sup>t</sup> variety o Letters & o<sup>r</sup> Papers relative to this Affair, & obtained / best In-  
format<sup>n</sup> we are able upon / sd Points. We sh<sup>e</sup> humbly take leave to lay before  
yr Excellencies, a short State o / Disputes & in what manner they arose, &  
sh<sup>e</sup> Subjoin our Opinion o what appears to Us proper to be done thereupon.

The dispute wh gave rise to / Conven<sup>t</sup> or Agreement betw<sup>n</sup> /  
President & Council o Cape Coast Castle & Mr Van Voorth chief Agent of  
/ Dutch West India Co at Elmina on / 10<sup>th</sup> October 1751 (wh has been  
referred to Us by Yr Excellencies) appears to h<sup>e</sup> arisen from / English Coy's  
Agents at Dixcove having in 1750 seized one o / Chiefs of Hansta Nation  
wh inhabit / Coast th<sup>r</sup>about, upon suspition o his be<sup>g</sup> accessory to a Robbery

180 committed some years before. This occasioned / Hantab to seize some o /  
Co's Slaves, & many were taken Prisoners on both sides. Thus far it was only  
a quarrel w / King o / Hantab, till / Dutch Director Gen at Elmina sidg w  
t King, sent Deputies to make up t diffe; But as they wd not speak  
English & / Co's Agent cd not speak Dutch, / Conferce broke off, & in three  
days / Fort was attacked & / Dutch Gen did in a letter to / President o Cape  
Coast Castle o / 30<sup>th</sup> April 1750, declare War agst / English upon a false  
Informan<sup>as</sup> / President alledges, t / Co's Agent hd attacked Buhua a Village  
within gunshot o Dixcove wh, tho it hd formerly bn sometimes neutral &  
sometimes English, / Dutch now claim. A Cessa<sup>m</sup> was at length agreed to on,  
but before it was slapp'd / Dutch seized two Lancos w 22 freemen; Hosti-  
lities continued till / Arrival o Captain How. Commander o His Majesty's  
Ship / Flory, who, after a full examina<sup>m</sup> & Considera<sup>m</sup> o / Affairs, demanded  
/ English Prisoners fm / Dutch, who immediately deliverd them up to him &  
/ afore-mentioned Conven<sup>m</sup> was agreed to & ratified.

This however is not / only point in dispute, f soon after /  
Ratifica<sup>m</sup> o this Conven<sup>m</sup> / Dutch director Gen, upon pretce t / English Agent  
at Dixcove hd declared t / Dutch hd thereby disclaim'd f ever all  
Right to Atchuah, a place abt two miles fm Dixcove, directed /  
Chief o / Dutch Fort o Provedah to signify to / English t / Soil o  
Atchuah was / Property o / Dutch & its Inhabitants ths Subjects, t he  
shd accordgly exercise Acts o Sovereignty, & in / first place collect a  
Toll on fish. In / many letters wh h pass'd betw / English President  
o Cape Coast Castle & / Dutch Gen on this subject, / latter asserts v<sup>y</sup>  
positively / Right o his Nam to / Village o Atchuah; but he offers no  
Proof o t Right. On / o<sup>r</sup> hand / President alledges t / Place in Quest<sup>m</sup>  
has bn peaceably possessed by / English f 50 Years at least; / they

h<sup>e</sup> ~~has~~ constantly supplied themselves w<sup>th</sup> timber & Limestone fr<sup>m</sup> thence; & t<sup>he</sup> / Dutch hd always asked permission to take those necessaries fr<sup>m</sup> t<sup>he</sup> place. In proof o<sup>f</sup> these Assertions, he sets forth / following Facts, wh<sup>ch</sup> he offers to prove by depositions on Oath. T<sup>he</sup> Year 1736 (at wh<sup>ch</sup> time Mons<sup>r</sup> Debordes was Director Gen<sup>l</sup> o<sup>f</sup> Dutch Factories) / Dutch Chief o<sup>f</sup> Boutry attempted to exercise Jurisdiction, but Mons<sup>r</sup> Debordes upon Complaint made to him disavow'd / Chief's Proceedings, avow'd he hd done wrong & reprimanded him f<sup>r</sup> it; & fur<sup>t</sup> t<sup>he</sup> Mrs Daeres new Governor o<sup>f</sup> Accra, did, at request o<sup>f</sup> / Dutch chief give him two Canoe-load o<sup>f</sup> Limestone fr<sup>m</sup> Atchualh to repair his Fort, wh<sup>ch</sup> request, / President presumes, wd never h<sup>ave</sup> been made if Atchualh hd belong'd to / Dutch.

This is a third matter o<sup>f</sup> dispute w<sup>th</sup> / Dutch, wh<sup>ch</sup> arose in 1746, & has ben lately revived concern<sup>g</sup> / Right to / Bay or Land<sup>g</sup> Place at Commenda, where both Nations h<sup>ave</sup> a Fort; / State o<sup>f</sup> wh<sup>ch</sup> Dispute is as follows.

In June 1746, a Dutch Soldier having fortitely taken a Fish fr<sup>m</sup> an English fisherman at Commenda, & struck him, / English Co<sup>s</sup> Agent directed / Fishermen to defend themselves if / Dutch sh<sup>d</sup> attempt a second time to take the Fish; they obey'd these Orders & a Skirmish ensued betw<sup>en</sup> / Fishermen & / Dutch Soldiers & Co<sup>s</sup> Slaves. This triffl<sup>g</sup> Circumstance appears to h<sup>ave</sup> ben / Source o<sup>f</sup> a dispute wh<sup>ch</sup> concerns a point o<sup>f</sup> Natural Right & still remains to be determined. F<sup>r</sup> / Dutch hereupon assumed an exclusive Right to / whole Bay, wd suffer no English Canoe to land at / Land<sup>g</sup> Place, wh<sup>ch</sup> hd till then ben in Common to both Nations, attack'd / Fishermen w<sup>th</sup> small Arms who attempted to land there, burnt & destroy'd / English Co<sup>s</sup> Canoes & Shade & at length fired / Cannon o<sup>f</sup> the Fort on /

182 English Fort wh returned it, & Shot was exchanged f / g<sup>rest</sup> part o /  
y<sup>th</sup> o July when a Cessa<sup>m</sup> o Hostilities was agreed on.

From this time to Decem<sup>r</sup> followg, / English Agents at Commenda (sic)  
undecouraged to settle this dispute Amicably w / Dutch Director Gen, but  
findg t he continued obstinately & positively, to assert / Exclusive Right  
to His Constituents w<sup>t</sup> offerg / least proof o it, they then sent him a formal  
t Protest agst his Proceedg<sup>s</sup>, assertg likewise / Right o English to the Priviledge  
o a Landg Place at Commenda, & transmitted home Copies o all the  
Papers relative to this Affair.

From / seel Papers t passd betw / sd Agents & Director Gen upon this  
Occasion, it appears t / Dutch alledge t they were / first Possessors o /  
Territory o Commenda, t / Use o Bay wh / English h heretofore enjoyed  
was an Indulge wh it was in the Power to grant or refuse; & t as /  
English Agent, desly, was, accordg to the Act, / Aggressor in / Affairs o /  
Skirmish, & hd therein insulted the Nam, they did not think fit to Continue  
t Permiss<sup>n</sup> any longer. They set forth t / Common Use o Bay was not  
granted to / English before / Year 1734 or 1735, & this they say they can  
prove, but they did not produce any Proofs, tho' called upon to do it.

On / o<sup>r</sup> hand / Cob Agents assert t / English hd bn in Practice  
o Landg & go<sup>g</sup> off w the Canns in / sd Bay since there was an English  
Fort at Commenda, t the Right to do so hd till then never bn disputed.

t / callg t Right in quest<sup>n</sup> was contrary to / fourth Article o / Agreement  
bearg date / 27<sup>o</sup> May 1707, made betw / two Cos in Europe whereby it is  
stipulated t, no Merchant or any Natura on / Coast sh be hindered by any  
Person or Persons, in / Service o either Co, directly or indirectly, to go or come  
for any Factory on / Coast; t in / seel Conventions made betw / two Cos for  
t time to 1728, no men<sup>n</sup> is made o it, t / British Nam h a Right to Land

the by / laws o' nature & man's, & for t' they h' acquired a Right in Common by Prescription, as it does not appear to / Dutch h' ever given any formal Interruption to / our said Use wh / English h' made o' this Bay, nor authentically taken any measures at any time to prevent / Right wh' has accrued fm this Prescription.

In proof o' first o' these Asses<sup>ns</sup>, / Co's Agents h' transmitted a Copy o' Certificate o' / Pymins or Chief Men o' Fishermen, concerning / Ancient Customs w' regard to / Use o' Land<sup>g</sup> Place, wherein they declare t' it has always bn free to both English & Dutch Men, & they never knew any dispute betw<sup>n</sup> / Forts concerning the Use or Rights o' sd Bay but t' it was always understood as Common to both; t' in regard to / Canoe Shades, / Chiefs used to allow them as they thought fit, sometimes buildg it in one Place & sometimes in ano<sup>r</sup>; & when Mr Haems was chief o' Dutch Fort & Mr Besoueth chief o' English Fort, there happend some dispute betw<sup>n</sup> / Native Fishermen o' both Towns, concerning / part<sup>r</sup> Bounds f' Land<sup>g</sup> o' the Canoes; in wh' dispute two mens belongg to / Dutch were killed, But / Decim o' Boundaries beg left by / Chiefs o' both Forts to / Fishermen themselves, Assama, at t' time beg head-man o' Dutch, & Acquaba on / English side, it was by them agreed t' a Stake shd be set up on a part<sup>r</sup> Spot somewhere near abt / middle where / two Canoes Shades last stood. And t' ever since t' time, all t' part o' Bay byg to / Eastward o' t' stake has remaind / name o' Dutch Land<sup>g</sup> Place, as t' Part to / Westward o' it has t' o' English Land<sup>g</sup> Place, & / reason o' Forts movg the Shades so close to / Land<sup>g</sup> Place as they last stood was by a Joint Agreement o' Chiefs then at / Forts, in order to prevent / Natives fm carryg on an illicit Trade on board private Ships in / Night-time, t' as a full convincg proof o' Right o' English Subjects to Land in Common w' Dutch, always won / Dutch fishermen, as well as themselves, always, at the return fm Fishg, used to pay a Toll or Custom to / English Cabbacer o' Commenda, hec, as they say, he made a Purchase o' / Ground fm / them King o' Aquafor.

14. The Agents h also transmitted / Copy o a Certificate fm Roger Edwards  
& William Earnshaw to / Commander o His Majesty's ship / Mary  
Galley, in wh they Affirm, T on a Survey o / Shore o Commedia, it  
appears Plain to them, t there is no holdg free Communica<sup>m</sup> w/  
English For the worse than by a free & uninterrupted Use o /  
Unquestionable Right to / common Bay or landg Place w/ Dutch Settlements  
tho; the beg<sup>m</sup> in reality no<sup>t</sup>. T as to / Intricate passages betw<sup>n</sup> / Rocks  
wh / English Negro Subjects do, while / Dutch Na<sup>m</sup> prevents them fm /  
Use o / Common Bay, make use o to go out to fish, when / Sea permits,  
it is altho<sup>g</sup> impossible f lge Canoes such as are Commonly made use o  
f Transportg Proviso & Merchandize to land the, T / Mouth o /  
Rivir is constantly dry at low water, nor even accessible at high water,  
except<sup>d</sup> at Part<sup>r</sup> Seasons o / Year when / Sea is Calm & Smooth, T /  
British Subjects makg Use o it at those times must be only f Ease o Car-  
riage as it is much ne<sup>r</sup> for them / proper landg Place; And t / in con-  
venience attendg / Harboring this is t on any Emergency they must wait till  
three quarters flood before they can get out, besides wh its often fills up,  
as it appeared them v<sup>y</sup> likely to do. T upon / whole shd / Dutch Na<sup>m</sup> continue  
to deprive / British Subjects o free Use o landg Place / Consequ<sup>e</sup> evidently will  
be / total Depriv<sup>m</sup> o / British Natives, as the fishg, wh is the chief support,  
will be thereby interrupted, & / British Settlement o Commedia will be  
consequently underv<sup>l</sup> almost o no Significan<sup>m</sup>.

Fm / forego<sup>g</sup> State o Facts it will evidently & clearly appear to Y<sup>r</sup>  
Excellencies, t / Pretens<sup>s</sup> set up by Mr Van Voorst, / Dutch Director Gen<sup>l</sup>  
at Abimbia, f excludg His Majesty's Subjects fm havg any Intercourse  
or Correspondence w/ Natives in habitg abt Discover<sup>d</sup> a no foundn<sup>t</sup> either  
in fact or reason, & t / Actual Declara<sup>m</sup> o War made by him o Hostilities  
committed in support o such false Pretens<sup>s</sup> is a manifest Violan<sup>t</sup> o Rights  
o His Majesty's Subjects & o / Peace & good Understandg wh et to Subst<sup>l</sup>

• Vide Capt's letters, Capt Swanton, Mary Galley. Adm<sup>l</sup>.

2462, 2463, 1746; 2464, 2465, 1747.

Captain Logs Mary (Galley) Adm<sup>l</sup> 5). 584. 1744 Aug-1748 Dec.

between / Subjects o two Nations so closely connected in Interest & Alliance. T / Rights  
o His Majesty's Subjects to Attendance & to / Privilege o Landg in / Bay o Com-  
menda are clearly & fully proved; t / Pretences made by Mr Van Voorst o an ex-  
clusive Right thereto, are unsupported by any Proofs what<sup>er</sup>, contrary to / Agreements  
heretofore entered into by both Cos, & if admitted will render / English Forts thro  
now in Possession o His Majesty's Subjects, entirely useless.

We are therefore humbly o Opinion t / Natural Rights o his Majesty's  
Subjects shd be supported, & t it wd be galy f the Interest as well as o  
/ Subjects o the High Mightinesses / States Gen. t no time shd be lost in bringg  
/ disputes to a final & Amicable Discussion & Conclusion, in order to prevent any fur  
Uncertainty or Misundersanding between them; How far this can be brot abt by  
a Negotia<sup>n</sup> between / two Cos conformable to / Terms o / Agreements made upon /  
Coast, We cannot take upon us to say; if how<sup>er</sup> such a Negotia<sup>n</sup> can be  
carried on We are humbly o Opinion t it wd be advisable f His Majesty  
to interpose his Royal Favours & Countenance in support o / Rights o his Sub-  
jects, by directg His Minister residg in Holland to give all possible assist<sup>ce</sup>  
towards bringg / matters in dispute to a happy Conclusion. As we cannot how<sup>er</sup>  
but be apprehensive, t a Negotia<sup>n</sup> between / two Cos may be attended w<sup>th</sup>  
Difficulties, We wd humbly submit to yr Excellencies wher it wd not be /  
more advisable & effectual way o puttg an end to this affair, t a full  
state o / Case attended w<sup>th</sup> all / Papers (Copies o wh are hereinto  
annexed) shd be transmitted to His Majesty's sd Minister & t he shd be  
directed to make a Proper Representa<sup>n</sup> thereupon & to endeavour to  
settle & adjust / several Points in dispute in a manner consistent w<sup>th</sup>  
/ just Rights & Interests o His Majesty's Subjects

Wh<sup>ch</sup> is most humbly Submitted.

White hall  
July 23<sup>d</sup> 1752 }

Dunk Halifax  
Charles Townshend  
Andrew Stone  
James Oswald

M. Margen  
in red ink  
Vide B<sup>2</sup>  
Dd. 185  
186  
not in CO.  
38B/45  
where / last  
doc is  
Dd. 177.

166.  
369] 1752

Novem 8

To William Hollier Esq. Secretary to / Committee o / Co o Merchants  
Trading to Africa

Letter for Mr  
Pownall to Mr  
Hollier, Secy to  
/ Committee  
o / Comp<sup>y</sup> o  
Merchants Tra-  
ding to Africa  
inclosg a Copy  
o the Letter to Mr  
Melville Agent  
at Cape Coast Cas-  
tle w<sup>ch</sup> some ad-  
dressing thereto

Whitehall  
Novem 8 1752

Sir The Draught o a letter fm / Committee o / Co o  
Merchants Trading to Africa to Thos Melville Esq at  
Cape Coast Castle, wh y deliver'd to me yest<sup>r</sup>, having  
ben laid before / Lords Commissioners of Trade &  
Plantans, the Lordships h directed me to return /  
sd Draught to y, w some additions wh they h  
thot proper to make thereto, & to desire y will lay  
/ same before / Committee, t / Original Letter may  
be made conformable thereto before / departure o /  
Ships wh y acquainted me are ready to Sail. I am - &c -  
John Pownall

In margin in  
red ink: -

"Vide Bundle  
Dd. 104"

[P 76. <sup>supra</sup>]

376] 1753

March 28

Letter to / R<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup>  
/ Earl o Holderness-  
sc, inclosg / Ex-  
tract o one fm Mr  
Melville, Chief Agent  
at Cape Coast Castle,  
to / Committee o  
/ Comp<sup>y</sup> o Mer-  
chants Trading to  
Africa dated 23 o  
Sep<sup>r</sup> 1752.

To / R<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> / Earl o Holderness, one o His Majesty's  
Principal Secretaries o State

My Lord,

The Committee o / Co o Merchants Trading to Africa h laid  
before us / Copy o a letter to them fm Mr Melville, the Chief Agent at Cape Coast  
Castle upon / Gold Coast o Africa, dated / 23<sup>d</sup> o Sep<sup>r</sup> 1752 in wh he acquaints them t he  
has concluded a Treaty w / Fantee Na<sup>n</sup> whereby they oblige themselves to  
give up the Interest & Commerce w / French or f<sup>r</sup> to exclude them  
fm comg the

"Vide Bundle  
Dd. 122."  
[Red ink]  
8013

As Annamaboe is the principal Place o Trade upon t Coast where /  
French h attempted to make a Settlement a / Committee w His Majesty's Approban<sup>m</sup>  
h sent out Materials f<sup>r</sup> building a Fort, is situated in this Na<sup>n</sup>; as / being a firm  
Allie w them is o / g<sup>r</sup> consequent to / British Interest upon / Gold Coast o Africa,  
will establish our Trade there upon a lasting Foundam<sup>t</sup>, & prevent a Continu<sup>o</sup> o a  
v<sup>y</sup> costly considerable expence, wh this Na<sup>n</sup> has lately ben at in centg a lge

additional Naval Force to protect & support its just Rights in / precarious State in wh they h lately  
 Struck; We h therefore thought it our Duty to give yr Lordship / earliest Informa<sup>n</sup> so happy an event, &  
 more so, as / disputes w<sup>th</sup> / French relating to this Point may possibly h b<sup>n</sup> / Subject o a negotia<sup>n</sup>  
 betw<sup>n</sup> / two Nations; And We desire yr Lordship will be pleas'd to lay / enclosed Extract o our  
 M<sup>ost</sup> Excellent letter, wh contains an Acc<sup>t</sup> o this Affair, before His Majesty, We are - &c -  
 Whitehall  
 March 28. 1753 }

Dunk Halifax / J. Pitt / Dupplin

319] 1753  
 May 3d  
 Letter to Mr  
 Hollers, Secy to  
 Committee o  
 Comp<sup>t</sup> o  
 Merchants Tra-  
 ding to Africa

Since the Lords Commissioners of Trade & Plantations have recd a letter from their  
 Grace / Duke o Newcastle, w<sup>ch</sup> a Copy & Extract o two letters to him from Mr York,  
 His Majesty's Minister at / Hague, relative to his transactions w<sup>th</sup> /  
 Minister o / States Gen upon / Points in dispute betw<sup>n</sup> / Agents o /  
 Co o Merchants tradg to Africa & / Gen<sup>l</sup> o / Dutch West India Co  
 upon / Coast o Africa, the Lordships h Appointed Wednesday next to  
 take these Papers into Considera<sup>n</sup> & am directed to desire y<sup>r</sup> writ acquaint<sup>l</sup>  
 Committee o / Co o ~~Merchants~~ Merchants tradg to Africa therewith, & t<sup>o</sup> the Lordships  
 desire the Attendance at the Board on t<sup>e</sup> Day. I am - &c -  
 John Townall

"Vide Bundle  
 Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>"  
 [Pp 82-3 supra]

Whitehall  
 May 3d 1753

1753  
 320] July 9<sup>th</sup>  
 Letter to Duke  
 o Newcastle upon  
 Letters from Col  
 York to his Grace  
 & / Papers ther-  
 with transmitted  
 relative to / dis-  
 putes betw<sup>n</sup> /  
 African Co  
 & / Dutch West-  
 India Co.

To His Grace / Duke o Newcastle, One o His Majesty's Principal Secretaries  
 o State,  
 My Lord  
 In Obedience to His Majesty's Commands signified to us by Yr  
 Grace's letter dated 15<sup>th</sup> day o April last We h taken into our Considera<sup>n</sup>  
 a Copy & Extract o two letters to Yr Grace from Colonel York His Majesty's Min-  
 ister at / Hague, relatg to / Disputes wh h arisen upon / Coast o Africa  
 betw<sup>n</sup> / African Co o England & / Dutch West India Co; & t<sup>o</sup> We w<sup>ill</sup> be / better  
 enabled to lay before Yr Grace our Sentiments o what Orders w<sup>ill</sup> be proper to be  
 given to Col York w<sup>th</sup> respect to these Points, We called upon / Committee o / Co o  
 Merchants tradg to Africa to lay before us

1. All such additional Rights o / Crown o G<sup>t</sup> Britain  
 w<sup>th</sup> respect to / Points in dispute w<sup>ch</sup> they c<sup>ould</sup> furnish, & parties in  
 Answer to what / Dutch had Alleged
2. The Sentiments upon / Resolutions proposed by / Dutch f<sup>r</sup>  
 an Accomoda<sup>n</sup>
3. Copies o / Consens<sup>es</sup> in / Years 1707, 1708, & 1728, mentioned  
 in Col York's letter, togs w<sup>th</sup> such fur<sup>ther</sup> Informa<sup>n</sup> & Opinion upon  
 / Seal Points as they sh<sup>d</sup> think Proper.

"Bundle D.d  
 No 146"  
 [Pp 85<sup>th</sup> supra]  
 "ib. 145"  
 [Red nb. 725]  
 "Bundle D.d  
 No 147"  
 [Pp 96<sup>th</sup> supra]

1888 In consequence of this Refere / Committee h made a Report to us upon / Sevl Points, wh  
we humbly beg leave to lay before yr Grace, to gr w a Copy o / Evidence in Support o / Right o  
/ Crown, w respect to / Matters in dispute, & also Copies o / Treatys or Convents made betw  
/ English & Dutch African Cos in 1707, 1708, & 1728 annexed to / sd Report, beg / best Evids  
wh can be collected & / only Evids we are able to produce wh can h any weight in / present  
dispute betw / two Cos, or viable Col<sup>o</sup> York to form a just Idea o / founda<sup>n</sup> o this Majesty's  
Rights

It may not be improper to observe to yr Grace, t this Negotia<sup>n</sup> turns upon turns  
upon sevl vj diff<sup>t</sup> Points, vizt / Right wh / Dutch claim o exactg a Toll at / Bay o Commedia;  
& Right claimed by / two States to / Towns o Busha & Atchua; & / Demand made by /  
Committee o African Co o Recomp<sup>e</sup> f / Expenses brot upon / English by / Invas<sup>n</sup> o the  
Known Rights & Properties

As to / first o these points, / Gen allega<sup>n</sup> in / Declara<sup>n</sup> o Mr Van Starckenberg,  
transmitted by Mr Yorks Confute<sup>r</sup> t vj no<sup>n</sup> o / Dutch Right to a Toll, wh it was brot to  
Support: It is evident from this Declara<sup>n</sup>, t this Toll was first collected only upon / English  
Vessels as d<sup>g</sup> / Toll by Collision w / English; & / part<sup>r</sup> Evids o this fact & Agree<sup>m</sup> wh was made  
in 1736, is vj clearly & distinctly given in / State o Right laid before us by / African Co, wh in  
this Matter throws a gr light upon / Acct o Mr Van Starckenberg, wh it wd o'wise be vj  
diff<sup>t</sup> to understand, & proves this Transac<sup>n</sup>, wh he begs as a Proof o an immemorial  
Right in / Dutch, prudently omittg / date o it, to h be a Regular o / Year 1736, takg its Rise  
from part<sup>r</sup> Circumst<sup>s</sup> intended f / Conveni<sup>e</sup> o Dutch & extended no fur<sup>r</sup> than to a part<sup>r</sup> o / Bay

As to / Town o Busha, both / African Co & / Dutch West India Co have agreed in  
proposg a Neutrality f t Place,

As to / Right to Atchua, wh seems to be o gr Consequ<sup>e</sup> to this Majesty's Interest in Africa,  
as beg / Place from whence / English h their d<sup>g</sup> Timber & P<sup>r</sup>ov<sup>s</sup>, nothg fur<sup>r</sup> can be done  
in support o this Majesty's Right than to transmit to Col<sup>o</sup> York / Proofs we h accusid o it.

As to / demand o a Recomp<sup>e</sup> to / African Committee, yr Grace is / best Judge how  
far it may be proper to mix matters o Charge w Quest<sup>s</sup> o Right upon this Occa<sup>n</sup> & how far  
it wd be expedient or likely to facilitate an accommoda<sup>n</sup> to insist upon such a Recomp<sup>e</sup>.

We h not made any Altera<sup>n</sup> in / manner o statg / Evids furnished us by / African  
Committee, bec it is already put into a vj good Order, & we hope we h answered / Inten<sup>n</sup>  
o yr Graces direct<sup>n</sup> to us by furnishing such Evids as may be serviceable in proving this  
Majesty's Rights, w such Observans on our own part<sup>r</sup> as may tend to enforce<sup>m</sup> o t Evids

Whitehall  
July 9<sup>th</sup> 1753

We are - &c -  
Dunk Halifax  
Charles Townsend  
James Oswald